



# Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2021

## LWVCC Leaders

### Executive Committee:

Hilly Alexander  
Robina Ingram-Rich  
Nancy Murray  
Linda O'Malia

### Secretary:

Sonja Kollias  
Treasurer: Nancy  
Murray

### Directors:

Action: Marge Easley  
Program Chair: Robina  
Ingram-Rich  
Clackson: Karan Kuntz  
Membership: Hilly  
Alexander  
Action: Marge Easley  
Voter Service: Lynette  
Pierson

Emma Burke

### Off Board:

Nominating Committee:  
Sherry Finnigan

Budget chair: Sarah  
Chaplen

### Unit Leaders:

Monday: Betty Barber  
Wednesday: Jean  
Hoffman  
Thursday: Katie Lu,  
Sylvia Smith  
Friday: June Routson,  
Lea Wells

## February General Meeting

**"The PERFECT 36"**

**February 14, 2021**

**3:00 pm in the afternoon**

**On Zoom**

Celebrate the 101st birthday of the League watching *The Perfect 36: The Musical* on Zoom socially distanced on Valentine's Day Sunday.

**"The Perfect 36** is a reminder, in grand musical style, of the rip-snorting battle that took place in 1920 between suffrage and anti-suffrage leaders and how one moment changed the world when a young freshman legislator, following his mother's advice, broke a deadlock by changing his vote in favor of ratification. This musical celebrates the courage, tenacity and hard-core savvy of the American women, and men, who risked so much in the battle for voting rights. Watching the show's final triumphant scene, as the House chambers are flooded in a shower of yellow rose petals, one can't help but feel proud. And grateful." **Variety** [cited at [lauraharringtonbooks.com](http://lauraharringtonbooks.com)]

Playwright & lyricist: Laura Harrington.

Based on the book [The Perfect 36](#) by Laura Harrington

Composer: Mel Marvin

You can see the trailer for *The Perfect 36* and excerpts of songs at:

<https://www.perfect36themusical.com>

To get the link to the event, contact: **Nancy Murray** at [n.murray.01@hotmail.com](mailto:n.murray.01@hotmail.com). You will be sent a link to the readers' theater style production prior to the show from Nancy.

The LWVCC general meetings are open to the public. Invite your friends and neighbors to meet and learn with us.

## Action Briefs

*Marge Easley, Action Chair*

What a tumultuous era we're living in, and the League is definitely paying attention. Here's a synopsis of issues our Action volunteers are following at the national, state, and local levels.

### ***LWV of the United States***

LWVUS has not shied away from taking a strong stand on national issues of the day. Take a look at these recent press releases to see what the League has to say on a range of issues:

[LWV Statement on Climate Executive Orders, 1/27/2021](#)

[LWV Statement on the Articles of Impeachment Sent to the U.S. Senate, 1/25/21](#)

[League of Women Voters Joins Voting Rights Supreme Court Case, 1/21/2021](#)

[League of Women Voters of the United States Calls for Immediate Removal of President Donald Trump, 1/8/2021](#)

[League Condemns Domestic Terrorist Attack on the U.S. Capitol, 1/6/2021](#)

[LWVUS Supports the Return of H.R. 1 in the 117th Congress, 1/5/2021](#)

### ***LWV of Oregon***

The LWVOR Action Team is covering quite a range of issues during the 2021 Legislative Session. We urge you to read about state League advocacy efforts in the weekly *LWVOR Legislative Report*, emailed to all members who provide their email address. You'll be happy to know the format has been revised to improve user friendliness. If you didn't receive this week's issue, please sign up at <https://www.lwvor.org/take-action>. *Legislative Reports* can also be found on LWVOR's brand new website [www.lwvor.org](http://www.lwvor.org).

### ***LWV of Clackamas County***

As the Action Chair for Clackamas County, it is my job to coordinate League advocacy efforts at the local level. I've been monitoring recent Board of County Commissioners' business meetings via Zoom, and here are some highlights from January 28:

- A report was given on the status of COVID-19 vaccine distribution in the county. The vaccine supply is expected to increase in coming weeks, although it was disturbing to hear that while 250,000 vaccine doses are projected to be administered in January and February, over 1.2 million people will be in the eligible categories. Here's the link to more information: <https://www.clackamas.us/coronavirus>
- The siting of transitional housing for those experiencing homelessness, including those affected by recent wildfires, has become a matter of controversy. Using state funding under Project Turnkey to acquire former motels, the Commission had previously decided to look at purchasing the Red Fox Motel in Estacada but had not yet begun the due diligence process. However, public outcry from local residents, lack of services in the area, and an acknowledgement that much more public engagement needed to occur, the board voted 3 to 2 to stop the acquisition process. Due to the great need in rural areas for revitalization and transitional services, it is likely the board will soon explore other funding opportunities and give public input a higher priority in the future.

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## Action Briefs (Continued from page 2.)

- During the public comment period, many speakers directly addressed Commissioner Mark Shull and gave impassioned calls for his resignation, based on his previous inflammatory social media postings and emails. Several others spoke in his defense and called for giving him the opportunity to reach out to community members and grow from this experience. Board members have condemned his actions, but he has refused to resign. A recall campaign is currently underway, although he must first complete six months in office before an actual recall can occur. An attempt by the Clackamas County Budget Committee on January 21 to strip his salary from the budget was quickly quashed by Chair Tootie Smith.

