



The Voter

September 2021

Due to a temporary issue with our traditional form of layout, the September issue of The Voter was compiled in an online format. Hopefully we'll return to the traditional format with the October issue.

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Voter Services Kicks into High Gear



The Voter Services (VS) Committee has been meeting regularly to plan this fall's *Voter Registration* and *Get Out the Vote* (GOTV) activities. Right now, we are primarily focused on preparations for *National Voter Registration Day* (NVRD) on Sept.28. Calls for volunteers have gone out through the unit leads (or their VS delegates). If you would like to pitch in, it's not too late!

Key "day-of" activities for NVRD include:

- Presence on key ferries and car holding areas: Signage designed to encourage folks to make sure their voter registration is up to date.
- Billboards/digital signage: We are asking volunteers to reach out to local businesses/community centers to see if they will post information about registering to vote.
- Religious organizations: These groups have been contacted by email and provided with our fact sheet, which we hope organizers will make available to their communities. Already, our lead coordinator, Judy Friedberg-Nerf, has received several notes of appreciation.

Other activities designed for NVRD through to Election Day:

- Libraries: We are asking libraries to make election information materials available to their patrons. We are offering them bookmarks, fliers and info sheets. We may also get some libraries to let us use exhibit space to deliver our information.
- Student outreach: Because of COVID, we won't be setting up VR tables at Olympic College or local high schools, but we are looking for other ways to reach students, perhaps through daily morning news announcements. We also have our newest (and for sure our youngest) volunteer, Alex, offering to develop young voter-specific social media outreach.

Watch the LWV-Kitsap website lww-kitsap.org for other activities leading up to Election Day, including combatting disinformation, information on contested offices, VR and GOTV. ([Back to Top](#))

Online Voting Resources

There are many websites with great information about voting and voter registration. You might wonder which one is best. Well, it depends!

VoteWA.gov

VoteWA.gov is for registering WA state voters and maintaining a voter's records. It is an online location where Washington state voters can register to vote, make updates to their information and check ballot status. There's also a downloadable Voters Pamphlet, voting history, a list of their elected officials, and a way to print a new ballot if their ballot didn't arrive or was damaged. VoteWA.gov is run and maintained by the WA Secretary of State.

Vote411.org

Vote411.org helps voters be informed about elections and candidates. It is run by the LWV and provides nonpartisan information about voting and candidates. Before elections, all candidates are given questions and an opportunity to provide answers (though not all candidates provide answers). If there are local League Candidate Forums, those are linked

as well. Vote411.org is a good place to encourage voters to learn more about candidates and issues beyond what is in the Voters Pamphlet. Also, if you encounter someone from out of state who has questions about voting in their state (or wants to register to vote), point them to Vote411.org.

Note: if you haven't checked out Vote411.org recently, please take a look! It has undergone major upgrades over the last year or so; it's much more useful and easier to use than prior versions.

sos.wa.gov/elections

sos.wa.gov/elections (SOS: Secretary of State) is where you go for information about voting and registering voters in Washington State. This is where you find detailed answers for questions about registering teenagers, felons, the unhoused, or anything that might be a little out of the ordinary. There are also FAQs about vote-by-mail and election security and links to election results. Alicia Vause and Colette Crosby, Co-chairs ([Back to Top](#))

Meet our New Secretary

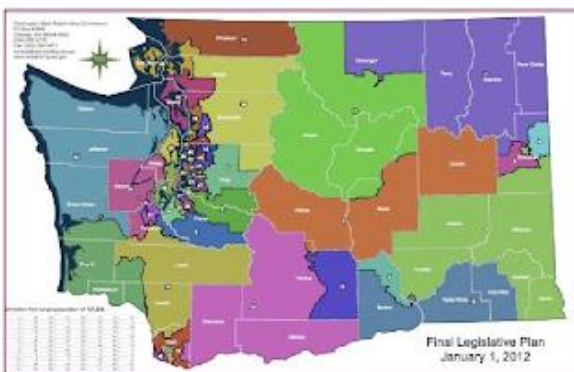
Our League secretary Barbara Paul has unfortunately let us know that she needs to step down as secretary. She was definitely a strong contributor to our Board and its sad news that she needs to step down. Fortunately for us she will continue as a member of the League. Here is some good news. Judy Tallman has eagerly stepped up to fill the vacancy. The Board unanimously approved inviting her to be our new League secretary and she graciously accepted. Welcome aboard Judy.



