

The Anchorage VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ANCHORAGE
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January 2018

Hi League Members:

Joyce Anderson, President

Welcome to 2018! What an exciting year it has turned out to be. Many activities are already scheduled.

We are again involved with naturalization ceremonies, "Youth Vote and Beyond" activities, prevention of bullying awareness, voter registration venues at high schools and other locations, Vote By Mail tours and presentations, preparation of the Ballot Review pamphlet for the April 3rd Muni election, updates to our new LWV Anch web-site, updated LWVAK Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault statement and preparing for our annual meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 18th. Wow!!

VOLUNTEER: We need your help with planning and conducting these activities. Please call 274-8477 if you are able to help in any way.

MARK THE DATES!

WHAT: 1st Friday— Movie Night at the Loussac Library
"Battle of the Sexes"

WHEN: Friday, March 2nd
6:15 P.M.

We are partnering with the Library and also providing voter registration services prior to the movie.

WHAT: MOA Election Center Tours

WHEN: Thurs, Feb 15th
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

WHEN: Thurs, March 1st
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Learn about Vote By Mail.

Our League would not be a success without
your engagement and enthusiasm.
THANK YOU.



Be informed! Become active!

Be involved!

Reminder: Time to Renew Your Membership

Membership renewal is available through our website at lwvanchorage.org with the use of PayPal.

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

The April 3rd Municipal election will be conducted By Mail, supplemented by four Accessible Vote Centers open from March 26th through 8 p.m. on April 3rd; Anchorage City Hall, Loussac Library, MOA Election Center (619 East Ship Creek Ave), and Eagle River Town Center. There will be no polling places on Election Day other than the Accessible Vote Centers.

Ballots will be mailed 21 days prior to election day—March 13th—to the address on file with the State Division of Elections (or a PO Box if so indicated on your official registration form). Ballot material is not forwardable. Visit elections.alaska.gov and [Register to Vote](#), [Cancel My Alaska Voter Registration](#), [Check my Voter Registration Status](#), [Update my Voter Registration Information](#). If you want to receive your ballot package at a temporary address, complete an Absentee Ballot Application by visiting: www.muni.org/2018Application.

Vote your ballot, sign the voter declaration and return your ballot in one of 3 ways:

- 1) Place 1st class postage stamp on the Envelope. Drop in a US P.O. box or deliver to a Post Office. Envelope must be postmarked on or before April 3.
- 2) Place Envelope in one of 12 secure Drop Boxes on or by 8 p.m., April 3. They are open 24/7 three weeks before Election Day. Visit muni.org/elections for locations.
- 3) Drop off the Envelope at an Accessible Vote Center by 8 p.m. on April 3.

Tours of the new Election Center and Vote by Mail system

Learn how a ballot will be processed from beginning (mailed out to the voter) to end (counted).

Thursday, February 15, 2018

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 1, 2018

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Vote By Mail Presentations

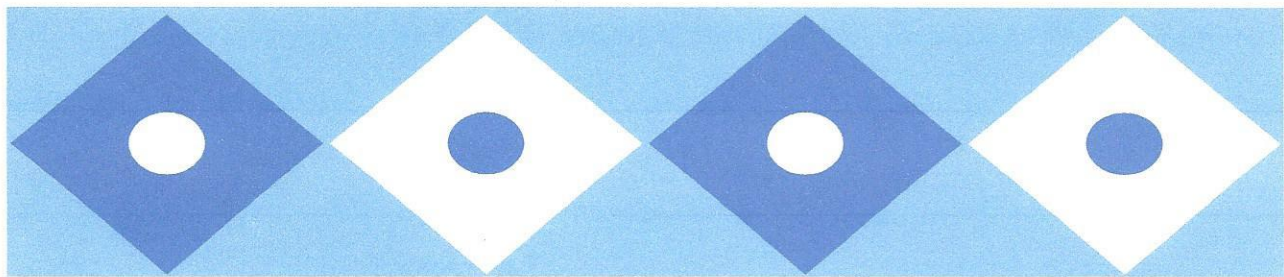
Do you know of a group/organization that would be interested in having a speaker give a presentation on the Vote By Mail system?

