

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.

Calendar

Monday, February 4, 4 PM, **Leadership Team Meeting**, League office at YUU Church. LT meetings are open to all members. Please enter through alley door.

Tuesday, Jan 22, *League Conversation*, 5:30 PM, YUU Church (Please see following announcements.)

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 4:00 PM the 1st Monday of each month at the League office.
All members are welcome to attend.

Notes From Cynthia and Criss

We are hoping for a good turnout for the *League Conversation* on January 22. The topic is the "Public Charge". Please try to attend and bring a guest or two. This is a current and important topic with potentially deep impact in our Valley. A Flyer is attached as well as the PSA (Public Service Announcement) sent to local media (see article in Tuesdays Herald Republic).

A reminder, this will be our last *Conversations* at the UU Church. Starting in February, we will be holding these events at Wesley Methodist Church, 48th and Chestnut.

Please note the following book review by Kitty Jubran (Thanks, Kitty!). Your Voter editor would be delighted with more book reviews from members, especially of books about historical or current politics and/or womens issue.

January League Conversation: Public Charge PSA

On Tuesday, January 22 at 5:30 PM, the League of Women Voters of Yakima County is sponsoring a presentation by Alma Zuniga of Northwest Justice on the proposed changes to the “Public Charge”. The Public Charge is a backward looking test that has been a part of federal immigration law for over a century, and is designed to identify people who are or may become reliant on the government as their main source of income. The proposed changes would dramatically broaden the definition of the Public Charge and make it more difficult for immigrants following all legal requirements to enter the country and advance through the immigration process.

The event is open to the public and will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church at 225 N 2nd Street in Yakima. Entry is off the alley, and parking is available in the parking lots across the alley from the Church alley entrance.

This topic, while somewhat obscure to many people, is an important issue in our immigrant community and the organizations that work for and with this community. The League believes it is also an important issue for all Yakima county residents, and is pleased to present this opportunity for greater understanding and awareness.

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.

BOOK REVIEW BY KITTY JUBRAN

Need background on the rise of the League of Women Voters and the passage of the 19th Amendment? Check out the Elaine Wiess book, The Women’s Hour: The Great Fight to Win The Vote, available through the Yakima Public Library.

This is a thoroughly researched book that focuses on all the players in the drama surrounding Tennessee’s Legislature vote in August, 1920, to finalize ratification of the 19th Amendment. Players include Carrie C. Catts and leaders of both suffrage and anti-suffrage groups plus multiple other groups opposed to the Amendment’s passage.

Warren Harding was president in 1920, and parallels between his administration and our current one were hard to miss. Harding feared the loss of “national identity” due to mass migration. He closed the borders. During his term opportunists used the White House to enrich themselves, think the Tea Pot Dome scandal. Harding died of a heart attack 3 years into his term.

Passage of the 19th Amendment did not insure full voting rights to everyone. It took President Lyndon B. Johnson’s signature on the 1965 Voting Rights Act to finally guarantee these rights to all American citizens.

Bring Your Voice to Olympia Support Democracy on February 21

Last year LWVWA and Fix Democracy First sponsored the first Democracy Lobby Day and it was a terrific success. Washington State expanded voting opportunities and passed powerful protections for voting rights, disclosure and audits in 2018.

On February 21, we will again gather in Olympia to lobby our legislators in support of bills that will strengthen our democracy. We will be working for expanded voter access, including prepaid postage for ballots; campaign finance reform; election security; and transparency and accountability.



Please join us join us! [Sign up](#) now for the 2019 Democracy Lobby Day in Olympia on Feb. 21.

Gathering in Olympia to bring our concerns directly to our representatives is a powerful activity. It shows our elected officials that we are watching and demanding good government. It brings us together to share knowledge and hope. And it's a lot of fun!

I have registered to attend the above, subject to safe travel conditions. I will be staying with friends both the preceding night and night of the event. Anyone interested in attending with me please give me a call, I would love to have the company. You would be responsible for your two overnight accommodations. Criss 965-2351



League of Women Voters of Yakima
County

Presents

Alma Zuniga with Northwest Justice

On The

Public Charge

Monday, January 22, 5:30 PM

Unitarian Universalist Church

225 N 2nd Street

Entry is off the alley, and parking is available in the parking lots across the alley from the Church alley entrance.

Proposed changes will dramatically broaden the definition of the Public Charge and make it more difficult for immigrants following all legal requirements to enter the country and advance through the immigration process. This topic, while somewhat obscure to many people, is an important issue in our immigrant community and the organizations that work for and with this community. Come and learn about this important topic. The public is welcome.



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

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Membership: _____ \$60 Basic _____ \$40 Each additional family member at same residence

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>

