

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

*We respectfully acknowledge
that we are on the traditional
land of the Yakama People.*

May, 2022
Vol.22, No 3

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

All members encouraged to attend:

Monday, June 13 at 5:30 PM. LWVYC Annual Meeting
at YWCA, 818 W Yakima Ave, Yakima. Sarah Augustine
speaking on recent state redistricting process; discussion of
LWVYC leadership structure; election of officers; and
opportunity to meet and mingle. Light snacks provided.
Look for "Call to Annual Meeting" in your email soon

On-Going

1st Monday of Each Month 4:30 PM Leadership Team
Meeting at YWCA, 818 W Yakima Ave, Yakima. Contact
Cheri Kilty if prefer to attend via Zoom.

4th Tuesday of The Month, 5:30 PM Community
Conversation. On LWVYC Facebook Page. *See Below
for Upcoming Topic and Speaker.*

Officers

President: Cheri Kilty
Secretary: Karen Pilon
Treasurer and Membership:
Janis Luvaas

Leadership Team

Criss Bardill
Quinn Dalan
Kitty Jubran
Susan Kaphammer
Lee Murdock

Voter Editor: Susan Kaphammer
509-949-0127; susanlkap@gmail.com

The Board currently meets at 4:30 PM,
usually the first Monday of the month at the
YWCA, 818 W Yakima Ave, Yakima.

All members are welcome.



Community Conversations

Attend via ZOOM at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85239315653.](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85239315653)

or by phone at 253-215-8782

Passcode 852 3932 5653; ID 238187

OR

View on Facebook

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

*Events will also be summarized in
the following months' issues of The Voter*

June 28, 2022 at 5:30 PM
Yakima Domestic Violence (DV) Coalition
Lt. Chan Janis, Yakima Police Department

LWVYC Leadership Team Announcement ...

MEMBERS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND ANNUAL MEETING

Our Yakima County League Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 13, starting at 5:30 PM. We will be gathering at the YWCA at 818 West Yakima Avenue. Small plate snacks and finger foods will be provided. Bottled water will also be provided, and feel free to bring your own beverage.

We have been working on some new concepts for our League leadership structure, which we will be sharing. In addition, Yakima League member Sarah Augustine, the Chair of the 2022 WA State Redistricting Commission, will be sharing her perspectives on the redistricting process and outcome, as well as the court challenges underway following the final approval of the plan.

Other agenda items are the report of the nominating committee and election of officers, our proposed 2022-2023 budget, and our current membership report.

You will be receiving the formal Call to Annual Meeting by email on Monday, May 30.

All of this is subject to any new directives or restrictions from the CDC and/or our State Governor regarding the Covid pandemic. Let us hope the worst is behind us and we can gather in reasonably safe conditions. Please don't hesitate to mask up if that makes you more comfortable about attending. We really hope to see you there!

--Your Leadership Team

LWVYC Members Honored ...

LOCAL LEAGUE MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

Three powerful women, "movers and shakers" in our area and beyond, AND active Local League members, have been honored by local, state and national organizations. Congratulations, Dori, Quinn and Rhonda. We are proud of you!

DORI PERALTA BAKER

May is Asian, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (ANHPI) Heritage Month, and we at the Washington State Women's Commission and the Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs recognize and honor the contributions and influence of ANHPI women like Dori Peralta Baker to the history, culture, and achievements of Washington State.

Dori has promoted the diversity in Yakima Valley by honoring the rich pioneer history of the Filipino families that first settled there in the 1920s. She is a founding member of the Filipino American National Historical Society-Yakima Chapter 26 as well as the Mabuhay Foundation. Dori currently serves as Yakima County Chair for the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition, and also is a member of the NAACP Branch 1140, League of Women Voters of Yakima County, Filipino American Community of Yakima Valley and currently serves on the Yakima City Community Integration Committee.



Local League Members Recognized... (Continued from Page 2)

QUINN DALAN



The Yakima Schools Foundation recently announced Quinn Dalan as the 2022 winner of their Excellence in Education Community Champion Award. Quinn serves as Executive Director/CEO at Yakima County Volunteer Attorney Services and is a member of our League Leadership Team, along with many other roles of service in the community.

