

# LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS<sup>®</sup> OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

## The Voter

### OCTOBER UNIT MEETINGS

**Monday, October 21st, 5:30 PM**

The Pitch Pizza & Pub, 2924 E Sunshine St, Springfield  
Native American Voter Rights Act and Indigenous Peoples Day

Speaker- Dr. Kayla Lewis MSU School of Leadership

**Tuesday, October 22nd, noon**

Schweitzer Brentwood Library, 2214 S Brentwood Blvd, Springfield

Recorded presentation from Dr Kayla Lewis



Speaker Bio: Kayla Lewis, Ph.D., is a registered citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. She has been in education for over 25 years, with experience as a classroom teacher, Reading Recovery teacher, literacy coach, and university professor. She is an Associate Professor and the Interim

Director for the School of Special Education, Leadership, and Professional Studies at Missouri State University. Her research focuses on culturally authentic Native American children's literature and Native American content in school curriculum. In addition to her work on campus, she currently serves as the vice-chair of the board for the Southwest Missouri Indian Center and as the president-elect of the Missouri Association of Reading Recovery Educators. She is also actively involved in the National Association of Multicultural Education. Dr. Lewis has presented at numerous state and national conferences and her tribe's national women's conference, The Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Conference.

### DELIVERY DRIVERS NEEDED!

It will soon be time to deliver the Voter's Guide to various locations around Greene, Christian, and Webster counties. Pair up with a League friend and spend the morning together dropping off guides to the libraries, universities, and senior centers. Each driver team will only have 2-3 locations assigned to them.

Delivery day is **Tuesday, October 15 beginning at 10:00am (pick up location TBD)**. If you are interested in helping, call/text/email Jean Bardy, Voter's Guide Distribution Coordinator, at (806) 787-4478 or [jbardy2@att.net](mailto:jbardy2@att.net) by Tuesday, October 8 and she will give you more information. This is an easy and fun way to help and be part of the voter education process!!

### NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

The New Member Orientation will take place on Saturday, October 19th, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM at the Schweitzer-Brentwood Library, located at 2214 S Brentwood Blvd, Springfield. If you're not a brand-new member but would like to attend, you're welcome to join us!

### INFORMED VOTER COALITION

The Informed Voter Coalition interviews are set to air on KSMU at noon the weeks of October 14 and 21. An exact schedule will be included in the October newsletter. Please share this information with your friends, family, co-workers, etc.

The Coalition is planning to interview:

- State Senate District 29
- Greene and Christian County Commissioners
- State Rep Districts 129-140
- US Rep District 7

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

# DEI & NON-PARTISAN TRAINING FOR LWVSWMO

The LWVSWMO Board of Directors has voted to implement a *mandatory* DEI & Non-Partisan Training for all forward facing LWVSWMO volunteers in alignment with our DEI Statement and Non-Partisan Policies. The LWVSWMO Board of Directors feels strongly that all forward-facing League members that interact with the public and our community fully understand our DEI Statement and thoroughly embody Non-Partisanship. Our community looks to the League as experts and it is critical that our members, when interacting with our community, uphold the values and positions of the League.

Over the next year, the League will host a variety of opportunities to attend the DEI & Non-Partisan Training, with priority on certain League action teams at various times throughout the next year. If a member is on multiple committees and/or action teams, they only need to attend the Training once.

The DEI & Non-Partisan Trainings in October are as follows:

**Saturday, October 5th at 2pm via Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85274887293?pwd=GJs43OEzQvtbOU7ShCK1jYNTvibLGM.1>

Meeting ID: 852 7488 7293

Passcode: 627324\_

**Tuesday, October 8th at 6:30pm via Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83886533774?pwd=i920LgicazmLYUm8hay0MTh4aXkUbm.1>

Meeting ID: 838 8653 3774

Passcode: 296100

October training will be for members who have not attended yet and are on the following committees: Finance, Membership, Education, DEI, and Environment & Sustainability.

We will also be holding an in-person DEI & Non-Partisan Training at our November General Meeting on November 16th.

# LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

We need assistance distributing Information Cards about Amendment 3 and Proposition A to community members. More cards have been ordered and we are looking to distribute them soon. One idea is to attend some of the Fall Festivals in October and hand them out. You could approach people and say, "Here's some information about two items on the ballot this year."

- Oct. 5: Pumpkin Daze – J.B. Martin Park at 300 E. Hines St. in Republic
- Oct. 5: Ozark Fall Farmfest – Ozark Empire Fairgrounds at 3001 N. Grant Ave.
- Oct. 4-6: Ozark Craft Fair – Finley River Park at 891-961 N. Riverside Rd. in Ozark
- Every Friday & Saturday in October: Harvest Fest – Rutledge Wilson Farm Park at 3825 W FR 146
- Oct. 11-19: Maple Leaf Festival – Downtown Carthage

You can also distribute them to your family, friends, and any groups you are part of in Missouri.

Please choose a festival, bring a friend, and help us spread the word. Contact Sue Walker at susieqwmo@gmail.com or 417-773-7781, and she'll get the cards to you.

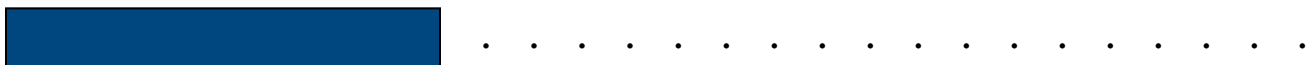
# DEI COMMITTEE UPDATE

The NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet will be Saturday, October 19, 2024, from 6:00-9:00 PM, at the Double Tree by Hilton. Tickets are \$75. See the [event's Facebook page](#) for details.

