Celebrate 100 years!
League of Women Voters
Birthday Luncheon
February 22
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Jackson Center
at Everett CC
Please reserve your place by February 5

Mail a check payable to LWVSC for $25 per person to Cathy Liu Scott, LWVSC Treasurer, 654 5th Avenue S, #102, Edmonds, WA 98020 or pay online or reserve now and pay at the door.

Bring family and friends and enjoy soup and salad, cake and lively entertainment.

Don’t Miss Out!

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Find other Centennial Events on LWVWA events page.

LWVSC Email: lwvsccommunications@gmail.com
Edited by Vicki Roberts-Gassler, lay-out artist Linda Matthews
LWVSC Message Phone: 425-334-8922
What’s Happening

February 4, 11, 18, 25 - Legislative Discussion Group, 4:00 – 5:30 PM, Food Court, Alderwood Mall, Lynnwood, Discuss what is happening in our Legislature! Contact Jody Trautwein for more information.

February 5, Transportation Committee meeting 10AM – 12PM, Lynnwood Library, 19200 44th Ave W, Lynnwood, contact Eva Mehaffey for more info.

February 6, LWVSC Board meeting, 10 AM – 12 PM, Snohomish County PUD, 2320 California St, Everett.

February 6, Census 2020: Everyone Counts 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM, Darrington Library, 1005 Cascade St, Darrington, An informative forum about the 2020 census.

February 6, North Unit Meeting, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, Wrobliski Manor Day Room, 1210 E. 5th St., Arlington.

February 7, Children’s Services Committee, 10 AM – 12 PM, often meet at Verdant in Lynnwood, 4710 196th St SW, contact Janet Robertson

February 8, Census 2020: Everyone Counts 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Snohomish Library, 311 Maple Ave, Snohomish, an informative forum about the 2020 census.

February 10, LWVSC Magazine On the Air, 6 – 7 PM, KSER-FM Everett.

February 10, Centennial Committee Meeting, 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM, see Vicki Roberts-Gassler for more information.

Feb 11, 2020, Special Election, Snohomish County, vote for school districts and fire departments in various cities!

February 11, Civil Discourse meeting, 11 AM, The Pointe, Harbor Pointe Golf Club, Mukilteo

February 14, Day of Action Pink Tea, 1:00 - 3:00 PM, Karen Madsen’s house, 2911 88th Street SE, Everett, RSVP to 425.231.9934 or madsenkp@gmail.com

February 15, Census 2020: Everyone Counts 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM, South Kitsap Library, 9701 271st St NW, Stanwood, an informative forum about the 2020 census.

February 17, Diversity Outreach Committee 11:30AM – 1:00PM, Caffe Ladro - Lynnwood, 6314 196th St SW, Lynnwood, contact Jeanne Crevier.

February 19, Central Unit meeting, 1:00 - 3:00 PM, Everett Public Library, 2702 Hoyt Ave, Everett, Contact Julie Langabeer for more info.

February 20, Census 2020: Everyone Counts, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM, Edmonds Library - Sno-Isle Libraries, 650 Main St, Edmonds, an informative forum about the 2020 census.

February 21, Natural Resources Committee, 10AM – 12PM, Lynnwood Library - Sno-Isle Libraries, 19200 44th Ave W, Lynnwood Contact Kate Lunceford for more info.

February 22, League Birthday Luncheon 11 AM – 2 PM, Jackson Center, Everett

February 22, Voter Service Meeting, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, Mountlake Terrace Library - Sno-Isle Libraries, 2330 58th Ave W, Mountlake Terrace contact Jody Trautwein.

February 24, Census 2020: Everyone Counts 2:00 – 3:30 PM, Mukilteo Library, 4675 Harbour Pointe Blvd, an informative forum about the 2020 census.

February 21, Natural Resources Committee, 10AM – 12PM, Lynnwood Library - Sno-Isle Libraries, 19200 44th Ave W, Lynnwood Contact Kate Lunceford for more info.

February 22, League Birthday Luncheon 11 AM – 2 PM, Jackson Center, Everett

February 22, Voter Service Meeting, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, Mountlake Terrace Library - Sno-Isle Libraries, 2330 58th Ave W, Mountlake Terrace contact Jody Trautwein.

February 24, Census 2020: Everyone Counts 2:00 – 3:30 PM, Mukilteo Library, 4675 Harbour Pointe Blvd, an informative forum about the 2020 census.
This is it, people – we’re celebrating the first 100 years of our League of Women Voters this very month! On February 14, 1920 the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) officially dissolved and was replaced by the League of Women Voters.