As detailed on the Yakima Schools Foundation Facebook Page: the Community Champion award recognizes community members impacting the lives of youth academically and personally. Those nominated are seen as outstanding community members dedicated to helping and supporting the kids in our community. They are committed to impacting youth to ensure a brighter tomorrow.

Quinn Dalan has displayed her commitment to making Yakima a community of opportunity and inclusion. Her leadership and values are obvious in the work she does both professionally and personally. She has shown her support and has advocated for some of our youngest learners in the community, who are a part of the La Escuelita program at La Casa Hogar. Quinn has also been dedicated to helping eliminate youth homelessness with Rod's House. When I hear the words, "creating change for the greater good of all," I think of Quinn! It's what she does day in and day out. Her impact and involvement is like no other, she is a primary example of what building community through action looks like.

Quinn also recently received news of her appointment to the Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission. This affords her another opportunity to focus her experience and skills to improving individual lives and the well-being of our community and state.

RHONDA HAUFF

Rhonda Hauff has been named president-elect of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC), the premier national organization working at the nexus of homelessness and health care. The appointment means Hauff has a national platform to advocate for advances in health care for the homeless and the campaign to end homelessness. Hauff, chief executive officer of Yakima Neighborhood Health Services, joined the board of the NHCHC in 2018.

Hauff was honored with the 2021 Philip W. Brickner Award by NHCHC. Brickner was a doctor from the Bronx who made house calls, recasting an old-time medical practice as quality, cost effective care for the elderly and vulnerable.



(Continued on Page 4)

Rhonda Hauff... (Continued from Page 3)

As one of the founding members of the Homeless Network of Yakima County in 2004, Hauff has long made health care for the homeless a priority by advocating for more permanent supportive housing, access to health coverage and outreach services for medically underserved populations. Grounded in human rights and social justice, the NHCHC mission is to build an equitable, high-quality health care system through training, research, and advocacy in the movement to end homelessness.

Yakima County Governance...

GUIDE TO CITY COUNCILS AND COUNTY COMMISSION

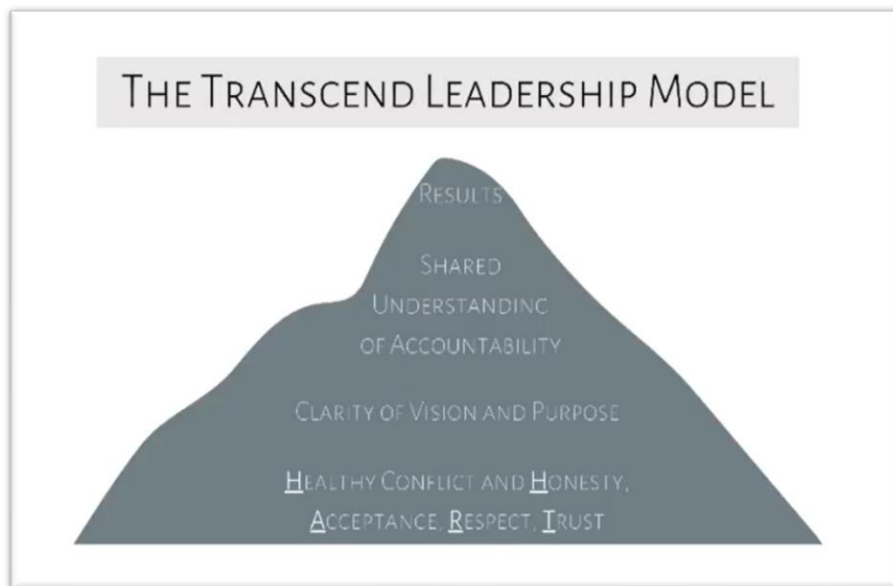
Lee Murdoch compiled and provided the following table of city council and county commission meetings. Citizen attention to the work of local government bodies furthers our League mission of participating in and defending democracy. Additional information, including names of elected officials and meeting places, can be found in our LWVYC publication – TRY (They Represent You) which is available on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/LWVYC>, or by request from our League office at 509-452-3419.

