



# Denver VOTER

League of Women Voters of Denver

February 2018

www.LWVDenver.org  
info@LWVDenver.org

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Denver, CO 80220

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## Can Park Hill Golf Course be used for Storm Water Detention?



On July 12, 1914, a huge storm formed and sent floodwaters rushing through Cherry Creek into the downtown area of Denver. Along the way the waters were slowed by large catch basins designed to alleviate the damage of floodwaters. One of those catch basins was the Sunken Gardens Park near West High School shown in the vintage postcard above.

Many of the present day Denver parks have the same purpose. You will note areas of the parks are lower than the streets around them. When Denver is being subjected to flash flooding, these parks become instant lakes that deter the water from rushing on. The Cheesman Unit heard a concise history of the status of key Denver parks on January 9, presented by Brad Cameron who is on the Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation Parks & Recreation Committee. Brad pointed out that a significant change in the City Charter was made in 1955, and all the existing Denver Parks became designated parks. The land in a designated park cannot be leased or sold without a vote of the people. Any subsequent parks required an ordinance to be passed to give them a designated status. By 2012, only 62% of all the parks were designated. Many issues surrounding our park land are controversial, particularly if the park is not designated.

### National Program Planning and Colorado Redistricting Initiatives

Monday, February 5, 9:30 a.m.

League Office

Montview Presbyterian Church

### Intergenerational Forces in Metro Denver: Boomers and Millennials

Tuesday, February 20, 5:30 p.m.

McCollum Room

Montview Presbyterian Church

The 2012 land trade between Denver Public Schools (for a school in a portion of Hentzell Park) and the Denver government for a downtown parcel caused an uproar. It was legal because Hentzell Park was not designated. In the years since, the City Council passed many ordinances for parks, and now 83%, and counting, are designated. One of the gray areas for disqualifying designation was if the park was designed for storm water detention. However in 2017, Northfield Pond was designated, even though it served as a storm water detention area.

Storm water drainage is also an issue in the plans for Park Hill Golf Course. This golf course is owned by the Clayton Trust. The trust has had a 20-year lease with several consecutive golf corporations, which expires in 2018, but can be renewed by Arcis Golf, the current lessee. Denver, under Mayor Wellington Webb's administration, purchased a conservation easement on the Park Hill Golf Course land in 1997. There is also a complication with a 2000 Agency Agreement with the Clayton Trust, which continued the property tax exemption for the lessee and conveyed the land ownership to the city.

*(Continued on the back)*

**Volume 2018, Issue #1**  
**Periodicals postage paid**  
**at Denver, Colorado**

**Denver VOTER**  
**(USPS 019817)**  
 Published twice in  
 September and monthly  
 January through June by:

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
 OF DENVER**

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 Fax: 303-320-8557

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A one-year subscription is included  
 in annual membership dues.

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## National Program Planning and Colorado Redistricting Initiatives

Monday, February 5  
 9:30 a.m.

League Office  
 Montview Presbyterian Church

We will have two different important topics for this morning briefing. First we will talk about National Program Planning, which we do every other year. We will go over the three LWVUS positions adopted in 2016: Campaign Finance/Money in Politics, Considerations for Evaluating Constitutional Amendment Proposals and Position on Constitutional Conventions under Article V of the US Constitution, and finally our Position on Redistricting. Do we want to recommend any new updates or studies for the LWVUS Convention this summer? National League has asked us not to recommend new studies and to instead continue Making Democracy Work, emphasizing Voting Rights, Improving Elections, Campaign Finance/Money in Politics, and Redistricting.

Redistricting efforts are being made right here in Colorado. Toni Larson, LWVCO president, will explain the process the State League has been involved in with Fair Districts Colorado, which will culminate with petitions to put redistricting initiatives on the ballot this November. This is the first petition effort League has been involved in for sometime, so it is important that we learn as much as possible. All are invited. Even if you are not a unit briefer, you will want to hear this presentation.

