



Making Democracy Work™

# Denver VOTER

League of Women Voters of Denver

September 2019

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info@LWVDenver.org

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## We Must Promote Proposition CC

The League of Women Voters of Denver and Colorado opposed TABOR (Taxpayers Bill of Rights) when it was proposed and passed in 1992. Since then, we have worked to reform or repeal TABOR. This year we have an opportunity to take a big step in changing one part of TABOR, letting the state keep the revenue it takes in to help fund K-12 education, higher education, and transportation.

On Monday, September 16, Carol Hedges, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Colorado Fiscal Institute, presented a step by step explanation of the financial needs of Colorado, especially in education and transportation. She gave a rousing plea to pass Proposition CC and then look to 2020 to make further gains in removing TABOR from our Colorado Constitution.

Proposition CC is a must win, according to Carol Hedges. Here is a chance for Leaguers to share information about an issue that will help Colorado and that aligns with League positions.

Proposition CC eliminates the requirement, imposed by TABOR and opposed by the League when it was voted on in 1992, that any state revenues above a certain cap must be returned to the taxpayers. Without raising taxes and following the requirements of TABOR, the measure will in 2020 and 2021 retain around \$300 million in state coffers. The funds will be distributed equally among transportation, higher education and public schools. These funds will NOT solve the state's financial problems but will be a step toward more adequate funding.

League's positions support adequate and equitable fund-



ing for state needs. Go to [YESONPROPCC.com](http://YESONPROPCC.com) to find more information and a link to the Facebook page. This is an easy way to share important information with neighbors, friends, and family.

Please explain to your friends and family the importance of passing Proposition CC. It's one of the most important ballot issues we have had the opportunity to support. It is not a tax increase. Do what you can.

*Sally Augden and Marty Sloven*

*If you would like a copy of Hedges PowerPoint, let Fran know in the office, and she will email you a copy.*

## October Events

### Tour of Emily Griffith Technical College

Thursday, October 3

10:00 a.m., Emily Griffith Campus, 1860 Lincoln  
1:00 p.m. Emily Griffith Trades Building  
1205 Osage Street

### Pros and Cons for 2019 Ballot Issues

Monday, October 7

McCollum Room  
Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church

### Understanding the Issues in the Denver School Board Election

Monday, October 21

McCollum Room  
Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church

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## Pros and Cons for 2019 Ballot Issues

Monday, October 7  
 5:30 p.m. Social Time/Announcements  
 6:00 p.m. Program Begins

McCollum Room  
 Montview Presbyterian Church

Though not a presidential election year (next year will be quite exciting), there is of course still an election on November 5. As always, the League will be presenting a briefing with the details you need to know about the ballot issues before you vote. We will have a refresher on Proposition CC and learn about Proposition DD from Gerry Cummings, State Vice-President/Voter Service. Denver Leaguer Steve Coddington will have pros and cons for the four initiatives referred by the Denver City Council, although to date there has not been much organized opposition to these measures.

This will be an important election for the state of Colorado with Proposition CC, and you'll want to be informed on the Denver ballot issues as well. We hope to see you there.

## Understanding the Issues in the Denver School Board Elections

TBD—Week of October 21  
 5:30 p.m. Social Time/Announcements  
 6:00 p.m. Program Begins

McCollum Room  
 Montview Presbyterian Church

Denver Public Schools board of education election in November poses complicated issues to be decided by voters and understanding those issues is critical to determining the direction the district will be taking. The current majority has supported the objectives of “reform:” increasing numbers of charter schools, school turnarounds, high-stakes testing. We are putting together a panel of education “experts”—media, university, etc.—to explore the issues relevant to deciding which school board candidates fit the public’s interests. The briefing will be held the week of October 21st.

Topics for discussion will include: charters vs. neighborhood schools, the increasing segregation of students, the consequences of closing schools, the widening achievement gap, the district’s ability to attract teachers.

Stay tuned for more information.

