

VOTER

www.lwv-bf.org

October 2019

From the President JoAnne Dimond

As we move into October, the emphasis this month is on Candidate Forums. We have forums scheduled in Benton City, Richland, Pasco and Kennewick. If you have not been to our forums and would like to be more involved, please consider attending and helping with all or as many as your schedule allows. More information about places and times can be found in this issue of the *Voter*. The Candidate Forums are an important service to the community that the League provides. Many thanks to Marilyn Perkins and Kay Ottem for all their hard work organizing the forums.

ACLU of WA Event: Flights and Rights Tri-Cities, Voting Rights

Thursday, October 17, 6- 8 p.m.
Red Lion Hotel and Conference Center
2525 N. 20th St., Pasco

Flights and Rights is a free community series featuring civil rights issues and beer at the Pasco Red Lion.

ACLU of Washington's press release says, "Over the past five years, Latinx communities in Pasco and Yakima successfully fought election systems that prevented them from having an equal and meaningful opportunity to elect representatives of their choice to City Council. And just last year, the ACLU and allies celebrated the passage of the Washington Voting Rights Act, which helps to ensure that every voter has an equal opportunity to elect the candidate of their choice and empowers local governments to fix the widespread problem of voter exclusion in local elections.

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ACLU Event: Voting Rights

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“Join Staff Attorney Breanne Schuster and community leaders to discuss how far we have come, the challenges ahead, and ongoing work to defend the right to vote. We'll have a Spanish-speaking translator at the event. Join us and learn how you can get involved. All ages welcome.”

October Candidate Forums

The LWVBF is hosting Candidate Forums on the following dates:

Thursday, October 3: Benton City Candidates at 6 p.m. at the Community Center (510 8th Street, Benton City) Moderator: LWVBF Member Susan Leckband

Monday, October 7: Richland School Board and City Council, West Richland City Council and Port of Benton Candidates at 6 p.m. at the Richland Library (955 Northgate Drive, Richland) Moderator: Tracci Dial-KNDU

Tuesday, October 8: Pasco City Council Candidates at 6 p.m. at the Police Training Center (204 West Clark Street, Pasco) Moderator: Tracci Dial-KNDU

Thursday, October 10: Kennewick School Board and City Council and Port of Kennewick Candidates at 6 p.m. in the Commons area at Tri-Tech Skills Center (5929 West Metaline Avenue, Kennewick) Moderator: Cody Proctor-KEPR

Marilyn Perkins could use your help with questions. The questions should be non-partisan and asked in a way that both candidates can respond. Please submit your ideas to Marilyn Perkins at jmperkins.cougs@frontier.com and also let her know if you are available to help at any of the forums. Thank you.

LWV: Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (DEI)

The League's Shur Fellows have prepared a glossary of commonly used words as part of their work on DEI. Here are this month's words:

Ethnicity: A social construct that divides people into smaller social groups based on characteristics such as shared sense of group membership, values, behavioral patterns, language, political and economic interests, history and ancestral geographical base.

Source: W.K. Kellogg Foundation; Maurianne Adams, Lee Anne Bell and Pat Griffin, editors. Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice: A Sourcebook. New York: Routledge.

Implicit Bias: A negative association that people unknowingly hold. Expressed automatically, without conscious awareness. Many studies have indicated that [it] affects individuals' attitudes and actions, thus creating real-world implications, even though individuals may not even be aware that [it] exist[s] within themselves. Notably, [it has] been shown to trump individuals' stated commitments to equality and fairness, thereby producing behavior that diverges from the explicit attitudes many people profess.

Source: Racial Equity Tools; State of the Science Implicit Bias Review 2013, Cheryl Staats, Kirwan Institute, The Ohio State University.

Treasurer's Report

Shirley Sonnichsen

On August 31, 2019:

Checking is \$1,971.54
Savings is \$1,856.37
Total \$3,827.91

Checking: \$1,971
Savings: \$1,856
Total: \$3,827

Income: \$270

- member dues of \$225 and member contributions of \$45

Expenses: \$54.34

- \$54.34 for four deposit books and a new bank stamp.
- *In Kind* Treasurer costs are \$36 for 65 stamps and \$73 for black ink.

Membership: We have 58 members. Toyoko Tsukuda and Danette Keegan have moved to the other side of the state.

Dues: The dues letter is out. 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. We only keep \$24 from the \$75 for regular members and \$9.50 from the \$35 for second-in-household. Student members can join our League, LWVWA and LWVUS for free.

Vote 411 and League Materials: We are getting 10 Vote 411 buttons to wear at voter registrations and candidate forums. The price for 100 post cards is \$127.

Note: *Per an email from Christine Brown, our part of David Smith, the Humanities, Washington speaker sponsorship is \$169. Members made contributions of \$170. A League check was mailed to Christine Brown in the amount of \$169.*

From LWVWA: Action Workshops

The LWVWA has announced their upcoming action workshops. The first one will be held in Spokane on **Saturday, November 2, 9 am – 3 pm** at **Washington State University Extension** 222 N. Havana, Spokane, WA. If interested, register at [Spokane Action Workshop](#)

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.

The \$30 registration fee includes lunch and all materials. There is a reduced rate of \$10 for those under 24. A limited number of scholarships are available if the registration fee would be a barrier to your participation. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct 29. [Apply here](#).

Other workshops are also available around the state. Please click on the hyperlinks for more information:

[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

October 2019

Thursday, October 3— Benton City candidate forum at 6 p.m. at the Community Center (510 8th Street, Benton City)

Monday, October 7—Richland, West Richland and Port of Benton candidate forums, 6 pm, Richland Public Library (955 Northgate Dr., Richland)

Tuesday, October 8— Pasco candidate forum, 6 pm, Pasco Police Dept. Regional Training Facility (204 West Clark St., Pasco)

Thursday, October 10—Kennewick and Port of Kennewick candidate forums, 6 pm, Tri-Tech Commons area (5929 W. Metaline Ave., Kennewick)

Thursday, October 17— Business and Planning Meeting, 6 pm, Benton Franklin Transit Center (1000 Columbia Park Trail). All members are welcome.

November 2019

Thursday, November 7—Table Talk: Election Results, time and location TBD

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

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

League of Women Voters of
Benton & Franklin
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