

# The Anchorage VOTER

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

September 2020

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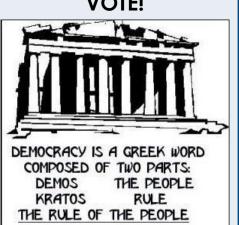
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## **Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport**

**Get Involved** 



### Hi League Members:

Take care of yourselves. Stay safe, stay healthy, wear masks and don't forget to VOTE!



### League Membership -**Exciting News!!**

2020 thus far has been a year of unprecedented growth in our membership.

We started the year with a total of 57 members, including 39 individual, 6 households with 12 individuals, and 6 students; two new student members offset the loss of one individual member for a total of 58 members in March.

Membership numbers held relatively steady in July, with a total of 57 members (41 individuals, 4 households with 8 individuals, and 8 students). An additional individual member joined in August, bringing the total to 58 individuals. By mid-September the chapter had 64 members (48 individuals, 4 households with 8 individuals, and 8 students).

New members since July 2020:

- Claire Chan
- Jennifer Flanagan
- Margaret Isaacs
- Britta Mjos
- Avery Mozen
- Jennifer Perkins
- Diana Rhoades
- Brenna Simons-Petrusa
- Christina Spencer
- Gretchen Wade

#### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!**

We need your INPUT, EXPERTISE and EXPERIENCE

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.



Our League answered 20 election related questions during August and September - phone calls and email requests.

<u>Presentations by League members relating to elections, vote-by-mail, absentee voting, history of suffrage, 19th Amendment 100th Anniversary</u>

- ◆ Soroptimist International Anchorage Monthly Membership Meeting presentation by Joyce Anderson on August 23rd
- Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Weekly Forum presentation by Joyce Anderson on September 9th

#### Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot services

 Registered voters and helped participants fill out absentee ballot applications at the "March on Alaska" on Labor Day, September 7th, in partnership with the Alaska Black Caucus - services provided by Margaret McDonagh.

#### Census

 Presentation on the importance of completing the U.S. Census to Congregation Beth Shalom on June 19th by Margaret McDonagh.

#### Counting of ballots for the Mat-Su Education Association Strike Vote

 Counted 1,213 strike vote ballots on September 12th. Ballots were sorted and counted over a three hour period by Carol Dickason, Gene Dickason, Tina DeLapp, Tuan Graziano, Barbara Norrell, Patty Ginsburg and Joyce Anderson. League earned \$40/per hour/per member counting.

#### Suffrage Articles

- ◆ 1848 Seneca Falls Convention discussing women's rights provided by Heather Flynn.
- Deciding vote cast to pass the 19th Amendment in the House of Representatives by Tennessee Representative Harry Burn after he received a letter from his mother urging him to vote 'yes' provided by Heather Ireland.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION TO OUR COMMUNITY!

Anchorage Youth Vote, Spirit of Youth and Story Works Alaska

Held a Virtual Service Summit - "Youth Needs, Your Action"

September 11th - September 12th

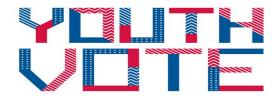
The virtual service summit, with over 80 community members registering, was designed to connect people and improve our communities safely and conveniently - from home. They hosted four service activities:

- Teacher Appreciation
- Clean-Up Bingo
- Making Mask Ties
- Alaska Caring Notes

**CONGRATULATIONS to our YOUTH for a SUCCESSFUL SUMMIT!** 

An hour-long workshop and panel was also held on:

Meaningful Youth Engagement.







# HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REGISTERING TO VOTE VOTING in the GENERAL ELECTION

Youth Vote, in coordination with our voter service chair Tina DeLapp, created a flier with information about the procedures for registering to vote for the November 3rd General Election, voting in person, and voting by absentee ballot. It also includes important information for students who will be attending school out-of-state or joining the military and being stationed in another state.

The flier (see page 4) has been distributed to ASD social studies teachers for posting to their course pages, Adaption of the flier to the Spring Municipal Election is underway.

Registering youth to vote is an important mission of the LWV Anchorage



# Youth Vote Launches a New Project: YouthLINK

YouthLINK is on Instagram and Facebook Please like and follow @ANCYouthLINK

Learn the information you need to know

- YouthLINK will launch a new topic each month.
- Youth Vote surveyed 100 young people in Anchorage to create a list of monthly topics.
- Each week, Youth Vote will share resources that address the monthly topic. These resources could be links to articles, websites, videos, or interviews with experts.
- September is "Self-Care Awareness month!" This month's Youth Vote topic is <u>STRESS</u>.

