



# Argus

League of Women Voters of Lane County Newsletter

## THE LEAGUE IS MORE THAN JUST US

BY CHARLCIE KAYLOR, PRESIDENT



As you can see in this issue, we partner with others such as Food for Lane County (FFLC) to raise funds for us and for them. I call that a two-fer. Two fer the price of one. It's really a three-fer since Leaguers can get fruit and a tax deduction and LWVLC profits. FFLC gets the produce and the donor gets a tax deduction. Is that a possible five-fer?



One of our most impressive recent achievements was working with the Lane County Commissioners and staff to create a process for and, ultimately leading to, the Independent Redistricting Committee.

How does supporting non-profit organizations and local government benefit our League? We share our missions of education and advocacy outside our membership. We raise our visibility to people who are not aware of the importance of informed voting. A two-fer at least.

This photo of Katie Loughry and Fred Ferdowsian appeared in *Food for Thought*, Food for Lane County's newsletter to thank LWVLC for the donations of more than a ton of fruit and nuts. That's visibility!



### WE COULD USE SOME HELP

Money's always good, and we strategically spend it to make sure we get the biggest bang for your bucks. As you can see above, there is a lot of labor that money can't buy.

If you are interested in learning what we need and/or telling us what you want, please email or call me, and we can chat about how **you can help to create a more perfect democracy.**

president@lwwlc.org 541-686-0124



NAACP is another partner to which we donated funds. Eugene Springfield Women in NAACP Fund seeks to enhance the leadership role of women, serve as an advocacy vehicle for issues affecting women and children, and advocate for the positive development of children.

During the last general election, we donated funds and material to U of O Lyllye Reynolds-Parker Black Cultural Center to inform and encourage U of O students to vote.



Last year a donation was made to the Dolores Huerta Foundation via the Springfield Alliance for Equity and Respect (SAFER).

We lend our financial and/or moral support to many others who share our missions of education and advocacy such as Better Eugene Springfield Transportation and Better Housing Together.



## NOON SPEAKER SERIES ON MARCH 17

WILL FEATURE

**BRIAN ROONEY, Regional Economist**  
State of Oregon Employment Department

HIS TOPIC

**Oregon's Current Employment Situation and Forecast**

Go to LWVLC website to register for the March webinar



## UNITS MARY KEATING, CHAIR

### MARCH UNIT CHOICES By LINDA FERDOWSIAN, PROGRAM CHAIR

#### LWV of Lane County Board and Off Board Roster 2021-22

President  
CHARLCIE KAYLOR  
president@lwvlc.org

Vice President  
TERRY PARKER

Secretary  
JEANNE TAYLOR

Treasurer  
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LINDA FERDOWSIAN

Membership  
KARLA RUSOW

Nominations  
BETTY-COE DE BROEKERT

Program  
LINDA FERDOWSIAN

Public Relations  
OPEN

Units  
MARY KEATING

Voter Service  
PAULA GRISAFI

Website & Technology  
RHONDA LIVESAY

---  
Director  
KATIE LOUGHARY

March is the month when each unit has the opportunity to decide on an activity or special presentation that is engaging and timely. We have four such opportunities this month. You are encouraged to attend any or all of these presentations.

Nothing we use for a few minutes should pollute the environment and harm wildlife for hundreds of years. Plastic pollution is creating an environmental disaster for ocean wildlife: plastic and other marine debris kill millions of sea turtles, seabirds and marine mammals every year. Plastic also contributes to climate change at every step of its lifecycle, from extraction and production to pollution.

Joining us on **Monday, March 7, 10 am unit meeting**, is Celeste Meiffren-Swango, the State Director with Environment Oregon. Her topic is Microplastics in Our Waterways and Our World. She will share the findings of a survey that Environment Oregon conducted of Oregon's waterways, looking for microplastics. The results may surprise you. **To attend, contact Nancy Mills for the Zoom link, [nmills@trinity.edu](mailto:nmills@trinity.edu).**

Or maybe you are interested in learning about the Eugene Downtown River Front Plan, which includes a three-acre park and a public plaza. Construction started in May 2020 and is expected to be completed by spring 2022. The presentation will include a short section on the history of the project and a sequence of slides and videos showing the various stages of the project gathered from the City's Website. Barbara French, who selected the materials, will narrate and interact

with viewers during the Zoom meeting. Join the **Monday, March 7, 2 pm unit meeting** to view the videos of the project.

**To attend contact Mary Keating for the Zoom link, [myrnalouise@hotmail.com](mailto:myrnalouise@hotmail.com)**

**On Tuesday, March 8, 10 am**, our guest speaker is Jess Campbell, Executive Director of the Rural Organizing Project. ROP is a state-wide organization that supports a multi-issue, rural-centered, grassroots base in Oregon. Members work to build and support a shared standard of human dignity, the belief in the equal worth of all communities, the need for equal access to justice, and the right to self-determination. Jess has also been a guest speaker at one of our Thursday luncheons.