City	Days	Agendas	Recording
Granger	2 nd and 4 th Tuesdays 6:00 pm	2021 Council Agendas City of Granger - Washington (grangerwashington.org)	MidValley Television (midvalleytv.com)
Grandview	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday 7:00pm	2022 Council Agendas – Grandview, Washington	None available
Harrah	??	No Web Site?	
Mabton	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday 7:00pm	Public Documents - City of Mabton - Yakima Valley - Washington State	YouTube
Moxee	2 nd Thursday 7:00pm	Public Documents - City of Moxee	
Naches	2 nd Monday 6:00pm	Agenda & Minutes - Council and Planning Commission Meetings - Town of Naches	Non-Available
Selah	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday 5:30pm	2021 Council Packets City Council (selahwa.gov)	Youtube
Sunnyside	2 nd and 4 th Monday 6:30pm	City Council Sunnyside, WA - Official Website	
Tieton	2 nd and 4 th Tuesdays 6:00pm	City Officials City of Tieton Agenda on Facebook	Zoom only
Toppenish	1 st Monday 5:00pm 2 nd and 4 th Monday 7:00pm	City Council (cityoftoppenish.us)	MidValley Television (midvalleytv.com)
Union Gap	2 nd and 4 th Monday 7:00pm	City Council (uniongapwa.gov)	
Wapato	1 st and 3 rd Monday 7:00pm	Agendas & Minutes - City of Wapato (wapato-city.org)	MidValley Television (midvalleytv.com)
Zillah	1 st and 3 rd Monday 6:00pm	Welcome to Zillah (cityofzillah.us)	City of Zillah - YouTube
Yakima	1 st and 3 rd Tuesday 5:30pm	Agendas and Minutes City Council (yakimawa.gov)	YPAC & Livestream
County	Tuesday 10:00am	Board of Yakima County Commissioners Yakima County, WA	YPAC

April Community Conversation...

SPEAKER PROVIDES LEADERSHIP LESSONS FOR EVERYONE

Layci Nelson began her LWVYC Community Conversation with us by encouraging us to understand that leadership isn't limited to certain job titles; we are all leaders in our homes, in our organizations, and/or in our work. She shared lessons that are part of her work through Transcend that consults with businesses and organizations around the country. Her personal and business values are to help provide support for everyone to step into their potential with engaging, motivating and inspiring leadership.



Layci likens the Transcend Leadership Model to a climb up a mountain. Often leaders understand and proceed with clarifying the group's vision and purpose to build a shared understanding of accountability to achieve desired results. Yet, before the pandemic the national average time for employees to stay in any one job was five years, and now the average is two years, with limited engagement and poorer results.

Layci's passion and work focuses on what she calls the "base camp" of developing healthy conflict and honesty, acceptance, respect and trust. Realizing an organization functioning with these characteristics begins and ends with you, the leader. This requires "extreme ownership," responsibility for all success and failure in an organization or team. This isn't to let anyone making a mistake off the hook. Rather it means the leader asks how her approach created or contributed to the conditions for the mistake. There is no room for egos or agendas. The leader questions herself not to accept or assign blame but to care more about getting it right than being right. As a leader avoids seeing mistakes as failures and models being brave and vulnerable, other members of the organization or team realize their personal safety.

Leadership, Layci continues, also begins and ends with you when you know your core values and your "why," your own sense of purpose in your life. When you know this for yourself you can lead your team, your organization, your family in finding their own values and whys. For full engagement, what a person does should be a vehicle for their purpose and desired impact.

