



The Anchorage VOTER

October 2018

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

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Hard at Work Planning Youth Vote Election Activities
L > R Ethan Zawodny, Tuan Graziano, Gabby Gisler, & Quency Villamor

MARK THE DATES!

Youth Vote sponsored events:

- Candidates Forum

October 23 from 12:00 n-1:00 pm
(doors open at 11:30 am)
Wendy Williamson Auditorium
UAA Campus

- Mock Election

10/23-10/30; results TBA on 11/1

Other important dates:

- October 22—Start of Early Voting in 2018 General Election

- October 27—Last day to request by-mail ballots from State Election Division

- November 6 - Statewide Election

- November 6 - Vote, Eat Cake & Make Change: Election Day Celebration, UAA Student Union Cafeteria, 2-6 pm

- November 13 from 6:00—8:00 pm Anchorage LWV Monthly Board Meeting, BP Energy Center

- December 4 from 6:00—8:00 pm Annual Holiday Celebration @ home of Barbara Norrell (see pg. 3 for more information)

YOUTH VOTE MEMBERS STAY BUSY IN LEAD-UP TO THE ELECTION

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the upcoming Candidates Forum on October 23 at the Wendy Williamson Auditorium on the UAA campus. Space promises to be tight so if you plan to attend you should RSVP to anchorageyouthvote@gmail.com. UAA has agreed to waive parking charges on that part of the campus during the Forum.

The following statewide candidates have confirmed that they will participate in the Forum:

Candidates for U.S. House of Representative - Alyse Galvin
Candidates for Governor – Incumbent Bill Walker and Challengers Mark Begich & Billy Toien

Neither Don Young, who is running for re-election, or Mike Dunleavy, candidate for Governor, have responded to invitations to participate.

Students from most high schools in the Anchorage School District will be bused to the UAA campus to attend the forum; the ASD Advisory Board, including middle school members, will also attend. The event will be filmed and televised by Channel 2 (KTUU) from noon to 1 pm as it is occurring.

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.

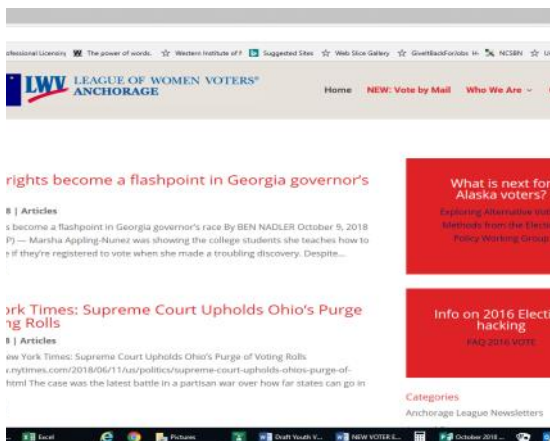
NEW VOTER EDUCATION PROJECT

LWV of Anchorage is immersed in a new voter education project – the *New Voter Education Project*. Generously funded by a \$25,000 grant from the Rasmuson Foundation, the impetus for the project was the addition of 60,000 new voters being added to the rolls after a successful ballot initiative allowed Alaskans to automatically register to vote while completing their PFD applications. The project will be completed by the time of the 2018 General Election on November 6.

Funding will enable significant upgrading of the LWV of Anchorage website (<http://lwvanchorage.org>), which will essentially become a “one-stop-shop” for voters to access important voter and election information. In addition to information regarding voting locations, dates, and deadlines, visitors will be able to access state-produced voter pamphlets featuring several languages besides English such as Spanish, Tagalog and various Yupik dialects. Links to enable individuals to check their voter registration status and to apply for an absentee ballot will also be provided. The webpage enhancements will, with regular updating, persist long beyond the life of this particular grant project, ensuring that crucial information will be available to future voters for years to come.

In addition to webpage enhancements, funding will support production and boosting of an educational video created by Youth Vote, a direct mail piece with information about early vote by mail (also known as absentee voting), online ads and Facebook boosted ads that will remind people to vote and send people to the League website. The Project is spearheaded by Schawna Thoma & Beth Nordlund.

The Anchorage League works to make voter education the highest priority. Increased voter information equals more informed voters. This is good for the community and helps our citizens become part of the decision-making process.



LWV of Anchorage Web Page To Be Enhanced With Grant Funding - Watch for a New Look!!



