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CALENDAR

Mar. 5 Last day to [register to vote](#) in municipal elections

Mar. 12 MDWA at Salida SteamPlant with portrayal of Jeannette Rankin, first U.S. Congresswoman, 6:30 p.m.

Mar. TBD Board Meeting

Apr. 3 Municipal elections for Buena Vista and Poncha Springs. Mail-in ballot.

Apr. 9 – Annual dinner with Ed Quillen at Casa del Rio Clubhouse, 27665 CR 313, Buena Vista; catered by Mary Lou Pentasuglio

May 14 – Employment at Department of Corrections; in Buena Vista

League Leaders

Nancy Walters, President
 Cheryl Brown-Kovacic,
 Past President
 Jan Scar, Secretary
 Carol Sanford, Treasurer
 Marjie Gray, Voters Service
 Jackie Sobczak, Voters Service
 Karen Robinson, Programs
 Nita Stevens, Membership
 Myra Barrett, Membership
 Tracy Craig, Publicity
 Jeanne Younghaus, Finance

LWV Celebrates Women’s History Month with Jeannette Rankin, First U.S. Congresswoman



Jeannette Rankin: The Disarming Dissenter

Herstory will come alive in Salida when LWV Chaffee County hosts one of the twentieth century's most outspoken and courageous interpreters of American democracy. Jeannette Rankin, who in 1916 became the first woman elected to the United States Congress, will appear at the Salida SteamPlant on March 12. Encourage all your friends to attend!

When: Monday, March 12, 6:30 p.m. for cash bar, 7:00 p.m. for program

Where: Salida SteamPlant Theater, 220 West Sackett Ave.

Tickets: Complimentary for limited seating; call Betsey Downing at 539-6454

Actually, Rankin died over thirty years ago, but New Mexico actor and writer Deborah Blanche has recreated her persona in a Chautauqua style, one-woman show.

With story, song, and dialogue, this dramatization takes us back to the days of suffrage rallies and union meetings, war fever and peace protest, economic depression and political demonstrations as highlights of Rankin's life from 1917 to 1968 unfold.

Born on a ranch near Missoula, Montana, Rankin became a leader in the struggle to secure the vote for women throughout the U.S. She holds the distinction of being the first woman elected to a major legislative body in any free country in the history of civilization.

"Jeannette Rankin was a person who lived her belief system publicly and privately. She delights, provokes and challenges us to re-examine and re-affirm our common humanity," observes Blanche. "Because Rankin's story has so much to offer us today, I bring her to life again this March in honor of National Women's History Month. I think she'd like that."

Before the performance, the League will present Pete Palmer with the 3rd Annual Making Democracy Work Award. The award recognizes Palmer for his leadership and hands-on work to keep Chaffee County a strong, fair and vibrant place to live. [See page 2 for more about Palmer.]

Primary Caucus

Democrats: Tuesday, Mar. 6
Check-in at 6:00 p.m.
Caucus starts at 7:00 p.m.
Southern precincts meet at
Salida High School.
Northern precincts meet at
Buena Vista High School, all-
purpose room. See also
chaffeecountydemocrats.org/

More Campaign Fact Checking

www.FlackCheck.org

This site is recommended by Kathleen Hall Jamieson, a nationally recognized authority on political communication, campaigns, and political rhetoric. The Elizabeth Ware Packard Professor of Communication at the University of Pennsylvania, she is also the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Director of the University's Annenberg Public Policy Center.

LWVCC Honors Sheriff Pete Palmer with Making Democracy Work Award



The League chose Pete Palmer to receive the 2012 Making Democracy Work Award. The award honors a community member who has been a leader and actively engaged in hands-on work to keep Chaffee County a strong and vibrant place to live.

Palmer will receive the award on March 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Salida SteamPlant, just prior to the performance of Deborah Blanche in a dramatic portrayal of Jeannette Rankin.

When Palmer moved here seven years ago, he immediately began participating in local civic activities as a Buena Vista planning and zoning commissioner, an election judge, a member of LWVCC, and chair of the Chaffee County Democratic Party. He was a deputy sheriff for two years before resigning in 2007.

He began his career in the Marine Corps, later earning a BA in Sociology from the University of Colorado in Boulder. He joined the newly formed Lakewood Police Department. After retiring at the rank of detective lieutenant, he commanded police training missions overseas, including an American contingent of 605 police officers with the United Nations Civilian Police in Kosovo.

