# **The Boulder County Voter**

League of Women Voters of Boulder County \* June 2020



#### Also in this Issue:

Presidents' Letter:2
News & Announcements3
Voting Methods4

#### **Monthly Events Calendar**

June 10:

	Commissioner candidate forum - District 2
June 17:	Regents candidate forum
June 20:	Member coffee
July 2:	Fight Over the ERA
Iuly 18·	Post-convention coffee

**Boulder County** 

#### **LWVBC Social Media**







## League of Women Voters of Boulder County 100th Anniversary

### Virtual Coffees With the LWVBC

The League of Women Voters of Boulder County has moved all of its activities online for the time being, including our member coffees. You may attend by Zoom - just register by selecting the event you want in the Upcoming Events sidebar on <u>our homepage</u>, and click the link provided in the confirmation email when the event begins.

## Join us on Saturday, June 20 at 10:00 am for a Virtual Member Coffee.

New members are especially encouraged to attend as a way of getting to know about us. But all members will want to hear what is going on.

Registration at our website is required. You will receive an email giving

you the Zoom link to use to connect to the Zoom meeting. You can register even as the meeting is starting. Let <u>Debby Vink</u> know the topics you are especially interested to discuss. Issue Team leaders and members, let us know what help you need with your work.



Also please join us at our virtual Post-Convention Coffee on July 18th at 10 am. We will hear from those who will have attended (virtually) our National League Convention in June. Register <a href="here">here</a>.

## News Regarding The Boulder County Voter

**The Boulder County Voter** is not published in July - and we are changing format for August. Please keep an eye on your email for more information and links.

#### Presidents' Letter

By Peggy Leech and Susan Saunders, LWVBC Co-Presidents

This is Peggy speaking, and this will be my last letter as co-president. It has been an honor to serve as your President or Co-President for the past 3 years. Elizabeth Crowe will be taking over in my position, and Susan Saunders will continue as Co-President until November, when Gaythia Weis can take Susan's position. Thanks to all for making this transition work. Our newly-elected board will begin its work soon, and I have complete confidence that they will do amazing things!



Meanwhile, doesn't it feel like everything in our society is in transition, not just LWVBC? On Memorial Day, there was a column in the Daily Camera by Leonard Pitts Jr, titled "A reminder of how much it took". He talks about the battles fought and the sacrifices made in our history. He ends with "All so that this country might now pull itself apart. Or make itself imperfectly whole again." I choose to believe in the latter. This is what we have done in other difficult times.

I believe in our democracy, imperfect though it is. The League has a responsibility and a role in empowering voters and defending democracy–for ALL. And each of us has an individual responsibility as well. We can choose to show empathy and civility in all that we do, especially when we disagree with others. And, of course, we will do what League does best–provide information and advocacy in a non-partisan way. That is so important in this election year of 2020.

## New co-presidents Gaythia Weis (left) and Elizabeth Crowe (right).





Making Democracy Work For All

June 2020

#### **Member News and Announcements**

## Boulder County Commissioner, District 2, Candidate Forum

Attend an online Candidates' Forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters and live-broadcast and live streamed by Longmont Public Media on the City of Longmont's Public Access Channel 8.

Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Time: 6:30-7:30 PM

Please check our events page for further details.

A member of the League will moderate the forum. Candidates will have the opportunity to make opening and closing statements and to answer questions submitted by the Boulder County community via an online form. Interested community members should submit questions to <a href="https://forms.gle/ghXmQAchTJKRrMrb6">https://forms.gle/ghXmQAchTJKRrMrb6</a> by 5 PM, Monday, June 8.

## University of Colorado Board of Regents, District 2, Candidate Forum

A candidate forum for Colorado Regents, District 2 candidates will be held online.

Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Time: 6:30-7:30 PM

A member of the League will moderate the forum. Candidates will have the opportunity to make opening and closing statements and to answer questions submitted by the Boulder County community via an online form. Interested community members should submit questions to <a href="https://forms.gle/vjqVbRiGbeGre7mb8">https://forms.gle/vjqVbRiGbeGre7mb8</a>

by 5 PM, Monday, June 15.

#### **Student Members**

Tell any students you know about our free student membership!! It is available to students from middle school on who are registered as a student working toward a diploma or degree. In exchange for free membership, we ask for 20 hours of participation and volunteering with us.

#### How Well Do You Know Our Website?

- 1. How would you update your member contact information?
- 2. Where would you find a link to a video of our Erie Candidate Forum held on March 12? (If nothing seems to be happening–forward the recording. Note the comments section–a feature we wouldn't have at a live forum.)
- 3. How do you add your picture to your member profile where only members will see it?
- 4. How would you find out what an issue team is doing?

(answers on page 5)

# Voter Representation/ Electoral Systems Position FINAL VERSION

# Proposed for Adoption via Concurrence LWVUS Convention 2020

#### **Position in Brief:**

Support electoral systems at each level of government that encourage participation, are verifiable and auditable and enhance representation for all voters.

#### **Position in Full:**

LWVUS promotes an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive. We encourage electoral methods that provide the broadest voter representation possible and are expressive of voter choices.

Whether for single or multiple winner contests, the League supports electoral methods that:

- · Encourage voter participation and voter engagement
- · Encourage those with minority opinions to participate, including under-represented communities
- Are verifiable and auditable
- · Promote access to voting
- Maximize effective votes/minimize wasted votes
- Promote sincere voting over strategic voting
- Implement alternatives to plurality voting
- · Are compatible with acceptable ballot-casting methods, including vote-by-mail

(LWVUS, CO, ME, OR, CA, MN, MA, FL, NC, OK, SC, VT, WA, Santa Monica) \*

The LWVUS believes in representative government. The League supports electoral systems that elect policy-making bodies—legislatures, councils, commissions, and boards—that proportionally reflect the people they represent. We support systems that inhibit political manipulation (e.g. gerrymandering).

The LWVUS supports enabling legislation to allow local jurisdictions to explore alternative electoral methods, as well as supporting state election laws allowing for more options at both the state and local levels. With the adoption of any electoral system, the League believes that education of the voting public is important and funding for startup and voter education should be available. We encourage a concerted voter education process.

(LWVUS, AZ, CA, OR, SC, WA) \*

**End of Statement** 

\* All language from LWVUS Principles and multiple State positions

#### **DUTCH BULB DEADLINE JULY 1!!**

Don't forget to order your Dutch bulbs by July 1!

Delivery will be mid- to late-October.

The bulb pictures and order form are on the LWVBC website under "Join and support" <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

Mail your forms and checks to Lois Linsky, 1645 Bear Mountain Dr, Boulder, CO 80305.

Can't print the form? Call Lois @ 303-499-2689 or email to LoisLinsky@gmail.com and

Thanks a bunch!

she'll take your order!





Answers to How Well Do You Know Our Website, from page 3:

- 1. Login to lwvbc.com as a member. Then click on down arrow to the right of your name in the upper right-hand corner. Then click on "Profile" and then "Contact Info" to make contact changes. You can update other information you've given us by clicking on "Additional Member Data" and "Interests."
- 2. No login is required. Click on "News" and then "Watch Our Videos."
- 3. After logging in to lwvbc.org, click in the upper right-hand corner where your picture should be. Follow the prompts to download a headshot of yourself. OR--send Debby Vink your picture to add for you: <a href="mailto:debvink@gmail.com">debvink@gmail.com</a>.
- 4. No login is needed. Click on "Issue Teams" and then select the issue team.



Membership: 267 Members as of April 2020

Co-presidents: Peggy Leech and Susan Saunders president@lwvbc.org Boulder County Voter Editor: Jennifer Bales jbales@me.com

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