

Date: 12/2/2020

Subject: December Voter

From: Margaret Batschelet



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, CO

DECEMBER 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,

WE ARE USING THIS NEW METHOD TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION TO YOU AND WE APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR CORRECTIONS.

THE EDITORS

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**COLORADO LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LEADER OF DEMOCRACY
VIRTUAL EVENT
SAVE THE DATE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021 AT 5:00 P.M.**



The Leaders of Democracy Virtual Event will be an inspirational virtual fundraising meeting showcasing the League of Women Voters of Colorado's impact. We will recognize 2020's Leader of Democracy honorees and women who broke barriers:

Lauren Casteel, CEO of the Women's Foundation of Colorado and ongoing crusader for social justice

Polly Baca, First Latina elected to the Colorado State Senate

Elizabeth Piper Ensley

(posthumously), active leader in the Colorado Suffrage movement and in the African-American Women's Clubs



UNIT MEETINGS

Election 2020: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

Although the 2020 election turned out to be one of the most contentious in our country's history, Colorado fortunately shines when it comes to election

procedures. We have a secure mail-in ballot system, up-to-date voting machines, and more Coloradans voted in 2020 than in any previous election. But countrywide, we were faced with unacceptable challenges, including the U.S. Postal Service delivery delay tactics and Texas having only one drop-off site for absentee ballots per county. The President's refusal to concede the election to Joe Biden claiming the vote was rigged against him is one of the most challenging occurrences.

There will be an Every Member Material document for members to read before discussions are held in all units via Zoom on December 8, 9, and 10.

South Jeffco (Chatfield) unit will meet **Tuesday, December 8 at 9:30 a.m. 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** or Patty Schoedler pshades@earthlink.net **303-979-4782** and they will send you a link.

West Jeffco (Mt. Parks) unit will meet via **Zoom meeting on, Tuesday December 8 at 9:15 a.m.** 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** or Robin Wallace, ragew@ gmail.com **303-913-0335** and they will send you a link.

North Jeffco (Arvada) unit will meet on Tuesday via **Zoom December 8 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** and she will send you a link.

Central Jeffco (Applewood) unit will be on Zoom **on Wednesday, December 9 at 9:15 a.m.** 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, nvburske@gmail.com, **303-278-0260**. She will send you a link.

JEFFCO PM (Evening) unit meeting is on **Wednesday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. 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, lisa@alane17.com, [303-507-4317](tel:303-507-4317). They will send you a link.

Lakewood/Golden unit will meet **on Thursday, December 10 at 9:15 a.m. 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 and they will send you a link.

Night Out With Your Legislators

Thursday, December 10, 5:30 p.m.

Ready to try something new that will not be affected by the weather? The Legislative Team has arranged a Night Out With Your Legislator for December 10 at 5:30 p.m. on a Zoom meeting. Please plan on joining us to discuss what your legislator has done this week in the special session and what they are planning on doing in the upcoming sessions. Bad weather will not be an excuse for not attending this year. Look for more details in a broadcast email.

REMEMBER THE LEAGUE ON COLORADO GIVES DAY

Colorado Gives Day, December 8, is supported by the Colorado Gives organization. [ColoradoGives.org](https://coloradogives.org) is a year-round, online giving tool featuring the missions, programs and finances of almost 3000 Colorado nonprofits. ColoradoGives is a safe and trusted way to support nonprofits, and each organization's online profile is screened by the Community First Foundation to ensure specific standards of transparency. The shopping cart feature allows donors to support multiple nonprofits in one transaction. Powered by Community First Foundation since 2007, Colorado Gives Day has enabled more than \$355 million to be donated to Colorado nonprofits through ColoradoGives.org. The League of Women Voters of Colorado is one of the nonprofits included in ColoradoGives. If you participate in Colorado Gives Day, please remember the League along with other worthy causes. Happy giving!

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Christina Manthey, President LWV Jeffco

The definition of propaganda: information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote or publicize a particular political cause or point of view.

Many websites cite seven types of propaganda: bandwagon, card stacking, plain folks, testimonial, glittering generalities, name calling and transfer. However, according to Mark Nichol (<https://www.dailywritingtips.com/50-types-of-propaganda/>) there are 50 types of

propaganda.

Why I am writing a piece on propaganda? In November we discussed how to recognize a reliable news source, but it is just as important to recognize the various techniques used to sell the public on a product or an opinion or a policy.

One of the most infamous propagandists of the 20th century, Adolf Hitler, is reported to have said: "Make a lie big, make it simple, keep saying it and eventually the people will believe it." Hitler also said: "The great masses of people will more easily fall victim to a big lie than a small one."

The United States has just had one of the most successful elections in its history if one measures voter turnout. The fact that so many people chose to be involved in our election process is something we should be celebrating. Yet some people claim this entire election was a failure because of massive voter fraud.

Is this a spin on the election that we should accept or should we review the underlying facts?

Although these claims of extensive voter fraud have been made, no proof has been offered.

Claims have not been documented and evidence has not been produced in court.

