THE Voter
LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SPOKANE AREA

VOLUME LXXVIII ISSUE 8, October 5, 2021

*A printable PDF of The Voter will be available at LWVSpokane.org*

# Potpourri of Updates & Actions

*Join us on the Zoom, 3rd Tues, 10/12/21, General Meetings* 10:30 am and 6:30 pm to get caught up the progress of our work on Elections, Sustainability Action Plan and Redistricting.

**Zoom Link for Tuesday, October 12 General Meetings**

10:30 am 1:30 pm and 6:30 pm and 7:30 pm PT
Choose the time that works best for you

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86423395?pwd=
aWxrcFpwRFZ0cUZ2SWFTZzdwRWNzZT09

Meeting ID: **864 2339 5853**, Passcode: **393884**
Phone: **+1 253 215 8782**

With new information on all of these items — there will be futures that you can join in:

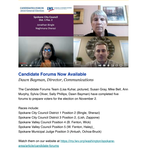
- **Elections** — New series of podcasts latest Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Podcast, Voter Services Committee (VSC) Podcast, Voter Services Committee and Annie Kirkman series — a series general discussion on Matrixes, times and the initiative and recall signature processes … Are you ready to sign petitions?
- **Sustainability Action Plan** — We learned about the plan for Clean Spokane last spring and many participated in workshops. The Sustainability Committee The Forms Team will highlight the changes. LWVSA Board will consider testimony on this plan at the Oct. 20 meeting for comment to the City Council on the plan. Be there!
- **Redistricting** — we are down to the wire for both County and State redistricting. See the separate Action Items arriving in your email box.

# ACTION ALERT

## Attention Facebook Users

County Commissioner Districts are being set now. Please help by sharing our post, recommending the fact, expletive and competitive voting districts for Commissioners.

Spokane County has the important Action Alert email sent to members last Sunday evening! Check your email system! Search "Spokane" or "Promotion" folders, use the Spokane Action Alert or alerts-inbox for entries you can take in the next two weeks to support all and expletive maps in Washington and Spokane County.




## Candidate Forums Now Available

*Chaune Bagnuson, Director, Communications*

The Candidate Forums Team (Lea Kohler, pictured; Susan Gray, Mike Bert, Ann Murphy, Ann Roe, Ann Roe, Ann Murphy, Ann Murphy) has completed the forums & prepare videos for the forums on November 2.

Races include:
Spokane City Council District 1 Position 2 (Bridge, Warren)
Spokane City Council District 3 Position 2 (Lidl, Zappone)
Spokane County Prosecutor (Lindsey, Steve Tucker)
Spokane Valley Council Position 3 (Ft. Forbes, Haley)
Spokane Municipal Judge Position 2 (Knitzer, Cinha-Rouch)

Watch them on our website at https://www.lwvspokanewashingtonstate.org/action/candidate-forums

Please share this link with all the voters now!

**Watch Candidate Forums**

**Have you renewed your membership dues yet? Now is the time! Think.**

**Renew Membership**

## Be A Voter!

*Becky Dickerhoof, Voter Services Chair*

This past month our members have been busy tabling at events, Farmers Markets, hosting Spokane County Public Library volunteers to register voters and supporting our Voter Services Committee organizations. We will be tabling at the Hillyard Farmers' Market on Oct 7 and at Spokane Community Colleges and Lilac City general election.

I hope you have also noticed **Be A Voter** yard signs. We still have more available. They are free, can be reused, and are a great way to show your support of course. Please contact Ann or Becky to display one at your yard. I hope you have also our across **Be A Voter** Checkbook flyer or bookmark.

**Registration**

This month, before the November 2 election, we should all prepare to choose candidates and measures on our ballots. Voter registration is the first step in the ballot. As a League member, you may also be asked to help others register or understand the voting process. The LWVWA has prepared a checklist to help you be a voter and encourage others to exercise your right to vote. Find it on our website. Have a wind you should review.

**Voter Registration**

If you are unsure if you are registered, go to Vote4Me.org to check your status.

If you are not registered or know someone who is not registered, go to Vote4Me.org to register online if you have a WA driver's license or state ID.

If you do not have such ID, you can print out a WA Voter's Registration form found on Vote4Me.org. The paper registration requires a WA driver's license, driving permit or state ID or SSN.

If you do not have a permanent residence, you are still able to register to vote.

