

# LWW Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

NOVEMBER 2023

## Presidents' Letter to Members: Busy 2023 Fall for our League Maureen Mader and Lynette Pierson, Co-Presidents [president@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:president@lwvclackamas.org)

The 2023-2024 year is off to a great start. Some of what we are doing is visible to our members but other work, going on behind the scenes, is helping us get ready for a busy 2024 election year. This month we would like to highlight a few of our accomplishments:

Civic Education chair, Leslie Westphal, has been lining up interesting and relevant speakers for our meetings.

- At our September Kick-off meeting we heard from Les Zaitz, editor of Salem Reporter and editor and publisher of the Malheur Enterprise, who talked about the important role the press plays in maintaining our democracy. If you missed it here is the [link](#) to the recording. Take the time to watch it as he has some actionable ideas for you to consider.
- At our November 8th meeting Mike Scott, retired Superintendent of Hillsboro School District, will talk about the state of education post-pandemic. See below for more information.

Membership and interim Communications chair, Diana DeMaria, has been working to bring in new members to our Clackamas league. In addition, with Judy Fulton she has been expanding and updating our League's newsletter and social media footprint to raise our visibility in the community.

Hilly Alexander and Betty Janes and many dedicated members put together our September Kickoff and are busy planning our annual Holiday party on December 2nd (more information below). We encourage you to attend this fun event to meet and socialize with other members, both important aspects of our league.

Behind the scenes we have been:

- Renewing our Local Observer Corp to provide more consistency of reporting to our membership and an easier, more flexible method for members to participate.
- Adding an online payment option when you sign up for our events. *You can still choose to pay by check at the door.*
- Looking at new venues to better address our growing league. Lakewood Center for the Arts and West Linn Community Center are new venues. *We welcome your feedback on these new locations.*
- Updating our policies and procedures with respect to document retention and external communication policies.

There are so many other individuals doing great work. Throughout the year we hope to highlight other areas and individuals. The commitment, dedication, and support members of our league provide each month has been motivating to us. We want to THANK YOU for all you do!!

## Strengthening Public Education in a post-COVID World

Speaker: Mike Scott

Wednesday, November 8, 7:00 pm

Lakewood Center for the Arts  
368 S. State St., Lake Oswego

by Leslie Westphal, Civic Education [civicsed@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:civicsed@lwvclackamas.org)



We are excited to welcome newly retired Hillsboro School District Superintendent Mike Scott. With over thirty years of educational experience, he has been a classroom teacher, advisor, counselor, assistant principal, principal, and assistant superintendent and has been recognized with numerous awards throughout his career. Mike received his bachelor's degree from Oregon State University and his master's degree from University of Oregon.

Please join us to hear Mike discuss the state of public primary and secondary education, explain the impact of issues facing students and their families, faculty, and administrators, including mental and behavioral health, funding, classroom sizes and how we can each take action to to strengthen education and connectivity to knowledge and information in a post-COVID world.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. of the Lakewood Center for the Arts at 368 S. State St, Lake Oswego for the program at 7pm. There is a direct entrance without stairs under the Re-Runs staircase on Middlecrest Road, and free parking behind the building. The program is free of charge and open to the public. Your guests are welcome and bring your questions for lively Q&A!

*Need a Ride? League neighbors carpools are always available!  
Call Diana DeMaria at 503-319-8601 to arrange.*

## Don't Miss Legislative Process Day!

Tuesday, November 7 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Marge Easley, Action Co-Chair [action@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:action@lwvclackamas.org)

**Register Virtual Attendance until 11/6** <https://www.lwvor.org/events-1/legislative-process-day>

Learn what is happening at the Oregon Legislature and gain insight into how you can get involved! Guest speakers will include: Senator Tim Knopp, Misty Freeman, Director of the Legislative Policy Research Office, Joel Henderson and Max Robinson of Talking Book and Braille Library; Natalie Brant, Reference Coordinator for the Government and Information Services Division and more! League members and non-member guests are welcome!

