

CoastLines



Greetings Everyone,

Well, the elections are almost here.

We have just completed our three candidate forums:

- ☛ **Port Orford** Monday, October 7, 2024
- ☛ **Gold Beach** Tuesday, October 8, 2024
- ☛ **Brookings** Wednesday, October 9, 2024



Because we only have candidates for contested races at our forums, the forums were fairly small this time. It was unfortunate that there were no contested positions at the county and city level for the November election cycle. We have two candidates for Oregon State Senate District 1, Lupe Preciado-McAlister and David Brock Smith.

The candidates for Oregon House of representatives District 1 are Court Boice and Bret Cecil. Three of the four candidates attended the forum in Port Orford; Lupe Preciado-McAlister was not at that forum. The same was true for the forum in Gold Beach. However, all four candidates attended the forum in Brookings.

A range of questions was asked at each forum. The forums were relatively well attended and ran smoothly. The forum that was held at Port Orford was recorded and we hope to have the recording posted on the [LWVCC](#) website soon.

Respectfully, Louise Abbott
President, LWVCC



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**LWVCC
Board
Meeting**

**Summary of the October 8, 2024, LWVCC Board Meeting
Held via Zoom**

Board members attending:

- 📌 Louise Abbott
- 📌 Susan Barke
- 📌 Karen Cunningham
- 📌 Evan Kramer
- 📌 Georgia Nowlin



- 📌 The resignation of Debra Worth from the **LWVCC** board of directors was approved.
- 📌 The minutes of the Board Retreat held September 10, 2024, were approved.
- 📌 The financial report for September 2024, was approved.
- 📌 The candidate forums being held in early October were discussed.
- 📌 It was noted that the Port Orford candidate forum was recorded, and we will try to get the video on the **LWVCC** website as soon as possible.
- 📌 There is interest in promoting the Harvard Civics Project at Curry County high schools.
- 📌 Several board members will try to facilitate having high school civics teachers attend the December 6th online workshop.
- 📌 The issue for emphasis for this year, homelessness and the impact of mental health was discussed.
- 📌 We will try to have information in the Coastlines on this topic each month and arrange future Unit meetings on the topic as well.
- 📌 The new membership dues collection system being implemented by **LWV-US** was discussed.
- 📌 Louise and hopefully Alyce will try to attend some of the training sessions that will help explain the new system, which is being implemented by ChapterSpot.

The **LWV-OR is asking local chapters to participate in the preparations for the **LWV-OR** convention that will be held May 2-4, 2025.
More information on this topic will be forthcoming next month.**





LWV- National News & Update

- ◆ Dear **LWVCC** members, you may recall an article in the coastlines a few months ago about a change in the **LWV** membership platform that is being rolled out by the **LWV-US**.
- ◆ It is not here yet, but it is coming.
- ◆ This new platform will change how dues are collected for **LWV**.
- ◆ As you may know the current system is set up for local leagues to collect dues from the members of each chapter (Those checks you write or cash that you give to us around June of each year - or later sometimes).
- ◆ Then the local chapters send a portion to the **LWV-Oregon** and another portion the **LWV-US**.
- ◆ The new process will not be onerous for members, and we have plenty of time to make the switch to the new system before dues for 2025 will be needed.
- ◆ This is just a heads-up notice that there are some changes coming.
- ◆ The board will participate in some training sessions this fall to get ready for the transition.

Framing the Future Office Hours

There will be opportunities for League members to ask questions about the current phase of the **LWV** membership dues Transformation Journey and our new membership platform, ChapterSpot. The first opportunity will be held on October 16, 2024 at 4 pm ET.



<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAudOCvrz4jG9bv0tO2Ovfaq266t3eOU1zA#/registration?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=96381eec-42d0-4496-8641-f70a3973a781>





A New League Membership System



- This Article is reprinted from the April 2024 [Coastlines](#).
- We thought it would be useful to include it again.
- [LWVUS](#) is rolling out a new membership system.
- 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 after the November 2024 General Election, in preparation for launch in early 2025.





The **LWV-OR** has begun work on legislation and budgets for 2025. **With our help, they can continue to make a difference.** They particularly need League members who are interested in issues related to transportation and behavioral health, which will be priorities in the 2025 legislative session.

Contact advocacy@lwvor.org to learn how you can help.

The 2025 session begins January 13 with the swearing in of newly elected legislators and other state officials. Committee hearings begin January 21. The session lasts for five months. Oregon has a biennial budgeting process so all state agencies will need to have budgets approved by the end of session. Besides the issues of importance during the 2024 session on **housing, addiction and public safety, transportation** will be another main focus. With the proposed budget cuts in many local k-12 school districts, **school funding** has been added to the priority list.

Next Important Dates:

- 📅 **November 5** General Election
- 📅 **November 20** Revenue forecast
- 📅 **December 2** Governor's Recommended Budget
- 📅 **December 10-12** Interim Legislative Days*
- 📅 **December 13** Deadline for presession bills to be filed with the Senate or House. We may begin to see 2025 proposed legislation by then.

Unlike the short session, there are no limits on bills to be filed by legislators AND there will be new legislators with the ability to file bills into the first part of the 2025 session. The legislative [calendar](#) is posted on the Oregon Legislature [website](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/) (<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/>).

*Interim Days are when legislators meet in committees to receive required reports from agencies, hold informational meetings on issues of concern and prepare for potential legislation for 2025. The Emergency Board is expected to meet again Dec. 12th, and the Senate may again meet to confirm Governor appointments.



VOTE411

The **LWVOR** statewide Voters' Guides in English & Spanish are now available in PDF format. You can find them at lwvor.org/vote.



