

The Anchorage VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ANCHORAGE PO Box 101345 Anchorage, AK 99510-1345 907-274-8477

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ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!

You and your guest are invited.



When: Tuesday, December 12

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where: Barbara Norrell's home

5018 Knights Way (flier attached)

Light refreshments will be served.

This year's charity:

Alaska Institute for Justice (AIJ)

A short presentation from a representative from AIJ will be made at 6:30 p.m. Financial contributions to AIJ are greatly appreciated.

November 2017

Hi League Members:

Winter has arrived! The snow is here to stay. Let's gear up for winter sports and activities. We are Alaskans!

Our League has had a busy month. Check out the articles in the newsletter for a review of activities. Additionally, several events are in the planning stage for December and 2018.

The many activities and community service projects we undertake would not be possible without the board and engaged members. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication in making our League such a great success. **THANK YOU**.

Thursday is Thanksgiving!

We all have many things to be thankful for.

THANKSGIVING is a day to get together with family and friends, create new memories and give thanks for a year coming to an end, and talk about how those memories eventually find their place in the puzzle of our lives.



Be informed! Become active!

Be involved!

Remember — your input is

important and

always welcome.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Any person 16 years of age and older, male or female, may become a League member.

Elections Update

2018 ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ELECTION UPDATE Tours of the new Election Center and Vote by Mail system

The Municipal Clerk's Office has partnered with LWV Anchorage to host an Open House series at the MOA Election Center, 619 East Ship Creek Avenue, Entrance C, Suite 100.

The Open House series provides an opportunity for the public to connect and understand Anchorage Municipal Elections and the new Vote By Mail system. The tour will provide information on how a ballot will be processed from beginning (mailed out to the voter) to end (counted) and how the public can access the space during an election. Questions about the Vote By Mail process are encouraged.

The series is hosted once monthly through March 2018 on the following dates and times:

Thursday, December 17, 2017 Thursday, January 18, 2018 Thursday, February 15, 2018 Noon to 1:00 p.m. Noon to 1:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 1, 2018

Municipal Clerk Barbara Jones stated, "The Vote by Mail project, designed and built on community involvement and engagement, continues to provide opportunities for all Anchorage residents to feel

involvement and engagement, continues to provide opportunities for all Anchorage residents to feel connected to their elections, ballots, and votes. Understanding the Vote by Mail process by touring the MOA Election Center enhances that connection. The MOA Election Center Open House series and partnership with the League of Women Voters benefits Anchorage and all Anchorage voters."

Do you know of a group/organization that would be interested in having a speaker give a presentation on the Vote By Mail system?

Please forward this information. It is as easy as visiting https://moa_onlineforms.formstack.com/forms/vote_by_mail and completing the request form. Be Involved! Become Active! Be Informed!

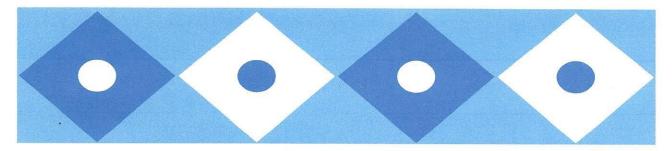
DOES THE DIVISION OF ELECTIONS HAVE YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS ON FILE?

To receive a mailed ballot for the 2018 Municipal Election, you must be registered at your current address. Ballot material is not forwardable. Visit <u>elections.alaska.gov</u> and click on **How Do I...?**

Register to Vote
Cancel My Alaska Voter Registration
Check my Voter Registration Status
Update my Voter Registration Information
Check my Absentee Application & Ballot Status

LEAGUE MEMBERS NEEDED to conduct "MOA Open House Tours" and "give presentations to organizations/groups interested learning about Vote by Mail"

If you are interested in conducting these tours or giving a presentation, please call Joyce at 360-7674. A short training session will be provided along with a talking points handout outlining the vote by mail process and equipment. What better way to learn about vote by mail and BECOME IN-VOLVED! We Need You.



Washington DC Statehood—Fixing the Hole in Our Democracy

The Friday, October 27, presentation was well attended (two students from Dimond HS, seven students from East HS, eight LWV members, three friends of LWV members and one grandparent who drove several students). Caroline Petti, from LWV DC, arrived in Anchorage on Thursday, October 26. Board Member Margaret McDonagh provided housing for Caroline and took her to dinner at the Spenard Roadhouse and then visited Flat Top. On Friday President Joyce Anderson took Caroline to breakfast at the Snow City Café, toured downtown, went tourist shopping and also visited the Chocolate Factory. Caroline was hoping she would see a moose - but that was not the case.

Caroline's presentation opened the eyes of everyone attending of the limited involvement the residents of Washington DC have in their governance. DC is not part of any U.S. state and is instead overseen directly by the federal government. Congress maintains supreme authority and all actions are subject to congressional review and may be overturned. Caroline presented information about the history of DC, what rights residents currently have, interim steps that have given residents some say in their governance, and strategic avenues that have been implemented - creating momentum - over the last twenty plus years but still no success.

The League has supported DC self-governance since 1938 and has continually worked toward this goal through active lobbying and developing a DC Voting Rights Education project using funds from the LWV Education Fund. League supported each hard-won interim step:

1961 Right of DC citizens to vote for President and Vice President through ratification of the

23rd Amendment to the Constitution

1970 Right to elect a nonvoting delegate to Congress

1974 Limited Home-Rule Charter providing for an elected mayor and city council

Thank you, Caroline, and the Washington DC League, for a very insightful presentation.



New Website Launched - check it out!

