

# CoastLines



**Dear League Members,**

The holiday season is here. I hope you all had a nice Thanksgiving and that the rest of the holiday season is wonderful for you and your families. We had our holiday party this past Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. It was held at Mr. Ed’s Espresso & Juice & Underground Pub, where we had pizza and homemade desserts that members brought. We had about 14 people attend, and everyone had a nice time.

We will be gearing up for the spring election cycle early in the new year, getting ready for special district elections. We also hope to hold a fundraiser this spring so stay tuned for that.

The **LWVCC** board extends our wishes for a safe and happy **Holiday** season for everyone.

Respectfully, Louise Abbott  
President, **LWVCC**

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Summary December 10, 2024  
LWVCC Board meeting held via Zoom

Board members attending:

- Louise Abbott
- Susan Barke
- Karen Cunningham
- Georgia Nowlin
- Jeanne Jezuit
- Alyce Prudden



- The treasurer’s report for November 2024, was approved.
- The minutes of the Board Meeting held November 12, 2024, were approved.
- We discussed the Harvard Civics Project at Curry County high schools.
- The deadline for the workshop was December 6.
- The switch to ChapterSpot for the collection of **LWV** membership dues was discussed.
- Alyce attended the training session for treasurers.
- We discussed the consensus discussions on the Recall Study & Child Care Study that were recently approved by the **LWVOR**.
- Two unit meetings have been held to consider these studies.





- Did you know that there’s a cost-free, hassle-free way to earn money for the **League of Women Voters of Curry County**?
- It’s the **Fred Meyer Community Rewards** program.
- The program was created by the Kroger Family of Companies to support community engagement, positive social impact, and charitable giving.
- The program donates to community organizations based on the shopping you do every day.

**No cost** – You don't lose card savings or fuel points.








**No hassle** – The online process is quick and easy. Link your shopper's card to **LWVCC** in your digital account, then simply swipe your card whenever you shop at Fred Meyer.

*Voila!* Community rewards for the League!

## HOW-TO








-  To participate in the community rewards program, you start with a digital account with Fred Meyer.
-  Then link your shopper's card to **LWVCC** – and shop!

## Create an account.

-  It's easy to set up a digital account with Fred Meyer if you don't have one already.
-  Go to [fredmeyer.com](http://fredmeyer.com) and follow the prompts.
-  You'll enter your email address, create a password, and put in your shopper's card number.
-  If you don't have a shopper's card, you can enter a 10-digit "Alt ID" instead.
-  You'll also be prompted to select a preferred store.
-  Link your card to **LWVCC**.
-  Linking your card is also quick and easy.



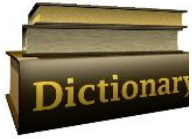
## Here's how:

-  **Sign in to your digital account.**
-  **In the drop-down "my account" menu, select community rewards.**
-  **To choose the league as your preferred organization, enter either our name (**League of Women Voters of Curry County**) or our number (FH475).**
-  **Click "Save."**
-  **Watch the donations roll in.**
-  After you've linked and used your shopper's card, your purchases automatically benefit the league.
-  Rewards accumulate based on every transaction you make with the shopper's card associated with your digital account.





The Power of Nonpartisan Advocacy (Taken from the LWV-OR website:  
<https://www.lwvor.org/post/the-power-of-nonpartisan-advocacy>)



**Webster’s definition of democracy:**

*a: government by the people, especially: rule of the majority*

*b: a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections.*

**DEMOCRACY IS A CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE**

- ✎ Our mission to ‘**empower voters and defend democracy**’ has not changed in our 100 years.
- ✎ What has changed is the need to defend democracy, especially in the face of voter suppression.
- ✎ There is a wealth of misinformation out there that is aimed to divide us as a nation and undermine our democracy.
- ✎ We have to stand up to this attack on our democratic ideals, regardless of what some may say.
- ✎ While it may be a challenge, especially at the state and local level, to avoid the appearance of partisanship when publicly addressing racial injustice in this heightened climate, we must.
- ✎ We may be accused of being partisan in those moments, but we must stand on the side of justice.
- ✎ It is our moral obligation to demand a more just and equitable world for people of color in our communities.
- ✎ **We will continue to uphold our nonpartisan values for fairness, justice, and equity because they form the foundation of a representative democracy.**
- ✎ If we don’t strive to dismantle and improve the systems and structures that exclude individuals from their democratic rights to vote and participate, we will never be able to achieve a “**democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.**”
- ✎ **Whether you identify politically as a Republican, Democrat, Independent, Libertarian, conservative, liberal, moderate, progressive or another political perspective, you have a place in this democracy and a place within the League, as long as you are committed to our belief in an inclusive democracy.**
- ✎ **While we may disagree on how we accomplish it, if you value democracy, then you must also value human rights, social justice, and equity.**

