

THE VOTER



This Newsletter published by and for the League of Women Voters of Yakima County
PO Box 723, Yakima WA 98907 509-452-3419

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MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

VISION

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

VALUE STATEMENT

The League believes in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

Officers

Co-Presidents: Cynthia Garrick and
Criss Bardill

Secretary: Karen Pilon

Treasurer: Janis Luvaas

Board of Directors

Kathy Lambert
Rhonda Hauff,
Kitty Jubran
Elaine Smith

Voter Editor: Criss Bardill
965-2351 or cbardill@gmail.com

The Board meets at noon on the 2nd
Thursday of each month at the League office.
All members are welcome to attend.

Calendar

Thursday, July 12, noon, **LWVYC Leadership Team** meeting, League office at YUU Church. Board meetings are open to all members. Please enter through alley door.

Wednesday, July 18, 6:30 PM, District 3 County Commissioners Forum, **Terrace Heights Civic Center**. (see enclosed flyer)

Wednesday, July 25, 6:30 PM, District 3 County Commissioners Forum, **Sunnyside Community Center**. (See enclosed flyer)

League Conversations will resume in the fall.

Notes From Cynthia and Criss

Your Voter editor has been on a lengthy camping vacation in Utah and Arizona, hence this late issue!

Please note the two District 3 County Commissioner Candidate Forums we (mostly Elaine Smith!) have organized. We hope you can attend one or both. We would appreciate a good showing of interest from our own membership. We are also seeking questions for the candidates. They can be submitted to Elaine at augusta03@earthlink.net

A thoughtful tidbit from the State League Council in Richland: *Humans have an infinite ability to be offended.* Seemed applicable in these intense political times!

The Future of DACA: An Interview of WA State Attorney General Bob Ferguson with Enrique Cerna of Northwest Public Broadcasting

Attorney General Bob Ferguson describes the lawsuit in defense of DACA as an expression of the Dreamers' stress and anxiety in legal terms. There are three lawsuits at present: Washington State, California, and a suit brought by private individuals.

The AG expressed his frustration with Jeff Sessions for first promising to protect Dreamers and later taking away that protection, an act of bad faith on the part of the US Attorney General. Mr. Ferguson believes that if the DACA were brought to a vote, Congress would uphold it, but for obscure political reasons, it has not come to a vote.

Mr. Ferguson would like Trump to be able to spend a day in the shoes of a young Dreamer. Though Ferguson has always supported the DACA, he states he has developed a deep personal connection to the plight of the Dreamers since sitting with many of them and hearing their stories, (We were shown videos of young people, Dreamers who described their aspirations, accomplishments and fear, very moving!)

Asked what he what he believed would be the impact of deportation of the Dreamers, the AG said he felt there would be a great negative impact on small businesses, schools and many other aspects of the economy.

AG Ferguson anticipates that the lawsuit may reach the US Supreme Court early next year. When asked if he would like to be the attorney to argue the case, he said he would be deeply honored.

In closing, Ferguson stated that he is deeply appreciative of the support of Gov. Jay Inslee. We the audience gave the AG a whistling, whooping, stomping standing ovation!

Submitted by Member
Joyce Hernandez

Report from LWVWA Council Meeting in Tri-Cities June 1-3, 2018

This State League annual meeting was a first-time experience for me, and my overall take-away was what an active and energized group of Leaguers was in attendance. It was motivational to hear different Leagues from around the state share their work on civic engagement, voter services, and building their membership.

I attended the MELD Training on Friday. MELD is an acronym for Membership Engagement, Leadership Development. The purpose is to build linkages between local Leagues to share successes, discuss struggles and issues, and create support systems. The Yakima League has been participating in a yearlong trial run of monthly conference calls with the Leagues from Tacoma/Pierce County, Cowlitz County, Clark County, and Yakima. Our coach is Judy Golberg, and the state Board Liaison is Judy Davis. At the Council Meeting, the MELD system was fully introduced, and all local Leagues assigned to a "Pod". There are 5 Pods statewide and we are in Pod 1. Cynthia and I have been sharing responsibility for being on the calls, and it was fun to match faces with voices at the Council meeting. Considerable time was spent in discussing the need for local Leagues to be fully "on-line" with active and well-maintained web sites, Facebook pages, and Twitter feeds. Yakima now has a Facebook page, and a personal goal of mine is to establish a website before the end of my term as co-president. If this is of interest to anyone reading this, I urge you to contact me!

The latest issue of The State Were In, the LWVWA civic education textbook, was introduced, and some exciting possibilities discussed about how this may dovetail with the new WA State legislation requirement that students take a semester long, stand-alone civics course starting in the 2020-21 school year. The State League is in discussion with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction about The State Were In becoming an approved textbook for these courses.

Other highlights were encouragement to make VOTE411.org a widely recognized online voter and candidate information source; idea sharing across local Leagues about fund raising successes; and LWVWA support for Initiatives 1600 (Universal Health Care), 1631 (Carbon Pollution Fees), and 1639 (Gun Control).

I appreciated the opportunity to attend the State Council and enjoyed meeting so many interesting and engaged members of the League.

Criss Bardill

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sasha Bentley - Originally from northern California, Sasha moved to northern Idaho in high school. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 2010 at the U of WA. After graduating she worked as a legal assistant in Seattle before moving with her husband to Australia and she also spent time in Southeast Asia. Sasha returned to the northwest and settled in White Salmon in 2015. She is currently running as a Democrat for District 14, Position 1, challenging Republican incumbent Norm Johnson in the 2018 election. A reminder, while we encourage woman to run for offices, the LWVYC is a non-partisan organization and does not endorse specific candidates.

*The LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF YAKIMA COUNTY*

Presents

**DISTRICT 3 COUNTY COMMISSIONER
*Primary Candidates FORUMS***

Terrace Heights: Wednesday, July 18,
6:30 pm, Terrace Heights Civic Center,
4011 Commonwealth Road.

Sunnyside: Wednesday, July 25, 6:30 pm,
Sunnyside Community Center,
1521 S 1st St., Sunnyside.

**Moderator Sarah Augustine, Dispute Resolution Center of
Yakima and Kittitas Counties. Anyone attending may submit
written questions.**

Co-sponsors: Nuestra Casa Sunnyside, Planned Parenthood
Yakima and Sunnyside Mayor Julia Hart.

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political
organization, encourages the informed and active participation of
citizens in government and influences public policy through
education and advocacy.

Information: CYNTHIA GARRICK, CO-PRESIDENT,

509-457-6371



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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF YAKIMA COUNTY
Cordially invites you to: JOIN US!

Name: _____

Membership Categories:

Address: _____

_____ \$10 Student Associate

_____ \$60 Basic

Phone: _____

_____ \$40 Each additional family member at the same residence

E-Mail: _____

Sustaining Gift: \$25 _____ \$40 _____ \$60 _____ Other _____
Your Sustaining gift will help support our local activities.

Make checks payable to: LWVYC, PO Box 723, YAKIMA WA 98907

VOTER INFORMATION WEBSITES

Secretary of State www.secstate.wa.gov/

LWVWA- Vote 411
www.vote411.org

Yakima County Auditor
<http://yakimacounty.us/170/Elections>

