



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH by Linda Lynch

March is Women's History Month, and America is still seeing several "firsts" for women. Observance and celebration of women's history started out as Women's History Week with a presidential proclamation in 1980 and became National Women's History Month in 1988. Many organizations, most especially the League of Women Voters, have extended centennial celebrations of ratification of the 19th Amendment through 2021. The Oregon Historical Society has extended the dates of this exhibit until December 2021, allowing time for the museum to reopen and for more people to see it. This extended time has given everyone celebrating this milestone an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the long struggle to achieve suffrage and to understand how much work remains to achieve universal suffrage.

A Few Events in the History of Oregon Women and Citizenship (From Oregon Historical Society Timeline, developed in 2012 by Kimberly Jensen for OHS)

August-September 1857: Delegates to Oregon State Constitutional Convention decide that voting will be for white male citizens only.

1870: First Oregon woman suffrage organizations form in Albany and Salem.

1871: Susan B. Anthony tours Pacific Northwest with **Abigail Scott Duniway**.

November 1872: Four Portland women, **Abigail Scott**

Duniway, Mary Beatty, Maria Hendee, and Mrs. M. A. Lambert, cast votes in the election based on the 14th Amendment definition of citizenship. Their ballots are not counted.

1878: All Oregon taxpayers, regardless of gender, may vote in school elections.

1884: Woman suffrage on Oregon ballot for first time, *loses*.

1898: Oregon Supreme Court upholds taxpaying women's right to vote in school elections.

1900: Woman suffrage on Oregon ballot for second time, *loses but narrowly*.

1902: Oregon adopts initiative and referendum system.

1908: Lola Baldwin, Oregon's and the nation's first female police officer, appointed.

1905: National American Woman Suffrage Association holds national convention in Portland in conjunction with Lewis and Clark Exposition.

1906: Woman Suffrage on Oregon ballot for third time, *loses*.

1908: Woman Suffrage on Oregon ballot for fourth time, *loses*.

1910: Woman Suffrage on Oregon ballot for fifth time, *loses*.

Continued on page 5

Virtual Third Thursday

Noon, March 18

LORI ERICKSON

Curator at Oregon Historical Society
Nevertheless, They Persisted

Open to the public

To register, go to lwvlc.org
click on Register for Third Thursday.

See more about
Lori Erickson
on Page 5



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UNITS

Mary Keating, Chair

MARCH UNIT CHOICE by Linda Ferdowsian, Program Co-chair

You are invited to attend any or all Zoom unit meetings this month.
To attend, contact the discussion leader for the Zoom meeting.

Monday, March 8, 10 am: Open unit discussion of questions, concerns,
and opinions of current issues.

Discussion Leader: Nancy Mills, nmills@trinity.edu

Monday, March 8, 2 pm: Open discussion on current issues.

Discussion Leader: Mary Keating, myrnalouise@hotmail.com

Tuesday, March 9, 10 am: Guest Speaker, DeLeesa Meashintubby,
Executive Director, Volunteers in Medicine.

She will discuss VIM's mission of providing quality health care to the low-income,
uninsured and underinsured community members of Lane County.

Discussion Leader: Linda Ferdowsian, lferdowsian@yahoo.com

GOT AN HOUR? CHANGE THE WORLD! (OR AT LEAST YOUR LEAGUE)

by Kathy Madison, Public Relations Chair

LWVLC does a pretty good job publicizing our activities through the news media, social media, our website, the Argus, calendars, and flyers – but we could do better.

Publicizing these events informs the citizenry about important issues, helps us recruit new members and raises the public's awareness of the League. The better we publicize events, the stronger LWVLC will become.

Community calendars present a great opportunity to broaden our reach – after all, almost every organization has one!

To reap the benefits of posting information to more calendars, however, we need help. It's easy to post to these sites. Many have a simple form to fill out or just want to receive an email. We'll provide info about sites to post to.

You can easily contribute to strengthen your League by giving an hour or so of your time to posting League information on community calendars.

Contact Kathy Madison at PublicRelations@gmail.com.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

by Betty-Coe DeBroekert, Chair

We appreciate all of our LWVLC members and your leadership skills. This month the Nominating Committee members will be personally reaching out to members asking you to serve. Also, if you are interested in using your leadership skills as a committee chairperson or member of the Board of Directors, please contact the League office, (541) 343 7917 or email contact@lwvlc.org or busybee78@comcast.net (use subject line LWV_LC).