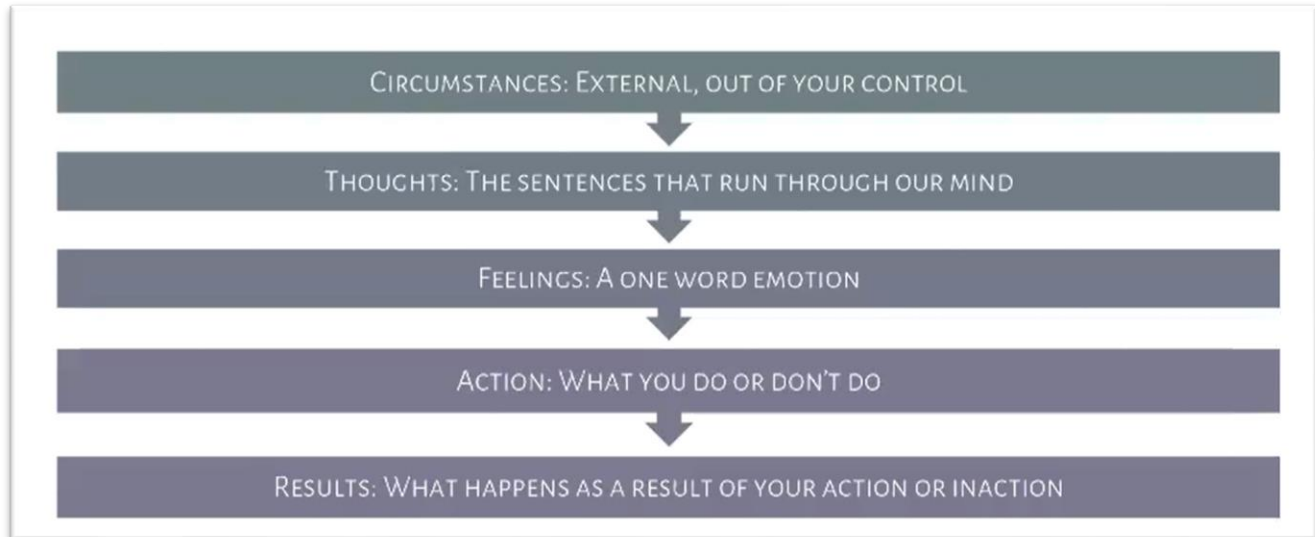
Layci recommends exercises to understand actual values and purpose, rather than what we may think they "should" be. For the Meaningful Day Exercise, take 15 minutes maximum to write out a meaningful day about five years or so in the future, i.e. a birthday, an anniversary or a kid's graduation. Record how you hope your life looks at this point: your relationships, your work, experiences you have had. The other exercise requires 10 minutes to write 27 Things you want to experience or achieve before you die. Reviewing your responses to either or both exercises hopefully reveals an alignment to your actual values and purpose.

A leader's belief in the mission is essential for every piece of the organization, every function to have clear intention. People have to understand and believe that what they do matters and that each person has a specific role that contributes to the whole. Clear goals plus an obvious pathway coupled with personal agency generates the hope that fuels successful, satisfying work.

(Continued on Page 6)

Speaker Provides Leadership Lessons... (Continued from Page 5)

Moving from merely surviving to actively thriving as a leader or a member of a group or organization means changing ways of thinking as well as doing. Three steps to “reconfiguring your brain,” are: 1) bring bad habits into awareness, 2) consciously practice a new way, 3) rehearse the new behavior until it becomes automatic.



A key to managing your mind is to recognize that circumstances are external and out of your control. It is easy to become automatic and not even recognize our thoughts, as we deal with an estimated 55,000 thoughts each day! But it is the thoughts about what happens that key up feelings. A great skill for anyone is when something goes wrong or a serious situation comes up, recognize the thoughts that come that often devolve into panic. Stop and think, “This is going to be a challenge, but let’s think of the opportunity this provides.” Choosing your thoughts gives you power over your emotions as energy switches from frustration to creativity and problem solving. Layci reminds us that the flow pictured above creates the life we have today and will have in the future.

After sharing so much, Layci recommends taking one thing that impacted you and feels doable, and specifically start doing that with intention over the next three months. She concluded, “Go manage like the leader we are in all the spaces we are in.” Her entire presentation remains available for viewing on our LWVYC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/LWVYC>.

May Community Conversation...

JUDGE BARTHELD DETAILS PRE-TRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM

After over 30 years in private practice, Richard Bartheld was appointed Superior Court Judge in 2012. In dealing with criminal charges, Judges decide about releasing defendants awaiting trial. Options were to hold in custody, charge bail, or release into the community, but Judge Bartheld found little information or guidance for the decision. Typically, the deciding factor was the seriousness of the crime without knowledge of individual risk factors. In 2014, a committee with representatives from prosecutors, public defenders, law enforcement, probation officers, and court administration were charged to develop a program to inform pre-trial release decisions.