**To attend, contact Linda Ferdowsian for the Zoom link, [lferdowsian@yahoo.com](mailto:lferdowsian@yahoo.com).**

You may also be interested in hearing from Richard Meyers, the City Manager of Cottage Grove. He will be the guest speaker for the **unit meeting, Wednesday, March 9, at noon**. He will discuss the community's challenges and how the citizens are working together to overcome them.

**To attend, contact Cynthia Sharp for the Zoom link, [cynthiasharp01@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiasharp01@gmail.com) or Susan Johnson, [sejohnson227@gmail.com](mailto:sejohnson227@gmail.com).**

**No Briefing for March  
(No need)**

**SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, MAY 14  
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

## ACTION REPORT - STILL MORE TO DO IN 2022

### BY TERRY PARKER, ACTION CHAIR

*Focus: Land Use Code Amendments, Housing, Lane County and Lane Transit on Climate and "Reading our Readers"*

More on **LAND USE** with the **Willamette River Greenway Code Amendments** (City File: CA 22-1). These proposed code amendments will not change the adopted Willamette Greenway boundary. They will include:

- Changes to the City's existing Willamette Greenway permit procedures and criteria to establish a Type II land use application process
- A clear and objective set of approval criteria available for proposed housing within the Willamette Greenway
- A map showing a setback from the Willamette River applicable to proposed housing uses A Design Plan, as required by Goal 15

Watch a video of the Feb. 17 Information Session on the City of Eugene website [Eugene - Land Use Code Amendments](#). Attend the Planning Commission Public Hearing on **March 8** at 5:30 pm via Zoom. [Public Hearing - ZOOM link](#).

The League of Women Voters of Lane County's position (in summary) on **HOUSING** is to:  
Support the promotion of a mix of housing types in neighborhoods, multi-family housing in all areas with adequate regulation, increased density within the metropolitan area, governmental subsidies to promote low income housing and financial incentives for home ownership; oppose government subsidy to extend services to new areas. (Consensus 1978, 1991)

Resource: Issues for Action League of Women Voters of Lane County 2019, pages 12-13. <https://lwvlc.org/wp-content/uploads/Issues-for-Action-2019.pdf>

The Eugene Planning Commission **Recommendation on Middle Housing** is the topic of the last of three Information Sessions to be held Thursday, **March 3** from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. All have been

recorded and offer opportunities to ask questions.

[Middle Housing Recommendation March 3 Info Session - ZOOM link](#) passcode: cottage6

Lane County's Draft **Climate Action Plan** was presented for adoption in January. In response to community feedback and to better align the County's plan with new state regulations, an update will come before the Lane County Board of Commissioners for adoption at their March 15 meeting. The Draft Lane County Community Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Action Plan is available on the County's website.

[Lane County - Climate Plan GHG](#).

Lane Transit District's updated greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory shows that LTD is on track to meet the goals of the District's **Climate Action Policy** with: (1) 11 electric buses in revenue service and an additional 19 electric buses on order that are expected to be tested and in service throughout the next year; (2) 64% of the fuel used in LTD owned fleet vehicles was from renewable sources up from 5% from the previous period including both vehicles that LTD owns and manages directly as well as LTD owned vehicles managed by contracted partners; and (3) 77% of the tailpipe GHG emissions from LTD's owned fleet vehicles has been reduced. (Comparisons are made between Fiscal Years 2018 and 2021.)

**This is a test.** Kidding! If you have read this far, we would like to hear from you. Drop us a quick email letting us know: Did you read the Action Update? Are the topics covered of interest to you? Do you want to see more (or less)? Will be waiting on tenterhooks for the flood of email coming our way at: [action@lwvlc.org](mailto:action@lwvlc.org)

Get in on the ACTION. Join the committee.

**Action Meeting**

**March 2, 10 am**

via Zoom

To receive the link contact  
[action@lwvlc.org](mailto:action@lwvlc.org)

## LOCAL CANDIDATE FORUMS

### BY PAULA GRISAFI, VOTER SERVICE CHAIR

LWVLC Voter Service has again teamed up with the Springfield City Club to co-sponsor several candidate forums that will take place via Zoom for the 2022 primary election starting in March. As it stands now, forums are currently set for these dates:

March 17-US House of Representatives District 4  
 April 7-County Commissioner District Positions 2 & 5  
 April 21-Oregon State House District 12

We are also working with the Siuslaw Public Library in Florence to co-host a forum for candidates for the

**Voter Service Meeting**  
**March 10, 10:30 am**  
 via Zoom  
 To receive the link contact  
[voterservice@lwvlc.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvlc.org)

County Commissioner Position 1 election at a date yet to be announced. We are not teaming with the City Club of Eugene for their candidate forums this year. However, information can be found about them on the CCE webpage.

The rest of the races don't have primary challengers yet but more candidates have been listing recently and this is likely to change by the March 8 deadline for filing. Watch the LWVLC webpage for updated lists of and information about election forums and other election events. Information will also be available on the League's Vote411 webpage.

