

# THE **V**oter

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'  
OF SPOKANE AREA

VOLUME LXXXVII ISSUE 9, September 2024

*A printable version of The Voter is available at [LWVSpokane.org](http://LWVSpokane.org)*

## Board Update

### 2024 Fall — Get Out the Vote!

By Elaine Harger

#### Welcome A-board!

Your LWVSA Board of Directors is very happy to welcome aboard two new members! Sue Irwin and Ruth May expressed interest in serving on the board in July and the board appointed them during our August meeting. They will serve until May 2025 when the next election for League board members occurs.

In Sue's application to be considered for the board, she said, "One of the most important things I believe our League can do to retain members is to make more immediate and continual contact with new members. It is important that new members feel welcome and comfortable with our League. And, that they thoroughly understand the League's mission statement and goals. In order to grow LWVSA it seems to me that we need to formulate an outreach program to diverse people/groups around our area emphasizing our commitment to nonpartisanship and democracy."

In her application, Ruth said, "I believe nurturing existing membership while broadening the outreach to the broader community is extremely important for the future of the organization. The principles on which we are founded just need to be modeled in our words and actions and communi-

*continued next page*

## Calendar

**Membership Meeting, Wednesday, Sept. 11,** At The Hive, 2904 E. Sprague Ave, Spokane.  
**4:30pm to 5pm** socialize  
**5pm to 7pm** Official meeting.

**Board Meeting, Thursday, Sept. 12,**  
**5pm to 7pm** Contact Elaine at [eharger@drizzle.com](mailto:eharger@drizzle.com) for location.

**Lunch with the League Friday, Sept. 13** at Franikie Doodles  
**11am** League Orientation  
**12 noon** Lunch and conversation – you don't have to buy anything!  
RSVP to Lunell [lh1@fastmail.com](mailto:lh1@fastmail.com) or 509-443-1319

**AH&HS Committee Meeting Sunday, Sept. 15, 5:30pm to 6:30pm**  
**on ZOOM**, Please email [lwvsahhs@gmail.com](mailto:lwvsahhs@gmail.com) to receive a Zoom link for the meeting.

**Environmental Issues Committee Meeting, Thursday, Sept. 19, 6:30pm**  
on Zoom for the link please email [amycompetine.lwvsa@gmail.com](mailto:amycompetine.lwvsa@gmail.com).

**Democracy in the Park, Saturday, Sept. 28, noon** at lower Manito Park, (See Page 5)

**Page 1** Membership Meeting & Board Update • Calendar of Events **Page 2** AHHS - Affordable Housing and Homelessness Solutions **Page 3** Ballot Translation Committee **Page 4** Civic Education • Environmental Issues **Page 5** Membership Committee • Call for Donations Democracy in the Park **Page 6** Redistricting Report • Tracey Waring Memorial **Page 7** Voter Services • How to Volunteer **Page 8** May Arkwright Hutton • New and Renewing Members • How to Join the League • Copyright

**Welcome A-board!** continued from page 1

cated to all who are interested in our cause.”

We extend a warm welcome to Ruth and Sue as they join elected board members in working to empower voters and defend democracy here in the Spokane area.

### September Membership Meeting

As we rapidly approach the general election there is much LWVSA members can do to help get out the vote – which will be the focus of our general membership meeting on Wednesday, September 11 at The Hive (see calendar for address and time). The tentative agenda for this

important meeting, is as follows:

- Welcome & introductions
- Practicing non-partisanship in highly charged partisan times
- LWVSA committees – brief intros & updates
- Hope House and CHAZ Donations (see pg. 5)
- Voter outreach – video & small group strategizing & report back to whole group
- MyLO – what it is & how to use
- Good of the order – news, announcements, parting words

**Hope to see you on the 11th!**

## Affordable Housing and Homelessness Solutions (AHHS)

### Homelessness in the Summer Months

By Becky Dickerhoof

Spokane in the summer brings different challenges for those who are facing housing insecurity and homelessness. One of the most troubling is what happens to the children who are victims of this social injustice. During the academic year, schools provide resources for their students beyond the traditional coursework. There are free meals, food resources available for the weekends and adults who try to fill the gaps children face in an unfriendly world. Now that the schools have ended the regular term, they are tasked with helping their students survive the summer months. When the pandemic hit our shores, our representatives stepped forward and provided resources for the schools and day cares to help feed the children. Schools through the Spokane Area participate in the Federal program summer lunch program. But that does not always cover every meal, every day.