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!

Our League has already given twelve VBM presentations to community councils, churches, organizations, and participants at events. Another twenty-six are scheduled which also include clubs, unions, committees, and political parties; seven are pending; and more requests are expected.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Meed



VOTER SERVICE REPORT

Tina DeLapp, Voter Service Chair

Non-Naturalization Voter Registrations

High School Students: A total of 141 high school students were registered to vote between December 1 & December 15. Three LWV registrars registered students at four high schools: East (47 students), Chugiak (38 students), South (28 students) and Bartlett (28 students). This was the first time we registered students at South and Bartlett.

High School Government teachers at East, Service, Bartlett, and Chugiak have been contacted to see if LWV registrars can visit classrooms between now and March 3 to register eligible students so they may participate in the Spring municipal election. In addition to reminding seniors planning to attend out-of-state colleges to **NOT** register to vote at their college campuses, registrars will be informing students what to do if they do not receive their mailed ballots prior to the April 3rd election. Thus far, we are committed to register students to vote at South High on February 15 and working on a date for Service High Government classes.

UAA Campus Vote

A total of 71 individuals were newly registered to vote or updated their voter registration at events held last Spring (11) and Fall (60).

Food Bank Event

Seven LWV Registrars registered a total of 47 individuals over a two-day Food Bank event at Sullivan Arena in mid-December.

Naturalization Ceremonies

We have been invited to participate, along with the Anchorage Women's Club, in registering new citizens to vote at Judicial Naturalization ceremonies held at the Fitzgerald Courthouse on 7th Ave. I met with a representative of the court for a short orientation. We have a list of ceremony dates (one per month, thus far) and will be recruiting registrars to cover those ceremonies. The first judicial ceremony was held on Friday, January 26.

Years Numbers

Naturalization Ceremonies	157
UAA Campus Vote	71
High Schools	172
Community Events (Food Bank)	47
TOTAL	447

LWV Registrars: During 2017, a total of thirteen different LWV Registrars participated in voter registration events.

If you are interested in becoming a Voter Registrar, please call Tina at 345-0802.

League Provided Voter Registration Services and Information on Vote By Mail at the WOMEN'S MARCH on Saturday, January 20, 2018

Over 4,000 people attended the Women's March. The march began at the Delaney Park Strip with speakers and announcements. Marchers were informed the League would be available at Willawaw to register voters and provide information and handouts on Vote By Mail for the April 3rd Muni election.

Joyce Anderson gave a short 5 minute speech at Willawaw which was the final point of the march. We had a table set up with our League banner and a Voter Registration Here sign. Beth Nordlund, Schawna Toma and Joyce Anderson registered thirty-one voters—new voters or voters who had moved or changed their name. Way to go!!

Many questions were them being implementations: Will there be No. What if I don't receive a ballot? *Obtain another Voting Center.* How do I return three ways was explained. What the word on Vote By Mail! We about voter registration too. What changed my name? What if I number. We registered one voter in December. Myah Precie was to vote for the first time in the April 3rd Muni election.



Joyce Anderson and Myah Precie

asked about the new voting system for the April 3 election. Questioning places on election day? Receive a ballot? *Obtain another Voting Center.* How do I return three ways was explained. What the word on Vote By Mail! We about voter registration too. What changed my name? What if I number. We registered one voter in December. Myah Precie was to vote for the first time in the April

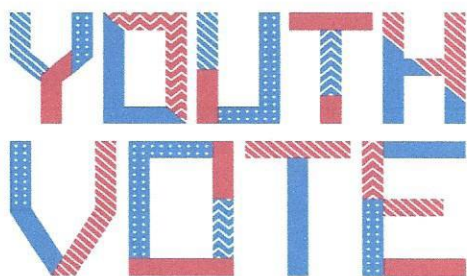
IMPORTANT DATES

It is the time of year for our Local League, State League and National League to get together to discuss plans for the coming year. Program planning meetings will be scheduled for February. Watch for information in the February newsletter.

