

## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CENTRAL YAVAPAI

LWVCYC.org ♦ LWVCYC@gmail.com ♦ P. O. Box 11538, Prescott, AZ 86304 ♦ November 2022

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President - Vacant

## 1st Vice President Program

Tina Boden-Blake 928-713-9131

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# Director Voter Services:

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703-419-5313

# Communications Director

Terri Farneti 928-533-5297

#### **Scholarship Director**

Bobbi Boyd 805-368-3426

# Nominating Committee

Gary Goddard, Chair







# Conversing With the Other Side

Thursday, November 10, 2022

2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Yavapai Community College Building 3, Room 119 Registration is requested. Call 928-717-7634

How can we keep our cool and maintain good will when we talk with persons on the other side of the political divide? Do we increasingly avoid contact with certain friends and family members because of this split? In this session we will discuss what is meant by "civil discourse" and why it matters. Presenters will offer resources from organizations such as Braver Angels that can help us learn to use more respectful, judgment-free communication. Such skills can help us to keep relationships warm and to even form new relationships that broaden viewpoints, both ours and maybe those of others. Please join us at this public session, a collaboration of Yavapai OLLI and the League of Women Voters, as together we seek to build a more unified community and nation.

Please attend the League and Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) hosted event at Yavapai College!

# Spotlight on State Ballot Propositions

A total of 10 propositions are on the November ballot: 8 legislative referrals and 2 citizen initiatives. You can download a pdf of the League's analysis and aggregation of arguments for each proposition in English and Spanish from VOTE411.org. Or you can download all the propositions as one document <a href="https://example.com/here.

## League Arguments submitted to SOS for Publicity Pamphlet

As part of our advocacy recommendations, the League submitted arguments in support of or in opposition to ballot measures based on League-approved public policy positions. These arguments were approved by the LWV Arizona State board. Here is a link to the LWVAZ arguments for the measures on the ballot in November. Ballot Measures Arguments SOS Publicity Pamphlet

The League advocates for legislation and ballot measures. Below are the Leagues' positions on each of the 2022 state ballot measures. The League has no position regarding some ballot measures as we do not have a LWVAZ or national position to help us take a stand.

## 2022 Propositions - LWV Arizona Position

## Prop 128: Voter Protect Act, court determinations

Legislative referral to amend the constitution

Allow the Arizona State Legislature to amend or repeal voter-approved ballot initiatives if any portion has been declared unconstitutional or invalid by the Arizona Supreme Court or U.S. Supreme Court

## League opposes

## Prop 129: Single Subject for Citizen Initiatives

Legislative referral to amend the constitution

Add a provision to the Arizona Constitution that requires citizen-initiated ballot measures to embrace a single subject. Also requires the initiative's subject to be expressed in the ballot title, or else the missing subject would be considered void League opposes

## Prop 130: Constitutional property tax exemptions

Legislative referral to amend the constitution

Allows the legislature to set certain property tax exemption amounts &

qualifications rather than determining details in the constitution

## League has no position

### Prop 131:Lieutenant governor; Joint ticket

Legislative referral to amend the constitution

Creates the office of Lieutenant Governor to be elected on a joint ticket with the governor and to succeed the governor in the case of a vacancy

## League Supports

#### Prop 132 - Initiatives Supermajority Vote Requirement

Legislative referral to amend the constitution

Requires a three-fifths (60%) supermajority vote to pass ballot initiatives (both statutes and constitutional amendments) and legislatively referred amendments. Currently, these only require a majority vote.

#### League opposes

## Prop 209: Predatory Debt Collection Act

Citizens Initiative to enact state Law

Increases the levels of protection that currently exist for persons facing monumental personal debt, including limiting the amount of interest on medical debt to 3%.

## League has no position

#### Prop 211: Voters Right to Know Act

Citizens d Initiative to enact State Law

Gives Arizona voters the right to know who is trying to influence Arizona elections using paid, public communications.

## League Supports

#### Prop 308: Tuition; Postsecondary Education

Legislative referral to amend the Arizona State Law

Repeal provisions of Proposition 300, which voters approved in 2006. Proposition 300 provided that non-citizens could not receive certain state-subsidized services, benefits, financial aid, or in-state tuition rates

#### League has no position

### Prop 309 - Arizonans for Voter ID Act: Easier to Vote - Harder to Cheat

Legislative referral to amend the Arizona State Law

Require voters to include their date of birth and voter identification number in the affidavit required for mail-in ballots and eliminates two-document alternative to photo ID for in-person voting

## League opposes

## Prop 310: Arizona Fire District Safety Act

Legislative referral to amend the Arizona State Law

Creates a 0.1% sales tax for 20 years to fund Arizona's fire districts

League has no position

## And Speaking of Promotions - VOTE411 is Everywhere

From billboards on the freeway to yard signs in the neighborhood, our locallydesigned striking VOTE411 images are everywhere.