I am reminded of the phrase that became

common during my college years. “If you aren’t part of the solution, you are part of the problem.” How can you be part of the solution? Our community advocates can use your help this summer. Family Promise, Jewel’s Helping Hands and Crosswalk provide food for seniors, families, children, and teenagers. Reach out and see how you might be able to help them. Contact your school district and see how you might be able to support their summer outreach programs. Contact the churches in your community and learn about their summer outreach programs and what support they need.

Finally, fire season is back, and we will soon need to provide emergency shelter from the smoke and heat. Shelters will need additional support from the community. We can complain and demand someone do something about it, or we can figure out how to become part of the solution and **DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!**



### Board of Directors

President - Vacant

Vice President - Elaine Harger

Treasurer - Mike Bell

Secretary - Vacant

Directors - Lin McGinn,  
Pamela Joyner, Sue Irwin  
and Ruth May

### Lunch with the League

Join us for an informal no-host lunch  
at Frankie Doodles, 30 E. Third St.



Friday, September 13 (every 2nd Friday of the month)

**11am** Learn about the League – an orientation to the League and how you can get the most from your membership. For new and long-term members.

**12 noon** order lunch or just join in the conversation – you don’t have to buy anything! Free Parking and on the bus line. (just east of Division on 3rd – meet downstairs in the back)

<https://frankiedoodles.net>

RSVP to Lunell [lh1@fastmail.com](mailto:lh1@fastmail.com) or 509-443-1319

## Ballot Translation Committee

# Translated Sample Ballots and Expanded Voter Outreach to Naturalized Citizens

By Susan Hales, Chair, Ballot Translation Committee

With nine voter workshops planned and two more in the works before November, the Translated Ballot Committee is fully engaged in preparing for this latest expansion of the League's voter education and engagement outreach to naturalized citizens as voters.

The cornerstone of this year's expanded outreach to naturalized citizens continues to be the League's Translated Sample Ballots, produced in partnership with County Auditor Vicky Dalton and the Spokane County Elections Office. In October when the Official 2024 Ballots are mailed, this year's Sample Ballot will be available in nine languages: Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian, Arabic, Vietnamese, Chinese, Swahili, Dari and Kinyarwanda.

Committee members Becky Dickerhoof, Mary Moore, Dawn Shuster, Judy Silverstein and Susan Hales began the project in January with research determining the most needed languages for Translated Sample Ballots. The team then quickly moved on to preparing translated, voter education materials and working with EWU Sr. Capstone students to create entirely visual handouts and zines requiring no translation.

Direct voter outreach to naturalized citizens using the translated materials began in March with monthly tabling at El Mercadito by Judy Silverstein and the Committee's participation in ANHPI's Vietnamese Heritage Day Celebration and other events.

The upcoming voter education workshops complement and promote use of the League's Translated Sample Ballots. In outreach to our partner organizations, the Committee learned that naturalized citizens are eager to learn about Washington State's election system, how to complete and submit a ballot, and much more. Because voting systems vary by state, voting related topics are not included in the national citizenship test, leaving many new Washington State citizens unprepared when their ballots arrive in the mail.

Afghan, Karen, Vietnamese, Chinese, Latino, Muslim groups and several other local, natural-

ized citizens will participate in the workshops. The workshops are hosted in partnership with the League by Thrive International, Latinos en Spokane, Manzanita House, Asians for Collective Liberation and Muslims for Community Action and Support, and others.

Hosting the workshops entails significant expense for these organizations which must hire interpreters, provide refreshments and participant incentives. Fortunately, Empire Health Foundation recognized the financial burden and offered direct support to cover their expenses, through the Empire Health Community Advocacy Fund (EHCAF).

