



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County

March 2011

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Events

Patty McClintock, Jo Anne

Trow, Doris Waring

Nominating Committee

The League of Women Voters

is a nonpartisan political organization that—

- * 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.

General Meeting

Climate Change and Your Health

Tuesday, March 8
7 PM

Corvallis Public Library
645 NW Monroe, Corvallis



Catherine Thomasson, MD

and

Charlie Fautin, Benton County Health Department

Asthma rates are rising. Pollen counts are up.

Does climate change affect our health?

Dr. Catherine Thomasson will speak on impacts of climate change for water resources, air quality, and temperature – all of which have implications for our personal health.

What are Corvallis and Benton County doing to address these climate change-related concerns?

Be part of the discussion when we explore with Charlie Fautin possible solutions and adaptations related to public health.

Don't miss this important presentation
Mark your calendar and invite a friend or neighbor

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



President's Corner — Annette Mills

February was a short but busy month for the League. We hosted our first Legislative Town Hall of the year on February 5, with Rep. Sara Gelsler, Rep. Andy Olson, and Sen. Frank Morse sharing their insights on the difficult budgetary choices they have to make during this legislative session. Join us for updates by our legislators at more town halls on the first Saturday of each month through June.

Our Housing and Homelessness forum February 8th drew a standing-room-only crowd. An excellent panel gave a comprehensive overview of the efforts taking place in our community to move forward on the county's Ten-Year Plan. Clearly, there is much concern and interest in our community in addressing this important issue. Many thanks to Barbara Ross, *LWVC Housing Policy Committee* chair, to forum moderator, Dagmar Johnson, and to the other committee members who helped organize this outstanding program.

Other League committees have been hard at work during the past month. Our *Nominating Committee*, led by Jo Anne Trow, completed its work; the proposed slate of officers and directors will be in next month's Bulletin. The *Community Planning Committee*, co-chaired by Shelly Murphy and Marilyn Koenitzer, has been reviewing documents and monitoring progress on our appeal to LUBA regarding the Creekside development. Our newly formed *Climate Change Committee* has been meeting to plan upcoming programs.

Speaking of which ...

Plan to join us on Tuesday evening, March 8, at the library meeting room to explore the impacts of climate change on our health. I first met Dr. Catherine Thomasson at our December "Soup Social" when she attended as a guest of LWVC member Marie Long. Dr. Thomasson recently joined the staff of OSU Student Health Services, and she will teach an OSU course this summer entitled, "Climate Change and Public Health." She is well versed on the subject, and her presentation on March 8th promises to engage and enlighten. Dr. Thomasson will be joined by Charlie Fautin, Assistant Director of the Benton County Health Department, who'll give local perspective on this important topic.

Two additional March events reflect the collaborative efforts of our League:

- On Wednesday, March 9, make your way over to the CH2MHill Alumni Center on the OSU Campus to participate in the Annual Sustainability Fair and Town Hall Meeting. Our League's Climate Change Committee will staff an interactive exhibit at the fair from 5 to 7 PM, and several League members will be discussion leaders at the Town Hall from 7 to 9 PM.
- On the following Saturday, March 12, LWVC co-sponsors a full-day workshop, "Quality, Affordable Health Care in Oregon," at the First Congregational Church on West Hills Road. Further details are outlined on page 5.

Please join us for as many of these programs as time permits. Hope to see you soon!



Legislature 2011 Town Hall Meeting

Saturday, March 5, 10 AM – NOON
Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Additional Town Hall Meetings on Saturdays – April 2, May 7, June 4

Senator Frank Morse & Representative Sarah Gelsler – Cliff Trow, Moderator

Legislators will address Health Care and other important issues.

FYI: The Legislature's website is www.leg.state.or.us/.

Co-sponsors – LWV of Corvallis and Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

LWV of Corvallis

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This bulletin, the newsletter of the *League of Women Voters of Corvallis*, is produced 10 times a year.

We welcome your input. If you have suggestions, story ideas, comments, or submissions for the Bulletin, contact Louise Marquering – lwvcLouise@AOL.com.

Submissions must be received no later than the 15th of the month.

Members subscribe through their dues. League membership is open to men and women of all ages.



Community Planning

Update on the Creekside Appeal

Creekside Center I & II is a proposed development on the northwest corner of 53rd Street and Philomath Blvd., part of which encroaches on wetlands which have been designated “highly protected” by the City of Corvallis.

The League’s Appeal does not pertain to the entire development, just those elements that pose a threat to the integrity of Dunawi Creek and its proximate wetlands.

The City complied with a requirement that they send the “record” of the Creekside Development proceedings to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) within 21 days after the Appeal was filed. The League and Petitioner Liz Frenkel also received a copy of this 1259 page “record”. This document must contain all the materials submitted to decision makers in the course of the local proceedings.

