

Calendar

March 8	International Women's Day of Protest
March 11	LWVUV speaks to UCC classrooms
March 13	Zoom Board Meeting
March 19	Garden Tour Meeting at 2pm
Mar 25	Tea Social at Umpqua Valley Arts
April 10	Zoom Board Meeting
April 24	Environment Presentation
May 2	Lobby Day at Capitol
May 2 - 4	LWVOR Convention
May 8	Zoom Board Meeting
May 11	Mother's Day
May 13	LWVUV Annual Meeting TBA
June 7	Annual Spring Garden Tour
June 12	Zoom Board Meeting
June 15	Father's Day
June 19	Juneteenth
June 30	End of Fiscal Year

Dear League Members,

Vigilance is the League way. We will face whatever comes and defend our democracy. Listen to LWV CEO and President Celina Stewart, who is now on [YouTube](#), and be inspired. We must remain engaged. We must nurture our democracy. Feel the strength of League members at all League levels, individual, state, and national. Let us also join with others to defend our nation.

Photos and video from recent protests in front of the Roseburg Courthouse are now on our League webpage lwwuv.org. The next protest rally called the 'Ides of Trump' is scheduled for Saturday, March 15th in front of the courthouse also. Bring your friends and signs.

Thank you to Julee Wright who is representing our League on the proposed K-12 study that is now starting up. Learn more about this study at the next Communications Café on March 18 at 6:30PM. Investing in K-12 education accounts for 28% of Oregon's budget. Currently, these K-12 topics are not addressed in LWVUS or LWVOR positions but there is legislation that has been proposed recently regarding each.

Our heartfelt goodbye to Kathleen Nelson who passed away in January. She had been a faithful League member for years here on the Umpqua and in California.

See you at the rally on March 15th! ~ Robin Wisdom

The New LWV Membership System

LWVUS and ChapterSpot are still working out the kinks of the new membership system. You can log in, but we are still unable to make changes to the expiration. All of our members, except a few of those who have moved out of the area, paid their renewal dues that will not expire until 6/30/2026. Thank you so much for renewing your membership during the membership drive between October and December 2024.

There are no household settings now, therefore, each person must login separately to renew in the future.

How to login to the LWV Member Portal

Go to the portal: <https://portal.lwv.org/>

Enter your email address.

Click on the button “Continue with email”.

You are emailed a ‘Code’ to your email address.

Check your email, you’ll see the Code, then click on the button in your email that says, “Sign In to LWV Portal” and you will be entered into the LWV Portal.

You will be able to enter your personal information and access more in the Portal.

Log out when you are finished. In the top right corner of your screen, you’ll see your name. Click there to see the drop-down box to log off.

Tell your Members of Congress to Oppose the SAVE Act

The House and Senate introduced the *Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act*, which would require citizenship documentation to register to vote even though voters in every state are already required to affirm or verify their citizenship status when registering.

It is already illegal for noncitizens to register and vote in federal or state elections. The bill’s requirement of a document to prove American citizenship to register to vote in federal elections is unnecessary and seeks to divide us. It also creates another barrier to voting.

Americans do not need MORE obstacles to vote. The *SAVE Act* would create one more barrier to the voting process, as many eligible voters do not have easy access to the necessary documents. Compared to white US citizens, citizens of color are [three times more likely](#) to lack documents such as birth certificates, passports, naturalization certificates, or certificates of citizenship or face difficulties accessing them. For example, while approximately half of all American adults possess a passport, two-thirds of Black Americans do not.

Tell your members of Congress to oppose the *SAVE Act*.

<https://www.lwv.org/take-action/tell-your-members-congress-oppose-save-act>

Also see:

<https://www.commoncause.org/articles/the-save-act-five-things-to-know/>

Federal Judiciary Study

This is a national study approved by the LWVUS Convention in June 2024. The study is a one-year-long study. The national League currently has no positions regarding the Supreme Court.

Prepare to discuss and determine our League's response to the consensus questions posed by the Committee. At the March board meeting on 3/13/25, the board will decide on a date to hold the necessary consensus meeting. You will receive an email as to when our related Zoom session will be held.

