



**League of
Women Voters®**

Empowering Voters.
Defending Democracy

lwvmesa.org

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November 2019

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UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

November 5: Election Day

November 6: Leadership Meeting, 2pm—3pm, 1160 N. 4th Street, GJ

November 11: Veterans Day

November 11: A Forum on the National Popular Vote, 6:30pm—8pm, Meyer Ballroom, CMU University Center, 1455 N. 12th St., GJ

November 12: Breakfast with LWVCO, 8:30am—10am, Las Marias Mexican Restaurant, 118 S 7th St, GJ

November 18: CommTech Committee Meeting, 11am—noon, 1160 N. 4th Street, GJ

November 20: Book Club, 9am—11am, The Artful Cup, 3090 N 12th St., GJ

November 28: Thanksgiving Day (gobble, gobble)

NEWS & STUFF

LWV of Mesa County Endorses Measure 4a

When we invited Cathy Story, Senior Director of Senior Services at Hilltop Community Resources and volunteer for Citizens for School District 51, to discuss Mesa County Ballot Measure 4A with LWV members, we were treated to an informative discussion about the state of our schools which included input from several other well-known community members. (*Continued on next page*)



"The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of the government in the next" - Abraham Lincoln

NEWS & STUFF (cont.)

***(continued)* LWV of Mesa County Endorses Measure 4a**

We began our discussion with introductions from attendees and stories about how each of us or someone we knew had been personally affected by the deteriorating conditions of Grand Junction High School.

Stories of collapsing ceilings and classrooms without functioning electrical outlets were shared, but if we had been competing, attendees may have proclaimed Former Colorado Secretary of State Bernie Buescher and School Board Member John Williams the winners for most appalling stories. As graduates of GJHS's Class of 1967, both Buescher and Williams confirmed that the school was already falling apart more than 50 years ago due to a sinking foundation.

With the conditions of GJHS no secret to anyone, Story focused her presentation on school safety issues. As if it weren't bad enough that GJHS sprawls through several buildings and across a busy street, we learned that there are 71 unsecured points of entry to the school. With school violence often in the news, safety is a priority of School District 51, and Ballot Measure 4A would build a new high school with a single point of entry and address safety concerns at SD51's other high schools.

LWV-Mesa County has determined that Ballot Measure 4A supports our mission and values. For the good of our community's children and to increase Mesa County's standard of living, we urge our members to **Vote Yes on 4A**.

Don't Miss Our "Forum On The National Popular Vote" on November 11th!

LWV of Mesa County is excited to partner with LWVCO to host the fourth in a series of educational statewide forums on CO's National Popular Vote law. Our "Forum On The National Popular Vote" will take place on November 11 in CMU's Meyer Ballroom at 6:30pm.

The forum is designed to help educate Mesa County voters about the facts of the National Popular Vote Interstate Pact and discuss how it will impact future presidential elections in CO and across the nation.

A quick refresher—the National Popular Vote Interstate Pact (*Continued on next page*)

City Market Community Rewards

Help us earn money every time you shop at City Market!



Enroll your City Market Value Card in the Community Rewards program (organization #WJ005) and City Market will donate a portion of proceeds to LWV of Mesa County.

"Every citizen's vote should count in America, not just the votes of partisan insiders in the Electoral College" - Gene Green

NEWS & STUFF (cont.)

(continued) Forum On The National Popular Vote

is a Compact amongst states that ensures the presidential candidate who wins the popular vote across all 50 states and D.C. always receives the 270 electoral votes necessary to become president. The Compact goes into effect only when states with a combined total of 270 electoral votes sign on.

In 2019, CO legislatures voted to join the Compact, committing CO's nine electoral votes to the winner of the national popular vote when/if the Compact goes into effect. Immediately following the signing of the new law, opponents of the law successfully collected enough signatures to place a measure to repeal the law on CO's 2020 ballot.

On November 11, Mesa County Commissioner **Rose Pugliese** (Protect Colorado's Vote) and **Ray Haynes** (national spokesman for the National Popular Vote and former National Chairman of ALEC) will take the stage to debate the pros and cons of CO's inclusion in the Compact. Our friend, Justin Gollob, Ph.D (associate professor of political science at CMU) will be moderating the discussion.