The petitioners (the LWV and Liz Frenkel) had 14 days to file an objection to the “record” if it was found to have errors or was incomplete. On February 10th, an objection was filed. Now, our Appeal is on hold until the objection is settled. ... Stay tuned!

The League needs your help! Repeating the plea in last month’s bulletin: This Appeal is a bold and expensive move by the Corvallis League. Our attorney has given us a special rate, but still estimates that the cost will be around \$10,000. We have authorized the expenditure of up to \$5,000 out of the League treasury. That means that we must raise the rest. ***Please consider making a donation to support this very important action.***

Checks made out to LWV CORVALLIS, with CREEKSIDE on the memo line, can be sent to LWV of Corvallis, PO Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339-1679.

House Judiciary Committee Co-Chairs:

Jeff Barker (D-Aloha) rep.jeffbarker@state.or.us
503-986-1428,

Wayne Krieger (R-Gold Beach) rep.waynekrieger@state.or.us
503-986-1401

Also on the House Judiciary Committee:

Rep. Andy Olson (R-Albany) rep.andyolson@state.or.us
503-986-1415

Citizens Right to Appeal Land Use Decisions Under Attack by Legislature

In mid-February, the following three bills had hearings in the House Judiciary Committee. *These bills, if passed, would seriously undermine citizen participation in the land use process throughout the state.*

HB 2181 would make citizens who appeal a local land use decision to the Land Use Board of Appeals liable for attorney fees of the prevailing party if they lose their case, even when LUBA acknowledges that the case had merit. Current law only holds project opponents liable for attorney fees if their case is determined to be frivolous. HB 2181 would shut down virtually all citizen land use appeals, by raising the stakes for ordinary citizens who want to stand up to illegal land use decisions being made in their communities.

HB 2182 is an elitist proposal that reserves access to LUBA for the rich. It would change current law so that opponents to a land use decision must either be an adjacent landowner or be required to pay a large deposit to bring a case before LUBA. Farmers leasing land, a common circumstance throughout Oregon, will likely not be able to appeal decisions that affect their farming operations, and local advocacy groups with limited funds will likely not be able to raise the necessary deposit to do so, either.

HB 2610 would establish that for housing and industrial land use decisions within an urban growth boundary – and for aggregate mining anywhere – appeals to LUBA may only be brought by individuals who either own, rent, or lease property within 1000 feet or can show their property would be adversely affected economically by \$5000 or more. Under HB 2610, only the wealthy who can show a large impact on their pocket book will be able to appeal local land use decisions

Oregon’s innovative land use system has protected thousands of acres of world-class farmland, rural jobs, and quality of life for all Oregonians. The foundation of our system is citizen involvement, including the ability to appeal illegal land use decisions. These three proposals would undermine the ability of ordinary Oregonians to participate in that process.

Please call or e-mail the co-chairs of the Judiciary Committee and tell them you oppose these bills. A few minutes of your time can help protect citizen involvement!



Sustainability Fair & Town Hall Meeting Set for March 9th

Sustainability Fair & Town Hall 2011 will be held Wednesday evening, March 9, on the OSU campus at the CH2M Hill Alumni Center, 725 SW 26th Street.

The Sustainability Fair is scheduled from 5 to 7 PM, with the Town Hall meeting to follow from 7 to 9 PM.

Both events are sponsored by the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, a network of nearly 190 partner organizations including businesses, non-profits, faith communities, the City of Corvallis, Benton County, OSU, and the Corvallis School District. All are working together to accelerate the creation of a sustainable community – environmentally, socially, and economically.

Once again this year, the fair and town hall will be a model sustainable event, featuring zero waste, low energy and water use, and local food. Attendees are encouraged to help out by using energy-efficient transportation to get to the event: walk, bike, or carpool.

The Fair

The fair will include more than 40 hands-on exhibits, highlighting the sustainability efforts of local businesses, organizations, and Coalition action teams.

Music will be provided by talented local high school students. Snacks will feature ingredients grown or produced in the Local 6 area – Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, and Polk counties.

The Town Hall

Following the fair, attendees will gather in the Alumni Center ballroom for a town hall meeting focused on action toward sustainability.

Presentations will include a “2010 Community Scrapbook” of photos from Coalition partner organizations to celebrate their sustainability efforts, and a short film by Willamette Watershed Productions featuring Corvallis residents who participated in last year’s World Car Free Day.

A special focus of this year’s town hall will be economic sustainability and what we can do individually and as a community to help create a healthy, resilient local economy. Attendees will be encouraged to share their stories and to become engaged in action.