**WE CAN BRIDGE THE PARTISAN DIVIDE**

- ✎ In 2020, we marked the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which afforded women in the United States the right to vote.
- ✎ However, even then, women of color were largely excluded from the movement that brought about the amendment.
- ✎ It wasn’t until the passage of the 1965 *Voting Rights Act* that people of color could fully exercise their right to vote, and our country began to reflect the values of all its people.
- ✎ We’ve made strides in the past 100 years, but we have so much more work to do, especially when it comes to fairness, justice, and equity for all.





- ✂ The League will continue to fight for the nonpartisan, anti-racism issues and policies we have worked to advance for a century.
- ✂ We will work to elevate more diverse voices from within our membership and our communities.
- ✂ With our partners, the League will strive to create a stronger, more inclusive, just, and equitable democracy for American voters—a place where everyone has a voice.
- ✂ As we move forward, we remain open to conversations about our history and the ways we can improve our democracy.
- ✂ Let's do this work together and make the next 100 years a century of real diversity, inclusion, and equity in American elections and democracy.



### News from National

**LWVUS** has begun a new study addressing transparency and ethics for the Supreme Court and other federal courts. Find out more about the [Federal Judiciary Study](#):

- ✂ At the **LWVUS** 2024 Convention, delegates approved a fast-track study on the federal judiciary to develop a League position addressing judicial accountability, transparency, independence, and ethics.
- ✂ The study, focusing on the Supreme Court and other Article III federal courts, will culminate in a new position announcement at the **LWVUS** 2025 Council in June 2025.
- ✂ The Federal Judiciary Study Committee, led by Kimberley Fraser (Chair) and Helen Hutchison (Vice Chair), will host webinars and events to engage Leagues, including a recorded kickoff webinar and a January Town Hall featuring expert speakers.
- ✂ Study materials, including background resources and a study guide with consensus questions, will be released on a rolling basis to help Leagues participate and contribute to this critical initiative.
- ✂ Visit the [project webpage](#) frequently for updates and resources.

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/advocacy-litigation/2024-2025-federal-judiciary-study-process-committee-and>

Thank you!  
Sarah Andrews  
League of Women Voters of Oregon



## Our Nation

- Over 100 years ago, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was first introduced in the US Congress. Despite having fulfilled the ratification requirements, the ERA has still not been published. With just weeks left in office, we are urging President Biden to enshrine gender equality in our Constitution by instructing the US Archivist to publish the ERA. Demand equality now and contact the President at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org).
- Leagues can find additional tools, including talking points and a letter to the editor template in the ERA toolkit at:  
[https://www.lwv.org/ERAToolkit?utm\\_source=salsa&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=LU&utm\\_content=12.12.24&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=5463136b-e39e-4eb7-824a-773b92d563f2](https://www.lwv.org/ERAToolkit?utm_source=salsa&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=LU&utm_content=12.12.24&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=5463136b-e39e-4eb7-824a-773b92d563f2)
- Electors from all 50 states and DC will meet next Tuesday, December 17, to officially cast their ballots for President and send their votes to Washington to be counted and certified. This is a great opportunity for Leagues to elevate our One Person One Vote campaign to abolish the Electoral College. Find templates and other timely resources on the League Management site at: [https://www.lwv.org/league-management/league-fundamentals/annual-league-survey?utm\\_source=salsa&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=LU&utm\\_content=12.12.24&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=5463136b-e39e-4eb7-824a-773b92d563f2](https://www.lwv.org/league-management/league-fundamentals/annual-league-survey?utm_source=salsa&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=LU&utm_content=12.12.24&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=5463136b-e39e-4eb7-824a-773b92d563f2)

