

# The VOTER - April 2021

To maurie.louis@comcast.net



## *The Voter*

April, 2021

Due to a temporary issue with our normal form of publication, the April issue of The Voter was compiled and distributed online. Hopefully things will be resolved for the May issue.



**Dr. Heather Trim**



**Hans and Nicholas Schippers**



**Lori Cloutier**

### *For Earth Day, Plan to Attend Our Plastics Program*

What: Plastic: The Big Picture, Local Insights, and What You Can Do

When: Wednesday, April 21, 5 p.m.

Link to join Webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83987893485>

Microplastics are all around us. They have been found in human kidneys, livers,

Chemicals used to create and destroy plastic are in the air we breathe and sicken

lungs, spleens, and mother's milk. Single use plastics pollute our roadways and our beaches, and they create vast islands of waste in our oceans, choking our marine life.

our children, especially in communities of color. [Read More](#)

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## April Calendar

**April 3:** LWVK Board meeting via Zoom, 10 a.m. to noon; contact Ann Strosnider or Leni Skarin

**April 8:** U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer to hold virtual town hall for League members, 2 p.m. via Zoom

**April 10:** Deadline for May Voter. Please have all material to Ann Strosnider by 5 p.m.

**April 10:** Speak Up School, Use Your Voice, 1:30-3:30 p.m.; contact Susan Griggs

**April 12:** SK Unit meeting, 10 a.m. to noon via Zoom; contact Janet Stegemeyer

**April 12:** Health Committee meeting, 2 p.m. via Zoom; contact Pam Hamon

**April 13:** DEI Committee meeting, noon via Zoom (note new date and time); contact Susan Griggs

**April 17:** Bremerton/CK Unit Meeting, 10 a.m. to noon via Zoom; contact Maureen Cervinsky

**April 17:** Speak Up School, How to Testify in Order to Have an Impact, 1:30-3:30 p.m.; contact Susan Griggs

**April 19:** Planning Committee meeting, 10 a.m. to noon; contact Maureen Cervinsky

**April 20:** Kitsap Great Give

**April 21:** Plastics: Global Issue, Local Insight, 5 p.m. Zoom Webinar; a collaboration with Olympic College during Earth Week

**April 25:** Final day of legislative session

**April 28:** NK Unit Meeting via Zoom, 10 a.m. to noon; contact Pam Hamon

**April 29:** Speak Up School, Data Lenses, 6-7:30 p.m.; contact Susan Griggs

**April 29:** National LWV Day of Action on Redistricting

**May 19: Mark Your Calendar for our Annual Meeting, 10:15 a.m. on Zoom**

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### [Plastics \(cont\)](#)

We were convinced that we, the consumers of plastic, were responsible for correcting this environmental disaster — all we had to do was recycle — only to find that no more than 10 percent of our plastic waste is actually recycled. Much of what is sent to recycling is shipped to economically struggling countries, contributing to health and environmental emergencies abroad. Even as this environmental crisis mounts, the oil industry is increasing its production and promotion of plastic to offset the loss of financial profit from falling

consumption of fossil fuels.

How do we respond to this assault on our health and our environment? One response is to arm ourselves with knowledge. Please join our League and Olympic College's joint webinar on Wednesday, April 21, at 5 p.m. for "Plastic: The Big Picture, Local Insights, and What You Can Do!" As a part of Olympic College's Earth Week celebration, Dr. Heather Trim, from Zero-Waste Washington, will discuss a big-picture overview of plastic issues in our country and state. Kingston residents Hans and Nicholas Schippers, from Parley for the Oceans, will address our local challenges and their efforts to educate future generations about how to take action. And, finally, Lori Cloutier, founder of Poulsbo Rotary's "Trash Talk Task Force" will help us effectively recycle when we must. So, if you have questions about recycling, be sure to bring them to the program for Lori to answer.



### **Board Snippets**

#### **From March 6, 2021, board meeting**

We briefly discussed the upcoming state League convention. It will be held virtually, June 24-28. Our League should be able to send eight delegates, and anyone may attend as an observer. No information on costs has been posted yet.

Martha Burke and Leni Skarin reported on virtual lobby week. They thought it was a good way to hear from legislators and lobby for League-supported bills. Special programs included Advocating for Equity in Hyperpartisan Times, Making Our Tax Structure More Fair and Redistricting: Why It Matters.

We appointed a committee to plan for our Annual Meeting on May 19 and report back to the

board on April 3.

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# Kitsap GREAT GiVE

## **Don't Forget to Give Where You Live**

April 20 is the day of the Kitsap Great Give. Our League, along with some 350 local nonprofits, will be participating this year. It's a very easy way to support the League of Women Voters Education Fund as well as other worthy local organizations. It's a 24-hour online giving event organized by the Kitsap Community Foundation for the benefit of the greater Kitsap area. *And you don't even have to wait until April 20 to make a donation. Early giving starts April 1.*

For information go to [kitsapgreatgive.org](http://kitsapgreatgive.org).