We hope all our members will register right away and attend this very special Birthday Luncheon on February 22 at the Jackson Room, Everett Community College. There will be soup and salad, and cake, and a special program from the Centennial Committee that we hope you'll enjoy.

There will be other days to celebrate this year, especially August 18, 100 years since the crucial 36th state (Tennessee) ratified the 19th Amendment, and August 26, the date in 1920 when the United States Congress certified that the Amendment was part of the Constitution and women were finally given the vote in all 48 states of the Union. We’ll be marching in our costumes on the Fourth of July as well, because we want everyone to know that women were not just given the vote, but demanded it for decades until enough minds were changed. We want everyone to recognize that persistence pays off, and that even very entrenched ideas, such as that women are not equal to men, can be challenged and eventually new ideas can prevail.

In June two activities will wind up our recognition of Mrs. Missouri Hanna, the Edmonds woman who published a newspaper and an influential newsletter, Votes for Women, in the first decade of the 20th century. On June 12 there will be a women’s history forum, and on June 26 the children of Edmonds will be treated to a really fun scavenger hunt.

In the meantime, work continues in our committees and our units on a variety of issues, some of them described in these pages.

**Shirley Sutton Honored**

On January 21 at the Martin Luther King Jr. concert by Lift Every Voice Legacy, our own Shirley Sutton received their Beloved Community award. Shirley was recognized for her many years of community service in various organizations, including her recently-ended term on the Lynnwood City Council.

We in the League have benefited from Shirley’s experience on the board for the last several years, including her current service as First Vice President. She does not often speak, but when she does we have learned to listen, because she always has something valuable to say. We’re pleased that you were given this well-deserved recognition, Shirley! Vicki Roberts-Gassler

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**Welcome New Members!**

Cathie Macdonald Hamilton

Mostly retired former classroom teacher, tutor and consultant. Worked with both “regular” and “special” students from preschool to high school. Later in life these skills morphed into individualized senior care and geriatric case management.

**LWVSC Day of Action**

The national League of Women Voters has put out a call to local Leagues to join in a nation-wide Day of Action to celebrate our 100th birthday and honor our legacy. The League is rooted in a 100-year history of fighting to strengthen our democracy, and will demonstrate its continued power through a coordinated *Day of Action on February 14th, 2020.*

Given that the League was born from the suffrage movement, the LWV is centering the Day of Action around the theme: *Women Power the Vote.*

Our Snohomish County League will participate in the national Day of Action by holding a Pink Tea similar to those held by suffragists when they wanted to work on suffrage matters but did not want to divulge the nature of the gathering to their disapproving husbands. During our Pink Tea, we will write postcards with a note of thanks to members of the Virginia Legislature who voted to pass the Equal Rights Amendment recently, putting it over the threshold for action by the Legislature.

In addition, we may be writing additional postcards, depending upon possible action on the ERA by then.

**Details for our Day of Action Pink Tea:**

**Friday, February 14th**

Karen Madsen’s home

2911 88th Street SE, Everett

1:00 to 3:00 pm

Please RSVP to 425.231.9934 or madsenkp@gmail.com

League members are welcome, and feel free to bring a friend interested in the League.
League of Women Voters and Fix Democracy First created another day of defending democracy, meeting with Washington State Legislators in 32 of the 49 state legislative districts. About 156 people from all over the state traveled to Olympia to be citizen lobbyists in support of important democracy bills. Many were able to carpool and League members around Olympia opened their homes to many for overnight accommodations the night before. Some of us stayed in hotels and partied till the wee hours (9:30 pm) over pasta and spumoni.

People met with their own legislators and often took turns asking about the senator’s or representative’s position on a bill. They listened and where there was disagreement offered a follow up. This is the start or continuation of a relationship that is so important in a democracy. We left each legislator with a brightly-painted “Democracy Rocks 2020”, the centennial edition!

We heard from Senators Kuderer and Liias, the Secretary of State, Kim Wyman, Representative Pellicciotti, and LWVWA Election Security Chair Kirstin Mueller. All talked with passion about the importance of the bills being considered and our role in pressing for passage. But most passionate was Civil Survival Project Director Tarra Simmons, who spoke about voting rights restoration in criminal justice reform. No one in her family except she graduated from high school. She then went on to law school and is now a fierce advocate for restoring voting rights for felons.

Before and after a tasty lunch we talked about strategies in our meetings led by our own League lobbyists, Nancy Sapiro and Pam Crone. We met among our districts to plan our meetings and were on our way.

