



# *League Lines*

**The Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Larimer County**

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## October Calendar of Events

Thurs, Oct 2 Noon-3	Admin Team meeting, Mary Jo Shafer's, 717 Cherokee, Ft Collins
Thurs, Oct 2 6:30-7:15 pm 7:30-9:30 pm	LWVLC Candidate Forum, Ft Collins City Council Chambers, 300 LaPorte Avenue Candidates for Larimer County Commissioner Candidates for Colorado Legislature
Fri, Oct 3 7 pm	Showing of "Iron Jawed Angels," Foothills Unitarian Church, 1815 Yorktown Ave
Sat, Oct 4 10-noon	Membership Orientation 1002 Alexa Court, Ft Collins
Mon, Oct 6 5:30-9 pm	19th Old-Fashioned Political Rally The Ranch, First National Bank Exhibition Hall
Wed, Oct 8 Noon-1:30	Health Care Team meeting, Linda Mahan's 708 Birky Place, Ft Collins
Wed, Oct 8 2 pm	Membership Team meeting, Linda Mahan's 708 Birky Place, Ft Collins
Thurs, Oct 9 6-7 pm	CrossCurrents: Larimer County Ballot Issue 1A Ft Collins City Council Chambers, 300 Laport Avenue
Mon, Oct 13 11:30-1:30	Great Decisions: Diplomacy, Plymouth Congregational Church, 916 West Prospect Road, Ft Collins
Tues, Oct 14 6 pm	Ballot Issues Presentation, Loveland Habitat for Hu- manity, 1154 SE 2nd Street
Thurs, Oct 16 7-9 pm	Amendment 46 Forum, Loveland Public Library, 300 North Adams Avenue
Mon, Oct 20 9:30 am	Ballot Issues Presentation, Plymouth Congregational Church, 916 West Prospect Road, Ft Collins
Thurs, Oct 23 7 pm	Ballot Issues Presentation, Ben Delatour Room, Ft Collins Downtown Library, 201 Peterson St

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## “DEEDS, NOT WORDS!”

The League of Women Voters of Larimer County and the Foothills Unitarian Church Adult Enrichment Program are co-sponsoring a showing of “Iron Jawed Angels,” a moving study of the women’s suffrage movement. This event will be held on Friday, October 3, at 7 PM at Foothills Unitarian Church, 1815 Yorktown Avenue, Fort Collins. Light refreshments will served after the film in the church social hall. This event is open to the public. It marks the 88<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage in 1920 of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution which gave women the vote in this country.

The film stars Hilary Swank as Alice Paul, Frances O’Connor as Lucy Burns, Angelica Huston as Carrie Chapman Catt, and Julia Ormond as Inez Mulholland. Running time is just over two hours. A free-will offering will be accepted which will benefit the League’s voter education programs and the church’s continuing education efforts.

What better way to celebrate women’s suffrage in this critical election year! Put this event on your calendar!

### Member Orientation - October 4

Recently joined members who have not attended a member orientation are invited to a member orientation. The get-acquainted coffee will be on October 4, Saturday, from 10 am - noon at 1002 Alexa Court in Fort Collins.

We will share the history, structure and activity of the LWV and offer an opportunity to ask all the burning questions you've been wondering about. Prospective members are also welcome to attend.

Please RSVP by calling 221-2037. We hope to see you there!

**SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**The annual Legislative Party will be**

**Friday, December 5.**

**Look in future newsletters  
for more information**

## Forum on Amendment 46 Coming to Loveland

If you missed the September 24 meeting in Fort Collins on Amendment 46, the civil rights initiative, or need to learn more about affirmative action and how it would be affected by the passage of Amendment 46, plan to attend the Thursday, October 16, public forum at the Loveland Public Library, 300 North Adams Avenue, from 7 to 9 p.m. Our Ad Hoc Committee that has been studying this issue has assembled an impressive group of panelists to take part in the discussion in Loveland:

- ◆ Melissa Hart, Associate Professor of Law, University of Colorado
- ◆ Sandra Owens, House Counsel for Aims Community College, Greeley
- ◆ Lynn Langton, Executive Director of Student Achievement Services, Thompson School District R2-J
- ◆ Dennis Rastatter, Director of Student Outreach, Thompson School District R2-J

The topic is complicated and the ballot language is confusing. These experts will help us understand it all better. Come and bring a friend!