Here's the link to more about the study and what we will discuss in the latter part of March or early April via Zoom. You will be notified when the date is set.

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/advocacy-litigation/2024-2025-federal-judiciary-study-process-committee-and>

The Scope of The Study

- To develop a LWV position on the Federal Judiciary as an essential component of US democracy.
- The study's purpose includes, but is not limited to, addressing concerns and clarifying judicial accountability, transparency, independence, and ethics.
- The scope addresses the Supreme Court as well as the other Article III federal courts.

[View the recording of the kickoff session](#)
[View the slides of the kickoff session](#)

Consensus submission deadline for leagues 4/14/25. In April to May, the proposed position statements will be presented to LWVUS board for a vote and final approval. In June, the federal judiciary position will be announced at the LWVUS Council to be held on June 26-28, 2025.



First Annual Tea Social

What can be more fun than getting together with League members, new members and friends at a tea social! The League of Women Voters Umpqua Valley is sponsoring this event at the **Umpqua Valley Arts Center on Tuesday, March 25th at 2:00pm**. Wear a fun hat if you like! There will be delicious, traditional tea treats and great conversation. Learn about the League past and present and how we bring informative presentations to our community. So come and have fun and enjoy!

Contact Elaine Brady at elaine.brady@ymail.com to RSVP by March 17th. Or call her at 916-769-8636.



Join Us!
For Our First Annual Tea Social

Tuesday March 25th at 2PM

Umpqua Valley Arts
1624 W Harvard Ave, Roseburg

*Come for an elegant Tea Social featuring delicious,
traditional finger foods.*

Sponsored by LWV Umpqua Valley.
Other organizations are also invited to attend.

*All League members are invited to bring a friend, if you
like wear, a special hat, and meet new friends.*

Please RSVP no later than March 17th.
Email Elaine Brady at elaine.brady@ymail.com or
Call 916-769-8636

Meeting Kara at The Ford Family Foundation

A small group of League and AAUW Roseburg members met with The Ford Family Foundation President Kara Carlisle at their Roseburg office on Feb. 26th at 11AM. AAUW President Marisa Fink set up this meeting to meet with Kara who is a fairly new CEO. The event was very informative. We learned a lot about their main programs and their work throughout Oregon. They are thorough supporters of children and education in general. And we likewise shared our League work on childcare, and how AAUW supports students each year by awarding two or three scholarships for outstanding women students. We discovered that all three of our groups are a great match in many respects.

Kara emailed these links with reference to their childcare research and reporting: <https://www.tfff.org/research-publications/>

Here's a link to their Civic Language program and to some reports on the PACE Funders website: <https://www.pacefunders.org/language/>.



Kara is on the right sitting at the table.

Robin Hill-Dunbar, Director of Children, Youth and Families, who also sits on the State of Oregon's Early Learning Council, will join us in person at our Tea Social on March 25. She and her team are great resources for data, networks, and advocacy in support of kids.

TFFF's free books program can be found here: <https://selectbooks.org/>. Anyone in Oregon or Siskiyou County can request one of their books listed through the website, and it will be mailed free to their home.

Safe Families For Children and Hearts with a Mission

The League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley hosted an hour-long event on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 2PM at the Roseburg Public Library to learn about Safe Families for Children. Safe Families for Children representatives spoke about "Hearts With A Mission" (HWAM) that serves homeless youth, local families, as well as seniors through several programs. Safe Families For Children (SFFC) is the first HWAM program to enter Douglas County.

The speakers were Marisa Hayner, Regional Director, and Jaco Coetzee, Outreach Specialist.





(Safe Families continued)

SFFC provides families facing crises with a compassionate and caring family-like community which we call a Circle of Support (COS). The COS provides resources, mentoring for youth and parents, overnight respite hosting of children 0-24 and respite childcare to support the family to regain stability. SFFC is professionally supported, and volunteer driven with a goal of keeping children safe and families together.

For more information, visit <https://www.heartswithamission.org/>.

We recorded this session that you can watch on [YouTube here](#).

The Power of Nonpartisan Advocacy

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization committed to empowering voters and defending democracy. We advocate for issues, not parties or candidates, and believe in free, fair, and accessible elections for all.

