

EMPOWERING VOTERS, DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

THE VOTER

February 2020 Membership 50

Proud to be a member!
"Creating a More Perfect Democracy"



**WE WILL CELEBRATE OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY
ON FEBRUARY 15. See pages 2 and 6.**

IN THIS ISSUE

Our League in Action	Pages 1-3
LWVUS & Election News	Page 4
Government Contacts	Page 5
Calendar, Community Support	Page 6
Website, Membership Application, Administration Team Members	Page 7

Local League News

February 14, 2020 is the League of Women Voters' 100th Birthday
"Creating a More Perfect Democracy" is the League's theme for 2020.



Saturday, February 15, is the day our local League, serving Montrose and Delta counties, will amplify the League's message and visibility with a festive occasion to be held at the **Ute Indian Museum at 2pm**. Members, join us for a slice of birthday cake and to celebrate and honor the League's past 100 years and to be inspired as we begin our journey into the next 100 years! Bring a friend! Want to help with setting up and decorating? Contact Gretchen Nicholoff (pg. 7).

We will be joining over 700 Leagues across the country in demonstrating the power of women to achieve a more perfect democracy. Our founders were suffrage leaders who achieved the seemingly impossible by getting the 19th Amendment passed 100 years ago, after a 72-year fight, and the League was born to help American women exercise their new right to vote. All year we will be saying thank you to those courageous, dedicated women and honoring their struggle by continuing to push our democracy forward into the next 100 years so every voter can play a role in shaping our country. Women Power the Vote!

Today the League remains the most dynamic VOLUNTEER NONPARTISAN political organization in America and one of the nation's most trusted political organizations too. In celebrating the power of women to achieve a more perfect democracy, do remember, however, that today that power is not limited to women for League membership is open to all genders. League men---do join us!

Women's March, January 18, Grand Junction



We're Still Marching---our League was represented, as was the Mesa County League

In its 4th year, hundreds attended the rally centered on women's issues such as reproductive rights, equal pay, ending sexual assault against women, and electing more women to office. We cheered two additional themes: getting out the vote and engaging young voters.

Great Decisions

LWV Montrose County and the Montrose Regional Library have co-sponsored this program developed by the Foreign Policy Institute for many years. The program intends to engage communities and broaden public involvement in foreign affairs and is open to the public. The group meets each Thursday, from February 6 through March 26, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in the Meeting Room. Briefing booklets are available now for \$20.00, and there are also two copies of the booklet available for check-out. The 8 program topics are:

- February 6: "Climate Change and the Global Order"
- February 13: "India and Pakistan"
- February 20: "Red Sea Security"
- February 27: "Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking"
- March 5: "U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle"
- March 12: "China's Road into Latin America"
- March 19: "The Philippines and the U.S."
- March 26: "Artificial Intelligence and Data"

"The 2020 Census: What's New, Why the Census is So Important" and How It Impacts Us"



**February 26 – 6 pm
and
February 27 at noon –
Montrose Library Meeting Room**

**Guest panelists: Brian Meinhart, U.S. Census Bureau
Katie Yergensen, Montrose County Complete Count Committee
Karen Sherman Perez, CIRC/HAP
Paul Paladino, Montrose Regional Library**

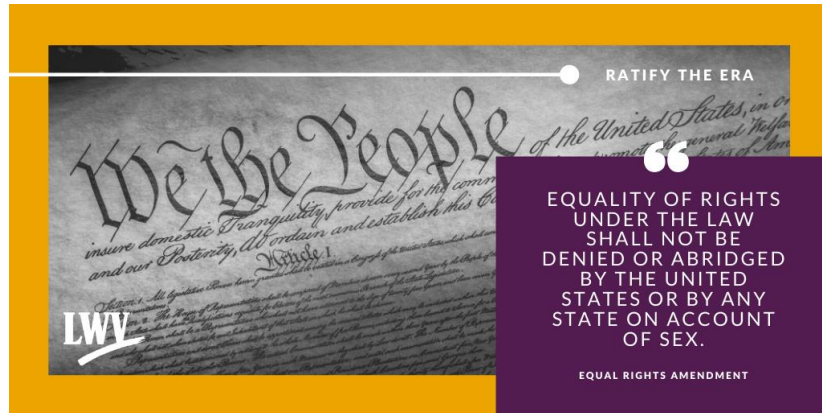
Q & A to follow; Census informational handouts will be available

SPREAD THE WORD! BRING A FRIEND!

EVERY PERSON COUNTS!

LWVUS & ELECTION NEWS

On January 15, Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the **Equal Rights Amendment** – crossing the three-fourths threshold of support required from the states. Now we need Congress to remove the deadline so the ERA can become a permanent part of the U.S. Constitution.



When the ERA passed Congress in 1972, lawmakers attached a 1977 ratification deadline to it, which they later extended to 1982. Earlier this month, the League of Women Voters of the United States sent a letter to the United States Congress urging them to remove the ratification deadline on the ERA. The letter included the following paragraph:

Despite the significant legal and legislative advances that have been made in recent decades, women continue to face discrimination on the basis of sex. The symptoms of this systemic discrimination are clear in the ongoing fights against unequal pay, workplace harassment, pregnancy discrimination, domestic violence, and limited access to comprehensive healthcare. It is not enough to treat the symptoms; we must address the root cause of inequality by amending the Constitution.

Now that the ERA has been ratified, we will not stop fighting for equality under the law and pushing to see the ERA become the next amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Women have waited decades to see the ERA pass, and this is the perfect way to kick off 2020, a year that celebrates 100 years of women's voting rights. It's time for Congress to remove the ERA deadline and make this dream a reality!

DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT!

