



# The Voter

The League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County, MO

## FEBRUARY FORUMS ON MINORITY YOUTH: INEQUITIES IN JUSTICE

The Civil Liberties Committee, along with several local partners, will present a two-part forum titled "Minority Youth: Inequities in Justice." The forums are scheduled for Wednesday, February 3 and Wednesday, February 17. Both will be held from 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Zoom.

The forum on February 3rd will focus on the disparities in how minority youth are treated and will provide background and current information on the issue from relevant partners. League board member Mahree Skala will moderate this forum. Presenters will include Ranita Norwood, Supervisor of Student Services, Columbia

Public Schools; Ruth McClusky, Chief Juvenile Officer, Boone and Callaway Counties; Asia Smith, Battle High School Student, MAC Scholar, who also recently received recognition from the NAACP; and Steve Calloway, Minority Men's Network, formerly Director of Pharmacy for MO Health Net Division.



The second forum which will be held on February 17 will provide an opportunity to learn what local agencies (Continued on page 2)

## FEBRUARY 6 NEW MEMBER WELCOME

If you missed it last month, please join us when the New Member Welcome is offered via Zoom Saturday, February 6 at 10 a.m. for new members and others who want to learn more about how the LWV operates and to find your niche to make more impact. A Zoom link will be sent to all members.

Just by being a member you make a difference. Your membership supports actions at national, state and local levels to educate voters, monitor

legislation and address important public policy issues.

Many of our members have a particular issue for which they have passion and use the League of Women Voters US resources to do research, monitor legislative action on national or state levels and find ways to make an impact. Others have time to serve on committees to help plan programs (Continued on page 2)



## FEBRUARY 9 LUNCH & LEARN: THE UNITED WAY EQUITY CHALLENGE

We are delighted to continue to partner with the Columbia Public Library and Lauren Williams, who hosts our monthly noon Lunch & Learn programs on Zoom.

Our Jan. 12 program was on "The Economic and Social Impact of Covid in Columbia." A big thank you to our speakers, Steve Hollis, Human Services Manager for the Columbia/Boone County Health Department, and Alan Spell, MU Assistant Extension Professor in the Division of

Applied Social Sciences. If you missed this very interesting and informative program you can catch it on the LWVCBC Facebook page, on our website, or on the DBRL website.

Our Feb.9 program will feature the "United Way Equity Challenge." Guest speakers will be La Toya Stevens and Rachel Delcau from the Heart of Missouri United Way. La Toya is the Marketing and Communications Director at Heart of Missouri United Way, (Cont'd on pg. 2)



## FEBRUARY FORUMS ON MINORITY YOUTH: INEQUITIES IN JUSTICE

(cont'd from pg.1) are doing to ameliorate the situation and to promote community involvement. Lauren Williams, Adult Services Librarian at the Columbia Public Library will serve as the moderator. Presenters will include Joanne Nelson and D'Andre Thompson, Boone County Community Services; Verna LaBoy, Family Access Center of Excellence (FACE) Advisory Board Member; and a youth representative.

We will provide a list of agencies and ways to get involved and to volunteer, as well as a resource list to help you get better informed.

This topic is in keeping with the League's commitment to learning about and sharing with the public information on the issues of systemic

racism and social justice, and ways for citizens to be involved.

Cosponsors of the forums include the Columbia Public Library, League of Women Voters Civil Liberties Committee, the Columbia NAACP, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. - Delta Tau Chapter, the Minority Men's Network, the Mid-Missouri Civil Liberties Association, and the Boone County Children Services Board.

The Zoom links to these programs will be available on the website of the Columbia Public Library at: [www.dbrl.org/events](http://www.dbrl.org/events) and on our website, [lwwcbc.org](http://lwwcbc.org).

In the week between the two forums, the February Lunch & Learn will feature a related topic, the United Way Equity Challenge.

— Marilyn McLeod

## FEB. 6 NEW MEMBER WELCOME

(Cont'd from pg. 1) and action and conduct the work of our local League.

For 100 years, members have found that involvement in the League has led them to a better understanding of public policy issues and helped them be more active citizens. Many have found personal growth in working with

others interested in public policy, and sharpened their skills in leadership, management, communication and public speaking.