## Our League

- In US League news, I am excited to share that [Impact on Issues for 2024 – 2026](#) is now available online and in print. This document is designed to help Leagues use **LWVUS** public policy positions effectively in your states and communities.
- View and download Impact on Issues here: [https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues?utm\\_source=salsa&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=LU&utm\\_content=12.12.24&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=5463136b-e39e-4eb7-824a-773b92d563f2](https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues?utm_source=salsa&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=LU&utm_content=12.12.24&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=5463136b-e39e-4eb7-824a-773b92d563f2)
- Leagues can also order a paperback copy at Amazon: [Amazon https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0D08K59TH?ref=pe\\_93986420\\_774957520&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=5463136b-e39e-4eb7-824a-773b92d563f2](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0D08K59TH?ref=pe_93986420_774957520&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=5463136b-e39e-4eb7-824a-773b92d563f2)
- The Annual League Survey is just around the corner, launching on January 2, 2025. As we head into the new year, our ability to tell individual and collective League stories hinges on state and local Leagues collecting and sharing their data. One person in each League will have received an email about the Annual League Survey over the past week. Leagues can find a variety of resources, from data trackers to survey FAQs, on the League Management Site (provided above) and discuss the survey directly with **LWVUS** staff during office hours in Dec. 19 at 4 pm ET.
- Finally, **LWVUS** is continuing to share important updates as we prepare to transition to our new membership system, ChapterSpot. Last Friday, League presidents and treasurers received a link to set up a Stripe account — Stripe is the payment processor Leagues will use to collect their portion of member dues. Thank you for all your work to make this transition to the new system a success.



In League,

*Dianna Wynn*



**Dianna**  
President

League of Women Voters of the US

## Changes to LWV Membership Payments (ChapterSpot)



- ✦ As previewed in an article in the April 2024 CoastLines, the **League of Women Voters of the United States** is switching to a new member portal, called ChapterSpot, for all leagues across the country.
- ✦ League members don't need to take any action now. But here's an overview of what the upcoming changes mean for you as an **LWVCC** member. This information comes from **LWVUS**.
- ✦ When the system launches in January 2025, you'll receive an email from **LWVUS** with an invitation to log in to the portal.
- ✦ Once you have access to the portal, you will be able to update your own contact and other information.
- ✦ **Membership Renewal** – You won't be asked to renew your league membership until a year after you last renewed.
- ✦ Our renewals occur in July of each year. As before, your membership will continue for a year after your last renewal. When it comes time to renew, you will receive an email reminder.
- ✦ **Please be aware that there will be the option to renew by check for members who don't use the internet.**
- ✦ **Dues** – Dues will no longer be charged at a set rate.
- ✦ The new system will operate on a "pay-what-you-can" model.
- ✦ There will be a standard recommended dues amount of \$75 for all members across the country.
- ✦ However, members can choose to pay the current rate, which is \$70 for individual **LWVCC** members, or they can choose any dues amount, down to a minimum of \$20.
- ✦ There will no longer be household or student memberships.
- ✦ **Dues** – Under the current system, **LWVCC** makes a fixed "per member payment" ( PMP) both to the Oregon state league and to the national league.
- ✦ Under the new system, dues will be divided among the national, state, and local league, based on a set percentage.
- ✦ **Donations** – **If you want to make a donation to LWVCC** in addition to your dues, this will need to be done separately.
- ✦ Choosing a higher dues amount will benefit to all levels of the league; it will not exclusively support **LWVCC**.
- ✦ On a member level, **LWVUS** hopes these changes will make managing our memberships easier.
- ✦ On a League level, **LWVUS** expects ChapterSpot to increase membership around the country and to increase the league's ability to empower voters and defend democracy.
- ✦ We'll update you as the ChapterSpot roll-out progresses.
- ✦ Please be aware that members of the **LWVCC** board have been in contact with representatives from **LWV-Oregon** concerning this change and the issues it raises.



