

# LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CORVALLIS

*Monthly Newsletter*

## SAVE THE DATE

**8/26** - Meet-and-Greet  
Membership Picnic (p. 3)

**9/20** - LWV Corvallis  
General Meeting

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Welcome to the first 2022-2023 newsletter of the LWV of Corvallis. As the new president of the local league, I am very grateful that Jessica McDonald was at the helm over the past several years. Jessica persevered through the difficulties of COVID times; our programs, committee meetings and testimony continued with few difficulties as Jessica led us through the new way of engaging via ZOOM! Besides her local league involvement, Jessica has been involved at the national level by serving on the LWV National Transformation Task Force. Check out the website for more information on this important work. As Jessica steps down from the presidency, she will continue to use her experience and skills as the chair of the Voter Services committee. This committee is key to the mission of the LWV: Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy. Thank you, Jessica.

We will be holding a meet and greet membership picnic, an opportunity to meet new members and renew acquaintances August 26, starting at 6pm at the Rotary Shelter in Willamette Park. Due to COVID, it will be a 'bring your own picnic' affair to allow for social distancing. Blankets and lawn chairs would enable us to spread out. The park has a lovely new shelter, a children's playground, the river adjacent and even a frisbee golf course on the site. Bring your family! This will be a good chance to meet other league members who have similar interest areas. We have several standing committees (always looking for new participants) but there is plenty of room for more.

Our first general meeting will be September 20, 7pm at the Corvallis-Benton County Library. At this time, we are hoping that hybrid meetings will be possible. The topic is yet to be determined but is likely to be related to the recent SCOTUS decisions. Details will be provided in the September newsletter.

Hoping to see you at the picnic!

Connie Bozarth, President

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## CITY OF CORVALLIS CONSIDERS HOME ENERGY SCORE PROGRAM

by Katherine Bremser, Chair Community Planning Committee

The Corvallis City Council is currently considering implementing a Home Energy Scoring Program. Under the proposed ordinance, sellers would be required to have a Home Energy Score when they publicly list a home for sale.

Home Energy Scores help homeowners and homebuyers better understand a home's energy use. A certified professional will look for air leaks, check insulation levels, inspect windows and doors, make sure heating and cooling systems are well-maintained, check lighting, and more and then issue a score and report. The report includes recommendations to improve the home's energy efficiency. [View an example Home Energy Score here.](#) The seller is not required to make improvements; but may choose to do so to improve the home's salability.

For potential homebuyers, the score gives them an idea of the home's energy costs – helping them know if they can afford to live in the home. According to the Oregon Department of Energy's 2018 Biennial Energy Report, 30-39% of Benton County households are considered energy burdened and earning 200% or below federal poverty level.

The 2016 Corvallis Climate Action Plan suggests home performance ratings as a way to reduce community greenhouse emissions. From 2017 to 2021, the Energy Action Team, Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, developed a proposal which they shared with the city's Climate Action Policy Advisory Board (CAAB). The Board recommended that the City Council adopt a program modelled after Hillsboro's program. The EAT, CAAB and city staff have worked with Earth Advantage, The Rocky Mountain Institute, the US and Oregon Departments of Energy, policy experts, and Portland, Milwaukie, and Hillsboro, which have programs.

### RESOURCES

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[Corvallis Home Energy Score Website: Corvallis Home Energy Score Proposed Ordinance | Corvallis Oregon](#)

[Oregon Home Energy Scoring, Oregon Department of Energy: State of Oregon: Save Energy - Oregon Home Energy Scoring](#)

[Home Energy Score Program, Hillsboro: Home Energy Score Program | City of Hillsboro, Oregon](#)



**YOU'RE INVITED!**

6 PM FRIDAY, AUGUST 26  
WILLAMETTE PARK ROTARY SHELTER

Join your fellow league members by bringing a picnic to the Rotary Shelter at Willamette Park. This is an opportunity to connect or re-connect with your fellow leaguers. Please bring your own picnic along with lawn chairs or blankets so we can spread out. Families are more than welcome!

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