

# LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

## The Voter

### SUMMER SOUNDING BOARD

The final Summer Sounding Board will be Monday, August 21st 6:00 PM at the Pitch Pub, 2924 E Sunshine. Summer Social and League Kick Off!

### COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Join us on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 10am for a coffee-and-donut discussion for those interested in knowing more about advocacy with local School Boards. We will meet at the Midtown-Carnegie Library in the upstairs community room.

Several issues are arising that relate to League policy positions (for example, LGBTQIA+ issues, racial issues, book banning). League members can have powerful impact by voicing opinions. It is important to assure that members speak out as individuals, not as League members or on behalf of the League unless authorized to do so. Our discussion will cover these distinctions and some strategies for effective advocacy.

### AUGUST 8 ELECTION DAY

#### **Greene County: City of Springfield**

Shall the City of Springfield, Missouri, impose an additional sales tax of three percent (3 percent) on the retail sale of adult use marijuana with proceeds from such tax to be used for public safety, mental health services, housing, and substance abuse service?

#### **Webster County: City of Seymour**

On August 8, the city of Seymour will place a half-cent sales tax for transportation on the ballot, which is estimated to generate around \$200,000 annually to improve the city's streets.

#### **Election Information**

Voter Registration Deadline for folks not previously registered to vote in Missouri was July 12, 2023.

Voter Registration for folks who are already registered in Missouri but move to a new voter jurisdiction (i.e., change counties) after the July deadline and provided you are still on file at your previous location ... go to

your County Clerk's Office to change your address up to and including Election Day.

Voter Registration for folks who change addresses but remain in the same voting jurisdiction ... you can change your address at your polling location on Election Day.

Absentee voting for the August 8, 2023, election will begin June 27, 2023.

In-Person, no excuse Absentee voting begins two weeks before Election Day.

Polls open Election Day from 6:00AM – 7:00PM. To find your polling place in Greene County, go to [vote.greenecountymo.gov/voting-information](https://vote.greenecountymo.gov/voting-information)

If you live in Christian or Webster County, call your County Clerk's Office.

If you are registered, you can vote. Present one of the following valid government-issued photo IDs: current Missouri driver or non-driver license, U.S. Passport, military ID or other official state or federal photo ID. If you do not have a valid photo ID, you can vote a provisional ballot.

### WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Women's Equality Day will be recognized in the U.S. on August 26. It is a time to honor the sheroic efforts of those who endured violence and discrimination in order to win the right for women to vote. The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, passed in 1920, brought suffrage for most U.S. women. It was not, however, until the Snyder Act of 1924 that Indigenous citizens were guaranteed the right to vote, and not until civil rights legislation of the 1960s did Black citizens have the guarantee. On Women's Equality Day we should celebrate the advances, but also recognize recent efforts to turn back the clock on voting rights and women's rights in general.

Though the Constitution now guarantees women's suffrage, many other rights are vulnerable to judicial, legislative, or regulatory whim. The Equal Rights Amendment which would add constitutional protection for women's rights was introduced in 1923 but has been

stalled for 100 years. Representatives Kirsten Gillibrand and Cori Bush have recently introduced a joint resolution stating that the ERA has met ratification requirements and should be finalized as the 28th Amendment.

LWVMO is seeking members who are interested in helping to revive the task of enshrining the ERA in our Constitution. If you are interested in helping or would like to find out more, please contact President Marilyn McLeod: [marilyn\\_mcleod@yahoo.com](mailto:marilyn_mcleod@yahoo.com).



## JUNE PRESENTATION

As a follow-up to the presentation from Brigitte Marrs on the Mayor's Commission for Children current projects. One of the projects she spoke about was a volunteer opportunity available at Cox Health Children's Centers. This is a wonderful volunteer position supporting the staff at either location at Cox South or Cox North. Hours are very flexible and there are evening and weekend times. Give 5 alumni and current participants are partners with this pilot program. Apply at this [link](#) or contact Karrie Ridder, Director Learning Centers, Cox Learning Center, 417-269-6775, [Karrie.Ridder@coxhealth.com](mailto:Karrie.Ridder@coxhealth.com).

