

# LWW Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

MAY 2024

## A NEW AND BETTER LEAGUE - WE NEED YOUR VOTE!

By Maureen Mader and Lynette Pierson – Co-Presidents [president@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:president@lwvclackamas.org)

You won't want to miss our Annual League Meeting, May 4th! Catch up with friends, enjoy a light brunch and hear about exciting changes to our League.

This last year has been filled with successes and challenges. We heard you, our members, and provided monthly Civics Education meetings in person and via Zoom. We tried a few new venues that would serve larger audiences. Our Communications Team reinvigorated our Social Media effort on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Next Door. Unit meetings were revitalized in Lake Oswego and Wilsonville, with thanks to Unit Leaders for success this spring. We offered the Observer Corps to better engage our Clackamas County and local officials and we initiated a Book Club for you, our members.

We have had challenges along the way, primarily with too few members stepping into traditional leadership roles, especially on our Board. As a result, we are proposing a streamlined organizational leadership which can operate with 2-3 members instead of 9-10. We encourage you to attend the Annual Meeting May 4th to hear more about this reorganization and strongly request a Yes vote. We also encourage a Yes vote on our 2024-2025 Program and Budget.

That said, we want to give our heartfelt thanks to our outgoing Board members, Maureen Mader, Lynette Pierson, Leslie Westphal, Diana DeMaria, Mary Jensen, Marge Easley and Dolores Passarelle. We are extremely grateful for their service to our League over these many years. Looking ahead, we are happy to introduce our new Core Leadership Team: Libby Medley, Nancy Murray and Carolyn Robb. As always, we are thankful for your ongoing commitment to our League and to our mission to promote democracy! ***Remember to Vote in the May Primary.***

Maureen & Lynette

## WELCOME NEW LEAGUE MEMBERS

by Diana DeMaria, Membership Chair [membership@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:membership@lwvclackamas.org)

A HUGE WELCOME to new League members Sean Buchanan, Adam Rack and Mimi Luther, whose contact info can be found in the Members Only section of our website. If you need help to access that section or wish to request a link to the current online directory, please email [membership@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:membership@lwvclackamas.org).





**ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024  
10:00AM IN LAKE OSWEGO**

**Oswego Pointe Clubhouse, 5065 Foothills Dr**

Hosted by the Board of LWV of Clackamas County, Hilly Alexander & Betty Janes [socials@lwgclackamas.org](mailto:socials@lwgclackamas.org)

This year's annual business meeting is **critically** important to all of us. We are voting on our program focus for Making Democracy Work,

the budget to fund those activities and the new core leadership format for the coming League year. Drop by for the delicious light brunch of quiche, fruit and veggies, coffee, orange juice, mimosas, sweets and more! **CARPPOOL AND BRING A LEAGUE FRIEND!** If you'd like to connect to League neighbors offering a ride, call Diana at 503-319-8601.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024 UNIT MEETING 12:30PM**

**FOCUS ON SCOTUS: Recommend Chapters 1-3**

**'READING THE CONSTITUTION' by Stephen Breyer**

**PLEASE RSVP FOR THE MEETING ROOM LOCATION  
Dolores Passarelle at [dpassar07@gmail.com](mailto:dpassar07@gmail.com) or (503) 577-9011**

Don't miss your invitation to our In-Person Unit Meeting at Portera, 8945 SW Ash Meadows Circle!



**ANNUAL PATIO PARTY AT 11:30AM ON SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024  
RED FOX HILLS CLUBHOUSE, 1843-1889 BOCA RATON DRIVE,  
LAKE OSWEGO**

**RSVP to Betty Janes by 5/30/24 at email [socials@lwgclackamas.org](mailto:socials@lwgclackamas.org) or call 970-560-2364**

It's that time of year again! Time to enjoy a Spring potluck luncheon, bring a salad or side dish to share to celebrate with new and continuing members and guests. The Board provides beverages. Guests are welcome so bring a friend! Special thank you to June Hensala for always making this space available to our League.

The meeting is a great time to pay dues or you can renew your membership online at: <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county/join>. LOCATION: Red Fox Hills Clubhouse is located right before the Red Fox Trailhead, watch for LWV signs.

