



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN, WASHINGTON

www.lwvpullman.org

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVPullman/>

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

President: Mary Collins, 509-592-6929; **Vice-President:** Judy Stone, 509-595-0187

Complete officer list and contact information on page 9.



“Anyone who thinks fallen leaves are dead has never watched them dancing on a windy day.”

— Shira Tamir

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Read your VOTER with your calendar next to you so you can write in the meetings immediately. You are what makes the League a success.

Meetings & Events

Forums & Initiatives

Initiatives

Date & Time: Monday, October 15; 7:00 p.m.

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, 1300 NE Lybecker Road

Chair: Libby Walker, 509-432-4756

Candidate Forum- District Judges

Date & Time: Wednesday, October 17; 7:00 p.m.

Location: Colfax Library

Chair: Deb Olson, 509-595-0333

Candidate Forum- Whitman County Positions

Date & Time: Thursday, October 18; 7:00 p.m.

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church

Chair: Deb Olson, 509-595-0333

Board Meetings

Date: Fourth Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.; October 23

Location: Daily Grind, back room

Chair: Judy Stone, 509-595-0187

November Meeting

Date: Monday, November 5

Location: Community Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus

When: 6:30 pm social, 7 pm Program

Topic: Redistricting; Speaker: Thomas Ridout

Chair: Libby Walker, 509-432-4756

Book Club

Date: Thursday, November 8.

Location & Time: TBD

Book Selection: Atoll Gawande's *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End*

Contact: Susan Daniels, 509-332-6699

Brown Bag Meetings

Date & Time: Thursday November 15, noon

Location: Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus St.

Subject: Three Forks Bike Club (Scott McBeath)

Contact: Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075

Action Workshop

Date & Time: Saturday, December 1; 9:30 a.m.- approx. 3:30 p.m.

Location: Spokane; Carpooling possibilities

Contact: Susan Daniels; 509-332-6699

December Meeting

Date: Monday, December 3, 2018

Location: Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus St.

Topic: Native Palouse Habitat

When: 6:30 pm social/holiday cookie exchange! 7 pm Program

Chair: Mary Collins, 509-592-6929

Upcoming Events (more detail)

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

- *L.A. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables*

Initiatives- Libby Walker

An Initiative Forum will be held 7 pm, Monday, October 15 at Trinity Lutheran. There are four Washington State Initiatives:

I 940: Requires specific training for law enforcement and changes the standards for use of deadly force.

I 1631: Establishes a carbon fee and funds environmental programs.

I 1634: Prohibits local governments from enacting taxes on groceries.

I 1639: Implements changes to gun ownership and purchase requirements.

Candidate Forums- Deb Olson

Candidate Forums are only a week away. On Wednesday Oct 17 the candidates for judge, John Hart and Rob Rembert will be in Colfax at the Whitman County Library Center. The forum is scheduled for 7 to 9 pm but may be a shorter evening. Candidates for the 9th Legislative District will not be present as originally planned. Check out the video of the Primary Forum (7/18) on www.lwvPullman.org.

On Thursday Oct 18, the candidate forum will feature the three contested county races: County Commissioner (Michael Largent and John-Mark Mahnkey), Auditor (Sandy Jamison and Eric Fejeran), and Treasurer (Mark Clinton and Chris Nelson). The forum will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pullman from 7 -9 pm.

As usual I need volunteers to make these forums a success. Contact Deb Olson olsonbones@aol.com if you want to help out. Jobs range from collecting and distributing question cards, timing, sorting questions, and more.

The month of November makes me feel that life is passing more quickly. In an effort to slow it down, I try to fill the hours more meaningfully.

—Henry Rollins

November Meeting- Libby Walker

The League Program on Monday night, November 5th, will be focused on redistricting of legislative and congressional districts. This is an issue that is particularly important to state chapters of the League and to the national organization as it is a strategy that can be used to dilute the voting influence of minority groups.

Our speaker will be Professor Travis Ridout from the School of Politics, Philosophy, and Public Affairs at Washington State University. Professor Ridout is the Thomas Foley Distinguished Professor of Government and Public Policy.

We will meet at the Congregational United Church of Christ for this event. Social time is at 6:30, with program at 7:00 pm.

Book club



LWV of Pullman book club resumes Thursday, November 8! It is fun! It is free! There is food!

Oh....and there is a book to give us a conversational starting point. Please join us for an informal discussion of **Atoll Gawande's *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End***.

Location to be determined. Time likely to be 1 pm.

Brown Bag- Anne Lewis

The November 15 brown bag will feature community member and bike enthusiast Scott McBeath. He will tell us about The Three Forks Bike Club and other biking, student, and community improvement activities he is involved in. Here is a link to a May 31, 2018 article about the Club. <https://dailyevergreen.com/32546/life/club-creates-track-for-youth-to-stay-safe/>

“It is December, and nobody asked if I was ready.”

— Sarah Kay

Action Workshop

This December 1 Eastside Action Workshop will focus on legislation related to the homelessness and disadvantaged. It is being held in Spokane and we plan on carpooling.