*Marty Sloven*

## Intergenerational Forces in Metro Denver: Boomers and Millennials

Tuesday, February 20  
 5:30 p.m. Social Time  
 6:00 p.m. Program Begins

McCullum Room  
 Montview Presbyterian Church

Colorado is simultaneously the 6<sup>th</sup> youngest state and the 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest aging state in the country. We're told Metro Denver is among the top five ranked cities for Millennials, and that our state has one of the fastest rates of growth in the nation. And all of this is being affected by changes in the race, ethnicity and household income of our residents. Throw in housing affordability, government revenues, job trends, transportation, accessibility to health care, education and this may come to feel like we're living in a huge kettle of murky soup being stirred by a construction crane.

To help sort through all these trends and their impact on quality of life in Denver today and in the future, LWVD has invited two experts to speak at our February 20 briefing. Elizabeth Garner is the State Demographer with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs who brings over 25 years of experience analyzing population and economic trends. Jayla Sanchez-Warren is the Director of the Area Agency on Aging, a division of DRCOG (Denver Regional Council of Governments), which has served the eight-county Metro Denver region's 60+ population and caregivers for 40 years.

*Sue Stark*

## In case you missed it . . .

On Monday, January 8, 12 newer members attended the Program Planning Potluck with longer-term members to learn more about League and its programs. The event was lively and informative for all. Thanks to Jeanette Scotland, Marty Sloven, Peggy Pitchford, Barbara Ford and others who helped to plan and speak at the Potluck.

For those of you who might like to participate more in League, here are some of the opportunities that were discussed:

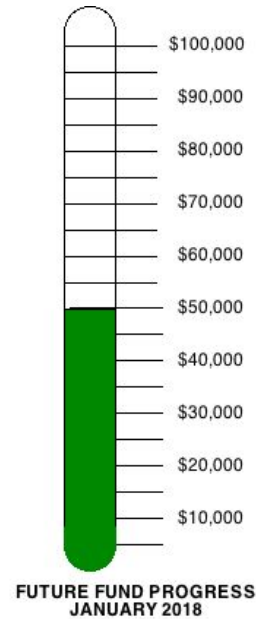
- ♦ Educational Briefings and events (Contact Marty Sloven at [msloven25@aol.com](mailto:msloven25@aol.com))
  - Attend briefings
  - Help prepare for upcoming briefings (identify topics and venues; identify and coach potential speakers)
  - Let us know if you have areas of expertise that are of interest to the League so that we can use your expertise for upcoming programs
- ♦ Voter Service (contact Jeanette Scotland at [jscotland@gmail.com](mailto:jscotland@gmail.com))
  - Join the Voter Service Team or the Speakers Bureau
  - Research pros and cons of ballot issues
  - Help with candidate forums
  - Conduct educational sessions for community members through the Speakers Bureau
  - Contact Speakers Bureau members for requested speaking engagements
  - Voter Registration Drives
    - \* Get training
    - \* Register newly naturalized citizens
    - \* Identify and contact under-registered populations
    - \* Help organize drives: where and when
    - \* Contact previously interested groups
- ♦ Grant Writing (contact Marge Fisch [ralphmarj@msn.com](mailto:ralphmarj@msn.com))
  - Help identify opportunities for grant applications
  - Help with writing grants
- ♦ Legislative Action Committee (LAC) (contact Jeannette Hillery [jmhillery915@comcast.net](mailto:jmhillery915@comcast.net) or Deb Gard at [dgard@comcast.net](mailto:dgard@comcast.net))
  - Join the LAC team
  - Follow bills in the legislature
  - Testify for League positions at legislative committees
- ♦ Women to Watch (contact Susan Stark at [susanstark1947@gmail.com](mailto:susanstark1947@gmail.com))
  - Join the team that selects potential award recipients
  - Help to coordinate and arrange the bi-annual award ceremony
  - Liaison with community groups that identify worthy candidates
- ♦ Membership (contact Barbara Ford at [barbaraford9@aol.com](mailto:barbaraford9@aol.com))
  - Join our membership team
  - Help new members feel welcomed and informed
- ♦ Attend Unit Meetings (contact Glenda Prosser at [macpross@comcast.net](mailto:macpross@comcast.net))
  - Find a Unit meeting that “works” with your schedule
- ♦ Data and communication technology management (contact Kali Fajardo-Anstine at [info@lwvdenver.org](mailto:info@lwvdenver.org))
  - Join our Data Management Team
  - Help us keep social media and other communication sites up-to-date
  - Help with office processes

