



The Kitsap

Voter

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KITSAP

MARCH 2018

A Progress Report on the Behavioral Health Tax

When: Wednesday, March 14
Time: 9:30 a.m. to noon
Where: Eagles Nest, Kitsap County Fairgrounds
1200 NW Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton

On July 1, 2014, the first funds from the 1/10th of 1 percent tax were made available. The Kitsap League of Women Voters was instrumental in helping to get this tax for behavioral health services in the county. It's been three and a half years since these funds have been distributed. This program will inform us on how the funds have been used and how successful the projects selected have been in improving services for the mentally ill and those addicted to drugs.

Doug Washburn, Human Services Director for the county, will discuss the background of this tax, current needs, and the yearly revenue and distribution amounts. Richard Daniels, chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee, will describe

the selection process and the criteria used. And Robin O'Grady, a recipient representative from Kitsap Connect, administered by the Kitsap Public Health District, will share the data and success story of the effectiveness of its program.

Kitsap League Board

President Myra Howrey	Treasurer Adrienne Davis
1st Vice President Lydia Olsen	Secretary Karen Faye
2nd Vice President Carol Larsen	Voter Editor Barb Willock

Mark Your Calendar

MARCH

March 3, Board meeting, 10 a.m. to noon, community room of Haselwood YMCA in Silverdale

March 14, Public Meeting on the Behavioral Health Tax, 9:30 a.m. to noon, Eagle's Nest, Kitsap County Fairgrounds; contact Maurie Louis

See CALENDAR on Page 2

Remember to donate to LWVK online on April 24. That's the day of the Kitsap Great Give. Go to kitsapgreatgive.org for details.

President's Corner

Spring is around the corner. I promise! We have had some great public meetings this year and March looks to be more of the same. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. March 14 at the Eagle's Nest at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds to hear a discussion of what has happened in Kitsap County as a result of the Behavioral Health sales tax.

Mark your calendars for April 18 to hear all about Kitsap County water issues. That meeting will be at the Sheridan Park Community Center in Bremerton. And, as stated elsewhere in this Voter, the redistricting update meetings have been rescheduled to April 21. Please try to attend these

Firearm Safety Event Set for March 3

The Kitsap League will be one of the community co-sponsors for Seattle Children's Hospital's Safe Firearm Storage Giveaway Event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the Silverdale Sportsman's Warehouse.

According to the Children's Defense Fund in Washington State, a child or a teen is killed by a firearm every eight days. The State Department of Health estimates that 40 percent of Washington households have firearms present. One in six homes have firearms stored loaded and unlocked and 35 percent of those have children living in them.

Unit Meetings

Be sure to check with your unit leader for any schedule changes.

Bainbridge Island: March 28, 10 a.m. to noon, home of Madelyn Fox, 9000 Fletcher Bay Road; discussions on moving forward on gaining and sharing a better understanding of the Redistricting process and potential ramifications and how to move forward on updating the Bainbridge Island version of "Know Your City;" contact Maurie Louis for ride information at (925) 640-9002 or maurie.louis@comcast.net.

North Kitsap: March 28, 10 a.m., upstairs meeting room of Poulsbo Library; Helen Hoover will talk about League's position on gun safety; make and wear your own name tag; Bremerton and CK unit members are welcome; contact Pam Hamon.

South Kitsap: The public meeting on March 14 replaces the SK Unit Meeting that would normally be held on this date. Adrienne will be in touch with members to see

if they want to schedule another meeting later in March.

Evening Unit: March 21 (Wednesdays), 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., community room of Haselwood YMCA in Silverdale; contact Audrey Wolf.

Helping Homeless Tip

TIP – Bring a jar of peanut butter or can of tuna to your next unit meeting. These will be collected and donated to the Bremerton Backpack Brigade.

LWV 101

An LWV 101 meeting begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 24, at Cups Espresso, 123 Bjune Drive NE on Bainbridge Island. These are opportunities for newer members to learn about the League and how we come to positions and act on them. It's a time to ask questions and meet other Leaguers in a relaxed atmosphere. Non members

meetings. Note that even though the April 21 meetings are on Bainbridge and in Bremerton, any League member can attend either (or both) of the meetings.

The Annual Meeting will be May 16 at the Island Lake Community Room; our speaker will be State Senator Christine Rolfes. This is our annual business meeting where we adopt program, a budget, bylaws changes and elect officers and directors for the upcoming year. We also have our annual silent auction. This is a great chance to catch up with Leaguers you haven't seen in a while, have a great lunch and hear all about the past legislative session from Sen. Rolfes.