These workshops cover LWVWA advocacy issues for the upcoming legislative session and will give you an opportunity to:

- Help us flex our political muscle in Olympia.
- Get the inside scoop on what to expect for the upcoming legislative session.
- Learn about critical issues facing our state.
- Discuss the issues of greatest interest to you with legislators and our lobby team members.
- Gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to be a more effective, powerful advocate for the issues you care about.
- Network with other advocates involved in the League.

Please contact Susan (509-3362-6699) with questions and expression of interest.



*- **Mary Collins**

The December evening meeting will be held on Monday December 3rd at the Community Congregational Church in Pullman. The program will be about current efforts to protect the endangered native Palouse habitat. Presenters include Joan Folwell who will report on work at Steptoe Butte and Lovina England from the Palouse Land Trust who will tell us about on-going projects in the region. The evening is also the annual holiday cookie exchange so come prepared to gift and feast.

*and December meeting.

Welcome New Member!

Adelaide Willis

Tell us about your background -- how did you come to live in Pullman? What has your career been on the Palouse?

My family has lived on the Palouse for thirteen years now in Colton. We moved out here because they were looking for a more relaxing, rural setting than the East Coast, but also needed a place that had a university environment. Colton was smack dab between Lewiston and Pullman, which worked out perfectly for my parents' jobs. I haven't had much of a career on the Palouse so far, but some things of note have been my time on Teen Council, which is a peer-led sex education group facilitated by Planned Parenthood that does lobbying and education and interning at the Stormwater Services Department at Pullman City Hall. I go to Occidental College in Los Angeles currently, so I'll wait and see what my future with the Palouse will be like.

What caused you to join the League of Women Voters of Pullman and what interests you about the League?

I joined the League of Women Voters of Pullman because I deeply believe in its mission. It's crucial to me to have non-partisan organizations that can help encourage civic participation and educate people on the issues, especially younger people like myself. I think it's important to be informed and engaged, and I knew that joining would help me accomplish both of those goals. I like that the LWV puts a priority on nonpartisanship, because I think it's important to emphasize civic duty outside of the politics of partisanship, because I think it reaches more people, and because I think it fosters an environment of respect and cooperation.

What topics would you like the League to pursue in the area of public policy? Are you interested in being involved in League programs or issues?

After reading the primer for the League of Women Voters of Pullman, I'm pretty satisfied with the topics the LWV has pursued so far. I'd love to see even more work on education and the environment, and I think it would be great to branch out into voter participation, especially in the younger generation. By harnessing technology, social media, and grass-roots work in the community, I think it would be more than possible to encourage more younger people to take an interest in voting and politics. I am interested in being involved in League programs or issues, but I think it's important to listen to the League first. I'm still new, and I want to get my feet on the ground solidly before jumping in. Also, I'm not sure how my being in California for most of the year would affect my ability to serve on any programs.

Overall, I'm thrilled to become a part of the League and I'm looking forward to learning how I can do more.



League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

WHITMAN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION- Shelley Chambers Fox

Wednesday, September 5, 2018, 7:00 PM Length of Meeting: 2 hr. 18 min

Members Present: Keith Paulson, Robert Hill, Gary Moore, Guy Williams, Matt Sutherland, Chad Whetzel, Dave Gibney, Ryan Davies, Russ Jamison, Alan Thomson (county planner), Katrin Kunz (assistant county planner), Ginny (note taker)

Absent: none

Others Present (i.e., media, public): large attendance from the public about a rezone of the McCoy Land Company property, mostly citizens from the Dusty area, Denis Tracy (WC Prosecutor), a representative from McCoy Land Company and another from PNW Cooperative which owns 85% of McCoy Land Company, WSU student, Katie Short from the Daily News.

Content (What is being discussed):

1. The majority of the September WCPC meeting was devoted to a public hearing for a zone change for McCoy Land Company to change 66 acres from agricultural to limited heavy industrial at the intersection of highways 26 and 127. They are proposing to build grain handling and storage facilities along with office space at the site. The construction will require a new entrance/exit point off of highway 127 which was designed by DOT for the site. Public concerns were expressed about safety of trucks pulling in and out of the facility, potential flooding and water contamination due to a high water table in the area, lack of timely notice to the neighbors of the property.
 - a. McCoy Land Co maintains that the truck traffic will be reduced going south to Central Ferry because the trucks will be stopping at Dusty instead. Anticipated traffic per McCoy/PNW: 150 trucks/day during the period of July 15 and Sept 15 and therefore when students are returning to the university. Expect 100 trucks/day during other dates. PNW states this is NOT new traffic. In the past they traveled to Central Ferry or Pomeroy through the crossroad at 26/127. They tend to roll the stop sign because they are in a hurry to get back to the field. It would be anticipated that they will stop at Dusty instead. The entrance to the new facility will be about 1300 feet from the intersection and there will be no turn lane. DOT does not see safety issues here and will not be doing a traffic study for the location.
 - b. Several Dusty residents expressed concern about contamination of ground water if the property is used for industrial purposes rather than agriculture. A ground water engineer states that industrial use does have the potential for leaks into the ground water and ultimately into Alkali Creek. No one identifies what would leak from grain storage bins which is the proposed use. The Land Company has written a stormwater plan that will prevent dust and contamination in runoff. They care about the environment and want to ensure that they will not create damage. Some re-zoned land will be planted in alfalfa to assist in the management of the water issues.
 - c. Dusty residents also complained that they were not notified in a timely manner about the zone change. There was an error in the letter sent to the adjacent landowners such that the comment period was already over before the landowners received the letter. At the suggestion of Denis Tracy, the commissioners agreed to take comments tonight (September 5) and make a decision at a later meeting (October 3).
 - d. Another concern raised was that this request is a 'spot zone' meaning that it is in the middle of agricultural land rather than adjacent to other industrial property making it inconsistent with the county's comprehensive plan. Alan Thomson states that this in fact is not inconsistent with the comprehensive plan. Industrial development is encouraged for cities in Whitman County and also 'permitted' in other areas. The current comprehensive land use plan was developed in 1978; Alan acknowledges that the plan needs to be updated.
 - e. The commissioners may find it difficult to evaluate the traffic safety and water concerns because they have no data on which to base their decision. The discussion is to be continued on October 3 at 7 pm.

