



The Voter

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

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION !! SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Please join us for our Founder's Day Celebration on Sunday, Dec. 11, 2-4 p.m. in the Friends Room at the Columbia Public Library!!

We will present the Liz Schmidt Outstanding Citizen Award to Mel and Barbara West and the Outstanding Community Service Award to the City of Refuge for their outstanding work and service through many years.

The program will also include a Special Guest Presentation by Verna Laboy as

Annie Fischer. Sweet and Savory Biscuits from the Biscuit Center, hot tea, and other beverages will be served. Please RSVP at lwvcbc@gmail.com so we know how many people to expect. This event will not be Zoomed or recorded.

If you like, wear a favorite fancy, classic, or historic hat to make the occasion even more festive. Please join us for this special event, and feel free to bring a friend. See you there!

— Barbara Hoppe, President
LWVCBC

NEW MEMBER WELCOME & ORIENTATION JANUARY 7 SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

DECEMBER 13 LUNCH & LEARN "ALL ABOUT JUDGES"



Please join us for the Tuesday, December 13 Lunch & Learn Program at noon on Zoom to learn "All About Judges," their selection process, how they function, and much more. Our guest speaker will be the Director of Citizenship Education for the Missouri Bar Association, Anthony Simones, JD, Ph.D. Be sure to bring any curious, burning, insightful, or even basic questions you may have about our judicial system. Please register in advance for this Program at: https://dbri-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jTyXoBdrRG6hKsNiZNapXA.

Thanks to Local Motion and Executive Director Lawrence Simonson for November's very informative and interesting Program. If you missed it or want to share it with friends, it was recorded and can be found on our website at lwvcbc.org.

Much thanks, as always, to Lauren Williams and the Columbia Public Library, who do an excellent job of co-sponsoring these programs.

— Barbara Hoppe, Chair
Lunch & Learn Committee

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I can't believe it is December already, and 2022 is coming to an end. I am so proud of all the work the LWVCBC and LWVMO have done this year.

In the face of legislation that created many roadblocks to voting in Missouri, as well as making the registering of Voters more difficult, the LWVMO filed two lawsuits. The first is ongoing, and the second was successful in part, getting an injunction to temporarily halt the enforcement of the draconian requirements regarding registering Voters. (Click [here](#) for Judge Beetem's temporary injunction on HB1878 restrictions on voter registration and absentee ballot solicitation.)

Our LWVCBC worked diligently to ensure voters knew about the New Photo ID laws, early no-excuse voting, and provisional voting. (Over 6,000 Voters in Boone County took advantage of early no-excuse voting).

Carol Schreiber did a great job producing our Voter's Guide and setting up the candidate forums before the November election. David Lile did an excellent job of moderating those.

In addition, the local LWVCBC and MoVoterProtection placed signs at voting places about a hotline to talk with attorneys at Stinson Law Firm in St. Louis if problems arose on election day. Those attorneys took calls from all over the state and were ready to talk with County Clerks or file Writs of Mandamus in Court to enforce voting rights, if needed.

Many of your Board Members and some regular members attended the November LWVMO Conference. They shared their ideas and programs and heard from Otto Fajen, MNEA Legislative Director, and MO Senator Jill Schupp about effective ways to communicate with and lobby Legislators, and best practices for testifying. Thanks to Marilyn McLeod for her excellent leadership and planning of that conference.

At the conference, we also heard from the LWVUS regarding Moore vs. Harper, which will be argued Dec. 7 before the US Supreme

Court. Please be sure to read the short article in this newsletter about that case, one of the most important cases before the US Supreme Court. It involves the Independent State Legislature Theory (ISLT), which would drastically and negatively affect voting rights throughout the country, create chaos in voting, and overturn 200 years of legal precedent. The LWVUS filed an Amicus Brief opposing the ISLT, and all 50 State LWVs have signed on.

Finally, thank you to Zona Burk, Zainab Jasim, Linda Headrick, and the entire Education Committee, who have been working diligently with the Columbia High Schools to ensure 18-year-olds are registered to Vote and do Vote. They are also working with high schoolers to set up a youth page on our website, and to have an active and educated group of young people engaged with the LWVCBC, helping in our work to "Make Democracy Work."

Thank you so much for your membership and support this last year. May you have a healthy, joyful, and productive New Year!

Best Wishes Always,

— Barbara Hoppe, President
yesforparks@hotmail.com



NEW MEMBER WELCOME JANUARY 7

All new members and other interested members are invited to a New Member Welcome and Orientation on January 7 at 10 am to learn more about your local LWV and how it links with the state and national level Leagues. Learn about how your membership supports actions at all three levels to educate voters, monitor legislation, and take action on important public policy issues.