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## **Rep. Kilmer to Hold Virtual Town Hall for League Members**

Sixth District Rep. Derek Kilmer's office recently reached out to LWVK to see if we would be interested in a town-hall style virtual meeting with our Congressman. It is now set for April 8 at 2 p.m.

If you remember the last time he spoke to us — in person — he discussed HR 1, the For the People Act. That bill has now passed the House on a near party-line vote. It would require states to offer same-day registration for federal elections, expand voting by mail and make election day a federal holiday. Please plan to attend the town hall and bring your questions for Rep. Kilmer.

Here's Zoom information for the meeting:

Topic: Rep. Kilmer + LWV of Kitsap County

Time: Apr 8, 2021 02:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85239053291?pwd=MG1udDdQUml2V3FPeWNRWIRaUm5kZz09>

Meeting ID: 852 3905 3291

Passcode: 495094

One tap mobile

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+16699006833,,85239053291#,,,,\*495094# US (San Jose)



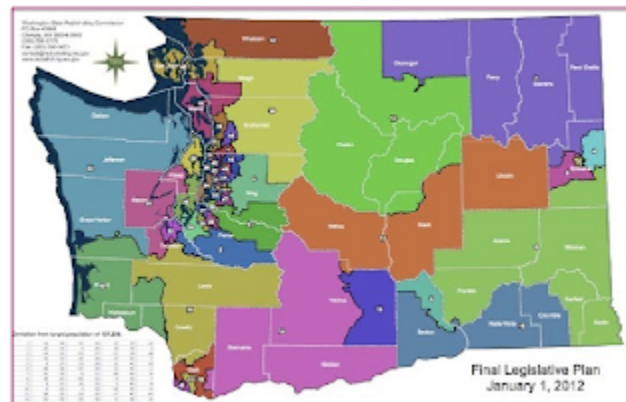
**Increase Your Voting Power by Attending a Speak Up School Session**

The League of Women Voters of Kitsap is sponsoring the Speak Up School to empower citizens to feel comfortable and learn skills for speaking up at the Washington Redistricting Commission's public meetings and/or public hearings.

The Speak Up School will be held on April 10 and April 17 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. and on April 29 from 6-7:30 p.m. The first session will have a keynote speaker who will motivate participants to use their voices to gain more voting power, followed by a PowerPoint presentation on Why Is Redistricting Important? and then a PowerPoint presentation on How to Write Effective Testimony. The second session will focus on How to Testify in order to Have an Impact. The pointers that will be given will be useful whenever someone testifies at a public hearing or meeting. Lastly, in the third session we will cover Data Lenses, or different ways that district lines can be drawn in order to empower your community to gain more voting power.

— Susan Griggs

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### **Redistricting Webinar - Now on YouTube**

Our League held a webinar on *Redistricting, Statewide and Local* on Feb. 27. To view it, see the following link:

"How Redistricting Works in Kitsap County: A Conversation with Kitsap County Auditor Paul Andrews"

<https://youtu.be/wDNEkoxCJDI>

— Susan Griggs

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**Have League Voter Services materials to store? Here's how...**

**Location of our new storage unit:**

Randall Way Storage  
3442 NW Randall Way  
Silverdale, WA 98383  
(360) 858-6869

**Office hours:**

Monday to Friday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; 1:30-5 p.m.  
Saturday-Sunday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Gate Hours 6 a.m.-10 p.m., 7 days a week**

Please place your items with similar items. Try to be organized in this process. Small items should be in a container of your choice prior to placement in the unit.

Go to the **Members Only** section of our website to get entry instructions.

— Carol Larsen

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## **Committee News**

### **Tip for helping those with housing insecurity**

Homes of Compassion is a nonprofit organization working to end homelessness by providing leased homes at affordable prices in Kitsap County. They currently are operating 23 locations where residents are able to rent a bedroom in a furnished home. There is an immediate need for chests of drawers for residents to store their clothes and personal belongings. If you have a dresser that is in good condition, that you are willing to donate, please contact the Housing Committee chairs. Thanks to all of you who have been so generous in helping this vulnerable population.

The Housing Committee will be meeting at 10 a.m. June 9, Sept. 8 and Dec. 8, all on Zoom.  
— Connie Syapin and Rochelle Karlsen

### **DEI Changes Meeting Time**

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee is working on the upcoming Speak Up School virtual meetings (see separate article), Redistricting Day of Action on April 29, reactivating Observers to go to organizations that involve individuals from diverse communities, and planning further webinars in our series on "Getting to know our community," the next of which will focus on the Latinx community

Our meeting time has changed. We now meet at noon on the second Tuesday of the month. We welcome all who are interested to come to our meetings and get involved in our activities.

