



November 2025

Argus

League of Women Voters of Lane County Newsletter

THE LEAGUE KNOWS HOW TO “DO SOMETHING”



Photo by Patty Sandoz

No Kings demonstrations in Eugene (above), Oakridge (below), and more.



Photo by Jill Silvey



Photo by Charlie Kaylor

League Speaker Series with Eugene Mayor Kaarin Knudson and President Terry Parker



Lane County's Emergency Manager, Tiffany Brown, spoke on the complications of the work.

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LWV of Lane County Board and Off Board Roster 2025-26

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morganv@lwwlc.org

NOVEMBER TOPIC - COMBATTING MISINFORMATION/DISINFORMATION IN THE DIGITAL AGE BY MARJ MAXWELL, UNITS DIRECTOR

- December's unit topic: *Evolving Role of Artificial Intelligence in Democracy*
- Units meet, October – April in the 2nd week of the month for up to two hours.
- All are welcome to attend any meeting(s). It helps with planning if you notify the leader in advance.

Monday, 2pm, November 10 (in person)

Anne Best's home, 3433 Olive St., Eugene,
541-521-9136, anieb49@gmail.com

Discussion Leader: Nancy Mills,
210-685-8253, nmills@trinity.edu

Tuesday, 10am, November 11 (in person)

Coburg Road The Springs at Greer
Gardens, 1282 Goodpasture Island Rd.,
Eugene

Discussion Leader: Linda Ferdowsian,
541-579-1866, lferdowsian@yahoo.com

Wednesday, 5:30pm, November 12

(zoom only) **New, evening meeting**

Discussion Leader: Terry Parker,
541-344- 5924, president@lwwlc.org

Zoom Operator: Rhonda Livesay
541-228-4373, technologydir@lwwlc.org

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86277149626>

Thursday 11am, November 13 (in per-

son and Zoom) **New time, new week**

Middlefield Oaks, 1500 Village Dr.,
Cottage Grove

Discussion Leader: Anna Strickland 509-
733-6034, Ledal@middlefieldoaks.com

Zoom operator: Linda Ferdowsian

Request zoom link: office @lwwlc.org

Thursday 2pm, November 13 (in person)

New!

Harlow Neighborhood, Barbara French's
home, 394 Cherry Dr. Eugene

Discussion Leader: Barbara French,
541-510-7919, babsfr44@gmail.com

Friday, 10am, November 14 (in person)

First United Methodist Church,
1376 Olive St., Eugene

Discussion Leader, Diana Grandberry,
541-342-8402, 76music79@comcast.net

Friday, 1pm, November 14 (in person)

Cascade Manor, 65 W 30th Ave, Eugene,
in the Solarium

Discussion Leader: Merle Bottge,
541-434-4191

Alternate Discussion Leader:

Carol Hildebrand, 541-434-4254,
carodane1943@gmail.com

Briefing for Unit leaders or alternates

November 4, 2pm, League office

175 W. B Street, Ste E-2, Springfield

Zoom link: office@lwwlc.org

Contact Marj Maxwell at

marjmaxwell@gmail.com if you plan to
attend briefing or have questions.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

BY SHARON AMASHA AND LORI BARKER, CO-CHAIRS

"A society grounded in fiction rather than reality cannot function. Heather Cox Richardson, an American history professor at Boston College,

Misinformation and disinformation erode trust, undermine public health, disrupt democratic processes, and can lead to physical harm and violence. False claims increase polarization and deter informed civic participation. Attacking scientific inquiry and evidence waylays effective responses to illness and disease, the ongoing climate disaster, and environmental challenges. False narratives and am-

plified mistrust distort learning materials and teaching methods, misrepresent history and culture, and skew our understanding of ourselves and the world we inhabit. November's units will discuss the study, **Combating Misinformation/Disinformation in the Digital Age**. The paper describes its pervasive impact and how to effectively counter it. The study team included Sharon Amasha, Susan Ban, Karen Bankston, Lori Barker, Keli Osborn, Ann Reasoner, Susan Tavakolian, and Morgan Vierheller.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS BY RUTH SEEGER, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Motto of the Month

Courage is more exhilarating than fear and in the long run it is easier. We do not have to become heroes overnight. Just a step at a time, meeting each thing that comes up, seeing it is not as dreadful as it appeared, discovering we have the strength to stare it down. (Eleanor Roosevelt)

Welcome Our Newest Members **Judith Abel, Pamela Cary, Doherty Gilchrist, Glenda Jeter, Ann Miller, Anne O'Brien, Angela Pomerleau, Eva Promin, Nance Reynolds, Heidi Sandeen, Diane Schechter, Bruce Tinker, and Kristina Yates.**

Thank you all for stepping up to help carry the League's work forward.