If you are interested in becoming more involved, this Member Welcome can also help you find your niche in our League. You will learn how to sign up for legislative alerts and take action from your computer. Many of our members have a particular issue they are passionate about and use the LWVUS 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 and actions and conduct the work of our local League.

Many of us use the League to become better citizens by reading our newsletter, attending our programs and forums, and supporting the work of the League. The League's power is in its membership locally, state-wide, and nationally!!

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 of us have found personal growth in working with other League members interested in public policy. At the same time, we have sharpened our skills in leadership, management, communication, and public speaking.

A Zoom invitation will be sent to members before the event. If you are interested but unable to attend, please get in touch with Meredith Donaldson, mjdonlsn@gmail.com, 573-289-3018, as she plans to arrange another Welcome in February.

— Meredith Donaldson, Chair
Membership Committee

MARGARET CONROY, DBRL LIBRARY DIRECTOR, TO ADDRESS SECRETARY OF STATE RULING ON MISSOURI'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The League of Women Voters of Missouri's position on public libraries states:

"A public library system is a basic community service. As a major source of knowledge and information necessary for informed, active participation in a democratic society, public library services should be accessible to all persons. It is the responsibility of the Missouri State Library to take measures to provide library services in those parts of the state that do not have a tax-supported public library. Long-term, assured, stable and adequate funding should be available to public libraries. Public libraries should be funded by state, county, and local governments and other appropriate...."*

Missouri Secretary of State Ashcroft has issued a ruling that libraries consider an infringement on the professional judgment of librarians. This ruling directly impacts what libraries are allowed to purchase and display in their collections. If implemented, it will create additional costs to library services at the local level and impede

your ability to access resources paid for by your tax dollars. For many libraries, funding controlled by the state library is crucial to ensure that their doors stay open and is necessary to provide access to materials and programs that benefit their communities.

This proposed rule also requires librarians to enforce the standards of individual parents and guardians. It is the responsibility and right of parents or guardians to choose what is appropriate for their own children, but for one individual or group to make those decisions for every family is inappropriate, and a violation of other parents' rights.

Libraries support access to information and ideas. The placement of books and materials in libraries is something that should be left up to people with training and experience in the profession of librarianship.

Policies for collection development and for challenging materials already exist and can be found on library websites. (Cont'd. on pg. 4)

THE LWVMO ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

The LWVMO Annual Fall Conference held on November 12 in Columbia was a great success! Titled "Moving Ahead Together," the conference welcomed new and longtime members from as far away as Joplin and Springfield, with additional members attending online. There was great networking and energy in the room at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Excellent speakers delivered a wealth of information on topics that included collaborating statewide on legislative action; testifying at the Capitol; the Supreme Court Moore v. Harper case on the "independent state legislature theory;" the LWVUS, and the effort to end the Electoral College; and the status of rural hospitals and women's health in Missouri.

Along with other local LWV presidents, Barbara Hoppe shared the activities of our League, and Zainab Jasim highlighted the work of our Education Committee with local high schools.

Thanks to local members Barbara Hoppe, Meredith Donaldson, Carol Schreiber, Sharon Schneeberger, Mahree Skala, and Pam Springsteel for all the breakfast and dessert goodies, door prizes, and managing all the other details that made the local arrangements go so smoothly.

This gathering showed once again how much dedicated individuals working together toward a common goal can do.

— Marilyn McLeod, President
LWVMO



LWVCBC President Barbara Hoppe addresses the Fall Conference.

SOS RULING ON MISSOURI'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES

(Cont'd. from pg. 3) The libraries that are most in need of state funding and assistance are also the most at risk under the proposed change.

Margaret Conroy, executive director of Daniel Boone Regional Library, will speak on this subject at Muleskinners on December 9 at noon on Zoom. The link is below. Although Muleskinners is a partisan organization, the public is welcome to these free weekly meetings.

Zoom Meeting Details

URL: <https://bit.ly/LVM-9-22>

Meeting ID: 732 5572 5144 Password: 2Y7f0h

We encourage you to read the details of the proposed rule to be fully informed on what restrictions this rule would require: [15_CSR_30_200_015.pdf \(mo.gov\)](https://www.sos.mo.gov/15_CSR_30_200_015.pdf) and to submit your comments. Public comments may be mailed to the Office of the Missouri Secretary of State, PO Box 1767, Jefferson City, MO 65109, or emailed to comments@sos.mo.gov. The deadline is December 15. You must include "15 CSR 30-200.015" in the subject line.

