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Subject: Latest News October Voter

From: Jefferson County League of Women Voters



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, CO**

OCTOBER 2020

THE VOTER

lwvjeffco.org

OUR MISSION

Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy

OUR VISION

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

WHAT WE VALUE

We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy

The League is non-partisan

FIND OUT ALL ABOUT THE LEAGUE AT LWVJEFFCO.ORG

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

THIS VOTER IS OUR FIRST TRIAL AT USING THE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLS WE HAVE WITH OUR NEW WEBSITE. IT IS JUST A BEGINNING AND WE HOPE YOU WILL BEAR WITH US WHILE WE LEARN ON THE JOB.

THE EDITORS

UNIT MEETINGS

By Karen Connor

The Unit meetings topic for September concerned what we in League can do to educate voters and get out the vote. All Units held their September meetings using ZOOM. Three Units had originally planned to meet outside, but because of the weather, they chose to meet electronically. 70 members and 1 guest attended the meetings. Many have volunteered to help with Voter Service Activities.

The Briefing by Voter Service was also on ZOOM and attended by all Unit Leaders and Unit Voter Service Chairs. All materials the Unit Leaders would need were e-mailed to them prior to the meeting and they sent materials to their membership.

OCTOBER TOPIC: Advocacy in the 2020 Election Cycle (Voter Service and Legislative Committees)

Unit Leaders' briefing will be on zoom on Tuesday, October 6th at 1pm.

South Jeffco (Chatfield) unit will meet **Tuesday, October 13th at 9:30am on Zoom** You will get an email inviting you to the meeting if you are a member of that unit. If you would like to attend this meeting, contact Pat Mesec, kenpatm@aol.com [303-979 5509](tel:303-979-5509) or Patty Schoedler pshades@earthlink.net [303-979-4782](tel:303-979-4782)

West Jeffco (Mt. Parks) unit will meet via **Zoom meeting on,**

Tuesday October 13th at 9:15am. You will get an email inviting you to the Zoom meeting if you are a member of that unit. If you would like to attend this meeting, contact Karil Frohboese, karil.f@comcast.net, [720-557-9263](tel:720-557-9263) or Robin Wallace, rawgew@gmail.com [303-913-0335](tel:303-913-0335)

North Jeffco (Arvada) unit will meet on Tuesday **via Zoom October 13th at 1:00pm.** You will get an email inviting you to the Zoom meeting if you are a member of that unit. If you would like to attend this meeting, contact Jill Armstrong jarm444@gmail.com [303-420-5052](tel:303-420-5052)

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Central Jeffco (Applewood) unit will be on Zoom **on Wednesday, October 14th at 9:15am**. You will get an email inviting you to the meeting if you are a member of that unit. If you would like to attend this meeting, contact Nancy von Burske, nvonburske@gmail.com [303-278-0260](tel:303-278-0260)

JEFFCO PM (Evening) unit meeting is on **Wednesday, October 14th at 6:00pm on Zoom**. You will get an email inviting you to the Zoom meeting if you are a member of that unit. If you would like to attend this meeting, contact Lucinda Schneller, lucindaschneller@gmail.com, [303-933-1378](tel:303-933-1378) or Lisa Decker, li@alane17.com, [303-507-4317](tel:303-507-4317)

Lakewood/Golden unit will meet **on Thursday, October 15th at 9:15am on Zoom**. Watch for your email inviting you to the meeting if you are a member of that unit. If you would like to attend this meeting, contact Nancy Warren, nancymtns@gmail.com, [303-514-4402](tel:303-514-4402) or Deb Gard, dgard@comcast.net

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

“Shine Sunshine Shine”

The chorus to this song reminds me that sunshine does exactly what sunshine is supposed to do well: Shine.

That is where the League has to be right NOW: Doing what we do well regardless of the chaos going on around us. Our purpose is to educate and inform voters, protect voting rights, ensure that our government is responsible by representing the will of the people. Even though the chaos, we just need to continue doing what we do!

Be prepared and educate yourself. If you hear election information that you believe to be incorrect, correct it. Let the League know and we will share it, too.

The League's online Voter Guide at Vote411.org educates voters on how to cast a ballot, and provides candidate and ballot issue pro/con side-by-side comparisons. Our job as members is to promote Vote411.org to the public. Also, the hardcopy LWVCO Ballot Issues Pamphlet is available to distribute. Get them out to your “circle of 5” and organizations. Need more? Let us know.



