More than 35 volunteers joined together over the weekend of July 31 to clean up the grounds of the property on Mile Hill Road in South Kitsap purchased by Kitsap County to provide a temporary emergency housing.

The once-a-decade redistricting process is under way in Washington state and the Redistricting Commission needs your input. Where the lines are drawn for Legislative and Congressional districts affects the voting power of Washington citizens for the next 10 years. LWV wants all citizens to have equal opportunity to have their voice heard. We believe that citizens who feel that their voice and their vote matters will become more informed and more active in government. How the congressional and legislative districts are mapped determines whether all communities are fairly represented.

See REDISTRICTING on Page 3

See CLEANUP on Page 3

See CALENDAR on Page 4
Introducing Voter Services Committee Co-Chairs

Hi everyone! We, Alicia Vause and Colette Crosby, are happy to be co-chairing the Voter Services Committee.

We both bring a lot of enthusiasm to this work and look forward to collaborating with all of you to encourage folks to register and vote!

Here are our bios.

**Alicia:** I’ve lived in Washington for most of my life. I grew up in Vancouver, WA, and went to college in Tacoma. After college, I spent 7 years in the California Bay Area before I eventually returned to my home state. I have lived in an old farm house on Bainbridge Island with my husband Nathan for the last 21 years.

While in California, I started working as a software developer at PeopleSoft. I was there for nine years, and my favorite job was on the User Experience team, where we focused on ways to make our programs easier to use. After my son Oliver was born, I spent several years being a mom. During this time, I began knitting with a passion, which eventually led to a job at the best yarn shop ever, Churchmouse Yarns & Teas. I established and ran its social media group on Ravelry, an online knitting platform, and later worked on Churchmouse's website.

These days my new passion project is democracy! Besides co-chairing the Voter Services committee, I maintain our local League’s website and create most of the posters and handouts. I’m always trying to come up with fresh ways to support our League’s commitment to empowering voters and defending democracy.

**Colette:** My husband Peter and I are relative newcomers to Bainbridge Island, having moved here in 2019 from the San Francisco Bay area. We were drawn here by family nearby, and by the desire to find a wonderful place to be as we enter into retirement (soon, but not yet). Our older son, Remo, followed us up here with his girlfriend last year, and they now live and work in Seattle. Our younger son, Ian, is out on the East Coast but he and his partner are now making “move out West” noises (yeah!).

Peter and I both worked in “Silicon Valley” as marketers for various software companies. Work took me around the world for a few years to places such as Canada, Brazil, the UK, Germany, France, India, Singapore, and Australia. I was inspired to join the League by my mom, who was a long-time member of the League and used to “drag” me to all the pre-election forums that were taking place nearby. From that experience I developed a profound respect for the League and its mission and am happy that I can now make a contribution. I have greatly enjoyed getting to know my fellow members and I am looking forward to the years to come.

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**Unit News**

- **Bainbridge Island:** We are happy to have Delight Willing join as co-chair of the Bainbridge Island Unit. She brings a lot of great energy and Colette is very grateful for her leadership!

  The 10 a.m. Aug. 25 meeting guest speaker will be our own Alicia Vause who will introduce us to all the features of the LWV-Kitsap website.

  On Sept. 22 (new date!) at 10 a.m. we will join the other units to learn more about Public Banks, then have a quick half hour meeting on BI Unit activities.

  Our speaker on Oct. 27 will be Phaedra Elliott, Executive Director of Housing Resources Bainbridge. She will update us on housing needs on the Island.

  We have no speaker for our November meeting (shout out if you have ideas!) but we will end the year with our meeting on December 15 (new date!) with Joe Clark, our new Chief of Police for Bainbridge Island.

  We encourage unit members to contact us with other ideas for unit meetings.

  — Delight Willing and Colette Crosby, Unit Co-chairs

- **Bremerton/CK:** Ten members of the B/CK Unit met at Evergreen Park on Aug. 10 for the first of two discussion sessions about Kristin Eberhard's “Becoming a Democracy”.

  The second session will be at noon Tuesday, Sept. 14. Visit www.lwv-kitsap.org

See UNITS on Page 5
Volunteers Needed for Action Item on ‘Accuracy in the Educational Curriculum’

School boards are hearing from students that they have been shortchanged in their education because of insufficient presentation of accurate history of the United States. They have indicated that they have not been taught accurate American history from other perspectives besides those of the dominant white U.S. government.

School boards also are hearing from community members who are concerned that discussion of our country’s actions toward African and Asian Americans and Indigenous communities, (e.g., slavery, real reason for Civil War, Jim Crow, genocide of the indigenous communities, Japanese American concentration camps) will unduly bring guilt and low self-esteem to the white school children who didn’t do these actions.

