



The Kitsap

Voter

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KITSAP

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010

Monday, September 13 Candidate Forum

26th & 35th District Legislative Races

6-8:30 p.m.

**Norm Dicks Government Center
345 6th St., Bremerton**

26th Legislative District:

Senate – Derek Kilmer and Marty McClendon

Rep. Pos. 1 – Jan Angel and Sumner Schoenike

Rep. Pos. 2 – Doug Richards and Larry Seaquist

35th Legislative District:

Senate – Tim Sheldon and Nancy Williams

Rep. Pos. 1 – Daniel Griffey and Kathy Haigh

Rep. Pos. 2 – Fred Finn and Linda Simpson

**Bring Your Questions for the Candidates
Forum will be taped and aired later on BKAT**

For information call: (360) 871-3993

In partnership with:



Wednesday, Sept. 29 23rd District Candidate Forum

**7-8:30 p.m.
Poulsbo City Hall**

**Rep. Pos. 1 – Sherry Appleton and Pete DeBoer
Rep. Pos. 2 – James Olsen and Christine Rolfes**

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✓ ✓ ✓

Friday, October 8 Hansville Community Center Candidate Forum

6:30 p.m.

The Community Center provides homemade pies prior to the forum

**Candidates for 23rd Legislative District Representative, Positions 1 & 2,
County Commissioner, District 3, Prosecuting Attorney, Coroner and PUD
District 1 Commissioner have been invited.**

Tuesday, October 12

Candidate Forum

Contested County Races

6-8:30 p.m.

Norm Dicks Government Center
345 6th St., Bremerton

County Commissioner, Dist. 3: Josh Brown and Abby Burlingame
 Prosecuting Attorney: Bruce Danielson and Russ Hauge
 Coroner: Pete Favazza and Greg Sandstrom
 Public Utility Dist. 1 Commissioner: John Armstrong and Linda Gabriel

✓ ✓ ✓

Thursday, October 14

Tax Issues on the Ballot

9 a.m.-Noon

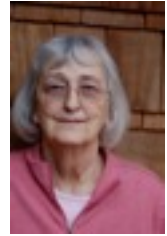
Eagles Nest, 1200 NW Fairgrounds Rd, Bremerton

- I-1107: Reverse or end sales tax on candy, bottled water and carbonated beverages passed by the last Legislature
- I-1053: Require that any state tax increase be approved by two-thirds vote of the Legislature or receive voter approval
- I-1098: Tax "adjusted gross income" above \$200,000 (individuals) and \$400,000 (joint-filers), reduce state property tax levies, reduce certain business and occupation taxes, and direct any increased revenues to education and health

In partnership with



Focus on Transportation



Luella Wells

Luella Wells has been reappointed to the PSRC's Transportation Policy Board. She has served on the Board as a representative of the League of Women Voters since 2002. Since the issue of Kitsap County's ongoing relationship with the PSRC is ever present, particularly during an election period

we are reprinting an article that Luella wrote early in 2008 for our newsletter. When asked if her views had changed since 2008, she responded no and that the benefits of remaining within the Four County District were even more important now to be able to capture scarce federal dollars.

Many of you have read or heard about the very negative comments made about the PSRC either at their public hearings on its Vision 2040 plan or on the editorial pages of the local newspapers in the form of letters or blogs. Most have expressed opinions that range from getting out of the PSRC, joining other counties in the peninsula, forming our own planning district or just do our own thing regardless of the GMA. Some of you may wonder what this is all about and/or are not clear what the PSRC is and how it relates to KITSAP'S Land Use and Transportation Planning.

All plans whether at the local or regional level including their updates must be consistent with the Growth Management Act and are reviewed accordingly.

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is the designated federal and state agency responsible for the planning process for the four county region that includes Kitsap as well as Snohomish, Pierce and King. It is also the agency which determines how federally funded special transportation project money is allocated throughout the region.

You may ask if we in Kitsap are getting our fair share since we seem to be separate or detached from the other counties in the region. Since 1993, we have received 88 million federally funded dollars for transportation projects. That represents 7.6% of the total federal dollars distributed by the PSRC over the same period of time whereas we only have represented about 6.9% of the population in the region. **WE ARE GETTING MORE THAN OUR FAIR SHARE.**

Would we do better if we opted out of the PSRC District, joined another or formed our own? I DON'T THINK SO. These are my reasons.

- 1) We have the advantage of sharing a relatively large pot of federal dollars due to the high density of the region,
- 2) We are getting our fair share of that pot.
- 3) We have a very professional and knowledgeable staff at the PSRC to rely on to help us through the process of securing federal transportation funds.