This is an amazing opportunity to learn more about a subject near and dear to Mesa County's heart (Ms. Pugliese was instrumental in getting the National Popular Vote on the 2020 ballot and many of our Grand Valley neighbors have strong opinions on this issue). Mark your calendars. You. Do. Not. Want. To. Miss. This.

Read our press release at http://lwvmesa.org/vote/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/YONPV_Grand-Junction-release-2.pdf

Event Details: November 11, 6:30pm—8pm, Meyer Ballroom, CMU University Center, 1455 N. 12th St., GJ

Breakfast With LWVCO President Ruth Stemler & Jean McGuire

Join us on Tuesday November 12th for breakfast and discussion with LWVCO's Ruth Stemler, President, and Jean McGuire, local league support. We have reserved the "meeting room" at Las Marias Mexican Restaurant (their breakfast menu has an array of both Mexican- and American-style *(Continued on next page)*



Keeping Up-To-Date With LWVUS

Read up on all of the latest news & updates from LWVUS...

Blog: <https://www.lwv.org/blog>

Newsroom: <https://www.lwv.org/newsroom>

"I believe that voting is the first act of building a community as well as building a country" - John Ensign

NEWS & STUFF (cont.)

(continued) Breakfast With LWVCO

dishes so you'll be able to order pancakes if huevos rancheros isn't your thing). This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our CO League president and learn more about what the League is up to at the state level. Seating is limited so please RSVP to Deb Tittle at daroch@bresnan.net by Friday, November 8th.

Event Details: November 12, 8:30am—10am, Las Marias Mexican Rest., 118 S 7th St, GJ

Voters' Forum Educates Voters About Candidates And Ballot Issues

At our 2019 Candidates and Ballot Issues Forum, LWV of Mesa County was pleased to present pros and cons of three ballot issues and to introduce voters to school board candidate for re-election, Doug Levinson. Sixty people attended the forum in person, and others listened to the forum live on KWSI-LP Radio. Grand Valley Students United provided student volunteers to help with the event.



Presenting opposing perspectives about issues has always been a priority of LWV as we aspire to educate voters to make well-informed decisions. We were honored to have experts on Ballot Issue 4A and Referendums CC and DD speak at our forum and especially pleased to provide one of the few venues in Colorado for voters to hear opposition to Referendum DD.

For Mesa County School District Measure 4A to fund a new high school and make improvements at other district high schools, Cathy Story spoke in favor, and Dennis Simpson spoke in opposition. For Referendum CC, a TABOR repeal to fund schools and transportation projects, Reeves Brown spoke in favor and Rose Pugliese in opposition. Proposition DD to fund state water projects with revenue from sports gambling was supported by Brad McCloud and opposed by Anne Landman.

The forum will be replayed several times until the November 5 election on KWSI-LP Radio. A recording of the forum is available anytime at <https://kwsr.org/civics-and-action-fall-2019/>. Additional information about ballot issues may be found at vote411.org. Vote411 is a service of League of Women Voters.



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www.facebook.com/lwvmesacounty

COMMITTEE & CLUB CORNER

Voter Services Committee

The Voter Services team is committed to educating voters and promoting Get Out The Vote initiatives around Mesa County.

Contact Robyn Parker at gjrobyn@gmail.com if you're interested in joining our Voter Services committee.

Communications & Technology Committee

The CommTech team is hard at work redesigning our LWVmesa.org website in preparation for our upcoming migration to Club Express. The team is also busy spreading LWV's mission and advertising upcoming events via a variety of media formats.

The CommTech committee meets at 11am on the third Monday of each month. Contact Toni Brammeier at tonibrammeier@gmail.com if you're interested in joining our committee.

Book Club

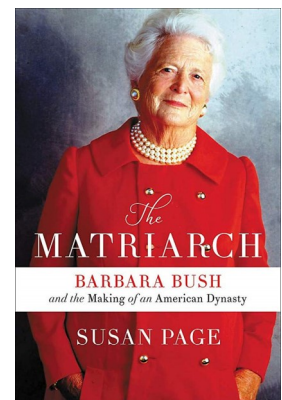
****HOLIDAY DATE CHANGE ALERT: BOOK CLUB WILL MEET WED. NOV. 20 @ 9AM AT THE ARTFUL CUP****

Our November book selection is *The Matriarch: Barbara Bush and the Making of an American Dynasty* by Susan Page .

Catch up on past selections and get ready for future reads at <http://lwvmesa.org/vote/book-club/> .

