

EMPOWERING VOTERS, DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

THE VOTER

September 2020 Membership 55

LET THE NEW YEAR BEGIN!

TIME TO EDUCATE & ADVOCATE!

National Popular Vote Webinar 9-15

National Voter Registration Day 9-22

Deadline for Youth Essay & Poster Contests 9-25

Deadline for 2020 Census Response 9-30

See pages 2-3

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Local League News

National Popular Vote Virtual Town Hall – September 15 at Noon

Because of Covid-19, the League's September program will be virtual. Join the League of Women Voters of Montrose and Delta counties and Colorado State Senator Mike Foote on a live webinar to learn more about Proposition 113 on the November ballot and the campaign to ensure that every person's vote for the presidency is equal. The program will start with a showing of the ½ hour award-winning documentary, [Winner Take All](#), and will be followed by a short presentation by Senator Foote, who will then take our questions.

The National Popular Vote would guarantee the presidency to the candidate who receives the most popular votes across all 50 states and the District of Columbia. It was passed in 2019 by the Colorado state legislature, signed into law by Governor Polis, and is now on the 2020 ballot for Colorado voters to approve.

Senator Foote was the legislative sponsor of the National Popular Vote bill, SB19-042, the **interstate agreement** to elect president of the United States by national popular vote. The act makes law and enters into with all other states joining therein the agreement among the states to elect the president of the United States by national popular vote.

Here is the registration link - <https://app.livestorm.co/p/80c42ca1-49e1-41a4-8121-1c08cca14808>

National Voter Registration Day - September 22, 2020



Again this year, the League is a partner in this vitally important national endeavor. However, due to Covid-19, this year our efforts will be almost entirely via messaging through our website, social media, posters posted in our communities, letters to the editors, exhibits in local libraries, and through our members spreading the word to their spheres of influence. **Register and update your registration to be sure it is current at [GoVoteColorado.gov](https://www.govotecolorado.gov).** Have your CO driver's license or student ID card at the ready. Please remind your family and friends!

Thankfully, we live in Colorado where we have universal mail-in ballots and safe, secure elections! Ballots will be mailed October 9 and 10. Be an educated voter and do vote early!

LET'S ALL WORK TO REGISTER & GET OUT THE VOTE!

Essay & Poster Contests for Ages 16-21 Years

To commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment – the amendment that empowered American women with the right to vote--- the theme will be **“WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO VOTE AND WHAT VOTING MEANS TO ME”**. Please spread the word...

Contest Guidelines

Eligibility: Contest open to ages 16-21 living in Montrose, Delta or Ouray County

Prizes: 1st place: \$125; 2nd place: \$75; 3rd place: \$50; to be awarded October 15

Entry Submission Criteria:

Must highlight theme

Must be entrant’s original work

Must be no longer than 500 words – essay; Must be submitted in 12 pt. Arial font

All media acceptable - poster

Must include entry with name, age, address, and preferred contact information

Must be saved/named in the following format: LastnameFirstinitialVote2020.

Submission Deadline: Midnight, MST, September 25, 2020

For questions and/or to submit entry please send email to: Montrose League of Women

Voters Website: votemontrose@gmail.com

2020 Census Reminder – September 30 is the Deadline to Respond



Colorado is ahead of most of the country: **as of September 1**, 68% of Colorado households have **self-responded**; **self-response from Montrose, Delta and Ouray counties is 68%, 65%, and 49%**. (%s are rounded up.) The national self-response rate is 65%. By the way, **our 3rd Congressional District response is 57%, remains the lowest in Colorado.**

Remember why it is so important to our counties and our state and how it impacts us:

Representation in the U.S. House of Representatives, and drawing of the Congressional maps (redistricting), and

\$675 billion per year of federal funds is allotted to the states and then the counties according to the response

The census is vital because **with a good response it is estimated that Colorado will gain an additional seat in the U.S. House of Representatives and will receive federal funding of about \$2,300 per person per year!!!**

Please spread the word to your spheres of influence! Questions? 2020census.gov for more info. Take the census here: <https://2020census.gov/en.html>

Every person in Montrose, Delta and Ouray counties counts!