Palmer's commitment to public service is evident in his campaign promise to make the sheriff's department more transparent and professional.

Commissioner Giese Addresses League Members and Guests

On Feb 13, Giese discussed how the county is coping with its budget after having tax increases voted down last fall. Some measures already put in place have



helped with the shortage, for example using PILT funds and not replacing retiring employees. The county is also seeking funds from other entities that use services provided by the county, such as 911. He answered audience questions about OHV hearings, road and bridge improvements, and transparency. On the latter Dennis said the commissioners were trying to get their meetings taped. Agendas and "Action Minutes" are posted on [the county clerk website](#).



April is the Month to Renew Our LWV Membership

This year, we can renew our membership online using a credit card to pay with PayPal, a trusted, secure service.

The [Membership Form](#) is on our website.

Of course, we can still pay by check or cash at our Annual Meeting, April 9

Individual: \$55.00

Household: \$82.50

Student: \$25.00

Where do our dues go?

A portion of our dues goes to LWVColorado and LWVUS. The balance goes to our chapter to support local activities.

**Welcome New
LWVCC Members!**

Jenny Davis

Rose Marie Mirich

Strategy Meeting Summarized

Twelve officers, committee chairs and members met on Feb. 22 to discuss how LWVCC can best be managed. We started by ranking 22 activities that the League undertakes. Candidate and Issue Forums ranked as most important; Great Decisions and training moderators for other groups as least important. All activities, however, have some support. See page 4 for statistics.

Marjie Gray led the group in an exercise to determine our leadership styles: Get It Done, Nurturer, Visionary and Analyst. Our styles were somewhat evenly distributed, although most people agreed they shared characteristics with at least one other type.

Myra Barrett reviewed suggestions from state and national about how the league can recruit, support and retain local members.

The group decided to try administering the League through a Leadership Team, rather than a traditional Executive Board.

- The team would share duties more fluidly and provide backup for each other.
- Some team members would still perform traditional tasks, such as managing finances and taking minutes.
- We would balance the board membership between Salida and BV.
- The team would meet regularly, but separately from program meetings so they would have more time to address and discuss business.

Marjie Gray will distribute information from LWVUS about how to use the new team structure. The team welcomes suggestions from other LWVCC members.

Minutes for all our LWVCC board meetings on the website at lwvchaffeecounty.org/minutes/

Fortune Cookie Wisdom

***Management is doing things right;
leadership is doing the right things.***



Great Decisions

Great Decisions—a stimulating foreign policy discussion group co-sponsored by the League and Buena Vista Library—began its fourth year on January 26 at the library. The following topics are up for discussion:

- Mar. 8** State of the Oceans
- Mar. 22** Middle East Realignment , with special guest speaker Rod Schofield
- Apr. 12** Exit from Afghanistan & Iraq
- Apr. 26** Indonesia
- May 10** Energy geopolitics

Meetings alternate between the library (fourth Thursdays) and Congregational United Church of Christ (second Thursdays), from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Materials used for discussions—a briefing book and DVD—are supplied by the [Foreign Policy Association](#).

Come join us! You need not be at every meeting. To learn more, contact Carol Sanford at caroljean1945@gmail.com or 395-2417..

Results of Activity Survey at Strategic Planning Meeting

***Very Important ** Important * Not so Much

Activity	***	**	*
Candidate Forums	11		
Issue Forums	11		
Website Maintenance	10		1
Studies			
Local	9	1	
State	11		
National	7	3	
Monthly Meetings	6	3	2
Annual Picnic	6	6	
Other Publicity	6	2	
Fund Raising			
Poinsettias	7	4	
Geraniums	6	5	
Annual Dinner	5	3	3
Leadership Training	4	3	3
Voter Registration	2	4	4
Legislature Day	2	3	5
Board Meetings	2	6	3
Observer Corps [new]	1	10	
Newsletter	1	8	2
Chew & Chats	1	7	3
MDWA	1	6	4
Marching in 4 th Parade	1	1	9
State Convention		4	5
Blog Discussion Thread		3	8
Great Decisions		2	8
Train Other Moderators		2	8

How would you rank our activities? Send an email to nejwalters@q.com

