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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.



Mark Your Calendar for LWV Election Forums

Meet the candidates and get answers to your questions!

Thursday, October 20

Benton County Commission, Position 3 – Corvallis City Council Candidates
7 PM, Library – Co-sponsored with the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce

Monday, October 24

Candidates for Oregon Legislature, Districts 16 and 23
7 PM, Library – Co-sponsored with the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce

Tuesday, October 25

State & Local Ballot Measures – League members will explain measures, pros and cons
7 PM, Library

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

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



October 18 is the LAST DAY to register to vote

Inside this bulletin — **Voting information**, pages 4, 5, and 7
Inserts — **2016-2017 Calendar** and **Fruit sale order form**



Grapefruit & Oranges—Order Now !

Enjoy some wonderful fruit and benefit our League! Mark your choices on the enclosed order form, fill in the blanks, and order right away to receive your box of delicious juicy fruit in the first week of December!

Be sure to tell your friends about our fruit sale. You may also send names and addresses of possible buyers to Louise Marquering, Fruit Sale Chair, at LWVCLouise@AOL.com. She'll send an order form to them. You may also order with PayPal from our website, www.lwv.corvallis.or.us, or Facebook page www.facebook.com/LWVCorvallis.



President's Corner – Laura Lahm Evenson

It's here! Every four years we are immersed in this messy thing called democracy. Rarely have we seen such rancor and division and I have heard people say they are not going to vote. Please remind the discouraged that there are important issues that need their votes on national, state and local levels. Democracy is not for the faint of heart!

Locally we will host three Voter Service events covering local and state legislators and ballot measures. Check the calendar enclosed and invite friends and neighbors to them. This is a great time to demonstrate the good work that the LWV does for our communities, with its renown for clear, non-partisan voter information. The LWV of Oregon will again produce a *Voter's Guide* for the 2016 election, which will be available around town, including guides in Spanish.

Our Voter Service Chair, Cathy Frischmann, could use your help at this busy time. Connect with her to help with an event or to deliver *Voter's Guides*: cathyberry13@hotmail.com.

October means League's Fruit Sale! This is our *only* fundraiser and it supports all of our local action and programs. Louise Marquering has spearheaded this great fundraiser for several years. Do you have neighbors or friends who would like a box of grapefruit or oranges? Send their names to Louise so she can send them an order flyer, like the one enclosed—LWVCLouise@aol.com. If you can deliver fruit, let Louise know. Our website, LWV.Corvallis.or.us, has a PayPal option. (Don't forget, you can always donate a box or two to your favorite charity.)

It is time to renew. You received your renewal form in the bulletin last month. If you would like to help out our local league, consider a donation to LWVUS Education Fund or LWVOR. These reduce our national and state member payments.

There is a place for everyone in the League! Thanks to the many active committees working on local, state and national issues. It is remarkable how much they accomplish every year. Join one and help make our community a better place.

We are still looking for people to help out with several functions this year. Small jobs, big jobs ... we have them all! Chat with me if you can help out.



LWV Invites Grant Applications

Do you have an idea that would benefit our community and LWV, but needs funding?

The League of Women Voters of Corvallis has memorial funds available to League members for League projects.

These funds honor long-time members Kay Dick ('93) and Grace Phinney ('95). They are for projects, programs and services that are consistent with the League's primary missions of education and advocacy, related to local issues, take advantage of our unique capabilities, and

strengthen the LWV of Corvallis. The maximum grant is \$2500. The grant project chair must be a member of LWV of Corvallis.

Submit your application to LWV President, Laura Lahm Evenson, who will forward it to the Special Funds Review

Committee. Applications are reviewed by the Committee then sent to the Board for approval. Proposals requesting special funds are due *60 days prior* to an event or release of funds. Guidelines and application forms can be downloaded from our website:

www.lwv.corvallis.or.us.

LWV of Corvallis

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www.lwv.corvallis.or.us
Facebook – LWV Corvallis

LWV of Oregon

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www.lwvor.org

LWV of the United States

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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.



Community Planning Update

Corvallis Vision 2040 Being Rushed to Completion

The City of Corvallis has scheduled final review of the Corvallis 2040 Vision

called *Imagine Corvallis 2040, Our Community In Action* on October 18th and has put adoption of the Vision on the November 7th City Council agenda. Although individuals have been invited to provide input via the website, the only public meeting on the refined draft of the Vision was the August 22nd meeting that the League facilitated. Responses from the participants at the League's gathering were compiled and sent to Imagine Corvallis 2040 Steering Committee.