Sadly, a significant number of Americans have accepted this spin. If enough votes had been discredited to change the outcome of the election, the result would have created significant distrust in the system. Fortunately, this has not happened.

Democracy works when there is trust. Fair and honest elections are core to a functioning democracy. If we want a democracy, Americans must be able to believe and accept the results of an election. Creating doubt about our elections is a sure path to breaking our democracy.

League principles are clear. Every citizen's right to vote should be protected. Democracy depends upon informed and active participation in government. We have a duty as League members to defend all of the votes cast and we have a duty to bring awareness to voters about the techniques being applied to devalue our democracy.



COUNT EVERY VOTE

Deborah Ann Turner, President, League of Women Voters of the United States

The FINAL BALLOTS FOR THE 2020 Election cycle HAVE BEEN CAST, and when every vote is finally counted, we will have executed the largest election in

American history. No one could have imagined a year ago that we would be carrying out an election in the middle of a global pandemic, but despite the odds, we did it — voters came out in record numbers, proving once again that our democracy is strong and can endure whatever challenges life throws our way. There will be a lot to unpack about the 2020 elections, and we will vigorously engage in honest and mission directed analysis.

But in the meantime, we should celebrate our successes: the broadening of voter access, the record-breaking early voting turnout, and the expansion of absentee and vote-by-mail are a few. These successes are stepping stones that will lead the way to expanding our democratic process and ensuring greater voter participation in future elections.

We know races in many states are still too close to call and may very likely be within the margin of error, thus triggering recounts. As we wait for the official results in the days ahead, it is our role to remind voters and the public of the importance to #CountEveryVote and ensure the most complete and accurate results—because our democracy is strongest when every voter can exercise that right and have their voice heard. [Please see our newest social media toolkit](#), complete with sample social media posts and graphics for Leagues to use to reinforce these important messages in the days ahead.

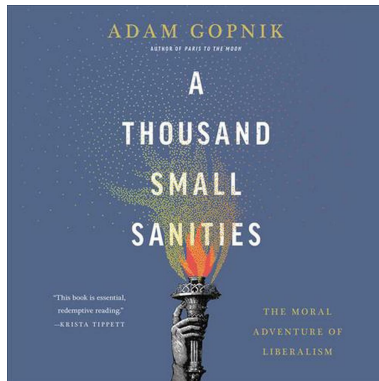
We must also remain vigilant about the mis- and disinformation being shared on social media. Remember not to engage with inaccurate posts or share them. Counter those messages with facts and only share information that you are certain is true. If uncertain, err on the side of caution or reach out to L WVUS for clarification.

We know that tensions are high and in some communities, the threat of violence is just beneath the surface. The national staff is working closely with coalition partners on scenario planning should tensions escalate in the days ahead. The national staff will be working in the coming days to determine the appropriate League response to any broader events and if there is a more direct action. In the meantime, the [organizing resources page includes training and materials](#), including [how to be good allies when protesting](#) and the Count Every Vote message is our lane.

I couldn't be prouder of the role the League played in ensuring voters were equipped with the tools they needed to know their voting options and play an active role in these elections. Thanks in part to the League's efforts, voters were able to develop both safe and effective voting plans to cast their ballots in record

numbers!

And on a more personal note: this election and the outcome we are witnessing triggers varied and different feelings in each of us on a personal level. I know it has for me. We need to continue to support each other, acknowledge others' feelings, and take time to reach out to colleagues, friends, or family who may need that extra virtual or real hug.



LWV BOOK CLUB

A Thousand Small Sanities Book Club Choice for December Read

Our December book choice is *A Thousand Small Sanities: The Moral Adventure of Liberalism*, by Adam Gopnik, staff writer for [The New Yorker](#). The book, 272 pages in length, addresses “liberalism”: what it is, how much of the world came to be organized around it, and why it is currently under threat in the U.S. and the world. The author wants you to understand liberalism, because in understanding it, the reader understands the need for it. Gopnik also explains why liberalism and liberals are under attack from both the left and the right today. Here’s your opportunity to expand your understanding of liberalism and polish your skills in discussing it.

We will hold one Zoom discussion session Wednesday, December 16 at 1 p.m.

January brings a pair of books for you to choose from: *Mama’s Last Hug* and *Soul of an Octopus*, the start of a scientific discussion of what most of us who have had dogs, cats, horses, etc., already know, that animals have emotions and other aspects of intelligence. The books explore the idea that animals have capabilities for consciousness that likely display the stages of evolutionary brain development leading to human intelligence.

The dates for our January Zoom discussions are Wednesday, January 13 and Saturday, January 16. The date of the Wednesday discussion, formerly scheduled on January 20, has been changed to January 13 **to avoid** Inauguration Day. **Please register through our League website www.lwvjefco.org or contact Marilyn Brown at the email address below.**

An e-copy of the full schedule of book choices for our 2020-2021 season is available to download on the League website, www.lwvjefco.org . To be added to

our mailing list, email Marilyn Brown at marilbrown@aol.com.

