



League of
Women Voters®

*Keeping our community fair,
vibrant and strong!*

lwvmesa.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- > **Election Day** - April 2, 2019
- > **Grand Valley Students United** - "Gun Sense," April 8, 2019, 7:00 pm, Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 536 Ouray, Grand Junction (See article on page 3)
- > **Annual Meeting** - May 13, 2019, a dinner/membership meeting, 6:00 pm. Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction

MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT

March 10 - Municipal Candidates and Issues Forum



More than fifty Grand Valley residents attended the **Municipal Election Candidates and Voter Issues Forum** hosted by the **League of Women Voters of Mesa County**, the **AAUW**, and **KWSI-LP 100.3 Radio**. The forum was held at the Mesa County Public Library branch in Grand Junction and was broadcast live on KWSI radio.

The first part of the forum featured the six candidates for positions on the Grand Junction City Council who stated their positions on local issues and responded to questions from the audience.



The second portion included statements – pro and con – regarding the three sales tax propositions on the City ballot.

Letter from the Leadership Team

We repeat: ~~Help Wanted~~ Needed

For the last two months we have written about getting more members involved in the ongoing operations of our League without creating a burden on their time.

The “primary operations” of the League include such things as Membership/Leadership Development, Development (fund-raising), Voter Services, Presentations/Outreach, Publicity, Volunteer Coordination, Hospitality, Civics and Action, Publications, Finance. We hope to present a proposed plan and structure at the Annual Meeting in May. The hope is that we can identify members of the Leadership Team as “area managers” of particular operations and provide opportunities and necessary steps for LWVMC Members to choose among these as their areas of highest interest.

We are aware that not everyone can make a serious time commitment, but we hope that everyone can identify with at least one of these areas and help that effort in any way that they can. Please think about this and your role in a vibrant League chapter. We hope to deal with this question at the Annual Meeting, May 13, 2019.

—LWVMC Leadership Team

It is with great sadness that we inform our members of the death of **Mary Ann Greenhill** on March 20, 2019. Mary Ann was a long-term LWVMC Member, a strong supporter of the League, and a dear friend of those who knew her. She will be missed - and it will be hard to replace her. Thanks, Mary Ann.

Thoughts about the Annual Meeting

Again this year we have scheduled a pot-luck dinner at the Annual Meeting. While this certainly easier to plan, it also lends itself to up-close and personal discussions among League members - more than would be possible at a restaurant.

There are several technical requirements which the Annual Meeting must achieve, but it seems much more important that we spend some time exchanging ideas about the health and future of our League chapter.

Discussions within the Leadership Team have made us aware that the personal relationships among our members have been neglected while we have focused on “presentations.” We should find a way to integrate on-topic discussions among members into every League presentation. Why have we not done this? We used to. The temptation to refer to “the good old days” must be avoided as we all recognize that “the times they are a-changing’ ”

How can we merge the strengths of our own members into the needs of the League of Women Voters and, more importantly, the needs of our community - that is a goal for the Annual Meeting.

What should we do? We should identify the objectives of our own League, we should define the main activities that we should/can undertake which will address these objectives, and then we should - as individuals - decide how each of us can contribute to this effort.

Then - as an individual - what is your part? Once these needs are identified, which areas are most interesting to you? Do you have the time/strength/ability to lead? ... to help with that particular undertaking? ... occasionally or regularly?

The Leadership is trying to make this idea work. Please 1) come to the Annual Meeting, and 2) help our chapter reorient itself.

See you on May 13th!

Comments?

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

What's Happening?

GRAND VALLEY STUDENTS UNITED



*Providing a voice for progressive youth
in Western Colorado.*

Grand Valley Students United is a coalition of youth activists from Mesa County, CO striving to represent the interests of youth in the region. Currently, GVSU is tackling issues of local and national importance such as gun law reform, education, the environment, and young voter outreach.

A Conversation about Gun Sense

Students United works to further promote safety within our schools, homes, and communities by pushing the reform of current gun laws. At the statewide level, we see a need for legislation encouraging the safe storage of firearms, gun restraining orders and red flag laws, and increasing ease of access to resources against gun violence. We also seek the reform of **Colorado Senate Bill 197** so that marital and residential status may not permit a perpetrator of domestic abuse to retain their firearms. At the federal level, we encourage a universal background check, harsher punishments for those who commit gun violence, setting a minimum age of twenty-one-years-old to possess a firearm, and research into gun violence through the elimination of the **Dickey Amendment**.

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The **Colorado Environmental Film Festival** - sponsored by **High Noon Solar**, in cooperation with **KAFM** and **CMU Sustainability Council**



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Colorado Environmental Film
Festival - WEST - CMU

by High Noon Solar

\$15 - \$75

This event will extend from April 5th and 6th at KAFM
through April 12th and 13th at CMU

For more information check these websites:

<https://highnoonsolar.com>

and

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/colorado-environmental-film-festival-west-cmu-tickets-59135945204?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

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)

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- > **Grand Valley Students United**—April 8, 2019, 7:00 pm, Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction
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