As in 2020, the League has received significant funding from the Smith-Barbieri Progressive Fund to cover all costs for the production of the Translated Sample Ballots. The expenses of translation, printing and publication of the many handouts for the workshops are covered by generous funding from Spokane Rotary Club 21, EHCAF, Smith-Barbieri Progressive Fund, and LWVSA.

With funding from Spokane Rotary Club 21, the Spanish language version will be published as an insert in the October issue of *La Prensa Bilingue*, a local Spanish language newspaper with a readership of over 10,000. Translated Sample Ballots in all languages will be distributed through the project's partner organizations which directly serve refugee and immigrant communities.

Getting ready now for Translated Sample Ballots in October, Mary Hughes and Jan Wingenroth have begun populating a new Voter Information Translated Resources page on the LWVSA website. This is where they will post the Translated Sample Ballots, linked to the Spokane County Elections Office website by Vicky Dalton.

**Friday, Sept 20 Deadline for the October issue of *The Voter*.**

Send submissions to:  
[corderographics@gmail.com](mailto:corderographics@gmail.com)

## Civic Education

### *The League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area and Civic Education*

By Beth Pellicciotti

The Spokane League is immersed in civic engagement. It takes many shapes and calls for all kinds of volunteer work. Here are some examples.

Spokane League members respond time and time again to calls for volunteers – for tabling in the community, for hosting candidate forums, for translating the ballot for those whose first language is not English, and for writing 600-700 questions for the KSPS Civics Bowl.

Tabling in the community involves voter registration, but it is much more than that. When voters better understand how government works and that they have a voice in a representative democracy, that is civic education.

When Spokane League members table, they answer questions about the mechanics of voting in Washington State – where to get candidate information and how to update an address to get the ballot, while affirming the integrity of Washington State's election process. They also seek out new voters, those at 17 who are voting in their first primary; the newly naturalized citizens who are thrilled to exercise their right to vote; and citizens returning from incarceration who need reassurance that "Yes, you can re-register to vote."

Candidate forums multiply as we move closer to the general election. In May, Spokane League volunteers worked closely with the League of

Women Voters of Washington to host a primary candidate forum at Ridgeline High School in Liberty Lake. Ridgeline students wrote and asked questions of the candidates for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Students learned how to frame questions that were fair to all candidates, a hallmark of the League, and a form of civil discourse. This is civic education.

Those Spokane League volunteers working on the ballot translation project have made a commitment to those in Spokane whose first language is not English and, if not for a translated ballot, might not vote. It is a big and important project with many steps and involves outreach to many communities and fundraising. For me, it is one of the finest examples of how the Spokane League is manifesting the League mission – ***Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy.***

Finally, the KSPS Civics Bowl project needs volunteers to shape the 2025 KSPS Civic Bowl's questions. The writing team members for the bowl spend a couple of months in the fall reading through an assigned chapter from a civics textbook and writing 50 or so questions and answers from this book. For this Civics Bowl season, we might have a new book or books to use for questions.

*If you would like to learn more about this civic education work, please contact Beth Pellicciotti at [pelliccmb@gmail.com](mailto:pelliccmb@gmail.com)*

## Environmental Committee

By Amy Compestine

Environmental Issues Committee is now meeting on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Our September meeting will be on Thursday, 19th at 6:30pm on zoom. If you'd like to attend, please email [amycompestine.lwvsa@gmail.com](mailto:amycompestine.lwvsa@gmail.com).

The WA state league has taken a position to vote NO on I-2117; our committee will participate in the local coalition and support local efforts for this work. This fall we will be working to provide information to voters on ballot initiatives like I-2117 and others related to environmental issues.

Also, since the committee's presentation of the Sustainability Action plan and the city council adopted the final version of the plan in 2021, there has not been much information on what parts of the plan are being implemented or what actions are in progress. In 2024/2025 the committee plans to follow back up on the status of the SAP and progress of the Sustainability Action Subcommittee Steering Committee.

*For more information email [amycompestinelwvsa@gmail.com](mailto:amycompestinelwvsa@gmail.com)*

# Lend a Helping Hand – Call for Donations!

By Mike Bell

The LWVSA Board is asking members who attend the September 11th membership meeting at The Hive to donate items to help unhoused people in the Spokane area.

