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Petitions, Initiatives, and Ballots - Oh, my!

Issue: September 9, 2026

MesaCountyDems.org

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 publication schedule - **2nd and 4th Thursdays** of each month
(Newsletter columns are best viewed on a computer or large-screen format.)

Remembering 9/11 on the 25th Anniversary

- Ground Zero Tours [website](#).
- 9/11 memorial in NYC honors lives of those who died at [yahoo.news](#)
- 25 Years Later - <https://www.911memorial.org/marking-25th-anniversary>
- 9/11 Memorial & Museum announces new exhibit focused on "9/11-inspired service" at [CBS.news](#)
- Remembering 9/11 through images - [National Archives](#)

Updates from
MCD Leaders



Rise Above the Hurd; We ALL Have a Right to Be HEARD!

Dear Dedicated Democrats,

This past Tuesday morning, September 8, I had the privilege of joining 100 or so other concerned citizens at Republican Jeff Hurd's Congressional District 3 "Coffee with Your Congressman" in downtown Grand Junction.

When I arrived shortly before 9:00am, a long line of Mesa County Dems and others were wrapped around the hallway outside of the first floor conference room of the old Mesa County Courthouse. The turnout was impressive; I wonder how many more folks might have participated with a larger venue, after business hours, or on a weekend.

I figured it would be just a short time before we would all be allowed into the conference room. But, that was not part of the plan. Instead, just 36 constituents were allowed in the conference room at one time, four at each of nine tables. According to the printed event guidelines on every table, each group of four

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more people waiting outside the conference room were then allowed access. While Congressman Hurd was visiting with the select four, the other 32 were not allowed to stand near the table he was visiting with.

By design, there was no way to hear what was being discussed from one table to the next. I also don't recall any formal announcement by Congressman Hurd's staff informing those standing in the hallway and outside of the conference room that this was the meeting format. Rather, it was up to those of us at the nine tables inside the conference room to notify those waiting in the hallway.



More than two hours later, it was our turn to be HEARD. I thanked Congressman Hurd for his time and for holding the event, but I also felt compelled to express my frustration with the format of this gathering. Observing those in line and around the room, I could not help but think of how difficult it was for some to get to the courthouse, stand in line (there was one bench to sit on), and wait to be HEARD. I was one of the lucky ones.

I'm not naive in recognizing why and when this event was likely planned the way it was. And, I'm also not looking for sympathy by sharing my story. In fact, the Eagles' song "Get Over It" does come to mind. And contrary to what some may believe, I AM working toward that goal! In the meantime, some insights for me center around living in a threatened democracy; let's not forget that those who wish to be HEARD, have the right and equal opportunity to be HEARD.

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the changes we seek." -President Barack Obama

submitted by,
Lori Martin,
MCD Secretary

WEBSITE UPDATE & TOURS

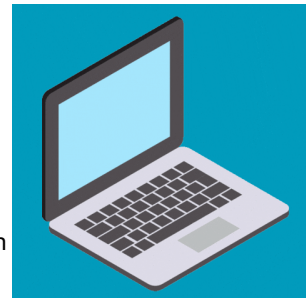
The MesaCountyDems.org website has undergone significant changes in the past few weeks, particularly in smoothing out navigation paths between pages. The menu options have been reworked and pages or sections renamed for added clarity. It's time to unveil these efforts.

Two website "tours" will be offered (one hour each) at the Mesa Dems' office on the following dates:

Wednesday, Sept. 16, Noon to 1:00pm

Thursday, Sept. 24, 5:30 to 6:30pm

Bring your phone, tablet, or laptop computer if you wish to view it on your own device. There will also be a projected screen view. We will answer questions, take feedback, and listen to your suggestions. . . all in an effort to improve and increase the website's access so you can find information more easily. See you then!



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Local Meetings

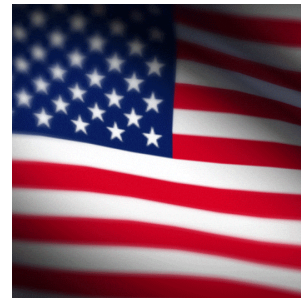
Mesa County Dems, City Councils, Candidate Forums & Websites

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

The next E/CC meeting will be on **September 14**.

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



City/Town meetings around the Grand Valley

TAKE ACTION and attend local municipal meetings for Grand Junction, Fruita, Palisade and the Mesa County Library Board. See the schedule on the MCD website:

<https://mesacountydems.org/take-action#municipal-meetings>



**COLORADO
DEMOCRATS**
BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE

For Immediate Release

August 20, 2026

Contact: Andrew Nicla

andrew@coloradodems.org

(720) 580-3251



**COLORADO
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BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE

DNC Includes Denver in Narrowed Field of Three Finalists to Host the 2028 Democratic National Convention

DENVER — The Democratic National Committee announced today that Denver, Boston and Philadelphia

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"Denver has earned its place in the final three, and Colorado Democrats are ready to bring the convention home to nominate the next president of the United States," said Colorado Democratic Party Chair Shad Murib. "Twenty years after Barack Obama accepted our party's nomination at Mile High, Democrats can return to the west to show the country what comes after Donald Trump: leaders who protect our freedoms, lower costs and give working people a fair shot. Denver is ready to make it happen."