We later had a chance to participate in a hearing in the House State Government and Tribal Relations Committee on four bills being considered. Many LWV members testified, including our own Karen Crowley (truly a natural public speaker!) Representative Pellicciotti read into the record after each hearing the home cities of dozens of comments made on the bills. That was us!!

The priority bills were voting access (SB 6228/HB 2292), voting opportunities through education in increase youth participation (SB 6313/HB 2558), redistricting and election methods (HB 2575), ranked choice voting (SB 5708/HB 1722), campaign finance and ethics (SB 5033/HB 1067), campaign transparency (SB 6361/HB 2647), requiring the state to pay its fair share of election costs (SB 6134/HB 2421) and others.

Kate Lunceford

**Member’s Reaction to Lobby Day**

Every year gets better and better! Tuesday, January 21st, was the joint LWVWA and Fix Democracy First Democracy Lobby Day 2020 in Olympia. Members from all seven of the legislative districts in Snohomish County with around 20 members participated. Much thanks go to Kate Lunceford who restarted League Lobby Day four years ago by jumping in and organizing our Snohomish League Lobby Day at the Capitol. The next year the state League joined with Fix Democracy First to sponsor the event; we were beyond capacity for the Columbia Room in the Capitol basement this year.

Our speakers were exceptionally passionate about their topics, providing us with eight priority bill reviews and talking points with speakers from senators, county auditors, representatives, and our own Kirstin Mueller, the LWVWA Election Security Chair. Secretary of State Kim Wyman was outlining her bill and heard from us that not everything she’s proposing sits well with our positions on voter security. The phrase we learned to use is “support with reservations.”

With the 9 AM to noon program devoted to hearing first-hand what our priorities specifically around Democracy are, we slipped in and out of the presentations depending on when our scheduled appointments were with our legislators or their aides (who, I think, listen more and speak less than the legislators but pass along every word we want the elected representatives to hear from us); I’m in 21st LD so the six of us had appointments at 11:30 with Representative Ortiz-Self, 1:00 with Senator Liias, and 1:30 with Representative Peterson! In between meetings we gobbled down the quite good buffet during our ‘working lunch’ where we heard tips from earlier League member appointments as well as words from Noah Ramirez with the Latino Community Fund of Washington.

Some of us were first-timers to a League Lobby Day and were astounded by the experience. They were blown away by the flawless organizing, on schedule operation, and beauty and intensity of walking the halls of our state government. A highlight was the Public Hearing of the House State Government & Tribal Relations Committee in an overflow House Hearing Room with a double overflow to a second room. One topic we heard support and non-support for: concerns employment after leaving office or state employment, establishing a one-year “cooling off” period. As one newbie said in the halls, “... there’re two sides to every issue; we heard them both” from our electeds!

Several of our members either signed in to speak at the public hearing or signed in to express their support or opposition on paper without asking to speak on a bill. That feels empowering! Our own member Karen Crowley gave the most striking, direct to the point, two minutes of the entire hearing speaking on the improvements to the redistricting commission work following the census this year! We ARE making democracy work!

Michelle Valentine
There it is, everyone - a quick “summary in numbers” - how the “Missouri Hanna and the Suffrage Movement” has spread into our county.

- **$13,000 in grant monies** were provided from the state Centennial “Votes for Women” grant and the Snohomish County Historical Commission.
- **2,680 third graders** have heard the story thus far! Districts: Edmonds, Muk-ilteo, Everett, Marysville, Monroe, Arlington, Darrington, Sultan, Lake Stevens, Snohomish, and Sultan.
- **72 schools** invited us these past four months to read the true story Around America to Win the Vote: Two Suffragists, a Kitty, and 10,000 Miles to their students. (A few Leaguers are going to their schools in February.)
- **38 LWV volunteers** contacted their school/s and set up times to read to what they thought would be one class of children in the library. It often morphed into two or three classes of 3rd graders, as librarians pleaded for equity.

Grant expectations were exceeded. Thank you, League volunteers, for dedicating time to read to the students. Your persistence in arranging it all was appreciated. Some wore costumes. Some added vocabulary words. Some took on classes at once. Some of your creative preparations in reading the story inspired us all.

Many Thanks!

Thank you to the following LWV volunteers who read to students in Snohomish County. Some of you went to numerous schools. A few are still volunteering in February. Our county is so large - but many of you drove to far away schools anyhow: imagine reading at a two-room schoolhouse in Gold Bar to the “whole school” - thanks, Phyllis. This part of the Missouri Hanna grant turned out more successful than expected, all due to your enthusiasm.

