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NEWS RELEASE

LWV Appleton Hosts Film Screening on 'People Powered Day of Action'

APPLETON, WI — The national League of Women Voters (LWV) has designated **April 29** as a **"People Powered Day of Action"** to focus attention on the important issue of redistricting that will take place this year following release of the new census data. LWV US is encouraging local Leagues and their communities to focus with positivity and urgency on this day to make their voices heard by their elected representatives.

As part of the national observance, The Appleton League of Women Voters, with support from AAUW Appleton, is hosting a special screening of *"CAN YOU HEAR US NOW?"* This groundbreaking 90-minute documentary follows two unsuccessful candidates for the Wisconsin Assembly in their 2018 campaigns. By following their stories, along with other grassroots activists fighting against unfair legislative maps, the film personalizes how gerrymandering has impacted the Badger State and made Wisconsin the unsavory center of this hot button political issue.

"This film is really the story of what can happen when elected representatives stop listening to their constituents and unfairly control the political playing field," says Linda Bjella, vice president of Action for LWV Appleton. "It's also part of a grassroots effort to make sure the people's voices are heard."

Supporting the showing of the documentary aligns with AAUW's own efforts, according to Joan Moeschberger, president. "In order to move initiatives forward that benefit women, Fair Districting has become a major advocacy effort for AAUW at the state and branch levels," she says. "We are excited about working with the League on this important project."

Bjella concurs. "This support from AAUW is important because we know that the more community partners work together, the stronger our message to elected representatives will be," she says.

This special screening of *"CAN YOU HEAR US NOW?"* can be viewed at any time between Sunday, April 25 and Thursday, April 29, and will culminate in a virtual panel discussion from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. that Thursday —
MORE —

LWV APPLETON *Can You Hear Us Now*, only add

evening. The panel will include:

- Filmmakers Susan Peters and Jim Cricchi
- Sheila Plotkin, film subject and founder of the website "*We, the Irrelevant*"
- Anthony Phillips, People's Maps Commissioner – 8th Congressional District
- Former State Senator Dave Hansen
- Former Assembly Representative Penny Bernard Schaber, chair of the 8th Congressional District Fair Maps Team
- Linda Bjella, LWV Appleton Action Vice-President, moderator

Registration for both the film and the panel webinar can be made on the LWV Appleton website, lwavappleton.org Registration will include viewing of the April 29 webinar, scheduled for 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

While the number of webinar participants will be limited, the panel also will be livestreamed on the [LWV Appleton Facebook](#) page. There is no cost to participate.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan 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. LWV Appleton provides additional resources on its website, lwavappleton.org, and on its Facebook page and Twitter.

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ABOUT LWV APPLETON

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan 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. Membership is open to men and women of all ages. With more than 750 affiliates across the county, the League is one of the nation's most trusted organizations.