We suggest you sign your ballot the same way you signed your name on your license. If you have one. For example, did you use your middle initial, or full middle name? Or a nickname? Make sure your signature matches your signature on file. Verify Advance Voter Registration.

**Your Ballot**

Your ballot should arrive in your mail box between and you do not receive it by October 8, contact your county elections office.

After marking your ballot, it is important to follow the directions on how to return it to the county elections office. Make sure you place your ballot in the envelope correctly.

Sign your ballot just as you did your voter registration. That will help validate your signature.

Return your ballot using either the USPS or an elections drop box. Your ballot does not need a stamp if you use the USPS. We recommend you mail by October 8 if your ballot is postmarked by Nov. 2 it will be counted.

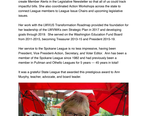
Ballot boxes are usually found at public libraries. Please don't place in their book drop off boxes. Your county elections office can provide ballot drop box locations.

You can track your ballot on Vote4Me.org to make sure it was received.

***Combating Misinformation***

Later this month we will post rebuttals to the many false statements made about the election process. Please share these rebuttals with your friends and family. Let them know that ballots only are counted when they are mailed in the process. It is our mission as members of the LWV to **defend democracy** and the best way to do that is to exercise our right to vote and encourage others to do so.

***Remember "Be A Voter!"***




*Several new members have joined us recently and we look forward to sharing a fun school each one, including …*

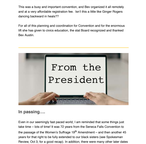
## Ellen Ireland

Ellen has been a voter for 47 years and has been working as a voter precinct officer for the last 10 years. She served 10 years on the Colville School Board and was active in many community organizations such as WCAR and Habitat for Humanity. She is concerned about the redistricting and feels that LWV will help her voice matter.

## Spokane Leagues Receive State Awards

*Beth McKenzie*

At the 2021 LWVWA Convention last June, two members of our League were honored for their exceptional work.



### Ann Murphy Receives Dorothy Roberts Award

Our own Ann Murphy was presented the prestigious **Dorothy Roberts Award** in grateful appreciation for her years of service to the League of Women Voters of Washington. Ann's work with the Voter Services Committee (VSC) has served as the LWVWA Convention Chair, a person who shows commitment, dedication, and passion for the mission of the state League. The award presented to Ann was created in 2019 to honor Dorothy Roberts, who was a beneficial work in the voter community has brought recognition to the League and its mission and who has made the LWVWA known to others outside the League where thirty-state Leagues work.

When Ann Murphy's name was announced as receiving this award, a chorus of cheers and applause rose from the Zoom room. Ann has been a member of the LWVWA from 2019-2020. She served on the Washington Education Fund Board from 2011-2015, becoming Treasurer 2013-15 and President 2015-16.

Her service to the Spokane League is in two measures, having been President, Vice President-Action, Secretary, and Voter Editor. Ann has been a member of the Voter Services Committee (VSC) for several years and is member or Fellow with Citizen Leagues for 5 years — 40 years in total.

It was a greatest Dress League that awarded the prestigious award to Ann Murphy, teacher, advocate, and board leader.

### Bev Austin Recognized for Civic Ed and Convention Organization

The second Spokane League member that the state League recognized is Beverly Austin. Bev served on the state league board from 2019-2021, working closely with Karen Verl on the development of the elementary edition of the Voter's Guide, which is posted on our forming and overseeing the Voter Services Education Committee.

Bev was also in charge of the most recent June Convention. It was a big job if you attended the Convention, since Bev had to make many moving parts to it. Bev declined but all of these moving parts fit together. Whatever we were asked to do, Bev was there to make it happen. Bev was also a member of our attendance workshop, so Bev was going into a session which was thoughtful, current, and relevant for discussion and the sharing of ideas.

This was a busy and important convention, and Bev organized it all smoothly and at a very affordable registration fee. Isn't this a little like Ginger Rogers dancing backward in heels?

For all of the planning and coordination for Convention and for the exercises of all we has gone to once education, the Joel Beach recognized and thanked Bev Austin.

*In passing…*

Even in our seemingly fast paced world, I am reminded that some things just take time. Such is the case with the Voter Services Committee's work on the passage of the Women's Suffrage 19th Amendment – and their another 40 years to that rights to fully participate in our beloved state's new Spokane Voters Guide. Yes, it is a lot of work, but it is also a process that allows other ideas to circulate more citizens with the voting rights/obligation.

