



# League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County

[www.LWV.corvallis.or.us](http://www.LWV.corvallis.or.us)

September 2019

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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.

## First Fall Meeting

# Engaging the Next Generation in the Political Process: Find your voice. Raise your voice.

Wednesday, September 25, 7:00 pm  
Corvallis-Benton County Public Library  
645 NW Monroe Avenue, Corvallis



Join us for a conversation about igniting the next generation of political advocates, and hear about the journey of Candalynn Johnson, a first generation college graduate from Sweet Home who has embraced her role in leadership and civic engagement. At Oregon State University Candalynn became a lobbyist for the student body, advocating for voter registration and education. In her current role as Campaign Coordinator with the LWV of Oregon, she is leading a statewide redistricting campaign to fix the way Oregon determines who votes for whom in legislative and congressional elections, with a goal of getting the issue on the 2020 ballot.

Our democracy needs us more than ever. The League of Women Voters has an important opportunity to rise together to address the need to protect the right to vote, to protect our environment, to address money in politics, and to change the tone from fractured to engaged civil discourse based on facts. It is important to invite and encourage a new generation of leadership for our democracy.

The issues that our communities face cut across the generations: the passion for informed decisions and nonpartisan education is not exclusive to one generation or one issue. Young and established members alike understand that we all share a responsibility to get involved and make our democracy work. We begin our exploration of how best to invite the next generation to join in with the Corvallis League of Women Voters.

SAVE THE DATE  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
**100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Salem Oregon

## President's Corner



### Meet Jessica McDonald, Our New League President

*Ann Schauber interviewed Jessica for her first newsletter as President. Pictured left is Laura handing the gavel and notebook to Jessica.*

**When did you join the League?** When I first arrived back to Corvallis in 2009, the very first group of people that reached out to me were members of the LWV. I met a group of members at New Morning Bakery to talk about the League and ways I might get involved. I was struck by how welcoming and energized the group was, and although it would take me a few more years to step into a more active role, that first meeting still sits with me.

I was a member of the League of Women Voters in New Mexico before moving to Corvallis, and then I believe that I joined in Corvallis in 2015. I jumped headfirst into the Housing Committee, admiring the very real headway that they were making on affordable housing. From there, I have served on the events committee, nominations committee, and an ad-hoc funds committee. The Corvallis chapter stands out as a prominent and strong League. We have led in local positions, studies, and individual leadership at the local and state level. The League is one of the most respected institutions in Corvallis, which is no small feat given how civic-minded our town is!

**How long have you lived in Corvallis?** As someone who grew up in the Willamette Valley, my sense of place and home is deep here. My parents still live on the property that I was raised on in the Mohawk Valley outside of Springfield, and I have siblings, cousins, aunts and uncles within an hour of Corvallis.

**What motivated you to become League President?** As I reflected back on the succession of leadership in the League and the incredible successes that have arisen out of its advocacy and education platforms, I recognized that the League's success was dependent on its members stepping up to the plate to lead at different times. When I was asked to be President, I thought hard about what my role in leadership would mean at this time. What could I bring to the table? I believe that we need to say 'yes' more often. Each of us is accountable to shaping the future of our community, state, and nation. And each of us is called upon, in many ways, to step up and share in the load of leadership at different times – this is just my time to step up.

**What is your BIG dream for League this year?** Dream big, and make it happen – this is a personal motto. I want 2020 to be the year that we not only celebrate the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote, but we also forecast to the next 100 years, mapping out a united path forward. What do I want the League to accomplish? I want to ensure that the voices of future generations have a place at the table. I want to actively recruit leadership from people of color within the League. I want to see our respected reputation for thorough and objective analyses continue, while also finding ways to adapt and flex our processes to a changing world. And, more than ever, in this volatile world we live in, I hold tight to the League's vision of 'a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.'

### LWV of Corvallis

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### LWV of Oregon

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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 Ann Schauber, [ann@caracolors.com](mailto:ann@caracolors.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.

## Community Planning



### City Urbanization Issues Top Priority for Community Planning

Our current position is to “Support urbanization policies which foster complete, healthy and diverse communities where people can live, work, shop and play.” The Corvallis League adopted this position in 1970. Community Planning Committee activities are centered on this ideal.