League believes that this process should not be rushed. There should be many opportunities for the type of public discourse that the League provided as the Vision statement will be guiding the city's activities for 20 years. Even though the updating of the Vision 2020 is a goal of the 2015-16 City Council, the next Council will have five returning members who can shepherd the process to completion. We urge every League member to call your City Council person and express this concern.

Members of the public may comment at the October 18th meeting (3:30-5:30 at the Madison Avenue Meeting Room) or during community comments at the City Council meeting on

November 7th. The draft vision can be found at www.corvallisoregon.gov/index.aspx?page=1843.

If you have questions, contact Laura Lahm Evenson at 541-753-6036, or email evensonlahm@gmail.com.

Urbanization Study Drafted by EcoNorthwest

This study includes the Buildable Lands Inventory (BLI), Housing Needs Analysis, and Economic Opportunities Analysis. State Land Use law requires all cities to have a 20-year supply of land available for all types of housing as well as other uses within its urban growth boundary (UGB). Population data is used to determine how much of each is required. The study indicates that Corvallis has a surplus of residential capacity except for high density (HDR) where there is a deficit of land to accommodate 309 dwelling units. The State will not allow the Urbanization Study to be adopted until this deficit is remedied. Watch for an opportunity to help determine how to meet this requirement as meetings throughout the City are anticipated by new Community Development Director Paul Bilotta.

The next meeting of League's Community Planning Committee is Tuesday, October 11th at 7 PM. All are welcome. Email shellym@peak.org for location.

– *Shelly Murphy, Community Planning Chair*



Men's Cold-weather Shelter Occupies Housing Committee

The LWV Housing Committee spent much of August and early September in following discussions about the decision on where to open the Men's Cold Weather Shelter. The City Council heard testimony from those wanting the shelter to stay in its current location and those supporting a new location under the organizational umbrella of Community Outreach Inc. (COI). The LWV Board approved a letter that was distributed at the hearing along with testimony saying that while the two proposals each had validity, COI had neither a location nor funding for the their proposal. Moreover, the City had not allocated the approximately \$113,800 funding COI requested to make their proposal a reality. While the Housing First proposal had strong neighborhood opposition, it was doable. The LWV urged Council to make a decision that would provide shelter by this November.

In preparation for our November program, we invited Peter Banwarth to present his proposed November presentation to our committee. Banwarth identified various data regarding the housing situation in Benton County. His data demonstrated, among other things, the severe shortage of housing for low and medium income families and the amount of income needed to purchase a home and the changing demographics that will exacerbate this situation.

We also heard from Community Development Director Paul Bilotta, who shared ideas on what steps the city could take to improve the amount of housing stock currently available. Bilotta also discussed the recent Affordable Housing Task Force report indicating which recommendation he thought could be implemented relatively soon and which could be problematic.

– *Karyle Butcher, Housing Committee Chair*



Health Care Advocates Spotlight Legislative Candidates

7 PM, Wednesday, October 12 – Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

What are your priorities for improving health care in the 2017 legislative session?

Moderator Tim Roach will address this question to candidates for the Oregon Legislature at a forum focused on health-care:

Senate District 12: Brian Boquist (*Republican*) and Ross Swartzendruber (*Democrat*)

House District 15: Andy Olson (*Republican*) and Cynthia Hyatt (*Progressive*)

House District 16: Andrew Freborg (*Libertarian*), Daniel Rayfield (*Democrat*), Sami Al-AbdRabbuh (*Progressive*)

House District 23: Garrett Leeds (*Libertarian*), Mike Nearman (*Republican*), Alex Polikoff (*Green Party*), and Jim Thompson (*Independent*)

You are invited to bring questions. Spanish translation will be available. *Sponsors of the forum are Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates, Linn-Benton Health Equity Alliance, Health Care for All Oregon – Albany, Physicians for National Health Program.*



LWV of Oregon Files *Amicus Curiae* Brief in Our Children's Trust Suit

In 2015, twenty-one youth plaintiffs and Dr. James Hansen filed a lawsuit against the United States, seeking to secure their constitutional and public trust rights to a stable climate. The LWV has supported the work of Our

Children's Trust, and is an *amicus curiae* in this case, with 21 other organizations.

Three trade associations, representing the fossil fuel industry, intervened to protect their right to continue to pollute. Both the government and the trade associations filed motions to dismiss, to throw the youth's case out of court. They lost.

