

# The Boulder County Voter

League of Women Voters of Boulder County \* May 2019



## Also in this Issue:

President's Letter.....	2
News & Announcements.....	3
VRD Training.....	5
Voting Methods Twists and Turns..	5
Annual Meeting Flyer .....	6

## Monthly Events Calendar

May 4:	Voter Registration
May 11:	Annual Meeting
May 18:	Dark Money
May 18:	Voter Registration Drive Training
May 21:	Legislative Debrief and Happy Hour
May 22:	Voter Registration



## LWVBC Social Media

Newsletter editor: [Jennifer Bales](mailto:jbales@me.com)  
([jbales@me.com](mailto:jbales@me.com))

## League of Women Voters of Boulder County Annual Meeting 2019

This year's annual meeting will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at Nissi's in Lafayette. The flyer and signup form is found on page 6.

## Join the Living Wage Coalition of Longmont!

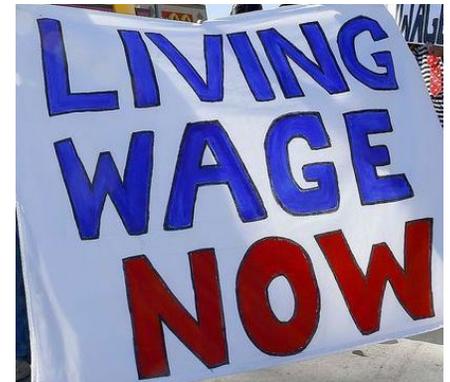
*By Mary Ann Wilner*

LWVBC is a founding member of the Living Wage Coalition of Longmont whose goal is to assure that employees of companies with city contracts are paid a living wage. These employees are custodians and landscape workers who clean the city's buildings and manage its green space. They are being paid with city funds and we believe they should be paid wages equal to those paid to full-time city employees. We were successful in a 2016 effort when Boulder raised its wages for contract, part-time and temporary employees.

The coalition is urging the city to pay, starting in 2020, an hourly wage of \$17.42 to its own as well as the contract employees. This is the dollar amount, based on the Self-Sufficiency Standard (SSS), that individuals and families living in Boulder County need to live without additional private or public assistance. The Self-Sufficiency Standard (SSS) was published in November 2018 by the Colorado Center for Law and Policy.

The SSS is calculated for individual adults as well as for seven different family composition types, for each Colorado county. \$17.42 is the average of the self-sufficient hourly wages needed by a Boulder County single adult and a family with two parents (hourly amount per adult), a toddler and a school age child.

Members of our leadership team met last summer with most of Longmont city council members. At least four of the seven fully support our effort. However, we need to show them a broad support from individuals and organizations. Council will be discussing this at its 2020 budget negotiations in May and June. We urge LWVBC members to sign on as supporters at the Living Wage website, and write to Longmont City Council members to urge this wage increase.



## President's Letter

By Peggy Leech, LWVBC President

I hope to see many of you at our **Annual Meeting** on May 11, at Nissi's. We plan to start the business meeting promptly at 9:00, so we would appreciate it if you arrive early to check in, get some coffee or juice, and get settled by 9:00. The breakfast buffet will be served at 10:00, and we will then present awards and hear from our guests. A flyer and sign-up sheet is found on page 6.

The LWVCO (state) convention is coming up at the end of May, and LWVBC is sending a delegation. Several of our members are involved in workshop presentations or caucuses, and we have 2 members who have been nominated to serve on the LWVCO board: **Ruth Stemler** as President, and **Rionda Osman** as Director of Technology. Congratulations! We are planning a Post-Convention Coffee, tentatively on June 22, for all of our members.

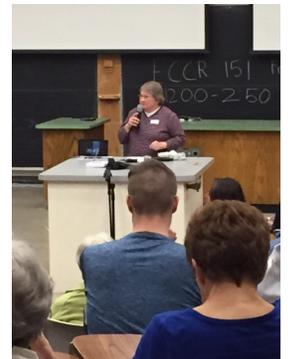


Diversity Discussion from 2018 annual meeting

On April 5, the LWV Club at Niwot High School participated in a "Day at the Capitol". There were 6 students and 3 LWVBC adults who rode the bus down to Denver, spent some time at the state league office with the Legislative Action Committee, and toured the capitol. This was a wonderful outing, organized by Niwot students Genesis Kedebe and Grace Cowan and by LWVBC Membership Team members Ruth Stemler and Debby Vink. See photos on page 4.

LWVBC members also participated in Doing Democracy Day, postponed from March because of weather. The high school event was held on April 18, and middle school students participated on April 30. See photos on page 3.