## MEET THE ELECTED

The League in collaboration with Leadership Springfield and the Junior League of Springfield will hold the next Meet the Elected event on Friday, Sept. 22 at noon. We will plan to meet with members of Springfield city council, mayor, and Greene County commissioners. The event will be virtual. Watch for more details in the next newsletter.

August 2023

## UPCOMING DATES

### Coffee and Conversation

Saturday, August 5, 2023, 10am  
Midtown-Carnegie Library  
397 E Central St, Springfield

### Election Day

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

### Deputy Registrar Training

Thursday, August 17, 2023, 1pm-2:30pm

### Summer Sounding Boards

Monday, August 21, 2023, 6pm

### LWVSWMO Board Meeting

Monday, August 28, 2023, 5:30pm  
Schweitzer-Brentwood Library

### Meet the Elected

Friday, September 22, 2023, noon  
Virtual

### Trash Pick Up

September 30, 2023 at 1:30pm  
Meet at 1010 West Sunshine

### LWVMO Fall Conference

Saturday, November 4, 2023  
Boone County Electric Co-Op Bldg.  
Columbia, MO

### LWVMO Spring Conference

June 8, 2024  
Location TBD

## LEAGUE SWAG

Do you need to update your wardrobe with some new swag? For just \$15.00 you can have a new purple, blue, or black t-shirt. Orders will be accepted through Tuesday, August 22. Email Jill, [JPSmull@gmail.com](mailto:JPSmull@gmail.com)

## DEI UPDATE

Safe to Sleep, an overnight shelter for adult women, is an important outreach project for LWVSWMO. Thanks to a successful fundraising drive during Christmas of 2022, the DEI group has been able to provide meals to approximately 30-40 women once a month. However, we will run out of funds in July. We are seeking donations at this point to help pay for monthly meals from August until December. Any amount is welcome. You can bring your donation to our monthly meetings; or you can donate online by going to [Donate - League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri](https://www.lwvswmo.org/donate) ([lwvswmo.org](https://www.lwvswmo.org)) and mentioning Safe to Sleep on it.

## RADIO PROGRAM

Have you listened recently to our weekly Making Democracy Work program on KSMU radio? The League hosts a weekly program, every Monday at 9:45am, on KSMU 91.1FM. In case you missed the most recent episodes, you can click here to browse through the archives for topics you might want to listen to now: [Making Democracy Work](#).

July 3: [Public health has evolved into population health over past several years](#)

July 10: [McDonald county has one of the most culturally diverse towns in southwest Missouri](#)

July 17:

[New online resource hub for the community is aimed at addressing needs of those with mental illness](#)

July 24: [Springfield City Clerk says there is always a need for volunteers to serve on 26 city boards and commissions](#)

July 31: [‘We strengthen our future by sharing our past’: Museum director talks about the importance of preserving our history](#)

## POLICY POSITIONS

The public policy positions of the LWVUS and LWVMO can be found at these links:

Impact on Issues 2022-2024--LWVUS  
[https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/2023-02/LWV\\_ImpactOnIssues2022-2024.pdf](https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/2023-02/LWV_ImpactOnIssues2022-2024.pdf)

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Guide to State Action 2021-2023---LWVMO

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uEsQ44pt4oI8Pwg\\_18-aYHiZ1PbueyL6/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uEsQ44pt4oI8Pwg_18-aYHiZ1PbueyL6/view)

Members are encouraged to review these publications that outline the issues our collective energy is addressing and to see how Missouri applies national policy positions to things that pertain to our state.

## MISSOURI VOTER

The [Missouri Voter](#) is the newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Missouri. This newsletter features updates on efforts to restore reproductive freedom in Missouri and make education funding more equitable. Click [here](#) for good news on the latter from the state board of education.

**LWVMO**  
**FALL**  
**CONFERENCE**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, November 4th 9:00-3:00**

**Boone Electric Cooperative & Zoom**

Possible Topics:

- LWVUS Transformation
- Minimum Wage
- National Popular Vote
- Reproductive Freedom
- KnowDisinfo

Questions? Call the Office @ 314-961-6869