- ✍ All local leagues are being asked if anyone is interested in serving on the committee for the K-12 study. This also is an opportunity to make suggestions about what should be included in the study.
- ✍ Each year, the Oregon legislature makes decisions about what happens in our K-12 public schools, but currently the League is restricted in what bills we can support or oppose.
- ✍ Therefore, it is being proposed that the League uses two available methods for adopting K-12 education positions:
  - A--new **LWVOR** K-12 proposed study.
  - B--new K-12 concurrences.
- ✍ Engaging in a study during the 2025-27 biennium would use the consensus process to create wording for:
  - The Education of Exceptional Students
  - Career and Technical Education
  - Safety in Schools
- ✍ Adopting other state's positions through Concurrence at the 2025 Convention:
  - Assessment and High Stakes Testing
  - Attracting and Retaining Teachers
  - Charter Schools
  - Civic Education
  - (Not) Using Public Funds for Private Schools
- ✍ The league studies issues for the following reasons:
  - We need detailed, reliable, carefully researched information so LWV members and citizens can reach their own conclusions.
  - We need to develop advocacy positions that can be used by our Action Team.
- ✍ Also, our league is being asked when during the spring of 2025 we would like to have someone attend an all-unit meeting to describe and answer questions about the five positions being proposed for adoption by concurrence.
- ✍ Note that a Communication Café will be scheduled to help explain pros and cons of the positions, but a member of the Concurrence Committee would be willing to meet separately with just members of our League.
- ✍ Then, during the 2025 **LWVOR** Convention May 2-4, delegates from our league will be asked to vote on:
  - Whether to approve a K-12 study for the 2025-27 biennium
  - Whether to approve the five positions by concurrence.



If you have any questions, please reach out to Jean Pierce  
at [advocacy@lwvor.org](mailto:advocacy@lwvor.org).





**Issue for Emphasis:  
Homelessness and Mental Health  
December article, Louise C. Abbott**



- ⇒ This article focuses on the mental health services that are possibly available to unhoused individuals in Curry County. A major source of such services is **adapt integrated health care**.
- ⇒ **Adapt** is a healthcare organization that provides communities in southern Oregon help in gaining access to primary care, addictions treatment, behavioral health care, prevention services, housing, employment, benefits, social, educational, and other essential services. Some services provided by adapt are possibly available to unhoused individuals. There are **adapt** services available in Brookings, Gold Beach, and Port Orford.

The following information (points 1 and 2) is taken from the **adapt** website (<https://adaptoregon.org/#>)

1. The **Mobile Crisis Response Team of Adapt** was founded in 2018 as an on-call team to provide community members an alternative to law enforcement during mental health crises. The Mobile Crisis Response Team works with the Emergency Response Teams to respond to situations to de-escalate crisis situations. Our team tries to connect individuals with the necessary resources to provide immediate relief and long-term support.
2. **adapt Walk-in Crisis Services.**
  - ◆ **24-hour Crisis Line:** Trained professionals are available 24/7 to listen, support, and guide individuals through their current challenges. The crisis phone number for Curry County is (877) 519-9322.
  - ◆ **Mental Health Evaluation and Intervention:** Adapt provides mental health assessments to develop an intervention plan. The staff attempts to provide targeted interventions to stabilize the situation and ensure safety.
  - ◆ **Treatment Determination:** Every individual and crisis is unique. Following assessment, the staff tries to determine the most effective treatment approach tailored to the specific needs of the individual in crisis.
  - ◆ **Referral to Mental Health Services and Other Community Resources:** Beyond immediate intervention, staff attempts to connect individuals with long-term resources for continued support and healing.
- ⇒ **Adapt** provides needed services in our county. It is critical that they have offices in the three largest towns in our county. Adapt does make a difference. However, as with all social service agencies, some problems must be overcome when accessing services.
- ⇒ Staffing is limited, and the need is great. **Adapt's** funding is also limited. Some services require individuals to have health insurance.



## Homelessness and Mental Health - *continued*



- Unhoused individuals can apply for health insurance under the Oregon Health Plan (also called Oregon Medicaid). The Oregon Health Plan (OHP) is the medical assistance program for Oregon residents.
- OHP provides coverage for health care for a wide range of individuals, including low-income, no-income, and unhoused individuals. OHP connects individuals with a coordinated care organization (CCO) that is active where they live.
- In Curry County, the two major CCOs available are **Allcare** and **Advanced Health**. These two CCOs were discussed in the **September 2024 CoastLines**.
- However, the lack of primary care physicians in the county taking new patients or patients on the OHP limits the services that unhoused individuals can receive. This is especially critical for individuals with mental health issues.
- Additional issues include the inability to get to appointments due to lack of transportation and loss of needed documents due to periodic dismantlement and removal of camping sites by local authorities. It also is the case that anyone experiencing a mental health crisis is likely not to be able to understand when and where they should be for appointments or treatment.
- Finally, access to the Oregon State Hospital, which is under the Oregon Health Authority, should an unhoused individual require hospitalization, is severely restricted. About the only way for an unhoused person who needs hospitalization at the Oregon State Hospital for psychiatric services is to be charged with a felony crime.
- Even then, space is limited so individuals may stay in a jail for weeks to months before transfer to the Oregon State Hospital.
- There is much more that can be said about this issue. Additional information and comments will come in future issues of the CoastLines.