— Marilyn McLeod, President
LWVMO

LWVMO LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2023

LWVMO's top legislative priority is ensuring that laws encourage and protect all citizens' fundamental right to vote and ensure free and fair elections at all levels. The importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion is integral to our priorities.

Members participating in the Nov. 12 Fall Conference chose the following as top advocacy priorities for 2023:

- ★ Preserving the citizen initiative petition without undue restrictions
- ★ Restoring reproductive freedom
- ★ Promoting access to affordable healthcare

- ★ Supporting public education and local control of curriculum
- ★ Protecting the environment
- ★ Addressing gun safety
- ★ Setting sound budget and tax policies

Other issues for members include equal rights and pay equity, campaign finance, and the National Popular Vote. If you have additional suggestions or questions, send an email to league@lwvmissouri.org.

— Marilyn McLeod, President
LWVMO

MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION COALITION REPORT ON THE NOVEMBER 8 GENERAL ELECTION

Boone county offered 73 polling locations on November 8, and 12 LWV-CBC members and their friends placed signs and monitored polls at 53 of them. The volunteers included: Linda Headrick, Valerie Holley, Barbara Hoppe, Carla Klein, Lea Langdon, Marilyn McLeod, Ken Schneeberger, Sharon Schneeberger, Bob Schreiber, Carol Schreiber, Diane Suhler, and Marcia Walker.

Our goal was to place Missouri Voter Protection signs at polling places, focusing on polls where minorities voted. We also monitored a few polling places throughout the 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. day to spot-check how the voting process was working for voters.

Missouri Voter Protection received 650 calls on Nov.8. The largest number, 163 calls, came from St Louis County; 14 came from Boone County.

The MO Voter Protection volunteer lawyers and field advocates answering the calls on election day reported they helped voters who:

- Needed help determining their proper polling place,
- Were at polling places with long lines (at least one polling place added a new voting machine following MOVPC intervention),

- Needed curbside voting, including a person with COVID who was initially refused the right to vote but was later allowed to vote following MOVPC's advocacy,
- Needed curbside voting at locations where they were told it would not be offered, but MOVPC advocacy ensured that it was,
- Were initially refused the right to vote but who voted provisionally with MOVPC help,
- Were initially asked to vote provisionally but who were later allowed to vote a regular ballot following MOVPC advocacy, and
- Experienced voter intimidation or witnessed electioneering at the polls.

The outcome of our efforts for the November 8, 2022 General Election include:

- In Boone County 63,445 (49.4%) of the 128,429 registered voters cast ballots. (<https://www.showmeboone.com/clerk/elections/results/20221108SGN.pdf>)
- In Missouri, 2,063,122 people cast ballots. (<https://enr.sos.mo.gov/>)

— Sharon Schneeberger



LUELLA COMMITTEE UPDATE

Jeanne Rulo, a member of the Luella Committee and an alumna of Columbia College, took this lovely photo of Luella's grave. The words on the paper are:

*Here lies a suffragist,
who was part of the
unceasing, non-violent,
72-year campaign to win
women the right to vote.*

*I honor
President Luella St. Clair Moss*

A new CPS elementary school will be built in 2023 on the John Warner Middle School campus. Although the date has yet to be set for the groundbreaking, it should happen around next April. At that time, the process of naming the new school will begin.

It has been suggested that in March (Women's History Month), we schedule a tea party in one of the rooms that Luella had built on the Columbia Campus and have our picture taken next to the picture of Luella at the school.

It has also been suggested that after an election, we meet at Luella's grave at Columbia Cemetery and place our "I VOTED" stickers on a laurel of greenery that we place on her grave. So that this ceremony would be covered by our local press, we would contact *The Columbia Daily Tribune's* Roger McKinney, education reporter, and Elizabeth Brixey, Education Editor.

These are our plans going forward, and with the help of the Luella Committee and LWV-CBC, this time I feel certain that Luella St. Clair Moss will be the name of the next elementary school for Columbia Public Schools!

— Pam Springsteel, Chair
Luella Committee

YOUNG VOTERS & LWV EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee moves ahead to engage, encourage, and excite young voters and to create a positive identity for the League among high school students.

Pursuing our goal to help new voters find their voices in the democratic process, the Education Committee will:

- Continue to work on a young voters' section of the LWVCBC website,
- Repeat and expand our high school student voter registration efforts in time for the April 2023 election,
- Prepare GOTV strategies, and
- Recruit students for our Youth Advisory Group.

