

## *The Voter*

July 2022

### In This Issue

[League's Response to Overturn of Roe v Wade](#)  
[Voters Lose if Candidates Refuse to Participate](#)  
[Debi Barner Is New LWVK Secretary](#)  
[Committee and Unit Reports](#)  
[Mark Your Calendar](#)



Sonia Scaer and Maurie Louis at ferry on Bainbridge Island  
Photo taken by fellow demonstrator.

**League's Response to the Overturn of Roe v Wade,  
"We Did It Before – We Will Do It Again"**

On Friday, June 24, the Supreme Court overturned the Roe v Wade case that, in 1973, guaranteed the right for a woman to have an abortion. The response by some states and the League of Women Voters was swift and clear.

### **League of Women Voters of U.S. official statement**

*"The League of Women Voters stands in our power with our reproductive partners and all persons who fear the dangerous consequences of this decision. We will use our anger to fight in the legislatures, in the courts, and in the streets. We call on our elected leaders at the state and federal levels to act swiftly to restore bodily autonomy to all people.*

*"Women hold the power to create a more perfect democracy. We will not stand by as constitutional rights are stripped away, one by one. Women's rights are human rights, and we will continue to fight until the right to abortion is restored. Our lives depend on it."*

<https://www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/supreme-court-strips-americans-constitutional-right-abortion-dobbs-v>

### **Washington, Oregon and California Joint Commitment**

The governors of Washington, Oregon and California issued a joint "multi-state commitment," saying they will work together to defend patients and care providers.

<https://www.king5.com/article/news/nation-world/washington-oregon-california-respond-overturning-roe-v-wade/281-56f05280-19aa-4bfa-9803-f8863dbe1847>

### **Washington**

Gov. Jay Inslee released a statement Friday stating,

*"The law remains unchanged in Washington state, but the threat to patient access and privacy has never been more dangerous." Inslee's statement later went on to say, "Washington state remains steadfast in our commitment to protecting the ability and right of every patient who comes to our state in need of abortion care, and we will fight like hell to restore that right to patients all across the country."*

In March, Inslee signed a measure into law prohibiting legal action against people seeking an abortion and those who aid them.

### **League of Women Voters of Washington**

At the 2022 LWVWA Council held June 10 through 11, LWVWA president asked San Juan president Susan Martin to draft a Reproductive Rights resolution to be submitted at the 2022 LWV National Convention. Susan indeed drafted a resolution which was submitted to the LWV US board for approval at the Convention. After some revisions, Susan's resolution was indeed presented and approved at the National Convention.

*"Be it resolved that the LWVUS, supports the rights of women and those who can get pregnant to self-determination related to, and including, but not limited to bodily autonomy, privacy, reproductive health, and lifestyle choice."*

## League of Women Voters of Kitsap

The Dobbs decision came down on the morning of Friday, June 24. By 5 p.m. that evening, local Leagues across the country participated in marches and demonstrations and we were one of them. We had members demonstrating at the Manette Bridge in Bremerton and at the ferry on Bainbridge Island. The most common chant heard was, "We did it before — We will do it again."

Maurie Louis, President LWV Kitsap

[Back to Top](#)

---



### **'Voters Lose When Candidates Refuse to Take Part in Forums'**

As you may know, the League of Women Voters of Kitsap is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization whose mission is to register voters and educate the electorate about candidates and issues. One of the main ways we accomplish this mission is by holding candidate forums before each primary and general election. We are careful to invite all candidates in a given race to take part in the forum. We send out the email invites at the same time and follow up with additional emails and phone calls if we do not hear back.

Over the years, we have usually had good participation from the candidates. We consistently receive compliments, from Republicans, Democrats and unaffiliated candidates alike, for our fairness, professionalism and the quality of our questions.

We solicit questions from the public and from our members. Each candidate in a race is given the same set of questions and the same amount of time to answer. In the past, these forums were usually held in person, but since the pandemic we have switched many of them to virtual events using the Zoom webinar platform. The forums are recorded and later posted on our website so those who didn't get a chance to watch them live can view them.

