



VOTER

August 2022

www.lwv-bf.org

President's Message ~ Beverly Johnson-Torelli

Wow, what a change from June's rain to July's hot temperatures! I hope you are staying in and staying cool. By the time you read this, the August 2nd Primary Election may be almost over. The official certification date is August 16th. **The asterisks below indicate the primary races.** The top two in those will be determined through the August election process. Thanks go to the League members who are participating in the paid pilot program with the Benton County auditors to oversee and monitor the ballot counting process, along with representatives from the Republican and Democratic parties. Chuck Lo Presti is the league coordinator. Also participating are Janie Treadway, Kelly Doyle, Susan Kreid, Polly Parton, Miriam Kerzner and Chris and Richard Grantham. If you are not involved but would like to observe the process, you may do so at the Benton County Voting Center at 2618 Columbia Center Blvd, Richland.

Dori Luzzo Gilmour did an interview for NWPB with Chuck Lo Presti' I would like to say a big 'thank you!' to our League members who are participating in the paid pilot program with the Benton County auditor and staff who oversee and monitor the ballot counting process. Also included in the process are local coordinator Chuck Lo Presti, representatives from the Democratic and Republican parties, Kelly Doyle, Chris and Richard Grantham, Miriam Kerzner, Susan Kreid, Polly Parton, and Janie Treadway.

For more information, please click on the link:

<https://www.nwpb.org/2022/07/28/paid-ballot-observers-in-benton-county/> **this link is available through August 2nd.**

The general election candidate forums will likely be recorded in late September and broadcast in mid-October. Please review the races below and send any questions or topics for questions to me at sasjoh@aol.com. As you can see, with the possibility of 18 races, lots of questions will be needed. Also, thanks go to everyone who provided questions for the primary election! It is appreciated.

GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 8, 2022

US Senate*

4th Congressional District*

Secretary of State*

8th Legislative District

State Senate*

Rep Position 1- Guettner and Barnard

Rep Position 2*

15th Legislative District

Senate - Torres and possibly write-in candidate Lindsey Keesling

16th Legislative District

Rep Position 1*

Rep Position 2 - Corn and Rude

Benton County

Commissioner – Pos 2*

Prosecuting Attorney – Eisinger and Lukson

Franklin County

Commissioner Pos 2 – Didier and Miller

Sheriff – Raymond and Turner

Pasco School District

District 3 – Brown and Christensen

District 4 – Phillips and Crosby

District 5 (At Large) – Simmons and Trevino

Benton Franklin Superior Court

Judge 4 – Cicotte and Rodriquez

Benton Franklin District Court

County Position 4 – Villarreal and Orosco

Saturday, August 6th Celebration of Community, Diversity & Culture

The Tri-Cities Diversity & Inclusion Council <https://www.tricitydeicouncil.org/> is holding a free, family-friendly event celebrating the community, our diversity, and different cultures. The event will be held at Columbia Park in Kennewick on August 6th near the bandshell and the surrounding grounds from noon to 8:00pm. There will be food trucks, vendors, art, cultural entertainment and more!

As you all know, the League is very focused in our quest for promoting democracy is Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Thursday, August 18th Business/Planning (Board) Meeting - 6:00 p.m. on Zoom

Thursday, September 15th League Picnic- Highlands Grange Shelter by the Union Street Library in Kennewick – Setup is 4:15pm -4:45pm - Official Start Time is 5:00 p.m.

This is in celebration of Women’s Equality Day, which is on August 26th. However, it was decided that by meeting in September, we would avoid conflicting with the Benton-Franklin Fair, the start of school, etc. We would love all members to attend. There may even be the chance to meet many new members for the first time and in person! (There will be no separate Business Planning/Board meeting in September.) Please bring food for yourself but a dessert to share. You could call it a “dessert potluck.” Also, there will be an opportunity to learn about the many ways you can become involved in League. Options will be discussed, and your questions answered.

Treasurer’s Report ~ Shirley Sonnichsen

At Fiscal Year End June 30, 2022:

June 30th is the end of the fiscal year. Several invoices were not received before June 30th (including the CBC invoice for the forum). These costs will be paid against the next FY budget.

Checking is:	\$6,715.93
Savings is:	\$1,856.89
Total:	\$8,572.82

Income:	\$00.00
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Expenses:	\$20.41 for mailing the TRY’s
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Membership and Dues:

We have 92 members including 10 students, 11 second in household. Two new members joined in July.

Education Fund:

We have \$2,211.00 remaining in the Education fund. This is enough for next year's scholarships and with board approval, could become a continuing project. We also need a new project submitted to the LWVWA Education Fund for the \$10,000.00 donation that John Perkins would like to give us in Marilyn's honor. The new project required a statement and Board approval before submission.

Suggested (draft project):

There were many donations in memory/honor of long time League member, Marilyn Perkins, who passed away in 2021. These funds are being held in the LWVWA Education Fund. Two scholarships to high school seniors were given by our League this year. Marilyn's husband John would like to donate \$10,000.00 for five years of scholarships. The scholarships will be given to high school graduates attending a college/technical school who have maintained a 3.5 GPA or better, who live in the greater Tri-Cities, and who present an essay stating what good citizenship means to them or their personal pathway to good citizenship.

A new fiscal year began July 1, 2022.

LWVBF Book Club ~ Polly Parton

We enjoyed the June 13th selection of *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman, a fictional story of a young woman dealing with past trauma, depression, and mental illness. We skipped meeting in July and August, but will meet again via zoom on Monday, September 12th at 6:00pm for one hour. Peggy Gregory will lead the discussion of *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity and Love* by Dani Shapiro. If you want to join us, please text, or email me so you can be added to the September 12th zoom link. Polly Parton: 509-551-3818 or polly.parton@yahoo.com

Civics Education ~ Wendy Espinosa

Our Civic Education Committee is focusing on two projects for the 2022-23 school year. We will continue to offer in-person high school presentations, addressing how our local and state governments work, along with voting, good citizenship, and community action. The second project is a scholarship, honoring LWVBF Marilyn Perkins, our past president, who dedicated herself to reaching voters young and old, encouraging community activism and democracy. We are in the planning stages for this scholarship, and the LWVBF Board has approved funds for this project for the coming year.

Voter Registration ~ Ruvine Jimenez

Pasco School District asked Ruvine if she would set up a voter registration table on August 29th, from 7:00-10:00am at Edgar Brown Stadium Courtyard. Address is 725-N18th Ave Pasco. Please email Ruvine at ruvine@educationvoters.org if you are interested in helping.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 6, noon to 8:00pm Celebration of Community, Diversity & Culture at Columbia Park, Kennewick

August 18, 6:00pm ~ Business Planning/Board Meeting via Zoom

September 12, 6:00pm ~ Book Club via Zoom

September 15, 4:15-7:00pm ~ League Picnic

Email us at:

lwv.of.bf@gmail.com

Mailing Address:

League of Women Voters of Benton and
Franklin Counties
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Richland, WA 99352

OFFICERS:

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