Volunteers are requested to research the problem and consider how the LWVK can present a program to inform the public on this issue. Please contact Susan Griggs at susan.griggs0803@gmail.com to let her know if you would be willing to work on this topic.

— Susan Griggs

Candidate Forums Update

Our League hosted five primary election candidate forums and all are now viewable from our website at www.lwv-kitsap.org/video-recordings/. We are in the middle of planning 10 general election candidate forums to be in October. These again will be via Zoom and the details will be provided as soon as available.

We need to invite the candidates to participate in these general election forums but when we went to the County Auditor’s website to see who the top two finalists are, the actual list of candidates wasn’t yet available. Only the vote count as of that day were available. We initially thought we could discern who the final candidates would be but in one race two candidates were separated by only 8 votes so we had to wait until the primary results were officially certified. This is a good story to share when you hear someone claim their vote won’t make a difference. All candidates I’m sure would strongly beg to differ.

— Maurie Louis, President, LWVK

ON THE WEB

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

www.lwv-kitsap.org
Committee News

Climate Solutions Committee
“Food: Too Good to Waste” is the title of the 7 p.m. Sept. 13 meeting, which will be via Zoom. Marty Bishop will lead a talk about the climate impacts of growing, transporting, and wasting food. We will discuss how to reduce our carbon footprints and tread more lightly on the earth. Marty is a long-time composter and aspirational vegan, and is interested in all things related to the climate. Please join us for this important session. Contact Marty Bishop (martybishop@gmail.com) for Zoom access details.

— Marty Bishop and Anita Rose, Co-Chairs

DEI
DEI is planning a November webinar that continues our “Voices of Kitsap County” series with the Latinx community. There is a need to put together clips from each of the webinars to highlight the series. The committee wants to take part in the Kitsap Pride event set for July 2022. The Voter Suppression video made for the Juneteenth celebration will be publicized. DEI meets the first Wednesday of the month.

— Susan Griggs, Chair

Early Childhood Committee
The “0 to Three” Committee’s most recent meeting was in person at the Silverdale Waterfront Park on Aug. 12. We worked on the bookmark that we hope will be an important tool in support of early childhood organizations. We discussed ways to distribute the bookmarks to organizations where it could have the most impact.

We’re also looking into ways to educate the public perhaps using the University of Washington I-labs modules that so well describe the stages of child development, and we hope to schedule a meeting with UW early childhood scientists to discuss how to best use them.

We recently learned that Kitsap County’s three Commissioners soon will have the opportunity to decide how to use the American Rescue Plan Funds and we’re pleased to learn that some of these funds would greatly benefit this work.

— Jessica Guidry, Co-Chair

Housing Committee
The committee has been busy helping arrange the Mile Hill clean-up project. Additionally, the committee is seeking members to join the Welcome Home Basket project team!

Over the next few months team members will work on logistics around shopping, assembling, and transporting goods for delivery to Pendleton Place in early 2022.

Contact Rochelle Karlsen at (360) 728-6222 or saillorochelle@gmail.com.
— Rochelle Karlsen, Co-Chair

Observer Corps 101
A virtual meeting will be at 2 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 20, at 2 p.m. to organize our Observer Corps Team. It will be hosted by Martha Burke and Carol Larsen (clarsen88@gmail.com). Please RSVP to Carol to receive the zoom link information.

— Carol Larsen

Program Planning Committee
To All Members: Join an important discussion concerning the creation of the Washington State Public Bank. You are invited to join us at 10 a.m. on Sept. 22 via Zoom to hear a presentation by members of the Whatcom County League of Women Voters Stoney Bird, Ruth Fruland, and Dick Conoboy on Senate Bill (SB)5188.

This bill establishes a public bank funded by local, state, and tribal governments. As proposed in SB5188, the institution would not be a lender for the general public. Rather, the membership will be comprised of government entities. This bank would be a source for funding infrastructure projects within the state.

Five years after its formation, the goal is to “direct 35 percent of its lending to support housing in low-to moderate-income areas.” The League of Women Voters of Washington has taken a position in favor of SB5188.

Please join us for this important discussion! Contact Robin Muir for Zoom and Dial-In access information.

— Robin Muir, Chair

CALENDAR
From Page 1

Sept. 10: Healthcare Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Leni Skarin or Jessica Guidry

Sept. 11: Voter Registration and Education Outreach, Port Orchard Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; contact Janet Stegemeyer

Sept. 13: Climate Solutions Committee meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom, Food Waste and Its Impact on... See CALENDAR on Page 5
Membership Dues

Our fiscal year begins on July 1 of each year. Annual dues of $60 are due at that time. If you have yet to remit payment please do so as soon as possible. If you have questions or have interest in a scholarship, please contact Carol Larsen (clarsen88@gmail.com).