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Update on Redistricting

The Census figures were released, and the WA Redistricting Commissioners are each drawing maps for the WA Congressional and Legislative Districts. Commissioners' Legislative maps will be published on Sept. 21st, and Congressional Maps on Sept. 28th. The Commission is holding public outreach meetings on Oct. 5th (from 7 – 10 p.m.) for the Legislative Maps, and on Oct. 9th (from 10 am to 1 p.m.) for the Congressional Maps. At the regular monthly meetings of the Commission, public comment will continue to be taken. The Commission is required to submit their maps to the Legislature by 12 p.m. on November 15.



The Redistricting Commission is soliciting feedback in various ways from the public. Their website explains the different methods available to provide feedback: redistricting.wa.gov. Third party maps will be considered by the Commission if submitted

by Oct. 22 with others considered as time permits. Feedback can still be given until November 15.

Alison McCaffree, the LWVWA Redistricting Chair, has drawn draft WA Legislative and Congressional

maps and will show them at the September LWVWA Presidents meeting. Alison has requested endorsements from local Leagues and the LWVK has endorsed the maps of our area.

Contact Susan Griggs at susan.griggs0803@gmail.com with any questions and send Alison McCaffree any comments about her draft maps at amccaffree@lwvwa.org. Her draft maps can be found at lwvwa.org/maps.

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Meet Diana Chan

Diana Chan is a new member to LWVK and a newly naturalized citizen of the United States. She met the wife of her mentor, LWV member Janice McLemore, at the Bremerton Farmer's Market registering voters and decided to register to vote and join the League. Diana wanted to become an informed voter and takes this right seriously.



Diana came to the United States in 2001, shortly before 9/11, to go to college at the University of Oregon. As a granddaughter of immigrants from China with brothers attending schools in the United States, she embraced the idea of moving to a different country at age 19. After she obtained her undergraduate degree, she moved to Seattle for a master's degree in Social Work. She and her husband moved to Bainbridge Island to buy a home. Diana has two sons, ages 6 and 10, who attend the Bainbridge Public Schools.

An important reason Diana joined LWVK is because it studies issues, which she believes will help her be a better-informed citizen. She is excited to have the privilege of voting what she thinks is best for her community.

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LWVK Board Tidbits



~The North Kitsap Unit surprised Catherine Ahl with a gorgeous bouquet of flowers in a lovely vase with the etching "Thank You Catherine Ahl Dorothy Roberts Award 2021", compliments of LWVWA. You can view a small video of the presentation at tiny.cc/CatherinesVase. Pictured Leni Skarin and Catherine Ahl

~ The board unanimously endorsed the redistricting map put together by Alison McCaffree

~ The Voter Services Committee had a training session with our county auditor Paul Andrews where several questions were addressed. You can watch the full interview at tiny.cc/VSTrainingAndrews or click on SHOW MORE to see 11 individual short segments: "Where's the Fraud?," "Non-Citizens Voting," "Clean Voting Machines," "It's All About Your Signature," "Why is My Ballot Bar-Coded?," "Highly Secured Ballots," "VoteWA Tracks Your Ballot," "Ease of Voting With Mail-In and Dropboxes," "Pre-Registering Ages 16 & 17," and "Livestreaming Ballot Challenges." Pictured Auditor Paul Andrews



~ The board unanimously endorsed the redistricting map put together by Alison McCaffree on behalf of the of the state League. In this map, Bremerton would be a part of two

legislative districts rather than three.

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Climate Solutions Committee Report

On Monday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. via Zoom, the Climate Solutions Committee will feature Dr. James Conca, a geochemist, energy scientist and author. Conca will speak about his vision of nuclear power in a scientifically achievable Green New Deal. Conca is a senior scientist for UFA Ventures, Inc. in the Tri-Cities, Washington; an adjunct professor at Washington State University in the School of the Environment; a trustee of the Herbert M. Parker Foundation; an affiliate scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory and a science contributor to Forbes on energy and nuclear issues. Conca obtained a Ph.D. in geochemistry from the California Institute of Technology in 1985, a master's in planetary science in 1981, and a bachelor's in geology and biochemistry from Brown University in 1979.

Please invite friends and family to join us for this spellbinding webinar. Be sure to bring your questions about nuclear power's place in the environment. We promise that this will be a provocative and educational evening! Contact Anita Rose or Marty Bishop for Zoom details.

Visit the Climate Solutions Blog at lwvkitsapclimate.blogspot.com/ ([Back to Top](#))

DEI Committee Report

In our series on Getting to Know Our Neighbors in Kitsap County, the DEI Committee is planning a webinar on the Latinx communities on November 9th from 6 to 8 p.m. This webinar will introduce us to the diversity of our Latinx community and some of the barriers and/or difficulties that they have experienced in Kitsap.

