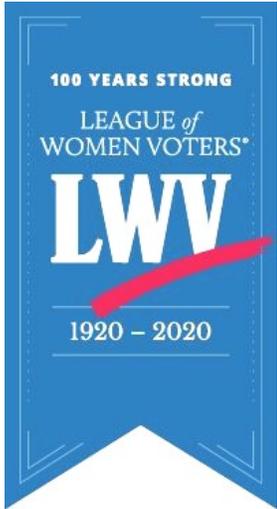




Argus

League of Women Voters of Lane County Newsletter

SEARCH FOR OUR HISTORY



Kathy Madison has undertaken the ambitious effort to create a timeline of our local League's history. She is doing this as part of the national League's 100th anniversary in February and the 100th anniversary of ratification of the 19th Amendment. As part of her work, she has asked us all - several times - to provide dates, deeds, events, feats of valor, and anything else she can point to as part of our history. Her goal, our goal, is to show our contributions and our necessity, both past and future.

During the course of Kathy's work, Janet Calvert and I kept asking if the details of a land use lawsuit the League had brought - in the mid-70s - was included. This led to phone calls, emails, amateurish legal research on my part, and increased determination to secure the details. I have not found every detail, but I have found the decision of the Oregon Court of Appeals in the case of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of Central Lane County, a Non-Profit Corporation, Oregon League of Women Voters, a Non-Profit Corporation, and Annabel Kitzhaber, Appellants, v. LANE COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION, an Oregon State Agency, Breeden Bros. Associates, Inc., an Oregon Corporation,

Garland D. Hunter, Jr., Kathy Moulton, James E. Gant, Roger Hannum, Robert L. Merz, H. Charles Milliman, Glen P. Porter, John Carlson, Fred Long, Commission Members; and Diane Nechak, Commission Staff Consultant, Respondents. (As a side note, Janet and I were certain Sue Boyd was a named plaintiff.)

The League sought to overturn a decision of the Boundary Commission approving the annexation of a subdivision called Lynnbrook II to the Santa Clara Water District, plus an expanded sewage lagoon. The League lost at the trial court but appealed. At approximately the same time as our suit, there were two other similar suits making their way through the court system, one from Klamath Falls and one from Clackamas County. These decisions helped local governments understand how to apply the 1973 land use law and its goals.

First, the court said, annexation is a land use decision. That means the land use goals should be taken into consideration when approving an annexation. In our case, we believed the Boundary Commission failed to apply Oregon's Statewide Lane Use Planning Goal 14, Urbanization, which requires establishment of an Urban Growth Boundary. Neither the city of Eugene nor Lane County had an established UGB at the time the Boundary Commission approved the development request.

We also believed the commission failed to apply Goal 2, about the conversion of agricultural land to urbanizable land. We believed there were other goals ignored in the Boundary Commission decision, plus there were other issues raised as a result of the suit about jurisdiction and exceptions.

In the end, the Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the League, vacating the trial court order. Lessons were learned. Today there are sewers in parts of River Road and Santa Clara, but the map of Eugene City Council Ward 7 illustrates how these issues endure.

Linda Lynch

**Our League has a new office!
See page five
"Notes From your LWVLC Board"**



UNIT DISCUSSIONS IN DECEMBER

PROGRAM PLANNING

Bring your

New orchid color *Directory*

and help decide 2020-21 Unit discussion topics.

LWV of Lane County Board and Off Board Roster 2019-20

President
OPEN

Vice President
KELI OSBORN

Secretary
JEANNE TAYLOR

Treasurer
GARY HARMON

Action
KELI OSBORN

Argus Editor
CHARLCIE KAYLOR

Development - pro tem
CHARLCIE KAYLOR

Director
FREDDI WEISHAHN

Historian
GAYLE DOWNING

Mailing Manager
LINDA FERDOWSIAN

Membership
DARLA MCVAY
NANCY O'KIEF

Nominations
BETTY-COE DE BROEKERT

Office Manager
LINDA FERDOWSIAN

Program
GARY HARMON
SUSAN TAVAKOLIAN

Public Relations
KATHY MADISON

Units
MARY KEATING

Voter Service
PAULA GRISAFI

Webmaster
RHONDA LIVESAY

In December we review League advocacy positions looking at state and local ones. If there are issues that members think the state should address, now is the time to bring them up. An idea must be on the list even if the board does not recommend it.

