



CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 30, Issue 3

www.lwvcurry.org

October 2013

HOLIDAY PARTY DECEMBER 7 AT 1 PM

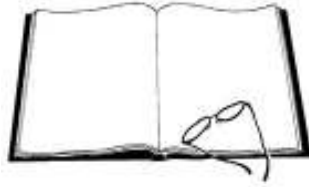
Come join in the fun with a Holiday celebration on December 7th at 1PM at Mangia Buffs at the Goldrush Building, downtown Gold Beach. If you haven't eaten there you are in for a treat. Choices will be: Penne Pomo Doro (a Vegan all vegetable pasta), Pasta Alfredo with chicken or 3 cheese ravioli with meat sauce. Side dishes include grilled garden vegetables, a choice of Cesar or Garden Vegetable salad and bread. Also included are a dish of Spumoni and a choice of ice-tea or lemonade. Wine and beer are available at your expense. The cost is \$12 per person, paid at the door, which covers all that great food and the gratuity. Bring a guest, friend and or spouse for this great meal and social event. For reservations email Lucie LaBonté with your meal choice at: labontelucie2@gmail.com or leave a message at 541-247-0935 by November 25th. *Please Note: While Mangia Buffs has a coupon in our coupon book, it will not be accepted for this meal since it is a special event.*

TAX INITIATIVES ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

The November 5 Special Election is devoted to various tax measures. Based on where you live, your ballot will have from one to three tax measures. The measures on your ballot are:

- Measure 8-73, the Curry County Law Enforcement 3 year Operating Levy, will appear on all ballots.
- Measure 8-72, the City or Port Orford Funding for the Port Orford Police Department, will appear on ballots for residents of Port Orford.
- Measure 8-74, Curry Health District Funding for new Hospital in Gold Beach and Improvements in Port Orford Clinic, will appear on all ballots for residents of the Curry County Health District.
- Measure 8-75, 7 Year Capital Projects Local Option Fire Truck Levy, will appear on ballots for residents of Gold Beach.

Ballots must be placed in a white ballot box by 8:00 PM on November 5 or mailed in the envelope provided with your ballot in order to be in the County Clerk's office on or before November 5. A post mark of November 5 will not suffice. The ballot must be physically in the County Clerk's office or in a white ballot collection box by 8:00 PM on November 5. **Do not forget to sign the envelope before submitting it. Unsigned ballots will not be counted.**



Dear Members and Friends,

November is ahead and that means elections. We have no candidates for this election but we have some very important tax measures that deserve your attention. The article on our Front Page summarizes those measures, broken down by the area of the County that each one affects. Off-year elections, particularly when there are no hotly contested candidate elections sometimes have a small turnout. These issues are important. Be sure to cast your ballot!!

Our November Unit Meetings will provide an opportunity for each of us to learn more about agriculture in Curry County. We need to prepare ourselves for our role in giving input to LWVUS on the revision of the national Agriculture position. This position has not been updated since its passage in 1988 and it is vital that it be brought up to date. It is important for each of us to learn what we can about agriculture in Curry County so that we can provide meaningful input into these deliberations. Please plan to attend the Unit Meeting in your area. Brookings members should note that their Unit Meeting has been merged with the Gold Beach meeting to be held on November 21 at 5:30 PM at the Gold Beach City Hall.

Hopefully you are going to buy a coupon book or two if you have not done so already. Please do not put it off. Your League needs the money and the books provide savings far beyond the cost of the book. And once you have bought your book, please do not forget to use it. The merchants will be happy to see you. Show the book to a friend the next time you are shopping or eating out. Show them how much money they can save. Then take the order form that is in the book and give it to them. They will save money and we will balance our budget. Everybody wins!!

I want to point out the article on Page 4 regarding Suction Dredge Mining. While our League has not been directly involved in lobbying for these changes, our State League has. Part of your dues goes to pay for these efforts, and this result greatly benefits all of us.

It is just one more way that League does make a difference!!

Al Wilson

The League of Women Voters of Curry County



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Coast Lines

*A publication of the League
of Women Voters ® of Curry
County*

*Coast Lines is produced 11
times a year by the League of
Women Voters of Curry County.
We welcome your comments,
suggestions, story ideas and
submissions. Submissions
must be received no later than
the day of the board meeting
each month. That date is
available on our web site.*

Web site: lwvcurry.org
Email: league@lwvcurry.org
Election Info: vote411.org

Gold Beach Unit Report

Curry General Hospital Bond and Fire Truck Tax Levy

The Gold Beach Unit had a pleasant surprise: a reporter from the Curry Coastal Pilot attended! Attendance was up too with several non-members there to hear about the Hospital Bond.

City Administrator Jodi Fritts-Matthey spoke about the Gold Beach Fire Truck Levy. She said this levy comes up every so many years to maintain the vehicles the department has. There is a line item in the City budget for Public Safety that helps fund the Fire Department but the cost of public safety in Gold Beach costs twice what is funded by other city taxes. The City also receives funds from Wedderburn because they contract with the City for fire services. Only voters in the Gold Beach area are affected by this levy.

