



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County

www.LWV.corvallis.or.us

November 2018

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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.



COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY: Should Oregon Communities Have a Choice?

Thursday, November 15th, 7 pm

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, 645 NW Monroe

Speakers:

Alan Hickenbottom, *Oregon Project Manager LEAN Energy US*

Janice Thompson, *Advocacy Director, Oregon Citizens' Utility Board*

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), also known as Community Choice Energy, is an alternative to investor-owned utility energy supply systems such as Pacific Power. When a community participates in the CCA model, the utility continues to deliver power, maintain the grid, and provide billing and other customer services. But costs are lower for consumers and consumers have greater control of their energy sources, generally more sustainable options such as solar.

- Community Choice Energy operates in eight states so far – California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Virginia. What has their experience been?
- What are the benefits and challenges of becoming a CCA community?
- Is Oregon ready for Community Choice Energy?

Our November program will explore these questions with the help of our presenters:

Alan Hickenbottom represents LEAN Energy US, a California-based non-profit that provides information resources and market expertise to a national network of local governments, commercial and non-profit organizations, advocacy groups and individuals wishing to pursue CCA in their states and/or communities.

Janice Thompson is on the staff of the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board, which was created in 1984 by ballot initiative to advocate on behalf of and to protect the rights of the residential and small business customers of investor-owned utilities in Oregon.

Please join us for this informative and timely program.

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



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2018

We have voted (and if you have not voted yet you still have until November 6th) – but what did we say? David Bernell, Brent Steele and Christopher Stout will return and tell us whether their predictions were "right on" or not and what messages the voters sent to our elected bodies - local, state, Congress and the President.



President's Corner – Laura Lahm Evenson

By the time this bulletin is in your hands Election Day may have already come and gone. Our Voter Service committee, headed by Camille Freitag, deserves our appreciation for a job well done!

The work to put on three different programs in the month of October started during the summer, when dates were reserved at the library.

When the candidates filed they were all contacted by the committee.

Once the candidates agreed to attend, questions were developed that would reveal where they stood on issues. Ballot measures were studied. Moderators were secured. Co-sponsors were attained: We appreciate the Benton County Republican Women and the Democrats of Benton County, who partnered with the League. The state League's Voters' Guides were ordered and a cast of volunteers helped deliver them throughout the county.

Having attended all three programs, I can assure you that they were well attended and represented the League well, for being non-partisan and fair. Thank you to our moderators Ann Brodie, Paula Krane, Jean Nelson, and Ann Smart. We are also grateful for the help provided by O.S.U. student volunteers. Voter Service is one of our most important missions. We provide clear, informed, non-partisan information to educate the electorate. If you are impressed with the quality and breadth of what our Voter Service committee does, join them!



Candidates for Mayor of Corvallis

Thanks also are due to our speakers' board: Paula Krane, Mary Anne Nusrala, and Jo Anne Trow. They did a great job presenting the ballot measures. We appreciate the time and study it takes to understand the measures and to present them fairly.

Every event at the Library has a team working behind the scenes. They get there early and stay to clean up and lock up. They quietly and efficiently help our programs succeed. Thank you - Connie Bozarth, Joan Canan, and Jessica McDonald!

Our committees continue to work actively on local, state and national issues. A study group has met to analyze the proposed South Corvallis Urban Renewal District. Using the special taxing districts criteria that we approved last year they came to a position of support for the district. The LWV gave testimony at the City Council meeting stating this support.

It would be a wonderful thing if every League member were an active member of a committee. Try one out!



Fruit Sale Orders due by November 15th

The early returns have been great! Thank you to those who have already ordered fruit. If you still plan to order or are looking for a gift idea, the deadline to order fruit is Thursday, November 15.

If you have friends or neighbors who might be interested, ask them, or give Louise Marquering their contact information: lvvclouise@aol.com or 541-753-0012.

Still Needed! LWV of Corvallis Newsletter Editor

If you enjoy working with words *and* people and dote on detail, contact Laura Lahm Evenson, 541-753-6036, evensonlahm@aol.com, or Cathy Frischmann, 208-406-4559, cathyberry13@hotmail.com.

LWV of Corvallis

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

Contact Cathy Frischmann, cathyberry13@hotmail.com, with suggestions, comments, submissions, 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. A membership form is on the last page.



Thank You, Donors!

The Corvallis League depends heavily on contributions to meet our budget. We are very grateful to our generous donors. Contributions can be made directly to LWVC (non-deductible) or to League of Women Voters Education Fund (deductible) or to the League of Women Voters of Oregon (deductible) when those checks are sent in by our League and credited to our per member payments (national or state dues).