Program decisions are finalized at the annual meeting in April but the Board may make its recommendation as early as the February Board meeting. If you've been thinking the League should study some particular subject, topic or issue, now is the time to suggest it.

Please bring your ideas to December units. Can't attend? Get in touch at contact@lwwlc.org to suggest a topic.

Linda Lynch and Susan Tavakolian

Monday, December 9

10 am – S. Willamette

430 East 46th
Flo Alvergue 541-968-7854
Anne Best 541-343-5124

1:30 pm – Cascade Manor

Cascade View Room
Merle Bottge - 541-434-4191
Carol Hildebrand 541-434-4254

2 pm – Harlow Road

394 Cherry Dr.
Barbara French 541-485-9090
Mary Keating 541-344-4889
Chris Donahue 541-517-0080

Tuesday, December 10

9:30 am – Coburg Rd.

The Springs at Greer Gardens
(Main Building) **POTLUCK**
1282 Goodpasture Island Rd.
Dorothy Cruickshank 541-342-2577
Linda Ferdowsian 707-208-6007

Noon – Springfield

Washburne Café, 326 Main Street
Flo Alvergue 541-968-7854

Wednesday, December 11

10 am – East Eugene

555 E. 15th, Central Presbyterian
Stephanie Winsor 541-342-8243
Diana Grandberry 541-342-8402

1 pm – Cottage Grove

Magnolia Gardens
1425 Daugherty Avenue
Gayle Downing 541-942-1858

Thursday, December 12

5:30 pm – Eugene Downtown

Claim 52 Kitchen
1203 Willamette
Charlcie Kaylor 541-686-0124

Unit Briefing

Tuesday, December 3, 3 pm
Atrium – Sloat Room,
10th and Olive, Eugene

WELCOME NEW LWVLC BOARD MEMBERS

Special thanks and congratulations to League members Nancy O'Kief and Fredericka (Freddi) Weishahn, who've recently joined the board - Nancy in October and Freddi in November. Both were appointed by the board on the recommendation of the nominating committee to fill vacant director positions. Watch this space for future profiles.

Filling these board seats provides more perspectives

for wide-ranging discussions and key decisions, and better connects the board to League members and our communities.

Thanks also to the Nominating Committee - Betty-Coe de Broekert, Veronika Walton, Charlcie Kaylor and Jeanne Taylor - for continuing efforts to strengthen the LWVLC

Keli Osborn

RESPOND TO OUR LEAGUE'S CENSUS TO SHAPE OUR FUTURE

In April 2020 the US Census Bureau will collect vital information. Census data guide communities in making decisions about infrastructure, parks, transit, schools and more. Statistics also are used to guide public funding to help those in need and help businesses and entrepreneurs make decisions. The census also undergirds decisions about redistricting.

In January, the Lane County League of Women Voters, our League, will also do a census.

Merriam-Webster defines "census"

as: "a usually complete count of a **population** (as of a state) especially: a periodic governmental count of a **population** that usually includes social and economic information (as occupations, ages, and incomes)."

The League of Women Voters is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and practice. As we work to engage members and volunteers, we need a picture of who we are. You can support this effort by completing the LWVLC census. It's short (and optional)! We'll tally returns and

compare to Lane County's population and our future membership.

In January you will have a chance to respond to our census - which will help us shape the future of our organization. Details will follow in the January Argus.

Questions?

Keli Osborn - action@lwvlc.org

**Helen Beardsworth
and Keli Osborn**

**Action Committee Meeting
December 4 - 9:30 am
LWVLC office**

LOCAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS...