*Sally Augden*

## Ways to Contribute to the New LWVD 501(c)(3) Organization

### Cash Donations

The most common and easiest form of donation is cash. The LWV can accept cash, checks or credit cards. For example, if you donate \$50 to LWV, and you do not get a benefit in return (such as attending a dinner) and you itemize your deductions on your personal tax return, you will generally be entitled to deduct the full amount of the donation on your tax return. If you attend a dinner or other LWV event, you will be entitled to deduct the excess of your contribution over the fair market value of the dinner or other event. For example, if you donated \$75 to attend a dinner sponsored by LWV and the value of the dinner itself was \$40, you would be entitled to a charitable donation deduction of \$35 (\$75 donation less dinner value of \$40). If you agree to be a sponsor of the event, you will be able to deduct 100% of the amount you contributed as a sponsor if you don't receive any benefit aside from the listing of your name as a sponsor.

*"I contacted my financial advisor concerning a stock transfer to League. She located a stock that had appreciated over the years. It was a double win for me because I contributed to the Future Fund and avoided the capital gains tax."*

*Marge Fisch*

### Donation of Publicly Trade Stock or Mutual Funds

You can also donate publicly traded stock and other securities. A donation of stock or other securities generally provides very favorable tax results if you have held the donated stock or other securities for at least one year. By donating stock or other securities, you avoid any capital gains tax you would incur if you sold the stock or other securities, and you are entitled to deduct the fair market value of the stock donated even if it significantly exceeds the price you paid for the stock. Your charitable deduction is generally the average price between the highest and lowest quoted prices on the exchange as of the date of the contribution. If no sales took place on the date of the contribution, the IRS has outlined other methods for determining the value of the stock or other securities. If you have any questions about the best way for you to give, please consult your own financial advisor.

*Marilyn Barrett, JD  
Development Chair*

## Tour of Emily Griffith Technical College

Thursday, October 3

10:00 a.m. Meet at Emily Griffith Campus, 1860 Lincoln Street

1:00 p.m. Meet at Emily Griffith Trades Building, 1205 Osage Street

We are hoping for a good turnout for the tours at Emily Griffith. If you've lived in Denver for some period of time, you know what an amazing contribution Emily Griffith Technical College (formerly Opportunity School) has made to our city, state, and actually the country since 1916. An article with more details appeared in last month's *Denver Voter*.

The college has planned a tour of the downtown facility and then a tour of the Trades Building where students get a "hire" education in fields such as welding, culinary, and cosmetology to name a few. You do not have to attend both tours, but we hope you will.

We will meet at these locations, so we strongly recommend carpooling. Please let the office know by Friday, September 27, if you plan to attend. We need to let the college know how many to expect. Then, Fran will email you information about parking (Street parking appears to be the best option) and lunch options. I have done a dry run at both locations, so I have information, which I hope will help with the details. Also, let Fran know if you would like to meet at the office and ride with someone who is willing to do the carpooling.

*Marty Sloven*

*Director of Program*

*MSloven25@aol.com*

## Plan to Head to the Greenhouses

In spite of another year of worry about the flower bulb sale, you came through again. A limited number of Leaguers actually sold bulbs, but joining them were buyers and often generous contributors. All are appreciated.

We expect close to 18,000 bulbs to arrive at the City Park Greenhouses around October 15. We will know when they arrive in New York from Holland, but we won't know how long they are held in customs or how long it takes them to cross the country by truck.

For those who have not participated in this project, we count and package all those bulbs ourselves because we buy in bulk to increase our profit. The work involves standing on cement and paying careful attention to detail. Again, we will limit the number of workers at one time. If too many people are working in limited space, quality control is hard to maintain, and we must limit the number of errors we make. In 1992, when we began the sale, our supplier (the same one we have today) worried that we wanted to do all the work rather than pay for the bulbs to arrive in dozens. I said at the time, "Leaguers can count to 12!" I know that's true, but we get to talking and do make errors. It's great camaraderie and we appreciate all of you who make the time to participate in this amazing project. We'd love to see some new-



er members join us this year.

The City Park Greenhouses are located at 2500 E. 23rd Ave., just off the first entrance to the park going east on 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. We work from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The greenhouses close at 2:30, but it is usually getting very hot by then. If you bought or sold bulbs, please try to get your bulbs delivered as soon as possible. Although there is still plenty of time to plant and October is usually too warm, most customers want the bulbs sooner rather than later. We can usually correct any

errors if we know about them in a couple of weeks. After that, the remaining bulbs are donated to the Denver Parks. If you know of an organization or institution which would appreciate some free bulbs, let me know. Because we order in large quantities, we always have bulbs to sell. If you are interested, also let me know.