- 4) We have worked very well with other public officials across the region during this process. I have been on the PSRC's Transportation Policy Board as a representative of the LWV for over six years and have rarely found anyone treating the Kitsap delegation as outsiders. Our officials contribute and vote on all federally funded projects for the region. **WE HAVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE.**
- 5) The other counties in the peninsula have shown no particular interest in our joining their district.
- 6) The pot of federal dollars available to another district would be relatively smaller since the density of the area would be much smaller. I doubt we would receive as much in actual dollar amounts as we do with the PSRC.
- 7) The administrative cost would be greater. We would lose the advantage of a large professional staff.
- 8) We would have no say in what happens on the other side of the Puget Sound.
- 9) One of the issues on the legislative agenda of the PSRC is the WSF system. The PSRC supports putting ferry service at the top of 2008 legislative priorities. If we were not a part of that organization, but allied with another district or on our own we would probably not get the support we need from officials from across the Sound.
- 10) If we formed our own planning district, the last four points would apply and we would really find ourselves isolated from the rest of the Puget Sound.

I hope you find my perspective on this issue useful. I encourage you to speak out to the county commissioners and/or write letters to the editors of our newspapers with your thoughts.

Luella Wells
Transportation Chair



Pam Hamon

Focus on Health Care

The LWVK Health Care Committee is ready to start interviewing primary, dental and mental health care providers and the agencies that help people access care.

A second training is planned for **Monday, Sept. 20 at 1:30 p.m.** at the home of Pam Hamon. Anyone interested in helping with the survey or anyone wishing to join the committee is encouraged to

attend. Call Pam Hamon for directions: 360-598-3508 or e-mail her at pchamon@msn.com

The Health Committee will be meeting regularly the fourth Monday of every month at 1:30 at my house. Our September meeting will be Monday, Sept. 27.

A public forum explaining the new health care reform law was held at the Dicks Center on Aug. 16, sponsored by the New Life Development Center and Emmanuel Apostolic Church, and hosted by Dianne Robinson, Bremerton City Council. It was one of hopefully many opportunities for the community to better understand the law which goes into effect Sept. 23. Speakers included representatives from Kitsap County Senior Information and Assistance, AARP Seattle Executive Council, SHIBA Helpline Program in the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, Peninsula Community Health Services and Kitsap Mental Health Services.

Here are some of the facts presented:

- ✓ A Kaiser pole shows 55% of the population do not have enough information about the law but the same 55% agree with the majority of what the law plans to accomplish.
- ✓ Over time the new law is expected to save \$500 million.
- ✓ Kitsap County has 30,000 uninsured persons to be absorbed into the health care system.
- ✓ Children under 26 can remain on their parents' plans even if married.

Silent Auction Success

More than \$700 raised

WOW! Ladies and gentlemen of the Kitsap League — did you ever come through for our May Silent Auction. Together we contributed \$763.75.

I thank you all so very much.

— Margee Lynch, Silent Auction Chair

New Members

Welcome, Sharon

Sharon O'Hara

P.O. Box 3531

Silverdale, WA 98383

Phone: 360-337-1454 Cell: 360-930-2446

Email: familien1@wavecable.com

- ✓ The Insurance Commissioner's Office offers assistance with complaints against insurance companies and is highly underused by the public. They are successful in helping citizens 50% of the time and will advise those they can't help with other resources.
- ✓ PCHS sees 10% of the Kitsap's population. Next year, with increased unemployment, they expect to see 20% to 25%. With the new law, community health clinics across the USA will increase from 20 million patients to 40 million by 2014. They are a key component of the new law.
- ✓ Kitsap Mental Health services served 6,000 people with severe mental illness last year and 60% of them were also substance abusers. Primary health care providers are on the front lines of diagnosing mental illness and efforts are being made to better coordinate primary care services with the mental health care system. With intervention, 60% to 80% of those with mental illness can be cured.

There's a lot to learn about this new law and there will be many twists and turns as America tries to provide affordable health care to all. Locally, the Kitsap Physician's Alliance has been formed to try and better coordinate services for primary, mental and dental health care for its citizens.

Update Your Contact List

Loretta Payne
2287 Sawdust Hill Rd.
Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phyllis Summers
3201 Pine Rd. NE #107
Bremerton, WA 98310
Phone: 479-3032



Photo by Susan Daniel

Joyce Maddock, Catherine Ahl and Ann Smith in their hats at the county commissioners meeting Aug. 23.

