

CoastLines

JUNE



Hello members of the League of Women Voters of Curry County, **June** is upon us already – Memorial Day has come and gone, and school is almost out for the summer. I am sure the summer will pass by too quickly!

A summary of our candidate forums that were held in May can be found in this newsletter. There is a summary of the **LWVCC** annual meeting that was held May 18th as well as an update on our donation challenge.

Be on the lookout this fall for unit meetings that will allow members to discuss and participate in the consensus procedures for the **LWV-OR** Caring for Our Children Study that was approved at the state level in 2023. The consensus process is essential to develop the League position statements that reflect our views as **LWV** members. More on this process when we start back up in the fall.

We also will be gearing up for more candidate forums for the fall elections. Be sure to be on the lookout for calls for volunteers to help with the forums. It takes a village!! Thank you again to everyone who helped with the spring forums!

Finally, the new-old **LWVCC** board meeting will be combined with the board retreat on July 9th.

I hope everyone has a relaxing and safe summer. I look forward to working with all of you starting again in the fall.

*Respectfully, Louise Abbott
President, LWVCC*



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CANDIDATE FORUMS

Summary of May Candidate Forums



GOLD BEACH – MAY 2

- ☞ Three candidates appeared
- ☞ 2 for county sheriff
 - ☛ John Ward
 - ☛ Jeremy Krohn
- ☞ 1 for county commissioner position #2
 - ☛ Patrick Hollinger
- ☞ 34 individuals were in the audience.



Port Orford – May 6

- ☞ Four candidates appeared
- ☞ 2 for county sheriff
 - ☛ John Ward & Jeremy Krohn
- ☞ 1 for county commissioner position #2
 - ☛ Patrick Hollinger
- ☞ 1 for republican primary for Oregon Senate District 1
 - ☛ Todd Vaughn
- ☞ No head count was taken for the audience, but the room was full



Brookings – May 7

- ☞ Four candidates appeared
- ☞ 2 for county sheriff
 - ☛ John Ward & Jeremy Krohn
- ☞ 1 for county commissioner position #2
 - ☛ Patrick Hollinger
- ☞ 1 for republican primary for Oregon Senate District 1
 - ☛ Todd Vaughn
- ☞ 52 individuals were in the audience



We had many LWVCC members help with the candidate forums. Thank you very much to everyone who participated. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. We cannot put on these forums without participation from the LWVCC members so thank you.

Summary of Elections & Ballot Measures in Curry County

- ☞ <https://results.oregonvotes.gov/>
- ☞ Curry County Assessor – Kiley M. Wagner
- ☞ Curry County Commissioner Position #2 – Patrick Hollinger
- ☞ Curry County Commissioner Position # 3 – Jay Trost
- ☞ Curry County Sheriff – John L. Ward
- ☞ Curry County District Attorney – Joshua A. Spansail
- ☞ State Senator, 1st District, Republican – David Brock Smith
- ☞ 08-114 Curry Five Year Local Optional Tax for Curry County Law Enforcement:
 - ☛ No - 71.55%; Yes – 28.45%

**Summary of
LWVCC Board
Meeting
May 13, 2024
via Zoom**



**The next LWVCC
board meeting will be
a combined new/old
board meeting retreat
July 9, 2024**

Board members attending:

- ★ Louise Abbott
- ★ Susan Barke
- ★ Debra Worth
- ★ Karen Cunningham
- ★ Alyce Prudden

- 🇺🇸 The minutes of the April 12, 2024, board meeting were approved.
- 🇺🇸 The financial report for April was approved.
- 🇺🇸 The 2024 LWVCC annual meeting was discussed.
- 🇺🇸 The three forums that were held in Curry County were discussed.