ACTION COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE RECOVERY

by Terry Parker, Action Chair

Natural Gas Is a Fossil Fuel: Consistent with the League of Women Voters of the United States' acknowledgement that climate change is a serious threat, we are asking the Eugene City Council to act in accordance with the emissions reduction goals of the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP 2.0) and Climate Resolution Ordinance (CRO).

Discussions about the extension of natural gas lines and new hookups to the Downtown Riverfront development and the pending renewal of the City of Eugene and Northwest Natural franchise agreement fail to advance the goals of CAP 2.0 and conform to the Climate Recovery Ordinance (CRO). We strongly encourage the City to show transparency in the decision-making process for these critical actions and make progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the burning of fossil fuels. To date the CRO emission thresholds remain elusive and are not well understood by the community at large.

Jordan Cove Energy Project (JCEP) Update: Oregon Public Broadcasting reports that JCEP has been dealt another blow. The project is a liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminal in Coos Bay, Oregon, and an associated 229-mile natural gas pipeline and compressor station. Opponents of the project (LWVOR and LWVLC included) got the decision they have been waiting for earlier this month when NOAA [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration] found "the record is insufficient to adequately assess the Project's adverse coastal effects—in particular, to endangered and threatened species, cultural and historic resources, and cumulative effects. In the absence of sufficient information on these coastal effects, the appellants have failed to meet their burden of proof and persuasion that the project is consistent with the objectives of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)." Therefore, NOAA sustains the State's objection.

Action Committee Meeting
March 3, 10 am
Via Zoom - To receive the link
contact action@lwwlc.org.

"Gas is failing in the most spectacular fashion right now."

Michael Webber, University of Texas at Austin energy resources professor, *The Texas Tribune*

VOICE YOUR SUPPORT

Tell Congress to pass *For the People Act*
Stand up for DC Statehood
Adopt the Equal Rights Amendment

Log in to LWV.org and click on Take Action,
sign the petition, contact your Member of Congress.



VOTER SERVICE

by Paula Grisafi, Chair

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is a proposed amendment to the United States Constitution designed to guarantee equal legal rights for all American citizens regardless of sex. It seeks to end distinctions between men and women in legal matters including divorce and employment. The Constitution provides that amendments take effect when three-quarters of the states ratify them, putting the current threshold at 38 states. While Virginia was the 38th state to ratify the ERA in January of 2020, unfortunately however, it had been rescinded by five states that had previously approved it. The ratification deadline had passed but in 2019 the US House of Representatives vot-

ed to remove the deadline. The US Senate did not take up the issue but, now that control of the Senate has changed hands, it is possible that the vote to remove the deadline will move forward again in both the House and the Senate.

The League has officially supported the ERA since its passage in 1972 and pushed for its ratification from then on, including sending amicus briefs and letters of support to states and to the US House and Senate, and continues to monitor litigation on the issue. Go to the LWVUS website and click on the Action tab to send a letter of support to your US Representative.

Voter Service Meeting
March 11, 10 am
Via Zoom - To receive the link contact voterservice@lwwlc.org.

LEAGUE 101

by Veronika Walton, Membership Chair

It was great to see that 12 new members zoomed into our event. There was a lively question and answer session going back and forth; some had already found a committee to join and participate in League activities. And it was really nice to be able to match a face with a name.

Thank you all for participating. The membership committee is seeking additional members. The main duties are membership recruitment and retention and planning events. Please join us at the next meeting.

Membership Committee Meeting
March 16, 2 pm
Via Zoom - To receive the link contact membership@lwwlc.org.

ASKING FOR FABRIC

Yes, fabric, specifically for curtains in Conestoga Huts for unhoused folks. You have seen the huts being placed around the city of Eugene. Cotton fabric with nice prints, stripes etc. is needed to make curtains for these huts. It takes one and a half yards to make one pair. If anyone has suitable fabric that is not needed anymore and would like to help out, please leave it at the office or in the basket by the office door. It's a great way to clean out closets and quilting stashes. And the occupants of the huts will greatly appreciate privacy.

Thank you very much.

