

VOTER

www.lwv-bf.org

From the President JoAnne Dimond

This month we have an important election on Tuesday, November 5. There are two items on the ballot this year: Referendum 88, Regarding Initiative 1000 – having to do with Affirmative Action and Initiative 976 – having to do with \$30 car tabs. Information about all aspects of the election can be found on the Washington State Secretary of State’s website: <https://www.sos.wa.gov/> There are several Advisory Votes on various issues, and information about these can be found on the Washington State LWV website:

<https://lwvwa.org/ballot-measures>. A proposed Constitutional Amendment, Senate Joint Resolution 8200, which would add “catastrophic incidents” to the specified emergencies that the legislature may take certain immediate actions to ensure continuity of state and local governmental operations, is also on the ballot. (A large majority in the House and Senate supported this measure.)

This year it is possible to register to vote right up to Election Day by going to the auditor’s office. An advantage to voting early: you can check to see if your ballot was received by going to <https://voter.votewa.gov>

Information about various candidates can be found in the Voters’ Pamphlet, which has been mailed to your home and is also online on the Washington State Secretary of State’s website. Another source of information is the Vote411 website: <https://www.vote411.org/>.

In addition to this month’s election, plans are forming to celebrate the Voting Rights Centennial Celebration in 2020, which is also the centennial of the founding of the League of Women Voters. Christine Grantham has offered to chair our
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November 2019

Officers

President:
JoAnne Dimond
1st Vice President:
Vacant
2nd Vice President:
Janet Nail
Secretary:
Polly Parton
Treasurer:
Shirley Sonnichsen
Past President:
JoAnn Bengtson
Voter Editor:
Diane Molleson

Elected

Directors:

JoAnn Bengtson
Heather Cunningham
Shari Gasperino
Diane Molleson
Lora Rathbone
Virginia Rogalsky

Appointed

Directors:

Bree Bowen
Ruth Giese
Christine Grantham

From the President *(Continued from previous page)*

committee and the next meeting is on **Monday, November 18, 12:30 pm** at the **Union Street Mid-Columbia Library in Kennewick**. Christine's phone number is 509-845-0820 if you would like to join in the planning.

Table Talk on November 7: Election Results

Marilyn Perkins and JoAnne Dimond

We will be discussing the election results at **November's Table Talk**, including voter turnout, local elections, and state issues. If you are aware of an election from another part of the state or country you find interesting, be sure and check the results and bring them to share.

The Table Talk will be held at **Bob's Burgers and Brew** on **Thursday, November 7** from **11:30 am** to approximately 12:45 or 1 pm. Bob's is located at 3609 Plaza Way, Kennewick (Southridge area).

October Candidate Forums

Marilyn Perkins

It is always a good feeling when our League Candidate Forums are over. We are thankful for all the members who attended and helped. Special thanks go to the members who coordinated the candidates from the different cities: Kay Ottem (Benton City and Kennewick), Bree Bowen (Pasco) and JoAnne Dimond (Richland). Trying to connect with all the candidates can be easy or challenging, but we feel it is a worthwhile effort.

We had good turnouts at all the forums, but we were at room capacity in Richland and had to be a little creative to let as many people hear the candidates as possible. Next year we host the forums for county and state races, and we are thinking of ways to notify candidates about the likely dates of primary and fall forums in hopes of getting more candidates to participate. (Several candidates running for Richland City Council didn't participate in the October forum for various reasons.)

We owe a debt to Mike Charbaneau from the City of Richland and Mike Funfar from the City of Pasco who are our partners and arranged for the venues, recorded the forums, played them on their city's stations and put them on YouTube. The Kennewick School District made venues available for us, and Mike Greif and his students from Tri-Tech set up the room and recorded the Kennewick forum and also put it on YouTube.

Watch the Candidate Forums at these links:

Richland Candidates: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xhv2Koli6oQ>

Kennewick Candidates: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPgiwF7sGC8>

Pasco Candidates: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LBTStVVy-ak>

Voter Registration

Marilyn Perkins

There is a one last Naturalization Ceremony in our area this year, and it is on **Election Day, Nov. 5**. That means the representatives from the Auditors' offices will not be able to attend, and we will be the only ones registering people. If you would like to help, contact Marilyn Perkins at jmperkins.cougs@frontier.com or call or text 521-7716. There is a chance that the people we register could vote in this election, but we will have to double check with the Auditors' office. The ceremony is interesting and inspiring, and you are welcome to just come to see it.

Suffrage Celebration

Marilyn Perkins

The first meeting of the local committee met in October to discuss options for our celebration of the 100th anniversary of women getting the right to vote. We had lots of ideas and will need lots of help. We're hoping to hold the celebration at a venue that is open to the public, have information about women's suffrage, an essay contest for local students about the importance of voting, entertainment, and of course food. If possible, we want to celebrate on the actual day, Wednesday, August 26, 2020.