Rita Ireland

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**Reading to Schools by Numbers**

- **Four projects** were part of the grants:
  - Missouri Hanna interpretive panel on Sunset Avenue - check it out on Sunset Avenue in Edmonds. (Along the bluff/corner - where she lived)
  - Reading suffrage story to 3rd graders around the county - nearly done
  - June 12, 2020- Public Forum - Edmonds Historical Museum - speakers
  - June 26, 2020 - Children’s Scavenger Hunt in Edmonds - need 12 helpers

- **One person** was the two grants’ inspiration: Missouri Hanna - Edmonds publisher and suffrage newsletter editor of Votes for Women.

See photos on our LWV website, thanks to Mary Ross.

Thank you to Vicki Roberts-Gassler for patiently editing every document and for encouraging me. Thank you, Karen Keenan, Karen Madsen, Cathy Liu Scott and Kathy Prewitt for your technical and financial expertise. A thank you to Phyllis Busch for reading at eight school libraries two of them all the way up to Index and the two-room schoolhouse at Gold Bar.

Lastly, good news: both the state and county accepted our work’s progress and agreed to reimburse all invoices for these projects. Hooray — the LWVSC treasury will return to normal!

I am so grateful for all your support. It has been fun educating others. What a surprise to find so few knew about women’s suffrage. Our League Centennial Committee and many of you LWV volunteers changed that. What would Missouri Hanna think?

Rita Ireland, Grant coordinator

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**Personal Reactions to Reading**

Some of the volunteer readers exclaimed that they returned more than one day to reach ALL the third graders, as teachers wished. Some read to three or four multiple classes at once! Some didn’t feel comfortable to walk into a school to read, but they walked out thrilled with memories of raised hands — questions from curious nine-year-olds.

We received enthusiastic letters/emails from teachers, librarians and students. Here is one student’s letter from Maplewood Elementary in Edmonds:

“I’m righting this note to thank you for coming to our school. I found it surprising that you have to be 18 years old to vote. I hadn’t even heard of the word suffrage. I learned that two women and one cat survived five and a half months with a limited supply of food and water. My favorite part was that it was only two girls named Alice Burke and Nell Richardson. Votes for Women! Sincerely, Phinney”
What did you say?

The Civil Discourse Committee continues to explore ways to encourage and promote reasonable, respectful dialogue. We realize that each of us may need to develop or refresh our skills in this area. How do we have real conversations with those who seem to be so far from us across a political or cultural divide? Do we even know where to begin in these polarized times? Can we listen, with a focus on understanding rather than on winning?

Several members of our committee have connected with the organization called Better Angels. Karen Crowley attended a Red/Blue workshop where she spent the day talking with, and listening to, a group that included eight red-leaning and eight blue-leaning participants. And as you will read in the Civil Discourse Committee notes, Karen Madsen joined a conversation sparked by the book *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right* - a 2016 book by sociologist Arlie Russell Hochschild.

The Board will be discussing a collaboration with Better Angels and the possibility of hosting a Skills Workshop this spring. “Better Angels Skills Workshops teach skills for having respectful conversations that clarify differences, search for common ground, and affirm the importance of the relationship. They also give participants a safe environment to practice those skills.” Look for additional details in the coming months. If you would like to learn more, the Committee encourages you to visit the Better Angels website at better-angels.org.

Karen Crowley

Civil Discourse Committee January Meeting

The Civil Discourse Committee met January 18th. We clarified our goal for the remainder of this year and on to the 2020-2021 Program. The discussion examined the League Principles and Positions within their grounding framework. We agreed not to take our local League position on Civil Discourse either to the LWVWA or to LWVUS. We will contact Mary Ross about posting our Civic Participation position on the LWVSC website: “Promote civil discourse through action and education for all government bodies, staff, and the public for the purpose of improved public policy decisions and processes. Civil discourse means, at a minimum, mutually respectful, courteous, constructive, and orderly communication.”

We will continue in Program with our educational goal using the “Your Voice Matters” bi-fold and conducting or partnering in forums. We will speak to the Board about bi-fold printing costs. In February, the committee will outline a plan for distribution to local councils, boards and libraries. First, we will continue with contacting of city mayors, Sno-Isle Library and Everett Library. We will add the bi-fold to our webpage. Also on our February agenda, we will discuss forming “Speak Up” Schools in 2021 to train people to testify about redistricting.

Karen Crowley and Karen Madsen attended a Seattle book discussion, *Strangers in Their Own Land*, put on by Better Angels. This is “a citizens’ organization uniting red and blue Americans in a working alliance to depolarize America.” For more information, look at their website at https://www.better-angels.org/ or listen to Karen Crowley’s interview on KSER with co-founder Bill Doherty https://lwvsnoho.org/services/magazine-on-the-air. They will hold another book talk for *The Righteous Mind* at 5:45 PM, Everett Library on February 12th. (See article by Karen Crowley about Better Angels!) Could we co-sponsor their three-hour skills training for our next forum? We will arrange some dates and take these to the next Board meeting.