**Hope House** is devoted to providing services exclusively to women experiencing homelessness. Hope House is asking for the following items: sunscreen, deodorant, travel sized shampoo and conditioner, hygiene wipes, bath towels, laundry detergent (tide pods), disposable razors, ground coffee, **new** women's underwear (all sizes), hair accessories,

individual alcohol swabs, leggings, and household items (no bakeware).

**CHAS Mobile Medicine/Street Medicine/Outreach** provides mobile medical care to homeless individuals throughout the Spokane area. CHAS is asking for the following new and used items: men's and women's shoes (all sizes and styles – tennis shoes, boots, sandals), blankets and sleeping bags, men's and women's clothes in all sizes (jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, t-shirts, long johns and snow pants).

## Membership Committee Update

By Lunell Haught

**Lunch with the League** – join us for an informal no-host lunch at Frankie Doodles Friday, September 13 (every 2nd Friday of the month)

**11 am** Learn about the League – an orientation to the League and how you can get the most from your membership. For new and long-term members.

**12 noon** order lunch or just join in the conversation – you don't have to buy anything! Free Parking and on the bus line.

30 E Third Spokane (just east of Division on 3rd – meet downstairs in the back  
<https://frankiedoodles.net/>

## Membership Meeting – Sept 11

4:30 pm join us for informal social time before the meeting begins at 5:00 pm.

The HIVE, corner of E. Sprague and S. Haven across from Libby Center in the Sprague Union District. Free Parking

## Get Your Name Tag

The League has free name tags for members which are brought to meetings.

In addition, permanent name tags are available for \$10.00. These name tags have a magnetic or pin backing. Some members like just their first name (they like them for tabling events) and others prefer their full name – your choice. When I get orders, I'll bring them to the League meeting and collect cash or a check from you. Please send an email to Lunell Haught lh1@fast-mail.com by September 15, 2024. Please include how you want your name to appear and whether you want a magnetic or pin fastener.



Join Fix Democracy First, FairVote Washington, Washington for Equitable Representation & Sightline Institute for Democracy in the Park Picnics with lots of great food, drinks, fun activities, energizing conversations and more!

**Cost:** FREE! Donations Welcome

**RSVP** for Spokane's Democracy in the Park Picnic  
<https://www.fixdemocracyfirst.org/?eType=Email-BlastContent&eld=5911e542-bb8e-494a-96f6-382bad43fa99>

## Redistricting Committee

### Greetings Fellow Members

By Mary E. Lloyd

There's a new name the state is using for our redistricting campaign! Conversation of campaign name clarity occurred from the monthly state league meetings and the Campaign executive board agreed and our new name rebrand is the outcome! Within our state we are now using - Redistricting Commission Reform Campaign as our formal LWVWA and local use title. A LWVWA RCRC paper - describing our People's First Campaign (which was coined nationally by the LWVUS) can be accessed using the url below. This comprehensive reform of the structure and processes of the commission campaign is needed to ensure fair representation and increase trust across our state and nation.

LWVWA Position Summary: The League of Women Voters of Washington supports a fully funded redistricting process with enforceable standards that promote timely, fair, and effective representation as well as equitable access and maximizing opportunities for participation. The Washington State reform effort is part of the national People Powered Fair Maps program, a national redistricting program of the League of Women Voters of the US focused on creating fair political maps nationwide in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Our August 2024 meeting, held the third Thursday each month usually at the Liberty Park Library branch, included a new person who is welcomed to be part of our RCRC team. Welcome Bob Strong! Ann Murphy will be moving out of the Spokane area to her new location in Vancouver, WA. Ann will continue to support and mentor our local task force RCRC team and so many well wishes to her as her new journey in life continues. Warmest Thank Yous are not enough for ensuring our team started with a strong foundation we hope to continue through our campaign.

August 30th our RCRC team is meeting up with Marcus Riccelli to build our relationship and understand legislator's opinions on the redistricting process and any need for reform. We'll also answer any questions about the redistricting process and continue our conversations with follow-up if we don't know. Every league member should be asking themselves why they think the redistricting reform position is one they support. And if you do then every individual you talk to influences the People's First Campaign for fair representation.