## November 7, 2023 Special District Election

Maureen Mader, Voter Service [voterservice@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvclackamas.org)

**NOTE:** This is not a county-wide election, and only the voters that reside in the cities of Gladstone, Molalla, West Linn; the Aurora, Hoodland or Riverdale Fire Districts, or the North Clackamas, Silver Falls and West Linn-Wilsonville school districts should have received a ballot for this special election. Clackamas Elections will be open 7:00am-8:00pm on Election Day and will conduct a Public Certification Test of our vote tally system at 9:00am. Observers are welcome! If you received a ballot and want to find out more about the candidates and ballot measures, go to [November 7, 2023 Special Election](#). The LWV website Vote411.org will not be updated for this special election. Voter information is available on [www.lwvor.org/your-government](http://www.lwvor.org/your-government) and [www.sos.oregon.gov/voting-elections](http://www.sos.oregon.gov/voting-elections).

### Clackamas County Corner: Take the Measure 110 Survey!

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/M110/Survey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M110/Survey)

Clackamas County is requesting resident feedback with a survey on Measure 110. All residents are encouraged to fill out the survey, which will be open until late November. Shortly thereafter, survey results will be reported to the Board of County Commissioners. More on Measure 110 can be found at

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hsd/amh/pages/measure110.aspx> and [https://ballotpedia.org/Oregon\\_Measure\\_110,\\_Drug\\_Decriminalization\\_and\\_Addiction\\_Treatment\\_Initiative\\_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Oregon_Measure_110,_Drug_Decriminalization_and_Addiction_Treatment_Initiative_(2020))

Questions on the survey include:

- Should legislators representing Clackamas County introduce and pass legislation repealing provisions of Measure 110 that decriminalize illegal drugs, including for juveniles?
- Should Governor Kotek call a special legislative session to address Measure 110's drug decriminalization and its impact on both crime and homelessness?

### Online Reservations now available on our website!

by Lynette Pierson, Technology Chair [technology@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:technology@lwvclackamas.org)

You may have noticed that we now have online reservations available for our Civics Education and Socials meetings. Using this method will be faster for you and our meeting planners while also helping with appropriate venue selection.

We will have online reservations and payment selection available for our December 2 Holiday Celebration. Online payments can be made through the encrypted PayPal platform, though no PayPal account is necessary. See you at the next event!

## ACTION AND ISSUES IN OREGON

### IP 14 Redistricting Ballot Measure and IP 9 Campaign Finance Reform

Marge Easley, Action Co-Chair [action@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:action@lwvclackamas.org)



Here in Oregon, two important League-endorsed initiative petitions are gathering crucial signatures to qualify for the November 2024 ballot. It's easy to collect a few signatures and send them in. Every single signature counts! Ask your family, friends, neighbors and colleagues to support both of these long-held League positions and good-government measures by July 5th, 2024 to be on our Fall 2024 General Election ballot. There will be copies of the petitions available at our meetings this year, or you can download your own copies for circulation because if each of us prints, signs and returns a petition with their family and friends, both initiative petitions would have enough signatures to qualify for the 2024 ballot! TAKE ACTION TODAY

**REDISTRICTING BALLOT MEASURE IP 14** is a constitutional amendment to create an independent commission to draw Oregon's legislative boundaries instead of the current political process in the state legislature. People Not Politicians is a broad coalition covering the whole political spectrum that includes the League, Common Cause, Forward Oregon, business groups and many Oregonians. Here is the drill to have an initiative succeed in Oregon:

- [volunteers and more volunteers](#)
- [gathering of qualifying signatures by circulators](#)
- [signature validators](#) (at home and online!)
- [donors!](#)

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM IP 9** is a statutory measure that would further limit campaign donations, place additional requirements on donation disclosure and penalties would be increased for violations. Candidates would not be able to carry over funds from one election cycle to the next, more information about campaign finance would be included in voter pamphlets and for-profit corporations could not contribute to political campaigns in Oregon. [Honest Elections](#) is working to get dark money out of politics. You can help by clicking on <https://linktr.ee/honestelectionsoregon> for more information and petition sheets.