*December 5, 11:30 am,
Hilton Garden Inn, 3528 Gateway
St., Springfield*

Springfield City Club will host a program by Prof. Stuart Chinn, of the U of O Law School, "Impeachment: Partisan Shenanigans or Constitutional Remedy?" The program is open to the public. Admission is free for City Club members. There is a suggested donation of \$5 for non-members. No need to register in advance. Just show up. The Hilton Garden Inn offers a lunch for \$13.

*On January 30 Lane County seeks
Volunteers for the Annual Point in
Time Homeless Street Count.* Volunteers are needed across Lane County, including Eugene, Springfield, Florence, Veneta and Cottage Grove. Volunteer shifts run for about three hours, including check in/out time from the volunteer deployment center. Shifts occur all day. More info and volunteering online:

www.lanecounty.org/HomelessCount

*February 4, 7:30 pm, First United
Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St.,
Eugene*

2019-2020 Cressman Lecture in the Humanities features Ruha Benjamin, African American Studies at Princeton University, author of ***Race After Technology*** (2019). Benjamin's work investigates the social dimensions of science and technology with a focus on the relationship between innovation and inequality, health and justice, knowledge and power.

Keli Osborn

FRUITS AND NUTS COMING SOON

Fruit and nuts will be arriving the first week in December! **Watch your e-mail for times and dates that fruit / nuts can be picked up at the League office.** If you did not provide an email, you will be receiving a phone call from our Nutty Fruit Loop team. Pick-up will be finished by the end of the day December 6.

Collectively you did good work! You sold or purchased 348 boxes of fruit and bags of nuts. Ninety-eight of

those boxes/ bags will be picked up by Food for Lane County.

We ordered a few extra boxes / bags to cover spoilage. If you missed getting an order in or find yourself a little short, you may still be able to purchase fruit or nuts. This fruit will be available on a first to sign up basis.

Some of you may be able to deduct all or part of your purchase from your 2019 taxes. A letter verifying

your purchase/donation will be emailed to you before the end of January. If you did not provide an email address, your letter will be mailed.

If you have questions or wish to sign up for fruit/ nuts please text or call Marj Maxwell at 541-521-3051 or email marjmaxwell@gmail.com.

Your delicious fruit and nuts will be arriving soon!

Marj Maxwell

GUN SAFETY DECEMBER UPDATE

FEDERAL: As the mass shootings continue, there is one piece of the picture that has received little attention: ammunition. Advocacy in the gun safety arena deals largely with weapons. As there aren't any federal reporting requirements for bulk purchases, it is relatively simple to accumulate an arsenal of ammunition without attracting law enforcement attention. For example in October 2014 federal agents, acting on a weapons tip, found 30,000 rounds and in September 2018 police in San Diego discovered 75,000 rounds of ammunition when serving a gun violence restraining order. Although these two caches may well have prevented a mass shooting, the cache in the 2017 Las Vegas hotel massacre,

the most destructive mass shooting in US history, was not discovered. There are many venues where ammunition is readily available, especially online. The ammunition used in the recent El Paso shooting was purchased online from a site in Romania. It takes only a brief internet search to glimpse the hundreds, more likely thousands, of internet sites that sell ammunition some even with free shipping and often with kitschy tag lines.

OREGON: According to the Giffords Law Center it is illegal in Oregon plus 23 other states and the District of Columbia to manufacture, trans-

fer, purchase, and possess specific types of unreasonably dangerous ammunition. Oregon and many other states **do not**: require a license for the sale of ammunition, require sellers of ammunition to maintain a record of purchasers, prohibit persons who are ineligible to possess firearms under state law from possessing ammunition, or require safe storage of ammunition.

Much remains undone regarding gun safety, but it is well to remember and be grateful for organizations such as the Giffords Law Center and The March for Our Lives that point the way forward.