**For more information on league campaign information, please visit as a league member the RCRC webpage. [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QzY6cwjRFGW1vkq5u9KxhsqW5FgKzi-UA?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QzY6cwjRFGW1vkq5u9KxhsqW5FgKzi-UA?usp=drive_link)**

Mary E. Lloyd, [riteasrain190@gmail.com](mailto:riteasrain190@gmail.com),  
cell: 509-824-5618

### Tracey Waring Memorial

*In 2017, when I first joined the Spokane League, we had all our meetings in St. Andrews Church. Tracey Waring, as parish administrator, taught many of us how to open and lock up the church, turn on and off the alarm system, and figure out the coffee machine. She was ever patient and a true friend to all League members. She passed away recently. You may want to read her obituary to learn about the lives she touched. - Beth Pellicciotti*



**Tracey's funeral is next Saturday, September 7, 2:00pm at St Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2404 W. Howard St. This is the link to her obituary <https://www.hennesseyfuneralhomes.com/tributes/Tracey-Waring>**

**County Commissioner Chris Jordan wrote:** "Yesterday (Sunday), Spokane lost one of those extraordinary everyday people who - without seeking notoriety or recognition - simply does the work of making the world around them a better, kinder, more loving place. Tracey Waring, our longtime parish administrator and lay minister at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Spokane, WA, lived her faith and walked the walk. She showed up for others, in countless small ways. She fed the hungry, by the thousands - one meal at a time. Clothed the homeless. Cared for those in prison. Shared in the joys of others. Included everyone - no exceptions. I especially appreciated her help arranging my grandparents' funerals and nephew's baptism. She was so excited to help with JoJo's upcoming baptism. She dedicated her life to making the church work - every Sunday. She was a stalwart lay leader driven by a heart of gold, at the heart of a parish community. She's the only person I've ever met who regularly used the term, "love-light." Hers shined brightly. Spokane and The Episcopal Church have a little less love and light in them without her here. May she rest in peace."

# Voter Services Report

By Elaine Harger

Someone recently referred to LWVSA as a “zombie League,” and I’m happy to report that over the past two months all of us living dead have been energetically engaged in outreach to live voters!

July kicked off with six League members (longstanding and new!) at the 62nd annual Freedom in the Arboretum event, which featured speakers, poets, musicians and a group reading of the Declaration of Independence.



Attending the Washington State Women's Commission



We received an invitation from the Washington State Women's Commission to attend the kick off at Gonzaga, July 27, of their Activate 3.8 pay equity campaign – <https://www.activate38.com/>

Another highlight of July was putting together the new volunteer manual and two sets of tabling materials. Ruth May and I met at the League office, sorted through everything, updated inventory lists of tabling materials, and compiled the new volunteer manuals.

At five naturalization ceremonies in July and August, LWVSA volunteers registered 72 new citizens to vote using paper registration forms and directed 9 to online registration.

Responding to a second external invitation, on August 4 Beth Pellicciotti and I helped launch a week-long professional development workshop for elementary and middle school teachers at the Davenport Hotel. The We The People Summer Institute for Teachers is sponsored by the James Madison Legacy Project Expansion, the Center for Civic Education, and Georgetown University. We described the history and current work of the League and civic education outreach to schools in Washington. These 45 teachers from

across Washington, 2 from Idaho, will be involved as a cohort in a year-long focus on civics in their classrooms.

August continued to be filled with LWVSA voter outreach:

- A meeting with the director of the eastern Washington branch of the Girl Scouts to explore a civic education partnership
- Wednesday evening voter registration table at Sparks Central during the Kendall Yards farmers market
- League presence at Spokane's annual Unity in the Community

## Upcoming in September, we have several opportunities for volunteers:

9/4 voter registration and outreach at Sparks Central

9/17 naturalization ceremony at Central Valley High School - time not yet set

9/24 naturalization ceremony at Federal Courthouse 11 am

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Sally Phillips, [phillips1948@comcast.net](mailto:phillips1948@comcast.net)

