

## **League Continues to Spotlight Changes in Policing with September Forum**

*by Mary Taylor, LWV-SKC Police Reform Team*

Hopefully, you were able to attend the latest LWV Seattle-King County's event focusing on police reform. We had an impressive crowd of 160 people on Zoom and more viewers online, pointing to ongoing public interest in the topic.

The forum: De-Escalation: Laws, Training, and Implementation was held on September 2 via Zoom and YouTube. It was the third in a series on police reform reflecting the LWV Seattle/King County's commitment to monitor, provide information and advocate for criminal justice reform at the local and state levels.

The forum brought together experts in all facets of de-escalation and law enforcement and created a setting for candid discussion on implementation of statewide de-escalation laws. Included on the panel were:

- Rafael Padilla, Chief of Police in Kent, WA
- Leslie Cushman, citizen advocate for I-940
- Monica Alexander, Exec. Director of the WA Criminal Justice Training Commission
- WA Rep. Roger Goodman
- Jan Tokumoto, Chief Operating Officer, Frontier Behavioral Health in Spokane. The clinic provides CIT training with Spokane Police Department and oversees law-enforcement/co-responder teams.

The panel was expertly moderated by Amy Radil, reporter at KUOW where she covers

politics, government and law enforcement.

The panelists explored the evolution of de-escalation laws over the last few years, provided their perspectives on what constitutes "successful" de-escalation, and discussed current training challenges and other issues related to implementation.

Initiative 940, ("De-Escalate Washington") was approved by Washington State voters in November 2018. The initiative created a good faith test to determine when the use of deadly force by police is justifiable and required police to receive training in de-escalation and mental health. House Bill 1310 passed during the 2020-21 legislative session added clarity to I-940 by creating a standard of reasonable care for officers to apply when using force against the public. The bill prioritized de-escalation and less lethal alternatives.

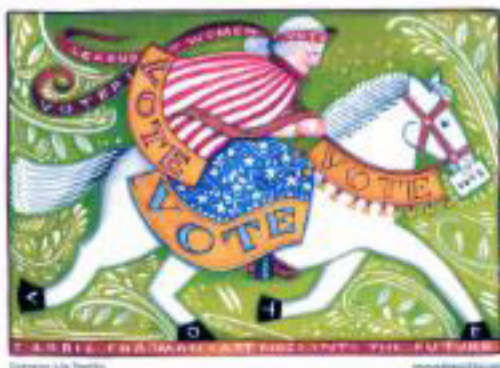
Controversy has surrounded the new laws. Concerns that the laws contain gaps and result in unintended consequences that could put public safety and officers at risk were voiced by some law enforcement agencies. Other concerns involved whether or not police have the authority to show up to community caretaking calls where no crime has been committed. In response, Rep. Johnson and Rep. Goodman received guidance from the State Attorney General's Office clarifying that there is nothing in HB 1310 that prevents the police from responding to community caretaking calls regardless of crime status.

The panelists articulated their expectations for

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### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

## Connecting with LWV Leadership

by Barbara Tengtio, 2nd Vice-President

Greetings to you all! I am one of the new LWVSKC Board members, in the position of 2nd VP. Having just joined the League here a year ago, I'm in a constant learning mode — and I love it! :)

One of the first things I did was join the Observer Corps. This group follows a variety of local and county meetings and reports on them. It's a great way to learn what's happening in government and you get to pick and choose what meetings to observe so it is a very *flexible* way to be involved. Check out how you can get involved with Observer Corps by emailing [action@lwvskc.org](mailto:action@lwvskc.org).




By now you will have seen our most recent forum on policing held in early September. This forum focused on De-escalation in Law Enforcement today under the new laws, how those laws are being rolled out and what the coming year looks like. Concerns with implementation, definitions of successful implementation, unintended consequences, and other aspects of adapting to the new reforms were shared. The panel included State and local officials as well as individuals directly affected by policing practices. This was our third in a series of forums on policing. The first forum was held in September 2020 and focused on Reimagining Public Safety. The second forum was held this November 2020 and focused on Improving Policing in King County. If you are interested in learning more about policing in Washington, please join our Police Reform Team. We meet periodically on legislation and current police-related issues and organize the police forums. You are welcome to join us! Contact [president@lwvskc.org](mailto:president@lwvskc.org)

The most recent effort I have engaged in is working with Joanna Cullen on a review of our positions. Joanna comes with a wealth of knowledge and background and most recently finished an assignment as Treasurer on the State Board. We have met just once and I have already learned so much from her. Whereas I have been drawn to the League because of its basic mission, empowering voters and defending democracy, the structure that the positions provide for thinking through and commenting on local issues first drew Joanna to the League. And so, we have come together to review our positions from both a top-down and bottom-up approach - focusing on places that need updating in the area of gender and reviewing the

**continued on p. 4**

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## STAY HEALTHY, STAY STRONG, STAY INFORMED!

