LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CURRY COUNTY CoastLines

ALL LWV events are cancelled or postponed until further notice due to the COVID-19

President Message



Greetíngs

to all of you during this time of unprecedented Pandemic Emergency. This is a time that will go down in global history as a turning point of unpredictable proportions. The black plague began the end of Europe's feudal system. What, I wonder will change as we rebuild from this disaster? I am comforted by the American drive to help one another. Please stay safe.

LWVUS will follow the guidance from the CDC, and we encourage you to follow their guidance as well as that of your state and local public health agency regarding the appropriate course of action in your state. The Encourage people in highrisk categories to take advantage of early and absentee voting ...

Torrect voters to VOTE411 to find updated information about polling locations and other voting options during an emergency. VOTE411 will have special alerts for any changes to normal voting procedures (such as last-minute changes to polling locations).

Just before the stay home directives, Charlie Alexander and I went to the 100th Anniversary Luncheon in Salem. Over 250 League members celebrating our 100th Anniversary.



It was fantastic. More about that in this newsletter. As you know, we spent much time scheduling Unit meetings, Forums, Celebrations for the 100th Anniversary, Census gatherings, voter registration and Redistricting Informational meetings as well as other important gatherings. Then we cancelled or rescheduled, so this board has been extremely busy. We apologize for any confusion this has caused our membership and candidates. We too have been confused and, as is true of everyone else, we are doing our best.

My thanks go out to this Board of Directors and the Budget, Bylaw and Nomination Committees as well as the Unit meeting chairpersons for their dedicated and committed work this year. It hasn't been easy and they deserve our acknowledgement.



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Pandemic Predicted

By Charlie Alexander

Sometime in the late 1990's I attended the LWV State Convention in Helena, Montana. We came in from all over Montana to attend and conduct the business at hand.

I remember the guest speaker for the Saturday night banquet. At that time the Leagues in Montana used the Humanities Program for speakers. They covered many subjects and were extremely reasonable.

This lady was an employee of CDC and she spoke on "The next pandemic". She was quite thorough in tracing the history of pandemics in the world. I remember her saying, "we will experience another pandemic in our lifetime, and it will spread rapidly, because we are so globally connected now".

She also stated that the world was not ready, nor prepared to meet the demands a pandemic will have, no matter what form it took.

It was a very thought-provoking evening and bits and pieces of it keep coming back to me. She sure knew what she was talking about. We are not ready for what is happening right now in the world. Please practice safe distancing, stay home if you can, mostly BE SAFE.



LWVUS: Organizing & Census 2020

From the website As it becomes clear that we must prepare for the worst possible impacts of COVID-19, activists and organizers need to think not only about what we're organizing for, but *how* we're organizing. This is what organizers do. We stay attuned to the needs of our communities and we adapt our strategies to the moment.

The Bay Rising network has shifted impressively quickly to remote organizing–we're figuring it out as we go along, but we're ready to make some big changes and make hard sacrifices in order to keep all our people safe. For example, we're planning to shift most of our door-to-door outreach for the Census to phone banking with mobile hotspots, so our outreach workers can get out the count from home. ..."



LWVCC is working with the Library in Gold Beach to assist with remote access.



Don't forget to submit your census forms or go online to complete your census







On March 7, 2020, just before the shelter in place order, the LWVOR held its celebratory luncheon. There were about 250 League members in attendance at the Salem Convention Center. It is always a great privilege to meet and interact with other League Leaders in Oregon. I was immensely impressed by what women have accomplished in the last 100 years.

In attendance from the LWVCC were Charlie Alexander, Lucie La Bonte and myself. Also in attendance was former LWVCC President Shirley and Treasurer Milt Nelson who now live in Florence, OR.

Former Governor Barbara Roberts spoke and then introduced the impressive Oregon panelists:

- ★ Ellen Rosenblum, Attorney General
- Val Hoyle, Commissioner of Labor and Industry
- ★ Lynn Peterson, Metro Council President
- Martha Walters, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

Each spoke passionately about their work to make life better for all Oregonians.

The event video will be posted on the LWVOR website. I recommend viewing this inspiring event. We were served lunch and headed home.

The memory of this celebration will remain with me forever.



LWV of Marion and Polk Counties for organizing and producing this amazing event.





MJ LaBelle

🕅 Charlie Alexander

M Shirley & Milt Nelson M Lucie La Bonte

Interested in Joining the

LWVOR Board of Directors?

If so, please email MJ LaBelle and she will get your name to the Oregon League's Nominating Committee. Please consider volunteering. Most of the meetings can be handled remotely.





Pathbreakers the Musical

By Anne Tlaker

With a cast of 18 terrific

Suffragettes and others it has been difficult to put a hold on our musical paying tribute to Woman Suffrage in Oregon.

The play follows the amazing efforts Of Abigail Duniway (Valerie MacGillivary) and others in their 70 year struggle to get the vote in Oregon...8 years before the nation! Visits by Susan B Anthony (Dr. Jessica Carlson) inspired the west to allow women a voice in law making.