On April 15, 2016, U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas Coffin ruled in favor of the 21 young plaintiffs and Dr. James Hansen by denying the government and fossil fuel industry's motions to dismiss their federal constitutional climate change lawsuit. Refusing to accept Judge Coffin's decision, both the federal government and the fossil fuel industry defendants requested that it be overturned and our lawsuit dismissed.

On September 13, 2016, U.S. District Court Judge Ann Aiken heard oral arguments on those objections from lawyers representing all of the parties.

Chief Legal Counsel Julia Olson presented oral argument for the plaintiffs before Judge Aiken on why the youth's case should move quickly to trial. She stood in court with the 21 young plaintiffs who are fighting for their right to personal security and a stable climate. Olson

expressed gratitude to these young people for their leadership, wisdom, perseverance, and ability to see shining light and hope in a world full of devastation.

Arguments started with Department of Justice

Attorney Sean Duffy conceding that climate change is a serious problem. Still he went on to argue that the government had not violated the youth plaintiffs' constitutional right to substantive due process. Judge Aiken questioned the Department of Justice about addressing climate change *'with all deliberate speed,'* echoing the Supreme Court's urgent mandate to desegregate schools and end racial discrimination in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

At one point during Mr. Duffy's rebuttal, he argued "the plaintiffs have made a wonderful case that should be heard in the halls of Congress." "It has been heard in the halls of Congress," Judge Aiken responded. The court went on to state that climate change is a "systemic" issue where "time is of the essence."

Fossil fuel industry attorney, Quin Sorenson refused to acknowledge that climate change was a serious problem. Mr. Sorenson argued that the constitution does not even allow the court to address the problem, arguing that it should be left to politics. Among other arguments, Olson pointed out that the federal government has known about climate danger for more than 50 years. She also displayed a recent graph from the Department of Energy showing that, even under the Clean Power Plan, emissions would, at best, flatten through 2040.

For more information about this nationwide effort and ongoing news, visit www.ourchildrenstrust.org/.



Registering to Vote in Oregon

Any eligible citizen can register at www.oregonvotes.org. This is the preferred registration method because you can see right away if your registration is

correct. Next best is filling out and turning in paper voter registration forms at County Election offices, before you leave. The MotorVoter registration (see below) automatically registers new voters as NAV or “non-affiliated voter.”

NAV is NOT the same as “Independent,” which is a newly recognized political party in Oregon.

Your registration has to be correct. *You can still fix it, even on Election Day!* Have you moved? Changed your name? *Keep your voter registration updated, and keep active!*

lwwor.org/home/voterresources/voterregistrationandrights/

YOUR rights as an Oregon voter

Once you register to vote in Oregon, you have the right to:

- A Voter Registration card from your county elections office verifying your registration, with your precinct number and legislative districts
- A ballot in the mail 18-14 days before elections are closed;

- A state Voters’ Pamphlet mailed to you, with candidate statements and arguments for and against ballot measures
- Get a replacement ballot if yours is spoiled or lost; and
- Vote, even if you are unable to fill out your ballot, for any reason. You can get help and alternate ballots at 1-866-ORE-VOTES or your county elections office. Local League members may be able to help you—contact Voter Service Chair Cathy Frischmann.

The LWV advocates for voters’ rights to:

- Vote – for U.S. citizens, 18 or older
- Have easy access to voter registration
- Get an easy to understand ballot, with understandable instructions
- Get valid, understandable information to make voting decisions
- Have easy access to polls, including disabled access
- Get language assistance if not literate in English
- Not have voting discouraged by early voting projections, before polls close; and
- Have accurate vote counts



Oregon’s Motor Voter Law

On Jan. 1, 2016 Oregon’s new voter registration law, Oregon Motor Voter, took effect.

This law was created by House

Bill 2177, passed by the Legislature in the 2015 Session and signed into law by Governor Kate Brown.

The program modernizes voter registration in Oregon and provides a secure, simple, and convenient way for more Oregonians to become registered voters.

Oregon is the first state in the nation to implement automatic voter registration. This pioneering new program builds on Oregon’s leadership at expanding access to voting.

How it Works Automatic voter registration is available if you are eligible to register to vote – an Oregon resident, a U.S. citizen, and at least 17 years old – and you apply for your

original, renewal, or replacement license, permit, or ID card at the DMV. Once you engage the Oregon Motor Voter process by visiting the DMV, you will receive a card and a pre-paid postage return envelope from the Oregon State Elections Office. *With this card, you have three options:*

- *Do nothing.* You will be registered to vote as a nonaffiliated voter (not a member of a political party).
- *Choose a political party* by returning the card. Joining a political party will allow you to vote in its primary elections.
- *Use the card to opt-out* and decline to register to vote.

