



League of
Women Voters®

*Keeping our community fair,
vibrant and strong!*

lwvmesa.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS

> **Citizens for Clean Air —Annual Public Forum**, February 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction (see page 2 of this VOTER)

> **Voters' Forum** - March 10 or 11, 2019

MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT

January 14 – Grand Junction Community Center

Forty League and community members were treated to a comprehensive, carefully prepared, powerfully delivered presentation describing the well planned campaign to create a Community Center for the greater Grand Junction community.

This concept has been entertained since the 1970's, but this group has followed through with the necessary detail to obtain acceptance and support of governmental and business factions. The presentation covered planning, funding, and facility objectives

including the Matchett Park and the Orchard Mesa locations.

The plans include close attention to the the community needs for different age groups as well as for differing areas of interest which could be served through a community center. The proposal will be included on the April ballot in the City of Grand Junction, but the funding mechanism of a small sales tax increase will spread the cost across all parts of the Grand Valley. The committee is well into its promotional campaign and seeking other ways to make the community aware of the potential value of this project.

On April 2nd, residents of Grand Junction will finally get to vote on whether or not it's time for a community center.

Please see page 3 for a more detailed description of the proposed project.

If approved, the community center, park development, and renovation/expansion at Orchard Mesa will be funded by a 0.39% city sales tax increase. That tax would not apply to unprepared food, gas, prescriptions, or services. The average household in Grand Junction would pay approximately \$4.39 per month, and this will cover the cost of construction and ongoing operations and maintenance.



Letter from the Leadership Team

We are wrapping some back-office work—finalizing our membership records and updating the Civic Directory for the 2019 spring election—in addition to planning for a busy Spring which includes a local election and an Annual Membership Meeting.

After several years' operations with the current Leadership Team model, we are exploring strategies which would get our Members more involved in the operations of LWVMC without making the tasks too burdensome.

Part of the reward (and fun) of being a League member is actual involvement in the planning, organization, and participation in LWVMC. Yet we are aware that Members' time, strength, and commitment differ—and we continue to need the support of those who are not willing/able to become more deeply involved. No problem—please stay with us. But, give it a thought—and even help us think our way through this.

By the way! The articles on pages 1 and 3 of this VOTER deal with the proposed **Grand Junction Community Center**. The LWVMC Leadership Team has voted to endorse this VERY worthwhile project. For the latest information on this project, visit their Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/GJCommunityCenter/>

—LWVMC Leadership Team

Leadership team:
 Kayla Dodson
 Cynthia Edwards
 Cindy Hartel
 Fini Oharek
 Robyn Parker
 Anita Pisciotte
 Henry Snyder
 Debby Tittle
 Emily Witte



AIR POLLUTION IN THE GRAND VALLEY
A Public Forum

MONDAY, FEB. 11, 2019 | 7-8:30 P.M.
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH | 536 OURAY AVE, GRAND JUNCTION

All people who breathe are invited and encouraged to attend. Show up and get engaged!
 Desserts and beverages available starting at 6:30 p.m.

AGENDA:

- A great opportunity to reduce vehicle emissions to ZERO in 2019.
- Smoke, dust and other particulates: what have we learned?
- Ground-level ozone: what we don't know can hurt us!
- Other tough air quality challenges: what are they and what can we do?

For more information, visit www.citizensforcleanair.org



Photo by Margaret Chittler

Citizens for CLEAN AIR
 FEATURING

SPONSORED BY **LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®**

WWW.CITIZENSFORCLEANAIR.ORG

Citizens for Clean Air will bring LWVMC up-to-date with its activities and progress in 2019.

Their past presentations have been extremely informative, well-prepared, and—always—enlightening.

Please join us for this important look at environmental conditions in the Grand Valley.

Monday evening, February 11th at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 536 Ouray Avenue in Grand Junction.

Members of the general public, as well as LWVMC Members are encouraged to attend this presentation.

What's Happening?

WOMEN'S MARCH

More than 1,000 people enjoyed the **3rd Annual Western Colorado Women's March** in Grand Junction on January 19. The shorter route and marching in the street with music from **KWSI** was appreciated. Speakers with messages ranging from protecting our environment, access to birth control, voter engagement and registration and participation were well received.

Following the March, LWVMC Members set up tables at Pablo's Pizza and at the Avalon Theater with general information about the League of Women Voters



MLK DAY

A good crowd of more than 200 people braved the unsettled weather on January 21 to participate in the Martin Luther King celebration and march. The march started with a gathering at the Handy Chapel at 2nd and Rood with speeches and music. Participants walked to City Hall where a proclamation was read and continued walking to CMU for an evening program. This was the final of several events organized in honor of Dr. King.

Grand Junction Community Center—a more careful look

The Community Center proposal on April's ballot includes three main components:

- **A 98,000 sq. ft. community center** located at Matchett Park. This will include: warm-water, lap, and leisure pools; 2 pool-party rooms; a 3-court gymnasium; an indoor walking track; 3 multi-purpose meeting rooms; gathering spaces; a bouldering wall; fitness areas; child supervision services; tenant lease space.
- **75 acres of park development** at Matchett including: 7 multi-purpose fields; walking paths; a plaza; playgrounds; restrooms/shelters; 4 basketball courts; 12 pickleball courts; 8 tennis courts; a pond; a skate-park.
- **Renovation of the existing Orchard Mesa pool, gymnasium, and adjoining facilities.** Additions include: a new social zone with snack bar; family dressing areas; 2 multi-purpose rooms; a pool-party room; a new spa.

Electoral College or Popular Vote?

LWVCO supports Colorado Senate Bill 19-042 **National Popular Vote Agreement**

Is it time to end **Electoral College** control of presidential elections?

Get—and stay—up-to-date on the progress of this nationwide movement

Click for the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/nationalpopularvoteinc/>

The League of Women Voters® of Mesa County, 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.

FUTURE EVENTS (currently planned)

- > **Citizens for Clean Air Forum—Annual Public Forum**, February 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction
- > **Voters' Forum** - March, 2019
- > **Election Day**—April 2, 2019
- > **Grand Valley Students United**—April, 2019
- > **Annual Meeting** - May 13, 2019

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