Have you been on a freeway recently? Did you see our strategically placed Billboards (3 of the 4 are digital)? Have you been to a movie lately? Harkins all over the state and almost 100 AMC theaters are running Public Service Ads promoting VOTE411 and encouraging voting.

Our local league members have been busy planting yard signs, hanging posters, and distributing flyers, all to encourage the use of VOTE411.org.

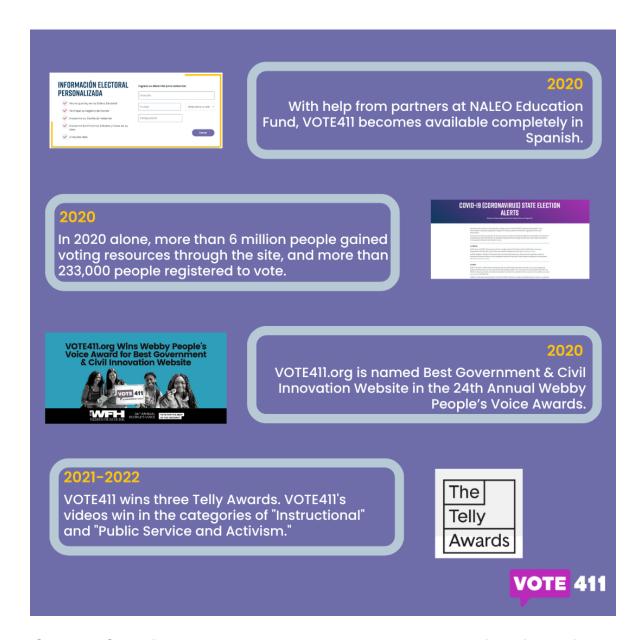
And our social media campaign has started. Follow LWVAZ posts on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Please share on your social media.

Of course, we have not forgotten print. We have placed ads in about a dozen independent newspapers, including specialty publications that reach a niche audience.









#### Call on Candidates to Answer VOTE411 Voter Guide Questions

Voters deserve to know where candidates stand on the most important issues in their community. Even after multiple contacts from League volunteers across the country, some candidates have not yet answered our VOTE411 voter guide questions.

Over the past few weeks, we've seen a number of concerned voters writing letters to the editors in their local papers calling on their candidates to answer VOTE411 voter guide questions. This small action has had a big impact: our VOTE411 team has seen an influx of candidates reaching out to answer voter guide questions.

Join voters in the critical weeks before Election Day and encourage your candidates to answer our VOTE411 voter guide questions. League members looking to call on candidates can refer to our pressure campaign letter-to-the-editor template on the <u>League Management Site</u>. Additionally, we strongly encourage Leagues to share this <u>guidance from VOTE411</u> on your social media profile and within your networks.

## So, What has LWVCYC Done Lately?

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

During the period of 07/01/2022 to 10/14/2022, 25 of our 49 local members volunteered their time and expertise in providing services to the community for various voter registration services, community education programs, debates/forums and Vote411 presentations as well as attending a Board of Supervisors Meeting in support of both the Yavapai County Recorder and Yavapai County Elections Director in their decision to resign because of a toxic working environment. All events were in person.

#### THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION**

From June to the first of October 7 voter registration/tabling events were held. 2 were held at Senior Residential Communities. The County Recorder had advised LWVCYC that the adult residential communities were being underserved and LWVCYC offered registration services to 9 communities. Although only 4 residents registered or corrected their voter registration information, one of the centers used the opportunity to incorporate voter registration forms into their intake process. General questions were asked by several residents at each site.

Other voter registration events at a local college and the local farmer's market resulted in 13 new registrations and many questions being answered about voting procedures. These events also provided opportunities to educate registered voters on the Vote411web site, confirm dates when ballots would be made available and provide directions to ballot drop boxes.

#### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND VOTE411**

Community Education Events included 3 presentations on Vote411 to a total of 97 participants at AAUW, Prescott Indivisible and the Prescott Library. A program of general interest on Homelessness and Housing was provided to an audience of 40 with speakers from the Veterans Housing Association, the Coalition for Compassion and Justice, and the Prescott Police Department. This program was sponsored by LWVCYC partner, OLLI which is the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute affiliated with Yavapai College.

#### **DEBATES/FORUMS**

LWVCYC was asked to host 3 candidates' forums and 1 debate. The candidates' forums were for local elections to town council and water districts and were held in Dewey Humboldt and Mayer. In all,100 people attended the 3 events. Although these were not major events, they serve to increase awareness of the League and its ability to provide candidate forum at no cost to the citizens.