**THE SHADOW DOCKET by STEVE VLADECK JUNE 13, 2024 BOOK CLUB 1:30PM  
MARY'S WOODS, PEPIN BUILDING 565 MESNARD ST. LAKE OSWEGO**

by Margie Whitmore [froulady@gmail.com](mailto:froulady@gmail.com) 360-621-9112



The next book is *The Shadow Docket* by Steve Vladeck, hosted by MaryPat Silveira. We continue to educate ourselves about history, government, current events, and policy issues, and have fun in the process! Lots of free parking near Ovation Coffee.

Nine people attended April's first Book Club for *Why We're Polarized*, by Ezra Klein. Margie led the meeting with Braver Angels Book Discussion Guide questions, in a perfect introductory book launching our book club every two months. The takeaway: worthwhile read, political polarization is complex with many factors, and some of the recommended solutions are already supported by LWV, such as eliminating the electoral college, and sharing this reminder from Daniel Hopkins' *The Increasingly United States*: "There are over five hundred thousand elected officials in the United States, only 537 of whom serve at the federal level". Klein concluded we often don't know the names of the officials nearest us, even though they'd be glad to meet for coffee, so it's another great idea to start with your local and state officials!

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER/SHERIFF CANDIDATE FORUM**

April 6, 2024 Highlights by Meg Thompson, Voter Service Team



Wow! **ALL** of the candidates for Clackamas County Commissioner and Sheriff participated in the well-attended nonpartisan Candidate Forum in Welches on April 6, 2024. The Mount Hood Livability Coalition, Hoodland CPO and Hoodland Women's Club sponsored and planned an absolutely fabulous event with a full room of actively involved community voters who contributed thoughtful questions for every candidate on issues affecting rural and most of Clackamas County; affordable housing, short-term rental management, law enforcement staffing and community response, safety on our roads and in our communities, and



access to mental health services. Meg Thompson, Mary Jensen, Claire Vaeth, Judi Umaki, Nancy Murray and Diana DeMaria answered the call for League of Women Voters of Clackamas County support to provide time-keeping to support the moderator, audience question card gathering, voter registration, and fielded inquiries regarding absentee ballots and track-your-ballot services throughout the event for a real community gathering making democracy work.

## 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION VOTER SERVICE

by Maureen Mader [voterservice@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:voterservice@lwwclackamas.org)

Voter Service has been gearing up for the May 21st primary election. Meg Thompson, Betty Janes, Pat Walls, Maegan Vidal, Liz and Mike Leahy have been sharing their time and talent helping move through our primary checklist of tasks.

Check out your resources on [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) and the links to our now completed candidate interviews and forums can be found on [our website](#).



- Encouraged candidates to complete their profiles on [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org)
- Distributing printed LWV Voters Guide to community centers, libraries and retirement complexes in Clackamas County
- Scheduled candidate interviews on Tualatin Valley Cable TV (TVCTV) - county commissioners, county sheriff and West Linn City councilors
- Scheduled County Commissioner and Sheriff forums at Willamette Falls Studio
- Prepared candidate questions for interviews and forums
- Confirmed interviewers and forum moderators
- Distributing printed LWVOR Voters Guides in English and Spanish to community centers, libraries and retirement complexes in Clackamas County

We remind candidates of the benefits of participating in League interviews and forums, including exposure to voters through our various communication channels. Although all candidates were invited, 2 of 3 candidates in each of the races participated. In County Commissioner Position 2 we did not have two or more candidates willing to participate. **The county races can be decided in May if one candidate gets more than 50% of the vote.**

### Important Dates:

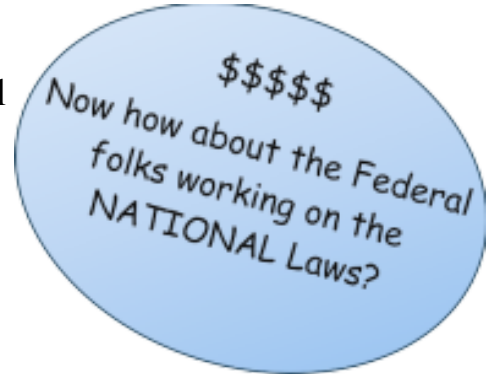
- April 15th                      Vote411.org went live
- April 18th                      LWV Printed Voter Guide available
- April 30th                      Last Day to Register to Vote for May Primary
- May 1st                          Social media blitz promoting [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org).
- May 1st                          Candidate interviews and forums available for viewing
- May 7th                          Last day for county clerk to mail voter ballots
- **MAY 21st**                      **Election Day**

## STATE LEGISLATURE PASSED BIPARTISAN PRACTICAL LIMITS ON MONEY IN OREGON POLITICS

by Robin Wisdom LWV of Umqua Valley

**Passage of House Bill 4024 means Oregon campaign contributions will be capped starting in 2027.**

**SALEM, OR** – A legislative bipartisan coalition of Oregon State Senators passed [House Bill 4024](#) to establish practical limits on campaign contributions. Oregon was one of only five states with no limits on political campaign contributions.



