



Chico Enterprise-Record  
About 200 people turn out for peaceful protest in Chico – Chico ...  
Credit: (Carin Dorghalli -- Enterprise-Record)

## Allies in Social Justice: Participation in Peaceful Protests in the Summer of 2020

### Where Does the League of Women Voters Stand?

By Joanna Mitchell

The LWVUS published this statement, [Addressing the Police Murder of George Floyd](#), on May 29.

Chief Executive Officer Virginia Kase wrote a blog on June 3 to share how the League plans to proceed as allies in social justice. Blog post: [Standing in Solidarity with the Black Community](#).

And, LWV President Chris Carson offered this guidance on June 8:

With protests happening across the country, we know that many Leagues would like to exercise their First Amendment right for Black lives on the frontline, if you have not already. As you go out to protest, please know the following:

- Yes, you may wear League shirts and use League signage at peaceful protests
- Yes, you may wear League shirts at post-riot cleanups
- Yes, you may offer support to protestors on behalf of the League

As Leagues choose to engage in the peaceful protests and community cleanup projects, use these recommendations and safety guidelines for [How to be Good Allies in This Moment](#).

These announcements were issued as email messages to subscribers to the national “League Update.” If you would like to subscribe, [Sign up for The League Update](#).

## Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Imagining a Democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

## Promote Racial Justice by Thanking Michigan Senators for Co-sponsoring DC Statehood.

By Mary Pelton Cooper

What can the League of Women Voters do to help bring about racial justice? Yes, we can register voters and get out the vote. But League members can also encourage our Senators to continue working to make it possible for Washington DC to have representatives to vote for. The over 700,000 citizens of Washington D.C. pay more in federal taxes than those in 22 other states, but they don’t have congressional votes to determine how the government functions. This year Washington D.C. is closer than ever before to becoming a state. They have enough sponsors in the House, and now our Michigan Senators have signed on as co-sponsors.

The District of Columbia, as this 66-square-mile area of the United States is called, does not have a representative in congress to advocate for the citizens. Yet, congress has the ultimate authority over the District including in community matters as trivial as garbage pick-up. This is a moral and a civil rights issue.



During the current demonstrations, federal agents and the U.S. military were deployed against DC citizens thus violating their constitutional rights to peacefully protest. This was authorized by the President without the consent of D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser. Militarization has not occurred in other states. The military was patrolling these communities!

DC has a long history of racial diversity. Blacks moved to D.C. when slavery was abolished in the district in 1862. Since then, the DC citizens have had all the responsibilities of full U.S. citizenship. This diverse population has served the US government in every possible capacity from janitorial work to museum management to federal work at all levels of U S government. Currently 200,000 of these citizens are civil servants. Now is the time for this vibrant, diverse population to have the same rights to representation that is allotted to all other states. The two square miles on which the federal government buildings stand would remain under the control of congress, but the communities, commerce, culture, and the these citizens that number greater than those of either Wyoming or Vermont will become the 51st state.

The bill has enough sponsors in the House and now our Senators Stabenow and Peters have joined senators from WI. and IL. In supporting S.631 - Washington, D.C. Admission Act. Please write and thank them. Email your thanks to: [U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow of Michigan](#) and [U.S. Senator Gary Peters of Michigan](#). (Note: To reach the email form for Gary Peters, click on "How Can Gary Help You," then choose "Comment on an Issue."

**And, sign the League of Women Voters petition: [Stand Up for DC Statehood.](#)**



#### MISSION STATEMENT

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

**Darlene and Sandy have a challenge for you...**



## Join us for a 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge

*By Darlene Allen*

Building a new habit or creating change within ourselves takes time. Sandy Breitenbach and I are challenging ourselves **and you** to take one action, for 21 days, that furthers our/your understanding of privilege, power and equity. Whether you're a new ally in the racial equity movement or a seasoned veteran, we invite you to join us for an exercise in self-reflection, learning and connection.

A variety of options are offered so that you can engage based on your learning style and the time you have available. You don't need to feel pressured to participate every day. These won't be formal homework assignments; the point is simply to make a habit of doing something every day to broaden your perspective, identify topics for deeper learning on your own, and to better equip yourself in the quest for equity and social justice.