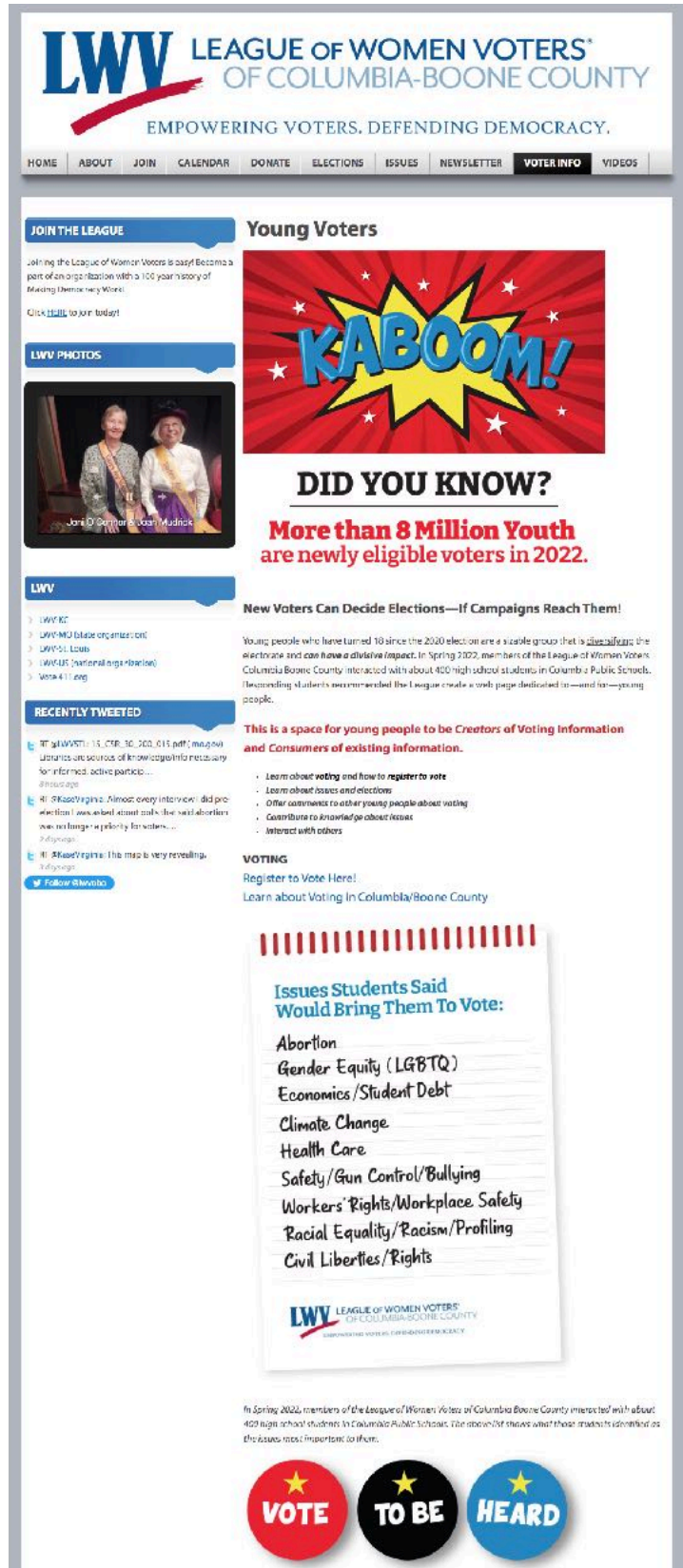
Young Voter Website With help from Brooke Omar, Marilyn McLeod, and Zainab Jasmin, we have created a web page link and information content to be posted on the website. Next, we will make the pages interactive and navigable within the site and link to media such as Instagram and other resources. The website isn't live yet, but to the right you can get a sneak peak of what it will be like.

Young Voter Registration In cooperation with Linda Smith, Voter Registration Committee chair, and Brianna Lennon, the Education Committee is remodeling our techniques to register high school students at their schools prior to the April elections. Registration will need to be in late February/very early March, followed in late March by GOTV encounters.

Youth Advisory Board We designed a Volunteer Position Description, and the group currently has three members from Douglass High School. Susie Adams is working to identify student members at Battle, and Ene-Kava Chippendale will begin recruitment at Hickman and Battle high schools in December.

