



# VOTER

Volume 5 Issue 8

SEPTEMBER 2011

**CALENDAR**

- Thursday, Sept. 22  
LWVTC General mtg.  
TC Courthouse  
Bldg. 1; Room 280  
6:30 pm  
**Topic:**  
**Short Course on  
Local Planning**
  
- Thursday, Oct. 27  
LWVTC General meeting  
River's Edge Restaurant  
Tumwater Valley  
6:30  
**Topic:**  
**Election Assistance**
  
- Saturday, Nov. 5  
Education Fund Luncheon  
Olympia Country Club
  
- Thursday, Nov. 10  
Westside Action Workshop  
Bellevue, WA
  
- Thursday, Nov. 17  
**PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL DATE**  
LWVTC General meeting  
River's Edge Restaurant  
Tumwater Valley  
6:30  
**Topic:**  
**Privatization**

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**Mark your calendar!**

**LWVTC GENERAL MEETING**  
**9/22/2011**

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**Topic:**  
**Short Course**  
**on Local Planning**

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**Thurston County Courthouse**  
**Bldg. 1 room 280**  
**6:30-8:30 pm**

With the LWVTC's participation in the Sustainability Roundtable of Thurston County, a coalition organized to comment on Thurston County's Regional Plan for Sustainable Development, and the Thurston County Critical Area Coalition, a collation organized to present current and factual information on the Thurston County critical area ordinance update, September's program could not be more timely. We owe our gratitude to Cynthia Stewart and Peggy Bruton for representing League po-

sitions in connection with the activities of the SRTC and TCCC, respectively. Their participation brings added effectiveness to accomplishing the League's goals. The Short Course on Local Planning, co-sponsored by the County, will be held at Building 1, Room 280 of the Thurston County Courthouse on September 22, 2011 from 6:30-8:30 pm. This course will be presented by the Planning Association of Washington, whose mission is "to provide an inclusive forum for sharing problems and solutions, developing land use plan-

ning knowledge, and putting this knowledge into the hands of citizens and elected officials". PAW does not lobby nor otherwise engage in the political process because its mission is apolitical, non-partisan educational training and collaboration. The course will be taught by professional planners, attorneys and others in planning-related fields. I encourage you to attend, to become among the best informed citizens in our community and to support LWVTC's coalition efforts.

*Clydia Cuykendall*

*President's Article*

# THANKS ARE DUE

It's been a productive summer, so thanks are due to all that made it so!

Once again, I'm extending LWVTC's thanks to Marilyn and Bill Funk for obtaining a \$2000 gift from The Allstate Foundation for the LWVTC Education Fund account. The Allstate Foundation's "Agency Hands in the Community" program recognizes Allstate agents' volunteerism within the community and provides financial support to their organizations.

Marilyn has recently volunteered to be our Membership Chair, a position which has been vacant since I took office.

I also wish to thank new member Patricia Haglund for making our Fiftieth Anniversary banners which I have used in summer parades and other events. The celebration isn't over, so you'll continue to see them at LWVTC events for the rest of 2011.

Many thanks to Dawn Brooks Gibbs for organizing our participation in the Tumwater, Lakefair and Rainier parades and for registering voters and recruiting new League members at Lakefair and other festivals.



Thanks to Valerie Hammett and her committee for organizing the Ed Fund Luncheon, to Karen Verrill for her multiple efforts to raise funds for local schools to purchase "The State We're In: Washington", to Fran Williams and Bonnie Jacobs for a successful Treasure Sale, and to Barb Theiss for organizing candidate forums with TCTV and KGY.

And special thanks to Marie Cameron and Barbara Gooding for obtaining recognition for Irene Christy's work on the original Percival Landing at its rededication.

*Clydia Cuykendall  
President*

## GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUMS ON TCTV

On Saturday, September 10 the Thurston County League, in conjunction with Thurston Community Television, will host general election candidate forums for 2011 Thurston County races at the TCTV studio.

Candidates for Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater, and Tenino City Councils, and Tumwater and

Rochester School Boards will be featured.

The forums will be aired several times prior to the election to help the voting public to know their candidates.

You can find the forum airing schedule on the TCTV web site

schedule on the TCTV web site as well as the broadcasts themselves.

Thanks to all who made this possible by contributing candidate questions and by volunteering their time to moderate and time the forums.

*Barb Theiss  
Voter Services Chair*



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### 2011 ACTION WORKSHOP

**CARPOOLS TO BE ARRANGED**



## **PLEASE NOTE THIS VENUE CHANGE:**

**STARTING OCTOBER 2011**

**ALL 2011-2012 LWVTC GENERAL MEETINGS  
WILL BE HELD AT RIVERS EDGE RESTAURANT  
TUMWATER VALLEY**

### **Supporting the Thurston County Critical Areas update IS critical**

Puget Sound prairies and oak woodlands are vanishing rapidly due to development pressures. Only about 3% of original native Puget Sound prairies remain; some of the most valuable are located in Thurston County. Native prairies in Thurston County include Glacial Heritage, Mima Mounds, and Scatter Creek Preserves. A few of the larger prairies can be seen easily, while others are scattered among forests, farms and houses. These lands are home to several rare and endangered species and help define the landscape of Thurston County.

As prairies disappear, the native plants and wildlife they support also disappear - replaced by invasive, non-native plants and wildlife, and human development.

If Thurston County fails to protect our natural treasures along with rare and endangered species we as a community lose out, as do our children and their children. The Critical Areas Ordinance can provide protections we need to save our precious natural resources.