On April 23, we partnered with the Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center on a panel about Media and Democracy, held at CU. We heard from several panelists in the field of journalism about today's media landscape. A video will be available soon and we will link to it on our website.



Media and Democracy

Recent board decisions:

- **Mandy Nuku**, our Administrative Assistant, will now be an employee instead of a contractor, and she will assume more responsibilities. Welcome, Mandy, as our first LWVBC employee!
- We accepted the resignation of Annie Lessem from the board, as she will become more involved in Broomfield political activities. We thank Annie for her almost 2 years as Board Secretary.
- Remember, board meetings are open to all members. They are posted on our website, and we are meeting in public locations. (Sometimes the meeting location is not listed until closer to the meeting date, as it is a bit of a challenge to find venues.)

## Member News and Announcements

### King Soopers Rewards Now Tied to Loyalty Card - No More Gift Cards

We received notification from King Soopers that they have changed their rewards program. For those of you who are currently participating in this program, your current gift card balances are still available for your use, but King Soopers will no longer be doing reloads of the gift cards. (This is where LWVBC was receiving its percentage.)



Instead of reloading your card after you have used it up, you need to “link” your King Soopers loyalty card to the LWVBC account, and LWVBC will then receive a percentage of all purchases when you use your loyalty card. (You can do this right away—no need to let your gift card run out of funds.) If you already have a loyalty card, you will need to sign in to the King Soopers website using your email address and password. If you do not have a loyalty card, you will need to sign up for one in order for the League to receive these funds.

Here are the instructions:

1. Go to <https://www.kingsoopers.com/topic/king-soopers-community-rewards> and click on “Enroll Now.”
2. Enter your email and password for your King Soopers loyalty card (or get a new loyalty card, available at the customer service desk).
3. When you get to the My Rewards page, click on Community Rewards.
4. In the Search box, enter FQ065 (or enter League of Women Voters of Boulder County).
7. This brings up our information—click on “Enroll”.
8. There will be a checkmark showing “You have successfully enrolled in Community Rewards”.

Thank you for your continued support of LWVBC through the King Soopers gift card!

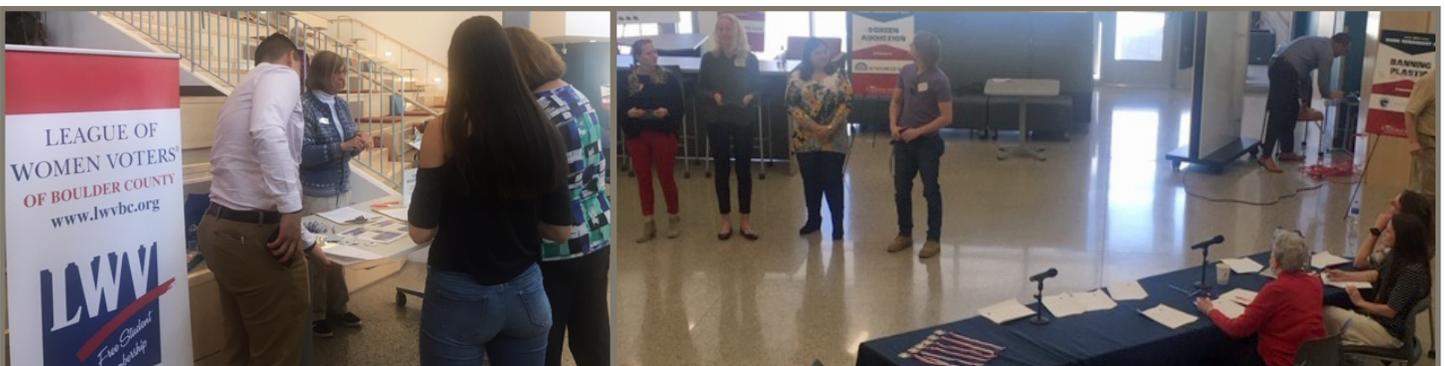


### Bulb Orders Due by June 1st

Please download the order form and see photos of the flowers [here](#).

### Doing Democracy Day

High School Doing Democracy Day was held on April 18 at St. Vrain Innovation Center. Left, students register to vote. Right, final presentations are judged. One of the judges was LWVBC Member Diana Haskell (red sweater).



## League of Women Voters of Boulder County

### Day at the Capitol with Niwot High School LWV club



This event was held on April 5th. At top left, our state lobbyist, Andrea Wilkins, talks to the students before the tour of the capitol (seen in the background). At top right, the students along with Boulder League members Debbie Vink and Ruth Stemler are in front of the Colorado League of Women Voters office, across from the capitol. Below, State Representative Jonathan Singer joins us and the students.



