

VOTER

CANDIDATE FORUMS

5pm - July 15th – Friday Harbor Grange

GET TO KNOW THE FRIDAY HARBOR MAYORAL CANDIDATES!

The League of Women Voters of the San Juans, a non-partisan, non-profit organization, is sponsoring this forum ahead of the primary election on August 5th. Community members who wish to ask questions of candidates but cannot attend in person may email their questions in advance of the forums to the League at pres.lwvsji@gmail.com.



In Friday Harbor on San Juan Island, **Mayor Ray Jackson** is [challenged for reelection](#) by **Pamela Hoke**, a fine artist and brand designer; **Evan Perrollaz**, owner of a coffee roasting company and deputy superintendent of the local hospital district; and **Emilio Santiago**, cultural resources program specialist at San Juan Island National Historical Park. Friday Harbor has a population of 2,747 and is the county seat, the only incorporated community in San Juan County and the economic center of San Juan Island.

**An open, nonpartisan event to hear directly from those
running to lead our community.**

The Voter Forum is a moderated event during which candidates will present introductory statements and respond to your questions, within time limits. The League of Women Voters requires civil discourse in forums, and all questions to candidates must meet that requirement.

We hope to see you at the Forums!
Know Before You Vote

The meeting will be recorded and available to view on the LWV Facebook and webpage.

LWV San Juans shows up strong for No Kings Day and the 4th of July!

Our local league has been showing up in full force this year, making a strong and spirited presence at both **No Kings Day** and the **July 4th Parade**. From our bold signs and banners to the enthusiasm of our members, we stood out as a vibrant reminder of the power of civic engagement. These events give us a chance to connect with our community, celebrate democracy, and remind folks that the League is here—active, informed, and ready to make a difference. The turnout was terrific, and the energy was contagious!



Join Us at the County Fair!

The League needs volunteers to staff our booth—chat with neighbors, share what we do, and spread the word about the power of voting. Help us share our mission, spark conversations, and sow the seeds of civic engagement.

Sign up for a shift by emailing jbelcovson@gmail.com and let us know which day (Thursday 8/14, Friday 8/15, & Saturday 8/16 and whether you would like morning, afternoon or evening shift)

Corn dogs, conversation, and community—see you at the fair!



Around the League – State and National Issues

Resist the Federal Threat to Medicaid

Healthcare affects democracy—and democracy depends on informed, active voters. The National Library of Medicine reports in "[A Shared Destiny: Community Effects of Uninsurance](#)" that, "For the communities in which uninsured individuals and families live, the lack or loss of health insurance coverage by some may undermine the shared economic and social foundations of the entire community." It goes on to say, "Declining economic stability and prosperity can foster a sense of social isolation and loss of confidence in public institutions and services." The current legislative proposals to severely reduce Medicaid funding are threats to our democracy.

The Senate has now passed H.R.1 of the 119th Congress, otherwise known as the "Big Beautiful Bill Act," and it included massive reductions to Medicaid.

With Medicaid being defunded at these levels by the House's version of H.R.1, [the Washington State Health Care Authority](#) reports that these reductions will have the effect of jeopardizing health care access for 1 out of every 5 Washingtonians. Ironically, the largest percentages of the population enrolled in Medicaid are in Republican Congressional Districts, 4 and 5. Rural hospitals have been cited as among the most affected health care services. They are already under-funded and rely on Medicaid funding for a significant portion of their patients and revenue.

Read more about this issue, including League positions and what League members can do at <https://www.lwv.org/blog/whats-happening-medicaid-tax-cuts-and-budget-bills>

Karen Crowley, LWVWA President



The Right to Contraception and Why We Need to Protect It

The right to contraception is currently protected in the United States by a combination of federal court cases and state legislation. Tens of millions of women and other people of reproductive age rely on contraception to make decisions about their bodies and lives.

However, in recent years, government attacks on reproductive freedom have made it clear how our fundamental rights can be eroded and taken away, making additional state and federal protections for contraception imperative.

<https://www.lwv.org/blog/right-contraception-and-why-we-need-protect-it>

Democracy Issues:

- [The League and partners filed legal briefs urging federal courts to invalidate an illegal executive order](#) seeking to revoke birthright citizenship.
- The LWV strongly spoke out against SCOTUS using its shadow docket [to allow the Trump administration to deport migrants without due process](#).
- A healthy US democracy requires ALL of its members to be able to live freely and access their fundamental rights. Ongoing attacks against the LGBTQIA+ community present a threat to democracy. [The League publicly, and loudly, affirms that democracy depends on transgender rights](#).

Upcoming Events:

7.16 WED // Redistricting Reform Task Force

The Redistricting Reform Task Force is working to bring about improvements to redistricting in Washington State. All individuals and organizational representatives are invited to join us on the third Wednesday of each month for the Redistricting Reform Task Force meeting. Each month we strategize and implement the actions needed to achieve reform. [Contact Alison McCaffree](#) for the meeting link or more info.



7.17 THU // National Day of Action: Good Trouble Lives On

This next National Day of Action is to honor John Lewis' legacy, continue his work, and defend democracy. The LWVUS has signed on as an official partner for this day of action. [Find an event](#) near you or [create one](#)! Learn more [HERE](#). Check out our [previous Resisting Threats to Democracy newsletter](#) for

more guidance and info for local Leagues about participating or hosting days of action.