This year we are disappointed to announce that we have had to cancel the forum scheduled for the hotly contested state Senate race in the 26th Legislative District (including part of Bremerton, most of South Kitsap, Gig Harbor and northern Pierce County). One of the three

candidates, incumbent state Sen. Emily Randall, agreed to participate. The others declined, and, under our rules, we cannot have a forum with only one candidate. One of the candidates simply said “no thank you,” while the other sent a list of requirements, including that the forum be held in person, that the questions not be “prescreened,” that 2-minute answers and 30-second rebuttals be allowed and that public recording be allowed.

When candidates refuse to participate in forums, for whatever reason, it’s a loss for the voters. They are being denied a chance to get to know the candidates and to see them “think on their feet” as they are asked a variety of questions. We do not call our events “debates” because we are not encouraging a back-and-forth between candidates as much as a focus on the voters and the issues, they think are important. We encourage everyone to visit our website, [lww-kitsap.org](http://lww-kitsap.org) to submit questions for the candidates and to link to our primary forums. Stay tuned for fall forums preceding the general election in November, and please encourage your favorite candidate to participate.

Ann Strosnider

[Back to Top](#)

---

## **New LWVK Board Member Secretary Debi Barner**



*Debi pictured with granddaughter Erika;  
the photo was taken by daughter Alicia.*

Debi spent her early years, kindergarten to second grade in Tenakee Springs and Hydaburg, Alaska — where her father was a teacher. She then moved to Marin County, California. During her teen years, Debi worked in her mom’s restaurant waitressing and managing.

She later attended college at the University of Oregon and upon graduating, she moved to Alaska to be a special education teacher and later worked as a regular education teacher, reading specialist and teacher mentor. She also moonlighted catering at the Hilton in Anchorage and even worked as tour guide one summer on the Alaska Railroad.

After teaching in Wasilla, Alaska for 26 years, Debi retired; and in 2012, moved to Kitsap County to be near her daughter and her daughter’s family. She was lucky to find a house close to Alicia, Alicia’s husband Alex and their three children.

It was while attending the University of Oregon that Debi first joined the League of Women Voters and now in retirement, settling into a new community, she wanted to become more

involved and decided to reconnect with the League. She remembers watching the League hosting presidential debates when she was growing up. She felt that it would be a wonderful group of women to work with to register people to vote. She now understands that the league does so much more.

When approached to join the LWVK Board, Debi said “Yes!” When asked what she hopes to accomplish while on the Board, she said she’s just beginning to understand the bigger picture what the League does, and said, “I figure I will find an area to become more involved. Also, I look forward to spending time chatting and learning from the women in my CK Unit and the Kitsap Board.”

Besides her interest in League activities, Debi also enjoys reading, refinishing furniture, cross-stitch and jigsaw puzzles. Most of her time is spent watching her grandchildren (Erika 12, Judah 8, Noah 3) while her daughter works as the choral teacher at Central Kitsap High School and her son-in-law runs his business, Emerald Installation in Poulsbo.

Catherine Freudenberg, Voter Team

[Back to Top](#)

---



## Committee and Unit Monthly Reports

### DEI Committee

The DEI Committee is focusing on the Open Public Meeting Laws, a Testifying 101 training, and a consideration of inclusion issues for the disability community this summer. The Testifying 101 planning group will determine how the League can present to the public information that will help them write and present testimony to local and/or state-wide governmental hearings.

The DEI Sub-Committee is organizing a presentation to units about the Open Public Meeting Laws for the LWV of Kitsap County unit meetings. If there are enough resources, the sub-committee may organize a panel discussion with the Attorney General and other experts to discuss this law and possibly the Public Records Law after new elected officials receive their training on the laws (which they must do within the first 90 days on the job).

The DEI committee is planning to come up with guidelines for league and unit events so that our League is more welcoming and more accessible to people with disabilities or who are from marginalized communities.