## LWVCC December Newsletter Vocabulary



### What Type of Government Does the United States of America Have?

#### First some definitions:

- 
**Authoritarianism** – a system of government in which there is complete submission to authority result in repression of individual freedom of thought and action. There are few to no civil liberties or political rights. Power is held by one leader or at most a small group of people.
- 
**Oligarchy** – a system of government where the government is controlled by a small group of people (called oligarchs). The word oligarch comes from the Greek word, *oligarkhia*, which can be translated as “the rule of the few.”
- 
**Democracy** – literal means “rule by the people.” The term is derived from the Greek word *dēmokratia*, which comes from the two Greek words *dēmos* (“people”) and *kratos* (“rule”). Thus, in theory, a direct democracy is a form of government with direct participation of citizens in democratic decision making.
- 
**Republic** – This is a form of government in which a country is ruled by representatives of the citizens. This concept, as it is currently thought states that the ultimate authority resides with the citizens of the country. Thus, a republic is a subset or type of democracy.
- 
**Representative democracy** – This is a system of government where the citizens vote for representatives to handle legislation and rule the country on their behalf. The elected representatives are in turn accountable to the electorate for their actions.
- 
 The Constitution of the United States of America established this country as a **federal democratic republic**. It consists of a national government and an indivisible union of 50 states, each with their own governments. In a federal republic, the federal government is given limited powers of government and state governments retain most powers of government. The US government is considered a democracy because the citizens participate at the state level and the federal level in their own governance. It is a republic because the power comes from the citizens of the country.
- 
 The Constitution describes the division of power between the federal government and the state governments, establishing which specific powers have been given to the federal government.

#### Information sources:

- ⇒ <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/oligarchy-countries>
- ⇒ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/authoritarianism>
- ⇒ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/republic-government>
- ⇒ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/political-system>
- ⇒ <https://clyburn.house.gov/fun-youth/us-government/>
- ⇒ <https://civics.asu.edu/civic-literacy-curriculum/section1>





**League of Women Voters of Curry County  
Calendar 2025**

MONTH	DAY	EVENTS	PLACE	TIME
January	TBD	Central (Gold Beach) Unit Meeting – in early January – date TBD – discussion of consensus questions for two recently approved <b>LWVOR</b> studies, Caring for Our Children and the Recall Election Study.	ZOOM	1:00 - 3:00pm
	14	<b>LWVCC</b> Board Meeting. Let Louise Abbott know if you want to attend, and she will give you the contact information.		
February	11	<b>LWVCC</b> Board meeting. Let Louise Abbott know if you want to attend, and she will give you the contact information.	ZOOM	1:00 - 3:00pm



# CoastLines

League of Women Voters of Curry County  
P O Box 1859  
Gold Beach, OR 97444



## 2024-2025 Board Officers & Directors

### President

- Louise Abbott

### Secretary

- Susan Barke

### Treasurer

- Alyce Prudden

### Board Directors

- Jeanne Jezuit
- Evan Kramer
- Karen Pringle-Cunningham
- Georgia Nowlin

**The League of Women Voters of Curry County**  
CoastLines – A publication of the League of Women Voters® of Curry County  
CoastLines is produced 8 to 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Curry County  
Website Information: [lwvcurry.org](http://lwvcurry.org)  
Election Information: [vote411.org](http://vote411.org)



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

LWVCC is a nonpartisan, nonprofit civics organization.  
Our mission is to encourage informed and active participation in government.

Membership in LWVCC is open to everyone who supports the purposes and policies of the League.

**Join us! Make your voice heard. Stay informed on issues that concern you.**

LWVCC is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (tax ID #93-0838450).  
Dues & donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Individual \$70.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Household (2 adults, same address) \$105.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Student \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Prorated Memberships from February to June – details at [lwvcurry.org/join](http://lwvcurry.org/join)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Interest in the League \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send your check to: LWVCC, P.O. Box 1859, Gold Beach, OR 97444**