There's much more here.

<https://www.lwvor.org/post/the-power-of-nonpartisan-advocacy>, and it is quite beautifully written. The page covers 'Issues are Not Partisan', 'Nonpartisan does not mean Apolitical', 'Democracy is a Civil Rights Issue', and much more.



LWVOR State Convention • May 2 - 4, 2025

The LWVOR 2025 State Convention **Current of Change, Navigating Democracy's Next Wave**, is a biennial event for Oregon League members to network, brainstorm, attend caucuses and workshops, and enjoy the company of like-minded people dedicated to empowering voters and defending democracy in 2025. Attendees will engage in discussing local, state, and national issues, and vote on state decisions such as the Recall and Childcare studies position statements.

This year the Convention is being held May 2 - 4 in Salem. Our local League is able to send three delegates. Robin Wisdom and Elaine Brady will serve as Delegates, and Gerald Wisdom will be an Observer. We have the opportunity to send three delegates, so if you are interested, you could join us. If so, please contact Robin (info@lwvuv.org).

The Umpqua Valley League will cover the hotel and registration expenses for Delegates and Observers. The registration fee covers all business sessions, workshops, and speakers, as well as lunch and dinner on Saturday. Breakfast is included in the hotel reservation.

You can attend virtually but you won't gain as much unless you participate in person. Observers are also welcome. Reservations must be made by April 2.

Lobby Day is on Friday, May 2nd.

League of Women Voters members are invited to join us for Lobby Day at the Oregon State Capitol on May 2nd. You can make a difference! During Lobby Day, you'll meet with your legislators and advocate for the issues that League members care about. Never lobbied in Salem at the Capitol before? We will learn more at the scheduled Communication Café mentioned below.

If you would like to attend as a Delegate or an Observer, let us know. Email us at info@lwvuv.org.

<https://www.lwvor.org/lwvor-convention-2025>



Action in Douglas County

This article highlights some of the work being done for us at the state level. And we can be a part of the effort. Please support the **LWVOR Action Team**; subscribe to the [Legislative Report](#). Support the **Friends of Douglas County** by contacting Shelley Wetherell at 541-459-4222 or email her at wetherel@earthlink.net. Shelley is also a long-time member of LWV Umpqua Valley.

AGRICULTURE

By Sandra Bishop – LWVOR Action Team member following agriculture at the Legislature

The following Senate bills will be considered in the [Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire](#) on March 6: [SB 78](#) – Replacement dwelling bill and [SB 77](#) – home occupation reform bill.

[SB 73](#) – Spot zoning reform; and [SB 79](#) – prohibits certain dwellings on resource lands. **LWVOR will watch and may support with our strong positions on protection of Oregon's valuable agricultural lands.** Also, we are watching [HB 3158](#) relating to photovoltaic solar power generation facilities on lands zoned for exclusive farm use. Allows certain photovoltaic solar power generation facilities on lands zoned for exclusive farm use to operate alongside farm or allowed nonfarm uses on a tract. **LWVOR is watching this one before taking a position.**

The League is watching [HB 2947](#), a bill that would *direct the Oregon State University Extension Service and the College of Agricultural Sciences of Oregon State University to study the distribution and occurrence of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) found in*

(Action in Douglas County continued)

biosolids applied to agricultural fields that do not produce crops intended for human consumption.

The Friends of Douglas County supports important land use bills. The following is borrowed from the Friends' latest newsletter, March 2025. Here's more on some of same bills mentioned above.

SB73 – Spot Zoning reform. Requires local governments to use the existing statutory planning process in ORS 215.788-794 to rezone designated agricultural and forest land for residential and industrial development. Stops the case-by-case rezoning of individual farm and forest properties to residential and industrial use.

SB77 – Home occupation reform. Closes the loophole that allows large hospitality and entertainment facilities being approved on land designated for agricultural and timber production. Restores the intent of Oregon's home occupation statute to allow homeowners to run small inconspicuous businesses, such as a small bookkeeping business, small hair salon, or small-scale childcare services, as accessory uses in homes located in farm and forest zones. Unlike the agri-tourism provisions in state law, home occupations are not required to be related to agriculture or to tourism. This bill makes the priority of the dwelling to be the home "residence" and not the home occupation as the priority use of the dwelling.