African American, Hattie Redmond (Geri Kendall) trailblazed a place for women of color in the territories as part of the Congressional Caucus in the 1880's. Suffragette Esther Pohl, first female city health director in the nation made Portland the "cleanest city" and stopped the plague! Amazing women and little known history all mixed in with songs from the period and a twist to some of our current favorites...We'll just need to wait to hear Susan B Anthony sing "I am Woman" at a rally in 1874 and the women in a "Bohemian Rhapsody" battle with the Oregon congress trying to pass a voting bill...





Please hold onto your tickets and checks for the Play. It will be rescheduled, and you will be notified of the date.



Voter Services

By Charlie Alexander

My oh My it has been an interesting three weeks. March 11th: letters out to all contested Curry County candidates inviting them to Forums. Evan getting the publicity out to papers, Facebook and radio. March 15:, called the County Commissioner Position #2 and State Senate candidates and getting their ok to revise to a closed Forum with 10 or less people in the room. Letters followed. Then, getting the publicity out for that and inviting the public to submit questions via e-mail. Thank you Evan Kramer. Then on the afternoon of the 25th, Mary Jane and I made the decision, to cancel the closed Forum out of an abundance of caution.

We were the last county in the state to cancel Candidate Forums. I e-mailed all candidates and followed up with a letter. THEN I get an email to call or text all but one candidate running in Curry County to please ask them to submit something to Vote411.



Only one candidate out of 12 had submitted copy for the Vote411 website and Voter Guide, so I spent an afternoon doing that. Most candidates answered

their phone and we had pleasant conversations about how important it was for them to use Vote411 as that was going to be a major factor in getting out their information this Primary Election. I left messages for the rest.

Many thanks to Evan for getting publicity out. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused our members and the candidates, but things were changing daily. We encourage you after April 3rd to visit Vote411.org to inform yourself about the candidates running in Curry County and the state. It is very easy to use and provides a lot of information. We will be receiving 200 copies of the Voter Guide and I will need help getting them spread around the County.



We usually give them out at Voter Forums, and Libraries which is not an option this year. It will be too expensive to mail them. I have done Voter Service for many years and this has been by far the most intense and interesting.



Thank you Charlie for all you do for our League!!



We need a member to produce the CoastLines. Please contact MJ LaBelle at <u>maryjanelabelle@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in helping us out.



March 2020, Volume 36, Issue 7

100 YEARS STRONG

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS*

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Proclamation Affirmed

On March 18, 2020, the LWVCC was invited to attend the Commissioners meeting to read a proclamation to be approved by the BOC. This is the final paragraph of the presentation that was signed by the BOC:

> **W** Thank you! **Curry County Board** of Commissioners

Bylaws

By Alyce Prudden

Looking ahead to the LWVCC Annual Meeting – currently scheduled for June 6 preparation of the agenda is underway. One expected agenda item is a proposal to the general membership for six bylaw changes. The Board has already approved the first two prospective changes, which would affect the president's term of office and the year of election for officers and directors (Bylaw Article IV, Section 1).



Here's a sneak peek at those two proposals:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Curry County Board of

contributions made by the

League of Women Voters of

the past 100 years; extends

Curry County of Oregon over

heartiest congratulations to the

and offers best wishes for the continued success of the League

for the next 100 years."

members of this organization on the occasion of this anniversary;

Commissioners recognizes the

The first proposal would lengthen the president's term from one year to two, to match the vice president's term, resulting in a clearer succession path. To maintain staggered officer terms, the proposal would provide for election of both the president and vice president in odd-numbered years, and the secretary and treasurer in evennumbered years.

🏋 The second proposal would more clearly specify which directors are elected in which year, by stating: "Of the five possible director positions, directors serving in the odd-numbered positions (#1, #3, and #5) shall be elected in odd-numbered years, while directors serving in the even-numbered positions (#2 and #4) shall be elected in even-numbered years." More details coming to your mailbox soon!



As per membership emails from LWVOR, you will receive a copy of this in the mail unless you opted out. We will discuss this and all the consensus questions at the Unit meetings when it is safe to gather again.

IRS Update By Alyce Prudden

Now that LWVCC is a qualified IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization, donations are taxdeductible, subject to rules explained in IRS Publication 526 (2019).

The Basics: "Generally, you can deduct contributions of money or property you make to … a qualified organization." (*IRS Pub. 526, p. 3.*) For non-cash contributions, the deductible amount "is generally the fair market value of the property at the time of the contribution." (*Id., p. 8.*)

Fundraisers:What if youMemberships:Your \$65receive something of value from
LWVCC in exchange for your
donation, such as a meal?Memberships:Your \$65annual LWVCC membership
dues are deductible.That's
because our nominal

If you pay more than fair market value to a qualified organization for goods or services, the excess may be a charitable contribution" provided you "pay it with the intent to make a charitable contribution." (*Id., p. 3.*) For example, if you pay \$60 to attend a fundraising dinner with a known value of \$20, the \$40 difference is deductible. Memberships: Your \$65 annual LWVCC membership dues are deductible. That's because our nominal membership benefits are among those specified by the IRS, and "you get them in return for an annual payment of \$75 or less." (*Id., p. 4.*)



New Websile !