"We are honored that Denver has advanced as one of the top three candidates to host the 2028 Democratic National Convention. Denver has always been a city forged on the frontier," said Denver Mayor Mike Johnston. "A place defined by big dreams, bold ideas, and pioneer spirit. We proved what this city could do when we hosted in 2008, and we've only gotten better since. Today, Denver blends modern transit, world-class venues, and a thriving hospitality scene with the unbeatable energy of the Rocky Mountain West. Hosting the convention again would be a tremendous opportunity for everyone who calls Denver home."

Over the summer we had the privilege of showing DNC members around Denver. They found a city that solves hard problems and takes on tough challenges, but also one that knows how to have fun, that's bound by a sense of community and civic responsibility. It's those things that our nation is looking for right now, and we hope they find it in Denver in 2028."

Denver boasts 13,700 hotel rooms within walking distance of the convention center and upgrades to Ball Arena for improved suites and ADA access.

National conventions generate a 3x to 4x return on investment for the host city's economy. Projections suggest an impact exceeding \$400M for the 2028 Convention, equivalent to hosting four Super Bowls in one week. This is a concentrated surge in revenue for our local hotels, restaurants, and small businesses, and an opportunity to show off what makes Denver — and Colorado — so special.

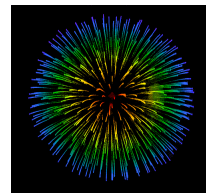
###

Events & Activities

THIS is what Democracy looks like!

**Time to get active.
Volunteer. Attend. Donate.**

To view the CALENDAR at any time,
visit the [Home](#) or [Events](#) pages of the [MesaCountyDems.org](https://mesacountydems.org) website



Saturday, SEP 19, 2026
Western Colorado Candidate Debates
8:00am - 8:15pm

CLUB 20 hosts Western Colorado Candidate Debates at CMU's Asteria Theatre in Grand Junction. Visit the [Club 20 website](#) for a copy of the Agenda (subject to change) and ticket

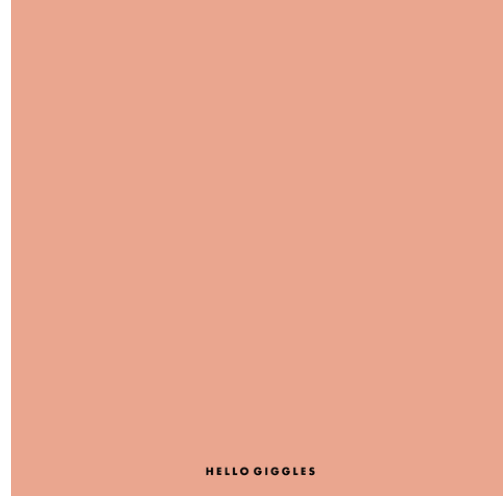
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UPDATE: There are a few free tickets made available by participating candidates. Call the office to get put on the list.

Saturday, SEP 26, 2026
111th Fruita Fall Festival Parade
starts @ 10:00am

[This document](#) provides additional details for organizations and their participants in the Parade, and when everyone needs to be lined up and ready to go!

Debbie Squires will be sending out an email for volunteers needed to help with the float and to walk in the parade. PLEASE sign up! We want a good showing of Democrats for this!



Saturday, OCT 10, 2026
2:00-4:00pm

L.A.C.E. of Grand Junction (Local Action. Community Engagement.) will be hosting a public discussion and explanation of ballot initiatives at the Mesa County Central Library. No other information is available at this time.

Friday, October 16
the **DemWest** event
an evening at the historic
Wine Country Inn
777 Grande River Dr., Palisade
5:30p to 8:30p

This year's event will be free for attendees BUT tickets must still be "purchased" (at \$0 - zero cost!) via [ActBlue](#) so we can get a headcount.

Purchase your ticket(s) as a "Supporter" - with a limit of 4 tickets per order.

There will be two cash bars at the event. Other details are pending.

(Currently, a sponsorship ticket sits at \$1k if you would like to donate to the event or you can make a different donation amount on the ActBlue page.)

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Veterans' Day Parade

November 11

Be a Parade Volunteer. Help with the float.

Contact Deb Squires with your interest (dasquires316@gmail.com)

(details forthcoming)



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.

SAVE THE DATE:
**Mesa County Democratic Holiday Potluck Gathering
 and Annual Awards Ceremony**

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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. Details coming soon!