We would like to thank and recognize those who have donated since April 1 – October 1, 2018:

LWV Corvallis

Mike Beilstein
 Dave and Corinne Gobeli
 Paula and Ken Krane
 Annette Mills and David Eckert
 Marfa E Levine
 Linda Modrell
 Suzanne Ortiz
 Barbara Regan
 Bob Stebbins

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 Paula and Ken Krane
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 Ann Smart
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Lois Marie Zaerr

LWV Education Fund

Joan Canan
 Dave and Corinne Gobeli
 Paula and Ken Krane
 Chris and Catherine Mathews
 Shelly Murphy
 Ann Smart
 Tom and Mariol Wogaman

If you would like to help us meet our budget for 2018-19, please send checks to us at: PO Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339. If your name should have appeared on this list and does not, I apologize. *- Sara Ingle, LWVC Treasurer*



Housing Committee Report

The Housing Committee is very active in its role as advocate for affordable housing. For us the term “affordable housing” covers the range from sheltering our homeless population to providing affordable work force housing to supporting senior housing. Each time a person or family who works in Corvallis makes the financial decision to buy or rent a home outside of the city, our community loses. We lose property dollars, support for our local businesses, loss of school support dollars, and as important but perhaps less tangible, we lose community engagement and diversity. What we gain is increased traffic and increased pollution. Affordable housing benefits us all. This month, Housing Committee member Sara Ingle testified before City Council in support of the South Corvallis Urban

Renewal Plan. Our committee sent the Corvallis Gazette Times a letter in support of measure 102 which “Removes restrictions that affordable housing funded by municipal bonds be government owned.”

Committee member Lynn Jarvis has agreed to be the Housing Committee’s representative to the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition’s - Opportunity Village project.

All of our committee rues the loss of Judy Ball who has moved to West Virginia to return to her roots. The committee is seeking new members. If our work interests you, please consider attending a meeting or two.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month 2:00-3:30 at Benton Habitat for Humanity. *– Karyle Butcher, Chair*



It Takes A Community to Raise A Village

Thursday,
November 1, 7 pm

First Presbyterian Church (Dennis Hall), 114 SW 8th.

Presentation by Dan Bryant of SquareOne Villages, Eugene. Learn how tiny house villages are being used in Eugene to address transitional and affordable housing needs, and how a similar model could be applied in Corvallis. Be part of this important conversation!

Sponsor: Corvallis Sustainability Coalition Housing Action Team Contact: info@sustainablecorvallis.org, or 541-230-1237.



Climate Change Report

1) Our Children's Trust 'Juliana v United States' was scheduled to start in Federal Court (Eugene,

Oregon District) Monday, October 29.

On Oct 19, Supreme Court Chief Justice Roberts approved what some folks consider a temporary stay. Plaintiffs said they are prepared to go to trial as scheduled.

It may be delayed or the historical case could be dismissed. LWVUS and LWVOR jointly have two amicus briefs and LWV is clearly a "friend of the court." Let me know if you would like to carpool to Eugene if the case is rescheduled for after the elections. An event/rally was planned for Monday, October 29 in Eugene with a number of League members there with the LWV Oregon Climate Change banner.

2) LWVOR Climate Change October 8th Update. Clean Energy Jobs (Cap and Invest) Legislation & Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction. League Action members Julie Chapman and Claudia Keith attended Renew Oregon's Clean Energy Jobs (CEJ) mini lobby day in the Capital on Sept 25th. We visited six Legislator leaders and provided each a written follow-up. We also attended the Legislative Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction public hearing. This meeting had a number of invited guests, including a person who works at the Heritage Foundation. LWVOR has joined over 40 organizations and endorsed the 9/25 Clean Energy Jobs coalition's policy outcomes statement.

A first hint of Climate Change risks was at the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis (OEA) committee slide presentation in late August to House and Senate

Revenue/Finance Committees. The detailed OEA report included the following: "...there is a reasonable expectation that migration flows will continue to be strong as the rest of the country becomes less habitable over time."

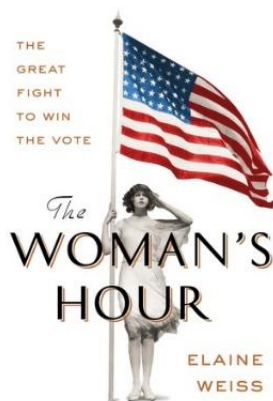
In 2019 there may be legislation addressing:

- Sustainable investing - Oregon Treasurer, Tobias Read, thru his leadership, SEC urged by institutions to mandate ESG disclosure via *Recent Oregon Sustainable Summit*. *You can learn more about how Oregon Treasury takes action as a responsible investor in the Treasurer's annual Stewardship Report;*
- Governor Kate Brown's intent to challenge any federal rollback of air, water and other safety standards;
- Oil rail safety, fracking and improved energy efficient building codes to complement the recent Governors executive order which charts course for net zero buildings; and
- **Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program** movements. A number of Oregon cities are currently reviewing this program to improve their Climate Action Plan outcomes.