Just as in our very high to get the vote, it seems that within our own League we have been working in County Government for some time. It was in the 1950s that the Spokane League began studying County Government and in the 1960s that it was ready to take a position. Many other Leagues were already and they wrote a City County Consolidation document that ultimately failed to be approved by the voters (1969). Since then, there have been many efforts to change the County Commissioner Districts representation on the Board of County Commissioners.

League members have been involved all along … I remember much county government talk with my mentor **Margaret Fabrizio Pickman** I also make note of former League member **Shirley Bowler** who died recently. She served on the Board of Commissioners and she was passionate about making changes to county government.

And now we find ourselves in 2021 in the first steps of the redistricting process from those to the districts and to the voters. Stay in a separate **Action Alert** email that we send after the week, please find ways for WQ to act to make a difference! Every voice is important!

Thank you,

*Ann Murphy, LWVSA President*

## 2021-2022 League meetings

*Meetings will be held on Zoom at 7:30 am and 7:30 pm each day.*

Oct 12 – General Meeting: Potpourri of Updates and Actions / Elections, Redistricting & Sustainability Action Plan

Nov 9 – General Meeting – Diversity Lens (Eileen Bergman)

Dec 4 & 11 (2 Saturdays) – LWVWA Action Workshop – encourage attendance!

Dec 14 – General Meeting: Legislative Action Prep (Follow up from Action Workshop) (Ann Murphy)

Jan 11 – General Meeting – Program Planning – for Local and LWVCD Convention (Sylvia Oliver)

Feb 8 – General Meeting – Public Hospital Districts (LWVWA) and other Healthcare items (Ann)

Mar 8 – General Meeting – Harvest Case Study (Ellen Tasker)

April 12 – General Meeting – Environmental Issue (Doreen Tasker)

May 17 – Annual Meeting (Board)

## Other Items for Your Calendar

Oct 5 – State Redistricting Commission Hearing on Legislative Districts – 7-10 pm virtual

Oct 7 – Pint Public Hearing on Spokane County Redistricting, Northern Quest Casino (Gallagher room) Spokane and virtual information at www.redistrictingwaves.com

Oct 8 – State Redistricting Commission Hearing on Congressional Districts – 10 am to 1 pm virtual

Oct 12 – LWVSA General Meetings

Oct 12 – Deadline for comment to www.redistrictingwaves.com on County Commissioner Districts

Oct 20 – LWVSA Board – 10 am to 1 pm via Zoom

Oct 20 – Deadline for comment to state redistricting commission on Legislative and Congressional Districts

Oct 20 – Final Spokane County Redistricting Plan due to Spokane County Auditor

Nov 3 – General Election Day

Nov 11 – Daylight Savings Time ends

Nov 9 – LWVSA General Meetings

Nov 11 – Veteran's Day

Nov 11 – LWVWA Board – 10 am to 1 pm virtual

Nov 25 – Thanksgiving

Nov 26 – Hanukkah begins

Dec 4 & 11 – LWVWA Action Workshop – via Zoom

*Ann Murphy, President*

At its September 13 meeting your LWVSA Board –

- Heard a presentation by the 2021-22 Meeting Calendar (see above)
- Approved Finance/Accounting Policy and approved edits to the Investment Policy. Both documents are available in the Members Only Section – www.lwvspokane.org
- Heard report of local candidate forums – Watch Candidate Forums
- Cross River updates: received approval to use Kickstarter Funds to support project, $2,000 dues Cross grant applied for (and since received) Cross River Commission approved, Spokane Community Credits Co-Op regarding Spokane County Redistricting.
- Learned that Criminal Justice Committee has disbanded due to lack of participation and interest.
- Next Board Meeting – Oct 20, 2021, 10 am to 1 pm via zoom. Contact Ann Murphy if you would like to attend.

## Your 2021 - 2022 Board

Ann Murphy – President & Action Chair
Ann Roe – Vice President
Michael Bert – Treasurer
Susan Gray – Director (Communications Chair)
Lea Kohler – Director (Voter Services Chair)
Becky Dickerhoof – Director (Voter Services Chair)
April May – Director (Membership Chair)
Sylvia Oliver – Director (Program of Work Chair)

**Need a Member Directory?**

A printable pdf of the most recent issue of the member directory is available in the Members Only section of LWVSpokane.org. If you're not able to access it, please send Susan Gray an email and she'll send you one.

*Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy.*

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