2. Other Matters:

- a. Public hearing for Bill Swan zone change 3.4 acre parcel north of Pullman on SR 27. From agricultural to limited, light industrial. Would like to use shop as a warehouse. This was approved.
- b. A decision on an Administrative Use Permit for Weis Towers who is proposing a new cell tower on Bald Butte is still pending information to be provided by the company.
- c. James Schierman granted a conditional use permit to operate a recreational facility on his farm near Lancaster on August 23, 2018.
- d. Meristematic Industries, Inc. (Floyd's) adding to their existing conditional use permit two events per year promoting their business and adjusting their hours of operation was approved on August 23, 2018.

Public Meetings of interest to League

1. *League members may be interested in attending part 2 of the public hearing about the McCoy Land rezone near Dusty as it potentially impacts traffic safety on highways 26 and 127. The discussion will be continued on October 3 at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium on the First Floor in the Public Service Building, 301 Main, Colfax, Washington.*

Process & Protocol (Observations about participants, conduct, and procedures of the meeting):

There are 2 new commissioners that were appointed during the 2 month recess: Gary Moore and Ryan Davies. The Commissioners are cordial and seem to work well together.

Thanks for the Memories

Lentil Festival- Judy Stone & Libby Walker

The League's booth at the Lentil Festival was well received. Many people signed up to receive League information and one young woman joined. A picture is on our Facebook page. It was good to see several new members taking part and all volunteers were appreciated.

Back to League- Mary Collins

The September back to League meeting was held on September 10th at the UCC Church in Pullman. The evening began with a pot luck supper which was followed by a conversation about low income housing concerns in Pullman with Jeff Guyette of the Community Action Center. Jeff reported on a new housing project being built in the southeast corner of town. He also updated us on the recent fire at a CAC apartment on the edge of College Hill. The apartment building is a charming old brick structure adjacent to the historic brick streets overlooking downtown. An upside to the damage and dislocation of four households is that only the interior was damaged and so the building will be completely gutted and updated but the exterior will not be changed. He also reported that the same individuals who have been dislocated will be moved back in and will be able to enjoy the refurbishments.

Voter Registration- Deb Olson

The month of September has been busy with voter registration efforts on campus and around Pullman & Colfax. The League participated in 8 events!! The last being Oct 5th on the WSU Campus. The Last day to register by paper form or online is Oct 8th. You can still register until Oct 29th but only in person at City Hall or at the Election Office in Colfax. We didn't get masses of new voters but it was important to be out and visible. I want to thank all the volunteers from the League, the Congregational Church and the community.



The League has partnered with the Center for Civic Engagement at WSU and has been present at the COUGS VOTE meetings with various student groups and organizations. Lots of enthusiasm which I hope will continue beyond the election.

Complete List of Board Officers:

President: Mary Collins, 509-592-6929; **Vice-President:** Judy Stone, 509-595-0187; **Secretary:** Alice Schroeder, 509-334-2470; **Backup Secretary:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756; **Treasurer:** Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Voter Service:** Deb Olson, 509-595-0333; **Observer Corps Chair:** Judy Stone, 509-595-0187; **Brown Bag Coordinator:** Rotating; **Voter Editor:** Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075; **Webmaster:** Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Community Outreach:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756; 509-432-3368; **Community Update Editor:** Open; **Membership:** Janet Kendall, 509-432-3368; **TRY:** Susan Daniels, 509-332-6699 & Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075; **Finance Coordinator:** Open; **Finance Drive Thank-Yous:** Lenna Harding, 509-332-7749; **Nominating Chair:** Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075

From the Editor:

As always, I appreciate your ideas, helpful criticism, and feedback regarding this Voter and future Voters. I can be reached at anneglewis2@yahoo.com or 509-334-1075.

Thank you for reading and for your valuable participation in the League of Women Voters of Pullman.