Donna Michel



NOTES FROM YOUR LWVLC BOARD- NOVEMBER 2019

Office Move: Office Manager Linda Ferdowsian reported from the office-search committee that rental space is scarce and very expensive and recommended leasing the best one they found. The Board then voted to rent an attractive and functional office at 380 Q Street in Springfield. The costs will be almost two and a half times more than the current site, reminding us how lucky we have been for the last 13 years and that fundraising will need to accelerate. The committee had viewed more than a dozen properties, all of which were hundreds of dollars monthly over our current rent and nowhere nearly as good as the one selected after negotiating as favorable a set of terms as possible. Some photos are posted in the office. Stop by ad see them. The move is ex-

pected to begin after the fruit sale items are distributed.

League Anniversary: Kathy Madison shared her report on the current status of preparations for the LWV 100th Anniversary, including the display concept for the LWVLC historic timelines, banners, and launch of the essay contest. The Board authorized increasing the 100th Anniversary budget to \$2,000, part of which will come from the Turnipseed Fund, part - hopefully - from a LWVOR Anniversary grant for which Kathy was authorized to apply, \$350 already gained from the SMJ House Tea in August, and other sources.

Kappy Eaton Legacy Funds: The Board adopted terms for the Fund and authorized a membership scholarship according to the guidelines adopted.

Other Business: The Board appointed Freddi Weishahn as the newest director on the Board and heard a report from Veronika Walton of the Nominating Committee. Terry Parker added valued insight during consideration of sound equipment. The Board appointed a Budget Committee to begin work on the 2020-21 budget and authorized a survey/census of our membership. The next board meeting will be January 15, 2020, probably in the new office. You are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Jeanne Taylor, Secretary

WITH A WEALTH OF REMARKABLE LWVLC LEADERS, WHO STANDS OUT?

A historical timeline of LWVLC's 80-year history created for next year's LWV Centennial reveals dozens of remarkable accomplishments that shaped the community. Even more remarkable is realizing that for each achievement, leaders arose to take on the issue and influence change.

The Lane County History Museum will use the timeline information for an exhibit about the League that will open January 31. The exhibit will include profiles of just ten standout leaders who helped to make the

League what it is today.

But from so many achievements and so many leaders, how will we choose just ten? By asking you!

Email your picks for this distinguished collection of LWVLC heavy hitters to PublicRelations@lwvlc.org. Include a sentence or two about why they should be profiled. And remember, we need the names of leaders from throughout LWVLC's history, from 1939 to today.

Kathy Madison

VOTING BY THE NUMBERS

- In 2018 about 53% of voters were women. That was because 55% of women who were eligible to vote cast ballots as opposed to just under 52% of men.
- Trends showing higher turn out among older votes continued with 66% of voters over 65, 62% in the 55-64 age group, 57% in the 45-54 age group and 51% in the 35-44 age group.
- Bigger drops in voter turnout occurred for the 25-34 age group who cast ballots of a rate of 42% and 18-24 year-olds, where only a little over 32% voted.
- The gender gap was wider among younger voters. In the 55+ age group the difference was just over 3%, while it was nearly 6% for 18-24 year olds, with women outvoting men in every age category.
- Whites voted at higher rates than Blacks, Hispanics and Asians, and, although that has continued, the rates are trending up in all groups.
- Although rates of voting by young voters are still outpaced by older Americans, those aged 18 to 53 cast 62.2 million votes compared to the older generations, which cast 60.1 million votes.

Understanding these demographics can help the League consider how to direct our voter service outreach efforts. Our most obvious group to attract seem to be the young and ethnic minorities, so developing programs that go into those communities may be the most effective way of increasing voter turnout.

Paula Grisafi, Voter Service Chair
voterservice@lwvlc.org.

**Voter Service
Committee Meeting**
January 14, 2 pm
League office

REDISTRICTING REFORM NEEDS YOU

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is part of the *People Not Politicians* campaign, which proposes a statewide ballot initiative for Oregon's November 2020 General Election. This initiative would change the way legislative and congressional districts are drawn in our state by creating an independent commission, taking the process out of the hands of the Oregon state legislature and into the hands of voters via the commission.

