



The Kitsap Voter

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KITSAP

JUNE 2021

Kitsap Great Give Great Give a Great \$3,638 Success

Since 2014, Kitsap Community Foundation has organized the Kitsap Great Give to raise money for local nonprofits. This year the Kitsap Great Give raised **\$2,186,901!** Our League has for several years been one of the many nonprofits across the county to receive donations through the Great Give.

This year was an especially good year for us and we thank our generous community. The funds our League received will be used to support community education events including voter registration, voter guides and candidate forums. It's our job to effectively use these funds to help ensure our community members are informed and engaged.



League president Maurie Louis and Karen Faye, outgoing League treasurer, received the big check from Geoff Ball, president and CEO, Kitsap Community Foundation.



Artist's rendering of Pendleton Place on Kitsap Way in Bremerton.

Donations Needed for Pendleton Place Welcome Home Baskets

You can help LWVK greet the 72 new residents of Pendleton Place with Welcome Home Baskets containing supplies such as kitchen and bath items necessary for establishing a new home that is comfortable and move-in ready for folks who will arrive with nothing much more than the clothes on their backs.

Pendleton Place, Kitsap County's first permanent supportive housing apartment complex, is scheduled to open in March 2022. Located on Kitsap Way in Bremerton and operated by Kitsap Mental Health Services, Pendleton Place will provide services and housing for individuals with serious mental illnesses and chronic substance use disorders. Following the "Housing First" model by offering a stable home with on-site support services will help chronically homeless individuals lead more productive, safe lives.

A \$100 donation will pay for one complete Welcome See Pendleton on Page 3

LWVUS Mission and Vision Statements

Mission Statement:
Empowering voters.
Defending democracy.

Vision Statement:
We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

President's Corner

Maurie Louis Takes on the Presidency of LWVK

Several members have asked me why in the world would I want to be president of our League. My first thought is that I really like sitting with my laptop on my lap, as I am now, and this job more than meets this need. I truly enjoy emailing with fellow League members or trying to figure out new techy tools that may benefit the League's work.

I never cease to be amazed at how creative and organized technology has allowed us to be. Another reason for accepting this



Maurie Louis

position is that "it's my turn." I greatly admire what the League accomplishes at the national, state and local levels. It's pretty clear to me that it's quite a commitment to be a League president but just as with taxes, I feel I must contribute my fair share. It's now my turn. There is also my need to feel I am helping this fragile country of ours.

It's pretty clear that protecting the vote and getting out the vote and providing truthful information to our community are very important

to maintaining a healthy democratic form of government.

Perhaps the biggest reason I accepted the invitation to be our League's president is wanting to replicate the role I played during my career. When I was a manager, my job was to provide everything my teams needed to accomplish their tasks and to do all I could to remove any obstacles in their way. My goal as president is to do exactly the same for our League — its members, teams and committees. I know it's not likely to be a picnic — but I believe I'm going to enjoy it.

LWVK Members Tour Future Emergency Housing Site



Submitted photo.

Above from left, Rochelle Karlsen, Kirsten Jewell, Nancy Olsten, and Charlotte Garrido. At right, twenty-two League members and their guests took part in a League-sponsored tour of the SK Temporary Emergency Housing Facility on June 11.

Twenty-two League members and their guests visited the future South Kitsap Temporary Emergency Housing facility on Mile Hill Drive in Port Orchard on Friday, June 11. The tour was organized by Rochelle Karlsen and Connie Syapin, LWVK Housing Committee Co-Chairs.

Kirsten Jewell, Housing and Homelessness Program Coordinator with the Kitsap County Department of Human Services, and a League member; Nancy Olsten, Executive Director of Kitsap Rescue Mission; and Kitsap County Commissioner Charlotte Garrido

answered questions and gave an overview of the county's plans.

The facility will provide temporary emergency housing to single adults, couples, and families who are experiencing a housing crisis. Residents will be provided with meals, laundry facilities, personal hygiene items, and safe storage for their possessions. They can also access and engage with other services onsite such as physical and mental health care, housing assistance, substance use treatment, and job placement.

Kitsap County owns the

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LWVK Board Member Profile

How Well do You Know Board Member Gail Sackman?



Photo submitted by Gail Sackman
A girl (yep, that's Gail) and her horse!

Give yourself one point for each bit of TRUE information you know about Gail Sackman, a proud member of LWVKitsap.

■ She's a 6-year LWVK member and 4-year board member.

■ She is the middle child of five children raised on a ranch in Wyoming.

■ She loves oysters and okra.

■ Her career of 34 years included time as a teacher, a principal and a superintendent in both Wyoming and Washington.

■ Gail has two grown children and one granddaughter, all living out of state.

■ Her PAST hobbies included raising, training and showing English

setters and pointers, and endurance racing her horses (completed the Big Horn 100-mile race in 23 hours in the Big Horn Mountains in WY).