3) LWVUS will send six members to UN COP24 (Conference of the Parties to the *United Nations* Framework Convention on Climate Change) as observers in Katowice, Poland in early December 2018. This COP will address the most recent UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 1.5 degrees C. Science updates - more information at unfccc.int/news/ipcc-begins-discussion-on-global-warming-of-15degc

4) Join or visit our Climate Change (CC) Committee meeting on the first Friday of the month at noon. Contact: Claudia Keith at ca.keith@comcast.net.

– Claudia Keith, Climate Change Committee Chair



A good read in preparation for LWV 100th anniversary

The LWVUS 2018 Convention keynote speaker was Elaine Weiss, author of *The Women's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*. The book is told through the eyes of those who supported and opposed women's right to vote and prominently features LWV founder, Carrie Chapman Catt. "Nashville, August 1920. Thirty-five states have ratified the Nineteenth Amendment, twelve have rejected or refused to vote, and one last state is needed. It all comes down to Tennessee, the moment of truth for the suffragists, after a seven-decade crusade. The opposing forces include politicians with careers at stake, liquor companies, railroad magnates, and a lot of racists who don't want black women voting. And then there are the "Antis"--women who oppose their own enfranchisement, fearing suffrage will bring about the moral collapse of the nation."



COMMUNITY PLANNING Did you know that you can keep abreast of all City of Corvallis activities by email? To subscribe, go to www.corvallisoregon.gov/subscribe and check the notices you wish to receive.

– Shelly Murphy, Chair

The League, after studying an issue, does give testimony. Below we share with you the testimony given on the South Corvallis Urban Renewal Draft Plan and Report on October 15, 2018:

To: Mayor Traber and Members of the Corvallis City Council
 From: League of Women Voters of Corvallis, Laura Lahm Evenson, President
 Re: South Corvallis Urban Renewal Draft Plan and Report

The LWV of Corvallis believes in comprehensive, citizen-based land use planning that maintains and enhances community livability and protects resource lands by:

- preventing urban sprawl
- concentrating development within urban areas
- efficient use of land as a resource
- integrating multi-modal transportation planning and implementation
- providing a variety, range and mix of housing
- allowing a range of land uses
- developing high equality public areas and open space
- delivery of high quality public services in an orderly and economic manner
- assuring citizen participation

Based on this position and, after studying the South Corvallis Urban Renewal Draft Plan with Accompanying Report, we would like to state our support for this Urban Renewal project and the draft plan as presented.

While we did not confirm all the financial assumptions and computations, we feel that it is a well thought out and comprehensive plan. We believe it will accomplish many of the goals of the South Corvallis Area Refinement Plan adopted in 1997. We are encouraged that the taxing districts affected appear to be supportive of the plan and that the community has been actively engaged.

We are hopeful that some of the High Density Housing needs required by the State will be placed within this URD.

The ability to create affordable housing opportunities, promote residential and commercial development projects, create transportation and pedestrian improvements, restore the Millrace, and adequately fund the administration of the Plan, lead us to believe this will be a successful project which will enhance South Corvallis.



Join LWV members from across the state for **Legislative Process Day**

Friday, November 16, 9:30 am – 2 pm, Oregon State Library, 250 Winter Street NE, Salem

Hear legislators, lobbyists, and LWVOR Action Team members. Get a preview of likely legislation in 2019 – health care, education, gun safety, energy and jobs – and learn techniques for effective grassroots action. *Speakers:* Senator Kathleen Taylor, Representative Andrea Salinas – on health care, and lobbyist Dale Penn. Registration with lunch \$30, workshop only \$20. Register at LWVOR.org



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

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Community Choice Energy

Thursday, November 15, 7 PM
Library Meeting Room



Join us on Facebook
LWVCorvallis



LWV Calendar

November

- Fri 2 Climate Change Committee, Noon
- Tue 6 *Election Day*
Board Meeting, 11-12:30
- Thur 8 Housing Committee, 2 pm, Habitat
- Thur 15 *General Meeting: Community Choice Energy,*
7 pm, Library
Grapefruit Sale Ends
- Fri 16 LWVOR Legislative Process Day, Salem
- Thur 22 Housing Committee, 2 pm, Habitat

December

Grapefruit/Orange Delivery

- Tue 4 Board Meeting
- Fri 7 Climate Change Committee, Noon
- Wed 12 *General Meeting: Post-Election Analysis,* 7 pm,
Library

January

- Tue 2 Board Meeting 11-12:30
- Tue 15 *Program Planning, Soup Supper* Unitarian
Fellowship, 6 pm

Join the League of Women Voters

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip+4digits _____

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.