When I have a better idea of timing, I will contact those of you who make up the core workers from the past. But, please let me know if you would like to be included in that email. We can also use paper bags of any size. If you'd like to start saving those, we'll use them.

*Marty Sloven, Bulb Sale Chair*  
MSloven25@aol.com

### Included in this VOTER

The LWVCO Ballot Issues 2019 brochure, which covers the two statewide propositions on the November 5 ballot. You can pick up additional copies at the Denver office to distribute to your neighbors and friends.

The Denver brochure will be available at the Ballot Issues Briefing on October 7 and on our website. We will not be mailing them to members.

Membership

### Welcome New Members

**Paula Betty**, 1354 Race St., Denver, CO 80206, [paulasamden@aol.com](mailto:paulasamden@aol.com), 303-320-4874

**Lynn Sibbet**, 1258 S. Clayton St., Denver, CO 80210, [lynnssibbet@gmail.com](mailto:lynnssibbet@gmail.com), 303-525-1825

**Sarah Camacho**, 70 S. Hooker St., Denver, CO 80219, [sarah.e.duncan@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.e.duncan@gmail.com), 773-520-1108

**Mindy Sunday**, P.O. Box 201897, Denver, CO 80220, [mindy@mindysunday.com](mailto:mindy@mindysunday.com), 303-596-8635

**Judy Atkins**, 10330 E Ohio Pl., Aurora, CO 80247, [jatkins1116@gmail.com](mailto:jatkins1116@gmail.com), 303-356-9166

## Denver Decides Helps Denverites Get Ready for the November Election

Denver Decides, a consortium composed of the League of Women Voters of Denver, Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, Historic Denver, and Denver 8 TV, will once again hold candidate and ballot issue forums for the upcoming November 5 election. Denver School Board forums for At-Large, District 1, and District 5 candidates will be held Wednesday, October 2. The ballot issues will be covered at INC's monthly meeting on October 12. The forums will also be aired on Denver 8 TV live, re-broadcast several times, and available online and on-demand on the Denver Decides website.

### Election Day Tuesday, November 5 Ballots will be mailed on October 14

<p>Wednesday, October 2 Candidates 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.</p>	<p>At-Large, District 1 (SE), and District 5 (NW) School Board South High School, 1700 East Louisiana Ave.</p>
<p>Saturday, October 12* 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Ballot Issues - CC, DD and the Denver referred questions Arrupe Jesuit High School, 4343 Utica St.</p>

*\*This event coincides with Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation's monthly meeting.*

**DenverDecides.org**

*Denver Decides: A Community Partnership for Accessible, Transparent Elections*

## Notes from Voter Service

This November's ballot will have nine candidates for the Denver School Board: 3 in District 1; 3 in District 5, and 3 at-large candidates. In addition there will be six ballot issues: two state and four local. See the information above about the Denver Decides Forums. They are quite informative and are very worth watching.

Voters across the state will be voting on two issues referred by the state legislature: Proposition CC concerning TABOR and Proposition DD, which proposes to authorize a tax on sports betting by an annual tax of \$29 million to fund state water projects and regulate sports betting.

Our city ballot will have four issues, all referred by the Denver City Council:

- 2A: The creation of a Department of Transportation and infrastructure taking over Department of Public Works' powers plus additional safety, services and non-motorized facilities
- 2B: Have the Denver Arts and Venues manage Denver City and County owned and or leased facilities for public performances rather than Department of General Services
- 2C: Add emergency medical technicians (EMT) rank to fire department and allow the chief of the fire department to assign an assistant chief to the duties of shift commander who shall serve at the pleasure of the chief
- 2D: Require elected officials to live in Denver and council members to live in their district

Leaguers eager for information can go to our website to get Pros and Cons pamphlets or to [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org), the LWV national website devoted to election information. *Denverite*, *The Colorado Sun*, *The Denver Post* and *Westword* also carry election information.