### CrossCurrents

On Thursday, October 9, 6-7pm (NOTE TIME CHANGE), at the Fort Collins City Council Chambers, 300 LaPorte Avenue, the CrossCurrents program will feature a panel discussion on Larimer County Ballot Issue 1A. This issue, to be decided by voters in the upcoming November 4 election, regards the establishment of a tax for a treatment center and programs for mental health and detoxification. The public is invited to attend the program and is encouraged to ask questions of the panelists. Barbara Rutstein will be the panel moderator.

The program will be televised live on Fort Collins Cable 14 and may also be accessed on [www.fcgov/cable14](http://www.fcgov/cable14). It will be replayed on Cable 14 and on Loveland's Channel 16 at times and dates to be determined by the respective television stations. Check websites for broadcast schedules. DVDs of the program will be available later at Fort Collins and Loveland Public Libraries.



## 19th Old-Fashioned Political Rally—October 6

It's time for the **19th Old-Fashioned Political Rally!!** The rally will be held from **5:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Monday, October 6 at The Ranch.** Admission and parking will be free.

Since 1972, this biennial event has provided an opportunity for citizens to talk one-on-one with their state and local candidates, to share their own ideas and concerns instead of just listening to prepared speeches. People from both sides of the ballot issues will be there, too, handing out printed materials but also available to explain the details and try to answer your hard questions.

The Rally is also a fun-filled event. There are balloons, speeches, music, flags and bunting, colorful signs and political demonstrations, not to mention free popcorn, lemonade, and coffee.

One of the most old-fashioned aspects of this rally is that it is a truly community event, attended by people of all ages. Be sure to save the date, Monday, October 6, and bring your whole family. You will meet friends there, have a great time, and learn what you need to know to vote wisely.

We can always use extra help during the day and/or evening of the rally. Please contact Linda at 667-9214 or [lindahutchinson@frii.com](mailto:lindahutchinson@frii.com) if you would like to help.

## UPCOMING VOTER EDUCATION EVENTS

The Voter Service Team of the League of Women Voters of Larimer County is sponsoring a number of events to help voters become informed about the candidates and the numerous referenda and amendments on the ballot this election season. These events are free and open to the public:

Thurs, Oct 2  6:30-7:15 PM 7:30-9:30 PM	LWVLC Candidate Forum  Candidates for Larimer County Commissioner Candidates for Colorado Legislature  Fort Collins City Council Chambers, 300 LaPorte Avenue Videotape available afterward at Fort Collins city libraries and on public access TV
Tues, Oct 14 6 PM	Presentation on ballot issues, Loveland Habitat for Humanity, 1154 SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street
Mon, Oct 20 9:30 AM	Presentation on ballot issues, Plymouth Congregational Church, 916 West Prospect Road, Fort Collins
Thurs, Oct 23 7 PM	Presentation on ballot issues, Ben Delatour Room, Fort Collins Downtown Library, 201 Peterson St.

Ballot issues presentations will also be given for private groups, and CrossCurrents will deal with some of the ballot issues in the coming weeks.

## Team News

### *Civil Liberties*

#### **Civil Liberties Reading Group**

The next meeting of the Civil Liberties Reading Group will be on Tuesday, October 21 at Mary Jo Shaffer's, 717 Cherokee in Fort Collins. We will start a new book, *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, by Jared Diamond. *Anyone* interested please contact Linda at [lindahutchinson@frii.com](mailto:lindahutchinson@frii.com) or 667-9214.

The Civil Liberties Team would like to direct members' attention to a series of events that clearly relates to the issue of civil liberties.

From September through October, Read On! Fort Collins is sponsoring seven events on the Japanese internment camp experience. One such event is a discussion on Oct. 26, by Julie Otsuka about her book, "When the Emperor was Divine," which is about the internment camp in Utah.

For further information, go to [readonfc.org](http://readonfc.org).

### *International Relations*

#### **Great Decisions**

*How the U.S. deals with international challenges often depends on how it engages with allies, as well as enemies. How should the U.S. deal with countries like Cuba, North Korea and Iran? What approach should the U.S. take with groups like Hamas and Hezbollah?*

Great Decisions will focus on *Diplomacy* on Monday **October 13 (please note the change in date)**. All meetings are held at Plymouth Congregational Church in Fort Collins from 11:30 to 1:30, and guests are always welcome. Contact Kay Easley for further information: 282-0135; [easleykw@aol.com](mailto:easleykw@aol.com).