As the League does its part to help manage the spread of COVID-19, The Voter will be distributed in digital format only—all print production and mailing of the newsletter is suspended except to those without email. This is an interactive PDF, meaning you can click on hyperlinks (in **bold blue font**) and page numbers to navigate the document. The  symbol at the bottom of each page will take you to the top of the newsletter.

### Connecting, cont'd from p. 3

positions through a DEI lens. For example, Kathy Sakahara, who has held various State and SKC Board positions and is now our 1st VP, has brought to our attention that the words citizen(s) in different positions should be reviewed in light of our DEI policy; and that words like resident(s) and/or community might be more appropriate. We are also looking to identify gaps - where there is no position and where we would recommend the LWVSKC work to create one. Lastly, we would like to take a look at how the LWVSKC positions relate to the State positions and see if there are any recommendations in this area. Our positions are written within nine categories: Governance, Government Structure, Economy, Law Enforcement and Justice, Human Resources and Social Policy, Education, Land Use, Transportation and Growth Management, and lastly, Natural Resources and the Environment. Reading our positions has been a great education for me and if you are interested in learning more and would like to be a part of this review in one specific area or across multiple areas, let me know at [2ndvp@lwvskc.org](mailto:2ndvp@lwvskc.org).

I was fortunate to participate in a new member orientation Zoom session which provided a great overview of the history of the LWV, its fundamental principles of nonpartisanship and a DEI lens, how LWV positions govern activities and much more. If you are fairly new to the LWVSKC I highly recommend the orientation. The contact to register for the next orientation is [lauren.d.pixley@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.d.pixley@gmail.com). In addition, the new Board met a few times in advance of its one-day retreat held at the end of August and we have all received a Board resource binder. So, we are equipped and learning every day to further empower voters and defend democracy. All of us have something to contribute and I look forward to meeting more of you as we share time on various League endeavors.

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### Meet our new editor!

Hello! I'm Kathryn Hoffman, and I recently volunteered to work on The Voter. I transplanted myself to Seattle in 2019, after retiring from a long career overseas as a U.S. diplomat. I worked in our Embassies and Consulates on four continents (and one island!), from Afghanistan to Sudan, specializing in political work in post-conflict countries transitioning to democracy. I love the outdoors, and the amazing beauty and variety of our mountains, seas, lakes, and valleys is why I choose to live here. In my little family I have a son, who works as a computer scientist, and a daughter, who works as a historian. I look forward to working with the League, and to learning and hearing from you, the readers of The Voter.





## Changes in Policing, cont'd from p. 1

refinement, clarification and adaptation of the laws in future legislative sessions. The model policies are to be created by the State Attorney General's Office by June 2022. The League will be following these efforts and continuing to educate the public.

On the advocacy front, the League of Women Voters of Washington adopted by concurrence with California a new slate of Criminal Justice Positions. The new positions were approved by 87% of the voting members at the LWVWA Convention in June, 2021. These new positions will enable Leagues across the state to advocate for police reform and badly needed changes in other criminal justice areas. The new positions support:

- a criminal justice system that is just, effective, equitable, transparent, and that fosters public trust at all stages, including policing practices, pre-trial procedures, sentencing, incarceration, and re-entry;
- the elimination of systemic bias, including the disproportionate policing and incarceration of marginalized communities;
- policing practices that promote safety for both law enforcement officers and the communities they serve;
- collaboration between government and community throughout every stage of the criminal justice system;
- a focus on humane treatment and rehabilitation with the goal of promoting the successful reentry into communities of those who have been incarcerated; and reliance on evidence-based research in decision-making about law-enforcement programs and policies (including

scheduled, periodic audits of program and policy effectiveness)

Please keep these positions in mind, and if you see an opportunity for the League to stand up for criminal justice reform in King County, email [action@lwvskc.org](mailto:action@lwvskc.org).

You can find recording of the forum here on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5VDgWbCkV0>. The resources provided throughout the forum in the Zoom chat can be found on our website at [www.lwvskc.org](http://www.lwvskc.org).

## Upcoming Forums

### Candidate Forums in October

There will be several candidate forums in October rather than a first Thursday event. More details next month, but you can check our website calendar for what is coming.

Behavioral Health Care  
Thursday, November 4 at 7 p.m.

Affordable Housing  
Thursday, December 2 at 7 p.m.

Program planning for 2022-23  
Thursday, January 6 at 7 p.m.

## LWVWA's Civics Education Project about Public Hospital Districts

*by Jody Disney, League member, Civics Education PHD Project Team*

LWVWA's position on health care is clear: all people should have access to the health care they need; and it should be affordable, geographically accessible, and cover all legally approved services including abortion and end-of-life care.

