



Making Democracy Work at www.lwvchaffeecounty.org

In This Issue

- ✓ November 11 Meeting: Affordable Care Act
- ✓ Connect for Health Colorado
- ✓ Calendar
- ✓ Poinsettia Sales and Care
- ✓ Board Members and Committees
- ✓ Amendment 66 Advocacy
- ✓ News in Brief
- ✓ Great Decisions

**CALENDAR
2013 - 2014**

- November 5** – Election Day
- November 11** – LWVCC Affordable Care Act, Salida
- December 9** – LWVCC Mayors Update, BV
- January 13** – LWVCC Commissioners Update, Salida
- January 24** – LWVCC, Guests Great Decisions, BV Library
- January 27** – LWVCO Legislative Conference, Denver
- February 10** – LWVCC Agricultural/Food Issues, BV
- March 10** – LWVCC Consensus for Agricultural Study; Legislative Action, Salida
- April 14** – LWVCC Annual Dinner, BV
- May 16-17** – LWVCO Council in Grand Junction
- June 20-21** – LWVCO Leadership Retreat, Frisco



The Affordable Care Act: How's That Working for Us?

Speaker: Cheryl Walker, Manager of Connect for Health Colorado in Chaffee and Lake Counties. Cheryl manages an office with two assistants, whose sole mission is to help residents sign up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act. Their salaries are provided through a grant that Walker wrote, requesting \$250,000 for hiring staff to provide outreach and assistance, in person, to people who need help signing up for insurance. Her office is in Room 143 of the Touber Building, 448 East First St., Salida. She can be reached at 539-7290 or cwalker@chaffeecounty.org.

- Date:** Monday, November 11, 2013
- Time:** 11:00 for social gathering, coffee and tea provided; bring a bag lunch
11:30 for welcome to new members & guests, reports, announcements
12:00 for the program, questions and informal discussion
- Place:** United Methodist Church, 228 E. 4th St., Salida, CO 81201
- Parking:** Park in the lot diagonally across from the Salida Library. Enter the building through the north entrance.
- Carpool:** From Buena Vista, meet at 10:30 a.m., CUCC parking lot.
- Program:** Walker will use a PowerPoint presentation to explain how Colorado, like 15 other states, has developed its own website, called Connect for Health Colorado. She will also discuss
 - The current status of the Affordable Care Act in Colorado,
 - The realities of the website—also known as the Health Insurance Marketplace or Exchange, and
 - The intended consequences of the Affordable Care Act.

Connect for Health Colorado: If you are curious about the website exchange, you can browse insurance plans anonymously, without signing in and without creating an account, by taking the following steps:

1. Go to <http://connectforhealthco.com/>
2. Click on the **Individuals & Families** picture.
3. Click on **Shop Now**.
4. At the bottom, center of the page find **Do You Qualify for Financial Assistance?** **OR** at the top right of the page click on **Browse Plans**.

For the Financial Assistance follow below:

5. Enter **Zip Code**.
6. Click **Do I Qualify?**
7. Read the next page and then click **Continue**.
8. Then follow the prompts.



2013-2014 Board

Marjie Gray, Chair
gray2fish@gmail.com
Carol Sanford, Programs
caroljean1945@gmail.com
Jan Scar, Secretary
scars@RockyMountains.net
Nancy Walters, Publicity
nejwalters285@gmail.com
Jeanne Younghaus, Finance
jlarkriver@rockymountains.net

Treasurer: Marilyn Box
marbox@mac.com

Committee Members

Voter Service for Sept-Oct
Scott Hartman, Chair

Marilyn Box
Karen Dils
Mary Helen Dunn
Libby Fay
Linda Mulka
Dave Mustoe
Karen Robinson
Eileen Rogers
Bob Sander
Carol Sanford
Melissa Smith
Jackie Sobczak
Nita Stevens
Jeanne Younghaus

Finance

Libby Fay
Scott Hartman
Carol Sanford
Jeanne Younghaus

Fund Raising

Marilyn Box

Meeting Venues

Tracy Craig: Salida
Jeanne Younghaus: BV

Publicity

Gail Brooks (web hosting)
Nancy Walters (web & print)

Continued on page 3



Poinsettia Sale Starts November 4

These gorgeous plants are available in 2 sizes and 3 different colors!

Small 6.5" pots (168 total @ \$12 each)

112 red
36 burgundy and white "Glitter"
20 white

Large 10" pots (24 total @ \$30 each)

15 red
4 burgundy and white "Glitter"
4 white

Taking orders, through November 29. The earlier you start the better your chance of getting the color(s) you want. Use the [order form](#) and return it to Marilyn Box, with checks, at the address listed on the form.