Next Meeting: February 11, 11 AM, The Pointe, Harbour Pointe Golf Club, Mukilteo

Joan Smith, Civil Discourse Chair

Cover of the bi-fold “Your Voice Matters” find brochure on LWVSC website.
Washington’s Presidential Primary will be held March 10 (one week after Super Tuesday). Legislation passed in 2019 changes the date-setting process, how candidates gain access to the ballot, and how parties use the results. The more eligible voters who participate, the more influence our state will have in the nomination process. Read more about the details of our upcoming primary.


Census Corner

Mark your calendars to attend “Census 2020 - Everyone Counts” at your local Sno-Isle library.

Sessions will be --

Darrington -- Feb. 6, 11am - 12:30pm
Snohomish -- Feb. 8, 10:30am - 12pm
Stanwood -- Feb. 15, 1pm - 2:30pm
Mukilteo -- Feb. 22, 2pm - 3:30pm

Lynn Carpenter, Chair, Census and Redistricting Committee

Secretary of State

Newly elected Lynnwood City Council member and League member Juileta Altamirano-Crosby will receive an award from Seattle Pacific University on February 8. She received her master’s degree in educational leadership from SPU in 2018. She works with bilingual students as they deal with educational barriers in Washington, as well as in Guerrero, Mexico, where she was born and raised. The Alumni Medallion Award is bestowed upon alumni who have served the community and university, and who have made an impact in their field. Congratulations, Julieta!

Lynn Carpenter

Julieta to Receive Award

Sno-Isle Libraries are helping ready Snohomish and Island Counties for the April 1st Census with programs at nine of the system’s libraries over the next three months. They have invited both the LWV of Snohomish County and the LWV of Whidbey to participate. Our League began with a Voter Registration table at Mariner Library on Jan. 25 and will be scheduled at other libraries through March. Voter Services and the Census and Redistricting Committee are setting up the Voter Registration tables at each event; however, since League is a partner, our members are encouraged to attend any or all of them.

These programs are a good way to get answers to any of your questions about the upcoming Census, such as: What address do college students use? How about seniors in nursing homes? Do babies get counted? Can I get paper Census forms? Why aren’t they mailing them out this year?

The list of events, “2020 Census: Everyone Counts” can be found on the Sno-Isle website: https://www.sno-isle.org/census. Here is a quick list by date: February 6th, Darrington Branch, 11am – 12:30pm; February 8th, Snohomish Branch, 10:30am – 12pm; February 15th, Stanwood Branch, 1pm – 2:30pm; February 20th, Edmonds Branch, 2pm – 3:30pm; February 22, Mukilteo Branch, 2pm – 3:30pm; March 5th, Lynnwood Branch, 7pm – 8:30pm.

Lynn Carpenter, Chair, Census and Redistricting Committee
The ERA – We’ve Got Good News and Bad News

The good news is that in January Virginia became the 38th state to pass the Equal Rights Amendment. The bad news, though, is that it isn’t over, although by some measures it should be. The ERA has a long and embattled history. Proposed by Alice Paul after women got the vote, it was introduced in every session of Congress from 1921 to 1972, but rarely voted on. It finally passed both Houses of Congress with the required 2/3 vote in 1972, but a deadline of seven years for ratification was added. When the required 3/4 of the states had not voted in favor by 1979, the deadline was extended to 1982, but acceptance still stalled. An additional problem was that in five states that initially ratified the amendment, subsequent legislatures voted to rescind their ratification.

It is not clear that the deadline placed on the amendment was acceptable, although deadlines were included in the resolutions proposing eight previous amendments, four in the text of the amendment itself. In the case of the ERA, the deadline is only in the introductory text. Previous deadlines have been met. The fact that the ERA deadline was extended once by the Congress, it might be argued, means it could be extended again. Also, the 27th amendment passed in Congress in 1789, but was ratified only in 1992, more than 200 years later. The Constitution does not state whether the decision of a state in favor of a Constitutional amendment can later be amended, nor does it give guidance as to whether the state can later rescind its approval. One of many interesting articles on the Equal Rights Amendment would invalidate protective laws. By the time the Amendment passed Congress the League position was solidly in favor.