Reform could make our system less susceptible to gerrymandering, abuse and unrepresentative distortions. The current process for redistricting is imbedded in Oregon's Constitution, supplemented with a statute, so a constitutional amendment will be required to change the process.

The campaign has the endorsements of Oregon Common Cause, Oregon Farm Bureau, Taxpayer Associa-

tion of Oregon Foundation, OSPIRG, Independent Party of Oregon, Oregon Progressive Party, American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the Eugene-Springfield Branch of the NAACP.

Can you help?

We'd like to bring people together to learn more about this effort - maybe a meet-up explaining the 2020 Census and *People Not Politicians* campaign.

A fair process benefits everyone.

Of course, statewide redistricting isn't the only redistricting item on the horizon. There are also boundary changes ahead in 2021 at the local level—including Lane County and multiple cities.

For more information contact:

Paula Grisafi voterservice@lwvlc
or **Keli Osborn** action@lwvlc



**Oregon voters should
choose their politicians—
politicians should not get
to choose their voters.**

CLIMATE ACTION AND TRANSIT TOMORROW - MAKING THE CONNECTION

Imagine two high-flying airplanes. One is the City of Eugene's *Climate Action Plan*, and the other is Lane Transit District's *Transit Tomorrow* system redesign. We are on long flights in parallel universes taking a look from 30,000 feet above. Now, passing down through the clouds as the local landscape comes into focus, we hit turbulence.

Transit Tomorrow

Your Transit. Your Vision. Your Future.

For three years the City of Eugene has been updating its Climate Action Plan (CAP2.0 or CAP). Consultants were engaged, data gathered, numbers crunched, meetings held and the City Council endorsed the plan in 2019. The purpose of the CAP is to meet the goals of the City's Carbon Reduction Ordinance (CRO) passed in 2014: specifically, (1) to reduce our fossil fuel use by 50 percent by 2030 compared to 2010 usage; and (2) to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by 7.6 percent annually in response to climate change.

It is abundantly clear that the City will not be able to meet emissions reduction goals without making significant changes. A "gap analysis" highlighted in the report elaborates on many actions needed. Our community greenhouse gas emissions have been measured using three primary sources of energy: energy used in buildings, transportation fuels, and consumption. About 1.1 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO_{2e}) of emissions are released in Eugene each year. MTCO_{2e} is a measurement used to compare emissions from different greenhouse gases based upon their global warming potential.

Through the development of the

CAP, the Eugene Climate Collaborative Partners (ECC Partners) was formed. This partnership includes utilities, school districts, Lane Community College, University of Oregon, and Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission, to name a few. These organizations have "significant oversight and impact on community-wide fossil fuel

use and emissions or have the ability to alter systems that will enable the community to adapt and prepare for climate change." Presumably ECC Partners' actions over the next 5 to 10 years will account for 40 percent of the reductions needed to meet the CRO goals. Lane Transit District (LTD) is also an ECC Partner which brings us to the connection between the Eugene's CAP and *Transit Tomorrow*, LTD's proposed revision of the current bus system.

Transit Tomorrow could help get vehicles off the road to alleviate congestion pressure and lower emissions by offering more frequent and productive transit services - as long as the LTD Board of Directors holds strong on their unanimous decision (August 2019) to:

".... focus resources on providing frequent bus service to make the system more useful, understanding that to accomplish this some areas of the community may lose or experience a reduction in service."

It is critically important that the much discussed trade-off between providing more frequent bus service in areas where most people are likely to ride (ridership) instead of spreading service out to reach as many neighborhoods and commercial areas as possible (coverage) is fully explained and understood. This high ridership model prioritizes greater frequency (optimally a

bus every 15 minutes) with direct routes on main streets. A coverage-focused service--much like we have now--offers routes over a broader area and is often less frequent and less productive. Looking through the lens of climate action, increasing ridership reduces emission. The community-at-large and especially those directly impacted by retraction of existing service must help LTD grapple with the implications of higher ridership, hopefully, by offering solutions that contribute to lower emissions in our community along with equity and consideration for people with mobility challenges.