Help the Grupo Latinoamericano celebrate their 35<sup>th</sup> year serving the community. There will have a Fundraiser Gala on October 12, 2024, from 6:00-11:00 PM at the Doubletree by Hilton. Tickets are \$100. See the [Grupo Latinoamericano Facebook page](#) for details.

# EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The next Education Committee meeting will be Wednesday, October 23 from 1:00-2:00 PM at the Schweitzer-Brentwood Library. Our committee remains concerned about increased incidents of book banning and censorship stories both locally and across the



country. An interactive map from the American Library Association displays [censorship attempts by each state from 2014-2023](#), and PEN America provides a [searchable index of books banned in the 2022-2023 school year](#). Type "Missouri" in the search bar to view the title and school districts where book censorship is happening in our state. Our October meeting will be devoted to studying library and censorship policies from other state leagues.

## VOTER & ELECTION SERVICES UPDATE

September has been a busy month with registrars tabling registration events at various locations and voter education presentations made to several groups. The Voter’s November issue will contain more details as the 2024 registration season slows its pace.

Paws to the Polls will be highlighting voting and elections on the MSU campus September 30 – October 3.

The Informed Voter Coalition interviews with candidates running for office will be broadcast at noon the weeks of October 14 and October 21. During the IVC interviews, both candidates are asked the same questions.

There are several opportunities for SWMO members to participate in the League’s DEI/Non-partisan training. All League members are encouraged to take this training, particularly forward-facing members. Training dates include Saturday, October 5th, from 2 pm – 3 pm, Tuesday, October 8th, from 6 pm – 7 pm and during the November 16 fall meeting. The two October dates will be via Zoom.

## ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The following events are being offered by the Environment and Sustainability Committee in cooperation with the White River Group Sierra Club for all members of the League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri:

### October 2024

Several of our committee members attended “The Impact of Dark Skies,” by Lane Pierce of the Springfield Astronomical Society, and Loring Bullard, of the Ozark Society, on September 11, at Schweitzer-Brentwood Library, from 6:30-8:00 pm. We learned that the City of Springfield is considering a Dark Skies resolution in its Forward SGF program. More information will be released soon about approaching City Council to let the members know if we support this resolution.

Our second event in the month of September was “Local Yard Ethic Program,” by Clarissa Hatley, Education Outreach Specialist, Division of Water Quality & Watershed. Our attendees learned about ways to convert their yards into spaces that are more pollinator friendly and how to sign up for the Yard Ethic program.

Our final program of the year, “Plastics 101,” by Laurie Davis and Ashley Krug from the Environmental Services Department of the City of Springfield, will be offered at Schweitzer-Brentwood Library, from 6:30-8:00 pm. on November 20.

Trash Pickup, 1010 West Sunshine Street, October 19, 9:00 am.

Trash Pickup, 1010 West Sunshine Street, November 2, 9:00 am.

## 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](#).

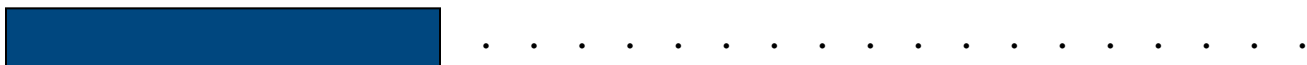
September 4: [Public Affairs Conference at Missouri State University has been held for more than 2 decades](#)

September 10: [MSU’ Paws to the Polls gets students engaged in the election process](#)

September 16: [Local resident shares experience working as an election poll judge](#)

September 24: [Drury professor discusses misinformation that impacts elections](#)

September 30 [Greene County's top election official shares important information for voters ahead of the November 5 General Election](#)



# BECOME A LEGISLATIVE TRACKER

The 2025 legislative session is coming soon. Bills can be pre-filed starting December 1, so LWVMO can start deciding legislative priorities for 2025...things to support and things we must try to stop. Legislative Trackers help monitor proposed legislation, contribute to the weekly Legislative Bulletin that is published during the session, and recommend advocacy actions. Trainings will be provided before the session starts in January, and lots of support is provided to Trackers as we move through the session. If you are interested in learning to be a Tracker, contributing to this vital service of the League, please contact Sherry Buchanan.

# GOTV BUS WRAPS

We hope you have seen them by now! The GOTV bus wraps will continue to roll around Springfield until the November election. This is a collaboration with NAACP and Leadership Springfield. Funding has been provided by grants from LWV Making Democracy Work, the Community Foundation of the Ozarks, and by individual donors. We especially hope they have caught the eye of unregistered persons and are a good reminder to the rest of us to GET OUT THE VOTE.



## UPCOMING DATES

**Grupo Latinoamericano Fundraiser Gala**  
Saturday, October 12, 2024, 6:00-11:00pm  
DoubleTree Hotel

**Informed Voter Coalition Interviews**  
Week of October 14 and 21 at noon  
KSMU Radio

**New Member Orientation**  
Saturday, October 19, 2024, 10:30am-Noon  
Schweitzer-Brentwood Library

**NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet**  
Saturday, October 19, 2024, 6:00-9:00pm  
DoubleTree Hotel

**Trash Pick-Up Dates**  
Saturday, October 19, 2024, 9:00am  
Saturday, November 2, 2024, 9:00am

**Unit Meetings**  
Monday, October 21, 2024, 5:30pm  
The Pitch Pizza & Pub  
Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 12:00pm  
Schweitzer-Brentwood Library

**Education Committee Meeting**  
Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 1:00pm  
Schweitzer-Brentwood Library

**Election Day**  
Tuesday, November 5, 2024  
Polls are open 6:00am-7:00pm

**Plastics "101"**  
Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 6:30pm  
Schweitzer-Brentwood Library

