Gmail

Mesa Dems <mesacodems@gmail.com>

MCD Newsletter (11/12/26) - And the Winners are. . .

1 message

Mesa County Democrats - newsletter <MesaDemsVolunteers@113798630.mailchimpapp.com>
Reply-To: MesaDemsVolunteers@gmail.com
To: mesacodems@gmail.com

Thu, Nov 12, 2026 at 9:46 AM

Support local Democrats

DONATE HERE

And the Winners are. . .

Issue: November 12, 2026

MesaCountyDems.org

To read past issues, go to the MCD website ARCHIVE.

(See closing article about upcoming Newsletter changes.)

Updates from MCD Leaders

Dear Dedicated Democrats,

The Mesa County Democrats would like to thank Mallory Martin (D), Brittni Packard (D), Dave Edwards (D), and Christina Aline Schultz (FWD) for running great campaigns against high odds. The act of running, campaigning, connecting with voters, and showing up makes a huge difference. Seven county races saw Republicans running unopposed. Please reach out to us if you're interested in running—there are people who can help you plan!

We'd also like to thank the hundreds of volunteers across the county who made calls, knocked on doors, and more. And to the informed voters who took the time to read and understand the ballot initiatives, who listened to the candidates without blind loyalty to a party, and who exercised their right and duty to vote in this very important midterm election – you are why we do this work!

We are deeply disappointed that more Mesa County voters misunderstand the impact that TABOR has had on our K-12 education funding, that we in D51 are funding students at one of the lowest rates in the state, and that the state is funding K-12 education, relative to the personal wealth of Coloradans, at 48th in

the nation (Colorado Fiscal Institute). We must invest more in teachers and safety in the classrooms.

Almost 3,000 more people voted in Mesa County in this midterm than voted in the 2022 midterms, but as a percentage of registered voters, those numbers slipped from 69.26% in 2022 to 66.21% in 2026. Given how voting slipped for Republican voters, we suspect many Republicans in Mesa County simply chose not to vote.

The Republican candidates for US Senator, CD3, and Governor ALL received LOWER percentages of the vote than their 2022 counterparts did. Mesa County is trending more blue. Even though they won the majority of votes here, Baisley, Hurd, and Marx did not do as well as O'Dea, Boebert, and Ganahl did in 2022. On the Democratic side, Hickenlooper and Weiser outperformed their 2022 counterparts. Dwayne Romero was the only one of the three who did slightly worse than his 2022 counterpart, Adam Frisch, by 3%.

In Pueblo County, though, the Democrat in all three races won a majority of the votes. So between that and the fact that the three other Republican Congressional seats in Colorado flipped, we have good reason to hope for the 2028 election! Jeff Hurd is now the single remaining Republican Congressman in Colorado, and we're coming for his seat. This is the time to get involved if you want to help choose who his challenger is in two years. Volunteer with the party, become a precinct organizer, start meeting the early candidates. The Mesa County Dems and the Colorado Democratic Party don't endorse in the primaries—it's all up to registered Democratic Party voters.

So enjoy the nationwide blue wave and thank the candidates here who ran great campaigns! Give Bennet and Hickenlooper your thoughts on policy, on seeking justice for the Trump Administration, and on who you think would make a good Senate Majority Leader. Contact Rep. Jason Crow and tell him you'd like the DCCC to spend more time and money finding good candidates to run in CD3. Keep talking to your neighbors, and help us find good candidates for Mesa County races!

In solidarity,
Jen Hancock

Midterm Election
ReCap from Indivisible Colorado

Here's a message from our Indivisible CO Facilitator and Co-Coordinator of the CO Rapid Response Mobilization team:

On behalf of our dispatchers and core Election Protection team, I want to extend a huge thank you to all of you for being willing to be "on call" to respond in case we needed you. And happily - we didn't need to activate our response system for any election malfeasance. But, a number of you were heroes on Election Day! Several of you responded to our call for voter line monitoring in Adams and El Paso counties. Then our requests for emergency Know Your Rights card deliveries in Adams. Then our "could you possibly" calls to pick up snacks and water for long lines. Some of you bought the "voter comfort" food yourselves. You gave continuing reports on lines so we could support folks to the end.

