

CoastLines



Hello members of the League of Women Voters of Curry County,

May is upon us and it is time for the LWVCC Candidate forums. Thank you to those of you who are going to help with these forums.

- ✘ The first forum will be in Gold Beach on May 2nd.
- ✘ The second one will be in Port Orford on May 6th, and the final one for this spring will be in Brookings on May 7th.
- ✘ Then just a couple of weeks later we will have our annual meeting, on May 18th.
- ✘ The LWVCC annual meeting will be held at the public library in Gold Beach from 1 to 3 pm.
- ✘ I hope to see many of you at multiple events in May!
- ✘ Finally, the biannual LWV of Oregon Council will be held in Newport, OR from May 17-19. Unfortunately, it overlaps with our annual meeting.
- ✘ However, it is possible to attend virtually so if anyone wants to attend, let me know and I will help you get signed up. It only costs \$20 to attend virtually.
- ✘ We are allowed to have two delegates.

**Respectfully, Louise Abbott
President, LWVCC**



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SUMMARY OF CANDIDATE FORUMS

LWVCC Candidate Forums:

- May 2, 2024, beginning at 7:00 pm.
 - ☑ Curry Public Library in Gold Beach, 94341 3rd Street
- May 6, 2024, beginning at 7:00 pm.
 - ☑ City Council Chambers, City Hall in Port Orford, 555 20th Street
- May 7, 2024, beginning at 5:30 pm.
 - ☑ Chetco Public Library in Brookings, 405 Alder Street



2024 Board Meeting



Summary of the LWVCC Board meeting held April 8, 2024, via Zoom.

- ☒ Board members attending:
 - ▶ Louise Abbott
 - ▶ Susan Barke
 - ▶ Debra Worth
 - ▶ Karen Cunningham
 - ▶ Alyce Prudden.

The next LWVCC board meeting will be May 13th 12-2pm via zoom.

- ☒ The minutes of the March 11, 2024, board meeting were approved.
- ☒ The financial report for March was approved.
- ☒ It was noted that the biannual LWVOR Council will be held May 17-19, 2024, in Newport, OR at the Elks Lodge. Delegates and observers can attend in person or virtually.
 - ▶ We can have 2 delegates.
- ☒ It was decided to hold the LWVCC annual meeting on May 18th from 1 to 3 pm at the public library in Gold Beach.
- ☒ Possible ways were discussed to raise money to cover the expected deficit that we might incur at the end of our fiscal year.



**VOTE411** (<https://www.lwv.org/elections/vote411>)**The following information was obtained at the LWV-US website.**

- The future of our families, our communities, and our country are at stake. No matter what zip code we live in or the color of our skin, our voices are equal at the ballot box, and we could all use some help making sure our voices are heard. **VOTE411.org** is the League's one-stop-shop where you can find all the information you need to cast your ballot. It's virtual, nonpartisan, and available in both English and Spanish.
- Even for those of us who've voted before, the process can be confusing. Election rules differ from state to state and can change between elections. **VOTE411** gives you personalized information, so you're prepared to cast your vote in every election. **Whether it's local, state, or federal, every election is important to ensuring our laws and policies reflect the values and beliefs of our communities.**
- Discover all your voting options, from early voting to absentee and mail-in voting, to voting on Election Day, and make an election plan that fits your life.
- **VOTE411** has served tens of millions of voters and won multiple national awards over the last fifteen years.
- **VOTE411** provides meticulously researched bilingual (English and Spanish) election information in all 50 states and the District of Columbia and provide updated information throughout the year as information changes.
- I have used the guide since I became an American Citizen and started to vote. Thank you for helping me understand the issues important to our community.

VOTE411 Provides:

- Voter Registration Support.
- An [Online voter registration tool](#).
- The ability to verify your registration.
- Registration deadlines for regular, mail-in, and early voting.

**Voting Information:**

- Use the [first-time voter checklist](#), feel empowered to vote by following these easy steps.
- Explore voting info by state.
- Eligibility requirements.
- Voting machine explanations.
- Find your polling place location and hours.
- Check your election options (mail-in, early voting) and deadlines.
- See if an ID is needed to cast your ballot.
- Absentee ballot information and request tool.
- [Healthy voter checklist](#) – stay safe while casting your ballot.

**Candidate and Ballot Information.**

- Customized to your address, see the candidates and ballot issues on your personal ballot.
- Detailed information on the candidates, including LWV-provided questions to the candidates and their responses, in their own words!
- Hear directly from the candidates on their vision for their communities and America's future and compare candidates' side by side before making your selections.
- Discover debates and forums in your area.