ANNUAL MEETING



SUMMARY of LWVCC ANNUAL MEETING - May 18, 2024

- ✍ The meeting was held at the Curry County Public Library and started at 1:05 pm.
- ✍ Following the welcome and introductory remarks the rules and protocols were explained and adopted.
- ✍ A Minutes review committee and parliamentarian were appointed, and it was determined that we had a quorum.
- ✍ The following actions took place during the business meeting.
 - ✍ A. Approval of the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes
 - ✍ B. Approval of the 2024-2025 Budget
 - ✍ C. Election of Officers & Directors for 2024-2026
 - ✍ D. Election of Nominating Committee members
 - ✍ D. Directions to the Board.
- ✍ The membership decided that the Issue of emphasis for the next year would be investigation of the homelessness and associated mental health issues in our country.
- ✍ The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.



May Donation Challenge



- ➔ Thanks to our members' generosity, we raised \$728 in donations, \$300 of which will be counted in next year's budget.
- ➔ The maximum \$500 match has been deposited.
- ➔ We received donations from all board members, from other league members, and from community members who contributed at the candidate forums.

➔ **A big shout-out to Board members!**

- 🍷 Louise Abbott
- 🍷 Susan Barke
- 🍷 Karen Pringle-Cunningham
- 🍷 Alyce & Rich Prudden
- 🍷 Deb Worth
- 🍷 Renee Kolen



➔ **League members!**

- 🍷 Karol Simas
- 🍷 Mary Jane LaBelle
- 🍷 Hank Cunningham
- 🍷 Bret Cecil
- 🍷 Becky Flake
- 🍷 Phoebe Skinner



Thanks to everyone who made the donation challenge a big success!

➔ **New & Renewing Members**

- ➔ Thank you and welcome to our newest member – Karen Sutherland.
- ➔ Thank you to these rejoining members for paying their dues for fiscal year 2024-2025:

- 🍷 Louise Abbott
- 🍷 Susan Barke
- 🍷 Alyce & Rich Prudden
- 🍷 Georgia Nowlin
- 🍷 Karol Simas
- 🍷 Renee Kolen
- 🍷 Bret Cecil
- 🍷 Rosaria Williams

➔ If you haven't done so already, **PLEASE REJOIN!**

➔ Dues are \$70 for individuals

➔ \$105 for a household of two

➔ Please send your check to:

LWVCC

P.O. Box 185

Gold Beach, OR 97444

➔ We're looking forward to an exciting upcoming year, and we warmly invite you to be a part of it.





The 56th Biennial League of Women Voters National Convention will be held June 27 – 30 in Washington, DC, and online. All information related to the National Convention, including registration, agenda, and hotel bookings, can be found on the Convention Website.

- Here's the link: <https://web.cvent.com/event/07627034-5f27-44a8-8363-5805fab4b0ef/summary?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=cb7654a3-57cb-4f9d-972a-8c34b1c173b7>

Our state league is currently fundraising to send two passionate LWVOR Youth Council members to the National Convention. As **LWVOR** explains: This event is not just a convention; it's a transformative experience where young advocates will gain invaluable knowledge, skills, and inspiration to lead and empower voters in their communities. If they can attend the event, our Youth Council representatives will participate in a peer-led discussion on "Supporting Youth Leaders: A Panel of Youth Members."

- If you're interested in helping, here's the secure donation link: https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/1AYzDtyYk360CPBMPex19A



- On May 19, 2024, at the biennial **LWVOR** Council, delegates from around the state elected Lisa Benton as **LWVOR** President.
- Lisa's first remarks as President presented her vision for her term.
- As President, my main goal is to support the amazing work you all do and further our purpose of "Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy."
- "Communications" is the theme of my term.
- It is at the core of our purpose, and I look forward to enhancing what we are already doing.
- Our focus between now and November must be communicating our core values anywhere and everywhere we can.
- LWVOR** has initiated a Marketing Plan to help guide us in our outreach to reach as many Oregonians as possible for the General election.
- Lisa also noted that she grew up in a very politically active family in the 60's.
- The family mantra was: "If you don't vote, you don't get to complain".
- Lisa ended her remarks with heartfelt thanks to Becky Gladstone – outgoing **LWVOR** President and Co-President and invaluable mentor – and to all league members for their dedication to purpose and hard work.
- The full text of Lisa's remarks can be viewed here:

→ <https://www.lwvor.org/post/welcoming-remarks-of-lwvor-president-lisa-bentson>

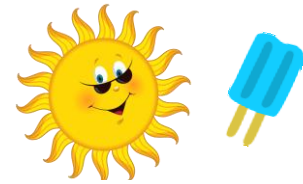


- And of course, there's so much more going on at **LWVOR**.
- For the latest news, events, and announcements, check out the June 2024 newsletter, which can be viewed here:
- <https://us10.campaign-archive.com/?u=eeaf5ca8c9497ff380afe253&id=3b14d26dcc>
- This fall all local leagues will be asked to participate in the consensus process for the **LWVOR** Caring for our Children Study.
- We plan on facilitating local **LWVCC** unit meetings to carry out this process.
- See the article on page 6 & 7 for some information about the study.
- Much more information will be provided before the unit meetings are held this fall.





Summary Caring for Children Study



Summary caring for children LWVOR, extracted from the Executive Summary. The local Leagues in Oregon that surveyed childcare providers in their area for this update to the original study:

- League of Women Voters of Deschutes County
- League of Women Voters of Lincoln County
- League of Women Voters of Marion-Polk
- League of Women Voters of Portland
- Washington County Unit of the League of Women Voters
- Main points concerning the study:
 - 👏 An effective childcare system benefits the entire economy.
 - 👏 In Oregon, we have not done a good job of prioritizing childcare needs and developing a strategic, coordinated childcare plan.
 - 👏 Usually, the term “childcare” suggests a picture of preschoolers in a classroom.
 - 👏 This is quite different from the reality of what today’s parents need so they can make ends meet and contribute to society.
 - 👏 Oregon has an elaborate K-12 education system.
- While the state has made piecemeal attempts to address early learning through:
 - 👏 Healthy Families
 - 👏 Pre-K (Oregon Pre-Kindergarten)
 - 👏 Early Head Start
 - 👏 Head Start
 - 👏 PreK Promise
 - 👏 Preschool Promise
- The needs of young children before they start school are not being met before they start school.
- Families must bridge the gap between needs and availability on their own.
- The result is inequitable childcare access.
- In addition, once children start in the K-12 system, they spend more time outside school than inside.
- Little coordination or support exists for after-school or summer care.
- Families are on their own.
- We see the consequences of this inattention in low academic performance (Hammond, 2022) and teen anxiety and suicide ideation (Perrine, 2022).
- The 1988 League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) childcare study has recently been updated.
- While there has been progress since 1988, the challenges are very much the same as they were over thirty years ago.





Summary Caring for Children Study - continued

- A patchwork of mixed level of attention to the needs of children and families is apparent.
- Research shows that out-of-school-time (OST) programs influence the participants' success academically and in future careers.
- Key findings indicate that although the current emphasis is on the benefits of early childhood programs during the period of most rapid brain development, the second most rapid period of development is during adolescence.
- The absence of programs and support during that period mark a missed opportunity. Another key finding is the need for programs to be high quality if they are to achieve positive outcomes.
- Several leagues in Oregon surveyed childcare professionals in the state using a comprehensive series of interview questions.
- The resulting themes illustrate the challenges and frustrations that providers face when trying to deliver the service quality needed by the children in their care and still survive financially.
- Recommendations call for a comprehensive planning effort to address the needs of children, youth, and families in the state, serving all Oregonians.

Other recommendations include:

- 👏 Coordinated training for providers.
- 👏 Consolidation and comprehensive review of licensing and regulations.
- 👏 Coaching and technical assistance for caregivers to increase program capacity.
- 👏 A dedicated funding source for these programs.