Vicki Roberts-Gassler

Not to be Missed

Outside the County Auditor’s Office in Everett at 3000 Roosevelt there’s a display case that currently highlights Black History Month with an exhibit about Black women in the woman suffrage movement, with the League of Women Voters prominently featured. Thank you to Marian Harrison for obtaining permission, gathering mountains of information, and devoting hours to presenting the information and then setting up a super display. Marian, a “Legend of the League,” has truly earned her reputation.

Vicki Roberts-Gassler

South Unit Meeting

South Unit met on January 16, opening with this quote from Isaac Asimov: “Anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that ‘my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge.’”

First on the agenda, as it is in January for all units, was to suggest program ideas for next year with Sue Renhard, Program Chair, leading. After some lively discussion, we all wrote our best idea on a card and turned it in to Sue. The Board will take these ideas, as well as those from the other two units, and come up with the 2020-2021 Program of Work for LWVSC.

We also had speakers for the Edmonds School District Bond and Levy vote coming up on February 11. Ed Peters, Director of Capital Projects and Harmony Weinberg, Supervisor of Public Relations, explained that the schools need to build new, as well as replacement schools—thus the bond. The levy would assist the district as they attempt to keep up with technology, both for student education and for new safety technology in their buildings.

The South Unit will not meet in February. All members are encouraged to attend the League’s 100th Birthday Luncheon at Everett Community College on February 22. Lynn Carpenter, South Unit Co-Chair

Central Unit News

The Central Unit will meet on Wednesday, February 19, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Activity Room at the Everett Public Library. Unfortunately, our January meeting was canceled because of snow. Happily, both our guests scheduled for January will be able to come in February. LWVSC Program Chair Sue Renhard will lead a discussion on the issues our League wishes to address in 2020 and 2021.

We will then hear about plans for the 2020 U.S. Census from Vanesa Gutierrez, head of the Snohomish County Complete Count Committee. Vanesa was born in Medellin, Columbia and has been a second language instructor and TV presenter as well as working with international non-profits, community-based organizations, and local government. She is currently the Community Relations Manager at the Snohomish County Executive’s Office. She has been doing a great deal to educate the public about the Census, and we look forward to hearing from her.

Julie Langabeer, Chair

Jim Chalupnik

It is with great sadness that we announce the death in January of Jim Chalupnik, long-time active member of our League and devoted husband of Janet Chalupnik. Watch for details of his significant contributions in the next issue of the Voter.
Greetings! LWVSC asks that you make comment in support of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency’s (PSCAA) proposed Clean Fuel Standard for the Puget Sound Region before **Feb. 10, 2020**. The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency has proposed a regional Clean Fuel Standard rule for King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap Counties that would clean our air, give us more clean fuels choices, and create economic development opportunities by reducing the carbon intensity of fuels 25% by 2030.

Contact PSCAA here: Email: CleanFuels@pscleanair.gov

Mail: Send to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency,
1904 Third Avenue, Suite 105, Seattle, WA 98101

Your Comment may include all or part of the following:

Thank you for taking bold leadership on climate action. Puget Sound’s transportation sector is responsible for almost 40% of our climate pollution. To address the climate crisis, scientists warn us that we must urgently cut global warming emissions, including transitioning our vehicles to electricity and other clean fuels. I strongly support the proposed regional Clean Fuel Standard rule to clean up our air, give us more clean fuel choices, create local economic development, and reduce carbon intensity of our fuels by 25 percent by 2030.

The proposed rule would reduce air pollution that health professionals confirm leads to lung disease, asthma and other respiratory illnesses. A strong rule would mean fewer lost workdays and premature deaths. In the final rule, please ensure benefits flow to highly impacted communities, especially communities of color and low-income communities already disproportionately impacted by climate change, pollution, and other socioeconomic disparities. Implementing this rule could save up to $45 million in avoided deaths, aligning with California policy analysis showing the potential for billions of dollars in avoided public health costs.

A Clean Fuels Standard is a tested and effective policy to reduce harmful climate and air pollution: Oregon, California and British Columbia already have successful Clean Fuel Standards.

Right now, oil companies have a monopoly on our options. Puget Sound residents deserve more choices to move beyond oil like clean electricity, low-carbon biofuels, and local renewable fuels. A Clean Fuel Standard will also support rural economic development by relying on local fuel resources—such as dairy waste, forest residue, food waste, and wastewater treatment facilities. With a Clean Fuel Standard, we can keep our energy dollars here, clean the air and transition away from our reliance on oil to power our vehicles.

I support the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency adopting a strong rule for a Clean Fuel Standard.