■ Current hobbies include prolific reading time, gardening, spoiling 2 dogs, listening to my canaries sing and participating in LWV activities.

■ She has two great fears, deep water and deterioration of our "democratic" form of government.

■ Gail feels the most important mission of LWV is to encourage voters to vote and to protect everyone's right to vote.

■ She can't wait to attend more conferences and meetings!

If you got 8 true and 2 false you know Gail!



Gail Sackman

PENDLETON

From Page 1

Home Basket although any amount is much appreciated!

Online donations at www.kitsapmentalhealth.org/register/donate-online/ are tax-deductible. Please select "Pendleton Place Welcome Baskets."

Do you enjoy online shopping? Click on the "Pendleton Place" Amazon Wish List registry: www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/19A49I1ELNY40?ref_=wl_share.

Questions about the project? Contact Rochelle Karlsen, LWVK Housing Committee Co-Chair, at 360-728-6222 or sailorrochelle@gmail.com.

HOUSING

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building and will contract with Kitsap Rescue Mission to operate the program. Improvements to the former Olympic Fitness Club building, including fire sprinkler and alarm system installations, upgrades for ADA accessibility, and substantial roof repairs, will take place over the next several months.

League member Judy-Rae Karlsen is the Project Manager. The occupancy date will be determined once the permit process is completed.

Resident referrals will be made by the county's one-stop housing referral service, the Housing Solutions Center. More information on this project may be found at www.kcowa.us/skhousing.

Unit News

■ **Bremerton/CK:** Members of the Bremerton/CK Unit participated in the Bremerton Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 19, in lieu of a regular Zoom meeting. There will be no regular Zoom meeting in July. On Tuesday, August 10, members will gather at Evergreen Park for a brown bag lunch to begin discussing Kirstin Eberhard's "Becoming a Democracy: How We Can Fix the Electoral College, Gerrymandering and Our Elections." For information, contact Maureen Cervinsky.

■ **North Kitsap:** The North Kitsap Unit will meet at 10 a.m. July 28 via zoom. The August 25 meeting will be a pot luck lunch at the home of Carol Larsen in Suquamish. Carol will send out the information as Pam will be gone for 2 months. Carol also will send out information for the September 22 meeting.

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How Important Is Early Childhood to a Person's Life

The League of Women Voters-Kitsap's "0-Three" group includes League members with a variety of backgrounds and a strong interest in issues surrounding the very important first three years of a child's life! From prenatal care to early caregiving settings to support services for young parents, we've spent time over the past two years researching programs and services while identifying key issues facing children and parents in Kitsap County. If this area of work sounds interesting, then come join us!

In the coming year we plan to continue learning more about what's happening in Kitsap County, make new connections with area agency staff, implement community education efforts and identify legislative priori-

ties to focus our attention and efforts.

The "0-Three" committee's first report on our work is available on the LWVK website, lwv-kitsap.org.

■ **Mission Statement:** To promote public awareness and legislative action to ensure children from birth to three are exposed to the kind of experiences that maximize their brain development during these critical years.

■ **Vision Statement:** Our vision is that parents and other caregivers in Kitsap County provide the best care possible, based on research supporting children's development during the very critical time period of birth to three years and that children's parents have access to appropriate materials, services and support programs.

■ **Belief Statement:** After reviewing

research and interviewing experts in the field, LWVK "0 to Three" committee believes that the first three years of life are the most crucial in building the foundation for a child's subsequent intellectual capacity, social development and well-being. It is important to minimize children's exposure to adverse childhood experiences.

Many young parents seek out and are in need of support in their role as child's first teachers. The committee feels that not nearly enough emphasis and monetary support has been designated for the education and care of this age group.

If you're interested in joining efforts with this group of League members, contact Rosalind Renouard at rrenouard@msn.com.

Public Hospital Districts Project

The League of Women Voters of Washington has the position that all people have access to the health care they need. People should have the funds to access care and care should be geographically available. This covers both beginning and end-of-life services that are legal in Washington state.

Our League of Women Voters Kitsap Healthcare Committee met in February with Nancy Field from the Clallam County LWV to discuss their proposal to have a 2-year civics education project on Public Hospital Districts (PHDs) and their role and success in addressing community healthcare needs. There are 58 PHDs in Washington and 44 have hospitals. Kitsap does not have a PHD. The PHD Association and their Executive Director coordinates, educates and offers trainings for all districts. PHDs are secular and provide healthcare services or referral to services not readily available. Each PHD requires an advisory board that is accountable to the public. The service provider does not have to be

a hospital but can be a hospice, a nursing home, a clinic, an ambulance service, funding for nurse practitioners or any other health care related need. The project will identify the PHDs and their various services, how they are funded, how PHD boards are formed and what they do, and how effective the PHDs are in meeting the healthcare needs of the community. Communities without PHDs can put up a petition to establish a

district and the County Commissioners can allow one to be formed. If taxes are involved, it is most often put to a vote of the community to be served.

