October 3, 2012, 7:00 pm

There’s More to Health than Medicine: A Population Health Perspective

Speaker: Julie Williams Van Dijk, R.N., Ph.D.
Associate Scientist – UW Madison Population Health Institute

Respondents: Tobi Anne Cawthra, Community Relations Manager, Meriter Health Services
Stephanie Johnson, Community Relations Coordinator, St. Mary’s Hospital

The Capitol Lakes Grand Hall, 333 West Main St., Madison
(Free parking in the ramp across the street)

Learn More about Clean Lakes

“Yahara Lakes;” Implementing a Vision
November 9, 2012
Monona Terrace
For a special rate of $45, area residents can attend a one-day conference that will feature talks by local scientists, managers and conservation groups.
Register at www.nalms.org.

Timing is Right for Clean Lakes

Long-time League member Caryl Terrell opened the September Issue Forum by saying, “We have an unprecedented opportunity to meet long-standing challenges in a new way.”

The challenge: How to address the complicated and inter-related problems that threaten the health of Dane County lakes.

Michael Mucha, Director of the Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) spoke about the links between effective wastewater treatment and the quality of lake water. He acknowledged Caryl as the first female chair of the Commission, which advises on the work of the MMSD. Sue Jones, Director of the Office of Lakes and Watersheds, offered a listing of accomplishments during the 25 years the Lakes and Watershed Commission has been in existence.

Caryl expanded on their comments in an interview and offered concrete ideas about how League members can become involved in the effort to create clean lakes. She cited the September 9th editorial in the Wisconsin State Journal as evidence that the timing is right to move ahead with efforts involving a broad coalition of interested groups. The editors wrote, “The Ironman Triathlon] highlights how important clean lakes are to the Madison region’s economy, image and quality of life.”

As part of the 2012 budget, the Dane County Board of Supervisors provided funding for five key efforts. (cont’d.)
Clean Lakes (cont’d.)

They include a $3.4 million fund for acquisitions to improve water quality and a program for cost-sharing with municipalities to improve storm drain outlets. These activities reflect recommendations of the Clean Lakes Initiative.

Farmers are taking the lead in the new Yahara Pride Farms organization. They plan to create an incentive-based certificate program that will recognize farms using best practices concerning conservation and to develop a plan to allocate funds to farmers to complete a conservation project.

The LWVDC is a partner organization in the Capital Region Advocacy Network for Environmental Sustainability (CRANES). Caryl and League member Connie Threinen are members of the Board of Directors. CRANES submitted comments in support of the Lakes and Watershed Commission’s 2013 budget request in late August.

Caryl encourages members to join the LWVDC’s Environmental Quality Committee. Contact her at 833-8828 or carylterrell@charter.net.

Meet the Board

Persistence is key to the accomplishments of Gail Bliss, chair of Voter Services.

The LWVDC had received several rejections from the Evjue Foundation to requests to fund “Candidates’ Answers.” Gail persuaded the Board to try something new that would address problems with the new Voter ID legislation.

She realized that $20 for a birth certificate could be beyond the reach of people who were struggling to get a permanent roof over their heads. They also needed help circumnavigating a bureaucracy that can sometimes require an official form of identity in order to receive an official form of identity.

Gail requested $500 from the LWVDC Board for a demonstration grant that would show the need for a program to help low-income people and others who lack the documents necessary to receive government IDs.

She advertised the availability of help through flyers at libraries, food pantries, and service programs for homeless people. “The first one was easy,” Gail remembers. A young man from a homeless shelter had lost his ID. She took him to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) where it was replaced.

The Evjue Foundation subsequently awarded the LWVDC $5,000 for the program. Gail then developed a training program to enable volunteers to assist her in the project and expanded the publicity about the availability of assistance.

Persistence remains a necessary ingredient to success, however. Simply arranging a meeting can be difficult when a person has no phone or fixed address. Low-income people often live in inexpensive motels. However, the DMV has argued that motel residence does not meet their standards to establish residence.

What are the rewards of this work? Gail said, “Sometimes we just provide information and the client moves ahead. Or we might work for months to obtain all the documents necessary for an ID. A government ID opens doors that have been closed to many low-income people.”

