

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®] OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

The Voter

MEMBERSHIP CALL TO ACTION Your Voice Matters – Commit to Action!

Together, we can make a difference this November. The League of Women Voters believes democracy is strongest when people are informed, engaged, and ready to participate. With the November election fast approaching, we're asking **every LWV of Southwest Missouri member to choose at least one action** to help Missouri voters get informed and vote.

Here are just a few options to choose:

1. Share VOTE411.org with 5 people.
2. Share LWVMO information on Amendments 3,6,7,8 and Proposition A.
3. Talk with 3 people about their ballot and encourage informed participation.
4. Share VOTE411 and League resources with a community group.
5. Help a friend or neighbor find their personalized ballot information on VOTE411.
6. Help give someone a ride to the polls.
7. Share important voting dates and locations.

By committing to act, we put the League of Women Voters values into action by educating voters, empowering participation, and strengthening our democracy.

VOTE411.ORG LAUNCHES ON OCTOBER 3RD!

The voter's guide is changing. But our commitment to informed voters isn't. This election season our League is going digital. Instead of a printed voter's guide, we'll connect voters directly to [VOTE411.org](https://Vote411.org), a trusted and reliable source of information produced by our League.



Just scan the QR code or type [VOTE411.org](https://Vote411.org) into your browser. Enter your address and it will personalize a sample ballot with the candidates and ballot issues for your polling location. It's

easy, fast, and the best part is you can access it any hour of the day. Scan it, enter your address, explore your ballot, get informed, and vote!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming meetings. General meetings are open to the public. Unit meetings are only for League members.

General Meeting

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2026

Time: 9:30-11:00 AM

Location: Brentwood Schweitzer Library

Our October General Meeting will be devoted to the November 3rd ballot. LWVMO has adopted a position on all five of the state ballot issues. We will take time explaining League positions on Proposition A, and Amendments 3, 6, 7, and 8. We will also demo the various features of Vote411.org. This online resource allows citizens to check their registration status, view their individual ballot based on their address, and read candidate responses in our local *Voter's Guide*.

Refreshments begin at 9:30, and the program will start at 10:00. Refreshments this month are provided by the Voter Services Committee. There will be plenty of FREE election flyers, buttons, yard signs, pins, and stickers available to take so that members can help spread election information. No excuse absentee voting begins Tuesday, October 20th. Join us October 17th so that you enter the poles as a motivated, informed voter!



Unit Meetings

The November Unit Meetings will provide a greater understanding of Sunshine Laws and how government bodies comply with these laws. Each of our two meetings will feature a representative from our local media and a representative from a local governmental office who is tasked with compliance with media requests. To accommodate more members, we offer two chances to attend a Unit Meeting:

Monday, November 16, 2026; 5:30-7:00 PM, at Primas Mexican Kitchen ([3662 S. Glenstone Ave](#))

Tuesday, November 17, 2026; 12:00-1:00 PM at the Midtown Carnegie Library (397 E. Central St).

Watch for new date! The next newsletter will confirm the rescheduled date of our Q/A session on Immigration Enforcement with the Greene County's Sheriff's Office.



Photo: 1 Greene County Clerk Shane Schoeller provided information on election procedures and integrity during the September Unit Meetings.

REACHING OUT TO VOTERS

Our League is working hard to reach voters with election information in several different formats:

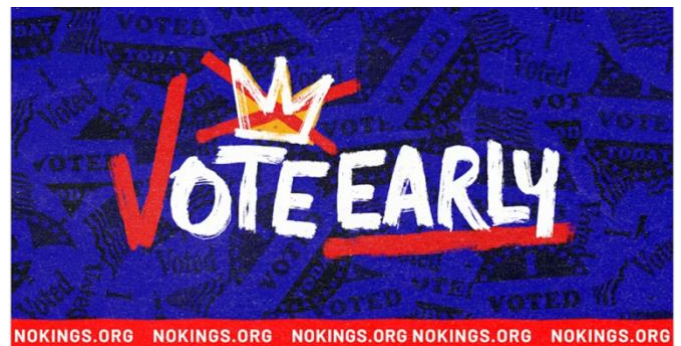
- Bookmarks with VOTE411.org information and a QR code will be available at all library branches in Greene and Webster counties (Christian County is still pending).
- VOTE411.org information will be displayed prominently on two rotating digital billboards in Springfield the weeks before the election.