Super Tuesday President Primary

- Feb.3: Last day for voters affiliated with a party to change or withdraw their affiliation in order to vote in a different party's presidential primary. Also, last day for unaffiliated voters to select a party preference in order to be sent that party's ballot.
- Feb. 10: First day primary ballots can be mailed to voters
- Feb. 24-March 3: Voter services and polling centers must be open for primary election
- **March 3: SUPER TUESDAY -- Colorado's first presidential primary since 2000**

REMEMBER, EVERY TIME YOU VOTE YOU SHAPE HISTORY!

Contact info for the Colorado U.S. Congressional Delegation

Sen. Cory Gardner | [303-391-5777](tel:303-391-5777)

<https://www.gardner.senate.gov/contact-cory/email-cory>

Sen. Michael Bennet | [303-455-7600](tel:303-455-7600) / [866-455-9866](tel:866-455-9866)

<https://www.bennet.senate.gov/?p=contact>

Contact info for the Colorado U.S. Congressional Delegation

Rep. Diana DeGette (CO District 1) | [303-844-4988](tel:303-844-4988) <https://degette.house.gov/contact/send-me-an-email/email-me>

Rep. Joe Neguse (CO District 2) | [202- 225-2161](tel:202-225-2161) <https://neguse.house.gov/contact>

Rep. Scott Tipton (CO District 3) | [970-241-2499](tel:970-241-2499) <https://tipton.house.gov/contact/email>

Rep. Ken Buck (CO District 4) | [970-702-2136](tel:970-702-2136) <https://buck.house.gov/contact/email>

Rep. Doug Lamborn (CO District 5) | [719-520-0055](tel:719-520-0055) <https://lamborn.house.gov/contact/leave-a-comment.htm>

Rep. Jason Crow (CO District 6) | [202-225-7882](tel:202-225-7882) <https://crow.house.gov/contact/>

Rep. Ed Perlmutter (CO District 7) | [303-274-7944](tel:303-274-7944)

<https://perlmutter.house.gov/forms/writeyourrep/>

Contact Info for Colorado General Assembly

Rep. Marc Catlin (CO House District 58) [303-866-2955](tel:303-866-2955)
marc.catlin.house@state.co.us

Sen. Don Coram (CO Senate District 6) [303-866-4884](tel:303-866-4884)
don.coram.senate@state.co.us

Rep. Matt Soper (CO House District 54)
matthew.soper.house.state.co.us [303-866-2583](tel:303-866-2583)

Rep. Julie Mc Cluskie (CO House District 61) [303-866-2952](tel:303-866-2952)
RepMcCluskie@gmail.com

Sen. Kerry Donovan (CO Senate District 5) [303-866-4871](tel:303-866-4871)
kerry.donovan.sd5@gmail.com

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

**2019-2020 LWV
Community Support**

The League of Women Voters of Montrose County, serving Montrose and Delta counties, thanks these local businesses, organizations and individuals who have donated financial and in-kind support.

Please **add your thank you** when you patronize these businesses or visit with these individuals.

**Alpine Archeological
Bank of Colorado
Horsefly Brewing Company
The Montrose Mirror
Dennis Olmstead
Alicia Conroyd
Penny Heuser**

Mark Your Calendars!

**2 pm - Saturday, February 15,
LWV 100th Fete
Ute Indian Museum, 17253
Chipeta Road, Montrose**

**6 pm - Wednesday, February 26
2020 Census
Montrose Library Meeting
Room**

**Noon – Thursday, February 27
2020 Census
Montrose Library Meeting
Room**

**6:00 pm -Tuesday, March 10
City Council Candidate Forum
City Council Chambers in
Montrose Visitors' Center**

Check out our Website:

<https://www.lwvmontrose.org>

Our webmaster, Tanya Ishikawa, keeps us updated on and linked to local, state and national activities, issues and websites.

Check us out on Facebook too:

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

**EMPOWERING VOTERS, DEFENDING DEMOCRACY
CREATING A MORE PERFECT DEMOCRACY**

**Join League of Women Voters of Montrose County
serving Montrose & Delta counties -
Not for Women Only!**

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (Cell) _____

E-mail _____

___ **Individual \$60** - Of this amount \$32 goes to National League; \$20 goes to State League; \$8 is retained by the Montrose League

___ **Household \$90** - Two members in one household (National League receives \$48; State League \$30; \$12 is retained by the Montrose League)

___ I understand that I can join without being active, and this is my intent at the present time.

___ I would like to make a contribution beyond regular dues and understand it will go directly to our local League (Thank You!).

___ **Sustaining Member \$100** - Of this amount \$32 goes to National League; \$20 goes to State League; \$48 is retained by the Montrose League

___ I would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Montrose League. Write a separate check to **League of Women Voters CO Education Fund. Write "Montrose" on the check's memo line.**

Please make checks payable to **League of Women Voters of Montrose County**. Mail to P.O. Box 3321, Montrose, CO 81402

2019-2020 Officers & Board

Jan Edwards, President
1-832-754-6302
janmsw96@icloud.com

Gretchen Nicholoff, VP/LWVCO liaison
970-525-3997, gnicholoff@gmail.com

Cyndi Holman, Secretary
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Barb Krebs, Treasurer
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Tanya Ishikawa, Communications-
Webmaster
1-303-819-7784
itanya2008@gmail.com

Nancy Ball, at Large & *Voter* editor
249-8963, nancyball@montrose.net

**Free student memberships
available! Contact Nancy or
Barbara for more information.**



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MONTROSE COUNTY
SERVING MONTROSE AND DELTA COUNTIES
P.O. BOX 3321, MONTROSE, CO 81402

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan 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.