HB 4024 enacts reasonable campaign contribution limits that will level the playing field for regular Oregonians and protect campaigns from the undue influence of special interests. The measure enables everyday donors to participate meaningfully through Small Donor Committees – which allow the grouping of contributions less than \$250. Additionally, the measure provides for the participation of nonprofit, community-based organizations – which are (1) required to be 501(c) organizations that have been in existence for at least 18-months and (2) be composed of members who volunteer their time or donate money.

“Oregonians deserve a campaign finance system that is transparent and accountable,” said **Senate Democratic Leader Kate Lieber (D - Beaverton & SW Portland)**, who co-carried the bill on the floor. “As evidenced by the bipartisan support and compromise that brought this bill through the House and the Senate Committee on Rules, this measure reflects a true Oregon Way solution to a complex issue.”



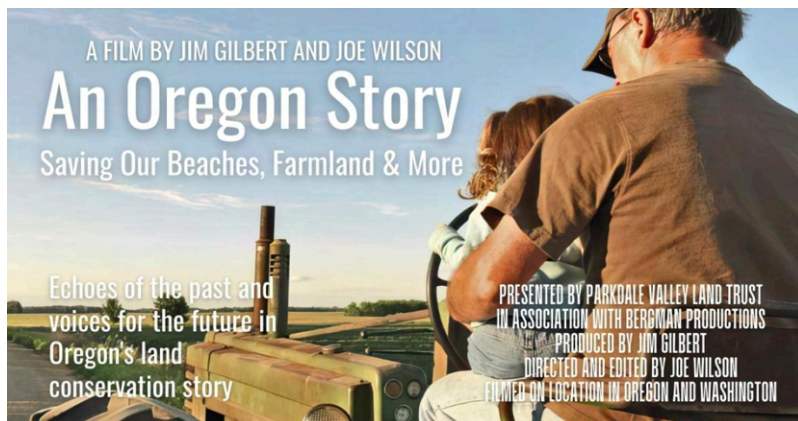
The measure contains strong anti-proliferation language and prohibits the creation of sham organizations to avoid campaign finance limits or skirt the transparency and disclosure requirements of the bill. It also enacts greater disclosure requirements so that voters are better informed about who is paying for campaign advertisements.

“For two decades, Oregonians have demanded campaign finance reform. In 2003, as House Majority Leader, I proposed reasonable campaign finance reform and worked across the aisle on the issue. I’m glad this Legislature could achieve a bipartisan solution that will increase transparency for voters while ratcheting down uncontrolled contributions,” said **Senate Republican Leader Tim Knopp (R - Bend)**, who co-carried the bill on the floor.

HB 4024 creates a new campaign finance dashboard within the Oregon Secretary of State's Office and requires entities to report the original sources of contributions that pay for independent expenditures. Furthermore, it strengthens investigation and enforcement of campaign finance violations and allows for complainants to appeal decisions to an Administrative Law Judge. **House Bill 4024 was signed by the Governor March 20, 2024.**

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2024R1/Downloads/MeasureAnalysisDocument/82722>

<https://www.kgw.com/article/news/politics/kotek-oregon-campaign-finance-reform/283-0b47f992-ff74-4357-9ef5-5e22ef99576d>



## LAND USE IN OREGON

Watch for free: [An Oregon Story](#)

This groundbreaking film produced by Jim Gilbert highlights Oregon's innovative land-use planning program that has been a model for the nation. Through a compelling blend of archival footage and interviews, the film honors both the visionaries who established these

vital policies and the dedicated individuals who have defended them over the past 50 years.

"Audiences will be taken on a journey through Oregon's stunning landscapes, from its scenic beaches to its fertile farm and ranch lands," said Joe Wilson, director of the documentary.