In cooperation with LWV Northern Arizona, LWVCYC held a series of 2 debates for the 2 candidates for Legislative District One for the Arizona State Senate. The Prescott event had 85 people in attendance. In addition, a video from the Prescott event will be made available for viewing on the Vote411 website and linked to the LWVCYC website.

Our local website LWVCYC.org had had over 760 visitors in the period covered by this report.

#### **MEDIA COVERAGE**

The local paper is the Daily Courier. The Daily Courier published the open letter to the

Board of Supervisors from the Boards of the LWVCYC and LWVNA regarding dissatisfaction with events leading up the resignations of the County Recorder and Elections Director. The Daily Courier also advertised the LD1 Senate Debate and published a report on the Prescott debate the following day.

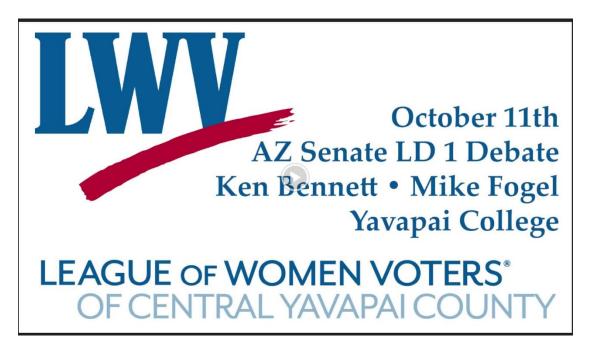
#### **BOARD MEETINGS/MEMBER MEETINGS**

LWVCYC has had 3 regular board meetings and 2 Executive Committee meetings in the past 3 months and have had one social and 2 public meeting events.

## The Elisabeth Ruffner Scholarship Funded for 2023

Thanks to your generous donations, the LWVCYC Elisabeth Ruffner 2023 scholarship has increased from \$500 to \$1000. This December, LWVCYC will be joining the Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County, for the annual Cash for College event. The event is scheduled for Monday, December 5th from 5-6:30pm at the Yavapai College, Library Building #19, Community Room. This event gives us the opportunity to meet Tri-city graduating seniors and encourage them to apply for the LWVCYC Elizabeth Ruffner Scholarship. The Scholarship will also be listed in the Cash for College scholarship listing. This is a wonderful volunteer opportunity to represent LWVCYC to Tri-city graduating seniors. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Bobbi Boyd (805) 368-3426.

Did you miss the LD1 Senatorial Debate?



You can watch it here!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PSy1JoHo2locwcnLPttfjZcpUYvlAMX6/view

# **GUN SAFETY**

## Hopes for LWV Arizona's Gun Safety Position to Go National!

Guns and Ammo Magazine consistently ranks Arizona as the #1 best state for gun owners. Why? Because Arizona has almost no laws governing firearms. Someone is killed with a gun every eight hours in Arizona. And it's a national issue.

The state League is starting the process to submit the Arizona gun safety position to LWVUS national for adoption at the 2024 convention. The first step is obtaining state board approval to move this forward.

The procedures ensure a consensus among members on LWV public policy positions, with many opportunities for member input at the grassroots level. If successful, this would mean that all local and state Leagues around the country would be able to advocate for gun safety—a huge advance for our advocacy efforts on this increasingly urgent public health and safety issue.

The LWVAZ gun safety position begins with this statement: "All Arizona citizens have a right and need to feel safe. We believe gun ownership comes with civic responsibility, demonstrating responsible ownership and handling." The position includes common-sense laws and regulations that could be enacted, such as Background Checks and Safe Storage. The complete position statement is on the LWVAZ website: <a href="https://my.lwv.org/arizona/lwvaz-positions-2021-2023">https://my.lwv.org/arizona/lwvaz-positions-2021-2023</a>.

In 2019, several new public policy positions were approved for Study with the expectation of adoption as LWVAZ positions during the 2021 State convention; the two studies were Gun Safety and Criminal Justice. The position recommended by the Gun Safety Study was adopted at the LWVAZ State Convention in 2021 following a two-year study process comprising committee members from around the state.

Arizona League members were motivated to launch a study and develop the position for many reasons:

#### In Arizona, you can:

- Buy a gun without a waiting period, license, registration, or training
- Carry a concealed weapon without a license if you are 21
- Buy an assault weapon or large-capacity magazine
- Buy a gun from an unlicensed seller without a background check
- Keep an unlocked, loaded gun in your home even if children are present
- In most cases, keep a gun even though you may pose a threat to yourself or others
- Carry a gun—openly or concealed—almost everywhere
- Usually possess a gun even though you have been convicted of misdemeanor domestic abuse

Once the members adopted the position, we created a gun safety issue team under the auspices of the State Advocacy Committee. The issue team advocates for gun safety, supports firearm safety legislation, and educates the public about gun safety. The issue team comprises members from

Leagues around the state, and the group launched its first season of advocacy work with the legislative session that began in January 2022.