Delta County Proclamation – August 19

Thank you to Delta County for recognition of the 100th and to Patrice Schell!

Suffrage Masks Still Available

Masks made by Jan and Cyndi are still available for a donation of \$7

The U.S. Postal Service Has Commemorative Stamps! Support Them!



A Busy Fall is Upon Us!

As you know, it looks as though we will have a long ballot in November with about 11 ballot issues, including the one on the NPV above. Lots of education to be done to inform voters! We'll be ordering our ballot issues pamphlets soon (\$.25 each!) and we are working with other Western Slope leagues on **virtual** ballot issues and candidate forums, although that is proving to be a considerable undertaking as you can well imagine! The *Voter* will keep you informed.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Ann-Marie Fleming



I was born to first generation children of immigrants. Shortly after their wedding in Brooklyn, NY, my parents struck out for California, where I was born and where my father, a newly graduated civil engineer, courtesy of the GI Bill, got a job with the BLM working on the Central Canal. My dad's jobs moved the family to Tulsa, OK and Albuquerque, NM, and Maryland. Eventually, my dad found his dream job with NASA in Washington, D.C., where he completed his master's degree at George Washington University in the early 60's and a decade later I completed a B.A in Fine Arts.

My husband, Jock, was attending Georgetown University when we met. We spent our first year of marriage in Annapolis, MD., where I taught art and Jock commuted to D.C. for his job with the National League of Cities, then moved to New Haven, CT, but returned to the D.C. area so Jock could go to law school. In 1986, we moved our family of five to Montrose, bought our first and only house ever, an American Foursquare dating to 1904, and have never stopped renovating. Jock opened a law practice in Montrose in 1986 and he continues to enjoy his work and volunteering in our community.

I retired from teaching art at Montrose High School in 2016. Over the years, I've worked as an art teacher in elementary and middle schools, worked as an editorial assistant on the AAA monthly magazine, as a reporter for the Montrose Morning Sun and the Montrose Daily Press, got the first license in Montrose for a street-side food business--a hot dog stand called *Bite 'O Brooklyn*, which my children and I ran for three years, and worked as a ticket/gate agent for Continental Airlines at Montrose Airport. As a volunteer, I worked with the Montrose Children's Museum, the Morgan School closure committee, and started an after-school language program. Now I strive to spend more time on my own artwork. Our three children have moved from Montrose. Our two girls and a grandbaby live in Denver and our son resides in Austin, TX.

A sense of urgency led me to finally join the League, after having planned to do so for many years. Our best hope for the future of this country is an informed electorate!

Nancy Dodge



Nancy has led her life fulfilling her need for learning. Born in Pennsylvania, she married early so worked during the day and put herself through college in the evening. Her bachelor's degree was in pre-law/political science and was earned at State University of New York in Albany; she earned her doctorate in Human Ecology/special education at Cornell University and her second in child psychology from the Union Institute. Nancy said her need for learning came about because every time she got a job following one degree, she realized how much she did not know so had to pursue another.

Her career was spent working in various prison, mental health, and school systems in New Jersey, Florida, and in Alaska. It was in New Jersey that Nancy worked in a prison for 7-12 year old children to form mental health and transition-from-prison models. Her work in behavioral

health also found her working in Alaska from 1980-002 in such disparate places as the Alaskan bush where she served in native villages to the thriving cities of Anchorage and Fairbanks. A hiatus presented itself in 2002 in a school district in Sarasota, Florida, lasting until 2007, when she returned to Alaska and continued working until 2018.