7.23 WED // Democracy in Your Hands Webinar

The next webinar is on Championing the Issues that Matter and will be held at 11:00 am EST (8:00 am PST). [Register here](#).



To Do List:

- Register for the LWVUS 'Democracy in Your Hands' series. [Register here](#). And watch the recording of the first webinar, [Finding the Facts in Our Elections](#). (Password: Bfq20NK!)
- Last week the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" became law after President Trump signed it on July 4. Call the House and Senate switchboard to express your disappointment with the bill's passage at 202-224-3121. More accountability measures from LWVUS will follow.

- Share [the L WVUS statement](#) on the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" and its drastic health care cuts. Statements are also available to share on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Bluesky](#), and [Threads](#).
- Catch-up on what happened at the [2025 L WVUS Council](#).

Make sure your friends and family are registered to vote ahead of Washington's Primary Election—voting begins July 18! **Direct them to [VoteWA.gov](#)** to register or learn more.

[L WV Observer Corps Notes on Public Meetings](#) // **L WV of the San Juans** // *The Journal of the San Juans Islands*

[L WV Observer Corps Notes on SJC Board of Health Meeting](#) // **L WV of the San Juans** // *The Islands' Weekly*

5 Calls

Make your voice heard!

5 Calls is the easiest and most effective way for U.S. constituents to make a political impact. Calling your congressperson is the most effective way to influence policy. Make calls in support of progressive issues. We update the list regularly as legislation develops and remove topics as soon as they're no longer relevant.

[Learn more about why calling works.](#)

We've made 5,198,386 calls so far. Join us.

Pick an issue from the list, or [read our guide to getting started](#).

Visit [5calls.org](#) – input your location (Friday Harbor) and select what is important to you.

<https://5calls.org/>

New Dues Payment and Processing System for 2025

Chapter Spot, the New L WV Payment System, Update

The League of Women Voters has switched to a new member portal, ChapterSpot, for all Leagues across the country. The new system was launched in February 2025. All members should have received an email to log in to the portal. If you haven't received an email, you can use this link to renew: <https://portal.lwv.org/membership>. You can pay online using a credit/debit card or by ACH (an electronic payment using the numbers on the bottom of a check). Once you have access to the portal, you will be able to update your own information, including contact information.

If you would like to make an additional contribution directly to L WV of the San Juans, as some members choose to do when they renew as Carrie Chapman Catt or Susan B. Anthony supporters, you need to separately submit dues and contributions. This can be done through the L WV Portal, which includes a separate donation button for local leagues, or by check to

LWVSJ. We encourage our members to send a check to LWVSJ as it ensures that your contribution goes to our local league. **PLEASE DO NOT ADD YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR DUES PAYMENT OR WE WILL RECEIVE ONLY 20% OF YOUR PAYMENT.** The State and National League will receive the remainder.

Meeting Dates 2025

Board Meetings	Monthly Meetings
August 11 <i>Board Retreat</i>	<i>Summer Break</i>
September 8	September 15
October 6	October 13
November 3	November 10 <i>Program Planning Meeting/ Member Retreat</i>
December 1	December 8 <i>Holiday Luncheon</i>

All members are welcome to attend our board meetings – please send any board member an email and we will send you the zoom link.

Board Members of the League of Women Voters of the San Juan's

Officers			
Susan Martin	Co-President	360-370-5205	martinsf@georgetown.edu
Barbara Sharp	Co-President	360-472-0148	b_gsharp@hotmail.com
Michael Martin	Treasurer	360-370-5205	martinml@ieee.org
Stephanie Butler	Voter Services	907-209-5885	sjbutlerak@gmail.com
Steve Bowman	Voter Services	360-370-5814	steve.bowman52@gmail.com
Necia Quast	Observer Corps	360-370-5502	collquas@aim.com
Robbie Lawson	Roster	360-378-5513	robbie@rockisland.com
Jill Belcovson	Publicity/Voter	805-689-2260	jbelcovson@gmail.com
	Secretary		
Members-at-Large			
Audra Adelberger	Nominating committee	360-378-6322	audraaeaba@gmail.com
Mary Campanella	Nominating Committee	360-298-2823	marycampanella@icloud.com
Susan Eberhard		360-378-3608	eberhard@rockisland.com
Lenore Bayuk		360-378-3636	bayukll@rockisland.com
Pati Otley		360-378-5632	pdotley@comcast.net
Chita Miller		360-378-2153	chita.miller@gmail.com

Nominating Committee: Clare Kelm, Mary Campanella, Sarah Crosby

When you join the League, your dues go to three different places: to National League to help support voting rights advocacy efforts, to State League for voter education as well as advocacy for state issues that League supports; and then there are a few dollars left to support our local forums and programs.

Let us know of any changes that need to be made to your contact information. Thank you for continuing to support the important work that we do.

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the League of Women Voters San Juans Education Fund and have enclosed a separate check in the amount of \$_____.

PLEASE RETURN TO: League of Women Voters of the San Juans
PO Box 784
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Voter Editor: Jill Belcovson – 805-689-2260 – jbelcovson@gmail.com