"This film is not just about the beauty of Oregon, but also about the farsighted people who fought to protect it and the young generation who is now carrying the torch of environmental stewardship." "*An Oregon Story*" is more than a documentary; it's a tribute to Oregon's spirit and commitment to preserving its natural and agricultural heritage.

## 1-2-3: TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT NEAR YOU

by Mary Jensen [localaction@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:localaction@lwvclackamas.org)

Observer Corps keeps our government transparent, and our elected and appointed representatives accountable for what they promised as candidates. You can make a difference! It's as easy as....

- 1 Check out our <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county/clackamas-county-civics-calendar>
- 2 Watch the meeting in person, via live streaming or via recorded video on your schedule
- 3 Fill in a single-page form with your observations and send to [localaction@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:localaction@lwvclackamas.org)

## NEW LEAGUE-WIDE MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM IN 2025

by Diana DeMaria, Membership Chair [membership@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:membership@lwvclackamas.org)

LWVUS is rolling out a new membership system next year, to improve the member experience across any league or web platform. Local and state leagues across the country will make the transition to the new system together, training after the fall General Election, launching 2025.

### Membership Dues

- Dues will be collected at the national level
- Local leagues members will join and renew with one-button ease on any platform through to LWVUS
- The standard individual membership rate will be \$75.
- There will also be a pay-what-you-can option, with a minimum of \$20 to remove economic barriers from civic engagement
- Household and student memberships will no longer be offered
- Lifetime (50+ years in the League) members will remain dues-free

### Some Details

- From paid memberships, LWVUS will retain 33% of dues, LWVOR will receive 47%, and local leagues like LWV Clackamas County will receive 20%
- LWVUS, state and local leagues will share credit card fees based on the same allocation

### Donations

- Local leagues can retain 100% of direct member donations (separate from dues)
- Local leagues must ask new and renewing members to separate donations from dues

### Implementation

- The changes will be implemented using ChapterSpot, the new membership platform
- ChapterSpot will provide a centralized portal for people joining the league or renewing their membership, regardless of local or state league affiliation
- ChapterSpot will include local league website and email services



## FRIEND OR FOLLOW TO GET CONNECTED TO NEWS, EVENTS AND UPDATES

Communications Team [communications@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:communications@lwvclackamas.org)  
2024 Making Democracy Work!

**FOLLOW US**  
ON SOCIAL MEDIA



League of Women Voters  
of Clackamas County



LWV of Clackamas County  
@LWVClackamas

[Program Recordings on our Civic Education Channel](#)



@lwvclackamas



LWV ClackamasCounty



@lwvclackamas



LWV of Clackamas County  
@LWVClackamas

## TWO MONTHS OF DEFENDING DEMOCRACY AT-A-GLANCE

by the Communications Team [communications@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:communications@lwvclackamas.org)

MAY	DAY	TIME	Mental Health Awareness Month
1	WED	12 noon	<a href="#">International Workers' or Labour Day Rally in Salem</a>
4	SAT	10am	Our League's Annual Meeting in LO - CALLING ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR 2024!
15	WED	12:30pm	Unit Meeting in Wilsonville: Focus on SCOTUS
17-19	SAT	10am	<a href="#">LWVOR Council in Newport: Invited to register as a virtual or in-person Observer!</a>
22	WED	2:30pm	LWV Empowering Young Voters in Reproductive Rights Webinar <a href="#">RSVP</a>
JUNE	DAY	TIME	Pride Month
1	SAT	11:30am	Don't Miss! League's Patio Party at Red Fox Hills Clubhouse in Lake Oswego
5	WED		<a href="#">UN World Environment Day</a>
8	SAT	10am	League Invited to March in the Portland Rose Parade! Email <a href="mailto:info@lwvpdx.org">info@lwvpdx.org</a>
13	THU	1:30pm	Book Club 'The Shadow Docket' at Mary's Woods Pepin Bldg in Lake Oswego
19	WED		<a href="#">Juneteenth</a>
27-30	SAT	10am	<a href="#">2024 LWVUS Convention</a>

### HOW TO TAKE ACTION NOW

#### **Action Alert: Urge Congress to Address the Climate Crisis and Protect Our Youth**

Congressional [Children's Fundamental Rights and Climate Recovery Resolution](#): LWVUS' Lobby Corps is currently having targeted Hill meetings on the Children's Fundamental Rights and Climate Recovery Resolution to continue bipartisan conversations about the climate crisis and resolution and to maintain League visibility on this vital issue federally. LWVUS re-endorsed the resolution upon its reintroduction and maintains a related [Action Alert](#) on the website, asking members to [contact their Members of Congress](#).