The Committee’s current work plan includes:

- Organization of a second Know Your City Series scheduled for January.
- Collaboration with the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition’s Land Use Action Team to facilitate a community conversation on parking as suggested by the Corvallis Community Development Director.
- Providing input into proposed changes to the Corvallis Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code (currently annexations, green space definition, multi-use zoning).
- Monitoring land development proposals.
- Review and Update of our Community Planning Position. Get Member Agreement for any proposed changes.

Our passionate committee meets at least once a month on a day and time convenient for committee participants. If you wish to get meeting notices, please email [shellym@peak.org](mailto:shellym@peak.org). New people with new ideas are always welcome.

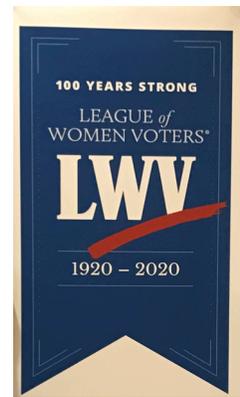
*Shelly Murphy, Chair*



### Help Us Sell More Fruit This Year

*Send names of possible fruit buyers to Louise*

Imagine fresh squeezed orange juice! We are adding juice oranges to our fruit sale fundraiser, which begins at the end of September. For now, think of neighbors, colleagues or friends who might be interested in purchasing oranges or grapefruit and send their name and address to Louise Marquering at [LWVCLouise@aol.com](mailto:LWVCLouise@aol.com). She will take care of inviting them to participate in the sale.



### Celebrating 100 Years! A Look Back!

*This year we will celebrate the National League of Women Voters 100th birthday. In celebration, we will take a look at our greatest national accomplishments, one decade at a time. We begin with our founding decade.*

#### 1920’s

Carrie Chapman Catt founded the League of Women Voters in 1920 during the Chicago convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, just six months before the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified. This amendment gave women the right to vote after a 72-year struggle.

As the first elected president of the League, Maud Wood Park led the League to influence policy and specifically advocate support for the Cable Act for Independent Citizenship of married women that became law in 1922. Within four years of its creation, the League spread throughout the nation with 346 National Leagues organized out of 433 congressional districts. During that time, the League also sponsored their first “Get Out the Vote” campaign.

*Source: lww.org*

## Housing Committee

### Addressing Housing Stock Issues From Many Angles



Affordable housing is one of the most complex and challenging issues facing our community. The housing committee is working on a several-pronged approach to solve this problem. Low-to-middle income housing, and caring for homeless need input from developers, the business community, the healthcare community, and our police. We attempt to hear from a representative of one of those areas monthly. The committee has explored what data is available that discusses how downtown businesses in other communities have worked with their local business community. After some preliminary research, we concluded that many of the tools mentioned in our research are currently available to our community already. Several of our committee members participated in a meeting arranged by Sara Ingle, amongst others, to determine what other organizations are doing to enhance and increase affordable housing in Corvallis.

To address issues around enhancing housing stock we are working to increase involvement in the issues of land use and housing by the greater community. Our member, Penny York, who is also a Planning Commission member, encourages the community to become involved in policy planning, instead of only engaging as individual developments come to the fore.

Member Karen Rockwell is also the vice-chair of the Corvallis Housing and Community Development Advisory Board. She and Penny York are working together to determine how we might work together with the Community Involvement and Diversity Advisory Board (CIDAB), as was suggested to us by Tracy Oulman, the Corvallis Housing and Neighborhood Coordinator.

Member Lynn Jarvis is our liaison with Opportunity Village, a transitional housing project, and assures us this is moving forward as planned. She has also taken the lead in drafting our position statement. We hope to bring together the various organizations and interest areas to facilitate discussion and information sharing

With our hard working members we are hoping to smooth the path to solve our housing crisis. Please come join us, every 2nd and 4th Thursday at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore on Philomath Blvd. We meet from 2-3:30p. Please contact our chair, Karyle Butcher for further information.

*Shelly Ries, Housing Committee*



## Criminal Justice Committee

### Public Discussion Begins on Options for Replacing Courthouse and Jail

#### Committee Seeks New Members

There is discussion in the community about the options to replace the county courthouse and jail. Benton County initiated a Criminal Justice Assessment of the local criminal justice system including the local police and sheriff, district attorney, courts, and jail facility usage. The Commissioners hired a consulting firm for an analysis of the current system and a facilitator for public meetings and project management. The consultants' report on the current system is online <https://www.co.benton.or.us/criminaljustice>. Three options were presented to the committee, which are also online. No decision has been reached, but community discussions will continue. A local league member participated in the steering committee discussions and has invited the Benton County team to present the options at our League's general meeting in April.