With this program, after arrest, a hearing is scheduled within 48 hours. Within this time frame, a pre-trial officer reviews the police report and runs a public safety assessment to look at the prospect that the individual may become involved in new criminal activity if out of custody and the prospect of

(Continued on Page 7)

Judge Bartheld Detail Pre-Trial... (Continued from Page 6)

showing up later for court. The prosecutor and defense counsel are allocated to pre-trial work and are familiar with the pre-trial program and options, in contrast to the previous practice of rotating attorneys. The prosecutor makes recommendations, the defense attorney provides a voice for the defendant, and along with the public safety assessment, the judge has more information to guide better decisions.

Prior to the pre-trial release program, 80% of individuals released did not get into legal trouble during the release period, and about 70% showed up for scheduled court appearances. About two years into the pre-trial program, analysis by an outside agency showed that these data points remained about the same, but many more individuals were released in the community without increased crime or danger to the public. In addition, release decisions more closely aligned with area demographics, furthering “blind justice” without regard to race or culture.

A key aspect of the pre-trial release program are the services that are provided. The staff provides information on housing, resources for substance abuse evaluation and treatment, anger management and mental illness. Noting that many of the individuals in pre-trial release are experiencing homelessness, staff collect and distribute coats, hats, gloves and other clothing to help meet the needs.

Periodic reviews of the program have led to adjustments that serve both the individuals involved and the community. One such change was incorporating those released on bail into the services. Previously defendants out on bail had no ongoing monitoring. Now as a condition of release on bail they must call in every week and meet a pre-trial officer twice a month to update information and discuss issues. Once word got out that they would be checked on regularly, the incidents of criminal activity while awaiting trial tapered down.

Current community-wide concern over the high rate of domestic violence has also led to changes. Law enforcement is increasing efforts to follow-up on protection orders to increase accountability and more consistently identify dangerous individuals. When charged, the public safety assessment weighs prior domestic violence more heavily to better protect partners and the public.

A relatively simple change in the program is the added practice of calling or texting reminders of scheduled court appearances 2 days in advance. This has increased the rate of compliance.

Judge Bartheld recounted some of the ways the pandemic impacted court operations, including a complete shutdown of trials for five months in 2020. While some practices may return to “normal,” he believes some adaptations such as use of zoom sessions will continue.

With praise for the pre-trial release program staff for developing community links to meet the needs of the individuals served, Judge Bartheld reminds us all of the human aspect of those who commit crimes. “We should keep in mind that every person who comes before the court is a human being. We need to respect that... There has got to be a reason for breaking the law. If we can get to that, we can make a difference in that person’s life and may help the community in the long run.”

Our LWVYV President, Cheri Kilty, asked Judge Bartheld how we in the community can help support the work of the courts. He responded that it is important to step up for identifying and investigating crime, and to stand with victims. Many people are reluctant to speak with police, but by example and support we can show that it is OK to speak up and to deal with issues, especially domestic violence. He asks us not to be silent if we witness wrongs, particularly dealing with children. Only then can we break the chain of violence. Then he added that the program welcomes warm jackets and other clothes; contact him or Jessica Humphreys, the Court Administrator.

Judge Bartheld’s entire message remains available for viewing on our LWVYC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/LWVYC>.

LWV Washington Position... DECLINE TO SIGN I 1929

LWVWA Board urges voters not to sign I-1929, which would place on the ballot the choice to repeal the capital gains tax necessary to fund education. A fact sheet is available at:

<https://budgetandpolicy.org/resources-tools/2022/04/Fact-Sheet-I-1929.pdf>

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WASHINGTON STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY

The League of Women Voters is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization’s current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy. We will actively work to remove barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF YAKIMA COUNTY**

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Cordially invites you to: JOIN US!

New Member Renewing Member

Name: _____

Membership Categories:

Address: _____

_____ \$10 Student

_____ \$60 Basic

Phone: _____

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

E-Mail: _____

Scholarships are available for potential members who cannot afford dues. Please contact us at yakimacountylwvyc@gmail.com

Additional Sustaining Gift: \$60 _____ \$40 _____ \$25 _____ Other: _____

Your Sustaining Gift will help support our local activities.

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

Please note: Our fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. Initial dues received before December 31 will be subject to renewal on June 30 of the following year. Initial dues received after January 1 will be subject to renewal on June 30 of the year following that year.

- Examples: a) Initial dues paid October 10, 2020; renewal date June 30, 2021
- b) Initial dues paid February 24, 2021; renewal date June 30, 2022