



The Juneau VOTER

Local League news from the League of Women Voters of Juneau

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Upcoming Events:

Annual meeting with our Juneau Legislators, DECEMBER 14th - 10:30 am. Hear about their goals, what we can expect in 2020, and ask your questions! Come for coffee and brunch at Northern Light Church fellowship hall, 400 W 11th St.

Citizen Engagement Workshop (formerly "How to Lobby") will be held January 18th. This workshop will provide you with information you need to be an engaged and active participant in our democracy and our state.

Stay tuned for the Annual Program Planning meeting for 2020. In January, date TBD.

WINTER EDITION

The Elizabeth Peratrovich Project

Since 2007, the League of Women Voters of Alaska has had a dream of bringing the story of Elizabeth Peratrovich to all school children in the state. Long-time Juneau member, Carolyn Brown is helping to see this project to fruition.

A number of things all came together this past year. Annie Boochever, who grew up in Juneau, worked with Roy Peratrovich, Jr to write the story, "Fighter in Velvet Gloves." This book documents an important part of Alaska and the United States history with the involvement of Elizabeth and Roy Peratrovich in the 1940's civil rights movement for anti-discrimination in Alaska.

Getting grants from the Alaska State Libraries, Archives & Museums (the "SLAM"), the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the League of Women Voters of Alaska, the Juneau League bought the books, developed the bookplates, and sent letters to the superintendents of all districts to let them know the book is coming. Over four hundred and fifty (450) books will be sent across schools and libraries in Alaska.

A "packing party" will be held on **December 2nd, 11 am to 4 pm at the State Library** to place the bookplates in the books, put them in the mailing envelopes and stick on the mailing labels and stamps. Please join us! With so many books, we need a lot of hands.

Special thanks to
Patience Frederiksen, State Librarian, for all her help.



“People Powered Fair Maps” - LWVUS

Our LWV Alaska board has opted into the LWVUS *People-Powered Fair Maps Campaign*, an effort to focus on the Census count, (on which later redistricting rests), a fair and transparent redistricting process, and a celebration of the 19th Amendment 100th Anniversary by in part advocating the restoration of the Voting Rights Acts (H 8) at the federal level.

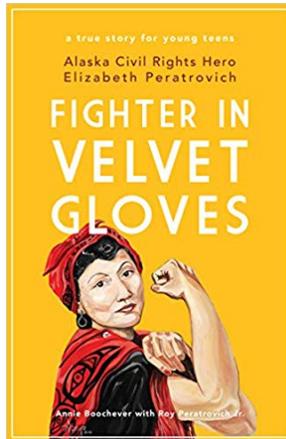
This is a nationwide project and LWVAK has been awarded a \$1000 grant to implement education and advocacy on the issues mentioned above.

THE GOAL:

1. Increase the public awareness of the importance of the Census Count as it relates to redistricting and federal funding.
2. Increase the public awareness of the process of redistricting, where that process can go wrong, the value of fair and transparent redistricting, and how the public can become involved to insure transparency and fairness.
3. The history of the women's suffrage movement and the history of the fight for the voting rights of all going forward, with special emphasis on the restoration of the Voting Rights Act and recent activities pointing to the need for that emphasis.

Watch your email for more information about this important effort.

If you are interested in being part of a committee to help with this, please send an email with your interest to lwvjuneau@gmail.com.



“No Natives or Dogs Allowed,” blared the storefront sign at Elizabeth Peratrovich, then a young Alaska Native Tlingit. The sting of those words would stay with her all her life. Years later, after becoming a seasoned fighter for equality, she would deliver her own powerful message: one that helped change Alaska and the nation forever.

In 1945, Peratrovich stood before the Alaska Territorial Legislative Session and gave a powerful speech about her childhood and her experiences being treated as a second-class citizen. Her heartfelt testimony led to the

passing of the landmark Alaska Anti-Discrimination Act, America's first civil rights legislation. Today, Alaska celebrates Elizabeth Peratrovich Day every February 16, and she will be honored on the gold one-dollar coin in 2020.

Annie Boochever worked with Elizabeth's eldest son, Roy Peratrovich Jr., to bring Elizabeth's story to life in the first book written for young teens on this remarkable Alaska Native woman.

What *else* have we been doing (summer/fall)?

Your League members have been busy! We held another successful “How to Run for (local) Office workshop, organized the Municipal Candidates forum along with the Juneau Empire and KTOO, marched in the parade on July 4th, many of us volunteered to work the elections, Karen presented the LWVJ to the Rotary, and we co-sponsored an event with the Healthy Alaskans Coalition.

Volunteer!

vol·un·teer: /ˌvɒlənˈtɪr/

noun: volunteer; plural noun: volunteers

1. a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task.

Do you have time to meet once a month? Consider volunteering your time on our Board of Directors. **We are recruiting now for officers for the upcoming year.** Contact Bridget Smith or Marianne Mills or send an email to lwvjuneauak@gmail.com. We'd love for you to join us!

Are you passionate about a local issue? Come to our program planning meeting in January and let us know what the League should focus on for 2020. Send an email with your interest to lwvjuneauak@gmail.com.