— Carol Larsen, Chair

Welcome Home Baskets for Pendleton Place

The Housing Committee is seeking donations to provide basic kitchen and bath items for the new residents of Pendleton Place, Kitsap County’s first permanent supportive housing apartment complex. Several members have asked what the cost is for one basket and we estimate a $100 donation buys a complete Welcome Home Basket! Any donated amount is very appreciated.

You can shop online on the “Pendleton Place” Amazon Wish List registry: www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/19A49I1ELNY?ref_=wl_share. Or let us shop for you! Donate at www.kitsapmentalhealth.org/register/donate-online/ and select “Pendleton Place Welcome Baskets.”

If you prefer to pay by check, make your check payable to Kitsap Mental Health Services and note “Pendleton Place Welcome Baskets.”

Send an email to ppbremertonwa@gmail.com. Thank you for your interest in helping provide a welcoming start to the new residents of Pendleton Place.

— Rochelle Karlsen, Housing Committee Co-Chair

CALENDAR

From Page 2

Climate Change; contact Marty Bishop

Sept. 14: Bremerton/CK Book Group: Becoming a Democracy, noon to 2 p.m. at Evergreen Park; contact Kathleen Cahall

Sept. 18: B/CK Unit meeting, 10 a.m. at Kitsap United Way, Bremerton, and via Zoom; contact Maureen Cervinsky

Sept. 20: Planning Committee meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom; contact Robin Muir

Sept. 22: Community Bank Presentation, 10 a.m. via Zoom followed by SK, NK, BI unit meetings; contact Robin Muir

Sept. 23: Voter Registration, Bremerton Farmers Market at Evergreen Park, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.; contact Candy Rankin

Sept. 28: National Voter Registration Day

Sept. 30: Voter Registration, Bremerton Farmers Market at Evergreen Park, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.; contact Candy Rankin

OCTOBER

Oct. 2: Voter Registration and Education Outreach, Port Orchard Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; contact Janet Stegemeyer

Oct. 2: LWVK Board meeting, 10 a.m., St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Bremerton; contact Maurie Louis

Oct. 4: Candidate Forum, Poulsbo City Council, 6 p.m. via Zoom; contact Catherine Ahl

Oct. 4: Candidate Forum, Central Kitsap School Board, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Robin Muir

Oct. 4: Candidate Forum, North Kitsap School Board, 7:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Catherine Ahl

Oct. 5: Candidate Forum, Bremerton Mayor, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Linda Streissguth

Oct. 6: DEI Committee meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom; contact Susan Griggs

Oct. 6: Candidate Forum, Bremerton Municipal Court Judge, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Linda Streissguth

Unit meeting and potluck will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 25 at the home of Martha Burke. Bring a dish of your choice to share. RSVP to Martha (mburke2007@aol.com). Parking is limited so carpool when possible.

— Martha Burke, Chair

■ SK Unit: SK Unit members usually meet at 10 a.m. the second Monday of each month via Zoom. A celebratory in-person meeting at the Soroptimist Overlook Pavilion at the Port Orchard Waterfront Park was held on Aug. 9. Main topics were Housing, Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness, Environment, and Voter Outreach, including strategies to engage young voters.

The next SK Unit Zoom meeting will be at 11:15 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22, which is timed to follow the League Zoom presentation on Public Banks at 10 a.m. Questions? Contact Janet Stegemeyer, Chair.

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— Martha Burke, Chair
League of Women Voters of Kitsap County, WA
P.O. Box 1524
Poulsbo, WA 98370

AUGUST 2021 Voter
In this issue:
- Redistricting
- Emergency Housing Cleanup Update
- Introducing Voter Services Co-Chairs
- Unit News
- Candidate Forums Update
- Committee News

LWV Kitsap Committees and Current Chairs

**Climate Change Solutions** — Anita Rose and Marty Bishop;
ineedarose2@gmail.com; martyl.bishop@gmail.com

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** — Susan Griggs; susan.griggs0803@gmail.com

**Early Childhood Education (0-3)** — Rosalind Renouard; rrenouard@msn.com

**Healthcare** — Leni Skarin and Jessica Guidry; leniskarin@gmail.com;
jessicafguidry@hotmail.com

**Housing** — Rochelle Karlsen and Connie Syapin; sailorrochelle@gmail.com;
esyapin@msn.com

**Legislative Issue Liaison** — Martha Burke; mburke2007@aol.com

**Membership** — Carol Larsen; clarsen88@gmail.com

**Nominating** — Sue Hughes; suhughes111@comcast.net

**Program Planning** — Robin Muir; sumuirhom@gmail.com

**Publicity** — Rochelle Karlsen; sailorrochelle@gmail.com

**Voter Services** — Colette Crosby and Alicia Vause; colettecrosby@gmail.com;
aliaivotes@gmail.com

**Voter Editor** — Sue Hughes; suhughes111@comcast.net

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