Marilyn Brown

Book Club Co-coordinator

LWV Jeffco

970-946-6523



LWV CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE

Interested in Climate Change and want to learn more? Contact sandyschuster11@gmail.com and get the link for the Colorado Climate Emergency Task Force meeting which will be on Zoom on Thursday December 10 at 1pm.

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE

LWVJeffco converted to **ClubExpress**, a comprehensive management system which includes data-base management, web-page management and event registration, on **September 22**. Existing members received their login information in an email on September 23. 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 or you have misplaced the e-mail contact President@LWVjeffco.org

As of December 1st we have 53 members who have not yet logged into the new system. We encourage you to check out our new system.

A special note to those Jeffco League members who have been unable to log into the state League website LWVColorado.org. The fix for this problem is to use your LWV Jeffco user name and password to login to [LWVColorado](http://LWVColorado.org). Please clear your histories, cookies and password savers of your old LWVColorado username and password.

The Book Club now has its own page on our website. You will find the Book Club page under the Get Involved tab. You can register to attend a Book Club meeting

thru the event calendar.

The membership directory can only be accessed by logging into the website. The membership directory is found under the member tab. At the December unit meetings unit leaders will be demonstrating how to pull a unit membership list.

Our Volunteer page is under development. We are also developing the Discussion Forums.

Check out the New Website at:

www.lwvjefco.org

CLUBEXPRESS WEBSITE TIP - DO NOT OPT OUT OF BLAST EMAILS

The Jefferson County League of Women Voters uses "blast e-mails" to disseminate information to all members at one time rather than sending individual emails to over 150 members. We use the blast email feature of ClubExpress for notifying members of Calls to Action, our monthly newsletters, and other information related to Unit meetings as well as local, state, and national governmental and League issues as they are brought to our attention. Our effectiveness as a League depends our ability to be dynamic and respond quickly to issues affecting everyone.

When you set up your account in our new www.lwvjefco.org web site you are given the option of opting out of receiving these blast emails from the League. If you choose to opt out of receiving blast emails from the Jeffco LWV, you will not receive notification of League activities or other important issues. Consequently, you will not be able to fully participate in League activities. We encourage you to not opt out of this ClubExpress feature.



VOTE411 POST-ELECTION OVERVIEW

Congrats on making it through the 2020 General Election! Even though we don't

have the full user count for VOTE411 (due to Google Analytics not reporting Election Day numbers yet), we already know [VOTE411.org](https://www.vote411.org) had its biggest year ever in terms of serving voters - surpassing the number of voters served in 2018 (the previous biggest election cycle) in mid-October. A huge thanks to the Leagues from 43 states plus DC who spent countless hours creating their online voters' guides this year and providing detailed candidate information on over 41,000 candidates (and allowing the candidates to speak to the voters in their own words!). Working together, we educated millions of voters and showed the power of the League in an election year that had an unprecedented number of voter education resources, as well as unprecedented interest from voters. Let's all take a minute to recognize our success, before moving to the 2021 cycle. If you'd like to sign up for the VOTE411 voters' guide program in 2021 please contact Megan Brown at mbrown@lww.org.

89.84% Voter Turnout



JEFFERSON
COUNTY COLORADO

YOU ROCK!

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?

Continue to feed your passion by renewing your local League Membership. Go online to use the secure charge at www.lwvjefco.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. Members with a renewal date of 10/31/20 have received invoices via e-mail for their membership renewal. Renewal is easy. Click on the renewal button in the e-mail and renew on-line. We encourage members renew on-line to expedite the accounting and data-base management processes.
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.

PEOPLE POWERED FAIR MAPS CAMPAIGN

With the election season coming to an end, we are continuing to strategize our needs and goals to achieve fair maps in 2021. One of the major priorities for this year is advocating for a fair and transparent redistricting process in all 50 states and DC! Through the People Powered Fair Maps™ campaign, Leagues are working diligently to organize and educate the public around how to participate in redistricting in their state or community. To this end, here at LWVUS, we are developing a national email campaign to keep people informed about redistricting across the country and direct them to local opportunities to get involved! [Sign up to stay in the loop](#) and share with your networks!

LWVUS ADVOCACY AND LITIGATION WEBINARS

Check the [page on the League Management Site](#) to see a listing of all future and past webinars from the LWVUS Advocacy and Litigation team! Webinars will cover everything from setting Legislative priorities, putting together action alerts, policy briefings on legislative issues, and preparing for your next legislative session. Currently, webinars are scheduled through January 2021.

COVID-19 Information from Jeffco Public Health

Jefferson County Public Health [continues managing the COVID-19 outbreak](#) in collaboration with other national, state and local partners. Our number one priority is protecting the health and safety of our community.

COVID-19 Resources and Information:

[Public Health Order w/ Jeffco Variances](#)

[COVID-19 Cases and Data Dashboard](#)

[Jeffco Variance Fact Sheet](#)

[Jeffco Coronavirus Information](#)

[Community Resources](#)

[Community Conversations](#)

[Safer-at-Home Order](#)

[Mask Guidance](#)[Mental](#)

[Health Resources](#)



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:

League of Women Voters of Jefferson County, CO
1425 Brentwood Suite 7, Lakewood, CO 80214
303-238-0032

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