First, this is not about a Public Health Department, but a Public Hospital District (PHD). A PHD is organized to assure a community has access to the health care services it deems necessary or desires. Because a PHD is governed by elected officials and paid for by property taxes, the community has a vote.

At the state League Convention in June, delegates voted unanimously to approve the PHD Civics Education Project. Understanding existing PHDs in our state (currently there are 58) and what healthcare is offered by the PHDs in those communities will provide needed grounding for this project and is what the project team will tackle first. Currently only 44 PHDs have hospitals. However, a PHD also may also provide a service or services not being offered by a hospital such as hospice or emergency care. Whether or not PHDs are providing legally approved services for their communities will also to be collected during this phase. As hospital mergers are becoming more common-place and secular health care is being

lost, PHDs might fill needs and gaps.

Next, understanding the degree to which local Leagues are aware of the management process of PHDs, and how the community can be informed and involved, will guide development of tools. These tools will be offered to Leagues so they may provide education to community members regarding what health care options are currently being offered, and what might be improved or added. How to influence health care service decisions through commissioner elections and citizen presence at PHD meetings

is the goal of the project and fits nicely within the LWV's wheelhouse of a well-informed citizenry.

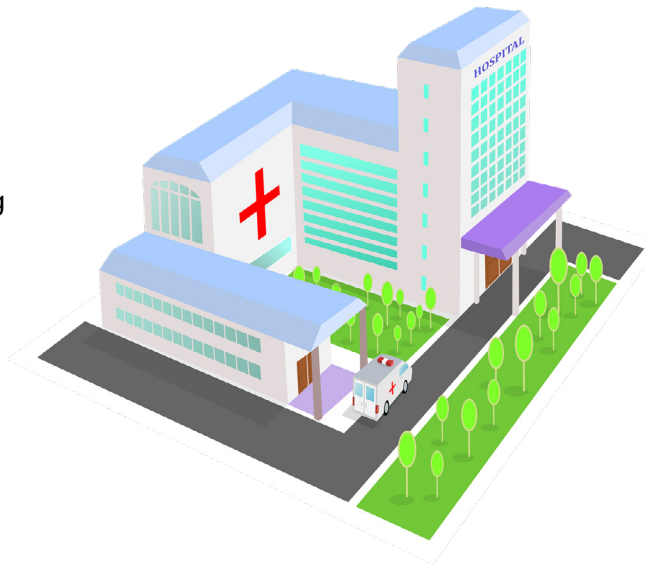
How might this project apply to us in this county, since we do not have a PHD? Recognizing that inadequate health care can adversely affect everyone, what do we know about healthcare in our county or district?

Perhaps as a League

we may identify there are missing services, and we need a PHD too!

Go [here](#) for more information on PHDs in Washington.

Contact the Civics Education PHD Project Team [here](#).



## September Voter Services Update

### National Voter Registration Day is September 28!

We need volunteers to staff registration tables on ferries on routes across the county and help voters register or update their registration. You may think most people in our area are already registered, and while that is somewhat true, there's another important reason for updating current registrants — their signature. There's been an uptick in challenges to signatures on ballots because people's signatures tend to change over time. The best way to avoid having to deal with a challenge (and the possibility that your vote won't be counted) is to simply submit a new registration form with a new signature.

Contact [voterservice@lwvskc.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvskc.org) for more information and to sign up.

A dark blue poster with white and yellow text. At the top, it says "Be a VOTER" in a mix of script and bold sans-serif fonts. Below that, it says "This year, elections focus on local candidates and issues." A horizontal line separates this from the "VOTE 411" section, which includes a QR code and the text "ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED". Below this is a bulleted list of three items: "Register to vote", "Learn more about candidates", and "Check your ballot". At the bottom, it says "General Election November 2, 2021" in yellow, followed by the LWV logo and "LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' OF WASHINGTON".

**Be a  
VOTER**

This year, elections focus on  
local candidates and issues.

**VOTE 411**

QR CODE

ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

- Register to vote
- Learn more about candidates
- Check your ballot

**General Election November 2, 2021**

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'  
OF WASHINGTON

[Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org) will have updates for the general election on October 1.

## Welcome to ClubExpress!

### Logging In to ClubExpress!

We are so excited for the launch of our new website in September. Our new address is <https://www.lwvskc.org>.

ClubExpress will be both our website and member management system. We will pre-load your membership information. Once the site is live, you will receive a welcome email which will include your own personal login and password.

You can use your login and password to access the members only portion of the website. Online discussion forums and a membership directory are just two of the members only features you can choose to participate in.

Here's what to expect the first time you visit the site:

From the Public Homepage click on the blue "Member Login" button in the upper right corner.



On the "Member First Login" page you'll be invited to change your password to one of your own choosing.

Home > Member Profile > User Name and Password

### Member First Login

Step 1 of 4 ?