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- League members will be interviewed on KOLR-10's *Unscripted AM* morning show about ballot issues and voting information.
- The League's weekly *Making Democracy Work* radio program on KSMU 91.1 will cover election topics and remind voters about [VOTE411.org](#).
- The Informed Voter Coalition will be airing candidate interviews on KSMU 91.1 from October 19-24 during the noon hour. These same interviews will also be broadcast on Ozarks Public Television during that same week.
- The Springfield News-Leader will promote [VOTE411.org](#) during October with all their election related coverage on their digital newspaper and online platforms.
- The League co-president's will submit Letters to the Editor for the Springfield News-Leader and the Springfield Daily Citizen.
- Voting information will be shared at various table events, Farmer's Markets, and voter registration events before the election.
- League members will present "What's on your ballot?" and "How to use Vote411.org" to senior living communities in Springfield.
- League members will be promoting [VOTE411.org](#) at the No Kings Rally (see below).

NO KINGS RALLY

You are invited to the *No Kings: Vote Early Rally* at the Teamsters Local 245 Hall, 1850 East Division Street, on Saturday, October 17 from 12:30-2:30pm. This mass engagement, locally sponsored by Greater Springfield Indivisible and the LWVSWMO, is happening nationwide to kick off the early voting campaign for the midterms.



This is a day of nonpartisan voter participation, bringing Springfield together to make a plan to vote early and ensure every eligible voter understands their options for how to vote and make their voice heard at the polls! Our

League will be handing out VOTE411.org information to encourage voters to access information about their candidates and ballot issues. This is an indoor venue with plenty of parking and seating, so please bring a friend. Seating is limited and registration is required: [No Kings: Vote Early Rally](#)

CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

IVC Candidate Interviews Coming October 19–24!

The Informed Voter Coalition (IVC) Candidate Interviews are wrapping up, with at least one candidate from every race participating.

Candidate Interview Week will take place October 19–24. During that six-day period, interviews will be released throughout the week across several platforms:

- **KSMU Radio:** Candidate interviews will air October 19–24.
- **Ozarks Public Television:** Video interviews will air October 19–24.
- **YouTube & Online:** Video interviews will be available for on-demand viewing during Candidate Interview Week.
- **Social media:** All 13 nonpartisan organizations that make up the Informed Voter Coalition will share the interviews across their social media channels throughout the week.

Interviews cover the **U.S. 7th Congressional District; Missouri Senate Districts 20 and 30; and Missouri House Districts 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, and 140.**

Beginning the week of October 19, interviews can be watched online through [Ozarks Public Television's Informed Voter Coalition page](#) and YouTube.

Mark your calendar for October 19–24 and help us share these nonpartisan candidate interviews with voters across Southwest Missouri!

DEPUTY REGISTRAR TRAINING

Upcoming training for League members who are interested in becoming deputy registrars, helping citizens register to vote.

Date: October 28, 2026

Time: 9:00 - 10:30 AM

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

If you are interested in this training, please contact Joan Gentry by October 27, 2026.

Email: joangentry2012@gmail.com

Phone: [417-840-4551](tel:417-840-4551)

LEAGUE HAPPY HOUR!

Mark your calendars — join fellow League members for a Happy Hour at Char, 1620 E Republic Rd on Wednesday, October 22nd, 5:00 PM. All League members are invited to attend — come relax, connect, and enjoy some good company! Members who plan to attend are encouraged to rsvp to Sandy Hopper or myself so we can make reservations ahead of time. RSVP by October 15th. cllwyrbcc@yahoo.com/417-224-2790 or shop91548@yahoo.com/417-270-7271

LEAGUE WINTER SOCIAL

Our **December Winter Social** will be the evening of **Monday, December 7, 2026**. Specific details will be provided in the November Newsletter.

RADIO PROGRAM



Have you caught our **weekly Making Democracy Work** program on **KSMU 91.1 FM**? The League hosts this show every **Monday at 9:45 AM**, covering timely topics about civic engagement and public policy.

If you missed recent episodes, you can explore past programs and listen at your convenience here: [Making Democracy Work Archives](#).

Sept 1: [Grassroots organization works to maintain voter rights](#)

Sept 1: [Missouri Job Center offers programs for all ages](#)

Sept 11: [Give 5 program engages high school students in civic work](#)

Sept 17: [Importance of local newspapers in a social media world](#)

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Environment & Sustainability Committee will meet twice this fall to pick up trash along our adopted section of Sunshine Street:

- October 25 at 9:00 am

EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Education Committee will meet Sat. Oct. 17, 11:10-12:00, immediately following the General Meeting at the Brentwood Library. We will continue our discussion of education news. Banned Books Week is Oct. 4-11.

Everyone is invited to our "Let Freedom READ" event on Wed., Oct. 7, 6:00-7:00 PM, at Before and After Brewing on East Sunshine. We read silently for 15 minutes and then spend the remaining time talking about books and authors that we enjoy. Bring a book and join us!



Wednesday Oct. 7 6:00-7:00 PM
ALL ARE WELCOME!