SB78 – Replacement dwelling reform. Stops the conversion of agricultural and forest land for luxury development through "replacement dwelling" process. Limits the scale of a replacement dwelling in ag and forest zones to be consistent with that of the dwelling being

replaced so that it is truly a replacement dwelling and not merely a new non-farm dwelling.

SB79 – Non-resource dwelling reform. Prohibits new houses that have nothing to do with agriculture or forest management from being built in critical groundwater areas, priority wildlife habitat and migration corridors, and on high value farmland.

Please show your support for these bills by letting members of the Senate Natural Resources and Wildfire Committee members who will be considering these bills that you support these reforms. It is okay to lump them together in a single letter to the committee members.

Members of the Senate Natural Resource and Wildlife Committee can be emailed at:

Sen.JeffGolden@oregonlegislature.gov
Sen.FloydProzanski@oregonlegislature.gov
Sen.KathleenTaylor@oregonlegislature.gov
Sen.DavidBrockSmith@oregonlegislature.gov
Sen.FredGirod@oregonlegislature.gov

A hearing is expected to be convened soon on at least some of these bills in the Senate Committee. Please follow these bills and if you can, make some plans to testify either orally or in writing or both.



Special Districts Election Year 2025

The following is from the Douglas County Elections website:

<https://douglascountyor.gov/640/Special-District---Odd-Years-Only>

What is a Special District:

Special Districts are a form of local government created to fill a specific community need. Communities have specific needs such as: Fire Protection, Education, Water, Sewer, etc. Communities have similar needs, but some have specific needs, so not every community has all of the same types of districts. Special districts are guided by various laws and statutes and have elected board members. More information regarding specific district types can be found under [ORS 255.012](#).

Elected Boards:

Elections for Special Districts in Oregon are held every two years, in the odd years (2023, 2025, 2027 etc.) Generally, a term for a Special District board position is four years. If the individual elected to the term is unable to fill the whole term, the board may appoint another individual to fill the vacant seat until the next scheduled election. Please see [ORS 198.320 \(2\)](#) for specific wording. As one reviews the Districts and positions in the tabs to the left on the [County Elections website](#), one will see that there are some positions which state that the term is 2 years. These are due to a vacancy that occurred.

How Many Districts:

Douglas County currently has 83 Special Districts that file with our county, there are another 16 Special Districts which we share with other counties. The shared districts originate in 2 different counties: Coos, Lane. If an elector lived in one of these districts and wished to file for candidacy in one of the shared districts they would file their candidacy with the county of origin. There will be many positions open for filing, from February 8th until March 20th @ 5:00pm. Voters will only see those districts and positions on their ballot in which they are eligible to vote (in the area of residence.)

What is that district? Who is that?

Many people do not know how many different districts they are in, or who the candidates are. The question often comes up during the Special District Election "Who are these people?". These "people" are your neighbors; people in the community that are *giving* of their time to assist a board perform its duties. These are non-paid positions. Typically, the candidates are not going to pay out for signage, television, or other advertising. However, you may contact them. Filing forms are hyperlinked to the names of the filed candidates. You may also contact the districts.

Time to Give

If you want to be involved in your community this is a great way to help out. Depending on the district this is often one meeting a month. If you are able to donate more time for your community, you can sit on more than one board as they are not paid positions. Thank you to all that are able and do donate their time to make our communities function.





Garden Tour Update

Hello, Garden Tour fans! For those of you who are looking forward to another garden tour, I'm happy to let you know that we have a great one shaping up!

The variety and creativity never cease to amaze me. A garden might be big, or it might be small, on a hill, or in the trees, some are in a backyard, some in the front yard.

***You'll see what I mean on
Saturday, June 7th!***

I am looking for new gardens for future years, and I need your HELP. If you have a lead on a potential garden, please let me know. If you don't have the gardener's contact information, an address will do, so that I and the Garden Tour Committee can make a "cold call" inquiry. (Either written or in person.)

The next Garden Tour Committee meeting is on Wed., March 19th at 2PM. You are welcome to attend. Call or text me for location information.

