

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

The Voter

GENERAL MEETING

Date: Saturday, January 17, 2026

Time: 9:30-11:00 AM

Where: The Library Center, 4653 S Campbell Ave,
Springfield, MO 65810

Angela Crawford is a familiar face in the Springfield community, where she's spent the last 20 years serving as a dedicated election judge. After her own difficult journey with IVF, she realized how isolating the process can be and decided to do something about it. In 2018, she launched a local peer-led support group through [Resolve: The National Infertility Association](#), providing a safe space for others to share their stories for the past eight years. Angela is also a regular on the grassroots scene, frequently spending her time gathering and notarizing signatures for the initiative petition process. Her passion for civic engagement even led her to the political side of things, where she supported friend and fellow advocate Ashley Cossins as her deputy campaign treasurer during her 2022 run for House District 131.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Is it time for you to pay your annual dues?

Click here to pay online: portal.lwv.org

To pay by mail send a check to:

League of Women Voters of SW Missouri
PO Box 3036
Springfield, MO 65808-3036

JEDI & NONPARTISAN TRAINING

Last year, the LWVSWMO Board of Directors voted to implement a mandatory DEI & Non-Partisan Training for all LWV SWMO volunteers in alignment with our DEI Statement and Non-Partisan Policies. Our community looks to the League as experts, and our members uphold the values and positions of the League. These trainings will take place quarterly and must be done to be a forward-facing LWV SWMO member. If a

member is on multiple committees and/or action teams, they only need to attend the Training once.

Sunday, January 25th at 4:00 PM

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86890920701?pwd=OZZ8MEk1I4VpTJsvWKyUcnEHNsLDaZ.1>

Meeting ID: 868 9092 0701

Passcode: 740962

Following the DEI & Non-Partisan Training, LWV WMO members must sign onto the LWVSWMO Volunteer Handbook, which includes volunteer signatures on our DEI Statement and Non-Partisan Policy. Signature to the LWVSWMO Volunteer Handbook signifies completion of the Training, and commitment to the League's values and positions on DEI and Non-Partisanship. If you have any questions regarding the implementation of the DEI & Non-Partisan Training, please connect with Co-Presidents Liz Wertz (elizabethwertz220@gmail.com) and Sandy Michaels (slm7593@gmail.com).

LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

The 2026 Legislative Session begins on 1/7/26.

Legislative priorities for 2026 will be the same as last year's since there are ongoing challenges in each of them: Initiative Petition Rights; Voting Rights; Firearms Safety; Taxes; Education; Reproductive Rights; Climate & Environment; Health Care; Social Justice; and LGBTQ+ Rights. Tracking teams are in action, and "Legislative Advocacy" emails with Calls to Action and additional Legislative Bulletin information will start to arrive in your mailboxes. LWV members are important members of the Legislative Action Committee as you follow through with Calls to Action and share the information with other concerned citizens.

Problems with receiving "Legislative Advocacy" emails can be referred to the LWVMO office at (314)961-6869. Close to 2000 pieces of legislation have been filed, many related to LWV policy positions, so our active involvement is essential.

OLD JEWELRY TO DONATE?

If you still have old jewelry to contribute toward the funding of Sheila Michael’s book bags for kids, please bring it to the next unit meeting on Saturday, January 17, 9:30 am at Empower Abilities. Pam Shaver will collect it and make sure Sheila gets it!!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

UPDATE

The next Education Committee Meeting will immediately follow the General Meeting on **Saturday, Jan. 17** (9:30-11:00). The General meeting ends at 11:00. We will meet in the same room of the **Library Center**, approx **11:10-12:00**.

Just a reminder that [Missouri Independent](#) is an excellent source of paywall-free news, and contains a section devoted to education issues in our state.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

UPDATE

Muffins and Mugs event for new League members or anyone interested in socializing with League members. Saturday, January 31st, at 10:00 at New Member Co-Chair Sandy Hopper's home.

Bring your favorite coffee/tea/hot cocoa mug and join your new member League women or anyone else who would like to enjoy a beverage in a mug with some muffins.

January 2026

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Rebecca Callaway at cllwyrbcc@yahoo.com/417-224-2790 or Sandy Hopper at shop91548@yahoo.com/417-270-7271.

We look forward to welcoming many new members and all League members who wish to join us.

UPCOMING DATES

General Meeting

Saturday, January 17, 2026, 9:30-11:00 AM
The Library Center, 4653 S Campbell Ave

Education Committee Meeting

Saturday, January 17, 2026, after the General Meeting ends at 11:00am

DEI & Nonpartisan Training

Sunday, January 25, 2026, 4:00 PM (Zoom)

Muffins and Mugs

Saturday, January 31, 2026, 10:00 AM

LWV National Convention

Thursday, June 25 – Sunday, June 28, 2026
Columbus, OH

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](#).

December 1: [American Indian Center provides support and education about indigenous peoples](#)

December 17: [Springfield cold weather shelters need volunteers](#)

December 18: [Drop-in Day Center provides support and services to the unhoused](#)

December 19: [OATS transportation services connect rural and urban communities](#)