The Voter Service and Communications teams have created a series of messages for you to share and post. Find a way to do that. Reach out and use your “circle of 5” through your social media to get the word out about the election. (Email comes to you every Monday).

Ask everyone, “Are you registered to vote?” If no, encourage them to register. Encourage all to find out about what’s on their ballot and how it will impact them (Think: [vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org)). Encourage everyone to complete and turn in their ballots on a timely basis. Visit [votejeffco.org](https://www.votejeffco.org) for drop-off locations!

Watch and share our virtual County Commissioner Candidate forum available after 10/12.

On the advocacy side, learn about the Ballot Issue positions that the League has taken. Share if you agree with our stands. The League is well-respected and voters look to us for guidance in regard to the statewide ballot issues.

When this election is over, we want to know that the League did its part to ensure every person had the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate. Be informed and vote!

Christina Manthey, President LWV Jeffco



LWV Book Club October Choice Appropriate Prep for November Election

Let the People Pick the President: The Case for Abolishing the Electoral College should be on the October reading list of all Colorado voters. Author Jesse Wegman, member of the New York Times Editorial Board, lays out clearly how and why this Constitutional provision became a part of our U.S. Constitution and why it should now be eliminated. He also puts forward his arguments for a pragmatic solution: the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, subject of Proposition #113 on the Colorado November Ballot. Prop #113, titled Adopt Agreement to Elect US President by National Popular Vote, seeks voter approval of previous legislation on the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

Every reader of the book, club member or not, is welcome to join one of two Zoom discussion sessions, Saturday, October 17th, at 9:30 am or Wednesday,

October 21st at 1 pm. To receive a link to one of these sessions, please email Marilyn Brown at marilbrown@aol.com with your choice of session. The day before your desired session you will receive your link to the session. We encourage everyone to join us in one of these sessions; the September Zoom discussions went off very well and Zoom logistics are easy to manage.

Let the People Pick the President was written this year and is a relatively short 260 pages in length.

Our November book choice is *Fight of the Century*, a collection of original essays on the most significant cases undertaken by the American Civil Liberties Union in its first 100 years, curated by Michael Chabon and Ayelet Waldman.

To obtain an e-copy of the full schedule of book choices for our 2020-2021 season or to get on our mailing list, email Marilyn Brown at marilbrown@aol.com



LWV CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE

JOIN A TWEETSTORM TO BRING CLIMATE TO THE DEBATES

The Presidential debates start on Tuesday Sept 29. Chris Wallace, who moderates the first debate, in his list of debate topics did not include climate.

Public pressure pushed the Democratic Presidential Candidate Debates to include climate. We need to exert that pressure again when the stakes are even higher. We can do this again. We need to start a storm of tweets to the debate moderators to get this done. If you agree, start tweeting and ask your friends and families to tweet and retweet.

There will be two more presidential debates:

7pm on Oct. 15 in Miami

9pm on Oct. 22 in Nashville

The sole vice presidential debate is:
9 p.m. on Oct. 7 in Salt Lake City

When you retweet, retweet “with quote” and be sure to include the twitter handles of the debate moderators: @SteveScully; @kwelkernbc and the hashtag(s), #TalkAboutClimate, #ClimateCrisisNow #AddClimateToDebates.

Sample tweets or come up with your own:

- 7 out of 10 Americans are concerned about climate. Climate must be included in the debates. #TalkAboutClimate #ClimateCrisisNow #AddClimateToDebates. #ChrisWallace @SteveScully @kwelkernbc
- The public needs to know what the Presidential candidates plan to do about climate change. Now is the time to #TalkAboutClimate #AddClimateToDebates #ChrisWallace @SteveScully @kwelkernbc
- Put #TalkAboutClimate on the debate topic list! We are in a #ClimateEmergency. #ChrisWallace @SteveScully @kwelkernbc
- No more putting our heads in the sand. #TalkAboutClimate #AddClimateToDebates. #ChrisWallace @SteveScully @kwelkernbc

Let's do this!!

Exciting News: We are changing our website and database manager.

LWVJeffco converted to **Club Express on September 22nd**. Look for your welcome email with your login code and your temporary password. Existing members received their login information in an email on September 23rd. To receive information that is for members only you need to activate the login information. Until you do that you will only get information that is available to the public. If you did not receive login information, first check your spam e-mails. If it is not there contact President@LWVjeffco.org

What Club Express gives us:

- It will allow us to have one system for website, database, payments, member

forums.