[http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/planning/critical\\_areas/docs/factsheets/prairies-9.29.pdf](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/planning/critical_areas/docs/factsheets/prairies-9.29.pdf)

**Michelle Morris, Coordinator  
Thurston County CAO Coalition**

## **LWVTC EDUCATION FUND LUNCHEON TABLE CAPTAINS NEEDED**



The League is well recognized for its ability to make complex and controversial issues accessible to the non-expert citizen in a balanced manner, for its ability to gather citizens with diverse views and for leaders and activists. Funds raised at the Education Fund Luncheon are used to pay for LWVTC educational projects.

Please consider being a Table Captain or sharing the responsibility with someone else. A Table Captains' responsibility is to fill all or one-half of a table of 8; this includes yourself.

**Contact Valerie Hammett: [valerie.hammett@gmail.com](mailto:valerie.hammett@gmail.com)**

## 2011 PROGRAM PLANNING RETREAT

Nearly 20 dedicated League members spent the better part of Saturday, August 13 at a planning retreat hosted by President Clydia Cuykendall.

The lively discussion included defining the program schedule for the year, considering how to participate in several State and National consensus studies, hearing a report on the TRPC sustainable development project and Sustainability Roundtable, and discussing how the League should engage with other organizations as a member or as part of a coalition.

Some of the retreat highlights include:

⇒ **Programs for 2011-2012** –There are many engaging and timely pro-

grams planned. See the calendar on the web site, [www.lwvthurston.org](http://www.lwvthurston.org), for details on these exciting program topics. Meetings will begin at 6:30 pm and, except for the September meeting, they will be held at the Rivers Edge Restaurant at Tumwater Valley. This offers the opportunity for participants to get food if they wish and provides ample parking.

⇒ **Consensus Meetings for the LWVUS Study on Role of the Federal Government in Education** will be scheduled by the facilitation group at times other than regular program meeting nights. These meetings will be about four hours in length. They require a minimum of 15 members and each participant must

have read the materials. A separate section has been set up on the web site for this study (see <http://www.lwvthurston.org/WorkingonNow.html>).

⇒ **The Annual League Education Fund Luncheon** Fundraiser will be on November 5 this year. Watch the web site for more information.

⇒ **Pat Dickason is the State League Lobby Team chair** this year. She is seeking League lobbyists for transportation issues.

In addition to the lively conversation, participants thoroughly enjoyed the chicken provided by Clydia and assorted salads and desserts shared pot-luck.

*Cynthia Stewart*

### 2011-2012 GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM CALENDAR

#### 2011

September – **9/22/11** – PAW Short Course on Planning  
 October – **10/27/11** - Election Assistance issues  
 November – **11/17/11** – Privatization ([Note special date due to holiday](#))  
 December – no meeting - holiday

#### 2012

January – **1/26/12** – Challenges to Higher Education  
 February – **To Be Decided**  
 March – **3/22/12** - Capitol Lake vs. Estuary  
 April – **4/26/12** - Nisqually Delta  
 May – **5/24/12** - Annual Meeting

# LWVUS STUDY ROLE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN EDUCATION

The Thurston County League will be participating in a national League study on what the role of the federal government should be in education. This study was approved by national League convention in 2010 and the scope of the study and materials were ready for local League consensus processes this summer.

Margie Reeves, Nancy Scott and Cynthia Stewart volunteered to facilitate the study for the Thurston County LWV. They have set up a section on the web page for this study (<http://www.lwvthurston.org/WorkingonNow.html>) where all the materials are available. The study topics include historical perspectives on the federal government role in education; funding and equity issues; legislation and funding for children who are disadvantaged, common core standards and assessments; and early childhood education, equity and funding. For additional background, the study leaders will also describe Washington State and local education funding and the recent LWVWA study on early childhood education.

Two four-hour meetings (both with food) will be held to develop this League's consensus report to the national League, where it will be compiled with other consensus reports from around the country and used in a final study report. The first of these meetings will be used to describe and discuss the baseline information. The second will be used to establish the consensus positions of this League. Everyone who participates in this process must read the materials, and it will take a quorum of 15 members to have a valid consensus.

The two meetings will be:

**Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011**  
Child Care Action Council  
3729 Griffin St. SE  
Lacey, WA  
4:00-7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011**  
Location to be announced  
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Members who are interested could begin by reading the materials now. For questions about this study, please contact Cynthia Stewart, 360-413-1210; or Margie Reeves, 360-866-7507.

*Cynthia Stewart*

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL TREASURE SALE

We extend a very special thank you to Bonnie & Bob Jacobs and Fran Williams & Marvin Young for all of their work on the 2011 Treasure Sale.

The Jacobs and the Williams/Young volunteered weeks of their time, their strength, their truck, and their homes. We brought in \$989.

Thank you also to all the workers on Saturday and Sunday.

*Kathleen Downey*

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THURSTON COUNTY**  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Please refer to [www.lwvthurston.org](http://www.lwvthurston.org) for more information about the League's activities or membership, or mail in the membership form below.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

DATE:

◇ \$60 for my membership

◇ \$\_\_\_\_\_ for an Educational Fund Donation

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

LWVTC Newsletter:

The VOTER will be distributed by e-mail.

Check this box to specifically request a paper copy by regular mail and consider making a donation to cover the League's extra costs of such mail..

**LWV Purpose**

***The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan, nonprofit political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government. The League influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any one of voting age may become a League member.***

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS THURSTON COUNTY**

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