The Book Club meets at 9am on the last Wednesday of each month at The Artful Cup (3090 N 12th St., GJ). Haven't read the book? Come anyway!

Contact Toni Brammeier at tonibrammeier@gmail.com with questions about the Book Club.



Contribute To Future Editions of **The Voter!**

Have you recently read an interesting article that you think LWV members would like to read? Do you have a good story to tell? How about a funny joke? The team behind The Voter is always happy (and appreciative) to accept member contributions. Just mail what you've got to lwvmesa@gmail.com and we'll gladly add it to a future edition.



GET INVOLVED!



Volunteers Needed for “A Forum on the National Popular Vote”

Monday, November 11, 6:30pm—8pm, Meyer Ballroom, CMU University Center, 1455 N. 12th St., GJ

Volunteers needed for:

- ♦ Photographer from 6:15pm—8:00pm

Contact Robyn Parker at gjrobyn@gmail.com if you are available to help at this event.

Members Breakfast with LWVCO President Ruth Stemler & Jean McGuire

Tuesday, November 12, 8:30am—10am, Las Marias Mexican Restaurant, 118 S 7th St, GJ

Seating is limited, please RSVP to Deb Tittle at daroch@bresnan.net by Friday, November 8th.

Serve as LWV of Mesa County Secretary

Are you organized? Are you a good listener? Then boy-oh-boy, do we have the perfect position for you. The secretary is responsible for recording meeting minutes and compiling documentation for formal member meetings. This position is ideal for a Type-A member who is looking to put her/his strengths to good use. This position requires a commitment through the end of the 2019-2020 season, with the option for election to an additional 2-year term at the 2020 Annual Meeting. **If you're interested in this position please contact the leadership team at lwmesa@gmail.com.**

Serve as LWV of Mesa County Spokesperson

Be the “voice” of LWV of Mesa County. The Spokesperson serves as the point of contact for local media organizations and helps to promote the League’s mission and events around the Grand Valley. This position is ideally held by an individual with 2+ years of experience in the League with a good understanding of the League’s mission and positions. This position requires a commitment through the end of the 2019-2020 season, with the option for election to an additional 2-year term at the 2020 Annual Meeting. **If you're interested in this position please contact the leadership team at lwmesa@gmail.com.**

"Now and then it's good to pause in our pursuit of happiness and just be happy." — Guillaume Apollinaire

ADMINISTRIVIA

With Love, From The Leadership Team

Holy moly! Last month sure was a busy one! With two programs (did you catch them both?), including our annual fall Voters' Forum, our LWV chapter has been super focused on our core mission of voter education and empowerment. A big shout out to Robyn Parker, our Voter Services Coordinator, for going above and beyond to ensure that both programs went off without a hitch. If you enjoyed October's programs and would like to see more like them, please consider joining the Voter Services Committee (see the Committee & Club Corner page for more info).

This month we have another exciting voter education program that is sure to energize us all. You won't want to miss November 11th's Forum On The National Popular Vote. It promises to be both educational and a rousing good time.

And finally, in this season of gratitude, we give thanks for all of you. For your gifts of time and energy and your generous contributions to our LWV mission. As a volunteer-run, grassroots organization, our chapter's success is directly proportional to our members' involvement. So why not volunteer at one of our upcoming programs? Or pop in to one of the monthly Book Club meetings and spend an hour chatting about books and LWV with other like-minds? And, of course like always, if you have other ideas for clubs, committees, programs, meetings, etc. shoot us an email at lwvmesa@gmail.com. Together we can do great things.

With Love,
The Leadership Team



The Leadership Team

Have a question or concern? Email the team at lwvmesa@gmail.com

Our current Leadership Team members:

- * Deb Tittle, Chairperson
- * Henry Snyder, Treasurer
- * Robyn Parker, Voter Services Coordinator
- * Toni Brammeier, Lead-CommTech Committee
- * Peggy Rawlins, Advisor
- * Cynthia Edwards, Hospitality / Voter Services Team



Not Yet a Member?

By joining the League you not only support our local chapter, but your membership also helps to support the League's grassroots efforts at the state and national levels. Joining also gives you the opportunity to vote in League elections and help us shape the future of the organization for years to come. So, what are you waiting for? Join today!

<http://lwvmesa.org/vote/join/>

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.


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