See you all soon.
Myra Howrey, LWVK President

Seattle Children's Hospital has conducted 13 events around the state, distributing 4,000 lock boxes and trigger locks since December 2014.

Fortunately for us, they have decided to have their next training and lock box give away in Kitsap County. As a co-sponsor, we need to provide at least three to five volunteers to help. Volunteer training will be provided at 9 a.m. the day of the event. They would particularly appreciate your participation if you have bi-lingual skills.

Contact Pam Hamon if you want to help with this important opportunity to help prevent firearms related incidents in Kitsap County.

CALENDAR From Page 1

or Pam Hamon

March 21, Evening Unit Meeting, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., community room at Haselwood YMCA in Silverdale; contact Audrey Wolf

March 24, League 101, at Cups Espresso, 123 Bjune Drive SE, Bainbridge Island; contact Pam Hamon

March 28, BI Unit Meeting, 10 a.m. to noon at the home of Madelyn Fox; contact Maurie Louis

March 28, NK Unit Meeting, 10 a.m. to noon, upstairs meeting room of Poulsbo Library; contact Pam Hamon

also are welcome, so bring a friend. An RSVP to Pam Hamon or Carol Larsen is appreciated.

Redistricting Sessions Postponed

Because of unforeseen circumstances, the January 27th training sessions on the League Redistricting Committee Report were cancelled and are rescheduled for April 21.

The first session will be from 10 a.m. to noon at the Suquamish Community Congregational United Church of Christ, 18732 Division Ave. NE.

The second session is from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Sylvan Way Library, 1301 Sylvan Way in Bremerton.

— Sue Hughes

Health Committee

The Health Committee needs more volunteers as we consider putting on a program for next year. Contact Pam Hamon if you are interested in working on this committee. We will be setting up a meeting in early April.

Holiday Meet and Greet Features Kitsap Transit Board Members

Our League hosted members of the Kitsap Transit board for our Dec. 2 holiday Meet and Greet brunch at Island Lake Community Center. Attending were Bremerton City Councilman Richard Huddy, Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson, Kitsap Transit Executive Director John Clauson, Kitsap County Commissioner Chair Charlotte Garrido, and Bremerton Mayor Patty Lent. Leaguer Linda Streissguth was moderator.

Lydia Olsen, Program Planning Chair and chief organizer of the event, praised League members for their many thoughtful questions submitted in advance of the event. The brunch, catered by Ambrosia, drew 35 members and guests.

Among the top priorities for the Kitsap Transit board members are getting fast ferry service between Bremerton and Seattle on track; improving bus ridership, which has been in decline for the past 10 years; making transit more environmentally sustainable with the addition of all-electric

buses; and experimenting with an “Uber-style” of transit.

Board members seemed to agree on many of the goals for the agency, but some disagreed with Mayor Erickson’s statement that perhaps a 30-minute crossing between Bremerton and Seattle was not crucial. She thought slower boats but more of them would work.

Councilman Huddy disagreed saying, “The 30-minute ferry between Bremerton and Seattle is crucial; this is the keystone of the whole system.”

Transit plans to add fast ferry service between Kingston and downtown Seattle this year and between Southworth and downtown Seattle in 2020.

There wasn’t time to answer all of our questions, but the board members invited everyone to attend community meetings taking place around the county in December to learn more about the transit system and its goals for the future.

— Annie Strosnider

Meet Our New Members

After participating in the Women’s March of 2017, **Lynn Collins** decided to continue her activism in her South Kitsap community. She knew about LWVK from her friend Ann Smith, and then another Leaguer, Rhonda Fairgrieve, told her about the South Kitsap Unit meetings, which fit Lynn’s schedule. Lynn attended a South Unit meeting, and that group experience convinced her to join LWVK.

Lynn has lived in the Manchester area for 30 years. She is married to Brian Collins, who was an engineer in the Merchant Marines until his retirement in 2011. Lynn describes herself as a housewife/gardener/maintenance person of a large property and orchard.

Besides her community activism, Lynn’s interests include her pets, book club, pottery hobby, and a folk singing music club.

Anne Lunden believes “we need to reignite civic engagement so our future leaders govern with knowledge and insight.” She joined the LWVK because she was impressed by the knowledgeable, articulate women asking questions at many of the LWVK forums she has attended. As a League member she hopes to increase her knowledge of local government and the issues facing Kitsap County. In particular, Anne wants to help ensure appropriate civics instruction in the schools, courses that inspire students to participate in their civic duties, a necessity for our democracy’s future.