## Future Fund Update

We begin our 86<sup>th</sup> year of the League of Women Voters of Denver looking forward to the future. As of January 1, 2018, the Future Fund has met the match of \$10,000 for new contributions. With this matching challenge and our farsighted and generous members, the fund stands at \$50,000. We are half way towards reaching our goal!

Many thanks to these generous donors:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Alice Bakemeier<br>Kendra Black<br>Twyla Boe<br>Kathleen Brennan<br>Bev Bridges<br>M.Brody<br>Mina Buck<br>Gordon Butz<br>Marge Fisch<br>Jean Grattet<br>Norma Heinz<br>Bobbie Heisterkamp<br>Elizabeth Horn<br>Joanne Kouris- Bell<br>Carol Lassen<br>Peggy Lehmann<br>Carol Lofft<br>Mary Lohre<br>Barbara Mattison<br>Andrea Mitchell | Nancy Meyer<br>Toya Nelson<br>Delores Netzel<br>Glenda Prosser<br>Kay Shaw<br>Marty Sloven<br>Dot Sobel<br>Sue Stark<br>Rose Tanaka<br>Carol Tone<br>Tyler Turdin<br>Jane Wasson<br>Kathleen Wells<br>Mary Werner<br>Nancy Ulrich<br>Diane Young<br>Lorie Young<br>Louise Young<br>12 Anonymous |
|--|---|



## Upcoming Initiatives on the Ballot

The Secretary of State maintains an initiative tracking page on his [web page](#). The first two links on the page have information on the calendar and the details of all the initiative by category of progress, e.g. Approved for circulation, Title set, Pending Supreme Court action, etc. As we approach a busy election season, this site can keep us up-to-date.

### Initiatives & Title Board

#### Title Board

- Initiatives filings, agendas & results
- Initiatives calendar

#### Petition entities, circulators & proponents

- FAQs
- Training guide
- List of licensed petition entities
- Petition entity license application (PDF)
- Petition entity license renewal application (PDF)
- Petition registration form for licensed entities (PDF)

#### How do I...?

- Place a measure on the statewide ballot
- File a petition complaint (PDF)

#### Resources

- Designated representatives' responsibilities
- Laws and rules
- Initiatives filed with Colorado Legislative Council
- Challenges to proposed ballot initiatives - Colorado Supreme Court
- Amendments and propositions on the ballot

Source: <http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/Initiatives/InitiativesHome.html>

## In Memoriam

We send our sympathies to **Joyce Solomon**, a longtime Whiteman Unit member, on the death of her husband Joseph in November.

## Briefings for your Calendar

Each year the League presents 8-10 briefings with informative speakers and up-to-date information on hot topics, followed by lively Q&A sessions that intrigue speakers and audience participants alike. They are memorable sessions and helpful guides for evaluating upcoming events – like the 2018 election for example. Here's how we do it.