#### What did the Team do during the 2022 Legislative Session?

The gun safety issue team members tracked gun bills introduced in the legislature, determined which bills they would concentrate on, and researched their history and relevant information to formulate a position and talking points. From there, they generated requests for the State Advocacy Committee to ask League members to take action on the prioritized bills, including Request to Speak, emails, and other means. An important part of this work included our paid and volunteer lobbyists testifying on bills we either supported or opposed at committee hearings.

#### What is the present status of gun safety and gun bills?

While none of the gun safety bills supported by League members received hearings, the bills we opposed did not become law, including bills allowing guns on public university and college campuses, lowering the age for getting a permit to carry a concealed weapon, and allowing the use of deadly force to protect property. In addition, bills that would expand access to public places and allow loaded weapons in vehicles on school grounds did not pass. However, a bill requiring firearms safety training for grades 6 – 12 passed out of the Senate and was signed by the Governor.

#### How can I help?

The gun safety issue team needs more active members to continue to advocate for gun safety legislation and educate all Arizonans on gun safety issues. We also need members to work on a recommendation to the state board to submit the Arizona gun safety position to LWVUS for possible adoption. If you are interested, please contact the gun safety issue team chair, Kristin Delaplane, at <a href="mailto:kmdelaplane@gmail.com">kmdelaplane@gmail.com</a>

## **IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES**

November 8 Election Day: Statewide General (All Registered Voters)

- Mail ballots sent/<u>In-Person Early Voting</u> begins: October 12, 2022.
- Last day to request an early ballot by mail: October 28, 2022.
- In-Person Early Voting ends: November 4, 2022.
- Election Day: November 8, 2022
  - <u>Vote Centers</u> open 6 am to 7 pm.
  - All early ballots must be **received** by the County Recorder by 7 pm.

Questions about candidates on Your Ballot? VOTE411.org

Please follow us on Facebook! <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LWVCYC/">https://www.facebook.com/LWVCYC/</a>

Thank You for Renewing Your Membership!

## **Sunday Matinee with the League!**

The Harkins Theaters are featuring VOTE411 in theaters around the state, so we thought it would be nice to get members together to go see a film! Please reply to the email to let us know which film you'd like to see. Call Jane is at 1:50 p.m., and Till is at 2:50 p.m.



#### Digital





#### Digital

11:50 AM 2:50 PM 6:00 PM 8:30 PM

#### Synopsis:

In 1968 Chicago, with the city and the nation amid the political and civil upheaval, Joy (Elizabeth Banks), a conservative housewife and mother, is faced with a devastating diagnosis when her second pregnancy leads to a life-threatening heart condition. Following an all-male hospital board's decision to deny an exemption for an abortion, which is, by law, illegal, Joy's search for a solution leads her to a clandestine group of women. Led by Virginia (Sigourney Weaver), an independent visionary fiercely committed to women's health, and Gwen (Wunmi Mosaku), an activist who envisions a day when all women will have access to safe, affordable abortions, this community of women ignites an awakening in Joy. Inspired by their compassion and commitment, Joy joins them, putting every aspect of her life on the line.

#### Synopsis:

Till is a profoundly emotional and cinematic film about the true story of Mamie Till Mobley's relentless pursuit of justice for her 14 year old son, Emmett Till, who, in 1955, was lynched while visiting his cousins in Mississippi. In Mamie's poignant journey of grief turned to action, we see the universal power of a mother's ability to change the world.



Mail Address: P.O. Box 11538 Prescott, AZ 86304
Web: <u>LWVCYC.ORG</u> Email address: <u>lwvcyc@gmail.com</u>

## 2022-2023 LWVCYC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name:	
Name(s) of additional member(s) in househo	old:
Street Address:	
City:	Zip Code:
Phone: Email	Address:
· —	embership and make check to LWVCYC
Voting Members\$60/yr Individual Membership\$90/yr Household Membership	\$ Associate/ Friend of the League
\$40/yr Student Member operations	\$ Contribution to our local League
Fund. Make check out to LWVAZ Educate	ion fund with notation as to where it is to be used.  y tax deductible and must be made by separate check to
	Ruffner Scholarship Fund 501(c)3. <i>The funds you contribute nolarship program.</i> Make Ruffner Scholarship Fund check on notation line: CYC-Scholarship
Women Voters Education Fund under this proactivities of our League and to make contribu	In Fund $501(c)$ 3 The funds you contribute to the League of ogram may be used to support the charitable and educational utions to [state $501(c)(3)$ ] and the national League of Women fund check payable to: <b>LWVAZ Education Fund</b> write on
You may also make donations to the Education F website: <u>LWVCYC.org</u> .	Funds through PayPal by following the donation link on our
For Membership Use: Date received:	Membership / Renewal form (06/20/2022)