User Name  7 of 50 characters used

Password  0 of 50 characters used

Confirm Password

☐ Remember me on this computer

**Password Hints**

A password strength indicator will give you a score on your selected password as you type. Note that this is for your information only - this web site does not enforce specific password rules.

Some tips for a strong password:

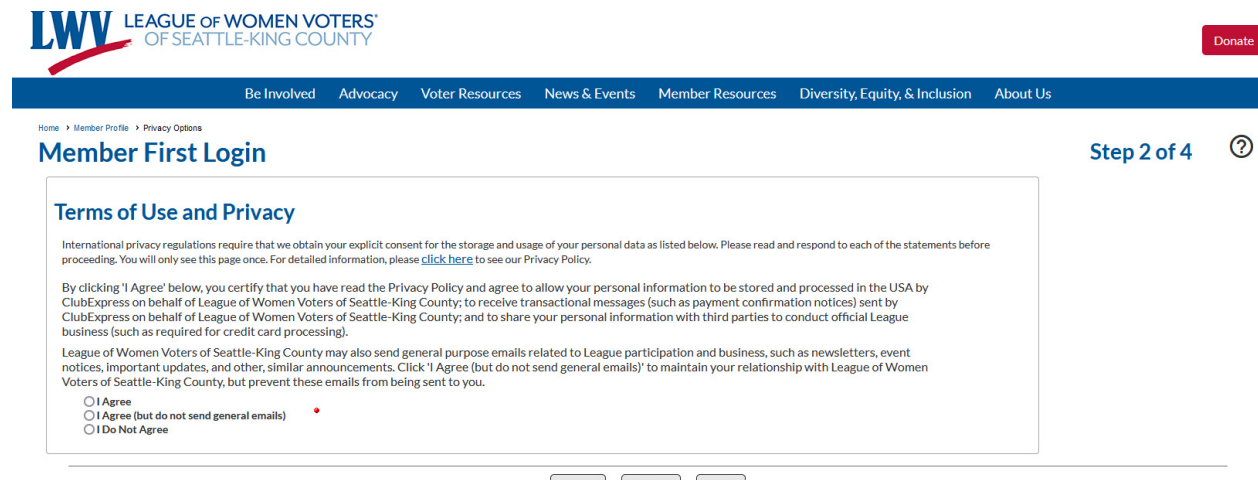
- Do not use common, obvious passwords like 'password' or '123'
- Do not use easily guessed passwords like your first name or your birthday
- Include a mix of upper- and lower-case letters and numbers
- Add punctuation and other special characters
- Longer is better
- A 'passphrase' is often better than a complex password. For example, 'My favorite color is ecru' is a very strong password; it is easy to remember and hard to guess

Cancel Next



If you check the Remember Me option, the system will store a cookie on your computer that allows you to login without having to enter your user name and password each time. You should only select this option on a computer that you control, so that others cannot log in as if they were you.

Click “Next” and you’re on to Step 2, Terms of Use and Privacy Options. Please choose “I Agree” or “I Agree but do not send general emails.” Make your selection and click “Next.”



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[Home](#) > [Member Profile](#) > [Privacy Options](#)

## Member First Login

Step 2 of 4 ?

### Terms of Use and Privacy

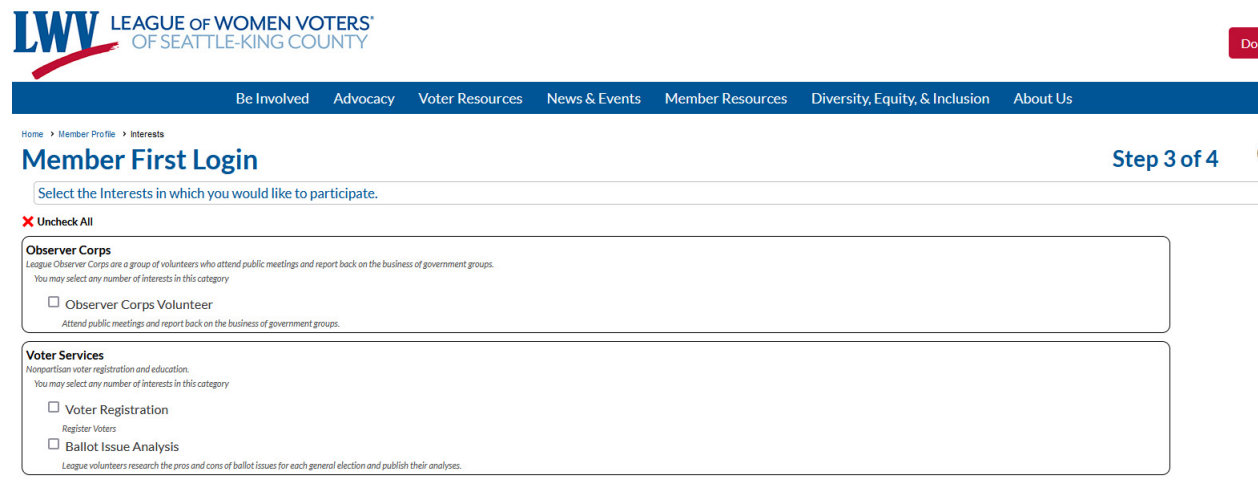
International privacy regulations require that we obtain your explicit consent for the storage and usage of your personal data as listed below. Please read and respond to each of the statements before proceeding. You will only see this page once. For detailed information, please [click here](#) to see our Privacy Policy.

