



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County

www.LWV.corvallis.or.us

September 2016

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The League of Women Voters,

a nonpartisan political organization

- encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government,
- works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and
- influences public policy through education and advocacy.



League's Fall Kick-Off Meeting

Climate Justice

Wednesday, September 21, 2016, 7:00 to 8:45 PM

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library Meeting Room
645 NW Monroe Avenue, Corvallis

Speakers:

Dr. Allison Davis-White Eyes, Director of Diversity & Cultural Engagement and Assistant Vice Provost of Student Affairs at Oregon State University

Dr. Robert Figueroa, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Oregon State University

This year's kick-off meeting begins at 7:00 PM with an overview of League programs for 2016-17. Learn what our League is working on and how you can become involved! At 7:30 PM, the focus shifts to our featured program on Climate Justice.

According to many experts, communities of color are being hardest hit by consequences of the climate crisis – more frequent and severe weather events like droughts, intense heat waves, and flooding caused by heavy rainfall.

Rather than looking at global warming as simply an environmental issue, Dr. Allison Davis-White Eyes and Dr. Robert Figueroa will speak on the ethical and political issues associated with climate change. Dr. Davis-White Eyes will focus on state and national concerns, while Dr. Figueroa will provide a global perspective. There will be plenty of time for audience questions following their presentations.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for this timely and informative presentation. Invite your friends and colleagues to come with you –introduce them to the League and to the critical issue of Climate Justice.

Would you like to learn more? Climate Justice resource links are listed on page 5.

Co-sponsored by the LWV of Corvallis and the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Clear Your Calendar for LWV Election Forums

Thursday, September 22, LWV of Corvallis and City Club cosponsor

Forum: Benton County Commission Candidates

7 PM, Old World Deli, 341 SW 2nd

Thursday, October 20

Benton County Commission & Corvallis City Council Candidates, 7 PM, Library

Monday, October 24

Candidates for Oregon Legislature, Districts 16 and 23, 7 PM, Library

Tuesday, October 25

Ballot Measures, 7 PM, Library



President's Corner — Laura Lahm Evenson

Our Kick-off meeting on September 21st focuses on climate justice. How does climate change affect various communities throughout the world? The LWV has strong positions on climate and sustainability at our local, state and national levels.

The election is only two months away and things are heating up for the LWV. What's coming up? The LWV plans to have a table on the OSU campus to help voters register or change their addresses. In September we will cosponsor a County Commissioner Candidates forum with City Club of Corvallis.

In October the LWV and the Corvallis-Benton County Library will cosponsor three meetings: one for City Council candidates, one for candidates for State Representatives and one on ballot measures. Get the dates on your calendars and invite your friends and neighbors to attend. (*See box, page 1*)

Also in October we will receive the LWV of Oregon's Voters' Guides. What's in them? Check out this page: lwvor.org/home/voterresources/voters-guides-and-info/. It's amazing! Can you help distribute them around town? If so, let Voter Service chair Cathy Frischmann know: cathyberry13@hotmail.com. Make a difference this election ... distribute flyers to voters, help out at an LWV Voter Service meeting, or invite friends and neighbors to get unbiased information at the LWVUS site **VOTE411.org**.

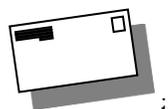
Housekeeping: We still have some positions to fill in order to function smoothly this year. Please give me a call (541-752-6026) if you have a few hours a month to contribute to the LWV. These are small, shareable jobs... no one will overwork you!



Fruit Fundraiser Begins October 1st—You Can Help *Now!*

Two-thirds of League's fruit sales are to non-members. For support from more non-members we need names of people who might be interested in purchasing fruit. Please email names and addresses of potential purchasers to me at lwvclouise@aol.com by September 20. You don't have to do anything else—we will mail them a letter. If they don't choose to purchase we won't ask again. Thanks!

— Louise Marquering, Fruit Sale Chair



2016-2017 League Dues Are Due

The League year begins October first, so it is time to pay dues: \$60 for individuals, \$90 for two or more individuals in one household, or \$30 for students. This includes membership in LWV of the United States and LWV of Oregon. (What a deal!) *Note:* Your dues to the LWV of Corvallis are *not* tax deductible.

