

October Calendar of LWV Events

Wed., Oct. 6, 1:30 p.m.—Book Club—*The Lathe of Heaven* by Ursula K. Le Guin

Virtual meeting. Link will be emailed.

If you are interested in joining Book Club contact Roz Shirack, rozshirack7@gmail.com.

Mon., Oct. 11, 2 - 4 p.m.—Board meeting—via Zoom

All members are invited to attend board meetings.

Minutes are on the LWVMPC webpage under Board Minutes.

Sat., Oct. 16, 1 p.m.—Great Decisions: “Two Koreas” video

Virtual meeting. Link will be emailed.

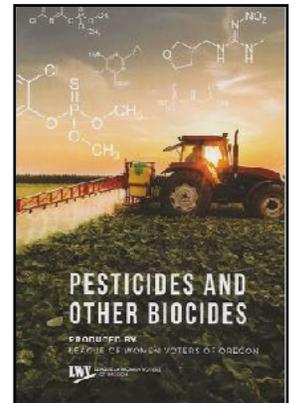
Wed., Oct. 20 (program) & Nov. 3 (consensus) at 7 p.m.—

Pesticides and Other Biocides

The link to the Zoom meeting will be emailed to members.

The LWVOR study report is the basis for both meetings.

Details of how to get a copy of the report (if you don't already have it) and plans for the October 20 meeting are on Page 2.



If you missed the Fall Membership Meeting on **Voting Security with County Clerk Bill Burgess, you can watch it from our webpage in the News section.**

County Clerk Bill Burgess discussed how ballots were handled for the November 2020 general election during the pandemic and following the Labor Day wildfires as well as how ballots are made secure in Oregon. He referenced the “Oregon Election Integrity Project” from Reed College’s Elections & Voting Information Center (EVIC) at <https://evic.reed.edu/oregon-election-integrity-project/>. That article includes a survey of Oregon voters on which parts of the *Voter’s Pamphlet* they read. Another informative article from EVIC is “Absentee/Vote by Mail Rejections: A Complex Problem with Complex Solutions” available at <https://evic.reed.edu> (scroll down the page) which has several graphs showing how the ways people vote have changed.

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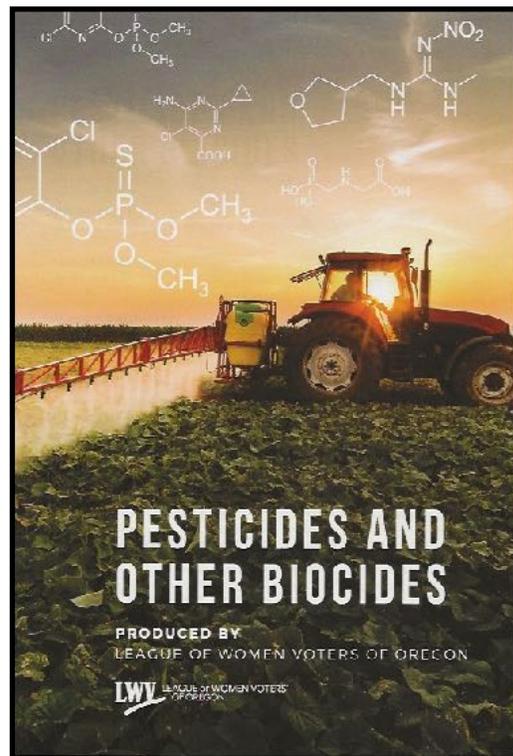
Pesticides and Other Biocides

The LWVOR study report *Pesticides and Other Biocides* and the consensus questions which we'll discuss on November 3 are available at <https://www.lwvor.org/pesticides-and-other-biocides>.

The plan for our October 20 meeting is to see the video of the presentation to the Portland LWV. The distinguished panel in the video presentation includes:

- **Amelia Nestler**, PhD, Chair of the League study and Senior Scientist at Northwest Green Chemistry
- **Kevin Masterson**, Toxics Coordinator, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- **Lisa Arkin**, Executive Director, Beyond Toxics
- **Andrea Sonnen**, Enforcement Case Reviewer, Interim Pesticides Lead Investigator, Oregon Department of Agriculture – Pesticides Program
- **Stephanie Page**, Director, Natural Resources Program Area, Oregon Department of Agriculture (participating for the Q & A)
- **Moderator**, Paula Grisafi, Co-Chair of study

The meeting will be held via Zoom, and the link will be emailed to League members. Guests who want to watch the presentation may email Sally Hollemon at rhollemon@comcast.net to request the link.



LWVmarionpolk.org

The local League of Women Voters website contains a lot of information.

Check it out!

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.

Observer Corps Reports for September 2021

Urban Renewal Agency

Alice LaViolette (09/13/21)

Main Points/Issues Discussed

Appointment to West Salem Redevelopment Advisory Board
Discussion of downtown UGM/Saffron redevelopment plan

Decisions Made/Actions Taken

- Jason Staats was appointed to the West Salem Redevelopment Advisory Board.
- UGM/Saffron downtown area will be demolished during Winter 2021. Planning will take place '22-23 and rebuilding in 2024. It will consist of mixed use and 20% affordable housing using green building practices and take into consideration the proximity to the Downtown Historic District, Riverfront Park, and the Capitol.
- Additional funds will be moved from the Strategic Project Grant to the Riverfront - Downtown Urban Renewal Area for security cameras, lighting, trash can enclosures, fencing for enclosures and gates for alleys.