The next DEI meeting will be Friday, August 5, at 10 am. Contact Susan Griggs at [susan.griggs0803@gmail.com](mailto:susan.griggs0803@gmail.com) for information.

Susan Griggs

### **Forums Committee Report**

We had two pre-primary candidate forums in July. Both were Zoom Webinars. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District forum for Position 1 was Monday, July 11, with Catherine Ahl moderating. One candidate, Janelle Hulst, declined to participate because it was not in-person, but Ace Haynes and Tarra Simmons both accepted.

The Kitsap County Commissioner, District 3, forum was Thursday, July 14, with Robin Muir moderating. All five candidates (Josh Hinman, Katie Walters, Jeff Wallis, Axel Strakeljahn, Leiyomi Preciado Lagdameo) agreed to participate.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the July 12 forum for 26<sup>th</sup> District Senator. Emily Randall agreed to take part, but Jesse Young and David Crissman both declined (and we can't have a forum with just one, of course).

Ann Strosnider

### **Health Care Committee**

The Health Care Committee is taking a break for the summer and will resume meeting in the fall. Its next meeting will be on Friday, September 9, at 12:30 p.m. If you want to join the Health Care Committee, or have questions about the committee, please contact Jessica Guidry.

Jessica Guidry

### **Bainbridge Island Unit**

The Bainbridge Island unit met on June 22 to discuss plans for the rest of the year. We discussed our plans to support Voter Registration and Get Out the Vote. We also brainstormed some upcoming meeting topics, including an update on affordable housing in Bainbridge, Tribal Government and the Court System, and "What's on your tax bill?" In addition, we will collaborate with the NK unit to host a session on CARES and the OPMA.

We also discussed whether we'd like to meet in person (outdoors) sometime this summer. We'll poll members shortly. We've had a terrific run of speakers and topics recently, including 0-3 committee sharing its report and recommendations; City of Bainbridge Island Mayor Joe Deets, COBI City Manager Blair King, COBI Director of Finance DeWayne Pitts, and Municipal Court of Bremerton Judge Tracy Flood.

Colette Crosby

### **Bremerton/Central Kitsap**

On June 28, David Nelson joined the Bremerton/CK Unit to discuss the state of local news in Kitsap County. One take away from David:

*"There was a time where the **Sun**, in the good old days, wouldn't allow women to work in the newsroom. There was a time that they did not allow ... they only allowed women to write features columns. They did not allow them to write news. There was a time where we created a paper by letterpress, which is using hot lead to make it, which was, what we know now, an incredibly un-environmental thing to do, both for what it left behind, and also what it did to the health of the men who worked set that hot lead every day. So, all of those things changed, and they all needed to change. And so, I use that to remind ourselves that we have to embrace this and not get hung up on what a newspaper used to be ..."*

If you want to watch the conversation, the link is on League website: <https://www.lwv-kitsap.org/video-recordings/>> or on our League YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNOVIBHRCMNdB01qSVDF07w>

Kathleen Cahall organized our B/CK summer book group. This summer's choice is *The Border Within: The Economics of Immigration in an Age of Fear*, author Watson and Thompson. Meeting dates are Tuesdays, 8/30 and 9/13, from noon to 2 p.m. Pat Troxell arranged for us to meet in the Community Room at The Pearl on Oyster Bay. The meeting room opens onto an outdoor gathering spot, so we'll have the best of both worlds.

We canceled our July unit meeting. In lieu of a meeting, some of us are planning to meet on July 16, at 10 a.m., at the Public Market, 715 Bay St., Port Orchard for the Kitsap Sun reporter Josh Farley's *Story Walk: Port Orchard, Past and Present*.  
Maureen Cervinsky

### **North Kitsap Unit**

The North Kitsap unit will not meet in July; instead, we will register voters at the Poulsbo and Kingston Farmers markets.  
Pam Hamon, NK unit leader

### **South Kitsap Unit**

Our first Voter Outreach Booth this year at the Port Orchard Farmers Market was Saturday, July 9. Future Voter Outreach Booths at the Market will be Aug. 6, Sept. 10 and Oct. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteers are needed for two shifts.