Donations are welcome: You can help us meet our local operating budget by making a tax-deductible donation to the League of Women Voters of Oregon or to the LWVUS Education Fund. Send a separate check to our League, made out to either of these organizations. Our League can use your donation as a direct dollar for dollar offset to reduce our per member payments to those organizations.

Bring your dues and the completed membership form to the September 21 meeting or mail them in the envelope enclosed with this bulletin to: LWV of Corvallis, PO Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339. You can also pay on our website with PayPal (for which there's a small charge to us). Thank you for your commitment and support!

— Patricia Parcells, Membership Chair

LWV of Corvallis

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Facebook — LWV Corvallis

LWV of Oregon

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www.lwv.org



This is the newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis which is produced nine or ten times a year.

Contact Beth Thoennes or Louise Marquering with your suggestions, submissions, comments, or story ideas. We welcome your input.

Submissions are due no later than the 15th of the month.

Members subscribe through their dues. Membership in the League of Women Voters of Corvallis is open to men and women of all ages and includes membership in the League of Women Voters of Oregon and the League of Women Voters of the United States.



LWV of Corvallis Supports Measure 02-99, Lawndale Annexation

On November 8, Corvallis citizens will have an opportunity to follow the City's charter and vote on the Lawndale Annexation Request (ANN 16-0002/ADC 16-00001). The League **supports** this annexation, located just north of NE Circle Blvd. and encourages your **Yes** vote.

The property abuts the Corvallis City limits and, although it does not officially qualify under the "health hazard" provision, there IS a need to address this potential environmental crisis.

The property is within 300 feet of the City's sewer system and within the Urban Growth Boundary.

The League encourages your **Yes** vote for yet another reason. Our City Council courageously sent this annexation to a vote in support of our home rule charter and in spite of state legislation (SB 1573) passed earlier this year to preclude such a vote. The League believes home rule means just that and the state should not (and does not) have the right to overrule our local charter. — *Peggy Lynch, Community Planning Committee*

Corvallis 2040 Discussion Was Lively

On Monday night, August 22nd the League of Women Voters of Corvallis hosted an enthusiastic discussion at the library on action for the Vision 2040 plan. Primed with draft documents of vision statements, nearly fifty Corvallis citizens discussed and debated how to make these aspirations reality.



Suggestions ranged from the pragmatic—like "run the buses on Sunday," to the visionary—creating networks to support the community after an earthquake.

Thanks to everyone who participated!

— *Shelly Murphy*



Cold-weather Shelter for Homeless Men

The LWV Housing Committee continues its work on gathering data on who the homeless are in Corvallis. Our goal is to have the report completed by October 2016.

We have also finalized speakers for the November 16 program on housing. Two speakers, Eli Spivak and Peter Banwarth will present information on who the homeless are. They will also offer affordable and creative ideas for increasing affordable housing in Corvallis. For more information on Eli Spivak and his work with affordable housing (see www.orangespot.net). Peter Banwarth is an epidemiologist and one of the authors of the 2015 report, *Regional Health Assessment for Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties*.

Sara Ingle and Karyle Butcher spoke before the city Council this summer during "Community Comments." We urged Council to work towards a solution that would address the possible closure of the Men's Cold Weather Shelter. We noted that if no solution is found, a possible

60-70 homeless men would have no shelter during the coldest months of the year. Copies of the Board-approved letter were distributed to councilors and to the press. Our letter was timely since the Mayor was introducing a draft proposal that he hoped would capture Council concerns about the need to move forward to resolve the issue of a shelter before November and the onset of inclement weather.

Committee members have been attending meetings of the City Council's Task Force on Affordable Housing. Typically, we comment at each meeting encouraging the task force members to explore creative and alternative ways that will help to increase the amount of affordable housing in our community.

The LWV Housing Committee meets twice monthly and in addition to its ongoing work, continues to invite speakers to discuss issues on homelessness and affordable housing.

— *Karyle Butcher, Housing Committee Chair*



Fall 2016 Public Meetings: Population Forecast Program
Benton County Meeting, October 4th, 10:00-11:30 AM
Memorial Union, Room 206, Oregon State University

What will the population of Benton County be in the future? Come to this meeting at OSU and share knowledge about how many will live here and how we should plan for them. These numbers will determine land need and guide planning efforts.

The Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University will hold a series of public meetings relating to the newly created Oregon Population Forecast Program. **Feedback from affected government entities and the general public is critical to the success of the program.** Meetings will have presentations on the Forecast Program, procedures and data sources used, and historical population trends for local areas. The meeting also will provide an opportunity for forecast team members to answer questions about the program and for local government staff and the community to share information about their regions.

Beginning in 1973 with the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 100, Oregon's growth management system has relied on population forecasts as the primary tool for determining Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) expansions, as well as for crafting planning policy. By estimating future populations

based on historic and current trends, as well as assuming the likelihood of future events, population forecasts provide information to help planners, public officials, private firms, and developers understand the short- and long-term implications of local areas' population growth. In the recent past, Oregon law required that counties prepare coordinated population forecasts according to "generally accepted" demographic methods, which yielded forecasts produced with a highly diverse set of methods. Equally important, the prohibitive cost of forecasting meant that not all communities could update their forecasts on a regular basis.

Recognizing the need to be more responsive to accounting for current population trends by preparing population forecasts on a more regular basis, and with a consistent forecast methodology for communities across the state, the Oregon House of Representatives and Senate approved legislation in 2013 assigning coordinated population forecasting to the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University. (www.pdx.edu/prc/opfp)

– Peggy Lynch

Cleaner Air Oregon Initiative

As a result of 2016 findings that heavy metals from glassmaking companies have been polluting (mainly) Eastside Portland for years, Governor Kate Brown announced her Cleaner Air Oregon (CAO) initiative. The intent of the initiative is to overhaul statewide air quality regulations. To inform the new process, the Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Health Authority and the Environmental Quality Commission reviewed other states' regulations. A package of eight states and one city's regulations was then assembled for comments by air quality experts.

These experts met twice in June and twice in July to give ideas for the best way to overhaul our state regulations: from Washington; South Coast Air Quality Management District, CA; University of California Irvine; EPA NC; Ch2MHill Portland; Pacific NW Pollution Prevention Resource Center; and National Institute of Safety and Health, Cincinnati.

League member Marilyn Koenitzer attended the four meetings as an observer. The agencies in charge of CAO have compiled comments from the June and July meetings.

The next step will be four public comment meetings in September and October: Medford, *Tuesday, Sept. 13, 6-8 PM*; Bend, *Tuesday, Sept. 20, 6-8 PM*; Pendleton, *Wednesday, Sept. 28, 6-8 PM*; Portland, *Tuesday, Oct. 4, 6-8 PM*.

After that comment period, a new body, the Air Quality Regulatory Reform Committee, formed of 25 stakeholders, will meet six times from October to April to put forth ideas on what the regulations should contain. Their input will be informed by comments from the air quality experts and public comments.

Marilyn intends to listen to all six committee meetings, and hopes that DEQ will add another public comment location in the central Willamette Valley. More information will be coming as the process continues.

Comments can be made to Sue Langston at: www.oregon.gov/deq/RulesandRegulations/Pages/2017/cleanair2017w.aspx – Marilyn Koenitzer



Corvallis Sustainability Coalition's September events highlight commuter appreciation

PEDALPALOOZA: A PEDAL POWERED PARTY! Sunday, Sept. 18, 1–4 PM

Over 25 community groups present hands-on activities today. We're closing down First Street between Monroe and Jackson for pedal-powered gizmos, kids' activities, information booths, games, and food (to buy—from McWeenie's, Burnheimer Meat Company, and Francesco's).

Here's what's happening: Pedalpalooza Storytime, hosted by Friends of the Library at the Arts Center Plaza at 12:30 PM, followed by a celebratory bike parade down Monroe Avenue to the Pedalpalooza Party at Riverfront Park.

Dance to Fiesta Mexicana, the 4-H Latino dance troupe.

Tap your toes to the sounds of Gumbo!

See demos of bike polo and bike skills for kids from Team Dirt, and Sick Town Derby Dames' skillful skating.