The DEI committee attends community events and meetings focused on the concerns and events of our diverse communities. We encourage LWVK members to learn more about these neighbors by attending their events. Two of our DEI members attended the NAACP's Mission Outreach Virtual Educational Panel on August 28 and learned the importance of understanding our past in order to undo systematic racism. After being reminded of the impact of Nelson Mandela in South Africa and Martin Luther King's speech of his vision of America in 1963, we were introduced to individuals in Kitsap County who are making a difference on issues of equity.

The Suquamish Tribe is leading a series of Port Madison Dialogues biweekly on Thursdays starting on Sept. 23 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. where they will share the history of the Suquamish Tribe, current issues facing the Tribe, and the impacts of the sometimes-difficult relationships between Tribal and non-Tribal communities. Information and registration can be found at bit.ly/PortMadison.

The DEI Committee meets virtually on the first Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. - Noon. For more information, please contact Susan Griggs at susan.griggs0803@gmail.com ([Back to Top](#))

Early Childhood – New Bookmarks



With the help of Alicia Vause, the five participating agencies, and the University of Washington I-LABS, the “0 to Three” Committee has created a bookmark that we are rather pleased with. We hope to follow this up with a flyer. The bookmark that can be distributed at a number of LWVK and other community venues lists the five leading agencies working in the early childhood care and education fields here in Kitsap County. The message is simple, straightforward and useful, reminding one and all of the importance of the first few years of a child’s life.

In late August we met with Dr. Amelia Bachleda, Ph.D., at the University of Washington’s I-LABS. There will be much to talk about and assimilate at our next meeting on Sept. 21. We hope to incorporate much of what we learned into our messaging.

Rosalind Renouard, Chair
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Health Care Committee Report

At the August meeting of the Health Care Committee Rachel Haxtema, Community Outreach Coordinator for End of Life Washington, spoke with us about their services, advocacy for improved legislation for end-of-life health care access, and public outreach to inform people about end-of-life choices. The organization works with volunteers who help clients access services in their local community. The video of this discussion is available on the LWVK website.

One of Rachel’s responsibilities is to offer community presentations like “End of Life Ready: An Introduction to Advance Planning and your End-of-Life Options.” This presentation can be customized for any community group.

End of Life Washington also works with physicians and healthcare providers through the Honoring Choices Pacific Northwest coalition, an initiative of the Washington State Hospital Association and the Washington State Medical Association Foundation for Health Care Improvement.

To learn more about your choices for care at the end of life, visit their website, endoflifewa.org/ or contact them at 206-256-1636. You may also find resources at honoringchoicespnw.org/

The Health Care committee meets on the second Friday of each month from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Zoom. Contact Jessica Guidry or Leni Skarin to attend meetings or assist with projects.

Leni Skarin, Co-chair
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Housing Committee Report

The Housing Committee is still busy fundraising to purchase items for Welcome Home Baskets for Pendleton Place, a 72-unit permanent supportive housing complex being built in Bremerton. You can donate by going to kitsapmentalhealth.org/register/donate-online/ and select "Pendleton Place Welcome Baskets." Every dollar helps! We appreciate your support. The Housing Committee will meet monthly on the second Wednesday through next March.

Rochelle Karlsen, Chair

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Bainbridge Island Unit Report

The Bainbridge Island (BI) Unit held its monthly meeting on August 25. It featured a presentation by Alicia Vause who focused on the extensive resources found on the LWVK website. This website can be found at LWV-Kitsap.org lwv-kitsap.org/. We also reviewed *Voter Services* and *Get Out the Vote* plans for the fall.

On Sept. 22, a meeting will be held on Public Banking and all LWVK members are invited. Public Banking may be a state League focus in the upcoming legislative session. A Zoom invitation will be sent to all members.

Delight Willing and Colette Crosby, Co-chairs

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North Kitsap Unit Report

On Aug. 25, members of the North Kitsap unit met in person for the first time since February of 2020. We enjoyed beautiful weather and a potluck lunch on the deck at the home of Martha Burke. Several members from other units joined us as well to surprise Catherine Ahl with flowers and an engraved vase from the state League. (See picture and more detail in Board Tidbits column).

Leni Skarin

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South Kitsap Unit Report

South Kitsap (SK) members hosted a Port Orchard Farmers Market booth on two Saturdays to register voters and hand out voter educational materials. Two more sessions at the Farmers Market are scheduled on Oct. 2 and Oct. 9. The SK Unit generally meets the second Monday of the month although the September Zoom meeting has been moved to Wednesday, Sept. 22 at 11:15 a.m. to follow the Public Bank Zoom program at 10 a.m. Contact Janet Stegemeyer for information.