The SK Unit meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. via Zoom. We had planned a potluck lunch and meeting on July 13 at Susan Daniel's home in Port Orchard, However, that was cancelled because of COVID. Contact: Janet Stegemeyer, 360-471-9470.

Janet Stegemeyer

[Back to Top](#)

---



## **Mark Your Calendar**

These events and dates come from the League's calendars displayed on our website. The events that are open to the public appear on the [Public Calendar](#) linked to from our home page at <https://www.lwv-kitsap.org/>. Events that are for members only appear on the [Members](#)

[Calendar](#) that is displayed in the [For Members](#) section of the website. (This calendar also shows the events open to the public.) Go to the appropriate calendar to get the most up-to-date information. If you are an event's organizer use the members only [Request a change or addition to the LWVK calendar](#) to add/modify/delete your event.

**Purple means LWV of Kitsap [Public Calendar](#)**

**Sat Jul 16, 2022**

10 am Cancelled Bremerton/CK Unit

**Mon Jul 18, 2022**

7pm Forum: US Representative,  
Congressional Dist. 6

Calendar: LWV of Kitsap Public Calendar

**Tue Jul 19, 2022**

10 am '0-Three' committee meeting

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Mon Jul 25, 2022**

7pm Climate Solutions Business

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81670192862>

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Tue Jul 26, 2022**

7pm Climate Solutions Book Club

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89180822623>

Calendar: LWV of Kitsap Public Calendar

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Wed Jul 27, 2022**

10 am BI Unit Meeting

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

10 am NK Unit Meeting Cancelled

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Fri Aug 5, 2022**

10 am DEi Committee

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Sat Aug 6, 2022**

10 am LWVK Board Mtg

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82475183621>

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Mon Aug 8, 2022**

10 am SK Unit Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86739725059>

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

2pm Voter Services meeting

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Fri Aug 12, 2022**

12:30pm Healthcare Committee cancelled

**Mon Aug 15, 2022**

10 am Planning Committee

**Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Tue Aug 16, 2022**

10 am '0-Three' committee meeting

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Sat Aug 20, 2022**

10 am Bremerton/CK Unit Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86104738648>

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Mon Aug 22, 2022**

7pm Climate Solutions Business

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81670192862>

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Tue Aug 23, 2022**

7pm Climate Solutions Book Club - 4th  
Tuesdays

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89180822623>

Calendar: LWV of Kitsap Public Calendar

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Wed Aug 24, 2022**

10 am BI Unit Meeting

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

10 am NK Unit Meeting

Created by: rsfairgrieve@gmail.com

**Tue Aug 30, 2022**

12pm Bremerton/CK Book Group

Where: 550 Russell Rd, Bremerton, WA  
98312, USA

Created by: [mcervinsky@gmail.com](mailto:mcervinsky@gmail.com)

[Back to Top](#)







**League of Women Voters  
of Kitsap**

P.O. Box 1524  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

**JULY 2022 Voter**

In this Issue:

[League's Response to Overturn of Roe v Wade](#)  
[Voters Lose if Candidates Refuse to Participate](#)  
[Debi Barner Is New LWVK Secretary](#)  
[Committee and Unit Reports](#)  
[Mark Your Calendar](#)

**Election Certification and Data**

The Auditor's office provides information about how Kitsap Elections ballot tabulation systems are tested, election certification and other data as it becomes available. The Auditor's website includes videos of Logic and Accuracy Test and Canvassing Board meetings.

[kitsapgov.com/elections](https://kitsapgov.com/elections)

**Election Schedule**

2022 Primary August 2, 2022

2022 General November 8, 2022

Some elections only take place in parts of the county, depending on the districts that have candidates or measures.