- We will have one data base system for members that will link to state and national.
- Instead of using a third-party system for events, we will be able to register for events and pay thru Club Express.
- We will be able to have a committee forum, where members of a committee can chat and not clutter your personal emails.
- We will have a document library that members can access

Check out the New Website at:

www.lwvjeffco.org

EDUCATION TEAM

The Jefferson County School Board will soon begin looking for a new superintendent. We are being reminded on a daily basis about the effect that schools' ability to function is having on society as a whole. Due to the pandemic there will be problems with the school board budget. There are changes that need to be made and we should know what is being discussed and have the opportunity to affect these changes. The School Board uses a combination of LiveStream and Zoom for their meetings. We can observe without risk. Is there interest in reforming the Education Team? Is there interest in reforming the Observer Corp for the Jefferson County School Board? If you are interested send an email to the office at info@lwvjeffco.org.



TALKING POINTS: COUNTERING ATTACKS RELATED TO VOTE-BY-MAIL

With the increased popularity of vote-by-mail ballots in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, here are some messages you can use to counter attacks on vote-by-

mail and pivot the conversation to solutions.

(Avoid saying the words “voter fraud” when interacting with voters, the general public, or media. Even the mention of potential fraud has a negative impact on voters’ confidence in our elections.)

- All states administer elections by mail through the absentee voting process.
- Colorado, Hawaii, Washington, Oregon and Utah have been voting almost entirely by mail with little or no problems.
- All states have systems in place to deter and detect irregularities or violations in the voting process, both by mail and in person.
- Vote-by-mail does not favor one party over another.
- There is no record of massive or serious election manipulation via mail-in voting.
- With an expected increase in vote-by-mail in 2020, now is the time for election officials to make the investments in ballot access and protect the integrity of our elections.
- Like all voting systems, vote-by-mail benefits from risk-limiting audits, which allow election officials to double-check the vote count, identify irregularities that need to be resolved, and issue strict penalties for tampering with the process.

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DON'T LET YOUR LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP EXPIRE!

You know being a League member is a great way to get involved in your community and play an active role in our democracy. Whether your passion is to register and inform voters or to engage local and state governments on legislative priorities, the power of the League provides you the tools and access to make a difference!

Did you know that your local membership helps to bring change throughout the entire United States?

In 2019, LWVUS took direct action to protect immigration, the environment and healthcare reform. LWVCO, our state league, has placed a particular focus on Making Democracy Work to create a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate. Our legislative efforts were also focused on other urgent issues such as TABOR reform, gun safety, the environment, health care, school finance, and transportation. In 2020, we are preparing for a critical election, supporting ballot issues, and fighting voter suppression.

Continue to feed your passion by renewing your local League Membership. Go online to use the secure charge at www.lwvjeffco.org or send a check payable to LWVJeffco to the League Office, 1425 Brentwood Suite 7, Lakewood CO 80214 (Individual Annual \$66 / Household Annual \$99).

Please consider adding a donation in support of your passion to your membership. All donations beyond membership dues are tax-deductible as allowed by the IRS.

1. Members authorized a rolling renewal system at the annual meeting.
2. Many of members now have a renewal date in Club Express of 10/31/2020. On approximately October 1 any member with that renewal date will receive an email invoice thru Club Express. The member needs to click on the renewal button in the Letter. This will allow the member to renew their membership online. We encourage members to use the Club Express/PAYPAL renewal site as it will ease the accounting and database management situation.
3. Members who do not have a renewal date of 10/31/2020 will receive a renewal letter 30 days before their membership expires. So a member who joined 3/14/2020 will not receive a renewal letter until 2/14/2020.





We are overwhelmed with infomercials about national candidates. Local candidates affect our lives as much as national candidates.

How do we get information on the down-ballot candidates into the hands of the voters?

In Jefferson County, we have **two tools** that we can use. First, a shout-out to the wonderful website put together by the [Jefferson County Elections Department](#). They have created [informative, quick FAQ videos](#) on how to vote, what to expect, and much more. Thank you, George Stern, Jeffco Clerk & Recorder, and the Elections Department staff. Visit: VoteJeffco.org

As for our second tool, we have the League's very own online voter guide Vote411.org. The Vote411 Voter Guide is easy to use and provides a one-stop-shop for election information. Vote411.org will be the primary method through which LWVJeffco gets information to voters this year. Vote411.org election information is available year-round. Vote411.org provides election information for all the states on how to apply for absentee ballots, register, find a polling place, and more.