Dale Thomas from the Curry Hospital PAC gave a presentation on the Hospital Bond. He stressed that the condition of the hospital is not good. Without the Emergency Room, life flights cannot continue because patients must go through an ER before being flown out. Repairs at the hospital would be costly and each time hospital services are interrupted it costs the district. The new center in Brookings is now generating over \$400,000 per year after overhead. He also talked about the 35 mile radius being enforced and that Sutter Coast is reducing beds to allow them to receive better reimbursements.

Port Orford Unit Report

Andrew Bair, CEO of Curry Health District, spoke to about twenty-four people at Port Orford City Hall October 8 concerning the proposed ballot measure to fund a new hospital for Curry County. A second speaker, Police Chief Marvin Combs, spoke about the proposed measure for public safety in Port Orford. County Commissioner David Smith also spoke on the proposed measure for the county General Fund, which is intended to pay for public safety provided by the County.

All three presentations were clear and each speaker responded to questions specific to his area. Mr. Bair had an effective visual presentation. He mentioned that the Health District is offering a \$25 gasoline card per family if it is necessary to go from Port Orford to Gold Beach for medical care. That offer has already been redeemed by Milt and Shirley Nelson. The other two speakers made their cases that maintaining current levels of public safety required that these tax initiatives be passed.

Twelve members of the League were present; most of the others had a direct connection with city, county, or health district administration.

Observer Corps Report

Observer Corp Member Christine Rees attended the Port Orford Planning Commission Meeting. She introduced herself to the members. Here are excerpts from her report.

The meeting started promptly at 6 PM with all members present including the City Attorney, Shayla Kudlac. Most seemed attentive during the meeting. It does not appear any items were discussed in closed session but it did seem the meeting was a little short. It may be because the topic on the agenda was lengthy and needed more time to study by the members and was tabled for the next meeting. The media was not in attendance.

Thank you, Christine! Making our presence known at these meetings is important so that the public, appointed and elected officials know there is public interest in what they are doing and how they follow procedures.

If you are interested in observing any of our public bodies please contact Observer Corp Chair, Lucie La Bonté via email at labontelucie2@gmail.com.

NEW RULES FOR SUCTION DREDGE MINING

SB 838 related to new rules for suction dredge mining was passed by the Oregon Legislature and signed by the Governor in 2013. The implementation of the bill is done via formal rulemaking. The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) supported SB 838. Individual Leagues and members are welcome to provide testimony on this rulemaking, especially around who should get the 850 permits that will be issued next year. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Lynch, LWVOR NR Action at ZULUDAR@aol.com or 541-745-1025.

The Department of State Lands is proposing the following changes to its Division 89 General Authorization rules. Please see below for additional information.

CAPTION: Amend the General Authorization for Recreational Placer Mining to Partially Implement SB 838 (2013)

SUMMARY: SB 838 (2013 Or Laws, c. 783, section 5(2)), passed by the 2013 Oregon Legislature, pertains to motorized mining and the state's Removal-Fill Law.

The legislation requires new restrictions for motorized mining in waters of the state. The restrictions include a minimum 500-foot distance between motorized dredge operations, motorized mining operating hours between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., and a prohibition against leaving motorized equipment unattended in the waterway. The restrictions do not apply to any mining for which an operating permit has been issued under ORS 517.702 to 517.989.

The new legislations also puts a limit of 850 on the number of authorizations and permits issued by the Department at any time for the 2014 and 2015 operating seasons. The bill states that the Department shall give priority, to the greatest extent practicable, to those persons who held permits or authorizations for the longest period of time before January 1, 2014.

The operating restrictions and limit on the number of permits and authorizations apply to any river and tributaries thereof, of which any portion contains essential indigenous anadromous salmonid habitat (ESH), or naturally reproducing populations of bull trout. A map related to this notice will be posted on http://www.oregon.gov/dsl/PERMITS/docs/SB838_Map.pdf.

Authorizations for the 2014 and 2015 operating seasons will require a revision to the Department of State Lands' General Authorization for Recreational Placer Mining within Essential Salmonid Habitat (OAR 141-089-0820 through -0835). Rule revisions include the new operating restrictions and the method by which the Department will implement the limit on the number of authorizations and permits.

WEBSITE: The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Hearing, Statement of Need and Fiscal Impact, and the Proposed Rules are available at: http://www.oregon.gov/DSL/rules_activity.shtml

HOW TO COMMENT: You may comment on the proposed rules by sending written comments to: Tiana Teeters, Rules Coordinator; DIV 89 Rulemaking; Oregon Department of State Lands; 775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100; Salem, Oregon 97301-1279 or via email: PlacerMining.rulemaking@dsl.state.or.us.

LWVUS AGRICULTURE POSITION UPDATE

The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) is in the midst two year effort to update the League's position on Agriculture. This position was adopted in 1988 and very much needs to be updated to include all of the changes that affect agriculture since the position was adopted. It is important for all of us to understand that LWVUS does not act on its own. Each State and Local League has input to these deliberations through the consensus reports that each League can and should submit. These reports are due this coming Spring.