"LET FREEDOM READ" Pop-Up Event
Sponsored by the Education Committee of LWV Southwest MO
Bring a book and join us!
6:00-6:15 Sip and Silently Read
6:15-7:00 Keep reading or enjoy talking about the books you love with other people who want to celebrate their **Freedom to Read!**

Location: Before and After Brewing, 2940 E. Sunshine
(Delicious Food & Beverage for Purchase)

VOTER SERVICES UPDATE

Registrars have been busy this month providing folks with registration opportunities, basic voter education, and election information. We were "on the job" at the SPS high schools, the Farmers' Markets on Republic Road, during Cider Days, during Pride on C Street, at the Excel Resource Fair, three senior living centers and during the Service Fair on the Square. PAWS to the Polls students assisted with the high school registrations as well as conducted a Voting Fair on the MSU campus.

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From now until October 7, we can be found at the Farmers' Markets, on Drury Campus, during Pumpkin Daze at Republic and the Naturalization Ceremony. We will also be providing election education opportunities related to "What's on your Ballot".

The next registrar training is scheduled for October 28, from 9am - 10:30am, at the Library Station. Additional training will be scheduled for spring, 2027.

The Informed Voter Coalition interviews with candidates will air October 19-24 on both KSMU and Ozark Public Television. These interviews, as well as VOTE411.org, are great resources for you to share with your neighbors who might be interested in election information.

For questions and additional information, you can contact Voter Services at lwvswmo.voterservices@gmail.com

LWVMO EMAIL ON BALLOT ISSUES

The LWV of Missouri President Kay Park emailed members on Sept. 22nd regarding the League taking a position on all 5 ballot issues this November. The following is an excerpt from her email.

The League of Women Voters of Missouri has taken a position on all five ballot issues for Missouri's November 2026 election. It is unusual for the LWVMO to take positions on all the issues because we only support or oppose ballot issues on which we have a confirmed position.

Amendment 3 is opposed by LWVMO

- Overturns the Reproductive Rights Amendment that was approved by voters in 2024.
- Bans all abortions with a few exceptions for emergencies, fetal anomalies, and rape and incest only under 12 weeks of gestational age, when most women/girls do not know they are pregnant.
- Reinstatement of previous Missouri laws regulating abortion such as the 72-hour waiting period, requiring a physical exam, and requiring an
- Prohibit gender transition procedures for minors, but this is already illegal. The prohibition on surgeries and Medicaid reimbursement is permanent.

However, it does permanently ban cross-sex hormones and puberty-blocking drugs for minors. While the current prohibition on hormone treatments sunsets in 2027.

Amendment 6 is supported by LWVMO

- Restrictions on legislators' ability to overturn the vote of the people. It prohibits them from requiring more than a simple majority to pass a constitutional amendment
- Allows the courts to revise ballot language to be clear.
- Requires support from 80% of both chambers to send any changes back to a vote of the people that they have already voted into law.

Amendment 7 is opposed by LWVMO

- Creates a state-run endowment fund to be invested in exchange-traded stocks to allow money to grow to the point that it's interest would be used to offset taxes.
- To generate enough interest, there would have to be a sizable principal amount. To fund Missouri's current \$13.5 billion budget, we would need a \$450 billion principle for 3% a year to make up the difference paid in taxes.
- Other states endowment funds have resources like gas, oil or minerals that generates money that goes into the fund that is surplus to taxes. Missouri does not have those resources. Funding allocated by the General Assembly would most likely be diverted from current taxes and budget cuts.
- Missouri currently has a shortfall of money to meet its budget so funding the endowment would likely make deeper cuts to Missouri programs including schools, healthcare and public services.

Amendment 8 is opposed by LWVMO

- Puts the current statutes to elect a county sheriff and his /her duties in the Missouri Constitution.
- Removal of a sheriff could only be initiated by the MO Attorney General.
- Constitutional sheriffs assert that they have the power to determine the constitutionality of the laws and may refuse to enforce any laws that they believe unconstitutional, such as mask laws.
- The "constitutional sheriff" movement has attempted to mobilize law enforcement to intervene in election authority.

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- Expands sheriffs' authority while restricting the mechanisms to check that authority.

Proposition A is opposed by LWVMO

- Proposition A is the result of a Veto Referendum. A veto referendum is a citizen right established in the Missouri Constitution to approve or reject any act of the General Assembly by requiring the law to go to a vote of the people before it can be enacted.
- In 2025, the governor ordered the legislature to hold an "Extraordinary Session" in response to a request by the president to change the congressional maps to benefit the Republican party. The state legislature divided up Kansas City into three sections and combined them with rural districts in an effort to eliminate congressional representation by the Democratic party. They did the same with districts 2 and 3, affecting about half of the state to gain more political dominance.
- In response to this action, Missourians formed a coalition, People Not Politicians, to raise enough signatures to put the new district law on the ballot for the people to vote whether they want to keep the new gerrymandered map or if they want to veto it and go back to the 2022 map.