By clicking 'I Agree' below, you certify that you have read the Privacy Policy and agree to allow your personal information to be stored and processed in the USA by ClubExpress on behalf of League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County; to receive transactional messages (such as payment confirmation notices) sent by ClubExpress on behalf of League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County; and to share your personal information with third parties to conduct official League business (such as required for credit card processing).

League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County may also send general purpose emails related to League participation and business, such as newsletters, event notices, important updates, and other, similar announcements. Click 'I Agree (but do not send general emails)' to maintain your relationship with League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County, but prevent these emails from being sent to you.

☐ I Agree  
☒ I Agree (but do not send general emails)  
☐ I Do Not Agree

Step 3 offers you the opportunity to indicate which League activities you are interested in participating in. Please take a moment to indicate your current League interests so we can help you get involved.



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[Home](#) > [Member Profile](#) > [Interests](#)

## Member First Login

Step 3 of 4

Select the Interests in which you would like to participate.

**✖ Uncheck All**

**Observer Corps**  
 League Observer Corps are a group of volunteers who attend public meetings and report back on the business of government groups.  
 You may select any number of interests in this category

☐ Observer Corps Volunteer  
 Attend public meetings and report back on the business of government groups.

**Voter Services**  
 Nonpartisan voter registration and education.  
 You may select any number of interests in this category

☐ Voter Registration  
 Register Voters

☐ Ballot Issue Analysis  
 League volunteers research the pros and cons of ballot issues for each general election and publish their analyses.

Once you've indicated your interests and clicked "Next," you'll see Step 4, a summary of your Personal Information. (You can see that our Sample Member needs to update their contact information.) Select "Done" and . . .

Sample Member

Donate

Home > Member Profile > Membership Summary

## Member First Login

Step 4 of 4

### Personal Information

Member Name: Sample Member

Address: , (USA)

Telephone:

Email Address: Not Provided

### Membership Summary

Expiration Date: 8/12/2022

Be Involved | Advocacy | Voter Resources | News & Events | Member Resources | Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion | About Us

Now you're on the Member Homepage! You can tell because your name is in the upper right corner of the page and there is now a Member Resources option on the menu.

Sample Member

Donate

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## Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

We are a nonpartisan, grassroots civic organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. [Join us](#) in creating a more perfect democracy!

By default, you will not be listed in the online Member Directory. If you'd like your contact info to be visible to other members, visit your Profile to make that change. Click on the drop down arrow by your name and then click on "Profile."

Sample Member

Profile

Login as a different user

Logout

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From your Member Profile page click on the “Standard Member Directory” box.

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Home > Member Profile

## Member Profile

**Membership Summary**

Type: Individual  
Status: Active  
Exp. Date: 8/12/2022  
Member Number: 18  
Join Date: 8/13/2021  
Last Renewal: N/A  
Current Email Address: [lisan@on74th.com](mailto:lisan@on74th.com)

**Basic Member Information**  
Click here to edit your basic contact information such as your address or phone number.

**Additional Member Data**  
Click here to answer additional questions about yourself that pertain to your membership.

**Standard Member Directory**  
Click here to edit your public member directory profile such as your bio information and set what is visible to members or the public.

**User Name / Password**  
Click here to change your login information.

**More Member Options**  
Credit Card  
Privacy/Cancel/Remove  
Optional Additional Charges  
Achievements

**Histories**  
Transaction History  
Payment/Credit History  
Event History  
Donation History

**Forums**  
Forum General Preferences  
Forum Memberships  
Thread Subscriptions

**Your Website Functions**  
Interests

**Tutorial Video**

Select the drop-down arrow under General Info and choose which level of information (if any!) you wish to share in the Member Directory. If you choose to be listed, you can add a photo and bio to your directory information to personalize it. When you’ve made your selections, scroll to the bottom of the page and click “Save.”

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Home > Member Profile > Standard Member Directory

## Member Bio Settings - Sample Member

This form allows you to store additional information to be shown in the Membership Directory. Use the Visibility drop-down list to decide what level of information should be displayed. You can also enter a brief personal biography and upload a photo.

**General Info**

Visibility: Show all information

Member Birthday: Show all information

**Photo**

To upload a photo, click the "To upload a photo" button. To delete an existing photo from your directory entry, press the "Delete Photo" button.

You'll be returned to the Member Profile page.

