

The VOTER: October 2019

The League of Women Voters - Wichita Metro was busy during the month of September with just as much coming up in October!



On Monday, September 16th, a standing-room-only crowd gathered to watch Governor Laura Kelly's ceremonial signing of SB 130. LWVWM member Tabitha Lehman was instrumental in the passage of SB 130 which will allow registered voters to vote at any polling place within the County on Election Day starting in 2020 and will require election officials to contact voters who didn't sign the outside of an advanced ballot envelope so the voter has an opportunity to correct the error and have their vote counted.

On Constitution Day, September 17th, several of our League leaders met with Senator Moran and encouraged him to vote to approve funding for election security. While the Senate did not approve the \$600 million in the House bill, they did approve \$250 million which is still good news. Thank you for your phone calls asking for his support!

During Welcome Week, LWVWM joined Immigration Support Services Network and other organizations to welcome immigrants and refugees to Wichita. Voter Services also attended Open Streets ICT and co-hosted a forum on ranked-choice voting, the voting method that will be used in Kansas' 2020 Democratic presidential primary.

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## Upcoming Events

**Oct 8, Tuesday, 6-7:30 pm (Doors open at 5 pm.), Crown Uptown Theater**

[WOMEN IN POLITICS & THE GOP: By KMWU, Engage ICT and 1A Across America's Joshua Johnson](#) *(This may be of interest to our members, however, it is not an LWV-sponsored event.)*

Things have changed a lot for women over the last hundred years, from winning the right to vote to holding more seats in Congress than ever before. Democratic women swept the 2018 midterms, and now a record number of Republican women are planning to run for office in 2020.

**Oct 15, Tuesday, 6 pm (Doors open at 5:30 pm.), Advanced Learning Library**

[POLITICS!!! CANDIDATE FORUMS!! VOTING!!](#)

The stress we all feel is starting to show—we are tired and ready for the election. However, if you are a League member, it seems to never cease. There are always voters to register, study and advocacy of issues, citizens to educate and inform and, of course, 100 years to celebrate!! How do we handle it all!!!??

The League has the answer. Plan to attend the October meeting to hear Sarah Yost and Dr. Delane Vaughn Jacobs tell you how to handle “Balancing the Stress of Politics While Being Active and Engaged”. Sarah has done TED talks on this subject. She and Delane have a consulting business that has the goal of helping us deal with stress and “tough times.”

**Oct 15, Tuesday, 5:30-7 pm, Venue 332 at Wichita Scottish Rite**

[CANDIDATE FORUM - WICHITA CITY COUNCIL](#)

Candidates for Wichita City Council will share their positions on health issues with local voters.

**Oct 22, Tuesday, Noon-1 pm, Advanced Learning Library**

[TUESDAY TOPICS: GMO VS NON-GMO](#)

What does it mean to be genetically modified vs. the traditional hybrid methods? What are the advantages and disadvantages of GMO and non-GMO methods? How does it affect our food? What are the effects on the environment? Join us as we hear from Dr. Harold Trick, Professor of Plant Pathology at Kansas State University and Gail Fuller, a farmer who changed from using GMO methods to non-GMO methods. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Bring a lunch or purchase one at Reverie Coffee Roasters at the Library.

**Nov 16, Saturday, 6 pm, 9100 E Corporate Hills Dr, Wichita**

[NAACP 99th ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND BANQUET](#)

The NAACP has chosen the League of Women Voters as the Community/Neighborhood 2019 Legacy Award Honoree. We will have a table at the banquet and if you would like to attend email [info@lwvwichita.org](mailto:info@lwvwichita.org). Tickets are \$65, and LWV is subsidizing a limited number.

**Nov 19, Tuesday, Noon-1 pm, Advanced Learning Library**

[TUESDAY TOPICS: VACCINATION - WHERE DOES FREEDOM OF CHOICE END?](#)

With some states now including religious objection to vaccination for exclusion from public school, and with the growing number of reported cases of measles, vaccination is in the news. How far does an individual's right to choose vaccination extend and exactly how much of a public safety issue is the choice to not get vaccinated? Are there legitimate alternatives to vaccines? Dr. Christine Joy Mackey of Joy Wellness in Wichita and a representative from the Sedgwick County Health Department discuss vaccinations, alternatives to vaccines and whether government has a legitimate interest in the personal decision to vaccinate.