This annual fair and town hall meeting are part of a landmark community process that was launched in 2008, in which three town hall meetings engaged hundreds of Corvallis citizens in the development of a Community Sustainability Action Plan that is serving as a framework for action.

Primary sponsors of this year’s event include Oregon State University, Allied Waste, CH2M Hill, Energy Trust of Oregon, and Samaritan Health Services. Additional financial support is being provided by dozens of Coalition partner organizations, including the League of Women Voters, as well as by individual “Town Hall Heroes.”

This event is free and open to the public. All are welcome, but space at the town hall meeting is limited. *Register no later than March 7th* at www.surveymonkey.com/s/TownHall2011.

For more information, call 541-230-1237.



Sunshine Week 2011 – March 13-19

On Friday, March 18, from 9 to 10:30 AM, the LWV Education Fund co-hosts the Annual Sunshine Week National Dialogue with OpenTheGovernment.org: “The Road Forward on Open Government,” will be broadcast live on the web.

Because this is a core League issue we encourage you to watch and participate. For more about the National Dialogue, see League’s event partner’s site: www.OpenTheGovernment.org.

LWV of Corvallis Co-Sponsors Health Care Workshop

This workshop will inform, inspire and motivate people to take action in the effort to improve the quality and accessibility of health care in Oregon. *Here's the program:*



QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE IN OREGON

Help Make It Happen! A Workshop

Saturday, March 12, 2011 9 AM – 3:30 PM

First Congregational United Church of Christ, 4515 SW West Hills Road, Corvallis

8:30 Check-in and Registration

OR

9:00 Workshop Convenes

IV. *Transforming Health Care in Oregon*

Keynote Address: *Health Care and the Economy*

Eileen Brady

Val Hoyle, State Representative
House Health Care Committee

Oregon Health Policy Board

12:30 Lunch

10:00 Breakout Sessions I & II

1:15 Panel Discussion

I. *Patient-centered Medical Homes*

Financing Health Care In Oregon

Sherlyn Dahl, BSN, MPH
Director Benton County Health Center

Facilitator: Mike McNally

Rick Wopat, MD

Publisher, Corvallis Gazette-Times

Panelists:

OR

Eileen Brady

II. *Single Payer Legislation*

Oregon Health Policy Board

Michael Huntington, MD & Cosimo Storniolo, MD

Michael Dembrow, *State Representative*
Sponsor of "Affordable Health Care Act"

11:10 Breakout Sessions III & IV

Frank Morse, *State Senator*

III. *Oregon Insurance Exchange and the Public Plan*

Chair, Senate Subcommittee Health Care Reform

Laura Etherton

2:30 Call to Action:

Health Policy Advocate, OSPIRG

Better Health; Better Care; Lower Costs

Liz Baxter, MPH

Discussion Groups and Reporting

Director We Can Do Better (Archimedes) Movement

3:30 Adjourn

Register by March 7, 2011 by filling in the form below and mailing it with your check to: Health Care for All Oregon, 1865 NW Lantana Dr., Corvallis, OR 97330. *Make checks payable to Health Care for All Oregon.*

Cut here

Name: _____	_____ Registration Fee \$10 (\$5 students)
Address: _____	_____ Box Lunch \$6 <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> turkey (brown bag lunches ok)
Email: _____	_____ <i>Total Enclosed</i>
Telephone: _____	Circle TWO Breakout Session choices: I or II, III or IV

Workshop sponsors: *Albany Archimedes; Interfaith Healthcare Network; Health Care for All Oregon, Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates Chapter; Physicians for a National Health Program; and League of Women Voters of Corvallis.*



League Book Club Monday, March 14, 2:30 PM

Every Man Dies Alone, by Hans Fallada

The March book club selection is *Every Man Dies Alone* by Hans Fallada, "the greatest book ever written about German resistance to the Nazis."

Published originally in German in 1946, the book was translated into English in 2009 and selected as a notable book by 14 various book reviewers, including the *New Yorker*, NPR, *Sunday Telegraph* and more.

Join us Monday, March 14, 2:30 PM at the Old World Deli (note the change in location).

Questions? Call or email Corrine Gobeli: 541-745-7736, gobelic@comcast.net.

Upcoming books:

April 11	<i>Mr. Rosenblum Dreams in English</i> , Natasha Solomons
May 9	<i>Father Joe: The Man Who Saved My Soul</i> , Tony Hendra
June 13	Meet to select 2011-2012 books



Membership News

We have several new members! Joining in 2010 were: *David Fitchett, Marie L. Long, Anne Schuster, and Susan Garner Warsinske*. We were also glad to welcome National member *Shirley Bryne* to our local League in November. More recently, *Laurie Mason* joined in January 2011.

We are very glad each of you has joined our League! We look forward to seeing you at meetings and activities. We also look forward to your input on the many issues League is working on this year.