Tickets will go on sale in May.

Thank You for keeping the tour in mind. It is our LWVUV's annual fundraiser.

~Nancy Farris, Garden Tour Chair
541 643 8113 (text or call)
nfarris73@icloud.com



Hello League Members!



Are you someone who:

- Cares about Roseburg and Douglas County?
- Follows news and commentary about Roseburg and Douglas County?
- Wants Douglas County residents to be informed about their local government?
- Wants everyone who is eligible to vote?
- Has some practical skills – bookkeeping, writing/editing, managing projects?
- Wants to be a part of a team of smart, informed, and charming individuals?

If so, please consider taking a leadership role with LWVUV. This is the time of year when the Nominating Committee, chaired by **Elaine Brady**, is looking for talented members to serve as leaders. How would you like to help?

All members need to participate besides paying their dues. Why did you join? We are thankful you did, **and** we need your assistance.

A few possibilities are – join the board or be a committee member. Try one of those for one year and see what you think.

We can meet via Zoom or in person. The board only meets once per month. How would you like to meet? For lunch? For coffee? At someone's house? Restaurant? Or virtually?

Let us know!

We have small jobs, short jobs, and more!

- p Would you like to call members about monthly meetings?
- p Arrange events?
- p Participate at events?
- p Work on mailings?
- p Work on newsletters (3 times a year)?

This is for our cities, our county, and our community – Tell Us What You Would Do?

Projects we are working on this year are:

- Monthly general meetings with speakers
- Annual Meeting & speaker & catered dinner
- During election years we provide candidate and or ballot measure forums
- Updating the website
- Working with the state League
- Participate in the new K-12 study that's being proposed

**Email us at info@lwwuv.org • We need You!
Or call for more information • 541-672-6982**

League of Women Voters Umpqua Valley Presents

Nature's Brain Boost: Get Your Wild Fix

Thursday, April 24 - 6-7:30 pm

Oran Mor Artisan Meadery

305 Melrose Road, Roseburg



Wayne Chevalier will share how our brains heal and transform in nature. Wayne has a degree in neurobiology and worked with dolphins in the Florida keys for 5 years studying meta cognition in marine mammals. He worked for 30 years in the wilderness, for the forest service as a wilderness trail manager. He lives in Azalea and Port Orford.



Diana Pace will share the Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal and its intent. This legislation would provide a 90-mile-long wildlife corridor and protect the headwaters of 6 watersheds: Umpqua, Klamath, Rogue, Willamette, Little Deschutes and Spring Rivers. Diana is a member of Umpqua Watersheds and has hiked extensively in the proposal areas.

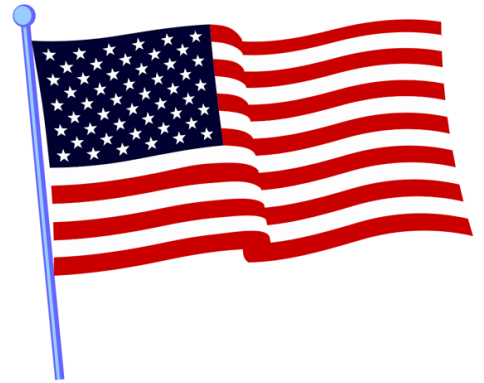
Food and Drink available for purchase.



For more details:
info@lwvuv.org

Your Board of Directors

- President – vacant
- Vice-President – vacant
- Secretary – Julee Wright
- Treasurer – Sherry Couron
- Voter Service Chair – Jenny Carloni
- Garden Tour Committee Chair – Nancy Farris
- Member at Large – Connie Page
- Member at Large, Tea Social Chair – Elaine Brady
- Finance Committee – Sherry Couron, Robin Wisdom
- Webmaster, Zoom Host, Mailchimp Editor- [Robin Wisdom](#)



Contact Us!

Email: info@lwwuv.org

Website: <https://lwwuv.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LWVUV>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNA6j-229EjjVg4txKMb-Ng?view_as=subscriber

Short version: <https://bit.ly/3yiitzQ>

Flickr: https://www.flickr.com/groups/lww_umpqua_valley/
Short version: <https://bit.ly/3KIF0Jg>