For information about ballot issues, you can also consult the Colorado League's Ballot Issues Toolkit at https://www.lwvcolorado.org/content.aspx?page_id=86&club_id=314195&item_id=102620.

Specific candidate and ballot voting information will be available one month prior to the election. Beginning on October 3rd, the voter guide will provide the candidates and ballot issue details. To access your personalized ballot info, simply enter your address and submit.

ELECTION CALENDAR 2020
(More at lwvjeffco.org/elections)

**LWVJEFFCO VOTER OUTREACH
ELECTION 2020 VOTER SERVICE**

October 3rd - VOTE411.org LIVE
with Candidate & BI info.

October 9th - Ballots Mailed Out

*We recommend that you vote your
ballot as soon as you are able.
To ensure timely delivery, use a drop
box
instead of USPS.*

October 9th - Drop Boxes and
Voter Service and Polling Centers
Open
For more information

-
www.votejeffco.com

November 3rd - Last day to vote in
General Election.

OUTREACH PLANS 2020

The League's goal is to provide accurate election information on a timely basis and do it safely for those voters who may not be informed. (i.e., new residents, college students, first time voters and more). This election we are unable to hold in-person activities safely. With many of the venues closed or with limited attendance (i.e., libraries, colleges, etc.), our in-person options dried up. Today, we will review all of our plans and ask for your support in whatever way you feel comfortable and safe. But know we need you! **We are asking every member (where able) to:**

- Share and use online resources: VOTEJEFFCO.COM and VOTE411.ORG
- Distribute the League's messages to their contacts.
- Reach out to new residents and low voter turnout areas.
- Reach out to underserved communities through the Food Bank and Title One schools.
- Share your organizational contacts with the League for us to get out the messages.

SUPPORTING THE JEFFCO LEAGUE

Do You eat? Have we got a deal for you!

Did you know that you can support the League just by buying groceries at Kings Sooper or Safeway? Well you can, and right now these programs are bringing in around \$700 per quarter in support of the Jeffco League's activities.



Wow! How can you get in on this? Easy!

For Kings Soopers, you can attach a charity to your rewards card:

1. Create a digital account.

A digital account is needed to participate in King Soopers Community Rewards. If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account so that all transactions apply toward the organization you choose.

2. Link your Card to an organization.

Selecting the organization that you wish to support is as simple as updating the King Soopers Community Rewards selection on your digital account.

So wait - Does this mean you're making a donation in addition to your bill? Nope - this is at no cost to you whatsoever. (Whew!)

Perhaps you're wondering once you've done this how do you know LWV is being credited? At the bottom of each receipt there will be a notice that LWVJeffco is the recipient of the reward.

For Safeway the mechanism is a gift card that you can get from Sandy VanDeHey (sandyvandehey@gmail.com), which you then refill - the rest is automagical and at no cost to you above your groceries. Easy Peasy!

If you have any questions please contact Sandy VanDeHey. sandyvandehey@gmail.com

REDISTRICTING

As a result of the census, redistricting of all Congressional Districts in the United States will occur next year. In the 2018 general election, Colorado voters unanimously approved Amendments Y and Z, establishing The CO Independent Redistricting Commission. The purpose was to implement Congressional and State redistricting. Selection for the commission is a complicated formula to insure that everyone is represented and gerrymandering to favor one party over another does not occur. The redistricting commission process will begin soon, moving toward the 2022 campaign. This redistricting session will use an independent commission system for the first time.



The state has constructed a new redistricting commission website outlining how the process will work. Applications for the new redistricting commissions are available now and must be submitted by November 10, 2020. For more information, consult the Colorado Independent Redistricting Commission Website <https://redistricting.colorado.gov/>

LWV DIVERSITY POLICY

The LWV Jeffco, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the LWV Jeffco on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

The LWV Jeffco recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. The LWV Jeffco subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.

The LWV Jeffco affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of the country in its board, staff and programs.

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You automatically receive this email as a **Member** of the League of Women Voters. Thank you for your support.

EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.

Our mailing address is:

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www.lwvjeffco.org

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