Kate Lunceford

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**Please contact WA State Lands Commissioner, Hilary Franz, cpl@dnr.wa.gov to request she stop the Middle May timber sale near Gold Bar.**

Your comment might be, for example:

*Dear Commissioner Franz,*

*I urge you to stop the Middle May timber sale near Gold Bar. The land is adjacent to Wallace Falls State Park, a heavily trafficked hiking trail in Snohomish County. The revenue from recreational use has a large multiplier effect on the surrounding communities. Large and small donations have already been pledged to buy out the junior taxing districts in the May Creek Block. Several government entities have already looked at plans to expand the hiking trails in the area, including the Federal Government. The plans are comprehensive and years in the making. The effects of climate change will not be mitigated with the cutting of these trees. Sincerely,*

Further information:

- The City of Gold Bar testified against the timber sale at the Council meeting.
- The Daily Herald reported in Sept. 2019 about the proposed sale [https://www.heraldnet.com/news/county-council-backs-contested-timber-harvest-near-gold-bar/](https://www.heraldnet.com/news/county-council-backs-contested-timber-harvest-near-gold-bar/) The article says the Department of Natural Resources has sought to harvest the trees for more than a decade. Profits would flow to the Sultan School District, library and other local governments. But County Council Member Megan Dunn reports that money from a private estate has been offered to compensate much of the value of the timber harvest.
- This would cover about 180 acres broken up in five separate pieces. Middle May’s western edge comes right up to the Wallace Falls State Park near Gold Bar. The eastern areas of the proposed harvest, however, are farther apart. A central area is set aside as spotted owl habitat.
- Peter Goldman, Director and managing attorney the Washington Forest Law Center said, “If we don’t want this to look like an industrial logging operation, there are numerous alternatives to a clearcut,”. “But DNR has said we are not going to do anything different.”
Nothing like jumping right into the new legislative year by attending a lively and well-run workshop just a ferry-ride away in Kingston a few weeks ago! League members from all around the Puget Sound region came together at the Village Green Community Center to hear How to Make Your Voice Heard in Olympia During the 2020 Legislative Session!

We were welcomed on behalf of host League, LWV Kitsap County, by Co-President Leni Skiren. LWVWA Lobby Team Chair Ann Murphy gave a rundown of the day’s schedule and then turned the podium over to the keynote speaker Andy Nicholas, Senior Fellow at the Budget & Policy Center, who very clearly delivered the message: Why Fair & Adequate Revenue is Essential.

Next, Senator Emily Randall, a young, energetic force from Legislative District 26, reminded League members about Effective Advocacy – Making Change Happen. During lunch—a soup and salad buffet—LWVWA Contracts Lobbyists Nancy Sapiro & Pam Crone told the assembled group of about 50 attendees what to expect from the legislature this year.

The afternoon was devoted to breakout sessions giving workshop attendees opportunities to learn more about what our lobby team anticipates will come up in the 2020 legislative session, ask questions about specific issues, and learn in practical ways how attendees can make their voices heard on these issues. These were lead by the State League’s Lobby Team members who were there to do just that:

- **Elections and Campaign Finance:** Kathy Sakahara
- **Census and Redistricting Election:** Alison McCaffree
- **Natural Resources & Climate Change:** Marty Gibbins, Raelene Gold, Phyllis Farrell
- **Social Justice:** Kim Abbey (Health Care), Catherine Ahl (Education)
- **Revenue, Homelessness, Transportation:** Cynthia Stewart

Lynn Carpenter reporting for LWVSC attendees including: Jody Trautwein, Michelle Valentine, Nancy Johnson, Cathy Scott, Sally Lider and Troy Myers

**League Founders**

As we celebrate our first 100 years as the League, we also honor our foremothers, especially Carrie Chapman Catt and Maud Wood Park.

When the League of Women Voters was founded in 1920, Mrs. Catt had served as the President of its predecessor, the National American Woman Suffrage Association, from 1900 to 1904 and again from 1916 to 1920. She was an extremely effective organizer who began in her native Iowa, traveled the country and the world in service of woman suffrage, and built the NAWSA to around a million members. She implemented a “winning strategy” for what was by then a mass movement; it involved working simultaneously for a federal amendment and for voting rights in all the states. Thousands of women lobbied Congressmen and Legislators with arguments built up over the seven decades of this social movement.

Mrs. Catt was far from the most liberal of the suffragists. Her focus was on the vote, and she was willing to compromise with racist elements. In the 1890s she opposed some of Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s ideas, in particular the Woman’s Bible. In the final decade before the vote she disapproved strongly of the more radical Alice Paul’s confrontational tactics, preferring to stick with petitions, letters and in-person lobbying while avoiding offending legislators or President Woodrow Wilson.