We are fortunate to have member **Ellen Pierson** regularly observing Lake Oswego City County meetings. She has provided this list of the city's long-term goals, presented at the January 19 meeting:

- Ensure a safe and secure community for all.
- Support business investment and job creation in LO.
- Foster diversity, equity, and inclusion in LO and in the city as an organization.
- Combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening the community's resilience to climate impact.
- Support strong operational practices, infrastructure investments and fiscal policies that increase public trust in the City.
- Invest in LO's high quality parks, natural areas and recreational amenities.
- Improve transportation connections, mobility and safety for all types of trips in LO.
- Conserve a strong sense of place and quality of life by planning for change and growth.

We are actively looking for volunteers to observe city council meetings in other areas of the county. Please contact me ([marge.easley@frontier.com](mailto:marge.easley@frontier.com)) if you'd like to take this on, either on a short term or long term basis.

Remember to visit our website at <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county> for up to date information.

### Nancy Pratt, in memoriam

Nancy Pratt, a 67-year member of LWV and member of our Willamette View unit, passed away January 11, 2021, just shy of her 93rd birthday. Nancy joined League in 1954 in New Jersey and then was a member and President in Needham, MA where she was also active in Girl Scouts, both professionally and as a volunteer. She moved to Portland in 2009. We were fortunate that Willamette View is in Clackamas County so she became a member of our League, organizing and hosting unit meetings and ballot measure forums. She was a generous donor and encouraged others to donate also. One of her daughters, Betsy Pratt, is active in both Portland and State Leagues. Nancy was a lively spirit and will be missed.

## Future programs

*Nancy Murray*

It was good to see so many League members and one guest at our virtual unit meetings recently. We discussed several possible areas of interest that included rural issues and smaller subjects under that category. We also bemoaned the need for stronger civics education in schools. We wondered about hate groups that are operating in our county. Considering the availability of our volunteers and the benefits and disadvantages of meeting through Zoom, the board chose for our next topic one that is a pretty hot topic in our rural areas with statewide implications: the state of our forestry jobs and its tax revenues. We have speakers lined up for our March program, so stay tuned.

## Climate Change Is Back on the Agenda

*Nancy Murray*

If you are, like me, on the spectrum of being freaked out by our lack of progress on climate change mitigation, take heart at what is currently happening at the federal level and in Oregon. Because the comprehensive Oregon Clean Energy Jobs bill of 2019 never got a vote due to the Republican walkout, Gov. Brown signed an Executive Order in 2020 to get many of these actions launched. A new strategy has emerged in order to assure the actions are funded, to pass bills to fill in the gaps, and go sector by sector (e.g. transportation, energy codes) to make more progress across the board. LWVOR is part of the 30+ member Oregon Conservation Network that together is taking action under the leadership of the Oregon League of Conservation Voters. LWVOR continues to monitor bills and testify.

Three bills in particular are getting bipartisan backing since they will benefit communities represented by both parties: [HB 2475](#) Energy Affordability: Decrease utility costs for families already struggling in the economic recession by establishing a Low-Income Utility Rate Class; [HB 2842](#) Healthy Homes: Support home upgrades to help improve the health of families across Oregon; [HB 2995](#): 100% Clean Energy for All: Create good, well-paying, local jobs in the renewable energy sector that incentivize local projects benefiting communities and reducing pollution.

You can support these bills by going to [www.oregonlegislature.gov](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov) to be in touch with your legislator, sign up to e-subscribe to follow a bill of your choice, or even watch a committee hearing on video. We may be stuck at home, but we can still be active citizens and push our legislators to do the right and critical work.

## Website News

*Lynette Pierson, Website manager*

Did you know that the Mission of the League of Women Voters has 3 main points? Or why there are 2 sides to the League– one for Voter Service and one for Advocacy? Learn this and much more about our League on our new website:

<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county/about#our-mission>

## Support the For the People Act

1/21/2021

**The original Action Alert was issued by LWVUS. Please follow the links to take action.**

Dear League members,

In 2019, we celebrated the passage of HR1, the For the People Act, in the U.S. House of Representatives. This sweeping piece of legislation is the most expansive democracy reform agenda we have seen since the Voting Rights Act, but back then it never got to the President's desk. With the start of the 117th Congress it is imperative that the For the People Act once more become a top priority. We must get this bold, transformative set of reforms to strengthen our democracy and return political power to the people over the finish line, but we cannot do it without your help!

The For the People Act is the democracy reform bill the American people want and deserve. This legislation will put power back into the hands of American voters by making voting easier and more accessible and by modernizing future elections.

**It's up to us to speak up for what's right. Contact your Representative\* and ask them to champion the For the People Act.**

The For the People Act addresses some of the most pressing issues facing our democracy. From restoring the Voting Rights Act, modernizing our voter registration system, updating the public financing of elections through small donor matching funds, ending partisan gerrymandering, and making campaign contributions more transparent, this bill will put control of our government back into the hands of the people.

As an organization with a mission of empowering voters and defending democracy, the League of Women Voters is proud to support the For the People Act. We have fought for HR1 for the last two years and will not give up the fight any time soon. It is time to put power back in the hands of the American people.

**Tell Congress to pass the For the People Act as a first order of business in the new administration.**

Tell your Representative how important this reform package is to the future of our democracy. Contact your Representative\* TODAY and implore them to support the reintroduction of the For the People Act.

Yours in the fight,  
Virginia Kase CEO



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## Join the League of Women Voters!

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email

- 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.

Total Enclosed

Please make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Clackamas County.