The challenge will include 21 days of readings, TED talks, videos, or movies relating to the topic of white privilege, inequities and social justice. Most days will only require 30 minutes or less of your day (unless of course you're intrigued and decide to explore further). During the 21 days we will offer four zoom gatherings to allow us to reflect together about how the challenge and experience is impacting our lives.

This idea came from a friend sharing the Messiah Lutheran Church's Challenge with me. Sandy and I have tweaked it a bit and adapted it for our local League. If you'd like to know more about 21-Day Racial Equity Challenges you can visit either of these websites:

<https://www.eddiemoorejr.com/21daychallenge>  
or <https://debbyirving.com/21-day-challenge/>.

Our 21 Day Challenge will begin on Monday, July 6th and will end with a final reflection on July 27th. We will limit the participation for the zoom reflections to 12 participants to allow for good conversation and connection to occur. We will do our best to accommodate more than 12 by offering additional reflection opportunities if needed. If you are interested in joining us in this challenge please contact Sandy ([sehurtubise@gmail.com](mailto:sehurtubise@gmail.com), 269-330-5661) or me ([dthomsona@gmail.com](mailto:dthomsona@gmail.com), 906-225-9103) by **Thursday, July 2nd**.

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## Some Personal Reflections on Racism

*By Pri  
Burnham*

We've all been grappling with what racism means, in light of the death of George Floyd at the hands of the police. Here are some personal thoughts, that may or may not apply to others but may lead to more soul-searching and conversations and hopefully ideas about what "we" can do to help bring about positive change.

Simply calling people 'racist' misses a much bigger problem: silent complicity with systemic racism. Many of us, like me, who fall in the class "privileged White folks" – have turned a blind eye to the manifestations of systemic racism that have been rampant in this country for years.

We kind of got a 'get out of jail guilt-free' card when Barack Obama was elected President in 2008. It made those of us who were around in the '60's and '70's and who marched, supported candidates, or were more directly involved in civil rights activities back then feel like things had finally gotten better. We gave ourselves some of the credit, a pat on the back. We did good.

But we got complacent. We got involved in our lives – raising families, pursuing careers, earning a living, doing good works within our communities (which were often just as much "bubbles" as our current self-limiting circles of friends, sources of information, and political views).

Meanwhile, despite Brown v Board of Education, despite the Voting Rights Act, despite "The Great Society," things for Black folks were not improving so much.

White people made it illegal for a Black mother to receive welfare assistance if there was a 'man' living in the home so single Black mothers became the norm.

Schools remained segregated because housing remained segregated. Blacks, especially Black males, were arrested and sent to prison for using drugs that White people were using, but in different forms. And when the opioid crisis began to ravage White populations? It was deemed a health issue, not a criminal problem.

Health coverage, which many Whites take for granted as a benefit of employment, isn't available to the people who work in low-paying and part-time jobs, many of them Black, many more of them single Black women.

Even the food that is available in stores disadvantages Blacks: fresh fruits and vegetables are often missing from the aisles of grocery stores located in predominantly Black city neighborhoods.

And now, the most visible, gut-wrenching and unforgettable consequence of all of this systemic racism – the daily, often mundanely -routine but always potentially-lethal disparate treatment of Blacks by those in law enforcement.

When was the last time you were pulled over for not putting your turn signal on when you were about to change lanes? Or charged with jaywalking for crossing Washington Street to the Post Office without going to the light at the intersection?

By seeing and not saying something, we have been complicit in systemic racism through our silence. It is no different than the average German in the 1930's and early 1940's protesting, "But I am not a Nazi" when a Jew was stopped by police on the street and forced to show their identity card.

"If people come together when they see something wrong and they speak out against it, it'll make it less acceptable in our society, and I think that's the most important thing to take away from this."

*(From a recent news article about several White passengers defending a Black man who was removed from an American Airlines flight simply for asking to change seats)*

Perhaps things are starting to change....

Our democracy will not die through invasion from a foreign power. It will die by being nibbled to death by millions of hurtful, undemocratic, intolerant, and un-American actions that, over time, leave us without a leg to stand on.