Registrar Sharon Richards Assists New Citizens to Register to Vote

VOTER REGISTRATION UPDATE

In 2018, Anchorage LWV Registrars have registered over 500 new voters. The largest groups of newly registered voters included new citizens immediately following their Naturalization ceremonies (n=182) and newly age-eligible high school seniors in U. S. Government classes in five ASD high schools (142 last Spring and 76 this Fall); schools that invited us in to register their students to vote included Bartlett, Chugiak, East, South and West. Another 52 individuals were added to the rolls as part of the UAA Campus Vote project spearheaded by Marsha Olson, LWV member, Co-Chair of UAA Democracy and Civic Action Week, and UAA Instructor of Speech/Communication. Activities at five different community events accounted for another 66 registrations; nearly half of those occurred last January at the Women's March!

Thanks to the thirteen LWV members who responded requests for Voter Registrars at various voter registration opportunities across the City; they included Joyce Anderson, Keri Clark, Tina DeLapp, Joan Diamond, Carol Dickason, Heather Flynn, Penny Goodstein, Diane Mathisen, Marie Murdock, Beth Nordlund, Marsha Olson, Sharon Richards, and Schawna Thoma.

We will continue to assist new voters to get registered to vote, focusing on preparing them to participate in the upcoming Municipal election next April.

MOCK ELECTION WILL INCLUDE THREE BALLOT MEASURES

The Mock Election will be held from October 23 – 30; students at all levels within the Anchorage School District will have an opportunity to cast their votes on statewide contests and on three ballot measures formulated by Anchorage Youth Vote participants. The results will be announced on November 1.

Youth Vote Students formulated three ballot questions; each of the three questions are focused on either local, state or national issues. The questions are:

Local – Should more resources be directed toward health education, especially mental health and healthy relationships, in the Anchorage School District?

State – Do Alaska salmon need more government protection?

Federal – Should the President of the United States be elected by National Popular Vote rather than our current system, the Electoral College?



Youth Vote Workers Research Ballot Measures
Pictured: Jennifer DeRoche (back to camera)
L—>R: Anna Wen, Oliia Tafs, & Ali Butcher

The students prepared a Voter Information Guide that included information about the three ballot measures. Those guides have been distributed to the Chairs of Social Studies Departments at the various high schools. Anchorage LWV members interested in receiving an electronic copy of the student-created Voter Guide can request one by contacting tadelapp@ak.net.



LWV ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

You and a guest are invited to the LWV of Anchorage Annual Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 4 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

At the home of Barbara Norrell

5018 Knights Way, Anchorage

Directions: Going east on Northern Lights past East High School, turn right on Wesleyan and then left on Knights Way, or

Going east on Tudor, turn left on Checkmate, left at the stop sign (Wesleyan) and then right onto Knights Way. Call 333-9109 if you need further directions.

STAND TOGETHER AGAINST RAPE (STAR)

This year's charity, to which donations will be greatly appreciated.

There will be a short presentation by a representative from STAR.

Light refreshments will be served.

(If you cannot attend but wish to make a contribution to STAR, you can send a check to LWV of Anchorage, PO. Box 101345, Anchorage, AK 99510-1345 by November 25; your gift will be delivered with other members' contributions)



The November 6, 2018 General Election is NEAR!

Vote **EARLY** beginning **October 22, 2018**
and claim your **Limited Edition Sticker!**



Early and Absentee In-Person,
Electronic Transmission
and Special Needs voting begins
Monday October 22, 2018

Deadline to receive
Absentee Ballot
Applications requesting
by-mail ballot
**Saturday October 27,
2018**

To Find a Polling Place Visit our Website at
www.elections.alaska.gov



Get your own limited edition “*I Voted*” sticker
Simply exercise your right to vote early
beginning October 22.

OTHER ELECTION RELATED NOTES

- A **Voting Cartoon Video** was created to promote voting for the General Election. The video is cute and informational at the same time. Enjoy! To see it, visit:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bjq23v28tq78nt3/AAApL7C3cPsXUL261_jb1Pxxra?dl=0

- **Election Night Reporting:** Election results will be available on Election night and will be updated regularly by the State Division of Elections. View the results at:

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/results/18PRIM/Map/>

- The **Official Voter Pamphlet** was mailed out this past week to every household. If you did not receive one, call 907-522-8683 or visit

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov>.