Three state-wide projects have been proposed and will be voted on at the state convention in June. The PHD proposal was one of the three. Our LWVK Board passed the Healthcare Committee's request that our nine delegates to the convention support the PHD proposal.

For information on PHDs, go to www.awphd.org.

UNITS

From Page 3

■ **South Kitsap:** Sen. Emily Randall of the 26th Legislative District was the guest speaker at the June meeting, answering a number of questions from League members and outlining the successes and challenges of the most recent state legislative session. The video of the event will soon be on the LWVK website: youtube.com/watch?v=w0t-FAcwOodg. Nick Bond, Port Orchard's Community Development Director, will be the July 12 guest, speaking about the future South Kitsap Community Events Center and the Imagine Port Orchard

program: www.imagineportorchard.com/. The SK Unit meets the second Monday of the month; the next Zoom meeting will be from 10 a.m. to noon July 12. Contact Janet Stegemeyer for information.

■ **Bainbridge Island:** The Bainbridge Unit has new co-chairs — Delight Willing and Colette Crosby. Their first meeting will be at the home of Maurie Louis at 10 a.m. on June 30. Plans for unit activities in the upcoming year will be discussed.

Members are asked to bring their ideas for topics and will be asked their preference for how and when meetings will be.

New Opportunity — Observer Corps

The LWVK Board has approved the resur-rection of an official member Observer Corps where members attend government meetings and report back what they have learned.

Observer Corps attendance helps Leagues keep apprised of matters of importance to the League and promotes transparency and

accountability. A key rule is that observers do not speak or participate in the meeting being observed. Observers are the eyes and ears of the League. The League presi-dent or her/his designee are the only mem-bers authorized to speak for the League. If you are interested in participating in the Observer Corps, look for Observer Corps Guidelines on our website. An Observer

Corps 101 session will be scheduled for all interested members.

It’s Annual Dues Time

Dues are payable now. The amount is \$60 with three exceptions:

■ Members who joined April 1, 2021, or later are paid in full through June 30, 2022.

■ Members who joined the League on or after Jan. 1, 2021, through March 31, 2021, are expected to pay \$30 this year.

■ Student and scholarship members are subject to the payment arrangement made with the Membership Chair.

Watch for an invoice in the mail. Your continued support of our Kitsap League allows us to continue to “Make Democracy Work.”

2021 Candidate Forums — Coming Soon!

The election season has arrived. Let your unit lead know if you would like to join the Forums Committee to help produce these exciting community education events.

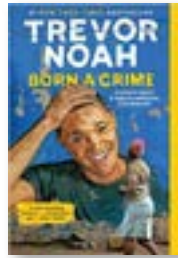
The 2021 Primary election is Aug. 3 and the 2021 General election is Nov. 2.

What We’re Reading

LWVK offers a peek into what we’re reading. Here is what one member is reading:

■ **“Born a Crime”** by Trevor Noah.

Trevor Noah, host of The Daily Show, tells of his life born to a white father and a black Xhosa



mother in South Africa. In those days, such a union was punishable by five years in prison. This collection of stories is at times difficult to read and disturbing yet at other times poignant, enlightening as it is entertaining. “Born a Crime” is a testament of rising from extreme abject poverty to becoming one of America’s great success stories. Noah’s writing is honest, unapologetic and full of humor as he tells (and he doesn’t sugarcoat) about his upbringing.

Noah’s path to success hasn’t been an easy one, but one so very inspiring with many lessons to be learned: with determination and positive thinking, one can achieve just about anything. — Barb Willock

Let us know what your suggestions are ... we want to continue sharing our love of reading to our League.

Membership Levels

\$60 Basic Membership

\$90 Household Membership

(2 or more members at the same address)

\$110 Carrie Chapman Catt Member

(founder of League of Women Voters)

\$160 Jo Huey Member

(first president of LWV/K)

Donation to Education Fund

(only donations to the Education fund are tax-deductible)

Free Student Membership

(with current student identification)

Additional donation to support your local Kitsap League

(Full or partial scholarships are available upon request.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

Dues are payable by check or by PayPal at lwv-kitsap.org. Make checks payable to LWV/Kitsap and mail to: League of Women Voters/Kitsap P.O. Box 1524 Poulsbo, WA 98370

Mark Your Calendar: Dues are payable in July. Members are notified well in advance; please pay dues on time. **NOTE:** If paying with PayPal, you will be charged a small additional fee to cover the PayPal convenience charge.

League of Women Voters
of Kitsap County, WA
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Poulsbo, WA 98370



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LWV Kitsap Committees and Current Chairs

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