While working to see the 19th Amendment ratified in the required three-quarters of the states, NAWSA also turned its attention to educating the new voters and converted to the League of Women Voters. Mrs. Catt remained honorary president until her death in 1987, and continued to work for peace and for women’s rights internationally, but she arranged for Maud Wood Park to serve as the first president of the new organization.

Mrs. Park, a teacher and a graduate of Radcliffe College, was instrumental in the suffrage movement in Boston, where she began by mobilizing young college women for the cause. As our first president she helped set the procedures that we have developed ever since. Her aims are summed up in the widely quoted statement: “[The League] has chosen to be a middle-of-the-road organization in which persons of widely differing political views might work out together a program of definite advance on which they could agree. It has been willing to go ahead slowly in order to go ahead steadily. It has not sought to lead a few women a long way quickly, but rather to lead many women a little way at a time.”

Vicki Roberts-Gassler
League of Women Voters and Fix Democracy First created another day of defending democracy, meeting with Washington State Legislators in 32 of the 49 state legislative districts. About 156 people from all over the state traveled to Olympia to be citizen lobbyists in support of important democracy bills. Many were able to carpool and League members around Olympia opened their homes to many for overnight accommodations the night before. Some of us stayed in hotels and partied till the wee hours (9:30 pm) over pasta and spumoni.

People met with their own legislators and often took turns asking about the senator’s or representative’s position on a bill. They listened and where there was disagreement offered a follow up. This is the start or continuation of a relationship that is so important in a democracy. We left each legislator with a brightly-painted “Democracy Rocks 2020”, the centennial edition!

We heard from Senators Kuderer and Liias, the Secretary of State, Kim Wyman, Representative Pellicciotti, and LWVWA Election Security Chair Kirstin Mueller. All talked with passion about the importance of the bills being considered and our role in pressing for passage. But most passionate was Civil Survival Project Director Tarra Simmons, who spoke about voting rights restoration in criminal justice reform. No one in her family except she graduated from high school. She then went on to law school and is now a fierce advocate for restoring voting rights for felons.

Before and after a tasty lunch we talked about strategies in our meetings led by our own League lobbyists, Nancy Sapiro and Pam Crone. We met among our districts to plan our meetings and were on our way. We later had a chance to participate in a hearing in the House State Government and Tribal Relations Committee on four bills being considered. Many LWV members testified, including our own Karen Crowley (truly a natural public speaker!) Representative Pellicciotti read into the record after each hearing the home cities of dozens of comments made on the bills. That was us!!

The priority bills were voting access (SB 6228/HB 2292), voting opportunities through education in increase youth participation (SB 6313/HB 2558), redistricting and election methods (HB 2575), ranked choice voting (SB 5708/HB 1722), campaign finance and ethics (SB 5033/HB 1067), campaign transparency (SB 6361/ HB 2647), requiring the state to pay its fair share of election costs (SB 6134/HB 2421) and others.

Kate Lunceford

**Author Meet and Greet!**

**The Woman's Hour: the 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage**

Celebrate the courageous and dramatic fight required for women to win the right to vote. Elaine Weiss, author of *The Woman's Hour*, shares this important story February 26, at 7 PM at Mercer Island High School, Performing Arts Center, 9100 Southeast 42nd Street, Mercer Island.

7-7:45 PM Remarks
7:45-8:15 PM Q&A
8:15-8:45 PM Book Signing

In partnership with the City of Mercer Island, Mercer Island School District and the King County Library System. Funding by the King County Library System and the Friends of the Mercer Island Library. Many of us have read this excellent, beautifully written book about the ratification of the 19th Amendment in Tennessee, the 36th state that was required for the Amendment to become law. It should be a real treat to hear the author in person. If you would like to carpool to attend, contact Sue Renhard at 206-364-1336.

Sue Renhard

**Exploring our Legislative Issues**

I have just come from an extremely interesting working session with our Legislative Discussion Group at Alderwood Mall. Basically we each take an area being covered by Legislative action and fill each other in on what is happening in Olympia in the current week. We build from what LWVWA sends us each week in the Legislative Newsletter. (That source is SUPER in depth – we are so lucky! You can access it on the LWVWA website by clicking on Newsletters and choosing Legislative, then clicking on the most recent Newsletter.) Each person reporting tonight shared at least one new piece of information learned in researching the bills in their area. Tonight was fascinating! Please join us at 4:00 pm each Tuesday afternoon at Alderwood Mall food court. Many of us get food or beverages to enjoy during or after the meeting. It is Intense but Fun!

Jody Trautwein, Voter Service Chair