Please visit @ANCYouthLINK on Instagram and Facebook to learn up-to-date information on the topic of the month.



# HAVE A SAY IN GOVERNMENT: IT'S YOUR RIGHT & RESPONSIBILITY TO VOTE

# FIRST BE SURE TO REGISTER 30 DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION

You can register to vote on-line: voterregistration.alaska.gov Deadline for this year's election is: October 4, 2020

If you think you may be registered, but are not sure,

check your status: <u>lwvanchorage.org</u>

click: CHECK YOUR VOTER INFORMATION



### REQUIREMENTS TO REGISTER

You can register to vote if:
You are a U.S. Citizen and
You will be 18 within 90 days of completing the on-line form



### **YOU WILL NEED**

Alaska Driver's License# or Alaska State ID# and your Social Security Number If unsure of citizenship status, DO NOT register to vote.

If born in the U.S. you are a citizen.

### **ABSENTEE VOTING**

To obtain an absentee ballot, visit: elections.alaska.gov

### IN PERSON VOTING

Election Day: November 3, 2020

Find your polling location: <a href="https://www.nchorage.org">lwvanchorage.org</a>

Early in-person voting: October 19 - November 2, 2020 Early voting locations: Anchorage City Hall, Anchorage Midtown Mall, Eagle River Key Bank (starts 10/27/20)



WARNING: If you leave Alaska for college or the military, do not register to vote in another state if you want to remain an Alaska resident and PFD recipient.

# GENERAL ELECTION, TUESDAY, NOV 3, 2020 IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION

You can apply for Absentee Ballot Application via: Mail, Electronic Transmission, or Fax

Applications can be downloaded at: <a href="http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/forms/C06C.pdf">http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/forms/C06C.pdf</a>

Paperless applications can be completed using this QR Code

To check the status of your request visit: <a href="https://myvoterinformation.alaska.gov">https://myvoterinformation.alaska.gov</a>

# Your Absentee Ballot Application Request must be received by the State Division of Elections by:

- ⇒ Saturday, October 24, to Receive a Ballot by Mail
- ⇒ Monday, November 2, 5:00 p.m. to Receive a Ballot by Fax or Email

<u>Keep in mind</u>, the processing of U.S. Mail may be slower than in the past due to cost cutting measures implemented by the U.S. Post Office. Please MAIL EARLY.



### **Change to the 2020 General Election Ballot**

Candidates will no longer have their party registration listed on the ballot. Instead, they will only be listed as the nominee of a particular party or as having entered a race through the petition process. The change showed up on sample ballots posted on the Division of Elections website. The candidate's political registration is no longer listed, a change from the 2018 Primary and General election ballots.

The League board discussed this subject at the September 14th meeting and decided to write a letter to the Editor of the Anchorage Daily News and the Division of Elections voicing our concern that the candidate's political party registration was no longer listed, an essential element to the voting process. The League's mission statement "encourages informed and active participation in government." Being an informed voter is a fundamental component to voting. Unfortunately, many voters rely on the information on the ballot to make their choice. By eliminating the political party designation, the voter is being disenfranchised of crucial information to make an informed choice.

(Note: The October newsletter will include the both the letters.)





# WHAT ALASKANS NEED TO KNOW

### DISCUSSION Via Zoom

Ballot Measure 1: Oil Tax Initiative Ballot Measure 2: Elections Initiative

Wondering how to vote on the two ballot measures appearing on the General Election Ballot this November? Join Alaska Common Ground, League of Women Voters of Anchorage and Anchorage Public Libraries for online discussions on each of the initiatives.

For both events, we will begin with an overview, followed by a panel discussion weighing the pros and cons. There will be time for attendees to ask questions.

Ballot Measure 1: Oil Tax Initiative Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 9 pm

Ballot Measure 2: Elections Initiative Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 9 pm

### **DISCUSSION Via Zoom**

The Color of Money:
A discussion on Dark Money (the movie)
and Lessons for Alaskans
Thursday, October 22nd, 7 - 8:30 pm

Hosted by Anchorage Public Library, Alaska Move to Amend, Alaska Common Ground and America's Promise.

An open discussion facilitated by Bill Hall, Alaska Common Ground, DARK MONEY is an award-winning documentary "examining one of the greatest present threats to American democracy: the influence of untraceable corporate money on our elections and elected officials. Please preview the film before the discussion.

Register for these events at <u>akcommonground.org</u>
Panelists and more information available at <u>akcommonground.org</u>

These events are free and open to the public.