Anne moved to Kitsap County in 1994. She is a registered nurse, working for Kaiser Permanente in the home health and hospice department. Making their home in Bremerton, Anne and her husband, Brad, have

two children, twins Kevin and Bethany, who will be 19 in March and are freshmen at Gonzaga University.

Kirsten Jewell joined LWVK, in part, because she wants to support the mission of the league “to provide unbiased education about important community issues,” a mission she thinks is “desperately needed at this time in our country’s evolution,” and, in part, because of her grandmother. While visiting her grandmother to celebrate her 95th birthday, Kirsten mentioned she participated in a League event, and her grandmother said, “Oh, I have been a member of the League for 67 years. It’s a great organization.” Kirsten thought her grandmother’s endorsement was “high praise” and decided to join LWVK.

Kirsten is especially “interested in voter registration, getting out the vote, fair voting practices, and quality education about issues so that citizens can make well-informed choices” because these are the foundation “of a functioning democracy.”

She works for Kitsap County Human Services Department, coordinating the countywide Housing and Homelessness Program. In addition, she serves on various boards including: Kingston Cares, Kitsap Strong Leadership Group, and the Governor’s State Advisory Council on Homelessness. For fun, she is the past founding president of the Kitsap Rowing Association, and many early mornings may be found “coxing a four or an eight.”

Kirsten has lived most of her life in Kitsap County, graduating from Bainbridge High School, leaving for college, and now living in Indianola with her husband, John Jewell, and their two teen-aged daughters, who “help inspire us to keep working hard for a hopeful future.”



Thanks to all the donors to this year’s One Call For All Campaign. The total received so far was more than \$2,000!

ON THE WEB

Find our local League news, meeting notices, reminders and publications on our Facebook or our website, www.lwv-kitsap.org. Be sure to ‘like’ us on Facebook.

League of Women Voters
of Kitsap County, WA
P.O. Box 1524
Poulsbo, WA 98370



***FORWARDING & RETURNING POSTAGE GUARANTEED
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED***

MARCH 2018 Voter

In this issue:

- ▶ Report on the Behavioral Health Tax
- ▶ President's Corner
- ▶ Unit Meetings
- ▶ Board Snippets
- ▶ Observer Team Update
- ▶ Holiday Meet & Greet Update
- ▶ Carpool/Ride Share Information

Board Snippets — 2/03/18

1. Current membership stands at 129.
2. The board approved the National Programming Report to be submitted to LWVUS.
3. The board will review the Local Programming Report at the March board meeting and will vote on items to be forwarded to the membership at the Annual Meeting for adoption.
4. The board approved Bylaws changes to be forwarded to the membership at the Annual Meeting for adoption.
5. The TRYs will be ready for the printer by next week. We are printing 4,000 copies.
6. The current review of the Co-Sponsorship policy will be February 10. A recommended draft will be submitted to the March board meeting.
7. Upcoming meeting planning is on track per the Program Committee.

Member Interest Survey

Please go our website and click on the Members Only tab. Once there, enter the member password, and complete the INTEREST SUR-

VEY. Your input will be helpful in matching interests/skills with the appropriate needs of our local league. Thank you.

Observer Team

The Observer Team is up and running. We have members observing city council meetings, hospital related meetings and housing boards. If you want to join the fun and want the coveted LWV button and folder, please let me know via email at: annette@crmaxson.com or by phone at 206-347-6051. Members can observe meetings in person or on television broadcasts at home. Observing our local government in action educates and informs us about our communities and helps us all to become more informed voters. Another informational meeting will be in March or April; please check the Voter and the LWV-Kitsap website and Facebook page.

Any member observing governmental agencies or boards who did not come to the meeting is asked to please let me know what meeting you are observing. I am compiling a list of meetings being observed as a reference for

our team members. Send them to me by email, snail mail or telephone. Thank you.

— Annette Maxson

***More Kitsap Sun Editorial
Board Shout Outs***

In last month's Voter, Shelley Kneip and Sue Hughes were recognized for their service on the Kitsap Sun Editorial Board. Diane Manning and Martha Burke also have been community members on the Board and deserve our thanks for their commitment to helping ensure our County residents are informed of important issues to Kitsap County.

***Need a Ride or Available
to Provide Ride to Meetings?***

There is a call for carpool drivers on the Members Only page with a link to the Carpool Registry. The information will be sent to Maurie Louis and she will forward it to the appropriate unit leader.