—Susan Griggs

### **Health Issues**

The Health Committee has been working on two requests/concerns from the Clallam County League: the lack of psychiatric beds on the Olympic Peninsula and a state research project on Public Hospital Districts. We meet on the second Monday of the month at 2 p.m. Our next Zoom meeting will be April 12. Contact Pam Hamon if you would like to attend.



## **LWV 101**

Carol Larsen and Pam Hamon are planning another LWV 101 session toward the end of April. This is a time for newer members to learn about League, our structure, how we choose our positions, our nonpartisanship and our activities. It's an opportunity to ask questions about League that there may not be time for in other meetings. Contact Pam or Carol if you would like to attend.

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## **Unit News**

### **SK**

At our March meeting Anita Rose and Marty Bishop, co-chairs of the new Climate Change Solutions Committee, gave a presentation inviting everyone to join their committee and subscribe to their blog at [lwvkitsapclimate.blogspot.com](http://lwvkitsapclimate.blogspot.com). Anita also presented an extensive PowerPoint on Stacey Abrams and her campaign to register all eligible voters in Georgia and encourage them to vote. The key, Abrams found, was not to focus on swing voters but on disaffected voters. Next meeting of the SK Unit will be Monday, April 12, from 10 a.m. to noon on Zoom. Contact Janet Stegemeyer for information.

### **Bremerton/CK**

The Bremerton/CK Unit meets at 10 a.m. on the third Saturday, of the month. On April 17 we plan to focus on our parks departments. We are inviting Jeff Elevado, Bremerton Parks and Rec Director (confirmed); the new Kitsap County Parks Director, Alexander Wisniewski; and County Commissioner Ed Wolfe to talk about how our small community parks and green spaces fit into the explosion of growth we are experiencing in Bremerton and CK. Amy Lawrence, Environmental Studies instructor at Olympic College, plans to attend and is interested in working with us on our five steps for Pocket Parks. For more information about our League's Pocket Parks investigation, go to

<https://youtu.be/yLKKWNBVIIE>

Contact Unit Leader Maureen Cervinsky for more information.

## **NK**

The North Kitsap Unit meets the fourth Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon. Our next meeting will be April 28. We will discuss LWVK committee work, webinars and the Legislative session. Contact Unit Leader Pam Hamon with suggestions for other topics..

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## **LWV Kitsap Committees and Current Chairs**

- Bylaws Review – Leni Skarin - [leniskarin@gmail.com](mailto:leniskarin@gmail.com)
- Civics Education Subcommittee – Carol Larsen and Becky Drotz - [clarsen88@gmail.com](mailto:clarsen88@gmail.com); [drotz123@msn.com](mailto:drotz123@msn.com)
- Community Pocket Parks — Kathleen Gallagher - [miley98370@yahoo.com](mailto:miley98370@yahoo.com)
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion — Susan Griggs - [subes0803@hotmail.com](mailto:subes0803@hotmail.com)
- Early Childhood Education (0-3) — Rosalind Renouard - [rrenouard@msn.com](mailto:rrenouard@msn.com)
- Health – Pam Hamon and Leni Skarin -- [pchamon@icloud.com](mailto:pchamon@icloud.com); [leniskarin@gmail.com](mailto:leniskarin@gmail.com)
- Housing — Rochelle Karlsen and Connie Syapin - [sailorrochelle@gmail.com](mailto:sailorrochelle@gmail.com); [csyapin@msn.com](mailto:csyapin@msn.com)
- Legislative Issue Liaison – Martha Burke - [mburke2007@aol.com](mailto:mburke2007@aol.com)
- LWV 101 — Pam Hamon and Carol Larsen - [pchamon@icloud.com](mailto:pchamon@icloud.com); [clarsen88@gmail.com](mailto:clarsen88@gmail.com)
- Membership — Carol Larsen - [clarsen88@gmail.com](mailto:clarsen88@gmail.com)
- Nominating – Susan Daniel - [sdaniel537@aol.com](mailto:sdaniel537@aol.com)
- Planning — Maureen Cervinsky - [mcervinsky@gmail.com](mailto:mcervinsky@gmail.com)
- Publicity — Maurie Louis - [maurie.louis@comcast.net](mailto:maurie.louis@comcast.net)
- Social Media — Colette Crosby - [colettecrosby@gmail.com](mailto:colettecrosby@gmail.com)
- Technology — Maurie Louis - [maurie.louis@comcast.net](mailto:maurie.louis@comcast.net)

- Voter Registration and Get Out the Vote — Pam Hamon and Alicia Vause - [pchamon@icloud.com](mailto:pchamon@icloud.com); [aliciavotes@gmail.com](mailto:aliciavotes@gmail.com)



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