#### **OSHER**

OSHER will kick off another season with "Shaping U.S. Foreign Policy." Topics will include Iraq; U.S.-China Trade Policy and European Union and how they relate to both foreign policy and foreign aid." The meetings will be on Tuesdays, beginning in Oct. Interested members can find more details at [www.learn.colostate.edu/osher](http://www.learn.colostate.edu/osher).

### **What are the topics for Great Decisions 2009?**

The topics listed below will be featured in the *Great Decisions 2009* briefing book. The focus of the articles and the order of the topics may change.

- ◆ The U.S. and rising powers
- ◆ Afghanistan and Pakistan
- ◆ Energy and the global economy
- ◆ The Arctic age
- ◆ Egypt in the 21st Century
- ◆ Global food supply
- ◆ Cuba after Castro
- ◆ Universal human rights?

#### **UNA/USA**

League members and friends are invited to attend the next meeting of the Northern Colorado Chapter of the United Nations Association-USA. Christinia Eala, a "Young Elder" of the Lakota community, will speak on the work of the United Nations with indigenous peoples. This will be on Saturday, October 11 at 2:30 p.m. at the Fort Collins Downtown Library. For information, call Margaret Smith at 493-3857.

#### **Thank You**

The United Nations Association of Northern Colorado wishes to thank the members of the League of Women Voters for their able assistance as facilitators at our "On Day One" program on September 6th. We knew that when we asked the LWV for facilitators we would be getting well trained diplomats. Barbara Carson and Judith Janay did not disappoint us. They stepped in and worked wonderfully with us in this rather unusual and light-hearted meeting. Thank you very much. We look forward with working with you again.  
~Eleanor Dwight, President UNA/USA Northern Colorado

The UNA/USA Northern Colorado has developed a tradition of celebrating UN Day by inviting the junior high student winners of our essay contest to read their essays on UNICEF. It is always a proud moment for these young people to read their essays and to be honored by the UNA. **Please do come** to hear them on October 22 at 7:00. This year's program will be in Loveland, at the Pulliam Building, 545 N. Cleveland Ave; parking in the back.

## Preparing for Program

As we look forward to our January Program Planning meeting, members will want to review and understand the process that is involved when we come together at this time. Our Program Planning meeting is when our members develop and design the path we want LWVLC to follow during the next year, from June, 2009 to May, 2010. That is a pretty big responsibility. Final decisions are voted upon at the May Annual Convention, but the groundwork is laid the first of the year.

The business of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide. We believe that informed and active citizens, joining together to explore common problems and identify shared goals, can resolve the tough issues that confront our communities, our nation, and our world.

We work to build this civic capacity through League Program. We study and educate our members and our communities about public policy concerns, we encourage public discussion of these problems and citizen participation in resolving them, and we take action to achieve solutions that contribute to the benefit of all.

Our program – our education and advocacy work – is the key we use to open the door to participatory democracy. It gives our members and our fellow citizens the information, the skills, and the opportunity to influence the outcome of policy debate and shape the future of their communities. By helping people address the issues they care about, the League provides tangible proof that citizen participation can make a real difference.

Please be thinking about what issues you or your team feel are most important, which issues you want to study or advocate for during our next year, where we as a League can make a difference. **At January Program Planning, you will have a chance to voice your opinions on these subjects.**

During the months leading up to our January meeting, we will offer some guidelines on how you can achieve this goal. Check your "League Lines" in November and December!

### Study of the National Public Vote Contract Committee Members Needed

We need a small group of people to study and then present to our membership the case for a National Public Vote Contract, a system that would work to abolish the Electoral College and replace it with a more democratic means of electing our president. Is that a challenge you'd like to take on? Please contact Carol Rush, 667-5077, if you have interest and time to look into this project. (Not to get started until after the elections, of course!)

#### Advertise Your Business

Cost: \$15/ issue; \$75/10 issues (1 year)  
Submit your business card with payment made out to the LWV-Larimer County to  
Linda Hutchinson, 216 West Fourth Street,  
Loveland, CO 80537.

Dr. Paul A. Smith

#### Integrative Writer

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**The League of Women Voters  
of Larimer County**

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The League of Women Voters of Larimer County  
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The League of Women Voters is *the* organization where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

*Our Mission*

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

*Our History*

Established in 1920, the League is one of the nation's most respected grassroots organizations. We explore issues from many points of view and take action on issues affecting our families and communities.

The League of Women Voters is nonpartisan. We do not support or oppose candidates.