Salem City Council

Alice LaViolette (09/13/21)

Main Points/Issues Discussed

There was a presentation from Portland General Electric on “Resiliency Key to Oregon’s Clean Energy Future” by Wendy Veliz (PGE Government Liaison), Maria Pope (CEO), Tom Yost (Dir. of Operations), Bob Messner (Dir. of Wildfire Mitigation and Resiliency). This report gave updates on restoration from the wildfire, what they are doing to enhance resiliency for Salem and its residents and their overall plan for emergency preparedness for the future. The plan is available on the City Council web page.

Decisions Made/Actions Taken

Approved vacating the public right-of-way at the NE corner of Liberty Road S and Pembroke Street SE in order for the City to surplus the former Fire Station No. 7.

- Approved increasing General Fund expenditure in the amount of \$480,000 for unanticipated expenses caused by the winter storm event.
- Authorized the City Manager to apply for and accept a Critical Oregon Airport Relief (COAR) grant to support a master plan update at the Salem Municipal Airport.
- Approved a 3-year collective bargaining agreement between the City and AFSCME Employees Union for a period from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2024.
- Authorized the City Manager to execute an Inter-Governmental Agreement between the Drug Enforcement Agency and the City of Salem for the operation of a narcotics task force in FY 21/22.
- Approved a new project for street improvements in the FY 2021-22 construction budget that allows City staff to reimburse the developer for additional street, sidewalk, and storm improvements needed to complete Reed Road SE between Fairview Industrial Drive SE.
- Approved sewer and water connections for property located at 3480 Blossom Drive NE, which is outside city limits, on the condition the property owner pay for the connections.

(Continued on next page)

Salem City Council (Continued)

- Approved staff recommendations for modifications to descriptions and definitions used in the Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) criteria to assess city programs and determine their overall alignment with the City's priorities.
- Appointed 6 new members to the Citizen Budget Committee, Community Police Review Board, and Salem Planning Commission.

Salem City Council

Alice LaViolette (09/20/21)

Main Points/Issues Discussed—Salem Climate Action Plan (draft)

City Council held a Work Session on the Salem Climate Action Plan (draft). Presentation was led by Patricia Ferrell, Project Manager for the Climate Action Plan, and consultant, Kim Morrow, Verdis Group, Director of Climate Planning and Resilience.

Background: In August 2020, City Council adopted the following goals as part of Salem's Climate Action Plan: (1) By 2035, Salem's greenhouse gas emissions shall be reduced to 50% of the citywide greenhouse gas emissions from the baseline year of 2016, and (2) By 2050, Salem should be carbon neutral.

Key points in the plan:

- Achieve Climate Action Plan Goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation).
- Help the Salem community prepare for climate change (adaptation / resiliency).
- Identify and recommend actions to prioritize for implementation.
- Identify key partners for implementation.

The plan was created with input from a Climate Action Plan Committee consisting of 30 residents and 3 council members. The final version of the plan will be ready later this fall. A public hearing on the plan will be held in December 2021. The city has provided an online resource for learning more at <https://salemclimateactionplan.com/project-resources>. The plan is on the LWVMPC website under News.

Cherriots Board of Directors Meeting

Jean Sherbeck (09/23/21)

Main Points/Issues Discussed

- Board Evaluation of General Manager Performance
- Authorized General Manager to execute contracts for natural gas compressor and in ground lifts for new heavier, longer bus repair.
- Security Team Report for Fiscal 2021
- Performance Report for fiscal 2021, including boarding and ridership charts

Decisions Made/Actions Taken

Board members discussed and asked questions about both reports, and the approved purchases of equipment. See September 23, 2021, meeting on You Tube for extensive information.

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

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all women and men 16 years of age and older. Membership includes subscriptions to local, state, and national League publications, many of which are sent by e-mail and all of which are supported by your local dues.

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Renewing members, please add below any information that is different from what's in the 2019-20 directory. If you've mislaid your directory, contact Elsa Struble at gstruble@willamette.edu, 364-3929.

New members, please complete the following contact information.

Phone (H) _____ (Cell) _____

E-mail _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Yes, I want to join the League: _____ as a *new* member. _____ as a renewing member
I am enclosing:

___ \$ 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. (Checks sent to the LWVOR office will not benefit our local League but directly benefit the state League, another good cause.)

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

For further member information, contact Amy Vandegrift at 503-364-0492, vandebloom@gmail.com
or Elsa Struble at 503-364-3929, gstruble@willamette.edu

Join online [HERE](#).



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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Making Democracy Work™



The League of Women Voters®, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

October 2021

| | |
|--|---|
| <i>Pesticides & Other Biocides</i> | 2 |
| Calendar..... | 1 |
| Membership | |
| Dues form..... | 5 |
| Observer Reports for September..... | 3 |