

## **NEWSLETTER**



### **Greetings to LWV Missoula Members and Supporters!**

It's the height of summer. We have opportunities for you this month and into September. Much of our work is related to the upcoming local elections for Mayor and City Council. We will promote the elections, inform voters, help ensure fair elections, and collaborate with the Missoula Office of Neighborhoods to sponsor candidate forums. We invite your participation in any of the following initiatives. Thank you for your support!

DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW/LIKE LWV MISSOULA FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, AND BLUESKY!!

### AT A GLANCE

VOTE411 for Missoula

Voter Registration & Outreach Activities
Abolish Electoral College Presentation Training

MTEOI

Missoula Candidate Forums

LWV US News

# **VOTE 411**

The Mayor and City Council primary election races for Missoula are live on VOTE411. Be sure to seek out <u>VOTE411</u> and spread the word with your friends.

The Missoula VOTE411 Team has produced short videos about voting and the upcoming elections that feature local Missoulians. Check these out in the coming weeks and share with all your contacts on Instagram, FB and Blue Sky.



ROSIE SMITH, LWV MISSOULA, WITH GENEVA LIIMATA AND ERIC RISTAU, FILMING FOR VIDEO SHORTS, JULY 9

### **VOTER REGISTRATION AND OUTREACH EVENTS**

The Voter Services Committee will be meeting August 7th to strategize plans for the fall to capture the interest of High School students. Ideas include providing voter registration materials and election information at tabling events and presenting our Nitty Gritty of Voting and Suffrage Timeline presentations.

We will also be making plans to keep senior citizens engaged by meeting them where they live and maintaining a consistent presence with voter registration opportunities and presenting information on areas of interest.

National Voter Registration Day is coming up on Tuesday, September 16th. We will have opportunities available for voters to register to vote on that day.

If you are interested in helping with any of these events or attending the planning meeting, please contact Frankie Feinstein at <a href="mailto:frankiefeinstein14@gmail.com">frankiefeinstein14@gmail.com</a>

Voter registration and outreach at the Missoula Food Bank and the Missoula Public Library in collaboration with Catalyst Montana will continue weekly throughout August. Thanks to all members who have participated! If you are interested in volunteering for voter outreach shifts in the autumn, please contact Sally Brown at <a href="mailto:sallybrown6">sallybrown6</a>@gmail.com</a>

# Missoula Candidate Forums

LWV Missoula is partnering with the Missoula Office of Neighborhoods to sponsor candidate forums for the November 4 general election. Four evening forums will be held for the offices of Mayor and City Council Candidates. Tentative dates are September 30, October 2, October 9, and October 14 in the evening. Volunteers are needed for tasks including sorting questions, timekeeping, and moderating. If you are interested, please contact Mary LaPorte marylaporte53@gmail.com

## Abolish Electoral College Presentation Training

"The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the direct-popular-vote method for electing the President, and the Vice President is essential to representative government. The League of Women Voters believes, therefore, that the Electoral College should be abolished." This position was first announced in 1970 and was reaffirmed at National Convention in 2024.

LWV Missoula has formed a working group that has been meeting over the past year to learn more about the Electoral College and why it needs to be eliminated. We are benefitting from excellent resources and support from the LWV Electoral College Abolition Committee, composed of LWV members from throughout the U.S., and led by Rosemary Heilemann of Deerfield, IL. We will continue participating in national monthly meetings. Our Missoula group is preparing to begin local presentations in our community this autumn, with a kickoff at the Member meeting on September 11. While this is a long-term project, we know that the League of Women Voters is uniquely positioned to empower voters through education and advocacy.

A Training session is scheduled for August 13, at 10:15 am. This will be held in-person and virtually. Rosemary Heilemann will be leading the training based on the LWV presentation now in use for all Leagues.

LWV members and supporters are welcome to attend and learn more. Meeting information:

- in person: Presentation Training: Abolish Electoral College Wednesday August 13, 2025 10:15 - 11:30 am Missoula Public Library, Ellison Conference Room, 3rd floor
- 2.) via Zoom: Presentation Training Abolish Electoral College Time: Aug 13, 2025 10:15 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87225419243?pwd=FFreaQI5MVoz1qtCzL4V7qK27bIVLh.1

Meeting ID: 872 2541 9243

Passcode: 644508

Please reach out to Mary LaPorte <u>marylaporte53@gmail.com</u> for more information.

# **MONTANA ELECTION OBSERVATION INITIATIVE (MTEOI)**

MTEOI, a collaboration of the Carter Center and the Mansfield Center, has again requested the involvement and support of LWV Missoula for the upcoming municipal elections. Please see the information below and register to volunteer.

The Montana Election Observation Initiative (MTEOI) is excited to announce our target counties to observe primary and general municipal elections in 2025! The counties are:

Cascade County (November 4th General)
Carbon County (November 4th General)
Lake County (November 4th General)

Lewis & Clark County (September 9th Primary + November 4th General)
Missoula County (September 9th Primary + November 4th General)
If you're interested in observing this September for the Primaries and November for the General in one of the counties above, please complete the interest form at the left by scanning the QR code or clicking the image.



# **SAVE THE DATES**

## **LWVUS – Information and Training**

Aug. 12, 12:30 pm ET Women's Rights are Human Rights: Reflections on UN CSW 69

Hear from LWV UN delegates about their experience at the UN Commission on the Status of Women, their global advocacy experience, and what they envision for the future.

**LEARN MORE** 

### Aug. 12, 3:30 pm ET Democracy Integrity Briefing

Review growing national and local trends in mis- and disinformation and tools to help your League track and address it.

**LEARN MORE** 

Aug. 20, 12:30pm ET
Democracy in Your Hands Series: The Three Branches of Government

Take a deep dive into why it is important voters understand the purview of the executive branch, judicial branch, and legislative branch of government.

See all upcoming events on the League Management Site.

# **Upcoming Meetings:**

Board Meeting September 11, 7:00 pm via Zoom
All LWV members are invited to attend. More information will be included in the
September newsletter

Member Meeting September 18, 12:00 noon- 1:00 pm Missoula Food Bank and via Zoom

Member Book and Topic Discussion October 7, 7:00 pm virtual Let the People Pick the President, Jesse Wegman