We hope you will explore the site and let us know what you think! If you have any questions or suggestions about information or features on the site, reach out to Lisa Nelson at [webmaster@lwvskc.org](mailto:webmaster@lwvskc.org).

If you have a problem logging in, updating your profile, renewing your membership, or making a payment, please call ClubExpress Support. They are friendly and helpful!

Toll Free: 1-866-HLP-CLUB (457-2582) Outside the US: +1 847-255-0210

Telephone support is available from 6:30 AM to 9:00 PM, Mon-Fri, US Central time. Outside these hours, please email [support@clubexpress.com](mailto:support@clubexpress.com).

See you on the site!

Lisa Nelson, Communications Chair

## Units Unite Us

by Sarah Beth Miller

The Unit Leaders of LWV Seattle-King County launched the 2021-22 year with a retreat on August 7. New Unit Liaison Sarah Beth Miller (yours truly) and a mighty posse of seasoned League members shared an agenda based on the theme of the “WHAT”, the “WHY” and the “HOW” of being members of the League. Here’s a report of what happened:

### WHAT is the League?

We know WHAT we are: We’re the League of Women Voters, and we’re part of a 100 year-long legacy assuring that women and other U.S. citizens have an inalienable right participate in democracy through casting our votes. We support that right by educating ourselves and our communities about events and policies that affect our democratic rights. But to be effective at what we do, we need to reflect on the Why behind What we do.

### Knowing the WHY

Setting the stage for our retreat agenda was a brief but powerful video clip of a performance by comedian Michael Jr., called “Know Your *Why*”. In the video, Michael Jr asserts that we often know what we are and what we’re doing. But to be effective and persuasive at what we do, we need to reflect on why we do it. Michael Jr states what he is - a comedian. The why behind his what is to inspire people to connect with the purpose and passion that motivate what they do.

To illustrate, Michael calls on a volunteer from the audience, a Black man named Darryl, and asks him what he does. When Darryl says he’s a high school chorus teacher, Michael asks him to sing a few bars of *Amazing Grace*. In a beautiful, baritone voice, Darryl sings a verse. Acknowledging that he’s a pretty good singer, Michael then tells Darryl, “Now, I want you to sing it again as if your uncle just got out of jail, you got shot in the back as a kid ... lemme see the *hood* version of that song!” Then Darryl lets loose with the deepest, richest, most soulful rendition of *Amazing Grace* that has ever been sung. Michael summarizes, “The first time Darryl sang he showed us What he does. The second time around, he shows us Why he does it. And that’s the key, knowing the Why behind the your What. Then you can walk, work, or sing towards your purpose and passion.”

The Michael Jr video clip helped us define our purpose as Unit Leaders and our focus on finding the ‘why’ behind what we do as members of the League. Unit Leaders contributed their own why’s for being in the League:

- to stay active and informed
- to act on their concern about the leadership of the country
- to protect voting rights, and to defend our democracy

### Getting to HOW....

Remembering our why is something each of us can do every single day. But how do we share our purpose? First and foremost we look to our foundation: we gather as Units to connect and to share our knowledge and ideas. Through our Units we learn how the League offers a powerful framework for members to activate their why’s.

Unit Leaders shared some of the dozens of ways how Units can activate their purpose. A few

continued on p. 13



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## Units Unite Us, cont'd from p. 12

of the how's (actions) that have been effective for LWVSKC Units include:

- Providing Adult Civic Engagement
- Educating children by promoting our excellent text, *The State We're In*
- Registering voters in person or remotely via Zoom trainings
- Communicating about State and National League events and ideas through various LWV publications, such as *The Voter*
- Utilizing public settings such as libraries, parks, and public events to share information with the public
- Using League Links in our Unit meetings to we educate and inform ourselves

### Tending the Garden

As the August retreat drew to a close, Unit Leaders talked about the importance of book groups to their Unit members. Reading good books is always a powerful source for shaping the why and the how of being in the League. Unit leaders shared titles and talked about the books they've loved and that have forever changed their perspective or inspired them to action. This last conversation of our retreat was reminded me of a saying about gardeners: Good gardeners grow good plants. But great gardeners grow great dirt. Unit-based book group discussions contribute to member connections and create to the rich "dirt" from which our commitment to action and education grow.

Our Units are our dirt... *let's cultivate them!*

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## Book Review by Vicky Downs

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### **CHARGED: THE NEW MOVEMENT TO TRANSFORM AMERICAN PROSECUTION AND END MASS INCARCERATION**

by Emily Bazelon

This best seller shows us how the unchecked power of a prosecutor can ensure someone is incarcerated whether or not he is guilty, or can ensure a fair trial that is not a one-way ticket to jail. It is even possible the accused is innocent and can be helped to find a job, a chance to save some money, to enroll in a community college and even to get an apartment where he and his girlfriend can live.