## SUNFLOWERS

*By Jane Pajot*



Since sunflowers were a symbol of the Suffragette Movement and as a PWPL volunteer gardener I was able to plant ten sunflower plants representing 10 times 10 for the 100-year anniversary of women winning the right to vote. They are all in the various front gardens so take a stroll along the gardens and see them!

### Like the sunflowers, membership continues to grow

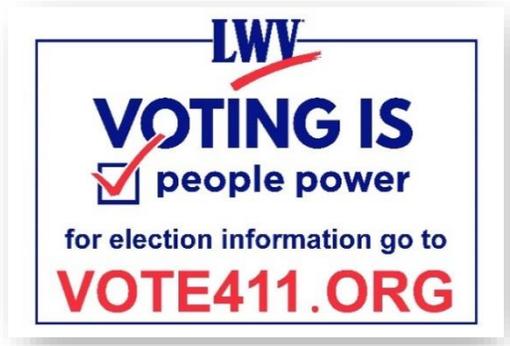
Today we are 93 members strong, and well on our way to our goal of 100. Remember, membership dues are discounted 50% for additional members of your household. Students can still join for no fee!

What a great time for household members and students to apply for membership as we gear up for the 2020 election!

*By Kim Winokur*

## Adopt a VOTE 411 Yard Sign and give it a "Forever" home!

Help us spread the word about Vote411.org ~ Adoption Fee: \$10 per sign (AND you get a free metal stand for your sign)



To order yours today, contact Pri Burnham at [priburnham@gmail.com](mailto:priburnham@gmail.com) or call 906-228-8650. Checks should be made payable to LWVMC. And when you get your sign home, please place Vote411 yard signs at least 12 feet from any candidate or partisan signs.

*(NOTE: the cost of printing the signs is being donated by several League members so the \$10 'adoption fee' is a fundraiser for our local League activities.)*

## Econo Receipt Totals

*By Jane Pajot*

Great news so far, our Econo receipt totals are \$31,949.31 which will give our LWV \$319.49!!

Thanks everyone for sending/dropping off your receipts. I turn them into

Econo twice a year, in January and July, so this bunch will be turned in soon.

Please continue getting them to me at 1119 Pine Street, Marquette, as we start our total for January 2021!!





## Remembering Rosemary Kent Glenn and early days of LWV in Marquette

*By guest author Pam Christensen*

Rosemary Kent Glenn left an indelible mark on the Marquette area during her 41 years living in the Upper Peninsula. It is hard to identify in which arena of community service Rosemary made the largest impact. At one time or another, she was involved in just about every facet of the community—including the early years of the Marquette Chapter of the League of Women Voters.

Current League member Jane Ryan moved to Marquette in 1968, soon after the LWV was established in Marquette. Jane joined to get to know the community. She remembers Rosemary as an active member, and later, a dynamic President of the group.

According to Ryan, prior to the LWV chapter being formed there was not much interest in local elections. Candidates were most often encouraged to run for office by community leaders rather than a desire to serve the community. Instead of bringing new ideas and platforms to public office, this led to many like-minded individuals making important decisions. Some women in the community thought this demonstrated a need for voter education and that need served as the impetus to form an LWV chapter. The Marquette chapter held candidate forums for local races such as school board, city commission and other elected offices. To the surprise of many, these forums were well attended and brought out large crowds curious to hear what the candidates had to say about their platforms. Ryan credits the establishment of the chapter with making a profound mark on the women involved as well as the community.

The organization served many purposes. According to Ryan, it allowed women and men to gather to discuss important political and social

issues. It also developed confidence in the women of the organization and many of them became active and involved civic leaders. Some were even encouraged to run for elected office. Rosemary Glenn successfully sought election to the Marquette City Commission and served as a Commissioner for several terms. The organization was a catalyst for increasing the involvement of women in the community and building beneficial relationships between elected officials, the LWV and the residents they served.