LWV Anch: Our annual League meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 18**, to begin at 6:00 p.m. at the BP Energy Center, 900 East Benson Blvd, in the Alder/Cottonwood Room. We encourage all members to attend and help us chart our direction for the coming year. Your input is needed and welcomed. See you on April 18th!

LWVAK: The state convention is scheduled for **Friday, April 27, through Sunday, April 29**, in Soldotna. All members are welcomed. Additional details to follow in the February newsletter.

LWVUS: The national convention will be held on **Thursday, June 28, through Sunday, July 1**, in Chicago. Anchorage delegates will be determined at our annual meeting on April 18th.



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

Cari Zawodny, Youth Vote Coordinator

2018 Youth Vote in Anchorage Schools

- ◆ Meetings with Youth Vote's Anchorage School District contacts will be held to begin planning for 2018 Youth Vote activities in the schools.

Spirit of Youth Bullying Awareness Campaign

- ◆ Youth Vote participated in Talk of Alaska and Community in Unity with Anne Hillman on November 21 and December 6.
- ◆ You can find Youth Vote's Prevention of Bullying posters at middle schools and high schools as well as many community organizations.
- ◆ Youth Vote's Bullying Prevention work continues with new projects this spring!

Spirit of Youth (SOY)/ Anchorage Collaborative Coalition (ACC)

- ◆ Youth Vote has new office space. You can find us in the Spirit of Youth Hub at 203 West 15th Avenue, Suite 203.
- ◆ Youth Vote received a \$5,000 Anchorage Youth Development Coalition – Youth Matter Grant for "Power in Numbers" which is a campaign to educate and empower youth voice and youth votes.

Media/Promotion

- ◆ Working on a Youth Vote Yearbook .
- ◆ Youth Vote video project with Alaska Teen Media Institute is complete. View here: <https://vimeo.com/221520967> The video was screened at ATMI's "After School Special" as part of the Anchorage Film Festival.
- ◆ Youth Vote will put forward a proposal to present Youth Vote and all it's many facets at this year's LWVUS Convention to be held in June in Chicago.

Youth Vote maintains a presence on social media: **WEBSITE:** www.anchorageyouthvote.com
FACEBOOK: [AnchorageYouthVote](#) **INSTAGRAM:** [ancyouthvote](#) **TWITTER:** [ANCYouthVote](#)

LWVAK—Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Position Statement

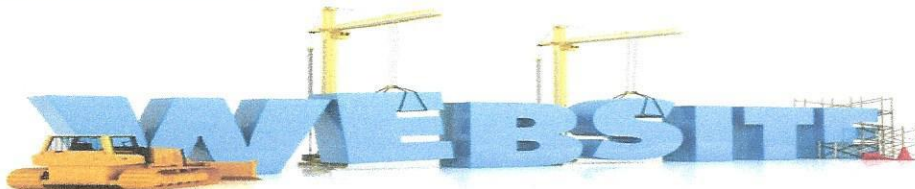
At last spring's LWVAK's Convention, attendees decided the LWVAK's position on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault should be updated to include bullying. Attached at the end of this newsletter is a draft of an update ready for League member feedback. **Feedback is due by Thursday, February 15** and should be sent to winstonmommem@gmail.com for consideration. The Anchorage board will consolidate the comments and forward to the LWVAK board. The draft will be presented in its final draft form to the LWVAK board for approval at their March meeting. The updated position will then be placed on the LWVAK website.