We want to include women of all ethnicities and backgrounds, especially older women who have lived close to a century (or) more. We are open to suggestions and would love to have more volunteers. Our next meeting will be on Monday, **November 18 at 12:30 pm** at the **Union Street Mid-Columbia Library in Kennewick**. If you would like to be on the committee or have suggestions for the celebration, please contact Christine Grantham at 509-845-0820 or Bev Johnson-Torelli at SasJoh@aol.com

Treasurer's Report

Shirley Sonnichsen

On September 30, 2019:

Checking is \$4,443.15
Savings is \$1,856.38
Total \$6,299.53

Checking: \$4,443
Savings: \$1,856
Total: \$6,299

Income: \$2,670

- Member dues of \$1875, second-in-household \$140 and member contributions of \$485.
- \$170 was collected for the Civil Discourse Speaker David Smith

Expenses: \$198

- \$169 to Christine Brown for David Smith
- \$29 for the tent place card holders for the forums
- ***In Kind*** Treasurer costs are \$50 for a gift card for Tracci Dial.

Membership: We have 34 paid members at the end of September. 10 people have paid in October but are not reflected in this report. There are members who joined after February 1 who do not pay this September and one life member, Ginger Vetrano.

A thank you and \$50 gift card will be sent to Tracci dial and a \$25 gift card to Cody Procter for moderating the forums.

Dues are due at the end of September: If you have not paid yet, please make your check out to LWV-BF and send to P.O. Box 765, Richland, WA 99352 or pay through PayPal on our website www.lwv-bf.org. Please consider adding a contribution to League. Even if you don't have to pay dues this September, a contribution would be welcome. These extra dollars will help pay for students to join.

LWV: Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (DEI)

Here is this month's contribution from the League's Shur Fellows' glossary:

“ism”: A way of describing any attitude, action or institutional structure that subordinates (oppresses) a person or group because of their target group, [e.g. color, gender, economic status, age, religion, sexual orientation, language, citizenship, etc.]

Source: W.K. Kellogg Foundation; Institute for Democratic Renewal and Project Change Anti-Racism Initiative. A Community Builder's Tool Kit. Claremont, Calif.: Claremont Graduate University.

The Last 100 Years: Women and History Marilyn Perkins

When I was growing up, I was probably more interested in politics than the average child. For instance, I was very aware that my parents and my grandmother did not support the same candidate in the 1956 presidential election. I watched the conventions, back when you didn't know for sure who was going to win the nomination and always assumed I would vote when I was old enough.

My mother was born about three weeks after the 19th amendment was ratified. Though she never talked about voting that much, I knew she did and even worked at the polls. Women have been able to vote my whole life, but when I was born, women had only had the right to vote nationally less than 28 years.

In Washington State, women obtained the right to vote on Nov. 8, 1910. We were the fifth state to grant women the right to vote, and the first one in the 20th century. Wyoming, Utah, Colorado and Idaho had already enacted women's suffrage. Our League celebrated Washington's 100th anniversary of women's suffrage nine years ago by marching at the Richland Community House. We made some of the staff a little nervous; they thought we might get wild and crazy.

We can't forget Veterans Day on November 11. Originally known as Armistice Day, it became a federal holiday in 1938. After WW II and the Korean War, it was renamed Veterans Day. In 1971, it became one of the federal "Monday" holidays until President Ford, a Navy veteran, helped return it to Nov. 11 in 1975.

November 11, 2019 will also be the 130th anniversary of Washington becoming a state.

Upcoming Events

Community Day of Hope Resource Fair

Saturday, November 2, 11 am – 2 pm, Booth Building's parking lot (Pasco School District), 1215 W. Lewis Street, Pasco

"People and businesses from all over the Tri-Cities, will join hands for the **1st Annual Community Day of Hope** to raise awareness of community needs," states the flyer for this event. There will be booths and activities from social service organizations in the community, bounce houses for kids, a variety of food trucks with food for sale, and an art exposition inside Vinny's Bakery (1107 W. Lewis St., Pasco) created by youths currently serving in the Benton Franklin Juvenile Justice System. The LWVBF is planning to have a booth at this event.

LWVWA Action Workshops

Action Workshops include speaker and panel presentations, issue breakout sessions, and lunch. There will be information and aids for your citizen involvement in the advancing legislation on League's Legislative Agenda. Go to <https://lwvwa.org/events> for more information.

[Spokane Action Workshop](#) on November 2 at 9 a.m. *Washington State University Extension (222 N. Havana, Spokane, WA.)*

[Olympia Action Workshop](#) on November 9 at 9 a.m. *South Puget Sound Community College—Lacey Campus*

[Seattle Action Workshop](#) on December 7 at 9 a.m. *Seattle First Baptist Church*

[Kingston Action Workshop](#) on January 4, 2020 at 9 a.m. *Village Green Community Center*

LWVBF Calendar

November 2019

Tuesday, November 5—Voter Registration/ Naturalization Ceremony, 10 am,
Richland Federal Building

Thursday, November 7—Table Talk: Election Results, 11:30 am, Bob's Burgers and
Brew, 3609 Plaza Way, Kennewick (Southridge area)

Monday, November 18— Suffrage Celebration Planning Meeting, 12:30 pm, Union
Street Mid-Columbia Library (1620 S. Union St., Kennewick)

Thursday, November 21— Business and Planning Meeting, 6 pm, Benton Franklin
Transit Center (1000 Columbia Park Trail). All members are welcome.

December 2019

Sunday, December 8— Holiday Party, Christine's home, time TBD

No Board Meeting

Email us at
lwv.of.bf@gmail.com

League of Women Voters of
Benton & Franklin
Counties
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