You'll have a chance to learn more in person about these two initiatives, sign a petition, and hopefully pick up a petition or two to take with you at our November 8 Meeting or the December 2 Holiday Celebration. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

## Changing the Culture at Coffee Creek

Marge Easley, Action Co-Chair [action@lwgclackamas.org](mailto:action@lwgclackamas.org)

Our local League has taken interest in and action for the welfare of women incarcerated at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. The revealing new “(GIPA) Gender-Informed Practices Assessment Report” was presented to the Senate and House Judiciary Committees during recent Legislative Interim Committee Days. This in-depth look at the gender responsive policies, practices, and programs at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility findings, legislatively funded in 2022, have been turned over to the newly formed Advisory Panel on Gender Responsive Practices in Corrections with recommendations for change.

Some of the recommendations can be implemented immediately, while others require substantial funding for long-term commitment of Department of Corrections (DOC) leadership, staffing increases and education, and needs the help of partners, stakeholders, and providers to move from established punitive paramilitary practices to those that are evidence-based, trauma-informed, and gender specific. Many, if not most, of the women at Coffee Creek are survivors of trauma. High staff turnover, inadequate staff training, and overly punitive discipline protocols have led to greater trauma and increased the probability of mental health crises and recidivism. It is heartening that this report includes honest input from those incarcerated at Coffee Creek; acknowledges harm that carceral settings inflict; provides a framework for real change; and has buy-in from DOC, the Governor, and legislative leadership. The League will be monitoring the progress of the Advisory Panel and will continue our strong advocacy for building and sustaining a gender responsive and trauma-informed culture for the women at Coffee Creek.

## Oregon Work Group Opportunity for Families and Child Care

Contact Kelly Reid [kelly.reid@dlcd.oregon.gov](mailto:kelly.reid@dlcd.oregon.gov)

**You are invited** to apply for an essential work group collaborating with agency staff from both the [Department of Land Conservation and Development](#) (DLCD) and [Department of Early Learning and Care](#) (DELIC) to review information and studies from Oregon and national best practices to inform recommendations reported to the legislature by December 31, 2024 as required by [House Bill 2727](#) to identify and analyze:

- specific barriers and challenges to locating early learning and care facilities near affordable housing
- impacts from zoning regulations, building codes and permitting practices based on diversity factors and
- local, state and national standards for promoting the expansion of early learning and care facilities

Apply at <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDLCD/bulletins/375b5ad> to be a work group member or request to be interviewed and/or provide written comments by **November 20**.





**SAVE THE DATE and RSVP for the 2023  
Holiday Brunch with Speaker Dwight Holton  
Saturday, December 2, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**West Linn Adult Community Center  
1180 Rosemont Road, West Linn**

Leslie Westphal, Civic Education [civicsed@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:civicsed@lwwclackamas.org)  
Hilly Alexander and Betty Janes, Socials [socials@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:socials@lwwclackamas.org)

**YOU ARE INVITED** to join us on Saturday, December 2 at 10:00 am to celebrate the extraordinary members of the League of Women Voters of Clackamas County, whose dedication really Makes Democracy Work in our county and in our state. Please join us for a delicious brunch together with new members and old friends as we welcome our speaker, Dwight Holton, the CEO of Lines for Life, the leading suicide and substance abuse prevention non-profit in the Northwest.

Lines for Life helps over 170,000 families a year with its crisis intervention and prevention services. Lines for Life also promotes healthy kids and communities through mental wellness promotion, advocacy and public policy development. Mr. Holton took the reins at Lines for Life after 15 years as a federal prosecutor, most recently as United States Attorney for Oregon. Through his work as a prosecutor, Mr. Holton learned the importance of early intervention and prevention strategies – and as U.S. Attorney, he launched efforts to improve access to addiction treatment and better mental health services.