"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it." (Halford E. Luccock)

Increase Your Impact

For New Members, Guests, and Everyone

Twenty new members and guests turned out for **Increase Your Impact** on October 21. This is a "speed dating" workshop which provides an overview of our local League with lots of opportunities to engage in our ongoing work. Look for the next one in

early spring as we prepare for the workload coming in 2026. All are welcome.

League Speaker Series Kickoff

Many thanks to the 106 members and guests who joined us on September 30 for the kickoff to our League Speaker Series with Mayor Knudson. It was an educational and empowering event. Thank you, Mayor Knudson! Just a reminder, League Speaker Series will not be held in November or December.



Look for our next speaker event on January 27, 2026. Mark it on your calendars now; we promise you will want to be there.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday November 11, 2-3:30pm
at the League office. All are welcome.
For the Zoom link, contact membership@lwvlc.org

LANE LEAGUE ON WATCH ADVOCACY 2025

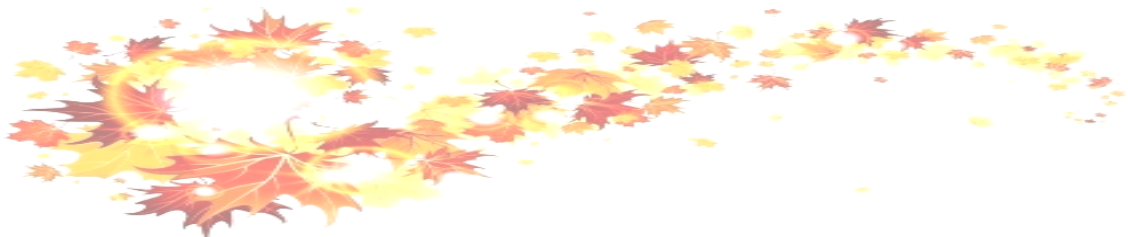
Thursday, November 20 - 5:30 to 7pm
South Sister Room
The Springs at Greer Gardens
1282 Goodpasture Island Road, Eugene

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - FRUIT & NUT SALE

BY LAURA ENGLAND FLANIGAN, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

We are thrilled to offer our 2025 Annual Fruit & Nut Sale/Fundraiser for our League and FOOD for Lane County at 2024 prices!

You should have received your order form in the mail, but if you have inadvertently recycled it, go to our <https://lwvlc.org/blog/fruit-and-nut-sale-2025/> website and order using your bankcard.



LEAGUE PARTNERS WITH COMMUNITY SUPPORTED SHELTERS

BY NANCY MILLS, VOTER SERVICE CHAIR

In 2024, the League was invited to meet with the staff of Community Supported Shelters (CSS) to design a process for the residents in the 13 Safe Spot communities which are run by CSS to register to vote and receive their ballots. These communities are the ones with Conestoga huts and are located from Northwest Eugene (Bertelsen) to Southeast Eugene (Hilyard and 34th). Ruth Seeger and Nancy Mills participated in the training for the staff so they could provide voter education to residents of each site.



With Ruth's involvement, Nancy and Peggy Dame again worked with Community Supported Shelters to provide voter registration information and voter education.

This time, however, Nancy and Peggy were able to meet with residents at their sites. We struc-

tured the meetings as conversations to give them the opportunity to learn about the issues of concern to them, and the exchanges were very informative, both for the residents and for us. It was a rare opportunity to see the facilities available at the sites and to become acquainted with the residents.

The relationship that the League has established with CSS is a very important one. The unhoused citizens are often marginalized and left feeling that they are not really a part of society. Voting is a practice that shows that your voice matters, whether you are housed or unhoused. This outreach to a population that is often ignored is a gift to the League, and we are exploring ways to extend voter education to this population and, potentially more broadly to unhoused citizens.



VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, November 13, 1:30pm at the League office
For Zoom link: nmills@trinity.edu

WHY IS DISCUSSION GROUP (AKA UNIT) PARTICIPATION IMPORTANT?

- Learn what is happening within the League and your communities through announcements and discussion. Fellow members who are attending the unit meeting are often involved in projects and work that sheds new light on what is happening within our communities. Be aware and in the know!
- Research materials, summarized by the Program Study Committee, offer a look at all sides of the issue. References allow you to follow up and dive deeper on issues. Members receive this material with the *Argus* newsletter.
- Influence League actions and policy. The League must have a policy, based in research, before it can speak out on an issue. This is one beginning step. The process of adopting a policy takes time as it moves through many steps.
- Prepare for fact-based informal discussions with friends, family, and your community. The League and, through extension, League members are respected because of their fact-based policies. (Members can speak for themselves as individuals. Only the League president or their approved representative can speak in an official capacity for the

League.)

- Support the League and fellow League members by participating in activities that are a result of their time, skill and a quest or learning. Lend your support through working on committee projects and participating in activities. Everyone in League of Women Voters of Lane County is a volunteer. Let them know you believe their time and effort is valued through your participation!
- Discussion Groups (Units) meet monthly. Each group discusses the same study topic of the month. Six different meeting times are offered each month to accommodate your schedule.
- Meetings last up to two hours. You can attend the same location each month, choose a different location each month or attend multiple locations each month. Times and locations are listed in the *Argus* newsletter. Guests are welcome to participate in respectful, fact-based discussion.

