



Such a year for the people of our planet. Such a year for our democracy. Relentless commitment and the technology of our time kept us informed, involved and connected. We Zoomed through the year with Board meetings, membership meetings and educational webinars.

The voting season - it was a whirlwind of activities. We kicked off with a *How to Run for Local Public Office* event organized by the Clerks of the City of Fairbanks, Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) and the City of North Pole and set up a website with information for potential candidates. We supported the primary election, early voting, and the General Election through volunteers who are members and as on-call for Special Needs voting. We sponsored two candidate forums livestreamed by KUAC FM 89.9 - one for municipal election candidates and one for the Interior Alaska House and Senate candidates. We also tried some new things organized by several new members – a week-long sign-waving “Just Vote” campaign on roads all around the Fairbanks North Star Borough and hosting voter information and conversation for the younger crowd at several Ballots and Brews events at a local craft beer establishment.

Using our Non-Discrimination position, we offered written support for the Borough’s resolution on Black Lives Matter and supported the NAACP position on Policing in Our Local Community presented to the City of Fairbanks. In line with promoting a more just and inclusive society, we continued our connections with the local Get Out the Native Vote Planning Committee and the NAACP.

The Book Club, going strong for eighteen years, made the transition from face-to-face gatherings at the local public library to meeting at social distance in the parking lot to the online world. Reading and discussing only non-fiction, the club had twelve books in the queue this year.

As prioritized by our membership, an active Letters to the Editor campaign in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner was on our to-do list this year. We wrote on running for local office, getting ready to vote, supporting the Post Office, the importance of the Census, Alaska’s safe election system, remembering Martin Luther King, Jr., honoring Elizabeth Peratrovich and International Women’s Day. Several more letters are planned. Our hope is to offer positive, informative moments and give the League regular visibility.

Hosting public educational “Hot Topic” forums is a major activity for LWVTV. In addition to the candidate forums, we presented four webinars and have another in the queue. They were offered using Zoom with simultaneous streaming to Facebook.

- *Safe and Secure Voting* with the Division of Elections and Clerks of the cities of Fairbanks and North Pole and the FNSB,
- *News Desert – Why Local Journalism Matters* with columnist Dermot Cole, Fairbanks Daily News-Miner trustee Virginia Farmier and the director of the FNSB Public Library, Melissa Harter,
- *There Oughta Be a Law* on the Alaska legislative process with Gayle Garrigues,
- *The Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation* with APFC CEO Angela Rodell.

A fun way to celebrate April - the LWVTV was selected to be the April Featured Sponsor for KUAC honoring our long-time financial commitment supporting the public broadcast of the FNSB Assembly meetings.

Shari George, President
League of Women Voters of Tanana Valley, 2020 - 2021