

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®] OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

The Voter

GENERAL MEETING

November's General Meeting will take place Saturday, November 16, at empower: abilities, 1450 W. Cambridge St. in Springfield. This meeting will be an in-person version of the DEI & Non-Partisan Training sessions that have been held on Zoom over the past few weeks.

League members who have already attended the virtual trainings do not need to attend this in-person training. All other current members are urged to attend, including deputy registrars, members of the Observer Corps, and others currently representing the League in various public functions. New members of LWVSWMO are also urged to attend this meeting.

LWVSWMO Board of Directors has endorsed these trainings so that all forward-facing League members who interact with the public and the community fully understand our DEI statement and thoroughly embody Non-Partisanship. So far, many members of Voter Services, Observer Corps, and other League committees have fulfilled the requirement of attending these trainings online. We're now asking that anyone who missed the earlier trainings, or who might have joined the League recently, get caught up with this in-person training. Completion of the DEI & Non-Partisan Training is a requirement for LWSWMO membership.

Following the DEI & Non-Partisan Training, LWVSWMO members will sign into the Volunteer Handbook to document their completion of this League requirement. If you have not yet completed a training and are unable to attend the General Meeting, you may attend one of the trainings offered in 2025. Please direct any questions about the training to Cynthia Erb at cynerb@gmail.com, Emily Fessler at ereichgeld@gmail.com, or Liz Wertz at Elizabethwertz220@gmail.com.

General meetings are open to the public, so feel free to invite a friend who might be interested in learning more about the League.

VOTER'S GUIDE AVAILABLE

The 2024 [Voter's Guide](#), produced by our League, is now available at all public libraries in Greene, Christian, and Webster counties. The guides were also inserted in the Sunday, October 27 edition of the Springfield News-Leader. The digital version of the Voter's Guide is also available at VOTE411.org. Simply type in your address and it will populate a ballot with only the candidates and ballot issues for your precinct. You can print this off and take it with you when you vote as a handy reference.

The Voter's Guide features county-level races, state representative and state senator contests, statewide races for Missouri, U.S. senator, and U.S. representative, and information on the judges up for retention. Summaries and explanations of the six ballot issues were provided by the League of Women Voters of Missouri.



Many thanks to the amazing team who worked so hard to produce Vote411.org and the Voter's Guide. This is truly a legacy League effort and requires involvement from several members to go from contacting the candidates to creating a digital guide to delivering the printed guides around our three counties. It is such a valuable service to educate voters on the candidates and ballot issues. Well done, everyone!

INFORMED VOTER COALITION

Listen and watch on [KSMU](#) and [Springfield News-Leader](#).

Interviews with local candidates in the Nov. 5 General Election are available on the websites of KSMU Ozarks Public Radio and the Springfield News-Leader. These brief conversations are the work of The Informed Voter Coalition, led by the League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri.

Candidate interviews include these races:

- State Senate District 29
- State Representative Districts 129-140
- Greene and Christian County Commissioners
- United States Representative District 7

Besides the League of Women Voters, the coalition includes Ozarks Technical Community College Social Sciences Department, Leadership Springfield, Springfield-Greene County Library District, L.E. Meador Center for Politics and Citizenship at Drury University, Be Civil Be Heard, Missouri State University Office of Public Affairs, NAACP Springfield, Junior League of Springfield, Rosie, Show Me Christian County, Springfield Business Journal, Springfield News-Leader and KSMU Ozarks Public Radio.

The Informed Voter Coalition works to educate the public ahead of elections. Voters in Southwest Missouri can learn where these candidates stand on the most pressing issues and hear their ideas and goals.



HOLIDAY PARTY

Join Us for a Special Evening at Before & After Brewing!

Date: Monday, December 2, 2024

Time: 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Before & After Brewing

Address: 2940 E. Sunshine, Springfield, MO 65804



We're excited to announce our Holiday party at [Before & After Brewing](#), where coffee, beer, and delicious food will be available for purchase. This is a fantastic opportunity to unwind, connect with friends, and enjoy a cozy evening in a vibrant atmosphere.

Guests Welcome: Feel free to bring along friends and family to share in the fun. Mark your calendars and get ready for a memorable evening filled with great company and delicious offerings. We can't wait to see you there!

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Four members of our committee met on Saturday, October 19, to pick up trash along our adopted stretch of Sunshine Street. Our next trash pickup is scheduled for November 2, at 9:00.

Another event coming up is our final presentation of the year, "Plastics 101." This event will take place at 6:30 pm, in the Community Room of the Schweitzer-Brentwood Library. This presentation will be given by Laurie Davis and Ashley Krug from the City of Springfield's Department of Environmental Services.