In addition to voter education, the organization undertook a variety of studies to assess the community. Ryan mentioned that voter accessibility of polling places was one such undertaking. Each polling location was visited by a team who reviewed the site to assure it could be easily navigated by persons of all ages and abilities. Another focus of the organization was to build diversity in LWV membership and the candidates who ran for elected positions.

Rosemary Kent Glenn passed away in Chelsea, Michigan two days shy of what would have been her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. She and her husband Robert moved to Chelsea from Marquette in 2013. Bob preceded Rosemary in death in 2018, but the contributions of both can still be seen in the community. Rosemary was an accomplished musician and artist. She specialized in hooking rugs, painting, and quilting. Bob and Rosemary supported many civic and philanthropic projects in Marquette and were ardent supporters of artists, musicians, and cultural institutions. In retirement the couple loved to travel and spent winters in Hawaii.

Rosemary not only left her mark on the civic and cultural environment of the Marquette area but provided leadership and dedication to the Marquette Chapter of the League of Women Voters.

# A Brief Reminder of a Powerful Speech

By Laura Petrie

*In 2020, here we are--still working to make sure all our votes are counted, and that women and people of color have the full protections and opportunities we deserve.*

*The Seneca Falls Convention, the first women's rights convention in the United States, was held in July 1848. That meeting launched the women's suffrage movement, which **more than seven decades later** ensured women the right to vote. National Women's Conventions were held annually, and at the 1851 Women's Convention in Akron, Ohio, a former slave, Sojourner Truth, an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights in the nineteenth century gave a speech and concluded her speech with the following which challenged prevailing notions of both **racial and gender** inferiority and inequality by reminding listeners of her combined strength (Truth was nearly six feet tall) and female status. Also attending the convention, another former slave, Frederick Douglass, believed suffrage for formerly enslaved men should come before women's suffrage. Sojourner thought **both should occur simultaneously**.*

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## Ain't I a Woman?

That man over there says that women need to be helped  
into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere.  
Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place!  
And ain't I a woman?

Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted,  
and gathered into barns, and no man could head me!  
And ain't I a woman?

I could work as much and eat as much as a man— when I could get it—  
and bear the lash as well!  
And ain't I a woman?  
I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery,  
and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me!  
And ain't I a woman?

Then that little man in black there, he says women can't have as much rights as men,  
'cause Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from?  
Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman!  
Man had nothing to do with Him.

If the first woman God ever made was strong enough  
to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together  
ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again!  
And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them.

Obliged to you for hearing me, and now old Sojourner ain't got nothing more to say.

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*Conclusion of speech delivered by Sojourner Truth at the 1851 Women's Convention in Akron, Ohio*



Vehicles in caravan in Oakland CA, so participants are safely physically distanced during the pandemic of 2020.

Chloe Jackman  
Photography

# Go-Van-Go-Vote

Make plans to join our very first, our inaugural run of the 2020 Go-Van-Go-Vote Tour.

## What:

A caravan of vehicles carrying signs reminding people to:

- Vote in the August 4 Primary Election
- Go to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) for information about candidates
- Vote-By-Mail

## Where:

Meet outside the law office at 375 N McClellan Ave

*(across from the Campus Pharmacy Fountain)*

- **We'll put decorations on our vehicles.** Bring some with you or we will have some there, with lots of extra tape.

You can also:



- **Adopt a [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) Yard Sign** for \$10 each. Proceeds will go to the League of Women Voters of Marquette County (LWVMC). *Signs need to be placed at least 12 feet from any candidate or partisan signs.*

- **Receive your "VOTE" face mask.** Masks are free, no purchase is required. *Donations will be accepted!!!* with proceeds going to LWVMC



## When:

**Saturday, July 4.** Caravan starts at **2 pm.** Meet at law office parking lot about **12:30 pm** to distribute signs, masks, and decorate vehicles.

## Route:

South on McClellan to Washington. Turn left (east) on Washington and travel on Washington to the intersection of Washington & Third. Turn left (north) on Third and travel on Third to Fair

**Return:** Turn right (east) on Fair and travel to Front Street. We can disburse there or return to law office parking lot to remove decorations.

**Please join us anywhere along the way if you don't make it to the starting point.**

**JOIN US ON THE 4TH!**