Veronika Walton



MARCH THIRD THURSDAY SPEAKER

Lori Erickson

Lori Erickson is the Curator of Exhibitions and Special Projects at the Oregon Historical Society and is the speaker for our March 18 Third Thursday, at noon. She curates exhibits for the OHS museum and develops supporting content for exhibits. Most of her time is spent doing exhibit research, constructing exhibit content outlines, and tracking down photos and artifacts to help support exhibit storylines. Lori is the curator of the OHS exhibit *Nevertheless, They Persisted: Women's Voting Rights and the 19th Amendment*. The purpose of the exhibit is to connect Oregon history to the national history of woman suffrage.

Ms. Erickson's talk comes at an opportune time - March is Women's History Month, and America is still seeing several "firsts" for women. Observance and celebration of women's history started out as Women's History Week with a presidential proclamation in 1980, and became National Women's History Month in 1988. Many organiza-

tions, most especially the League of Women Voters, have extended centennial celebrations of ratification of the 19th Amendment through 2021. The Oregon Historical Society has extended the dates of this exhibit until December 2021, allowing time for the museum to reopen and for more people to see it. This extended time has given everyone celebrating this milestone an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the long struggle to achieve suffrage, and to understand how much work remains to achieve universal suffrage. OHS has developed a wonderful curriculum on the subject which can be viewed at ohs.org. (See the sidebar with excerpts from the timeline developed for that curriculum.)

Lori will tell us some of the stories she learned while preparing this exhibit and tell us what we have to look forward to when a future trip to Portland can include a visit to *Nevertheless, They Persisted*.



Ms. Erickson holds both a B.A. and an M.S. in Anthropology with a focus on archaeology and museum studies.

To register for her talk, go to lwwlc.org and sign up!

Linda Lynch

Continued from page 1 **Women's History Month**

1912: Woman Suffrage on Oregon ballot for sixth and final time, passes with 52% after using new tactics of mass advertising and campaigning.

1914: Marian B. Towne, D-Jackson County, is first woman elected to Oregon House of Representatives.

1915: Kathryn Clark, R-Douglas County, is first woman elected to Oregon Senate.

January 12, 1920: Oregon is the 25th state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment.

November 1920: Esther Pohl Lovejoy is the first woman to run for Congress from Oregon, receives 44 % of the vote.

1937-39: Nan Wood Honeyman represents Oregon in US House of Representatives.

1955-75: Edith Green represents Oregon in the US House of Representatives, works for Title IX legislation to support equality in education and sports.

1960: Mercedes Deiz is first African American wom-

an lawyer admitted to the Oregon bar. In 1969 she becomes the first African American woman appointed a district court judge.

1960-66: Maureen Newberger represents Oregon in US Senate, the only woman in the history of the state to do so.

1973: Oregon ratifies the Equal Rights Amendment and re-ratifies it in 1977.

1977: Norma Paulus becomes first woman elected to statewide office as Secretary of State.

1982: Betty Roberts becomes first woman on the Oregon Supreme Court.

1985: Margaret Carter is first African American woman elected to the Oregon legislature.

1991-1995: Barbara Roberts is first woman to serve as Governor of Oregon.

2012: Ellen Rosenblum becomes first woman attorney general of Oregon.

by Donna Michel

Gun safety took a back seat in the face of the multiple crises the country faced during the past year. Even so, the number of gun homicides continues to escalate. The 23 million guns sold in 2020 represent a 64 percent increase over the previous year and the highest number sold, of any year on record. Of the many millions sold eight million firearms were purchased by first time gun owners. Much of the panic buying is related to the pandemic, protests against police brutality, and election turmoil across the country. Additionally, several other events are known to escalate gun sales: the election of a Democrat president and any talk of gun safety legislation. (*Washington Post*)

According to a recent press release, (Gifford's Law Center) "Communities across America are experiencing a terrifying and deadly surge in gun violence." The Gun Violence Archive Report reported that at least 19,223 Americans died of gun violence in 2020, a 25 percent jump from the previous year. (NPR)

Another survey of 34 of the largest cities across the U.S. reported a 30 percent increase in gun deaths. (*WaPo*)

In spite of these grim statistics, there are hopeful signs. In a recent meeting with government officials, gun safety groups learned that the new administration is prepared to pursue multiple avenues to address gun violence, including executive action. (The Hill)

On a different but related subject: Oregon has received a grant of \$135,000 toward the creation of a three-digit helpline for suicide prevention. Work for training, technical assistance and infrastructure is expected to begin within weeks. The 988 suicide prevention hotline is welcome news given the high rate of depression in our state. (*Portland Tribune*)



BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Eugene's boards and commissions are resident advisory groups that provide an invaluable service to our city by advising City Council and/or City staff on a wide variety of subjects.