Leah Greenburg said in a recent call that she loves planning for bad things that don't happen. I'm glad you all were part of our plan!

Let's review the outcomes of the election . . .

House of Reps: We flipped 3 Senate seats!! Colorado only has 1 Republican MOC in CD3!

CD1: Melat Kiros(new Dem)
CD2: Joe Neguse
CD3: Jeff Hurd
CD4: Eileen Laubacher (will be flipped; ahead by 3,237 as of 11/8)
CD5: Jessica Killin (flipped)
CD6: Jason Crow
CD7: Brittany Pettersen
CD8: Manny Rutinel (flipped)

Senate: Senator Hickenlooper won his seat by a wide margin! Congrats Senator!

Ballot Initiatives:

- Amendment 81 (Law enforce coop w/ICE) - Failed
- Amendment 82 (Right to natural gas) - Failed
- Amendment 83 (Right to hunt & fish) -Failed
- Amendment 84 (Mail Ballot Voter ID) -Failed
- Amendment 85 (Plain Lang Ballot Titles) - Failed (Short of the 55% needed)
- Amendment 86 (Off-cycle redistricting) - Failed
- **Amendment 87 - Passed (51.55%)**
- **Prop NN - Passed (56.85%)**
- *Prop 132 (Increase penalty fentanyl) - Passed*
- *Prop 133 (Human trafficking) - Passed*
- *Prop 134 (Gender specific partic in sports) - Passed*
- *Prop 135 (Prohibit surgery on minors gender) - Passing*
- Prop 136 (Income tax limit) - Failed

Prop 137 (Sporting goods tax revenue) – Passed

There's good and bad news. Amendment 87 came down to the wire and passed by about one point, even after Phil Weiser (now Gov.-elect) came out against it. And every Advance Colorado ballot measure failed except Prop 132, the fentanyl measure.

Here's a good article on what that means and what could come next.
https://coloradosun.com/2026/11/05/conservative-ballot-measures-colorado-democrats-response/?emci=3f7232e2-49d9-f111-bf5b-000d3a54442e&emdi=5e474303-5fdc-f111-bf5b-000d3a1b8962&ceid=1395841

Four conservative ballot measures passed: Props 132, 133, 134 and 135. All four are statutes, so the legislature can tweak or repeal them by simple majority. Voters also elected Phil Weiser governor by a historic margin and have given Democrats supermajorities in both chambers. Weiser and legislative leaders are already talking about changes.

From the Sun Article ***"...the legislature will have to balance the will of the people who voted for the initiatives with the rights of the people who would be affected by them."***

There's precedent for changes: the legislature rewrote the details of the psychedelics measure (Prop 122) the year after it passed.

Stay informed.

MCD Meetings

Mesa County Dems



Mesa County Democratic Party (MCDP)
Executive / Central Committee and Team leaders
meets monthly - the second Monday of the month
5:30pm at the Mesa Dems office

There is **NO E/CC meeting on December 14.**
The next E/CC meeting is currently scheduled for
January 11, 2027. Check the website CALENDAR for updates.

All Precinct Organizers are encouraged to attend either in person or via Zoom. **Contact the MCD office, Lori Martin** (Secretary) at riverones@me.com**, or Jamie Porta** if you are **unable** to attend**.** Your participation is key to motions being passed and the organization's ability to move forward.

MCD Office: 310 N. 7th Street, #2, Grand Junction, CO 81502
The MCD Office will be closed from Friday, NOV 13 until after the 2027 New Year's holiday. See below.

Events & Activities

THIS is what Democracy looks like!

You can also visit the MCD website HOME or **EVENTS and CALENDAR** pages
for calendar posts about these or other happenings
in Grand Junction and Mesa County.