These consensus reports are the very essence of the League's deliberative process. We are a grass roots organization. Each individual's views matter. Our process involves study of background material followed by deliberation at the local League level. The Curry County League is currently involved with studying materials to help us reach consensus at our March 2014 Unit Meetings. Background papers have been distributed to members to read; some members will read these online. More papers, League-generated, should be ready soon, probably in November. Shirley Nelson will let members know when those materials are ready.

If you need help obtaining this background information or if you would like guidance on how to take part in this effort, please contact Shirley at mas770@charter.net or 541-332-9002.

FARMING & RANCHING IN CURRY COUNTY

As part of our preparation for our consensus meeting on Agriculture the Curry County League's Unit Meetings in November will be devoted to the status of farming and ranching in Curry County. Each unit is attempting to get an organic farmer and a conventional farmer to make a short presentation and answer questions as to issues they face in their work and whether federal agricultural policies affect them. Names of speakers are not available at this time but members will be called and should also check the local newspapers. Attendees will be asking invited guest speakers questions about the effects of federal policies on their farming operation. The Port Orford unit meets at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, November 12 in the small meeting room of the Port Orford Public Library. The Brookings and Gold Beach unit will be a combined Unit Meeting held at Gold Beach City Hall on November 21 at 5:30 PM

COUPON BOOK REPORT

Sales of coupon books have passed the \$500 figure. A profit is guaranteed but we need to sell at least 60 more books to have a profit large enough for the League to avoid a deficit for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Quite a number of our merchants in each of our cities are selling books for us and several have reported sales.

We need League members to step up and buy books for themselves or as gifts and we need each member to sell a book or two to their friends and neighbors. We targeted merchants throughout the County so that each book would easily pay for itself. If you go out to dinner only twice a year there are restaurants in your area in the book whose coupons will save you more than the cost of the book. Please contact Charlie Alexander at lwwcharlie@yahoo.com or 541-332-0386 or Kathi Lindsay at tofukatie@gmail.com or 541-332-0185.

Please buy a book and show it to some friends or neighbors. They will see that they can save money by buying a book while supporting the League of Women Voters at the same time.

New Member Profiles

Charlene Enoch has joined our Gold Beach Unit, one of several persons who have brought back to life our League presence in the County seat. What motivated her to say yes to Lucie La Bonté's request that she join is our concept of an informed electorate, a bipartisan stance on public issues and an emphasis on voter registration so that all may participate. Charlene was a member in the Fresno California area 40 years ago, so the basis of League was not totally new to her. She spent a fulfilling career as a special education teacher, working with learning disabled students, first in elementary and then for many years at the high school level. She likes to hike and camp.

Sherrylee Felger, a new member in Port Orford sought more social relationships after a close friend moved away. Looking to learn more about political issues on the local level, she attended Port Orford Unit meetings and decided to join. Her career was as a computer systems analyst working with main frame computers. She is now member data manager for our League. Asked what she does for fun brought forth that she takes many walks with her dog, cares for her garden and chickens plus spending time with her 13-year-old granddaughter in the Holiday season and over the summer.

	
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Port Orford (541) 332-3931 ▪ Coquille (541) 396-3118 ▪ Gold Beach (541) 247-6638 ▪ Brookings (541) 469-2103 ▪ After Hours (866) 352-9044 <p style="text-align: center;">www.ccec.coop</p>	<p>SPINNER'S SEAFOOD, STEAK & CHOP HOUSE Non-Smoking, including Bar Ocean View Lunch 11 to 2:30 M-F 2940 Ellensburg Ave Dinner from 4 PM 7 Days Gold Beach, OR 97444 541-247-5160</p>
	



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Coast Lines
 League of Women Voters of Curry County
 P O Box 8039
 Brookings, OR 97415

November and December 2013		
Election Day	Nov 5 until 8 PM	At a white ballot box near you!
Port Orford Unit Meeting	Nov 12; 1 to 3 PM	Port Orford Library
LWVCC Board Meeting	Nov 12; 3 to 5 PM	Port Orford Library
Brookings and Gold Beach Unit Meeting	Nov 21; 5:30 PM	Gold Beach City Hall
LWVCC Holiday Party	Dec 7; 1 to 3 PM	Mangia Buffs Restaurant, Gold Beach

Membership Invitation

WE NEED YOU WITH US!

JOIN NOW!

Name/Names _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

_____ \$60 ONE-YEAR individual membership due on Sept. 1st of the current year.

_____ \$90 HOUSEHOLD (for one-year membership for the current year) for two members who share an address

_____ YES, I would like to receive *CoastLines* by email, saving LWVCC over \$10 a year in postage and printing.

Please make your dues checks payable LWVCC, listing the year (2013-2014) on your check, and return with this application form to: LWVCC Treasurer; 36858 Highway 101; Port Orford, OR 97465

Additional contributions - checks made out to League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund (LWVOREF) and mailed to the LWVCC Treasurer are tax deductible.