Once registered, you will automatically receive a ballot and instructions in the mail about two weeks before an election.

When you vote, your ballot is secret and your choices cannot be matched up with your name.

From sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/motor-voter.aspx



Vote-By-Mail Kudos

At this summer’s national LWV convention our Oregon delegation

was reminded many times how fortunate we are to have Vote-by-Mail. The most powerful way to have your voice heard this election season is to VOTE. It is the core of our democracy.

Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters in Benton County on October 19th. Voted ballots *must be received* by 8 PM on November 8. Postmarks do not count, but dropping your ballot off at any official ballot drop site by 8 PM will ensure that it is counted. Check your ballot status and voter registration status at: www.oregonvotes.org.

– Cathy Frischmann, Voter Service Chair



Oct. 22nd Food Day Features Farmers' Market tokens for Kids, Community "Apple Crunch" for Everyone

Get ready to take a big bite out of a crisp, delicious local apple!

Celebrate National Food Day locally at the Corvallis Farmers' Market on Saturday, October 22nd, between 9 AM and 1 PM, at the entrance to the market on Monroe Avenue, between 1st and 2nd Streets.

Highlights of the event are free Farmers' Market tokens for children to spend at their favorite market booths and a community "Apple Crunch" for everyone at the market. This celebration is one of hundreds taking place in towns and cities across the U.S. for the sixth national Food Day.

Children 12 and under will be eligible to receive two free Farmers' Market tokens – a \$4 value (while supplies last). They will be distributed at a Food Day table under the tent on Monroe, where customers can also enjoy food samples and pick up information about local food opportunities and initiatives. We also hope to bring awareness of the SNAP (food stamp) program, as many who are eligible for the program do not know about it.

The community "Apple Crunch" will take place at 10:30 AM, signaled by bells ringing throughout the Farmers' Market. Each market customer will receive a locally grown apple, and

at the sound of the bells we'll crunch in unison! We'll be joined by millions of people around the country who will crunch into an apple on Food Day to raise awareness of eating better diets for our health and the environment, access and affordability of fruits and vegetables, and to support local farmers.

Nationally, the goal of Food Day is to bring together Americans from all walks of life to advocate for healthy, affordable food produced in a sustainable, humane way.

This year's local event is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Corvallis, in collaboration with Corvallis Sustainability Coalition Food Action Team, Corvallis Farmers' Market, First Alternative Co-op, Slow Food Corvallis, Corvallis Environmental Center's Edible Corvallis Initiative, Linus Pauling Institute's Healthy Youth Program, OSU Food in Culture and Social Justice Program, and Timberhill Athletic Club Health Promotion Program.

For further details about Food Day 2016 in Corvallis, visit www.sustainablecorvallis.org.



Celebrate Harvest with Local Eats Week October 24-30

Savor autumn's bounty with an amazing assortment of tasty treats at local restaurants during "Local Eats Week" October 24th- 30th.

More than a dozen local restaurants will offer sample plates or appetizers for under \$10 featuring Local 6 ingredients. Local 6 products are grown, produced, or processed by farms or businesses owned and operated within the six counties touching and including Benton County (Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, and Polk).

Choose a restaurant for each day of Local Eats Week and put it on your calendar. To see the complete list of restaurants and daily updates on Local Eats Week offerings, visit www.sustainablecorvallis.org.

In addition to enjoying delicious local food, customers have a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to one of these

Local 6 restaurants by posting a photo of the sample plate they ordered on the Local Eats Week 2016 Facebook event page and then tagging the restaurant. One drawing entry per post. Visit multiple restaurants and post again and again to increase your chances of winning!

As a customer, you'll delight in the wide array of colorful, flavorful local food available during Local Eats Week.

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate the fall harvest, support locally-owned businesses, and try some new and delicious food – all in one fell swoop!

Local Eats Week is a feature of the Local 6 Connection, a campaign that encourages local restaurants to source more of their ingredients from the Local 6 area. The broader goal is to increase the percentage of locally-produced food that is consumed by the community in order to create a vibrant and secure local food system.

Local Eats Week is sponsored by Corvallis Sustainability Coalition's Food Action Team.

LWV of Oregon Takes Positions on State Ballot Measures

The LWVOR has taken these positions as recommended by the Action Committee.

Ballot Measure 94: Support – The Oregon Elimination of Mandatory Judicial Retirement Age Amendment, would eliminate the requirement that judges retire at the age of 70. It would also authorize or require the retirement of judges with a physical or mental disability or any other cause rendering judges incapable of performing their judicial duties. The Action Committee felt that the forced retirement age was age discrimination, against League positions.