**MEASURE
8-114**



- ▶ For Curry County voters, the May 2024 ballot includes a ballot measure, Measure 8-114.
- ▶ Entitled “Five Year Local Option Tax for Curry County Law Enforcement,” the measure seeks voter approval of a proposed local property tax levy to fund law enforcement from 2024 to 2029.
- ▶ The levy would cost property owners \$2.23 per \$1,000.00 of assessed property value, and it would raise an estimated \$8.3 million each year. (Currently, the tax rate is \$0.599 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value; the county receives 7.31% of the total property taxes collected locally, or about \$2.165 million per year.)
- ▶ According to the “Notice of Measure Election” filed with the county, funds from the levy would “improve all aspects of public safety including but not limited to the addition of new patrol deputies to ensure Countywide 24-hour services, improved response times, and enhanced jail services for both County and City arrests for the next five years.”
- ▶ A seven-member review board of Curry County citizens would be appointed to oversee the county’s use of the funds.

- ▶ **The Curry County Board of Commissioners is promoting the measure.**
- ▶ **A May 7th electronic town hall about the measure is planned.**
- ▶ **More information about the levy can be found at <https://www.currycountylevy.com>.**



News From National

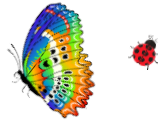


The 56th Biennial League of Women Voters National Convention will be held June 27 – 30 in Washington, DC, and online.

- ✦ League members are invited to attend the National Convention as voting delegates or as observers.
- ✦ Registration is open until June 10.
- ✦ All information related to the National Convention, including registration, agenda, and hotel bookings, can be found on the Convention Website.
- ✦ Here’s the link:

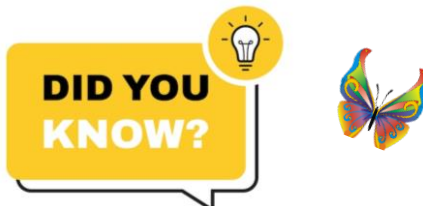
<https://web.cvent.com/event/07627034-5f27-44a8-8363-5805fab4b0ef/summary?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=cb7654a3-57cb-4f9d-972a-8c34b1c173b7>





The state league is busy – as always – with progress on several important areas.

- Vote 411 – Thanks to extensive work from many hands, Vote 411 is fully online for this year’s May 21 Primary Election.
- You can put in your address and see what’s on your ballot, including responses to league questions from candidates who chose to answer.
- Check it out at <https://www.vote411.org/oregon>.
- OSME – The Oregon Student Mock Election (OSME) Team is consistently increasing the number of participating schools and students.
- The LWVOR Oregon Student Mock Election is an exciting experience-based educational program, which involves participating students in the electoral process and demonstrates the importance of voting.
- It has been endorsed by the Oregon Secretary of State. All Oregon students, grades 6-12, are eligible.
- Registration is open through May 5; Student Mock Election Week is May 5 – May 10; and OSME results will be released to the public May 17.
- More information is available at <https://www.lwvor.org/mock-election>.
- Legislative Report – The Oregon Legislature’s short session concluded March 7.
- On April 25, LWVOR emailed its end-of-session Sine Die Legislative Report.
- As reported there, league volunteers were active in the 2024 session, following proposed legislation, providing testimony, contacting legislators, and engaging in budget decisions.
- One big bipartisan win was the passage of House Bill 4024, which limits campaign contributions and amplifies Oregonians' voices in politics. Rebecca Gladstone, LWVOR Co-President, and Norman Turrill, LWVOR Governance Coordinator, joined Gov. Tina Kotek at the ceremonial signing.
- You can find this legislative report and others at <https://www.lwvor.org/legislative-report>.



According to Oregon’s Legislative Glossary, “Sine Die” means “without fixing a day for a future meeting”— the last day of a Legislative Session.
<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen>





This November, Oregon voters will decide whether to adopt a different statewide election system: Ranked Choice Voting (RCV).

Why is RCV on the November 2024 ballot?

- ☒ Last year, with strong support from **LWVOR**, Oregon legislators passed House Bill 2004.
- ☒ HB 2004 refers RCV to the voters for approval.
- ☒ Oregon is the first state to send the question to voters.

How does RCV work?

- ☒ Under RCV, voters rank candidates in order of preference on their ballots.
- ☒ Voters designate their first-choice candidate, with the option of ranking the other candidates in order of preference – second, third, and so on.
- ☒ If a candidate receives more than half of the first-choice votes, he or she wins.
- ☒ However, if there is no majority winner after counting voters' first choices, the race is decided by "instant runoff" – the most common version of RCV and the one proposed for Oregon.
- ☒ It works like this: The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. First-choice votes for that person go to the voters' second-choice candidates. This process continues until one candidate wins more than half of the votes.