DEI COMMITTEE UPDATE

Q-Image Magazine and the GLO Center are co-sponsoring a free screening of [Portrait of a Lady on Fire](#) at Moxie Cinema Saturday, November 16, 4 p.m. Tickets are free and are now available at the Moxie box office.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The next education committee meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 20, **12:00-1:00** (please note the time change!) at the Brentwood Library. Our plan is to look at how other states are faring with school voucher programs now that Missouri has its own version.

Also of interest to the education committee is the public library situation in Christian County. A lawsuit investigating the violation of board procedures and Sunshine Law violations in the ousting of board president Allison Tuckness during the Sept. board meeting ([News-Leader article](#)) is ongoing. The Oct. 22 board meeting began with the resignation of Tuckness ([News-Leader article](#)). During the public comment session, one citizen declared newly elected board president Echo Schneider unfit for office due to her comments in an online video. The full video of her comments and "Take Back Public Libraries" plan is available on a website hosted by local grassroots organization [U-turn in Education](#). U-turn in Education touts itself as a group of people who "resist censorship and support public education and a wide breadth of educational experiences for all." The education committee and Observer Corp will continue to monitor, and Christian County citizens are encouraged to become informed about what is happening to their public library. The library board meeting videos are available to the public at the [Christian County Library Trustee](#) website (scroll to bottom).The LWVMO has two public library policies:

- Support a public library system as a basic community service including internet access, with a long-term assured, stable, and adequate funding source.
- Support access by all persons to public library services as a major source of knowledge and information necessary for informed, active participation in a democratic society.

HOW THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE WORKS

Next week, we'll cast our votes — and then the Electoral College will select our president.

Here's how the Electoral College works:

1. You cast your vote;
2. Election workers determine which candidate won the popular vote in your state (or DC);
3. The Electoral College representatives from your state/DC vote for president *on your behalf*, casting their ballots for your state/DC's popular vote winner;
4. The candidate who earns 270 or more votes is elected president.
- 5.

For a more in-depth look, [check out the blog on the LWV.org website.](#)

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.](#)

October 7: [Inside the Springfield 3/4-cent sales tax ballot question](#)

October 16: [The League of Women Voters Voter's Guide is out. Here's where to find it and information on judges ahead of the general election](#)

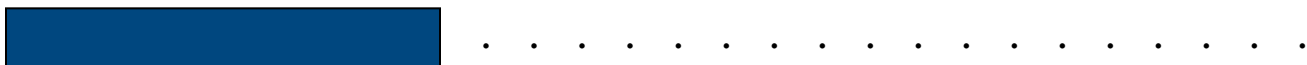
October 22: [The Informed Voter Coalition works to raise awareness of candidates ahead of Election Day](#)

October 28: [Christian County Clerk shares important reminders for voters with the election just over a week away](#)

LWVMO POSITION ON STATEWIDE BALLOT ISSUES

See below for a summary of LWVMO's position on three statewide ballot issues. It was published as a letter to the editor in the *Columbia Missourian* on Oct. 15.

League of Women Voters issues endorsements on 2 ballot measures, opposes Amendment 7



For more than a century, the nonpartisan League of Women Voters has studied public policy issues and when consensus is reached by the membership, may advance a position on relevant issues that come before the public.

The League of Women Voters of Missouri has taken positions on three of the six ballot measures on the November General Election ballot.

Amendment 3

We support Amendment 3 for reproductive freedom. It protects the right of privacy in reproductive choice, would overturn Missouri’s current strict law on abortion that has only an exception for the life of the mother, and it would guarantee protections for related reproductive issues. Our support for this measure is based on our official and longstanding position: “public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.” Vote “Yes” on Amendment 3.

Proposition A

We support Proposition A for minimum wage and earned sick leave because we support programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families. Vote “Yes” on Proposition A.

Amendment 7

We oppose Amendment 7 because it creates restrictions that would prevent voters in cities and counties from choosing their local voting practices in the future. It also includes unnecessary and misleading “ballot candy” wording about who can vote. The Missouri Constitution already specifies U.S. citizenship is a necessary qualification to vote. Vote “No” on Amendment 7.



UPCOMING DATES

Trash Pick-Up Dates

Saturday, November 2, 2024, 9:00am

Election Day

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Polls are open 6:00am-7:00pm

General Meeting

Saturday, November 16, 2024, 9:30am

Empower: Abilities, 1450 W Cambridge St

Free Screening of Portrait of a Lady

Saturday, November 16, 2024, 4:00pm

Moxie Cinema, 305 S Campbell Ave #101

Plastics “101”

Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 6:30pm

Schweitzer-Brentwood Library

Education Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 12:00pm

Schweitzer-Brentwood Library

Holiday Party

Monday, December 2, 2024, 5:00-7:00pm

Before & After Brewing, 2940 E Sunshine