- It all begins with meetings of the at-large Program Council convened by our Director of Program, Marty Sloven, and her assistant Peggy Pitchford. Topics are discussed in depth until agreement is reached on those that will be most valuable and important to our members in the months ahead.
- League members are identified who are knowledgeable and passionate about the topics chosen for the first 2-3 briefings (leaving some flexibility for the remaining briefings in the spring). Those who take responsibility for the early briefings begin by contacting potential speakers who would bring different perspectives – that is, people in a variety of settings who are experienced and knowledgeable about the topic at hand.
- A lot of fascinating telephone conversations, e-mails, and reviews of a few web sites result in invitations to people who are most able to provide a well-rounded overview of the topic. Happily, those invitations are usually well received.

So mark your calendars for what will be a series of meaty discussions in this watershed year, when voters here and nationwide will be making history.

If you would like to participate in Program Council meetings, contact Marty Sloven (303-333-3148 or [msloven25@aol.com](mailto:msloven25@aol.com)).

*Carol Andersen*

## Denver League Schedule for 2018

Mon., Jan. 8	Program Planning Potluck	5:30 – 7:30 p.m. League Office
Tue., Jan. 23	Living in Denver without Documentation	5:30 p.m. McCollum Room
Mon., Jan. 29	LWVCO Legislative Conference	8:30 a.m. Scottish Rite Temple
Mon., Feb. 5	National Program Planning and State Redistricting Initiatives	9:30 a.m. League Office
Tue., Feb. 20	State and Denver Demographics	5:30 p.m. McCollum Room
Thu., March 8	Hot Topics in Education	5:30 p.m. McCollum Room
TBD	Drinks & Dialogue: Meet Our Auditor	
Mon., March 19	Another Look at TABOR Carol Hedges, Colorado Fiscal Institute	5:30 p.m. McCollum Room
Tue., April 3	Public/Private Partnerships	5:30 p.m. McCollum Room
Mon., April 16	Denver/Colorado Water (Tentative topic)	5:30 p.m. McCollum Room
Sat., May 5	Annual Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Park Hill Golf Course
Mon., May 21	Legislative Wrap-Up	5:30 p.m. McCollum Room

## Unit Meetings: A place for lively conversation!

**Buffalo**

**Mon., Feb. 12, 5:30 p.m.**  
 Location to be determined  
 Contact Joan Friend for more info.  
 303-596-1022

**Cheesman**

**Tue., Feb. 13, 9:30 a.m.**  
 Bobbie Heisterkamp  
 766 Milwaukee St.  
 303-333-6818  
**Tue., Feb. 27, 9:30 a.m.**  
 Cindy Sestrich  
 1144 Lafayette St.  
 303-832-6739

**Cherrington**

**Thu., Feb. 8, 1:00 p.m.**  
 Norma Heinz  
 617 Albion St.  
 303-322-9529  
**Thu., Feb. 22, 1:00 p.m.**

Elsie Haley  
 1215 Milwaukee St.  
 303-321-0729

**Highland/Woodbury**

**Wed., Feb. 7, 5:45 p.m.**  
 W. 29th Avenue Restaurant  
 5560 W. 29th Ave.  
 Contact Sally Augden  
 303-455-5800

**Observatory**

**Tue., Jan. 30, 7:00 p.m.**  
 Catherine Decker  
 3223 S. Milwaukee St.  
 303-757-8731  
**Tue., Feb. 13, 7:00 p.m.**  
 Mary Hess  
 2020 S. Monroe St. #445  
 303-759-9892  
**Tue., Feb. 28, 7:00 p.m.**  
 TBD

**St. Vrain**

**Wed., Feb. 28, 9:15 a.m.**  
 TBD

**Whiteman**

**Tue., Feb 13, 9:15 a.m.**  
 Peggy Pitchford  
 2661 S. Zurich Ct.  
 303-638-5534  
**Tue., Feb 27, 9:15 a.m.**  
 Joanne Kouris-Bell  
 1855 S. Balsam, #325  
 Lakewood, CO  
 303-934-3309

### February 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			

- 5 National Program Planning and Colorado Redistricting Initiatives, 9:30 a.m., League Office
- 13 Ed Fund and Regular Board Meeting, 3:00 p.m., League Office
- 19 Office Closed, Presidents' Day
- 20 State and Denver Demographics Briefing, 5:30 p.m., McCollum Room

**League Members:** Kali and I will be doing some "redecorating" of the LWV office soon. Does anyone have four matching three or four drawer cabinets, perhaps in black or beige, that we could use in place of our unmatched cabinets? We have cut down a great deal on storage in our cabinets and I'm hoping we can use three cabinets instead of four, but we won't know until we start moving files.