Mesa County Democratic Holiday Potluck Gathering and Annual Awards Ceremony

Date: **December 12, 2026 - Saturday**
Where: Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #595
1674 Hwy 50
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Time: 5:00-6:00pm Happy Hour (cash bar)
Dinner: 6:00pm

This is a Potluck event.
Click on flyer for larger image and details.

Have questions? Please call Maria Keenan at 970-261-9703 or email Maria.Keenan@bresnan.net



Mesa County Women's Group

Women's Group
2026 Holiday Coat Drive

As the leaves change in the Grand Valley and the snow begins to fall on the Mesa, we are reminded that it's time once again for the Mesa County Women's Group annual holiday coat drive to benefit the children of our immigrant neighbors.

Last year, in coordination with La Plaza Palisade, we were able to collect 160 new, warm coats, a testament to our community's incredible generosity and support.

Will you consider sponsoring a child this year?

Please contact our coat drive coordinator, Caroline at mcwgcoatdrive@gmail.com or 508-341-7517 with questions or to ***sign up!***



- To learn more about or join the Mesa County Women's Group, visit THIS PAGE.
- To view information about their scheduled Events or view their Calendar, GO HERE.

Upcoming Newsletter Changes

As the 2026 midterm election activities start to subside, this is an ideal time for the MCD Communications Team to review our outreach channels and make some positive changes.

Over the past few months, our MesaCountyDems.org website underwent a makeover – improving navigation, adding pages / deleting others, expanding the menu, moving content from the newsletter to the website, etc. Our Team provided MCD Volunteers with tours of these changes, collected feedback, and continue to tweak the site as necessary. It is always a work-in-progress. That's how the website continues to be a valuable tool and source of information on a 24/7/365 basis.

The MCD newsletter, also a source of information, is now undergoing a makeover, too.

For years, the newsletter has been produced through a free MailChimp account, an online application that is now changing, even eliminating, some of the features offered in its free packages, with the goal to terminate all free (legacy) subscriptions. There is also the challenge of finding volunteers who know (or are willing to learn) MailChimp and make the commitment to publish the newsletter through this specialized application.

An alternative is to utilize the MCD paid Google (Gmail) Workspace account. Many people already know the basics of using Gmail, sending emails to multiple people, and adding website links within the email. Such skills could expand our Communications Team to help with periodic newsletter publications without any ONE person having to do the task alone.

While this transition from MailChimp to Gmail will require strategic steps to set up, it will ultimately allow a quicker, easier method for distributing information or pointing folks to the website, which will continue to expand.



The first step for each of you is to add this email address to your own email CONTACTS list:

info@MesaCountyDems.org

This is likely to be the last MailChimp newsletter. Future newsletters will come from the ***info@...*** account. A specific publication schedule may be established next year, but likely for now, newsletters will be sent out less often than in the past. **The next issue will likely come in early December**. Help these publications find their way into your INBOX right away, or you'll be searching your SPAM folder later.

As continued efforts are made to expand and update information on the MCD website, you may want to "bookmark" the HOME and/or Events & Calendar pages in particular. And check back periodically to the BLOG and GOOD NEWS pages as more articles will be shared from around the nation. The Mesa County Women's Group events can be found on THIS PAGE.

If you have any questions about these changes or run into any challenges making these updates to your own email account/pages, send an email (with your name and phone number) to: info@MesaCountyDems.org and I'll do what I can to help.

As we prepare for the next election, we'll continue to keep you updated with all the MCD news. Stay in touch.

In service,
Carla Ryan

Contact Us



Newsletter submissions:
MesaCoDems@gmail.com
(submit articles and info by 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month)

To receive future Newsletters,
add this email to your CONTACTS list:
info@MesaCountyDems.org

Mesa County Dems
Office: 310 N 7th St, #2, Grand Junction

Mailing Address:
PO Box 2361
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Office Hours:
The MCD office will be closed from Friday, NOV 13 until early JAN 2027
except for special meetings or other team projects.

Contact Info: 970.549.8544

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We welcome your ideas and participation on our social media pages, too
Join us!

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