Janet Stegemeyer, Chair

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Bremerton/Central Kitsap Unit Report

In September the Bremerton/Central Kitsap(B/CK) Unit launched the resumption of meetings at the Kitsap United Way, 645 4th Street, Bremerton, for those vaccinated members (masks are always acceptable) for a comfortable in-person meeting. Members also attended remotely via Zoom. These hybrid meetings will be the norm. B/CK Unit meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month; October's unit meeting is on Oct. 16, 10 a.m. to noon.

The August/September book group, led by Kathleen Cahall, meet at Evergreen Park in August and September to discuss *Becoming a Democracy* over a brown bag lunch. The unit's voter registration and Get Out the Vote activities in September and October, organized by Candy Rankin, include the Bremerton Farmers Market, Mi Familia Swapmeet, Sept. 28 National Voter Registration Day on the Bremerton/Seattle Ferry, and GoVote sign-waving at busy intersections in West and East Bremerton. B/CK has a webpage about the unit at lww-kitsap.org/bremerton-ck-unit-page/. To join the unit's activities, contact Maureen Cervinsky for more information.

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Mark Your Calendar

September

Sept. 14: Bremerton/CK Book Group: *Becoming a Democracy*, noon to 2 p.m. at Evergreen Park; contact Kathleen Cahall
Sept. 18: Bremerton/Central Kitsap 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. 20: Observer Corps meeting, 2 p.m. via Zoom; contact Carol Larsen
Sept. 21: "0 to 3" Committee meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom; contact Rosalind Renouard
Sept. 22: Public/Community Banking, 10 a.m. via Zoom. Speakers: Stoney Bird, Ruth Fruland, Dick Conoboy. Contact Robin Muir
Sept. 22: Bainbridge Island Unit meeting, 11:15 a.m. via Zoom; contact Colette Crosby/Delight Willing
Sept. 22: South Kitsap Unit meeting, 11:15 a.m. via Zoom; contact Janet Stegemeyer
Sept. 22: North Kitsap Unit meeting, 11:15 a.m. via Zoom; contact Leni Skarin
Sept. 23: Voter Registration, Bremerton Farmers' Market at Evergreen Park, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.; contact Maureen Cervinsky
Sept. 28: NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY, various activities; contact Colette Crosby/Alicia Vause or your unit leader
Sept. 30: Voter Registration, Bremerton Farmers' Market at Evergreen Park, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.; contact Maureen Cervinsky

October

NOTE: Go to lww-kitsap.org/candidate-forums/ to see all forum details.

Oct. 2: Voter Registration and Education Outreach, Port Orchard Farmers' Market, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; contact Janet Stegemeyer
Oct. 2: LWVK Board meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom; contact Maurie Louis
Oct. 4: Poulsbo City Council Candidate Forum, 6 p.m. via Zoom; contact Catherine Ahl
Oct. 4: Central Kitsap School Board Candidate Forum, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact

Robin Muir

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

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

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

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

Oct. 7: Bremerton City Council Candidate Forum, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Linda Streissguth

Oct. 8: Healthcare Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Leni Skarin/Jessica Guidry

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

Oct. 11: South Kitsap Unit meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom; contact Janet Stegemeyer

Oct. 11: Voter Services Committee meeting, 2 p.m. via Zoom; contact Colette Crosby

Oct. 11: Climate Solutions Committee meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom. Speaker: Dr. James Conca. "A Scientifically Achievable Green New Deal"; contact Marty Bishop

Oct 12: South Kitsap School Board Candidate Forum, 6:30 p.m. via zoom; contact Janet Stegemeyer

Oct. 13: Housing Committee meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom; contact Rochelle Karlsen

Oct 13: Bainbridge Island City Council Candidate Forum, 6:30 p.m. via zoom; contact Jackie Bailey

Oct. 14: Bremerton School Board Candidate Forum, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Char Burnette

Oct. 14: Port Orchard City Council Candidate Forum, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom; contact Liz Sebre

Oct. 16: Bremerton/Central Kitsap Unit meeting, 10 a.m. at Kitsap United Way, Bremerton, and via Zoom; contact Maureen Cervinsky

Oct. 18: Planning Committee meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom; contact Robin Muir

Oct. 19: "0 to 3" Committee meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom; contact Rosalind Renouard

Oct. 27: Bainbridge Island Unit meeting, 10 a.m. via Zoom. Guest speaker on BI Affordable Housing; contact Colette Crosby/Delight Willing

Oct. 27: North Kitsap Unit meeting, 10 a.m. Poulsbo Library; contact Pam Hamon

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LWV Kitsap Committees and Current Chairs

Climate Change Solutions

Anita Rose and Marty Bishop;

inedarose2@gmail.com;

martyl.bishop@gmail.com

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susan.griggs0803@gmail.com

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