Other items in the back room will be moved. We plan to dispose of the small computer desk on wheels if anyone would like to take it. Thanks in advance for considering the request.

*Nancy Ulrich*

### Welcome New and Returning Members

- Erica Augden**, 4482 Quitman St
- Enid Brodsky**, 3419 S. Race St
- Anna-Lisa Greenwade**, 200 Arapahoe Street, #504
- Lori Holland**, 1000 Speer Blvd, #1011, 720-454-3897
- Caitlin Hurkes**, 700 Pennsylvania St #902
- Susan Lerohl and Steve Coddington**, 2990 E. 17th Ave, #2403
- Sandra Mandel**, 3366 South Emopria Ct, 720-224-3737

# Unit Tour

On December 14, members of the Cherrington and Cheesman units visited the Black America West Museum and Heritage Center (<https://bawmhc.org/>) for the 2017 Cherrington Unit's Choice event. The museum was founded by Paul W. Stewart in 1971 to contain his collection of old west memorabilia. The museum is housed in the home formerly occupied by Dr. Justina Ford, Denver's first licensed African-American female physician. While not in its original location, the house has been restored to display the collections of the museum at 3091 California St.



The museum showcases many of the Denver area's notable black families and is a unique look at western history from the perspectives of African-Americans. The collection includes highlights of the history of African-Americans' movement west and includes artifacts and pictorial histories of cowboys, farmers, ranchers, miners, Buffalo Soldiers, Tuskegee Airmen and the residents of the Five Points area. There are relics from Dearfield in Weld County (named by Dr. Joseph H.P. Westbrook, who stated, "The fields are dear to us.") – now a ghost town – settled in 1910 by Oliver T. Jackson, a businessman from Boulder, as a colony for African-Americans. Also included are tools and furniture from Dr. Ford's home office. Dr. Justina Ford attended the delivery of more than 7,000 babies, of more than 37 nationalities and 8 - 11 languages and dialects. She continued her work up to two weeks before her death in October of 1952.

Our docent, Terri Gentry, talked about the many accomplishments of the early African-American settlers in Denver – many of whom were formerly enslaved – and spoke frankly about the barriers faced by the many notable individuals highlighted in the museum. We appreciated her depth of knowledge and personal connection with many of the individuals featured in the museum.

Andrea Mitchell

## 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
  - Two residing at same address..... \$90.00
  - 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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

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(Continued from page 1)

Last year City Council proposed to purchase 155 acres of Park Hill Golf Course and the rest of the land would be leased for development. At the same time, a storm water detention catch basin on the Park Hill Golf Course is needed to alleviate potential flooding in North Denver.

To quote a statement on the INC website, “The golf course property is currently encumbered by an Agency Agreement and perpetual Conservation Easement that limits the use of the property to open space in general and a golf course in particular – separate and apart from the underlying zoning of the property.”

For more detailed information go to the INC website: [www.denverinc.org](http://www.denverinc.org)

A storm water detention area to alleviate potential flooding in the future I-70 underground portion is City Park Golf Course (not to be confused with Park Hill Golf Course). The first of 256 trees were removed January 8. This will also become a catch basin for future flooding.

What about the parks in your neighborhood? To see a comprehensive list of all of the Denver City Parks and their current status visit:

[www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/747/documents/policy/DPR-park-designation-status.pdf](http://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/747/documents/policy/DPR-park-designation-status.pdf)

Bobbie Heisterkamp

