

KCUR and League of Women Voters-Kansas City to Host Forum with District 8 Candidates

Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 7, 2017--Three candidates vying to represent Missouri Senate District 8 have agreed to participate in a forum on Wednesday, Oct. 25 at John Knox Village, Ambassador Room, 500 N.W. Murray Road, Lee's Summit. The forum will run from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Candidates are Mike Cierpiot (R), Hillary Shields (D) and Jacob Turk, (I). KCUR's Brian Ellison, host of the Statehouse Blend Missouri podcast, will serve as moderator and include questions from the audience.

"We're delighted that the League of Women Voter's forum to help inform District 8 voters can extend its reach with KCUR's Statehouse Blend podcast," said Donna Hoch, co-president of the nonpartisan organization. "One of our true strengths is voter education through candidate forums which allows voters to compare and contrast candidates. This is a win-win for everyone, especially District 8 voters."

"KCUR is committed to fact-based journalism, and through the Statehouse Blend podcast, we strive to give listeners the information and context they need to be informed and engaged participants in democracy," said Ellison, who also covers Missouri government for the station. "We're thrilled to be partnering with the League of Women's Voters on this event, and we look forward to a vital and enlightening event."

Communities in District 8 include Blue Springs, Grain Valley, Greenwood, Independence, Lee's Summit, Lone Jack and Sibley. An active senior living community, John Knox Village is home to about a thousand older adults.

A nonpartisan organization, the League of Women Voters works for voter rights and education, registers voters, studies broad-based issues and encourages participation in the electoral process. KCUR is the University of Missouri at Kansas City-based public radio station.