LWVCC to Launch New Website by By Alvce Prudden



As we distribute this issue of Coastlines,

we are in the midst of the global coronavirus pandemic. Our community's health and safety are paramount; and so, like many organizations, we've adapted our operations to meet the circumstances, canceling or postponing events as necessary, and conducting virtual meetings.

Regardless of circumstances, LWVCC remains focused on our key mission: to encourage informed and active participation in government. In times like this, one way to accomplish that mission is to inform and engage the community via our website. Unfortunately, though, some our website's information and features are out of date. The good news – a much-needed website renovation is coming soon. The Board recently engaged Gold Beach website developer Amber Hughes of OurWebmaster, who will be creating an exciting new multi-page, mobile-friendly website.

The new website will be designed using a professional template, customized with our colors, graphics, and content. The content will include all our current pages and links. Features will include a security firewall, scheduled backups, and a search engine optimization package.

We anticipate launching our "new and improved" website in mid-May.







CENSUS DAY!

By Georgia Nowlin

April 1st is Census Day!

It is a key reference date for the 2020 Census. When completing the census, you will include everyone living in your home on April 1, 2020.

By that date too, every home in the U.S. should have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Response can be online, by phone (English 844-330-2020; Spanish 844-468-2020) or a paper questionnaire.

The COVID-19 has up-ended the celebratory kick-off events that have been planned for months to call attention to the census and to urge everyone to respond. Traditionally, large gatherings and face-to-face interactions have been relied on to boost response rates for this once-in-a-decade event.

Now, more than ever, we must **all** help to get the word out, especially in outreach to the populations that are difficult to count even in the best of times- **low-income**, **minority**, **immigrant and tribal populations**.

It may well be those hit hardest by the pandemic and its economic toll who will suffer most by not being counted. Please respond to Census 2020 and remind friends, family and neighbors to do so as well. For more information on the census go to <u>https://2020census.gov</u>





mandated by the U.S. Constitution in Article 1, Section 2: The U.S. has counted its population every 10 years since 1790



The results determine how many seats in Congress each state gets



results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states and communities each year





League of Women Voters of Curry County Calendar – 2020

Month	Day	Events	Place	Time
March	7	LWVOR 100 th	Salem Convention Center	10AM-2PM
	9	Anniversary Lunch	Karol Simas's House	10:00 AM
	9 16	LWVCC Board Meeting Redistricting Forum	Cancelled	5:30 PM
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April	1	Volunteer Appreciation Day	Cancelled Dhone Conference	9:00 AM
	7	LWVCC Board Meeting Candidate Forum	Phone Conference Cancelled	4-6:00 PM
	13 14	Candidate Forum	Cancelled	7-9:00 PM 7-9:00 PM
	14	Candidate Forum	Cancelled	7-9:00 PM
	21	Harvard Project Demo	Cancelled	6:30-
	28	Last day to Register to Vote	Cancelled	8:30PM
Мау	3	LWVCC 100 th Anniversary	Postponed	1:00 PM
	11	LWVCC Board Meeting	Phone Conference	10:00 AM
	TBA	LWVOR Council	Probably Cancelled	
	19	Primary Election	VOTE	VOTE
June	6	LWVCC Annual Meeting	Gold Beach	9:30AM-
		New/Old Board Meeting		1PM
		-		

Directory of Public Official

Reminder that the Directory for Curry County was updated on September 2019. Any person, library, newspaper, city offices or otherwise is welcome to distribute it. To access it, go to our website: <u>lwvcurry.org</u> and you will find the page. The next update will be after the November 2020 general election.

A volunteer is needed to enter candidate data into the LWVOR Vote411 database. This system is available to all voters and gives them their ballot information onsite. Please consider helping us in Curry County. Contact <u>maryjanelabelle@gmail.com</u> if interested.

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CoastLines

League of Women Voters of Curry County P O Box 1859 Gold Beach, OR 97415



The League of Women Voters of Curry County

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The League of Women Voters of Curry County - -How to Join

Membership \$65 enclose a contributio Only a portion of Member	difference by joining the League of Wo _Household Membership (2 adults in h n of rship dues to the League of Women Voters of C n Education Fund are tax deductible	ousehold) \$97.50 I am una	ble to join but
Name			
Address	City, State, Zip		
Phone	Email		
I would like to work o	n Send your check to: League of Wom PO Box 1859, Gold Bea	en Voters of Curry County ch, OR 97444	
	on issues that concern you. Join with us networking, communication ou will receive periodic League publicat	n and leadership.	elop skills in