President's Message

What a celebration of our right to vote this last month has been! We started off with candidate forums for legislative and county commissioner offices before the primary. Then all four city councils and the county commissioners issued a proclamation making August 26, the 90th anniversary of the 19th amendment to the US Constitution, Women's Equality Day. We also partnered with Kitsap Regional Library to present "Soldiers in Petticoats, The Struggle of the Suffragettes."

And we began the month of September with our Suffrage Celebration, a time to celebrate our right to vote with women from all our communities, acknowledge the wonderful 100 years of Kathryn Hess' life, and recognize the founding members of LWVK and our 50 year members. The rest of September and October will be taken up with candidate and issue forums.

At our Board retreat we considered all the member suggestions for meetings and decided on city budgets, shoreline master plans, juvenile court, and health care. The ability to plan and carry out these meetings, however, depends upon you, our members, to volunteer to help. I'm looking forward to working with you all in making this a great League year.

To all the women who wore hats in recognition of the women who went before us

"When you are asked if the hats are worn for decoration, proudly answer: Certainly not, they are to protect the brains of our nation." (from a poem composed by Barbara Klein, LWVAZ member)

Please Pay Your Dues

Your dues to LWV Kitsap were due Aug. 1. If you haven't paid them by the time you receive this Voter, please do so immediately. Future receipt of the Voter and inclusion in our Member Handbook require prompt payment of dues.

Membership Levels

_____ **\$60 Basic Membership:** includes State and National Membership

_____ **\$90 Household Membership:** Two or more at the same address. One copy of the Voter.

_____ **\$110 Carrie Chapman Catt Membership** (Founded League of Women Voters)

_____ **\$160 Jo Huey Membership** (First President of LWV Kitsap)

_____ **\$30 Student Membership**

_____ **\$30 Non-Member local newsletter (Voter) subscriber**

_____ Additional donation to support our local Kitsap League \$_____. Full or partial scholarships are available upon request.

\$_____ Donation to Education Fund (Only donations to the Education Fund are tax-deductible.)

Send checks to:

**League of Women Voters of Kitsap
PO Box 1524
Poulsbo, WA 98370**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR**SEPTEMBER**

Sept. 1: Board Meeting, 1-3 p.m., Poulsbo Library
 Sept. 10: Suffrage Celebration, 5-8:30 p.m., Silverdale Beach Hotel
 Sept. 13: 26th & 35th District Candidate Forum, 6-8:30 p.m., Norm Dicks Center
 Sept. 20: Health Interview Training, 1:30 p.m., Pam Hamon's
 Sept. 27: Health Committee Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Pam Hamon's
 Sept. 29: 23rd District Candidate Forum, 7-8:30 p.m., Poulsbo City Hall

OCTOBER

Oct. 6: Board Meeting, 1-3 p.m., Poulsbo Library
 Oct. 8: Hansville Community Center Forum and Pie Social, 6:30 p.m.
 Oct. 12: Contested County Offices Candidate Forum, 6-8:30 p.m., Norm Dicks Center
 Oct. 14: Tax Issues on the Ballot Forum, 9 a.m.-Noon, Eagles Nest
 Oct. 25: Health Committee Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Pam Hamon's

League Contacts

President	Catherine Ahl	(360) 697-7924 cathahl@hotmail.com
1st Vice President/Voter Education	Ann Smith	(360) 871-3993 smith9797@wvccable.com
2nd Vice President/Membership	Connie Waddington	(206) 842-9483 connie.waddington.att.nct.com
Secretary	Ann Rudnicki	(360) 895-2746 annrud@q.com
Treasurer	Myra Howrey	(360) 621-2752 mhowrey@hotmail.com
Health Care Chair	Pam Hamon	(360) 598-3508 pchamon@msn.com
Communications/Voter Editor	Ann Strosnider	(360) 871-0908 astrosnider@mac.com
Natural Resources	Judy Matchett	(360) 830-4154
Transportation	Luella Wells	(360) 598-3073 lawells@wvccable.com
Archives	Ellen Fisher	(206) 842-3548 ellenfishe@gmail.com

Unit Leaders

North Kitsap	Pam Hamon
South Kitsap	Ann Smith

SEPTEMBER**2010**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Board Meeting	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Suffrage Celebration	11
12	13 Candidate Forum 26th & 35th Districts	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Interview Training	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Health Committee Meeting	28	29 Candidate Forum 23rd District	30		

OCTOBER

2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Board Meeting	7	8 Hansville Forum and Pie Social	9
10	11	12 County Candidate Forum	13	14 Tax Issues Forum	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Health Committee Meeting	26	27	28	29	30

**League of Women Voters
of Kitsap County, WA
PO Box 1524
Poulsbo, WA 98370**



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Sept./Oct. 2010 Voter

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