The Anchorage board discussed the position statement at the January 17 board meeting and offered the following feedback:

1. Change the title to "Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Bullying."
2. Under "Prevention" Item 3; delete in the last sentence "both middle and high schools" and replace with "all levels of education".
3. Under "Public Services to Victims" add after Item 4 a new Item 5 and renumber the rest; "When appropriate a sufficient number of certified sexual assault nurse examiners must be available."
4. Under "Definitions"; Bullying—remove "or between partners" as the "Domestic Violence" definition addresses family members which includes partners.
5. Under "Definitions" Domestic Violence—remove "and bullying" as "Domestic Violence" has a very specific definition and "Bullying" has a very specific definition.
6. Under "Definitions" Domestic Violence—remove "peers" and add "partners" which is in line with the meaning of "household or family members".

Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity Dissolved

Due to the endless legal battles from states refusing to release voter information, the Integrity Commission was dissolved on January 3, 2018. The commission was created in May 2017 and held two meetings. The commission was requesting detailed voter data, including the names, addresses, birthdates, partial Social Security numbers, party affiliation, felon status and other data for every registered voter. The Department of Homeland Security has been tasked to look at the issue.



LWVUS web page has been revised with new mission, vision and values statements. Please take a look at what information is available and what the LWVUS is working on.

www.lwv.org

LWV Anch web page is also new and revised. Please check it out and let us know what you think. Your suggestions are much appreciated. Renew membership online with PayPal.

www.lwvanchorage.org

Positions of Interest!

Become a Member of the Municipal Election Commission

The Election Commission is a body appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Assembly. Members typically serve a three-year term; members can be reappointed for additional terms. The commission is comprised of five members—currently there are two vacancies.

The qualifications of Election Commission members are included in AMC 4.50.035 and include, in addition to AMC 28.10.030, that a member shall (1) if legally eligible, be a qualified voter of the municipality; (2) maintain domicile in the municipality while in office; (3) be at least 18 years of age or meet state requirements relating to employment of minors during the member's service to the board or commission.

The Election Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the Anchorage Assembly and the Municipal Clerk in the conduct of elections; studies and recommends to the Assembly and Municipal Clerk proposed ordinances relating to elections; serves as the canvass board for Municipal Elections; and reviews the results of the election officials' tabulation; among other assigned duties. AMC 28.120.060.

The Anchorage Election Commission is required to hold an organizational meeting each year. AMC 28.120.030. The Commission typically elects a Chair and a Vice-Chair, reviews its procedures and the election calendar, and establishes a meeting and training schedule.

Would you be interested in serving on the Election Commission? Below is a link for the online application. https://moa_onlineforms.formstack.com/forms/boards_commissions.

You may return the completed form to MOA Elections and they will forward to the Mayor's Office on your behalf, or you may submit it directly to the Mayor's Office.

Election Worker Position

Temporary positions are available with the Municipal Clerk's Office through June 2018.

Location: MOA Election Center, 619 East Ship Creek Drive.

Hours: Monday through Friday; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and may be variable.

Salary: \$12.00/hour.

Application Period: Closes 5:00 p.m. AST; Tuesday, February 6, 2018.

Example of Duties: Provide election support for the Municipal Clerk's Office prior to and immediately after regular or special municipal elections. Assist with review of initiative or referendum petitions signatures. Prepare election supplies and equipment, conduct data entry, review voter qualifications, and mail absentee ballots. Utilize Microsoft Access database to determine the appropriate ballot for voters to use.

Prepare form letters in Microsoft Word, including using mail merge, prepare checklists and spreadsheets in Microsoft Excel, operate the mail sorter machine, conduct signature verification, and operate scanners and other office machines.

Some Election Worker assignments may require lifting and carrying of mail trays and other items that weigh 20 to 50 pounds. Some assignments may require the ability to bend, stoop and kneel.

A driver's license and current vehicle insurance will be required if the selected position requires driving between various work locations.

Assist the public in person, using multi-line telephone systems and via email. Required to take an oath of office and are prohibited from engaging in partisan politics in any manner, as detailed in Anchorage Municipal Code 2.20.055D. Perform other election related duties as assigned or required.

Visit <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/moa/default.cfm> for additional information.