Mr. Holton has worked to carry Lines for Life programs and initiatives to diverse communities throughout Oregon – including a satellite YouthLine office opened in Central Oregon in 2019. Holton has also led efforts to expand cultural engagement at Lines for Life – supporting neighborhood empowerment to build better access to mental wellness and crisis intervention services in communities of color.

Mr. Holton serves on the boards of Salmon Safe and the Basic Rights Oregon PAC, the Oregon Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission, and supports his kids' myriad sports teams. Since 2002, he has taught classes at Lewis and Clark Northwestern School of Law in Portland and lives in Southeast Portland with his wife, Mary Ellen Glynn, and their children.

**PLEASE RSVP FOR YOU AND YOUR GUESTS BY NOVEMBER 30** to Betty Janes at 970-560-2364, email [socials@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:socials@lwwclackamas.org) or RSVP and choose to pay online [or later at the door] on our website <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county>. Our online payment system is PayPal. No PayPal account? No problem, just scroll down and follow the prompts to pay with a credit card.

Brunch will include coffee and other beverages with delicious quiche selections, side salads and accompaniments for \$20. Guests are welcome! Doors open at 10:00 am of the West Linn Adult Community Center at 1180 Rosemont Road, West Linn, with free parking.

## Karen Faw: Fifty Years (1974-2024) Lifetime Membership in LWV

Nancy Murray, Treasurer [treasurer@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:treasurer@lwvclackamas.org)



Next year will mark 50 years since Karen decided to join the League of Women Voters. She is a local gal right from the very beginning. She was blessed with three generations of family living on adjacent properties on the banks of the Willamette River in Oak Grove. She attended local schools, graduating from Milwaukie High School at a time when the North Clackamas School District was forming. Hers was a neighborhood with woods to play in and lots of neighborhood

playmates and a regular Saturday matinee at the Victory Theater in Milwaukie.

Although graduating in the top ten of her class, Karen worked a year at Standard Insurance as a clerk typist so she could attend her dream school, the University of Oregon. There she enjoyed the usual campus activities, including pledging Delta Gamma, serving as president of Susan Campbell Hall, and on the Board of Managers of the co-op bookstore. She earned her B.A. in Elementary Education in 1965. A teaching position followed in Mercer Island in Seattle, where she began studies for her Masters at U.W., then returning to Oregon for a to team teach a 5th-6th grade Math and Science Pilot Project Program in Beaverton. While teaching, she continued her M.A. program at PSU with summer and night classes.

A friend from college told her she had been teaching in suburbia too long, and she owed it to herself to explore the opportunity of teaching in a rural ranching and farming community. So, she drove to Baker, Oregon and then 50 miles east to the Richland-Halfway region in the Eagle and Pine Valleys of the majestic Wallowa Mountains. The fresh air, scenery and local friendliness decided the matter, so she taught 5th grade and coached Girls Track, with room and board in Richland for \$45/mo., and returned to PSU in the summers to continue working on her master's degree. Life in rural Baker County was delightfully different for Karen, who learned to shoot a rifle, hunt for deer and elk, fish for trout and ride horseback up into the Wallowa Mountains. She and other teachers skied in the Elkhorn and Brundage Mountains, and in Sun Valley, Idaho.

That wasn't the end of the new adventures. A seaplane ride from Seattle to Ketchikan, Alaska inspired her to start flying lessons at the Baker Airport that fall in 1969, working on her private pilot's license with the Airport Manager as instructor. Karen completed her flying hours and passed the written FAA exam, then attended an enhanced flight training program in Troutdale. Practicing solo stalls over the Baker Valley in a Cessna 172 in 13-degree weather led to a nightmare in twisted bedsheets, feeling she was spiraling and could not get the plane under control. Karen decided that perhaps her goal of a pilot's license was not such a good idea after all, so instead she left to research science education in New Zealand and New South Wales, Australia.

