



Owning Our Past, Imagining Our Future

The League of Women Voters of the South Bend Area has scheduled several events in 2020 to mark its 100th anniversary. We are also celebrating 100 years of voting for women, while acknowledging that racism scarred the suffrage movement and that many women of color were denied the right to vote for several decades after the 19th Amendment was passed.

- Friday, February 14, noon: Lunch with the League features local League history from 1920 to present day. Join us for birthday cake! Lunch with the League is also celebrating its 15th birthday. Location: South Bend Chocolate Café, 122 S. Michigan St. You can arrive as early as 11:30 am if you want to purchase lunch before the talk.

- Tuesday, March 10, 5 pm: Opening reception for a display of local League historical artifacts. Location: Roger B. Francis Library Branch, 52655 N. Ironwood Road, South Bend. Photos, newspaper articles and League documents will be displayed throughout the library.

- Friday, March 13, noon: Lunch with the League features unique stories of several individual members. Come hear 1) How they first encountered or why they joined the League 2) The focus of their work with the League and 3) How their work moves democracy forward. Please arrive early if you want to purchase lunch before the talk. Location: South Bend Chocolate Café, 122 S. Michigan St.

- Sunday, March 15, 2 pm: "Rhetoric and Reality: A Century of Votes for Women," lecture by Christina Wolbrecht, co-author with J. Kevin Corder of [A Century of Votes for Women](#) (Cambridge University Press). Wolbrecht teaches political science at the University of Notre Dame and is director of the Rooney Center for the Study of American Democracy. She will explore popular misunderstandings about women voters over the past century and show that women do not comprise a single voting bloc. Rather, women voters are diverse in their interests and identities, especially in terms of race. How are assumptions and perceptions leading the public, press, and politicians to misunderstand women voters today? Reception to follow. Location: Carroll Auditorium, Madeleva Hall, Saint Mary's College. Concludes at 4 pm.

Book discussion, Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 6 pm: [White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism](#) by Robin DiAngelo. Location: River Park Library Branch, 2022 E. Mishawaka Ave., South Bend. Join a discussion about racial inequality, the concept of white fragility, and what we can do to engage more constructively with our ideas about race. This event is already full; register for the waitlist at: <https://sjcpl.libnet.info/event/3799730>. Moderator is Terri Russ, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Studies at Saint Mary's College. *Check the book out at the St. Joseph County Public Library, or receive a 20% discount off purchase at The Brain Lair, 714 E. Jefferson Blvd., South Bend.*

April 6 – May 1: "Securing the Vote: Women's Suffrage in Indiana," a traveling exhibit in the lobby of the South Bend Civic Theatre, 403 N. Main St. The 9-panel display was created by the Indiana Historical Society, with help from the Lilly Endowment. It explores how women across the state labored for suffrage through meetings, campaigns, and other grassroots efforts. Free admission. Theatre lobby hours are 9 am to 6 pm, Monday-Friday.