### April Member Coffee

April 13 member and prospective member coffee. From left, Cindy Outlaw, Debby Vink, Lois Linsky, Holly Monkman's mother-in-law, Holly Monkman, Holly Monkman's sister-in-law, and Jeanine Pow

## **Voter Registration Drive/Information Table Training and Volunteering – May Events**

*by Jeanine Pow*

The voter registration drive (VRD) team has started off the 2019 election year with a bang. Each year the Secretary of State requires that anyone volunteering to register voters in a VRD first receive state approved training. To date, we have trained 32 VRD volunteers. Right, VRD training at Elevations Credit Union on April 20.

We will be conducting one more mandatory VRD Training for anyone interested in helping with VRDs this year:

- May 18th - Mandatory VRD Training, 9:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Elevations Credit Union, 2960 Diagonal Highway, Boulder.

We also have two VRD/Information Table events scheduled for May and still have a couple of openings for trained volunteers:

- May 4<sup>th</sup> - Cinco de Mayo, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Roosevelt Park, Longmont; and
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Naturalization Ceremony, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Boulder Public Library.

To register for the mandatory training or, if trained, to volunteer, go to the [LWVBC website](#). We hope you can join us in another important election year!

Please contact **Jeanine Pow** for more information at 303-915-8915, or [powpc@hotmail.com](mailto:powpc@hotmail.com)



Susan Saunders, Faith Gowan, Jeanine Pow



Cindy Outlaw, Honora Wolfe

## **Voting Methods Twists and Turns**

*by Celeste Landry and Gaythia Weis*

Did you hear about the New England mayor who got recalled and immediately reinstated in the same election? Access the link to a [NY Times article](#) from the [Voting Methods Team webpage](#) and read how this election explains the Brexit chaos.

Did you know that Broomfield's city council wards will be redrawn ahead of schedule because the ward populations have become wildly skewed? Did you know that the city council held a study session on instant-runoff voting (aka single-winner ranked choice voting) in September? Read on our webpage [the letter that LWVBC sent to the city council](#) explaining that, because of the confluence of these two factors, Broomfield may want to consider eliminating wards and adopting a voting method that promotes proportional representation.

Did you know that there is a group pushing for a national League concurrence on Voter Representation / Election Process - what we in CO would just call Voting Methods? Come to our caucus at the LWVCO convention later this month to learn about the concurrence, our concern with one bullet point, and a proposed compromise solution.

Have you seen our [tri-fold pamphlet on better single-winner elections](#)? If so, check out our new [tri-fold pamphlet on better multi-winner elections](#). If not, please start with the single-winner pamphlet before reading the multi-winner pamphlet.

We have plenty of other material on our [Voting Methods webpage](#) too. Cozy up with a cup of tea or coffee and your laptop and dive in!

**ANNUAL MEETING**

Saturday, May 11, 2019, 9:00 – 11:30 am  
Nissi’s 2675 North Park Drive, Lafayette

Please plan to attend the LWVBC Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 11th. It’s a great time to see long-time League friends and make some new ones. Our new Executive Director of League of Women Voters of Colorado, Beth Hendrix, will be attending. Please help us make her feel welcome!

We will begin the day with the business meeting and a cup of coffee. This will include election of officers, approval of the budget, and adoption of the 2019-2020 program. A delicious BRUNCH buffet (cost: \$30/person), will be served around 10 am.

After brunch we will honor our Elected Official of the Year, Senator Mike Foote, and four Community Partners, Jeffrey Kash of Elevations Credit Union, Linda Sorauf and Sylvia Bernstein of Colorado National Popular Vote, and Faith Gowan, a Boulder artist. We will learn about their projects and what they are doing in the community to work with LWVBC and Make Democracy Work for All! And last, but not least, we will honor our members who have worked so hard all year long.

**Make your reservation now for our Annual Meeting!**

If at all possible go online to our website, make your reservation and pay by credit card. You can choose to mail the registration form below with a check to be received by Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

**Registration Form:**

League of Women Voters of Boulder County Annual Meeting

When: Saturday, May 11, 2019, 9:00 – 11:30 am

Where: Nissi’s in Lafayette Cost: \$30.00 Deadline: Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Please mail this form and check payable to LWVBC to: LWVBC, P.O. Box 21274, Boulder, CO 80308.

Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

---

League of Women Voters of Boulder County  
PO Box 21274  
Boulder, CO 80308