The LWV Corvallis Criminal Justice Committee is following this issue and would like to have more participants. There are only 2 members on this committee now. We invite others to join us in reading the reports and discussing the options. Please contact either of us to get involved: Karen at [niblerk@comcast.net](mailto:niblerk@comcast.net) and MaryAnn at [nusrala@peak.org](mailto:nusrala@peak.org).

*Karen Nibler and Mary Anne Nusrala, Criminal Justice Committee*

## Climate Change

### Climate Resolution and Support for Global Climate Strike to City Council

In mid-June, our president Jessica McDonald sent a letter urging the Corvallis City Council and Benton County Commissioners to adopt 'Climate Emergency Declarations' and to take urgent relevant action. LWVOR had approved this declaration. In August, five local league members attended the City of Corvallis Climate Advisory Action Board (CAAB) meeting and proposed that CAAB support and then recommend to the city council the climate emergency resolution declaration be implemented. Also, during that meeting the League announced our decision to support the Sept 20-27 Global Climate Strike plans in the Corvallis area. This global climate strike, initiated by young people is a week of actions to demand an end to the age of fossil fuels and to create climate justice for everyone. Learn more at <https://globalclimatestrike.net/>

*Claudia Keith, Chair*

### Juliana vs U.S. Update

Since 2015 the federal executive branch of government has used extraordinary legal challenges to attempt to silence the climate case filed by 21 youth plaintiffs in *Juliana v. United States*, represented by [Our Children's Trust](#), based in Eugene, Oregon.

The youth assert that the U.S. government, through its affirmative actions in creating a national energy system that causes climate change, has violated the youngest generation's constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property, as well as failed to protect essential public trust resources. The youth are seeking a current science-based national [climate recovery plan](#) to [stabilize the climate system](#) including clean energy solutions without monetary compensation to them.

In 2016 in joint standing, the LWVUS and LWVOR submitted to the U.S. District Court an [amicus brief](#), ("friend of the court"), thus becoming the first national organization to do so. It uniquely recognized that judicial involvement is necessary to safeguard the fundamental rights of underrepresented individuals when the other branches have failed them. In late 2017 in the *Juliana v United States* ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Aiken introduced the '[The Right to a Stable Climate' as a Constitutional Question](#).

In the coming weeks or months, [the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals will decide whether the 21](#) plaintiffs will go to trial. While the plaintiffs wait for a decision from the court, Our Children's Trust is rolling out [#Congress4Juliana Campaign](#) asking supporters to call on their representatives in Congress to publicly endorse the Juliana claims against the government, and the constitutional right to a stable climate system.

Additionally, five state Leagues have amici standing in *youthvGov* state lawsuits, more info at [LWVUS Toolkit For Climate Action](#).

*Cathy Frischman and Claudia Keith, Climate Committee*

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**When you pay your annual dues, consider donating to the State or National League  
*and help our local League budget at the same time***

It is time to pay your annual dues! You can use the form on the back page and send in your dues. If you are considering making a tax-deductible donation to the LWVUS Education Fund or to the LWVOR, you can help out our local league by sending your donation to our treasurer, Sara Ingle. When she then mails your donation in to the state or national league, our league will be credited and will reduce the amount of dues we owe (called the per member payment). This helps our budget! So make out your checks to LWVUS Education fund or LWVOR and send them to Sara!



# League of Women Voters of Corvallis

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for democracy!



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## LWV Calendar

### September 2019

- Wed 2 Board Meeting, 5:00-6:30 pm
- Wed 25 General Meeting: Engaging the Next Generation in the Political Process, (pg 1) 7:00 pm, Library

### October 2019

- Wed 7 Board Meeting 5:00-6:30 pm
- Tue 22 General Meeting: Parking, 7 pm, Library
- Wed 16 General Meeting: 911 Levy, 7 pm, Library

## Join the League of Women Voters

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zip+4digits \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$60 Individual Membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$90 Household

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 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.