2021 Application Period Now Open!

Apply through March 12 to serve on any of the following groups:

City Council Advisory Bodies:

Budget Committee (3 seats)
Civilian Review Board (2 seats)
Historic Review Board (2 seats)
Human Rights Commission (3 seats)
Planning Commission (2 seats)

Other Groups:

Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (1 seat)
Whilamut Citizen Planning Committee (4 seats)

Toxics Right-to-Know Board

Contact: James Lenhart, Toxics Program Manager, City of Eugene, 541-682-7118 or jlenthart@eugene-or.gov

Vacancy: The City of Eugene is actively recruiting for five seats on the Toxics Right-to-Know Board. Three positions are industry advocates and must be an employee or representative of a business required to report to the Toxics Right-to-Know Program. Other open positions include one right-to-know advocate, and one neutral seat that is to be recommended by at least four currently seated board members.

<https://www.eugene-or.gov/86/Boards-and-Commissions>



DEVELOPMENT

By Freddi Weishahn, Chair

DOUBLE-DOUBLE UP-UP! STAY-STAY SAFE-SAFE

I don't know about you, but I'm getting used to wearing masks and, consequently, saving on sunscreen for the lower half of my face.

Our LWV/VOTE411 logo masks can be fastened behind the neck, making it easier to wear two masks at a time. (I find them easy enough to breathe through, even when doubled). They can be purchased through our website www.lwvlc.org or by sending a check for \$10 to our office.

OUR LWVLC HAS BEEN AWARDED...

...a sponsorship of \$250 from Columbia Bank to help defray the cost of printing one thousand copies of our pamphlet, *They Represent You* (TRY), which lists current contact information for our elected officials at the national, state, and local levels. The information is also available on our website. In keeping with our mission of helping voters stay engaged with their elected officials, we are offering TRY pamphlets through our office and other locations where voters may have limited access to the internet.



HOUSING SURVEY

The Eugene Middle Housing Project will improve housing choices in the short term and affordability in the long term for Eugene residents by revising the rules that govern how land is used and developed.

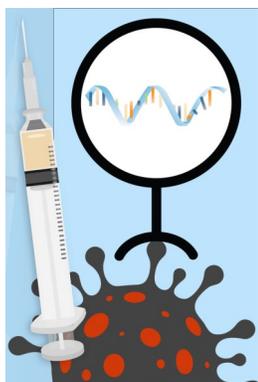
The survey will be open on Engage Eugene through March 5, 2021, and participants will be entered to win one of two \$50 grocery gift cards. ***Please spread the word and share this survey with your networks, friends, and neighbors.***



MIDDLE HOUSING CODE AMENDMENTS

Expanding housing options for Eugene

<https://engage.eugene-or.gov/middle-housing>



CORONAVIRUS mRNA VACCINE SAFETY AND EFFICACY



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvPg6PMI-q0%3Futm_source%3Dsilverchair&utm_campaign=jama_network&utm_content=covid_weekly_highlights&cmp=1&utm_medium=email

LWVLC member **Nancy Mills**, Ph. D., Emeritus, Department of Chemistry, Trinity University, sent the above link, spreading the information to "all the smart people" she knows.



380 Q STREET, Suite 250, SPRINGFIELD, OREGON 97477
541-343-7917

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

CALENDAR

MARCH

- 3 - 10 am, Action Committee (page 3)
- 8 & 9 - Unit meetings (page 2)
- 11 - 10 am, Voter Service Committee (page 4)
- 16- 2 pm, Membership Committee (page 4)
- 17 - 1:30 pm, Board meeting
- 18 - Noon, Third Thursday (see page 1 & 5)
- 19 - Midnight, *Argus* deadline

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

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MISSED A THIRD THURSDAY?

<https://lwvlc.org/third-thursday-audio-presentations/>

BRIEFINGS VIDEOS

<https://lwvlc.org/publications/everymember-details/>

DONATE NOW

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

DEDUCTIBLE!

Because LWVLC is a 501-c-(3) organization,
donations and even your dues are tax deductible.

If our **local** League's work is important to you,
please consider a donation.

Thank you!