Join the "Slow Race" in a bicycling challenge to be last to the finish line.

Stop by exhibitors' booths to see amazing pedal-powered gizmos and to learn about car-free transportation options in Corvallis.

More information at: sustainablecorvallis.org.



7th Annual Car Free Day Thursday, September 22nd, All Day!



Across the globe, individuals and communities come together for World Car Free Day. It's a great opportunity for people to leave their cars at home and make use of the abundant transportation options available in our community.

Start the day at one of four locations on your way to work or school. From 7 to 9 AM, these sites will feature fresh breakfast snacks, freebies, prizes, info about transportation options, and bike safety checks:

Skate Park (at 2nd Street and "B" Avenue, under the highway bypass), **First Alternative Co-op North** (2855 NW Grant Avenue at 29th Street), **OSU –Weatherford Hall** lawn (26th & Jefferson Way), and **Corvallis Transit Center** (5th & Monroe).

Climate Justice Resources

Climate Justice Alliance, OurPowerCampaign.org. Front-line communities forge a scalable and socio-economically just transition from unsustainable energy toward local economies.

Indigenous Environmental Network, iearth.org. Indigenous peoples and individuals organize direct-action and public awareness campaigns and build capacity to address environmental climate, and economic justice issues.

NAACP's Environmental and Climate Justice Program, naacp.org/programs/entry/climate-justice/. Educates and mobilizes people nationwide to address environmental and climate justice.

Northwest Indian Applied Research Institute (NIARI), nwindian.evergreen.edu/. NIARI, at Evergreen State College in Washington, helps tribes meet economic, governance, resource goals.

Green America's Divest/Invest Campaign, greenamerica.org/fossil-free/. Information and resources on divesting from the top fossil-fuel companies and reinvesting sustainably. Find fossil-free mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, retirement investments, financial planners, and asset-management firms.

Green America's Break Up with Your Mega-Bank Campaign, BreakUpWithYourMegaBank.org. Mega-banks are often the biggest financers of projects like coal plants that exacerbate climate change and disproportionately affect communities of color. This campaign helps individuals move their money away from mega-banks and into community development banks and credit unions that lift up low- and middle-income areas and vulnerable communities of color.

(Excerpted from Green American, Spring 2016)



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

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A New League Year!
Hear about Climate Justice
Tuesday, September 21
Invite a friend!

 Join us on Facebook –
[LWVCorvallis](https://www.facebook.com/LWVCorvallis)



LWV Calendar

September

- Sat 17** *Constitution Day*
- Sun 18** Pedalpalooza Party, 1-4 PM, Riverfront Park
- Tue 20** Board Meeting, 12:30-2:30 PM
- Wed 21** *Kick-Off Meeting: Climate Justice*, 7 PM, Library
- Thu 22** World Car Free Day, all day, around town
Forum: County Commissioner Candidates, co-sponsors with City Club, 7 PM, Old World Deli
- Sat-Sun 24-25** *Fall Festival*
- Tu 27** *National Voter Registration Day*

October

- Tue 18** Board Meeting, 12:30-2:30 PM
- Thu 20** *Voter Service: City Council and County Commissioner Candidates*, 7 PM, Library
- Mon 24** *Voter Service: Oregon Legislature Candidates*, 7 PM, Library
- Tue 25** *Voter Service: Ballot Measures*, 7 PM, Library

November

- Tue 15** Board Meeting, 12:30-2:30 PM
- Wed 16** *General Meeting: Housing*, 7 PM, Library

Join the League!

Name _____

Address City, Zip+4 digits _____

Phone _____

Email _____

____ \$60 individual membership ____ \$90 household

____ \$30 student ____ Renewal ____ Contribution*

____ Dues assistance information to help you join the League of Women Voters

I would like to be considered:

Active ____ Inactive Member / Supporter ____

I first joined the League in ____ (year) _____ (place).

What special skills/talents/interests can you share with League? _____

LWV's membership year begins October 1.
Make checks payable to the LWV of Corvallis and mail to:
LWV of Corvallis, Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339-1679

* Regular dues are not tax-deductible *BUT* contributions to *LWVOR* or the *LWVUS Education Fund*, paid with a separate check, are deductible.