Marj Maxwell, Unit Chair

541-521-3051 text or call to leave a voicemail

THANKFUL AND CARRYING ON

BY TERRY PARKER, PRESIDENT

I am thankful for every new and returning member as you step up to be a part of something bigger than yourselves. Committing to "just doing something" to defend democracy, whatever that means to you, is to engage in the fight to support our democratic ideals and process. To you who have been active for over fifty years, we honor you. We owe you much. Not only did you lay the foundation of who we are, you continue to lead. Thank you for your good counsel and enduring dedication.

Election Heroes Day is Monday, November 3rd. Take a moment to thank those who work tirelessly to ensure elections are secure and fair.

Lane County Elections, a division of the County Clerk's office, is charged with voter registration and administration of federal, state, and local elections within Lane County. The Elections team is committed to conducting Fair, Accessible, Secure, Transparent, Equitable, and Reliable (F.A.S.T.E.R.) Elections. [Lane County Elections](#)

One year ago, the League of Women Voters of the United States President **Dianna Wynn** and CEO **Celina Stewart** released the following statement on the 2024 election results. It bears repeating:

We know how hard League members worked to empower voters in this election, alongside other activists in pro-democracy and civil rights spaces. The success of the democratic process is a testament to their tireless efforts. As LWV's CEO Celina Stewart, Esq., and I said in our [joint statement](#) on November 6, "We are thankful to Leagues across the country...as well as every election worker and democracy defender who guaranteed our fair and free voting process."

While we celebrate a fair and secure election, the outcome of this election has made the future for women unclear. Given the disturbing rhetoric made during this election season, we are deeply concerned about challenges we may face, particularly regarding the issues that disproportionately affect women, from health care and reproductive rights to economic security and equal representation.

The League does not endorse candidates, but we have always engaged in political advocacy. The election is now over, and those who were elected are no longer candidates. As a nonpartisan organization, the League has every right to call out statements, actions, and policies that are counter to our values and principles.

The League is an expert in nonpartisanship with over a century of experience in pro-democracy work. Navi-

gating through a hyper-partisan political environment in a nonpartisan manner can be confusing to some. Despite what political parties may have you believe, issues are not inherently partisan. Of course, political parties take partisan positions on issues. But that does not alter the League's nonpartisan approach.

Advocating for gender and racial equity is not partisan. Calling out attacks on democracy is not partisan. After all, our mission is to "defend democracy." We cannot live up to our mission if we are unwilling to speak up and speak out.

Game on! Now more than ever.

While the onslaught of news coming out of this administration can be "just too much," I encourage you to resist the temptation to shut down or tune out but, rather, focus and lean in on what you can do.

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The LWVLC's **Sunshine Reports** represent hours of volunteer time sitting in meetings, hearing the deliberations of our elected officials, and then summarizing so that you can be informed. Please share. Pass on these reports. Use them as a springboard for personal interactions with your elected officials. Really get to know who represents you. Call them to task if you disagree and remember to give a shout out or virtual high five when you agree.

In his September 20 column in **The Register-Guard** local government reporter **Alan Torres** asked the question, "From City Councils to town halls, what is it you want to know?" Here is someone else who spends a lot of time in meetings asking for your opinion. Let him know:

- Have you used the services provided by the library, Community Health Centers, or fire department? What was your experience?
- Additionally, these issues have the potential to raise taxes. How have your finances been impacted by the government?
- You can find my contact information below.

Torres can be reached by email at atorres@registerguard.com

And, as always, check in to see what is up by checking our website and calendar: lwwlc.org



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541-343-7917

For the latest information visit our website <http://lwvlc.org/>

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Long's Meat Market
McKenzie Honey Farm
Pepperberries Kitchen Store
Quality Cleaning
Shelton McMurphy Johnson
House Museum*

**CALENDAR
NOVEMBER**

1 - 10am to 2:30pm, Fall Workshop

for more information contact Marianne Germond voterservice@lwvor.org

4 - 2pm, Unit Briefing (pg. 2)

10 -14 - Unit Meetings Week (pg. 2)

11 - 2 to 3:30pm, Membership Committee meeting (pg. 3)

13 - 1:30pm, Voter Service Committee meeting (pg. 4)

18 - 1pm, Board meeting

20 - 5:30 to 7pm, Advocacy Watch (pg.3)

21 - Midnight, Argus deadline

**LWVLC Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
(except holidays)
11 am - 1:30 pm**

DONATE NOW

<http://lwvlc.org/get-involved/donate/>

MISSED A LEAGUE SPEAKER SERIES?

<https://lwvlc.org/audio-visual-recordings-archives/>