#### **Action Alert: [Urge Congress to Ensure the Equal Rights Amendment is Published](#)**

 **Action Alert to end voter discrimination and: [Urge Your Representatives to Support the John R. Lewis Rights Advancement Act](#)**



## JOIN US TO MARCH IN THE 2024 PORTLAND GRAND FLORAL PARADE WITH THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



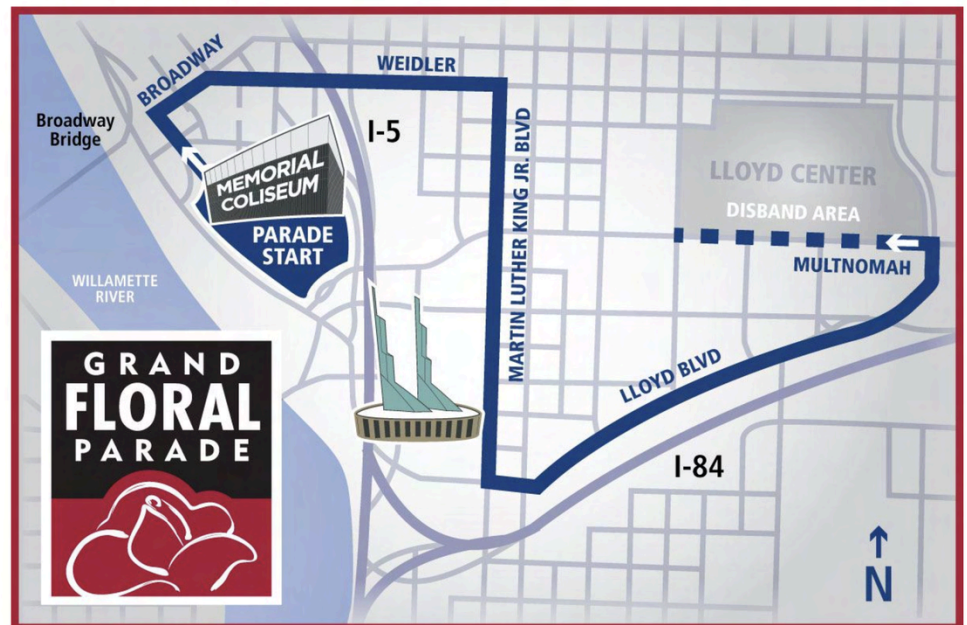
Join in the fun on Saturday, June 8th to march with the League of Women Voters of Portland in the famous Portland Rose Parade! In honor of the suffragists, we wear white clothing and sashes, and carry League signs and banners, historic flags and pompoms. Every year we have a wonderful

time and the crowds go wild! This year's Parade theme is "Celebrating a World of Music: The Universal Language" LWV says, "**Voting is music to our ears!**" There is no cost. We will gather inside the Coliseum around 8:00 or so that morning. The Parade starts at 10:00 and finishes around noon. Looking forward to having a strong League presence in the Parade, and we are working out the details on our "costuming"; most likely the gold, purple and white that LWVUS is using. We'll have banners and flags and more things to carry. The march is two miles in NE Portland leaving from the Memorial Coliseum, and mostly flat. Last year we had to be in formation at 9:00AM or so. **Anyone who wants to march needs to contact our office manager to register with LWVPDX at**

**[info@lwvpx.org](mailto:info@lwvpx.org). Phone number is 503-228-1675.**

**They need your name, email, cell phone number, preferably by May 20.** The Rose Festival is no longer requiring individual waivers. LWVPDX will sign one waiver holding the Festival harmless. Marchers must be 14 years or older, and anyone under 18 must have a parent/guardian signature.

Parade Route Map



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
of Clackamas County  
PO Box 411  
Lake Oswego, OR 97034  
EMail: [info@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:info@lwwclackamas.org)  
[www.lwwclackamas.org](http://www.lwwclackamas.org)

## 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.lww.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 \_\_\_\_\_