Text taken from the following article by **Deborah K. Padgett**
Published in [BJPsych Bull.](#) 2020 Oct; 44(5): 197–201.
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PMCID: PMC7525583
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Homelessness, Housing Instability & Mental Health: Making Connections

- The relationship between mental ill health and homelessness has been the subject of countless reports and a few misperceptions.
- Foremost among the latter is the popular notion that mental illness accounts for much of the homelessness visible in American cities.
- To be sure, the failure of deinstitutionalization, where psychiatric hospitals were emptied, beginning in the 1960s, led to far too many psychiatric patients being consigned to group homes, shelters and the streets.¹
- However, epidemiological studies have consistently found that only about 25–30% of homeless persons have a severe mental illness such as schizophrenia.²
- At the same time, the deleterious effects of homelessness *on* mental health have been established by research going back decades.
- Early epidemiological studies, comparing homeless persons with their domiciled counterparts, found that depression and suicidal thoughts were far more prevalent, along with symptoms of trauma and substance misuse.^{2,3}
- A recent meta-analysis found that more than half of homeless and marginally housed individuals had traumatic brain injuries – a rate far exceeding that of the general population.⁴
- Qualitative interviews with street homeless persons bring to life the daily struggles and emotional toll of exposure not only to the elements but to scorn and harassment from passers-by and the police.⁵
- In the USA, healthcare professionals were among the first responders to the homelessness ‘epidemic’ of the 1980s.
- Individual physicians made it their mission to go out on the streets rather than participating in the ‘institutional circuit’⁶ that led so many homeless men and women to cycle in and out of emergency departments, hospitals and jails.
- Health problems such as skin ulcerations, respiratory problems, and injuries were the visible indicia of what foretold a shortened lifespan.⁷
- Less visible but no less dire are the emotional sequelae of being unhoused – children are especially susceptible to the psychological effects of homelessness and housing instability.⁸
- The gap between mental health needs and service availability for the homeless population is vast.





Homelessness - *continued*

- Despite a plethora of research linking mental and physical health to housing stability, the salience of structural barriers is too often submerged in 'blaming the victim' for her or his plight.
- Physicians and healthcare providers receive little training in social determinants and often view them as off-limits or distracting from attention to signs and symptoms.
- Yet psychiatrists and other mental health professionals can become agents of change by paying greater attention to the social determinants of mental health and seeking structural competence in their practice.
- It is difficult to overestimate the benefits of having a stable, safe home as fundamental to mental health and well-being

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4. Stubbs JL, Thornton AE, Sevick J, Silverberg N, Bair A, Honer W, et al. Traumatic brain injury in homeless and marginally housed individuals: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Lancet Public Health 2019; 5: e19–e32.
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7. Baggett TP, Hwang SW, O'Connell JJ, Porneala BC, Stringfellow EJ, Orav EJ, et al. Mortality among homeless adults in Boston: shifts in causes of death over a 15-year period. JAMA Intern Med 2013; 173: 189–95.
8. Bassuk E, Richard M, Tsertsvadze A. The prevalence of mental illness in homeless children: a systematic review and meta-analysis. J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry 2015; 54: 86–96.





PLEASE RENEW!

The League of Women Voters of Curry County began its new fiscal year on July 1. If you have not already renewed your membership, we are asking for your continued support as a valued LWVCC member.

Our yearly dues are \$70.00 per member or \$105.00 for a household of two.

Your membership is very important to the League. Your support allows LWVCC to carry out its mission of citizen engagement and voter education.

The 2023-2024 league year was productive. Some highlights:

- Central County Unit meetings were held most months
- October – All-Unit and public meeting on Voting, held at the Curry Library in Gold Beach
- December – in-person Holiday Party at First Chapter Coffee House in Gold Beach
- January – South County Unit meeting
- February – Documentary Film on Oregon’s land use planning system co-sponsored by the LWVCC, Kalmiopsis Audubon Society and Curry Public library, shown at the Curry Library in Gold Beach
- March – All-Unit and public panel discussion on services to the Unhoused and Food Insecure in Curry County held at the Curry Library in Gold Beach
- May – in-person Primary Election **Candidate Forums** in all three Curry County cities; Annual meeting held at the Curry Library in Gold Beach

The upcoming 2024-2025 league year promises to be exciting too. Some plans:

- Fund-raising and friend-raising
- In-person General Election **Candidate Forums** in all three Curry County cities
- Focus on Homelessness and Mental Health, which is our Issue for Emphasis.

In addition to your financial support, we wholeheartedly invite your active participation in the league. Together we can continue to make a difference in Curry County. Please renew today.

Louise Abbott
LWVCC President, 2024-2025

LWVCC is a qualified nonprofit charitable organization under Internal Revenue Code §501(c)(3), and membership is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Our tax identification number is 93-0838450.

PO Box 1859, Gold Beach, OR 97444 • www.lwvcurry.org



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

MONTH	DAY	EVENTS	PLACE	TIME
November	5	TUESDAY General Election! <i>Be sure to Vote!!</i>	ZOOM	1:00 – 3:30pm
	12	LWVCC Board Meeting <i>Let Louise Abbott know if you want to attend, and she will give you the contact information.</i>	ZOOM	1:00 – 3:00pm
December	7	LWVCC Holiday Party Save the Date	Place TBD	1:00 – 3:00pm
	10	LWVCC Board Meeting <i>Let Louise Abbott know if you want to attend, and she will give you the contact information.</i>	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
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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 #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

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Volunteer Interest in the League _____

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