## Interested in Volunteering? Who Do You Call?

Contact the individuals below to participate in events and on committees:

**Affordable Housing** - [LWVSAAHHS@gmail.com](mailto:LWVSAAHHS@gmail.com). **Criminal Justice** - Lin McGinn [linmcginn2@aol.com](mailto:linmcginn2@aol.com)

**Environmental Issues** - Amy Compestine [acompe4274@gmail.com](mailto:acompe4274@gmail.com) **Redistricting Task Force** - Mary Lloyd [riteasrain190@gmail.com](mailto:riteasrain190@gmail.com)

**Voter Services** - Elaine Harger [eharger@drizzle.com](mailto:eharger@drizzle.com)

**Voter Registration** - Sally Phillips [phillips1948@comcast.net](mailto:phillips1948@comcast.net)

## Interested in Leadership? Not sure what is a good fit for you?

Contact Lunell Haight [lh1@fastmail.com](mailto:lh1@fastmail.com), 509-443-1319 or [LWVSAleadership@gmail.com](mailto:LWVSAleadership@gmail.com)

# May Arkwright Hutton, an early Spokane Woman

By Lin McGinn



In 1948 The League of Voters of the Spokane Area was established. Before that there were impressive feminists who helped shape civic life in Spokane. Like many of today's League members May Arkwright Hutton was not a native Washingtonian, born in Ohio (1860) she made her way to Spokane via Idaho.

In 1883 she owned and operated a boardinghouse in Kellogg Idaho, married one of her boarders, Levi "Al" Hutton and moved to Wallace where they invested in the successful Hercules silver mine. Both of them were active in supporting various labor movements. Despite a limited education she authored "The Coeur d'Alene: or A tale of the modern inquisition in Idaho." She was particularly active in the suffrage movements after her move to Spokane. The Idaho constitution included suffrage for women in 1896 but when she moved to Washington she couldn't vote until 1910. When Washington was admitted to the USA women were unable to vote until 1920, so she lost the vote again. She died in 1915 (buried in Fairmont Memorial Cemetery).

She wrote well crafted letters and gave persuasive speeches about suffrage. Her ability as a hostess resulted in attracting distinguished visitors including Clarence Darrow and the national suffrage leader Carrie Chapman Catt, founder of the League of Women Voters.

Seattle's suffrage organizer Emma Smith DeVoe, whose organization was rejected at a national convention of suffragists in favor of Catt's was active throughout Washington. DeVoe's style was more public and aggressive than Hutton's. This strategy difference

is found throughout many social movements and is a situation that exists today even within the League. Hutton's persuasion and style prevailed with Washington's decision makers and was the preferred negotiator for women's rights. Her arguments included the importance of not being taxed without representation and that "Women should vote because they have the intelligence to vote. They should vote because it gives them responsibilities, and responsibilities better fit women for all conditions of life. Equality before the law gives women a fair chance with men in a question of wages for the same work. In other words, the enfranchisement of women means a square deal for all."

As a civic leader she helped start the Women's Club of Spokane, She and Mrs. F. A. Fassett were the first two women to serve on a Spokane County jury. Hutton lobbied in Olympia for an eight-hour workday for women. She attended the Democratic National Convention in 1912. During the last year of her life she traveled in her chauffeured auto to farm communities, meeting farmers and trying to make matches to keep single mothers and their children together. She was one of the founders of the Spokane Children's Home and the Florence Crittenton Home for unwed mothers. Latter her husband started The Hutton Settlement in Spokane (still existing today).

The Hutton's home on 17th and Crestline still stands, the surrounding land has been given to the city of Spokane for a park.

<https://www.historylink.org/File/7547>



## Thank You New and Renewing Members!

**NEW:** Mary Ann Sullivan, Jenna Fliesen

**RENEWING:** Bernadine Bank, Jean (Gloria) Wells

## Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Discrimination or harassment of any kind will not be accepted within the League, including but not limited to race, socio-economic status, age, ability status, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender, or marital status. The League is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging for all people. The League is an organization that respects and values the richness of our community and our members. The collective sum of our individual differences and life experiences represents not only our culture, but our reputation and the organization's mission/achievements as well.

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