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### Centennial Celebration News

League of Women Voters Wichita Metro members ushered at the Women Rock! event with the Wichita Symphony on October 5th. While the musical event celebrated the awesome talent of female writers and performers, Leaguers reminded everyone in attendance of the significant contributions of women suffragists gaining the right to vote 100 years ago. Besides ushering, we gave out copies of the US Constitution of which many suggested we should forward copies to elected officials in Washington, D.C.

Our next event will be on October 21st at Newman University at the Kansas Social Studies Conference, Authentic Learning: Making History Matter! As this dynamic group of educators gathers for two days of learning, collaborating, and networking Leaguers will table, sharing information about the work of the League, coloring sheets featuring trailblazing women for educators to take back to their younger students, and curriculum suggestions for older students when it comes to teaching about the suffrage movement. As with most every event we attend, there will also be voter registration.

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### October 2019 Voter Service Report



We have all survived September Voter Service events and have only a few days to go until the October 15th cutoff date for the next election. We registered approximately 300 voters in September, were in 3 high school

classrooms, attended 3 naturalization ceremonies, co-sponsored 2 candidate forums and assisted with a third, and had the privilege of speaking at a WSU campus event. Sunday, Oct 5, we hosted a table at the "Women Rock!" concert and, even though we were not able to register voters, we handed out copies of the US Constitution and information on League membership. In the next two weeks, we have the following events scheduled:

October 7th and 8th – in classroom South High School  
October 10th and 11th – in classroom Southeast High School  
October 10th – Candidate Forum and Voter Registration Larksfield Retirement Center  
October 12th – Voter registration Alford Library  
October 14th – Speaking at AAUW - Newton  
October 15th – Candidate Forum – Scottish Rite  
October 19th - 20th annual Café Con Leche – Ascension community health and resource fair  
October 21st – Early Voting Begins  
October 29th – Voter Service Meeting – Recap, analyze and plan  
Email Carole at [wichitametro1wv@gmail.com](mailto:wichitametro1wv@gmail.com) to find out how to help.  
Thank you all for your hard work.

Carole Neal, Voter Service Chair

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### In Memoriam



We have lost one of our most gracious, caring and talented members. Joyce Cavarozzi died on Sept 28, 2019, in California. Joyce was a board member and past president of the League and a voting rights advocate. While she was on the board, she brought "Radiating Like a Stone: Wichita Women and the 1970s Feminist Movement" book to the Wichita Theatre. It was a moving production that reflected what women endured during the '70s, the rights they fought for and how it affected them. With a tribute from the League of Women Voters - Wichita Metro, in addition, she produced the Vagina Dialogues that the League presented to support abused women in Wichita. Joyce loved doing reenactments and joined Betty Ladwig and others in presenting our Suffrage foremothers to the public. Rest in peace, Joyce; you will be missed.

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## Member News

### ***Welcome to our new members Tracee & Eric Adams and Kate Hamm!***

Individual League of Women Voters Wichita-Metro membership cards are now available for members who have paid their dues this year. A big "Thank You" to Elaine Harvey for finishing that task for this committee. Elaine will have the cards with her at meetings and we hope to get them mailed in a future mailing.

LWV name tags (pictured below), with a magnetic back, are available for \$7. If you would like one, we will place an order, so please send a request with your name to [info@lwwichita.org](mailto:info@lwwichita.org).

Now is the time to pay your dues for the July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 League Year! Mail your check made out to LWVWM to Elaine Harvey, Treasurer, LWV Wichita-Metro, P.O. Box 2411, Wichita, KS 67201 or renew via our website at [lwwichita.org](http://lwwichita.org). Annual dues are \$65. Dues for a second member in a household are \$37.50 a year. Student dues are \$10 a year this year. Continue your membership in our 100-year-old organization and make democracy work at local, state and national levels through your League membership!



For updates on what the League of Women Voters of Kansas is doing across the state, check out the [October edition of VOTER Notes](#).

### **LWV Wichita-Metro Board of Directors**

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Our League phone number is 316-573-5583.