Gail also heads up the Voter Registration activities. Registration at the Downtown Farmer’s Market is “going strong,” she said. In late August League members registered 25 to 30 people each Saturday morning. In early September, the number climbed to 40. The total now is more than 100. A 2-day drive at Memorial High School will take place in October. Contact Gail at gail3511@gmail.com or 231-2511 to volunteer.
Welcome to New Members

Margaret Dugan, Elizabeth Faye, David Penn, Deborah Penn, and Meghan Roe joined since the September issue. A membership renewal form is on the back of the donor list insert.

Wisconsin a Leader in Voter Rights

League activities concerning voter rights in Wisconsin are gaining attention throughout the country.

Elisabeth MacNamara, LWVUS President, will speak on “Power the Vote and the Wisconsin Election Observers Program” at the annual LWVWI issues forum on October 13.

An overview of voter suppression issues from the LWVUS prominently features the state League’s lawsuit against the Voter ID law and its election observer program. LWVWI piloted the observer program in 2010 and expanded it in 2012. Improved methods of training will be available in the next election.

The observer program could be particularly important in the November election, according to an analysis in the New York Times. In the article, subtitled, “Fights over ID Laws and Early Ballots are Critical to Race,” Ethan Bronner argues that the use of provisional ballots is likely to lead to lawsuits after the election.

He wrote that 14,000 provisional ballots in Ohio were discounted in the last election, through a combination of voter and poll worker error.

The effort headed by Gail Bliss of the LWVDC to help low-income people and others obtain documentation necessary for Voter IDs is the only one of its kind operated by a local League. (see page 2.)

No Evidence of Fraudulent Voting

Dane County Circuit Judge David Flanagan wrote, “No evidence whatsoever was offered…to suggest that there exists any public or voter misrepresentation…Indeed, evidence was offered that there have been repeated government investigations to uncover such fraud without reported result.”

Flanagan’s language is part of an opinion issued on September 14 denying a request to lift the injunction on the Voter ID law in Wisconsin.

Voter Registration Information

The Government Accountability Board has launched a website called MyVoteWI. It replaces Voter Public Access and includes a new registration module, “Click and Mail.” Address is https://MyVote.wi.gov.

October 17—open registration ends

October 22-November 2—in person absentee voting at clerk’s office.
Unit Locations

League members meet in one of five units to discuss the topic of that month’s forum. The discussion concludes with recommendations for further study or action. Find a meeting that is convenient for you and let the host or unit leader know you plan to attend.

Monday, October 15, 7:00 pm  
MIDDLETOWN  
Community Room, Gardd Parc Condos  
6767 Frank Lloyd Wright Drive  
Park behind the building; walk through the courtyard to lobby; ring the buzzer to #221, if the inside door is not open.  
Diane de Vos, 836-0070; djdevos@chorus.net

Tuesday, October 16, 12:45 pm  
TUESDAY AFTERNOON  
Marie McCabe’s apartment  
6225 Mineral Pt. Rd., #A4  
Marie McCabe, 230-3536; mmccabe4805@gmail.com

Tuesday, October 16, 5:30 pm  
TUESDAY EVENING WEST  
(New Meeting Place and Time)  
Noodles Restaurant, University Ave.  
Merilyn Kupferberg, 271-1130; joelmerkup@gmail.com

Wednesday, October 17, 3:30 pm  
NORTHEASTSIDE  
Lakeview Public Library  
2845 N. Sherman St.  
Dorothy Wheeler, 244-4711; dorothywheeler@tds.net

Wednesday, October 17, 5:30 pm  
DOWNTOWN DINNER  
333 W. Main St.—Free Parking Across the Street  
Sally Phelps, 251-4834; phelpssa@charter.net  
Priscilla Thain, 233-5578; priscillathain@gmail.com

Calendar

October 3 – 7:00 pm  
Forum: “There’s more to Health than Medicine:” A Population Health Perspective on Dane County  
Capitol Lakes Grand Hall  
333 West Main St.

