

## May 2021 Calendar of LWV Events

**Wed., May 5, 1:30 p.m.—Book Club—*The Hundred Year Marathon* by Michael Pillsbury**  
Virtual meeting. Link will be emailed.  
If you are interested in joining Book Club contact Roz Shirack.

**Mon., May 10, 2 - 4 p.m.—Board meeting—via Zoom**

**Wed., May 12, 6 - 8 p.m.—*Pesticides and Other Biocides***  
Discussion of the LWVOR study report and the consensus questions.  
Virtual meeting. The link will be emailed.  
The study report is on the LWVOR website at [www.LWVOR.org](http://www.LWVOR.org).

**Sat., May 15, 1 p.m.—Great Decisions: *China in Africa***  
Virtual meeting. Link will be emailed.  
Discussion leader: Cindy Condon

**Wed., May 26, 6 - 7:30 p.m.—*Annual Meeting***  
Virtual meeting. Link will be emailed.  
**All LWVMPC members are urged to participate.**  
**Program, board nominees, budget, bylaws change, and edited position statements will be voted on at Annual Meeting.**  
Background information on the items to be voted is in Part 1 of the Annual Meeting Workbook, which will be sent to members early in the second week of May.  
A proposed new study of *Health and Safety in Public Schools* will need a study committee before being adopted, so the proposal is on Page 2 of this *Focus* with information on how to volunteer.



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## Annual Meeting on May 26 via Zoom



Since we can't meet in person for Annual Meeting again this year due to the pandemic, we will meet virtually on Wednesday, May 26, from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Fortunately, many of us have become accustomed to meeting via Zoom. Directions for connecting to Zoom for the first time will be sent with this *Focus* as well as with the Annual Meeting Workbook, to be sent early in the second week of May.

We have a proposed new study of Health & Safety in the Schools, so we'll discuss it at our meeting before voting on it. Attendees may have suggestions as to the scope of the study or the questions the committee may research.

We also need a study committee before approving the study. The committee will do online research as well as interview knowledgeable people in our community. Committee members will then write up what they have learned along with pros and cons of any controversial issues. A study is usually completed within a year. New League members are especially encouraged to volunteer for the study committee as there will be an experienced League member to provide guidance.

### Proposed Study: Health and Safety in Public Schools

**Scope: What are the biggest threats to the health and safety of students? Where are resources allocated? Are they aimed at the biggest threats? What are alternatives?**

Understanding the current allocation of resources (funding and staff) to policing versus other social services, understanding the need/desire for police in schools as well as the drawbacks of having police in schools, understand the highest needs within schools regarding public health and safety, researching other successful models to address high priority public health and safety needs that may be alternatives to police in schools. The prevailing interest is in aligning community investments in public health and safety with community interests. It would be interesting to hear from the Latinos Unidos Siempre as well as School Resource Officers and juvenile corrections officers.

Questions that the study committee might decide to consider: What is a School Resource Officer responsible for? What is Restorative Justice? Which programs are most effective? What gaps do schools help to fill? How to prevent school shootings? How to prevent bullying? What happens in various school districts in Marion & Polk Counties (not just in Salem-Keizer Schools)?

To volunteer for this study contact our current Program Chair Diana Bodtker.



### **FOCUS**

*Focus* is the newsletter of the League of Women Voters® of Marion and Polk Counties. Members subscribe through their dues, and membership is open to anyone 16 years of age and older.

## Legislative Matters on KMUZ

KMUZ radio at 100.7 & 88.5 FM has a weekly program on "Willamette Wake Up" called Legislative Matters with Jan Margosian and League member Cindy Condon. It airs Mondays at 8 am. The hosts also have a space on KMUZ's website for folks to keep up with legislative matters at <https://kmuz.org/legislative-matters/>.

Thanks to Cindy Burgess for this information and to Cindy Condon for cohosting the program.



[VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org)

Go to the League-sponsored [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) and enter your home address, then click on "Find What's on Your Ballot."

Salem-Keizer School Board candidates for the May 18 election are on [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) with the candidates' answers to questions posed by the League. In addition, videos of League interviews of the candidates will be available on the site the first week of May.

In races with only one candidate the candidates may not have responded, and even in competitive races, not every candidate may have responded.

Many thanks to Janet Adkins for all her work on this project.

**Watch candidate interviews on YouTube:** LWV interviewed candidates for school board. Those interviews may be seen at <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSUQ1gg6M78WWbkK0mFmJbi0GRfz6d5Gr>.

**Renew Your Membership  
for 2021 - 2022**

Use the form on Page 6  
or  
[pay online](#) from LWVMPC webpage.



# Observer Corps April 2021 Reports

## Salem City Council (04/12/21)

Alice LaViolette, Observer



### Main Points/ Issues Discussed:

#### City Manager's Report by Steve Powers:

There is an information report on the American Rescue Plan Act. There will be Budget Committee Hearings to discuss the plan, the first one on April 14. The need to find shelter for the unhoused continues, as shelters come and go. With help from the Community Action Committee, 30 additional hotel rooms are available for women who are currently living at Cascade Park. The Pallet City on Portland Road opens on April 19. Sanctioned camping in the two city parks ends on June 1. Parks will be cleaned up and facility repairs made when sheltering ends. City Council will have a work session to discuss policies and procedures that will need to follow new state laws regarding the unhoused.