Ballot Measure 95: Support – The Oregon Public University Diversification of Investments Amendment would amend Section 6 of Article XI of the Oregon Constitution to allow public state universities to invest in equities. This would allow universities to allow growth through investments other than patents. University Boards will have public meetings, so they meet our positions on being transparent, accountable.

Ballot Measure 96: Neutral – Amends Constitution, dedicates lottery funding for veterans' support services. Because this is another carve-out of the lottery funds, and because it amends the Constitution, the League has concerns. But, these monies are likely needed for veterans' services.

Ballot Measure 97: Support – increases certain corporate taxes by establishing a 2.5 percent tax on corporate gross sales that exceed \$25 million. Specifically, it would establish a minimum tax of \$30,000 plus 2.5 percent of gross sales that exceed \$25 million. LWVOR's position says, "A tax system that recognizes the individual's responsibility for government services by providing for broad sharing of the tax burden." Oregon has faced a consistent revenue shortage for the past 25 years. While Oregon's economy has grown, voters have placed limits on the state's ability to impose new taxes, which has caused inadequate funding of schools and public services. In addition, Oregon faces a budget shortfall of \$1.35 billion in the upcoming budget period. That is a substantial gap, amounting to about 6 percent of the state budget. According to Oregon's Legislative Revenue Office,

the measure would raise more than \$6 billion each budget biennium. This measure effectively replaces losses from the 1990 Measure 5. Although this measure is somewhat regressive, since it is a statute, the legislature can always correct it later without the 3/5 vote required from both houses for a tax increase. We cannot ignore the needs of K-12 schools, human services, the elderly and public safety. Without this additional revenue, we will again see cuts to the services the public needs and wants.

Ballot Measure 98: Neutral – requires that the Oregon State Legislature fund dropout-prevention and career and college readiness programs in Oregon high schools. It would require that the legislature provide at least \$800 per student initially, adjusted annually for inflation and population growth. LWVOR supports comprehensive K-12 funding, which is why we support M97, but if M97 does not pass, this measure will likely reduce funding for early childhood education, an area where LWVOR has increased our voice in support.

Ballot Measure 99: Neutral – creates an "Outdoor School Education Fund," sourced from state lottery proceeds, to support outdoor school programs. The outdoor school initiative seeks to designate about \$22 million in state lottery funds for outdoor education for all fifth and sixth graders in Oregon. This outdoor education involves a stay at a camp for a few nights while learning about science. This is a worthy program but we cannot afford more carve-outs of Lottery Funds. We fully expect that the Legislature would provide this funding if M97 passes.

Ballot Measure 100: Neutral – This measure supports prohibiting the sale of products and parts of 12 types of endangered animals in Oregon: rhino, cheetah, tiger, sea turtle, lion, elephant, whale, shark, pangolin, jaguar, ray, and leopard. We have an LWVUS position on ecosystem protections and this measure would probably not cost Oregon (except ODFW is responsible for enforcing). However, we have no strong positions on this issue.



LWV and ASOSU Observe National Voter Registration Day

On September 27th hundreds of groups across the country participated in the fourth annual National Voter Registration Day. The LWV of Corvallis and ASOSU partnered to register OSU students from 10 AM – 4 PM in the quad in front of The Valley Library. They wore colorful (orange, of course) t-shirts provided by ASOSU for all volunteers with the logo "Vote OR Vote."

The date was set for the fourth Tuesday of September by resolution of the National Association of Secretaries because millions of Americans forgot to register or missed their state's voter registration deadline. – *Cathy Frischmann, Voter Service Chair*



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

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Corvallis, OR 97339-1679
541-753-6036 - www.lwv.corvallis.or.us

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Get Ready to Vote!
Look Inside for Voter Forums & Voting Info

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[LWVCorvallis](#)



LWV Calendar

October

Fruit Fundraiser begins

- Tue 18** Last day to register to vote
Board Meeting, 12:30-2:30 PM
- Wed 19** Ballots mailed to voters
- 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 8** Election Day – Deposit ballots by 8 PM
- Tue 15** Board Meeting, 12:30-2:30 PM
- Wed 16** *General Meeting:* Housing 7 PM, Library
Fruit Fundraiser ends

December

- Tue 13** *General Meeting:* Election Laws 7 PM, Library
- Thu 15** *Consensus Meetings:* Election Laws Noon, 7 PM
- Tue 20** Board Meeting, 12:30-2:30 PM

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.