We learn that the criminal justice system is supposed to be a contest between two equal adversaries. Reality often differs. Frequently prosecutors control much of the outcome; including life, death and prison. Occasionally the result is great injustice, and sometimes the result is wonderfully positive.

**continued on p. 14**



### Book Review, cont'd from p. 13

When friends Chris and Mason invited Kevin to “come on up,” it was almost 11p.m. Inside the apartment Kevin “saw a gun sitting on a side table near the door.” He joined his friends along with another man, Chris’s friend, whom Kevin didn’t know well. Soon the unknown friend got up to leave. As Kevin was sitting nearest the door, he stood up in order to close and lock it after the friend left. As the door opened, Kevin looked over the shoulder of the man going out and saw two police officers standing in the doorway. He recognized them, even though they were in plainclothes.

Standing there, with the cops in the doorway, Kevin realized that if they saw the gun, Chris “with his record would definitely go to jail.” In that instant, Kevin had some wild notion of grabbing the gun and somehow hiding it. He also “wanted to be the sort of person who would come through for his friends.” So, with police at the door, he picked up the gun.

In no time, the police saw the gun in Kevin’s hand and soon charged him with violent felony, his first arrest.

We follow the arrest, the charging, the trial and the sentencing and realize Kevin was lucky: the prosecutor was Caryn Teitelman. She felt her job “was about helping people and making Brooklyn safer.” She needed to know “how dangerous was Kevin? What punishment did he deserve? What consequences for him would serve the community?” Her job was to get it right, and she knew that incarceration often had the opposite effect of what was intended. She gave Kevin a second chance that helped him make things right in his own life.

Noura, a teenage girl, arrived home in the early morning to find her mother dead and covered with stab wounds. She called an ambulance and other help to deal with the trauma. Sometime later, the police charged her with murder. “Noura had no record of violence” but the “police had been exploring the theory Noura killed [her mother] in an act of rage and rebellion.”

Amy Weirich was the prosecutor assigned to Noura’s case. This lawyer abused her power by excluding evidence that would have helped Noura. There were also allegations of misconduct. However, she won her case and the judge “imposed a weighty punishment for second-degree murder.”

We learn that “prosecutors are not solely responsible for the state of the criminal justice system. They respond to the cues of judges, to legislators and other elected officials, and to the priorities of the police who are their closest partners.” Bazelon shows there are too many prosecutors, like Weirich, who care mostly about winning convictions, while others are clearly seeking to do what is right and just.

This author says that over the past forty years prosecutors “have amassed more power than our system was designed for.” This has resulted in “a scourge of mass incarceration,” which rips apart poor communities, especially those of black and brown people.

She shows us why the “U.S. could safely reduce the number of people in prison,” and we have the power to do so with our votes.

# Unit & Committee Meetings

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Most of our meetings continue to be conducted on Zoom but a few may start to meet in person. With the constant changes in Covid, things can change rapidly.

Visit the League's website for the most up-to-date meeting information. You can also check with committee chairs and unit leaders directly. Their contact info is included on the last page of **The Voter**.

## Committee and Team Meetings

The League has several standing committees that focus on specific issues. We also have teams working on more behind the scenes League work. They include:

- Action
- Climate Change
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- Economics & Taxation
- Education
- Investment
- Observers Corps
- Police Reform
- Program
- Voter Services
- Welcome Team

## Unit Meetings

In addition to its general membership, the League is currently comprised of nine units (small discussion groups) that generally meet once a month from September to May. Units typically discuss the current monthly forum or other topical issues, and they help organize and connect members to League outreach activities.

Members historically attended unit meetings that were geographically convenient to their home or workplace, but all LWV members are encouraged to attend any unit meeting(s) that best fits their schedule!

Check the League's website for the latest information on unit meeting times and to connect with units through Zoom. Typically units meet on the following days and times each month:

- First Hill Seattle Unit: Third Monday at 10:30 a.m.
- Issaquah Unit: Third Thursday at 4:00 p.m.
- Northeast Seattle Unit: Second Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.
- North King County Unit: Fourth Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
- Queen Anne/Magnolia/Ballard (Evening Unit): Second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
- Mercer Island Unit: Second Thursday at 10:00 a.m.
- South Seattle Unit: Third Monday at 6:00 p.m.
- Southeast King County/Enumclaw Unit: Second Thursday at 1 p.m.
- NEW: Virtual Evening Unit: Second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

## Board & Committee Contacts

All contacts can be reached via [info@seattlelwv.org](mailto:info@seattlelwv.org) or 206-329-4848 if not otherwise noted