#### Information Reports:

Several land-use plans for additional homes/subdivision (45 lots, 88 lots, 6-unit homeless shelter)

Brief presentation/overview of American Rescue Plan Act. Salem's direct ARPA payment will be \$32.88 million. The initial framework recommends using the City funds to stabilize the City budget; support local households, small businesses and non-profits where there are gaps in available resources for COVID recovery; and for priority projects determined by City Council.

Flyer on the American Rescue Plan Act is linked to the Agenda.

### Decisions/Actions Taken:

- Accepted a donation by Mountain West Investments of a cargo van to Friends of Center 50+ to support outreach services.
- Approved the authorization of the creation of a new water project: "Turner Water Pump Station" in the FY 2020-21 Water Non-Assessed Construction Fund 255, funded with utility rates.
- Approved the creation of a new water project: "Geren Island Filter No. 2 Reconstruction" in the FY 2020-21.
- Authorized the creation of a new wastewater project: "Boone Road SE Sewer Extension" in the FY 2020-21.
- Authorized the creation of a new water project: "Sleepy Hollow Waterline" in the FY 2020-21.
- Approved a 5% salary range adjustment for the Police Sergeant classification retroactive to July 1, 2020.
- Accepted these reports (copies of the reports are linked in the Agenda)
  - Salem Center 50+ Advisory Commission Annual Report 2020
  - Age Friendly Salem Assessment Report



- Approved the following City Staff recommendations to an ODOT Speed Study on 17th St. NE and 45th St. NE:
  - Reject the ODOT recommendation to increase the speed limit on 17th Street SE between Mission Street SE and State Street NE from 25 mph to 30 mph; take no further action.
  - Direct staff to request a hearing before the Oregon Speed Zone Review Panel to appeal ODOT's recommendation to maintain the 30 mph speed limit on 17th Street NE between State Street NE and Silverton Road NE, with the City recommending instead that the speed limit be lowered to 25 mph.
  - Concur with the ODOT recommendation to reduce the speed limit on 45th Street NE between Center Street NE and Sunnyview Road NE from 35 mph to 30 mph.
- Approved the City of Salem's Staff positions on legislative bills in the 2021 Oregon Legislative Session. (Councilors Nordyke and Leung voted Nay; Councilor Anderson voted Yay with the exception of one bill dealing with who can legally look at recordings of speed/traffic cameras).

## Salem Area Mass Transit (Cherriots) District Board (04/22/21)

*Janet Adkins, Observer*

### Main Points/Issues Discussed:

- Purchase of new battery electric no-emission buses
- May 1 service changes including reinstating later evening service
- Title VI equity analyses of free fares and civic center route change
- Upcoming recognition of frontline workers
- City of Salem Climate Action Plan



### Decisions/Actions Taken

1. Approved contract to purchase four battery electric no-emission buses, not to exceed \$3.6 million, to replace 14-year-old diesel buses—using federal grant with local match. Unanimous with one member excused.
2. Accepted Title VI analysis showing no disparate impact on minorities or low-income residents of free fares and elimination of the civic center loop route. Unanimous with one member excused.
3. Approved lease extension of RouteMatch, a tablet-based tracking and routing system for contracted drivers on paratransit and regional service routes. Unanimous with one member excused.

**HOW TO BECOME an Observer:** Contact Amy Vandegrift or Alice LaViolette at to let them know which council/commission/committee you want to observe and to answer any additional questions you might have. In the absence of coverage of these governmental bodies by journalists, you can keep all of us informed. Our LWV board will send a letter on your behalf to the committee chair to let them know you are a regular LWV Observer.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
of Marion and Polk Counties**

3335 Crestview Dr. S  
Salem, OR 97302-5908

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**League of Women Voters of Marion and Polk Counties  
Membership Renewal through September 30, 2022**

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

Correction to information from 2020-2021 directory: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_ \$ 65 for Individual Membership
- \_\_\_ \$ 30 for each additional Household Member, Student or Limited Income Member  
(Those with limited income may also contact Amy Vandegrift or Elsa Struble about scholarships)
- \_\_\_ \$ 90 for a single Supporting Member
- \_\_\_ **\$15 extra to receive printed newsletters through the mail**
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to LWVMPC budget (not tax deductible)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL to LWVMPC** (not tax deductible)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contributions to LWV of Oregon are now tax deductible. Write a separate check payable to LWVOR and *send it to* Treasurer Elsa Struble; she will forward it to the state League and the amount will be held for us to use for our educational projects or per-member payments owed the state League.

**Mail check(s) & form** to Treasurer Elsa Struble, 210 18th St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

**Join online [HERE](#).**