Have questions? Please call Maria Keenan
at [970-261-9703](tel:970-261-9703) or
email Maria.Keenan@bresnan.net



VOLUNTEER POSITIONS OPEN

OFFICE SUPPORT

We would like to start opening the Mesa County Democrats' office on Friday evenings (5-7pm) and Saturday afternoons. By opening on Fridays and Saturdays, this will allow us to have staff present while Gemini Brewing is open and the Lowell Building has many visitors. During these last 8 weeks before the election, we hope to be able to register voters and pass out signs to as many people as possible.

If you would be interested in volunteering Fridays or Saturdays between now and election day, please contact **Sandy Wyatt** (970-210-9872) or **Lisa Tebo** (518-637-1828).

###

See **EVENTS** listed above and below if you would like to volunteer your skills in assisting with those as well.

PHONE BANKING & CANVASSING

The MCDP is working with the "Colorado Coordinated Campaign" to organize and plan calling and canvassing in a strategic, efficient manner.

Volunteers will be provided with voter lists/addresses and campaign materials for all Colorado Dems. For those who choose to canvas, it can be tailored to match your comfort level - be a driver, a door-knocker, or simply leave the literature on the door knob. We will also need support at the Dems' office on these days.

This should begin in the next couple of weeks and will continue until election day. It will be all hands on deck - I'll keep you posted.

Lisa Tebo

###

Mesa County Women's Group

Postcards to Swing States

Please join us for opportunities to write Postcards. CD-3 is now considered a swing

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After writing a total of 3,000 postcards to MI, GA, OH, and NC, we now will focus only on the CD-3 postcards. We have 1,500 CD-3 cards ready to write but hope to write more with donations of stamps.

Thank you for considering a donation to our Stamp-ed!

To learn about this and other [Women's Group](#) events on the MCD website, visit the [WG CALENDAR](#) page for more details. Postcard writing is on **Tuesdays from 11:00a to 1:00pm.**



Click on the following link for a description of the program and the important research conducted related to the efficacy of these mailings. <https://turnoutpac.org/postcards/>

2026 Election Updates

PREPARE FOR ELECTION DAY

Follow links (above and below) to the Mesa Dems' website for election and voting information of all kinds. For example, learn about Colorado's [BALLOT MEASURES](#), and the many [PETITIONS and INITIATIVES](#) on this November's ballot. Go to the MCD website [ELECTIONS](#) page, then choose other links from the menu, leading to specific areas of interest.



[HERE](#) is the list of "2026 Ballot Initiatives" and *recommendations* submitted by Colorado Democrat Chair Shad Murib. Again, these are his recommendations.

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Contact: Andrew Nicla
andrew@coloradodems.org

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Colorado Democrats Finalize Positions on 2026 Ballot Measures

DENVER — The Colorado Democratic Party's State Central Committee voted Tuesday on seven measures on the November ballot, concluding the Party's consideration of 2026 ballot measures after previously voting to take positions on others in [late May](#).

"Everyone should be able to afford a good life, make their own health care decisions and have a voice in their government without it breathing down their neck. We believe in . . .

[VIEW / DOWNLOAD THIS PDF](#) (Ballot Measures) for the remainder of this article.

VOTER HOTLINE

1-833-DEM-VOTE
1-833-336-8683
1-833-DEM-VOTE
VOTING ISSUES? CALL US.

 [COLORADODEMS.ORG/VOTE](https://coloradodems.org/vote)

"Please share the voter assistance hotline number: [1-833-336-8683](tel:1-833-336-8683). Volunteer lawyers can help answer questions about voter registration, where to vote, and escalate serious issues—like voter intimidation or suppression—to our team of attorneys for rapid response and resolution."

From: Matt Crane (ED@coclerks.com)

Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2026 12:18 PM

Subject: **Supreme Court Election Executive Order Decision: What to Know**

The U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision on August 24 involving President Trump's executive order on federal elections.

In March 2026, President Trump issued an executive order directing federal agencies to take a number of actions related to federal elections.

Two separate lawsuits challenged the executive order. The first was brought by a group of states, including Colorado, and challenged several parts of the order. The second was brought by the League of Women Voters and other voting-rights organizations and focuses specifically on the USPS and mail-ballot provisions.

The most important takeaway for Colorado clerks and voters is simple: Nothing changes for election administration today.

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Mark your calendar:

- Be sure you are [REGISTERED TO VOTE](#) on the Colorado Secretary of State website
- Ballots will be mailed October 2, 2026
(visit [Mesa County Election website](#) for all the important election dates)
- 2026 mid-term general election: Tuesday - November 3, 2026



The Colorado Democratic Party is encouraging people to return their completed ballots as soon as possible given the legal challenges.

Contact Us



Volunteer Team:

MesaDemsVolunteers@gmail.com

Newsletter submissions:

MesaCoDems@gmail.com

(submit articles and info by 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
each month)

Mesa County Dems

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

Mailing Address:

PO Box 2361

Grand Junction, CO 81502

Office Hours:

(call first)

Mon & Thu 12-4PM

Wed 10AM-4PM

Tue & Fri - closed

Contact Info: 970.549.8544



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