To learn more about the ballot issues go to:

<https://my.lwv.org/missouri/article/november-2026-amendment-information>

VOTER ADVISORY

Please find the League's latest [Voter Advisory](#) for the November 2026 election.

In 2026, voters in Missouri have concerns about possible intimidation at the polling place, false information, or police or ICE presence at the polls. Voters have new rights, and more voting options and voter protections.

New Voter Rights

ALL registered voters can vote during the Early Voting Period (officially known as No Excuse Absentee Voting). If you do not have one of the only acceptable Photo IDs (state or federal issued unexpired ID), you can vote using a blue provisional ballot. For the ballot to count, the election official compares your signature on the ballot to your signature on file. A very high

percentage of these ballots have been counted in previous elections.

Felons still on parole will be able to VOTE. All former felons off papers can vote, and anyone on probation can vote. (For more information, download our [brochure](#).)

Voting Options

Early Voting is available from October 20 to November 2 at the election office and in some larger counties there will be additional sites and weekend voting. If you do not have a state-accepted photo ID, you can request a provisional ballot, as noted above.

Absentee with Excuse Voting is available in person and by mail. Contact your election office to request a ballot by mail (deadline to request the ballot is October 21) or vote at your local election office. Acceptable excuses for voting early are absence from your county, service as a poll worker, illness, or physical disability. You MUST have your ballot NOTARIZED unless you are incapacitated or confined due to illness or physical disability. Your election office must receive your mailed ballot by 7 p.m. on Election Day, November 3.

Vote on Election Day, November 3, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. at a central polling location or at your assigned polling location.

Voter Protection

There is a statewide hotline for ANY voter intimidation or problems at the poll at 1-866-OUR-VOTE. Lawyers are available to answer your questions and provide assistance.

Missouri law does not allow campaigners, people holding campaign signs, people trying to give you literature, or individuals trying to intimidate voters within 25 feet of the polling site. The election official can extend that distance to 50 feet. Voter intimidation is against the law, not just outside the 25-50 foot distances.

Voter Education

Visit the VOTE411.org website to check your registration, register to vote (October 7th is the last day to register), and learn about candidates and ballot issues.

UPCOMING DATES

General Meeting

Saturday, October 17, 2026, 9:30-11:00 AM
Schweitzer Brentwood Library Meeting Rm

No Kings Rally

Saturday, October 17, 2026; 12:30-2:30 PM
Teamsters Local 245 Hall, 1850 E Division St

Education Committee Meeting Dates

Saturday, October 17, 2026, 11:10 AM-12:00 PM (following General Meeting)
Saturday, January 16, 2027, 11:10 AM-12:00 PM (following General Meeting)
Tuesday, March 16, 2027, 1:00-2:00 PM (following Unit Meeting)

Informed Voter Coalition Interviews

October 19-24, 2026
KSMU and Ozark Public Television

League Happy Hour

Thursday, October 22, 2026; 5:00 PM
Char, 1620 E Republic Rd

Adopt-A-Street Cleanup Dates

Sunday, October 25, 2026; 9:00 AM

Deputy Registrar Training

Wednesday, October 28, 2026; 9:00-10:30 AM
The Library Station

Election Day

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Unit Meetings

Monday, November 16, 2026, 5:30-7:00 PM
Tuesday, November 17, 2026, 12:00-1:00 PM

Winter Social

Monday, December 7, 2026

County Election Officials Run Elections

In Missouri, each county election official is responsible for running elections. All of these officials are committed to a free, fair, safe, and accurate election. There is no foreign influence on these officials. Their election results are protected and not accessible by outside entities.

Make a Voting Plan

1. Check your voter registration before October 7
2. If not already registered, the deadline is October 7
3. Update your address, if needed (you can do that up to and including Election Day if you move within the same county)
4. Educate yourself about Ballot Issues and Candidates
5. Decide whether to vote early or on Election Day
6. VOTE

League to which this content belongs:

[Missouri](#)

STAY CONNECTED

Don't miss important League news and opportunities to take action! By signing up for our SMS program, you'll receive timely updates, event reminders, advocacy alerts, and ways to stay engaged — all delivered directly to your phone.

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We're committed to keeping messages meaningful, concise, and respectful of your time. You can reply with questions at any time, and you may opt out whenever you choose.

Sign up today:

<https://mailchi.mp/f614c099e92e/sms-signup>