### Term Executive Committee

|         |           |                  |  |
|---------|-----------|------------------|--|
| 2021-23 | President | Heather Kelly    | <a href="mailto:president@lwvskc.org">president@lwvskc.org</a>           |
| 2021-22 | 1st VP    | Kathy Sakahara   | <a href="mailto:kathy.sakahara@lwvskc.org">kathy.sakahara@lwvskc.org</a> |
| 2021-23 | 2nd VP    | Barbara Tengtio  | <a href="mailto:2ndVP@lwvskc.org">2ndVP@lwvskc.org</a>                   |
| 2021-23 | Secretary | Barbara Erickson | <a href="mailto:secretary@lwvskc.org">secretary@lwvskc.org</a>           |
| 2020-22 | Treasurer | Marilee Fuller   | <a href="mailto:treasurer@lwvskc.org">treasurer@lwvskc.org</a>           |

### Term Directors

|         |                       |                   |  |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------------|--|
| 2021-23 | Action Chair          | Lev Elson-Schwab  | <a href="mailto:action@lwvskc.org">action@lwvskc.org</a>                 |
| 2021-22 | Member-at-Large       | Tania Hino        | <a href="mailto:tania.hino@lwvskc.org">tania.hino@lwvskc.org</a>         |
| 2021-23 | Voter Service         | Chelsea Jordan    | <a href="mailto:voterservice@lwvskc.org">voterservice@lwvskc.org</a>     |
| 2021-23 | Unit Liaison          | Sarah Beth Miller | <a href="mailto:unitliaison@lwvskc.org">unitliaison@lwvskc.org</a>       |
| 2021-23 | Communications        | Lisa Nelson       | <a href="mailto:communications@lwvskc.org">communications@lwvskc.org</a> |
| 2020-22 | Volunteer Coordinator | Lauren Pixley     | <a href="mailto:lauren.pixley@lwvskc.org">lauren.pixley@lwvskc.org</a>   |
| 2021-23 | Member-at-Large       | Mary Taylor       | <a href="mailto:mary.taylor@lwvskc.org">mary.taylor@lwvskc.org</a>       |
| 2020-22 | Program               | Adele Reynolds    | <a href="mailto:program@lwvskc.org">program@lwvskc.org</a>               |
| 2021-23 | Voter Service         | Sara Thein        | <a href="mailto:voterservice@lwvskc.org">voterservice@lwvskc.org</a>     |
| 2021-23 | Development           | Meg Van Wyk       | <a href="mailto:meg.vanwyk@lwvskc.org">meg.vanwyk@lwvskc.org</a>         |

*Note: All board members listed above are also members of the Education Fund Board*

### Term Education Fund Officers — same as above except Treasurer

|         |           |        |  |
|---------|-----------|--------|--|
| 2020-22 | Treasurer | vacant | <a href="mailto:eftreasurer@lwvskc.org">eftreasurer@lwvskc.org</a> |
|---------|-----------|--------|--|

### Term Nominating Committee

|         |       |               |  |
|---------|-------|---------------|--|
| 2021-22 | Chair | Joanna Cullen | <a href="mailto:nominations@lwvskc.org">nominations@lwvskc.org</a> |
| 2021-22 |       | Jerri Gordon  |  |
| 2021-22 |       | Pat Griffith  |  |

### Committee and Team Chairs

|                              |                             |              |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--|
| Action                       | Lev Elson-Schwab            |              | <a href="mailto:action@lwvskc.org">action@lwvskc.org</a>                 |
| Climate Change               | MAK Mitchell                | 917-865-8423 | <a href="mailto:mak@armak.us">mak@armak.us</a>                           |
| Communications               | Lisa Nelson                 |              | <a href="mailto:communications@lwvskc.org">communications@lwvskc.org</a> |
| Diversity, Equity & Inclus'n | Heather Kelly               |              | <a href="mailto:president@lwvskc.org">president@lwvskc.org</a>           |
| Economics & Taxation         | Nora Leech                  |              | <a href="mailto:nleech2002@yahoo.com">nleech2002@yahoo.com</a>           |
| Education                    | Joanna Cullen               | 206-329-8514 | <a href="mailto:jfoxcullen@gmail.com">jfoxcullen@gmail.com</a>           |
| Investment Committee         | Cindy Piennett              | 253-777-9864 | <a href="mailto:cindypiennett@gmail.com">cindypiennett@gmail.com</a>     |
| Observer Corps               | Heather Kelly               |              | <a href="mailto:action@lwvskc.org">action@lwvskc.org</a>                 |
| Police Reform                | Heather Kelly               |              | <a href="mailto:president@lwvskc.org">president@lwvskc.org</a>           |
| Program                      | Adele Reynolds              |              | <a href="mailto:program@lwvskc.org">program@lwvskc.org</a>               |
| Voter Services               | Chelsea Jordan & Sara Thein |              | <a href="mailto:voterservice@lwvskc.org">voterservice@lwvskc.org</a>     |
| Welcome Team                 | Lauren Pixley               |              | <a href="mailto:lauren.pixley@lwvskc.org">lauren.pixley@lwvskc.org</a>   |