— Meredith Donaldson  
Membership Chair

## FEB. 9 LUNCH & LEARN: THE UNITED WAY EQUITY CHALLENGE

(Cont'd from pg.1) while Rachel, a native of St. Louis, currently serves as the Director of Community Impact. Throughout her career Rachel has focused on diversity, inclusion and equity. Join the [Equity Challenge](#) now and become a leader in the fight to end racism!

On March 9 we will get an update on the Columbia Police Dept. from Chief Geoff Jones. Chief Jones spoke at a Lunch & Learn program in 2019, soon after he became Columbia's Police Chief. We are looking forward to hearing from him again.

On April 13 we will get an update from Carolyn Amparan & Jay Haysheider on Columbia's

Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and Columbia Water & Light's Integrated Energy and Resource Master Plan.

The May 11 program will focus on Mental Health; topic and speaker(s) to be announced.

Viewers are encouraged to ask questions during the programs using the Zoom Chat feature. You will need to register for these events on the library's website: [events.dbrl.org](http://events.dbrl.org). Lunch & Learn Programs are also recorded and can be viewed on our website and Facebook page.

— Barbara Hoppe  
Chair, Lunch & Learn Committee

## APRIL ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUMS ON MARCH 16 AND 23

Due to the large number of candidates for the April 6th Election, the LWV has decided to have two candidate forums. The races are for Columbia City Council Wards 2 and 6, the Columbia School Board, and State Representative District 45. There will not be any ballot issues on the April 6 ballot.

On Tuesday, March 16 we will have the candidates for Columbia City Council Ward 2: Bill Weitkemper, Jim Meyer, and Andrea Waner; and Ward 6: Betsy Peters, Randy Minchew, and Philip Merriman.

On Tuesday, March 23 we will have the candidates for Columbia School Board: Teresa Maledy, Lucas Neal, Aron Saylor, Katherine Sasser, and Jeanne Snodgrass. In addition, we will have candidates for MO State Representative District 45: David Tyson Smith (Democratic) and Glenn Nielsen (Libertarian).

This race will replace Kip Kendrick, who resigned from the position.



Both forums will be co-hosted by the Columbia Public Library, will be on Zoom, and will begin at 7:00 p.m. We will be using the library's Zoom account, so you must register through their site (we will send out the link to register closer to the forums). Barbara Hoppe, former Columbia City Councilwoman and LWV member, will moderate the forums. The candidates will have time for a two-minute opening statement, questions and answers from the moderator and through Chat, and closing one-minute statements.

The last day to register to vote is March 10. To register to vote, go to: <http://bit.ly/boonevote>

— Carol Schreiber

## DIGITAL VOTER GUIDE FOR APRIL ELECTION PLANNED

For the first time, the LWV will put together a digital Voter Guide for the April 6th Election. We will include the Columbia City Council Wards 2 and 6; and Columbia School Board candidates.

We will ask candidates to provide biographical information and answer three questions of

concern in their race. We will then provide their answers in the Voter Guide. The deadline for responses will be March 24. We plan to have the digital Voter Guide ready by March 26.

— Carol Schreiber

## EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT UPDATE

Washington will be busy in the coming months, moving vaccine and rebuilding the economy. Although these are headliners, we cannot afford to set aside the Equal Rights Amendment. The final barrier remaining is the time limit on ratification.

Congress passed the ERA and sent it to the states in 1972. Although no deadline was included in the Amendment itself, a procedural requirement added a ratification deadline of 1979. As the deadline approached and 35 of the required 38 states ratified, the deadline was moved to 1982. (Continued on pg. 6)





## Upcoming League Events!



### FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	FEB 1	2	3 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50am  Minority Youth Forum Part 2 7pm Zoom	4	5	6 New Member Orientation 10 am Zoom
7	8	9 Lunch & Learn: United Way Equity Challenge Zoom at Noon	10	11	12	13
14	15 LWV Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Zoom	16	17 Minority Youth Forum Part 2 7pm Zoom	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	MARCH 1	2	3 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50am	4	5	6
7	8	9 Lunch & Learn: Columbia Police Chief Jones Zoom at Noon	10	11	12	13
14	15 LWV Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Zoom	16 Candidate Forum City Council 7pm Zoom	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Candidate Forum School Board and State Rep 45th District 7pm Zoom	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**TIME TO RENEW YOUR LWVCBC MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021**