Change is necessary given the climate change crisis. As Eugene Mayor Lucy Vinis states in "Eugene's Community Climate Action Plan 2.0: Playbook for Eugene's Climate Journey, DRAFT, Fall 2019":

"This plan makes it clear that we will not meet our goals if we proceed on our current path. Facing such a crisis is sobering, and basing our actions on a realistic understanding of outcomes is essential to our success..."

Fasten your seatbelts. Landing gear deployed. Prepare for a bumpy ride as the *rubber meets the tarmac*.

Here is what you can do:

- Read CAP 2.0 and *Transit Tomorrow* documents found online at the City of Eugene and Lane Transit District websites, respectively. Please review important work by the City's Sustainability Commission and CAP 2.0 Equity Panel.
- Complete the surveys found at each website. [City of Eugene CAP 2.0 Document & Survey](#)
- Provide comments and give testimony either in writing or by attending meetings. [Lane Transit District Transit Tomorrow](#)

Terry Parker

PHYLLIS LOOBEY REMEMBERED

Leaguer Phyllis passed away November 12.

A *Register-Guard* article published when she was about to retire from her more than 20 years as manager said she steered “the Lane Transit District from its infancy to the edge of a new frontier in public transportation. She held the top job at public transit district longer than any woman in the nation...”

Considering she had people to do the bookkeeping at LTD she took on the job of League treasurer. Undaunted and, with a little help from her friends, she soldiered on for nearly 20 years, eschewing a computer for pen and paper income, expense and balance sheets. Her oral reports at Board and annual membership meetings were akin to stand-up comedy. Once, noting the report contained an unaccounted-

for 25 cents, she said it would be taken out of her salary, then asked her pay be doubled.

Charlie Kaylor



MARY KATHARINE “KAPPY” EATON DEVELOPMENT FUND

Thanks to a generous bequest from her estate, LWVLC has established the Mary Katharine “Kappy” Eaton Development Fund.

The fund will focus on three categories:

- Subsidize up to four League memberships each year to encourage active participation by those whose personal finances might otherwise present a barrier.
- Support unusual and extraordinary expenses associated with local, state and national lobbying efforts—such as transportation, room rental, printing, and materials.
- Provide for unique training opportunities for members and partners that develop leadership skills, improve cross-cultural understanding, and equip individuals to work more effectively in perfecting our democracy.

The money will be held in a separate account and will not be co-mingled with general operating funds. League members will have the opportunity to donate to the fund. And, a majority vote of the Board will be needed to use the fund.

A portion of the bequest also was placed in the LWVLC general fund to help with near-term extraordinary expenses, notably the move to a new office.



Who was Kappy Eaton? A long-time League of Women Voters member, Kappy Eaton died August 7, 2018, at age 94, ending a remarkable and inspiring life of advocacy for equality and democracy. She served in numerous leadership roles - in the League, Common Cause of Oregon, and other organizations. A one-time journalist, Kappy also was the former head of the Bureau of Governmental Service and Research Library at the University of Oregon. An expert on fair elections and keen analyst on a wide range of issues, she was especially a mentor, beloved family member and friend.

We are grateful for the bequest and for Kappy’s legacy of service. To make a donation to the fund, please contact LWVLC Treasurer Gary Harmon.

Keli Osborn



CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM OUR LOCATION 541-343-7917

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

CALENDAR

(For more information see page reference.)

DECEMBER

3 - 3 pm, Unit material briefing (pg 2)

4 - 9:30 am, Action Committee (pg 3)

6 through 14, Units - (pg 2)

22 - **Midnight** - *Argus* submission deadline

No Thursday Luncheon in December

No Board, Voter Service or Membership meetings in December

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



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

ANOTHER WAY TO SUPPORT OUR LEAGUE

If you are 70 ½ or older you must take required minimum distributions from your 401k or IRA and pay income tax on those funds unless you decide to make a contribution to a 501(c)3 (like LWVLC).

The contribution is not subject to income tax and may also be deductible.

Talk to your tax advisor for more information.

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