Picking up plants, at the BV Library, on Tuesday, December 3, from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Volunteering to help distribute the plants. Marilyn Box, who is in organizing our sale, will accept delivery of the plants, count them, and load the Salida deliveries between noon and 1:00 (with help from her husband, LWVCC member, Bob Box). However, she needs volunteers to distribute the plants from 1:00 - 5:00.

If you can help, call her at 395-9325 or email her at marbox@mac.com

The League counts on this sale, along with our spring sale of geraniums, to support our community programs and forums, and to send **you** to LWVCO events, such as the Convention, Council, League Day, Legislative Conference and Leadership Retreat.

Poinsettia Care (Source: Michigan State University Extension)

Be sure the plant is well wrapped when you take it outside on your trip home because exposure to low temperatures for even a short time can injure leaves and bracts. Unwrap the plant as soon as possible because the petioles (stems of the leaves and bracts) can droop and twist if the plant is left wrapped for too long.

For maximum plant life, place your poinsettia near a sunny window or some other well-lighted area. Do not let any part of the plant touch cold window panes. Poinsettias are tropical plants and are usually grown at temperatures between 60 and 70 degrees F in greenhouses, so this temperature range in the home is best for long plant life. High temperatures will shorten the life of the bracts Poinsettias do not tolerate warm or cold drafts so keep them away from radiators, air registers, and fans as well as open windows or doors. Place your poinsettia in a cooler room at night (55 to 60 degrees F is ideal) to extend the blooming time.

Examine the soil daily and water only when it feels dry. Always water enough to soak the soil to the bottom of the pot and discard the excess water. If you don't water enough, the plant will wilt and the lower leaves will drop. If you water too much the lower leaves will yellow and then drop. If you keep your plant for several months, apply a soluble houseplant fertilizer, once or twice a month according to the manufacturer's recommendations.



Committee Members, Cont'd.

Membership

Ann Graham
Nita Stevens

August Picnic 2013

Carol Sanford

Annual Dinner

Barb Brady

Hospitality

Betsy Downing
Mary Helen Dunn

Great Decisions

Barb Brady
Mary Helen Dunn
Carol Sanford
Nancy Walters

A BIG THANK YOU
to everyone who volunteers!

GREAT DECISIONS

Start
Thursday, Jan 23,
2014

Topics

- Defense Technology
- Israel and the U.S.
- Turkey's Challenges
- Islamic Awakening
- Energy Independence
- Food and Climate
- China's Foreign Policy
- U.S. Trade Policy

Link to [topic descriptions](#).

If you are interested in getting a briefing book for \$20.00, which covers the cost of mailing, email Carol Sanford at caroljean1945@gmail.com

LWVCO of Colorado Advocates Passing Amendment 66

LWVCO President Bobbie Heisterkamp wrote to the Denver Post:

Amendment 66 successfully addresses many education needs in Colorado. It will fix many of the shortfalls embedded in our public school system. It will guarantee full-day kindergarten to every 5-year-old. It will add funding for special education and gifted students. It will set up an innovation fund to help schools implement best and proven practices to raise student achievement levels. And most importantly, it will change the way per-pupil spending is calculated to make that funding more equitable throughout Colorado. The new counting method makes this possible with a minimal tax increase.

Our state is woefully behind most of the nation in how much we invest in public schools, yet we value education as a means to prepare students to be as productive and thoughtful as their abilities allow. The League of Women Voters of Colorado urges every voter to vote "yes" on Amendment 66.

News in Brief

1041 Geothermal Regulations Approved

Although the commissioners did not follow all our suggestions, we're grateful that regulations are in place. See Oct. 23 [article](#) in The Chaffee County Times. Perhaps you've also read in Fred Henderson's article that Mt. Princeton Geothermal LLC project has started exploration and drilling.

Schwartz Active in Developing Colorado Water Plan

When Sen. Gail Schwartz (R) spoke at our October meeting, she reviewed issues that the Water Conservation Board must deal with to arrive at a draft water plan by December 2014, as directed by Governor Hickenlooper. Hear her comments in a [video](#) of the meeting. See also the [press release](#) for Hickenlooper's executive order.

LWVUS Agricultural Study: Growing Slowly

Consensus questions will be ready in December. Meanwhile the study group is reviewing suggested documents and YouTube videos. Nita Stevens represented our chapter at a teleconference held by the LWVCO study group. Not much had been done, except by the Boulder League, which had started studying the issue last year.