*Jeanette Scotland  
Voter Service Co-Chair*

## Unit Meetings: A place for lively conversation!

### Buffalo

**Mon. Oct. 14, 5:30 p.m.**

**Mon. Oct. 28, 5:30 p.m.**

Location to be determined

Contact: Joan Friend

303-596-1022

### Capital Hill

**Sat., Oct. 26, 10:00 a.m.**

LWVCO Office

1410 Grant St.

(Note new location)

### Cheesman

**Tue., Oct. 8, 9:30 a.m.**

Jill Lamneck

1118 Race St.

720-626-4286

**Tue., Oct. 22, 9:30 a.m.**

Kay Shaw

1200 Humboldt #1206

303-860-8679

### Cherrington

**Thu., Oct. 10, 1:00 p.m.**

Twyla Boe or Peg Oldham

9355 E. Center Ave.

720-220-3988

**Thu., Oct. 24, 1:00 p.m.**

Andrea Mitchell

35 S. Garfield

303-277-0527

### Highland/Woodbury

**Wed., Oct. 23, 5:45 p.m.**

W. 29th Avenue Restaurant

5560 W. 29th Ave.

Contact Anne Duncan

773-852-3197

### Observatory

**Tue., Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m.**

Cathy Yates

994 S. Washington St.

720.352.2579

**Tue., Oct 22, 6:30 p.m.**

TBD

### Southwest (formerly Whiteman)

October dates and locations yet to be determined.

Whiteman is changing its name.

Look for their interesting explanation in the next VOTER.

## October Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- 3** Tour of Emily Griffith Technology College
- 7** Pros and Cons of the 2019 Ballot Issues, 5:30 p.m., McCollum Room, Montview Presbyterian Church
- 17** Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m., League Office
- 21** Education Briefing, 5:30 p.m., McCollum Room, Montview Presbyterian Church

## In Memoriam

We extend sympathies to the family and friends of Leaguer **Natalie Funk**. Natalie made many contributions to Denver, was an important member of the Visions of the City Dinner committee, and a member of Observatory Unit.

Don't forget to tell friends and neighbors about this great asset from League of Women Voters US Education Fund. Anne Duncan, Co-Chair of Voter Service, inputs our local candidates and ballot issues in preparation for each election.

**VOTE 411**

VOTE411 is committed to ensuring voters have the information they need to successfully participate in every election. Whether it's local, state or federal, every election is important to ensuring our laws and policies reflect the values and beliefs of our communities.

## Revamped Office

It's been over 25 years since our office has been painted. During the last few weeks, Fran Coleman and Nancy Ulrich designed how the space could be better utilized and made a more welcoming space for members and visitors.

Thank you to all the members who helped in this endeavor. Ann Kusic, Patty Cordova, Jeannette Scotland, Anne Duncan, Gordon Butz and Marty Sloven helped to fill all the boxes with League materials. The heavy lifting was done by Marilyn Barrett, Andrea Mitchell and Jan Mann.

The church, the sextons and their staff, and the painters were wonderful to work with us. Stop in to see all the changes.

*Marge Fisch, Director of Organization*

*Editors' Note: Marge also worked countless hours to make the new office a reality.*



### Members, offer this application to friends and neighbors!

League of Women Voters of Denver  
1980 Dahlia Street  
Denver, CO 80220-1239

### JOIN LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NOT FOR WOMEN ONLY!

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- ANNUAL DUES:       Regular member ..... \$60.00  
(for Denver, State &       Two residing at same address ..... \$90.00  
National)               Sustaining member ..... \$125.00  
                                  Two sustaining members at same address ..... \$185.00  
                                  Student ..... \$25.00

CONTRIBUTIONS:       To LWV Denver ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  To Dues Assistance Fund ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to LWV Denver. (Dues are not tax-deductible. Tax-deductible contributions may be made by separate check to LWVD Education Fund.)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



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## Fran Coleman Honored by Latina Legacy Circle

On August 22, the Honorable Fran Coleman was one of five Latinas honored by the Latina Legacy Circle for her years of work supporting Latinas and Latinos in the Denver community. Fran is a former state representative from House District 1 where she promoted education through legislation such as Concurrent Classes where high school students earn college credits. Fran also collaborated with First Lady Barbara Bush to help reduce adult literacy. Her community service also included fundraising to build a new church, working in Reading is Fundamental, and mentoring many Latinas. We in the Denver League are privileged to



Fran Coleman, second from right, with the other award recipients.

*Jeanette Scotland*  
Voter Service Co-Chair

have Fran as our office manager and as a liaison to the Latino community.