She returned home to teach 5th /6th grades at Cedar Mill Elementary. After completing her Master's Degree at PSU, Karen visited Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan in 1972. Upon her return she met her future husband, married, resigned from teaching in 1974 for new roles in Lake

Oswego home ownership, volunteered with her neighborhood association and observed Lake Oswego Planning Commission meetings after joining our League.

Her two sons, Justin and Robert, were born a year apart, and despite having her hands full, Karen joined the Junior League of Portland and led tours of a Total Energy Resource Application model home with OMSI and PP&L. She served as a property manager for the family home in Oak Grove and in the 1980's worked as an Administrator to Pacific Psychological Associates to facilitate her husband's private clinical practice before their eventual divorce. Karen continued her interest in education volunteering in various school projects and parents' groups through her sons' high school years.

Several leadership opportunities followed, chairing the Clackamas Co. YMCA Board, which eventually merged with Washington Co. and became known as the Westside Family YMCA and served as a liaison to the YMCA's Metropolitan Board of Managers. She also participated in Leadership Lake Oswego. In 1993, Karen did substitute teaching in the West Linn-Wilsonville, Lake Oswego, Beaverton, and Tigard-Tualatin School Districts, and started a private tutoring business to enjoy working with students on a one-to-one basis. After teaching and tutoring, she fully retired in 2013 to enjoy her three grandchildren: Mac, now 15, Waverly, 12 and Audriana, 7. She served ten years with her HOA as archivist and currently serves as board member of the Lake Oswego Women's Coalition. She remains active at the West Linn Adult Community Center in their exercise programs three days a week, including Tai Chi, and attends the "Honoring Our Memories" writing group once a week.

Reflecting on almost fifty years with our local League, Karen is thankful one of her Lake Oswego neighbors invited her to a ballot measure presentation in October 1974, after she retired from teaching. Karen learned so much from that presentation and deeply admired the women who had researched each measure and presented the pros and cons. Becoming an informed voter through this process became important to her in a nonpartisan organization. Through our study/consensus process over the many years in League, Karen is proud to have been able to help develop position statements on governance, education, the environment and social issues.

Community work inevitably leads to more work, so Karen's service continued as League representative to the Lake Oswego School District's Building Use and Utilization Committee during a time of declining enrollment. In the early 1980's, the School Board set up an Ad Hoc Committee to study and recommend an elementary school for closure. The committee's recommendation would not be a popular decision for the parents and families and their neighborhood school. From this committee, Karen was later asked to serve on other district committees including Curriculum Advisory, Block Grants, and Talented and Gifted Programming. Karen continued to serve the League on budget committees, the ABCs of Campaigning, serving on and chairing nominating committees, assisting at candidate forums and voter guide distributions. Through the years of volunteering, Karen thoroughly enjoyed meeting and making new acquaintances through community service. Prior to the onset of the pandemic on March 7, 2020, attending the LWV's Century Celebration of the ratification of the 19th Amendment and the founding of the League was a very memorable experience and Karen is thrilled to see the renewed interest, participation and increase in membership with the League of Women Voters of Clackamas County.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

of Clackamas County

PO Box 411

Lake Oswego, OR 97034

info@lwvclackamas.org

[www.lwvclackamas.org](http://www.lwvclackamas.org), <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county>

**Join the League of Women Voters of Clackamas County!**

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

- I am a new member!
- I am renewing my membership.
- This is a gift membership. (Please provide the recipient's contact information above.)
- I am interested in volunteering for the League. Please contact me.

Annual dues: \$70 Individual. \$105 Household. Full-time student attending an accredited institution or adult under age 25 free! Membership grants are available. Pay online

(<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas>) or mail this form. Please make checks payable to LWVCC, PO Box 411, Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Membership dues and donations are now tax deductible.

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_