**LWV Officers:**  
 President: Marilyn McLeod (239-3708)  
 1st VP: Barbara Hoppe (424-9668)  
 2nd VP: Diane Suhler (443-0549)  
 Secretary: Carol Schreiber (657-0639)  
 Treasurer: Ruth Milledge (268-9591)

**Elected Directors:**  
 Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)  
 Kate Canterbury (214-536-1300)  
 Susan Clark (446-1678)  
 Meredith Donaldson (289-3018)  
 Rene Powell (864-4087)  
 Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)  
 Mahree Skala (474-2195)  
 Pam Springsteel (445-0642)

**Appointed Director:**  
 Dick Parker (256-4397)

**Committee Chairs:**  
 100th Anniversary: Pam Springsteel  
 Budget:  
 Census: Carol Schreiber  
 Civil Liberties: Marilyn McLeod  
 Clean Missouri: Sharon Schneeberger  
 Education: Open  
 Energy & Climate: Dick Parker  
 ERA: Susan Koenig  
 Fundraising: Pam Springsteel  
 Health: Mahree Skala  
 Hospitality: Pam Springsteel  
 Membership: Meredith Donaldson  
 Mental Health: Mahree Skala  
 Speakers Bureau: Open  
 Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

**Voter Editor:** Ava Fajen

Local Website: [lwvcbc.org](http://lwvcbc.org)  
 State: [lwvmissouri.org](http://lwvmissouri.org)  
 National: [lwv.org](http://lwv.org)

Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"

**Member News**

Welcome to new members:  
**Claire Dooley**  
**Katherine Owens of Russellville, MO**

**Membership for 2021**  
**196**

**2021 MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
**League of Women Voters Columbia-Boone County**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues include local, state and national membership.

**NEW** \_\_\_\_\_ **RENEWAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Dues	\$65 _____	<b>\$100*</b> _____
Household Dues	\$100 _____	<b>\$135*</b> _____
First time member 30 years of age and under.		\$30 _____
Subsidized Dues (for members on limited income)		\$25 _____
<b>Student Dues in honor of our 100th Anniversary! \$0</b>		<b>\$0</b> _____
<b>(Ages 16 to 23)</b>		
Additional contribution to subsidize dues for members unable to afford membership rates.		\$ _____
General Donation		\$ _____
		<b>Total: \$</b> _____

Donation to LWV Education Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please include a separate check for donations to the LWV Education Fund. Donations to Education Fund are tax-deductible)

Make Checks Payable to LWV and mail to:  
 League of Women Voters  
 PO Box 239  
 Columbia, MO 65205

Newsletters are sent via email.  
 If you need a paper copy, please check \_\_\_\_\_

**\*We invite you to help celebrate our 100th Anniversary by joining or renewing at the Suffragist Level!**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## League of Women Voters

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

## EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT UPDATE

(Cont'd from pg.3) When no additional states ratified by 1982, many considered the ERA a dead issue.

Enter the Madison Amendment, submitted by Congress to the states in 1789, and ratified in 1992, more than 202 years after it was submitted for ratification. (Fun fact: Missouri became the 37th state to ratify the Madison Amendment on May 5, 1992.) The Madison Amendment precedent makes the ERA time limit seem arbitrary. If the Madison Amendment can be ratified after 202 years, why not the ERA after 49?

Amendment deadlines are 'owned' by the US House and Senate. They vote on the rules, they voted to extend the ERA deadline from 1979 to 1982, and they have the power to eliminate the deadline.

Spurred by the jolt of the Madison Amendment, three more states (Nevada, Illinois, and Virginia) have ratified the ERA in the past few years, bringing the total to 38 states.

If you want to seal the deal on full civil rights for women, if you want to prevent new legislation limiting or prioritizing the rights of men and women, act now. But what can we do, in the face of pressing business in the Capitol?

Draft your letters. When the bill is introduced to eliminate the ERA deadline, be ready to send your heartfelt words to our representatives.

A new year, especially this new year, requires new energy. May your positive energy rise and meld with the enthusiasm of ERA supporters everywhere.

— Susan Koenig

LWVCBC ERA Committee Chair

**TIME TO RENEW YOUR LWVCBC MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021**