Is RCV new for Oregon?

- ☒ RCV actually has a long history in Oregon.
- ☒ More than a century ago – in 1908 – Oregon voters amended the state constitution to allow for ranked choice voting.
- ☒ Coos Bay authorized and used RCV for city council elections for several years in the 1940s.
- ☒ Currently, Benton County and the City of Corvallis use ranked choice voting for local elections.
- ☒ And voters in the City of Portland and Multnomah County overwhelmingly adopted RCV.
- ☒ Portland voters will start using ranked choice voting this year, with Multnomah County following in 2026.
- ☒ If approved by Oregon voters this November, Oregonians would start to use ranked choice for statewide and federal races in 2028.





A New League Membership System



- ◆ We are including this article again because some of the information was cut off in last month's issue. Thank you.
- ◆ **LWVUS** is rolling out a new membership system this year.
- ◆ Local and state leagues across the country will make the transition to the new system together, starting in January 2025.
- ◆ Here are the highlights.

Membership Dues

- ◆ Dues will be collected at the national level.
- ◆ Local leagues members will join and renew on the **LWVUS** website and make their payments there.
- ◆ The standard individual membership rate will be \$75.
- ◆ There will also be a pay-what-you-can option, with a minimum of \$20, for which local leagues will be responsible.
- ◆ Household and student memberships will no longer be offered. Lifetime memberships will remain dues-free.
- ◆ From paid memberships, **LWVUS** will retain 33% of dues, **LWVOR** will receive 47%, and local leagues like **LWVCC** will receive 20%.
- ◆ The national, state, and local leagues will share credit card fees based on the same allocation.

Donations

- ◆ Local leagues will retain 100% of member donations, provided the donations are not given at the same time as dues payments.
- ◆ Local leagues will need to ask new and rejoining members to separate donations from dues.

Implementation

- ◆ The changes will be implemented using ChapterSpot, the league's new membership platform.
- ◆ ChapterSpot will provide a centralized portal for people joining the league or renewing their membership, regardless of local league affiliation.
- ◆ The intent is to improve the member experience by making the joining process consistent across all leagues.
- ◆ ChapterSpot will also offer local websites and mass emailing services.
- ◆ In terms of timing, the plan is to begin the training phase in earnest after the November 2024 General Election, in preparation for launch in early 2025.



May Donation CHALLENGE



- Here's some exciting news for all league members and supporters.
- Thanks to an anonymous member, the League is offering a dollar-for-dollar donation match through the end of May 2024.
- All donations received through May 2024 will be matched, up to \$500.
- The goal is to end our current fiscal year in the black.
- Every member of the **LWVCC** board is contributing to this effort, and we hope that you will, too.
- Please send what you can – no amount is too small!
- Your gift helps to support the League's important mission – empowering voters and defending democracy through education and advocacy.
- Locally, our work includes presenting candidate forums, organizing educational events, and publishing our newsletter – all designed to inform our local citizenry and to encourage participation in government.



Please mail your donation today to:
LWVCC
 P.O. Box 1859
 Gold Beach, OR 97444



**No Unit
 meetings were
 held in April.**



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

MONTH	DAY	EVENTS	PLACE	TIME
May	2	Candidate Forum	Curry Public Library in Gold Beach	7:00 - 9:00 pm
	6	Candidate Forum	City Council Chambers Port Orford	7:00-9:00 pm
	7	Candidate Forum	Chetco Public Library in Brookings	5:30 - 7:00 pm
	13	LWVCC Board Meeting	Zoom	Noon - 2 pm
	18	LWVCC Annual Meeting	Curry Public Library in Gold Beach	1:00 – 3:00 pm



Sponsors

Re/Max Ultimate Coastal Properties
Karen Kennedy
2955 Ellensburg, Gold Beach
www.ILoveCoastalOregon.com
541-425-7494

Chetco Brewing Company
830 Railroad Street
Brookings, OR 94415
541-661-KEGS

Blue Pacific Realty
16289 Hwy 101. Brookings
www.blupac.com
541-412-8424

Coastal SOCAN
Bill@socan.eco
<https://SOCAN.eco>
Brookings Harbor
*South Coastal residents collaborating to
promote climate action.*

Pacific Coastal Real Estate
Lynn Wegner
94150 10th, Gold Beach
www.PacificCoastalRealEstate.com
541-247-7925



CoastLines

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

The League of Women Voters of Curry County

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Website Information: lwvcurry.org

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