October 5  
Deadline for submissions to newsletter editor  
Contact: katielmulligan@yahoo.com

October 7 – 2:00 pm  
"44 Plays for 44 Presidents"  
Overture Center

October 13  
Annual Wisconsin Festival  
Voter Registration Opportunities  
University Apartments of UW  
Contact: gail3511@gmail.com

October 13 – 9:00-1:45 pm  
LWVWI: Issues Briefing  
Elisabeth MacNamara, president of LWVUS, and other speakers  
Crowne Plaza Madison  
www.regonline.com/2012issuesbriefing

October 17 – 1:00-3:00 pm  
LWVDC Board Meeting  
2712 Marshall Ct., Suite 2

November 6  
Election Day  
Volunteer Observer Program  
Volunteer form at: www.lwvwi.org/VotingElections

November 7 – 7:00 pm  
Forum: "Promoting Civility"  
Capitol Lakes Grand Hall  
333 West Main St.
LWVDC Thanks Donors

We appreciate receiving contributions to LWVDC from the following persons, as of September 20, 2012:

**May Member Challenge 2012:**
- Two Anonymous Donor-Challengers
- Mary Anglim
- Janice Baldwin
- Sybil Better
- Sally Borden
- Sally Carpenter
- Claire Dick
- Joann Elder
- Mary Fulton
- Andrea Kaminski
- Jesse Kehres
- Miriam Kerndt
- Pat Kippert
- Merilyn Kupferberg
- Margaret Lacy
- Florence Lederman
- Marie McCabe
- Earnestine Moss
- Ann Nelson
- Edwin Reid
- Claire Rider
- Brook Soltvedt
- Edith Sullivan
- Caryl Terrell
- Connie Threinen
- Georgene Vitense

**Memorial Contributions in Honor of Marilyn Slautterback:**
- Carol Kiemel
- Merilyn Kupferberg
- Sally Phelps

**Recent New Member Donation:**
- Helene Nelson

**Recent Non-Member Donations:**
- Susan De Vos
- Premanjali Devadutt – for Birth Certificate/Voter ID Project
- Ronald Diamond
- Davidson Laurie – for Birth Certificate/Voter ID Project

**Member Donations Received during the Current Dues Renewal Period for fiscal year 2012-2013:**
- Mary Anglim
- Janice Baldwin
- Mary Bean
- Cynthia Benevenga
- Lois Bernbeck
- Fran Bicknell
- Helen Bruner
- Sally Carpenter
- Laura Chern
- Cheryl Daniels
- Irene Durbak
- Joann Elder
- Karen Faster
- Kathleen Fullin
- Emy Gartzke
- Susan Glotzer
- Harriet Gorski
- Arneita Halle
- Mary Ann Halvorson
- Linda Holthaus
- Helen Horn
- Shirley Inhorn
- Betsy Jensen
- Nancy Jensen
- Kathy and Doug Johnson
- Jesse Kehres
- Carol Kiemel
- Merilyn Kupferberg
- Dr. Margaret S. Lacy
- Annrita Lardy
- Pat Levin
- Diane Liebert
- Caroline Liedtke
- Sue Lloyd
- Elizabeth Magnuson
- Gloria Meyer
- Barbara Mortensen
- Helene Nelson
- Aileen Nettleton
- Sally Phelps
- Karen Pope
- Sylvia Armstrong Poppelbaum
- Pamela Rewey
- Claire Rider
- Lois Sater
- Rose Sime
- Suzanne Smith
- Deborah Speckmann
- Rose Stephenson
- Edith Sullivan
- Caryl Terrell
- Priscilla Thain
- Patricia Watson
- Dorothy Wheeler
Yes, I want to be a part of the League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc. [July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013]

Please renew your membership for 2012-2013 by November 16, 2012 to secure your listing in the 2012-2013 LWVDC Member Directory. Membership dues may also be paid online at www.lwvdanecounty.org.

Name: _______________________________________
Address: _______________________________________
City: _______________ State: __ Zip: __________
Phone: _______________ Year Joined LWV: __________
E-Mail: _______________________________________

Please make check payable to:
The League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.
2712 Marshall Court, Suite 2, Madison, WI 53705-2281

Membership: [Check your selection]
◯ Member _____ $75
◯ Second Member _____ $60
  [same address, shares mailings with first member]
◯ Student/limited income _____ $40
  [of limited income or a student]
◯ Scholarship _____ $0
◯ Scholarship _____ $0

Member Contribution: [Check your selection]
◯ $1,000 – 500
◯ $499 – 200
◯ $199 – 100
◯ $99 – 50
◯ other ________

Please list anonymously as member contributor(s).

Total: ________