**We are soliciting questions to ask local candidates at these forums. If there is an issue important to you, feel free to send questions to us for use as time permits. Send them to [voterservice@lwvlc.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvlc.org).**

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

### BETTY-COE DEBROEKERT, NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

**Public Relations Chair** - Our newest addition to the LWVLC Board is Leah Murray, who will be taking over this position. Leah is currently the Executive Director of the Shelton McMurfhey Johnson House and Communications Director of the AAUW. We are very fortunate to have Leah's help as election season approaches. There is one year remaining in this position and it will be renewable in 2023.

**Program Committee Chair** - The Program Committee helps organize agreed-upon studies of community concern and formulates positions for action and advo-

cacy. Linda Ferdowsian is the current chair and is offering to continue to serve on the committee and mentor the next chair. This is a two-year position that runs from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024.

**Nominating Committee** - This committee is proactive and continually seeks to place members with particular skills in the appropriate leadership positions. This is a one-year position and will be renewable in 2023. Seeking new members and a new chair.

*Freddi Weishahn*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### BY KARLA RUSOW, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

**Welcome New Members:** Virginia and Randall Donohue, Ann Bard, Nancy Rose, Linda Ague, Ruth Seeger, Charlotte Maloney, Lois Hopkins and Jessica Merkner.

We assume that you all probably have a specific reason for joining, and we would like to help you to become involved to any degree you wish to participate.

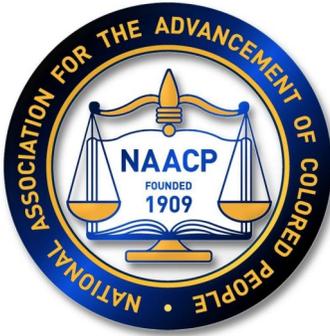
The website contains a monthly calendar listing the date and time of all League meetings, as does the *Argus*. The latter also provides current information regarding what our committees are engaged in and the status of ongoing projects. Past issues are available for historical context.

Committee chairs are always willing to talk to anyone that is interested in their work. If you are interested in attending a particular meeting, contact the committee chair, and a Zoom link will be sent to you before the meeting.

**Membership Meeting**  
**March 15, 2 pm**  
 League office and Zoom  
 To receive the link contact  
[membership@lwvlc.org](mailto:membership@lwvlc.org)

## NAACP ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND DINNER

### BY KARLA RUSOW



The Eugene/Springfield NAACP's fund raiser dinner was held February 25, 2022 at Valley River Center. Various members received invitations and discussed how the League could show our support by buying a table for the event. Because of general hesitation to attend due to Covid, we did not do this. Instead, a \$300 donation to NAACP will be made to show our support and solidarity with them. It was decided to direct the funds to the Eugene Springfield Women in NAACP Fund, which seeks to enhance the leadership role of women, serve as an advocacy vehicle for issues affecting women and children, and advocate for the positive development of children.

Some members are also choosing to make a private donation to them in the amount of the ticket price which was \$80. If you wish to do the same, in any amount, the information is on their website. <https://naacplanecounty.org/>

## MEMORIES OF LILLA MCDONALD

*Long time member, Lilla McDonald, recently passed away.*

When I first joined the League of Women Voters of Lane County in the 1980s, Lilla McDonald was one of the first women I knew. Her work with Sacred Heart Hospital was outstanding. She helped many families who were looking for a place to live while relatives or friends were hospitalized.

Lilla's main project for our League was to encourage us to donate clothes and other articles, which she consigned to the Thrift and Gift Store on Willamette Street. The store was the fundraising effort of the Junior League to support their philanthropic efforts. Our donations brought in hundreds of dollars every year to support our League's work.

Lilla could always be depended on when volunteers were needed. She spent time in our office answering the phone and greeting visitors. She was pleasant to everyone and a friend to many. She will be missed.

*Elleen Levy*

Lilla's husband, John, remembers her bright and cheerful attitude with people and events, her

willingness to get involved, to help people, and of how hard she worked to keep a healthy life.

That was not easy because she suffered a great deal of pain. Her health challenges included, but were not limited to, breast cancer, short term memory loss, and arthritis. She couldn't cook, she couldn't drive, she couldn't write Christmas greetings to her friends and loved ones.

Fortunately, John took her places like League events, women's basketball games, Daisy Duck activities, out for dinner, and trips to the coast.

*Nancie Fadeley*





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

## CALENDAR

### MARCH

- 2 - 10 am, Action meeting (page 3)
- 7 thru 9 - Units (page 2)
- 10 - 10:30 am, Voter Service meeting (page 4)
- 15 - 2 pm, Membership meeting (page 4)
- 16 - 1: 30 pm, Board meeting
- Noon - Speaker Series (page 1)
- 19 - Midnight, *Argus* deadline

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

### SAVE THE DATE

Annual Membership meeting on May 14

*Thanks to our  
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Dot Dotson's  
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### MISSED A THIRD THURSDAY?

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

### BRIEFINGS VIDEOS

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

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