Nancy and her significant other, Carl Bostek, a retired U.S. Air Force anesthetist, based in Alaska, moved to Montrose just over two weeks ago so they are in the midst of settling in. With a cabin in Alaska and a condo in Florida, their years will be spent enjoying their hobbies of hiking, biking, kayaking, and traveling in all three spots. Traveling will also include trips to Chile to visit her brother and to England to visit her mother's relatives. She is a global thinker to be sure!

Early in life, Nancy's mother engrained in her the need to give back to one's community. Nancy took it to heart and in her early years was involved in Vietnam protests, civil rights and women's rights movements, and volunteer work. She strongly believes that people need to be educated on the workings of our democratic republic and that citizens should exercise their right to vote so as to make their voices heard. Nancy joined the League because it is non-partisan non-profit organization that strives to inform voters on vital issues.

Carol Howe



Our newest member was born and raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico, attended Utah State University where she earned a B.S. degree in wildlife science, and worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 30 years. Serving as a wildlife biologist in the Manti-LaSalle National Forests for five years, she then transferred to GMUG National Forests serving for 25 years as a forest planner, GIS specialist, and climate change coordinator. She moved to Montrose in 1984.

Carol is married to Russ Howe and they have two children and two grandchildren; their son and family lives in Eugene, Oregon and their daughter and family in Montrose. Gardening, spending time with grandkids, traveling, sewing, recently-added quilting, and getting out-of-doors are her hobbies.

Having been a participant in Great Decisions, appreciating the information provided by the League, and strongly believing voting is a duty of American citizens, Carol has wanted to join League for some time. Because she is recently retired, she decided now is the time.

LWVCO News

Register Now!

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK DAY
SEPTEMBER 26th - 10am-1pm

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Ballot Issues
- State Budgets
- Gallagher Amendment
- GOTV Strategies for 100% Turnout

Cost \$10

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF COLORADO

https://lwvcolorado.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=314195&item_id=1243922

LWVUS NEWS

One of our nation's most critical essential services is under attack. The United States Postal Service serves every American household delivering essential supplies, paychecks, census mailers, and much more. It has been on the frontlines of the current global pandemic ensuring that Americans remain connected and safe.

The postal service is essential to our democracy. This year more Americans will use the postal service to receive and cast their ballot because of COVID-19. Delivering ballots is just ONE of the essential functions the post office plays – especially while on the frontlines of a pandemic. Undermining the postal service's ability to do its work is a serious blow to our democracy.

Processing absentee ballots is nothing new for the postal service. For decades, they have processed hundreds of millions of absentee ballots from overseas voters and service members, and support five states with all mail-in elections every year. Not every voter will choose to vote by mail, but every voter should have the option to do so and trust that their ballot will be received on time.

Voters should not be forced to choose between their health and their fundamental right to vote. [Contact your Member of Congress and tell them why we need to protect and fully fund the U.S. Postal Service.](#) (by Virginia Kase, CEO)

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!

2020-2021 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
Coffee Trader Horsefly Brewing Company
The Montrose Mirror Montrose Press
D'Medici Footwear & Clothing**

Dennis Olmstead Alicia Conrovd

Calendar

Tuesday, September 15 – Noon

National Popular Vote Virtual Town Hall

Tuesday, September 22

National Voter Registration Day –

Friday, September 25

Essay & Poster Contests Deadline

Sunday, September 30

2020 Census Response Deadline

The League of Women Voters of the Montrose County is pleased you are joining us in helping to Make Democracy Work for our community and our country!

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>

Tanya has set up an LWV Instagram account too!

EMPOWERING VOTERS, DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

**Join League of Women Voters of Montrose County
serving Montrose & Delta counties – 2020-2021
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

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
1-909-556-8118, cholmaneee@uia.net

Barb Krebs, Treasurer
249-3989, stukrebs@hotmail.com

Tanya Ishikawa, Communications-
Webmaster
1-303-819-7784 itanya2008@gmail.com

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

**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.**



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

CREATING A MORE PERFECT DEMOCRACY