Get Out the Vote (GOTV) On November 17, committee member Linda Headrick met with the three students from Douglass High School who have volunteered for the Youth Advisory Group. The students involved their social studies teacher, Jonette Ford, who then invited Linda to visit (Cont'd on pg. 10)

Here is a sneak peak of what the site will look like when it goes up —





Upcoming League Events!



DECEMBER 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION 2-4 p.m. Public Library	12 LWV on Paul Pepper Show KBIA 8:50 am	13 Lunch & Learn All About Judges Zoom at Noon Education Committee Mtg	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
JAN 1	2	3	4	5	6	7 New Member Welcome 10am Zoom
8	9	10 Lunch & Learn Boone County Community Against Violence Zoom at Noon	11	12	13	14
15	16 LWVCBC Board Meeting 5:30pm Zoom	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

RENEW MEMBERSHIP NOW WITH THIS FORM OR ONLINE

LWV Officers:

President: Barbara Hoppe
(424-9668)
1st VP: Mahree Skala (474-2195)
2nd VP: Sharon Schneeberger
(443-4605)
Secretary: Carol Schreiber
(657-0639)
Treasurer: Elaine Martin

Elected Directors:

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)
Kate Canterbury (214-536-1300)
Meredith Donaldson (289-3018)
Linda Headrick
Marilyn McLeod (239-3708)
Rene Powell (864-4087)
Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)
Pam Springsteel (445-0642)
Diane Suhler (443-0549)

Appointed Directors:

Dick Parker (256-4397)
Zainab Jasim
Terryonna Samuels

Committee Chairs:

Budget:
Civil Liberties: Pam Springsteel
Education: Zona Burk
Energy & Climate: Barbara Hoppe
& Sharon Schneeberger, Co-chairs
ERA: Susan Koenig
Fundraising: Open
Health: Mahree Skala
Hospitality: Pam Springsteel
Luella Committee: Pam Springsteel
Lunch & Learn: Barbara Hoppe
Membership: Meredith Donaldson
Mental Health: Mahree Skala
Speakers Bureau: Open
Voter Registration: Linda Smith
Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

The Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

Local Website: lwvcbc.org
State: lwvmissouri.org
National: lwv.org

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

MEMBER NEWS

We have 219 members today...but this number includes 77 individuals & 14 households who have yet to renew for 2023!!

Welcome to New Members:

Betty Barfield
Beth Hastings
Elana Vega

2023 MEMBERSHIP FORM

League of Women Voters Columbia-Boone County

COME AND JOIN US!

Simply fill out the form and mail to the address below

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone _____

Email _____

First Time Member _____ Renewal _____

Membership dues include local, state and national membership. ***We invite you to add an additional \$23 for 2023 to support the work of our League.**

Individual Dues \$65 _____ ***\$88 _____**

Household Dues \$100 _____ ***\$123 _____**

New member 30 years of age and under. \$30 _____

Student Dues (Ages 16 to 25; Enrolled FT/PT) \$FREE _____

Subsidized Dues (for members on limited income) \$25 _____

Donation to subsidize dues for \$ _____

members who cannot afford membership rates.

General Donation \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

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 here _____

**Donation to LWVCBC Education Fund \$ _____

**Donations to Education Fund are tax-deductible. Please include a separate check payable to LWVEF-MO704



League of Women Voters

PO Box 239
Columbia MO 65205
<http://lwvcbc.org>

YOUNG VOTERS & LWV EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(Continued from pg. 7) with the entire class. We started by asking the students about their experiences with the Nov. 8 election.

The students who voted for the first time each voted no-excuse absentee. They found voting to be easier than they expected. They also talked about how important it was to walk into the polling place feeling prepared. They were grateful to Ms. Ford for connecting them with Ballotpedia and other nonpartisan resources.

The *Get Out the Vote* literature suggests that the following increase the rates of voter participation:

- An environment (friends, family & community) that views voting as important.
- A plan for voting (including feeling prepared).
- A festive atmosphere.

With these things in mind, and the students' report of their personal experiences, we tentatively agreed to pilot test at Douglass:

- Brief student-led, in-school, nonpartisan Ballotpedia-like sessions to examine candidates and issues,
- School hallway posters promoting voting with QR codes to resources, and
- Strategies to make it fun. (Students always identify food as important. 😊)

KUDOS to our great partner Douglass High School for implementing multiple pathways for its first-time voters to be registered and to vote! We are learning from their enthusiasm and initiatives to accelerate voting by their students and their families. Many thanks to principal Dr. Eryca Neville, teacher Jonette Ford, and alumna Terryonna Samuels, member of the Education Committee and the Board.

— Zona Sharp-Burk & Linda Headrick
Education Committee