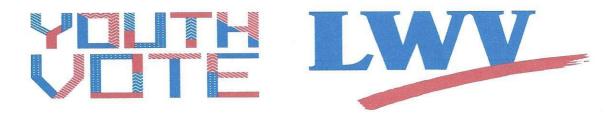
At long last, our Anchorage League website has been updated. Check out http://lwvanchorage.org/ for upcoming events, news, newsletters and information about the Vote by Mail system to be implemented for the 2018 Municipal elections and other updates regarding voting and elections.

This site is still a work in progress and will be an information source for League members as well as the general public who may have questions about issues, elections, voter registration, Youth Vote and more.

The best news? Members can now renew and new members can join online using a credit card! Additionally, we are now able to take donations through Paypal.

Also make sure to follow us on Facebook! Search for LWVAnchorage.

We thank Jeff Levin at levinology.com for his patience and help with our new website.



Here's a quick review of work so far...

International Bullying Prevention Association Conference

The conference was held November 5-8 in New Orleans. Cari Zawodny, our Youth Vote coordinator attended as well two Youth Vote students sponsored by LWV Anchorage, Jasmine Carter and Tuan Graziano. One additional student was sponsored by Story Works.

Jasmine Carter: "My overall impression from the conference was phenomenal. I learned about the psychology of bullying and how it has lasting effects on a person. It humbled me to see how many educators were there and the passion they all shared for kids. I hope to see more change within our school districts in Alaska and to achieve a common goal of being respectful and compassionate with ourselves and others."

Tuan Graziano: "Attending the IBPA Nashville conference was a surprising, insightful, and eye-opening experience. ... I believe that the information we have collected will be incredibly beeficial to our efforts of bullying prevention in our community. The sessions I attended included work place bullying, research on peer to peer bullying across different cultures, and disability bullying prevention. I found the disability bullying prevention session incredibly enlightening and have a few ideas on how to promote positive e change in this regard."

Cari reported students would like to apply to be student-led presenters at the 2018 IBPA San Diego conference. We will explore that avenue. A full report on the conference will be available in December.

Youth Vote and Story Works teens participated in Talk of Alaska radio show on November 22, and will join the panel for Community in Unity on December 6 in APM 91.1 FM.



Congratulations to Jontue Hollingsworth, Youth Vote's graphic designer, who won the "Best in Show" for Youth Vote's re-branding at the 2017 American Institute of Graphic Artists (AIGA) Alaska Annual Awards Show. He also received an "Honorable Mention" for WAM!? posters and "Gold" for Bullying Awareness posters.

What's next?

Youth Vote is gearing up for the 2018 elections. Meetings with the ASD will begin in January.

Youth Vote is currently gathering content for the "Yearbook" and the new Youth Vote website. A Youth Vote video is in progress and near completion in coordination with ATMI.

Youth Vote is also investigating the possibility of giving a workshop/presentation on our very successful Youth Vote project at the 2018 LWV US convention to be held June 28—July 1, 2018 in Chicago.

Spirit of Youth Bullying Prevention Grants: Youth Vote created posters, stickers, and notebooks focusing on themes of inclusion, respect and compassion and will be distributing them at middle and high schools.

Youth Vote maintains a presence on social media: <u>WEBSITE</u>: <u>www.anchorageyouthvote.com</u> FACEBOOK: AnchorageYouthVote <u>INSTAGRAM</u>: <u>ancyouthvote</u> <u>TWITTER</u>: <u>ANCYouthVote</u>

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2018 National Women's History Month

Congratulations to Honoree Elizabeth Peratrovich

Theme: NEVERTHELESS SHE PERSISTED Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

The 2018 National Women's History month presents the opportunity to honor fifteen women who have shaped America's history and its future through their tireless commitment to ending discrimination against women and girls. From spearheading legislation against segregation to leading the reproductive justice movement, our 2018 honorees are dismantling the structural, cultural, and legal forms of discrimination that for too long have plagued American women.



Honoring Elizabeth Peratrovich for her Courageous Effort. She would not remain silent about injustice, prejudice and discrimination.

One of the honorees is Elizabeth Peratrovich (1911-1958), a civil rights activist on behalf of Alaskan Natives. She was a leader in the Alaska Native Sisterhood and led the fight against the pervasive discrimination and segregation faced by her community. Peratrovich is credited as the leading force behind passage of the Alaska territory's Anti-Discrimination Act in 1945, the first such law in the U.S.

Ms. Peratrovich was nominated by Cheryl Jebe, carolyn Brown and Marie Olson, Juneau League members. Thank you for nominating Ms. Peratrovich.

<u>Background Information</u>: The Juneau League from April 2012 through March 2015 worked on the Peratrovich Legacy project. The Alaska Humanities Forum provided half of the funding for this project and the rest came from League members across the state and other interested parties.

The Peratrovich Legacy project included the creation of a seven minute video, "For the Rights of All: Ending Jim Crow in Alaska", a Viewer's Guide (VG) and a 2' x 3' teaching poster, "Enhancing the Peratrovich Legacy". The video and VG were placed on websites for LWV Juneau, Juneau Library Systems, Alaska State Library System, Vision Maker Media. Additionally, 450 hard copies of the VG were printed for use as a teaching tool and with presentations. The film was distributed to all middle/high schools and libraries in SE Alaska. The Juneau League worked with the producer/director of the film and Vision Maker Media to further state/national distribution of the film and VG. The Juneau League's goal is to "institutionalize" the film and VG into state educational curriculum. Local leagues have the materials as well.

A belated THANK YOU to the Juneau League for initiating this project and the successes you achieved!