LWV Oregon Position on Ranked Choice Voting



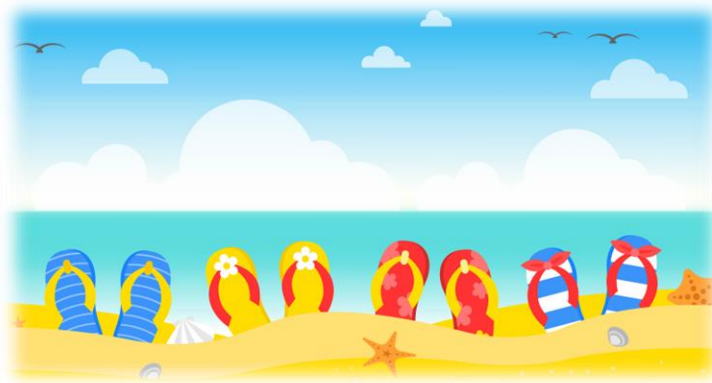
- 🇺🇸 This article summarizes the League of Women Voters of Oregon (**LWVOR**) support for ranked choice voting. The information concerning support for HB2004 is taken from the March 16, 2023, letter from the **LWVOR** to Chair Representative Julie Fahey, Oregon House Committee on Rules.
- 🇺🇸 The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. **LWVOR** Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.
- 🇺🇸 **The Oregon Legislature has referred HB-2004 for placement on the November ballot as Referral 2024-403.**
- 🇺🇸 **HB 2004 – Relating to ranked choice voting (RCV) – LWVOR Supports this bill**
- 🇺🇸 For over 100 years, the League of Women Voters (**LWV**) has followed a mission to educate and serve voters. The **LWV** is nonpartisan at all levels (national, state and local), and the LWV supports electoral systems producing the greatest level of representation. It is that goal that entreats our support of HB 2004, establishing statewide ranked choice voting (RCV).
- 🇺🇸 In Oregon, the **LWVOR** began studying RCV prior to 2008. In 2016 we conducted a second in-depth two-year study, and most recently, in 2023, we have completed an update to this work that compares RCV to other alternative systems.
- 🇺🇸 The Oregon League position clearly offers the basis for our support of HB 2004, as it states: “[F]or single-winner systems, the League supports ranked-choice voting...” (For multi-seat, or at-large, elections our position supports several systems, including RCV.)
- 🇺🇸 We believe HB 2004 would serve Oregon voters by requiring voter education and in several other ways, including:
 1. Give voters a sense that their voice matters more, allowing them to express additional choices.
 2. Based on its use in other jurisdictions, RCV often demonstrates the curtailing of negative campaigning.
 3. RCV avoids “vote splitting” in which voters feel they might waste their vote if they choose their favorite candidate. Additionally, this protects candidates from being labeled “spoilers.”
- 🇺🇸 RCV supports the highest voter representation level, for single or multi-winner elections.
- 🇺🇸 The **LWVOR** advocates for RCV based on several criteria included in our **LWV** Oregon position on Election Methods. Specifically, those benefits supported by HB 2004 include:
 - ★ Encouraging voter participation and voter engagement.
 - ★ Encouraging those with minority opinions to participate.
 - ★ Promoting sincere voting over strategic voting.
 - ★ Discouraging negative campaigning.
- 🇺🇸 We would like to see an amendment to this bill that includes the implementation of RCV for school boards, as may have been implied in the Oregon Voting Rights Act (HB 3310) in 2019. Additionally, while we understand that the “perfect should not be the enemy of the good,” we voice our disappointment that HB 2004 does not include the Oregon legislature.
- 🇺🇸 The **LWVOR** believes that our electoral system and protection of the vote is important to Oregon voters, to collaborative government, and to democratic system preservation.





**League of Women Voters of Curry County
Calendar 2024**

MONTH	DAY	EVENTS	PLACE	TIME
June	27-30	LWVUS 2024 National Convention	Washington DC	
July	9	New/Old Board meeting & annual Board Retreat	Louise Abbott's home	10 am – 3 pm



Sponsors

Re/Max Ultimate Coastal Properties
Karen Kennedy
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www.ILoveCoastalOregon.com
541-425-7494

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promote climate action.*

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



2023-2024 Board Officers & Directors

President

- Louise Abbott

Secretary

- Susan Barke

Treasurer

- Alyce Prudden

Board Directors

- Renee Kolen
- Debra Worth
- Karen Pringle-Cunningham

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Election Information: 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 #98-0838450).
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

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Volunteer Interest in the League _____

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