I also would like to thank *Patty McClintock, Katherine Merriam* and *Jean Nath* for calling members every month to remind them of general meetings.

– *Janet Wolf-Eshe, Membership Co-Chair*



2011 LWVOR Raffle: Win \$3000 For Your Choice of Vacation!

Win your dream vacation of a \$3000 certificate to travel anywhere in the world! Travel agent, Doug Walker,

Walker Travel, www.walkertravel.com, will arrange your trip.

Each raffle ticket costs \$10, and only 2,000 tickets are printed for this statewide raffle. The drawing will be held on Saturday night at the state convention. The winner does not have to be present. (LWVOR board members and staff aren't eligible to win, but their relatives are.)

The Raffle will raise about \$15,000 for LWVOR, after expenses for the prize, fees, postage, and printing. This is an important revenue component to our budget. These

funds support Action activities and keep down convention costs and expenses such as PMP. It also will identify non-members who support our programs.

The raffle also raises funds for local Leagues. If we sell the same number of tickets as our total number of members, our League receives \$1 back for each ticket sold. Tickets sold *over* the membership number earn \$2 per additional ticket sold.

Please help LWVOR and our League by buying tickets for yourself and selling some to friends and family.

Raffle 2011 tickets are available now through our Raffle Representative, Marolyn Tarrant, 541-753-8145.



Save these May Dates

May 13-15 State League Convention, Salem

May 25 LWV of Corvallis Annual Meeting,
6-9 PM, Corvallis Public Library

*More information on these important meetings
will be in your April bulletin.*

LWVOR's Day at the Legislature

Wednesday, March 30, 9:30 PM to 3 PM
Oregon State Library, Salem – Rooms 102-103

*Attend a hearing! View a floor session!
Visit your legislators!*

League's annual Day at the Legislature is your
opportunity to do all this.

Registration forms will be in LWVOR's Spring Voter.



Your History is League's History – Share It!

Can you think of anything more pleasant than to sit down with a fellow League member to recall where they've been and what they've done in League?

The 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in Oregon will be in February 2012. To prepare for this anniversary and to update our history LWVOR has asked local Leagues to consider their own histories by interviewing as many of their members as possible by January 2012. Corvallis LWV is starting out by interviewing our 50-year members.

Would you like to be a part of this project?

- Interview one or more Corvallis League members. If you enjoy chatting with League friends and value all they have done in our League, please call or email Louise Marquering (lwvc@aol.com) soon!
- Say yes to an interview. With your permission, we may record your interview and take a photo. Jog your memory by thinking about your League life.

Here's what you'll be asked:

How long have you been a League member? Do you remember the specific year you joined? In what Leagues

have you been a member? Can you list your League memberships chronologically?

Who or what motivated you to join the League?

Did your League activities have a focus, e.g. voter service, forums, studies, advocacy? How did these areas appeal to you?

What events or activities stand out in your mind as you recall your years in the League?

Who are or were some of the League members that you worked with who impressed you? Share some details.

How has League changed over the years that you've been a member? How do you feel about the changes?

What would you alter about the League? Why?

What have you learned from your experiences in the League?

Which state or national conventions have you attended? What events or people impressed you there?

How has the League impacted your personal life?

Why should women and men join the League today?



Heads Up, Readers!

At State League's May convention a book group will read:

*The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life of Frances Perkins,
FDR's Secretary of Labor and His Moral Conscience*, by Kirstin
Downey. (More information, Spring Voter)



LWV of Corvallis
 P.O. Box 1679
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Join the League!

Name _____

Address *City, Zip+4 digits* _____

Phone _____

Email _____

_____ \$55 individual membership _____ \$82.50 household

_____ \$27.50 student _____ Renewal _____ Contribution*

I would like to be considered:

Active _____ Inactive Member / Supporter _____

I first joined League in *(year)* _____ *(place)* _____

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

LWV's membership year begins in October.

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. However, contributions to the LWVUS Education Fund, paid with a separate check, are deductible.



League Calendar

March

- Sat 5 Legislative Town Hall 10 AM
- Tue 8 *General Meeting* Climate Change 7 PM
- Wed 9 Sustainability Fair & Town Hall 5-9 PM
- Fri 11 Board Meeting 10 AM
- Sat 12 Health Care Workshop 9-3:30
- Sun 13- Sat 19 *Sunshine Week*—Open Government
- Mon 14 League Book Club 2:30 PM
- Wed 30 Day at the Legislature, Salem

April

- Sat 2 Legislative Town Hall 10 AM
- Fri 8 Board Meeting 10 AM
- Mon 11 League Book Club 2:30 PM
- Tue 12 *General Meeting* 7 PM