



VOTER

Volume 5 Issue 3

FEBRUARY 2011

CALENDAR

Thursday, February 10
- NOTE SPECIAL DATE -
- NOTE TIME CHANGE-
-NOTE LOCATION CHANGE-
 LWVTC General meeting
 Traditions Cafe
 5:30 pm
Topic:
Drainage Basins

Thursday, February 24
 Lobby Day / LWV Day
 Columbia Room
 WA State Capitol
 Registration required

Thursday, March 24
 LWVTC General mtg.
 TC Courthouse;
 Rm 280
 6:30 pm
Topic:
State Budget
Legislative Report

Thursday, April 28
 LWVTC General meeting
 Held at LOTT
 6:30 pm
Topic: LOTT

Thursday, May 26
 LWVTC Annual meeting
 Location TBA

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

LWVTC GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 10, 2011

TOPIC:

Drainage

Basins

- PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL DATE -
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DON'T MISS IT!

The rains we have been experiencing this winter are predicted to continue and even worsen. Where does it go? In the past, we know the rain went two ways, first striking the evergreen tallest trees, slowing into the underbrush and settling into the forest floor and a large amount was transpired back into the air.

Today it all hits the ground in areas where there are impervious surfaces in urban settings, houses and roads in suburban neighborhoods and even in some more rural settings. The rain becomes run-off and does damage to lakes, streams and rivers. Zena Hartung will discuss, with a PowerPoint pro-

gram full of photos, what is being done in Olympia to mitigate storm water and what other communities have done, what is successful and what is not. She will bring experts to answer the many questions our members will ask. Please bring your friends and your family to this program.

Zena Hartung

President's Article

Food for Thought

The December VOTER summarized the League of Women Voter's dual roles in the effort to create a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development – education and advocacy. On January 17, 2011, I attended a presentation on food security given by T.J. Johnson, Director, Urban Agriculture Program, Sustainable South Sound.

Modern food systems depend on fossil fuels (Americans consume foods that have traveled an average of 1500 miles and 10 calories of energy is used to

produce 1 calorie of food). Sustainable agriculture requires less than 350 ppm of CO2 and we are already past this benchmark.

Twenty five to thirty five percent of green house gasses come from agriculture, and changing climates are reducing agriculture productivity. Australia will be a net importer of wheat this year due to flooding. From 1950-2008, Thurston County lost 40,000 acres of farmland.

Mr. Johnson's mission is "food sovereignty and local control" and "eat in your foodshed". He said Seattle encourages local food pro-

duction by having a food chapter in its Comprehensive Plan. Seattle gives homes a "height bonus" for roof top greenhouses and permits water collection in rain barrels. Developers can get credits for edible landscapes. There are solar access requirements that reflect the trade-off between light for energy generation and trees for CO2 absorption. Johnson says money spent on local food has a 1.3-2.6 multiplier affect. He urged the creation of a "food hub", somewhat like the Benton County "wine hub" developed by its Port.

*Clydia Cuykendall
President*

- SAVE THE DATE -

LWV of Benton-Franklin Counties Invites Members to Convention 2011

Convention updates:

www.lwvwa.org
Members only section
Username: lwvwa PW:Voter1

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**May 19-22, 2011***Letter to the Editor*

LWV Lobby Day to LWV Day Name Change

In regard to changing the name from LWV Lobby Day to "LWV Day at the Capitol," this was done to be more general in order to obtain sponsorship from the Office of the Secretary of State without giving the appearance that OSOS approved and was also lobbying for each and every LWV issue. The

objective was to be able to have a display on the centennial of WA women winning the vote, something not possible without government sponsorship under the draconian new rules imposed by General Administration in response to the ludicrous Christmas display controversies. This no display rule

includes videos, slides, art, quilts, books, awards, literature--you name it. This is a serious curtailment of civil liberties and political speech for numerous citizen organizations participating in the legislative process. League testified eloquently against these rules at public hearings.

Sue Lean

League of Women Voters of Washington

LOBBY DAY

February 24, 2011

Registration 8:30am; Program begins 9:00am

REGISTRATION

Cost: \$25 per person
Lunch Provided

Columbia Room, WA State Capitol, Olympia

Name _____

Address* _____

City, State, Zip _____

Tel/email _____

___ VISA ___ Mastercard # _____ exp. date _____

Check enclosed _____

*required for credit card processing

Mail to: LWVWA, 4730 University Way N.E., Suite #720, Seattle, WA 98105

**Make appointments NOW to meet your Legislators
Help spread the League's priorities**

- A MESSAGE FROM YOUR LOBBY TEAM - LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LOBBY DAY

LWVTC lobby team members, Peggy Bruton, Mary Moore, Betty Tabbutt, Margie Reeves, Pat Dickason and Karen Tvedt encourage you to participate in the state League of Women Voters Lobby Day on February 24, 2011 from 8:00 am-3:00 pm in the Columbia Room of the Legislative Building.

With the budget crises we face as a state, it is critically important that we inform ourselves about the implications of the cuts that have already happened, the cuts that are being contemplated, and the ways we can influence the difficult decisions that are being made.

During Lobby Day on the 24th, we will hear from expert speakers on key issues, meet with others who share our particular concerns, and talk with legislators. Your involvement is needed more than ever this year. A registration form is included in this newsletter.

Karen Tvedt



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WASHINGTON 2011 Legislative Priorities

Strengthen Democracy

- support public campaign financing for judicial positions
- protect state funding that invests in programs to promote a more positive future for all citizens

Support Education, Early Learning, Families and Children

- support development of a funding system for the K-12 basic education structure
- protect state and federal funding to meet basic needs of families and children
- promote policies and programs that promote the well-being and safety of all children
- improve and support child care program quality and access for low-income families

Improve Access to Health Care

- guarantee access for all residents in comprehensive, uniform, and affordable health services
- use implementation of the Affordable Care Act to help maintain funding for public health, health coverage for low income populations, and for incentives for primary care doctors to work in under-served areas

Protect Natural Resources and Human Health

- provide clean energy and good health by transitioning power plants away from burning coal
- reduce pollution by controlling phosphorus in lawn fertilizers
- adopt an effective program to clean up and prevent pollutants, including petroleum products, from entering the waters of the state
- reduce and eliminate toxic chemicals in children's products quickly and effectively

Promote a Balanced Transportation System

- increase affordable and reliable access to public transportation
- decrease the number of single-occupancy vehicles on roads, bridges and ferries
- increase fuel efficiency by promoting development and use of alternative fuel sources across all modes of transportation

www.lwvwa.org



DON'T MISS IT!
March 24, 2011



LWVTC General meeting
TC Courthouse; Rm 280 6:30 pm

Topic: WA State Budget Legislative Report

LWVTC MEMBERSHIP DUES PROCEDURE CHANGE

LWV members are part of a grassroots network of women and men in communities across the country. With member participation and dues support, the League fulfills its commitment to encourage informed and active participation in government, increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy. LWV members are directly involved in shaping the important issues that keep our community strong, safe and vibrant. Members ensure that the League of Women Voters of Thurston County continues to be an active and vital part of the community.

The League is a non-profit organization financed by member dues and contributions, and through community and national finance drives which enable public-spirited citizens to help support the work of the League. Dues are collected at the local League level with Per Member Payment (PMP's) assessments made by National and State Leagues upon the local Leagues. LWVTC individual membership dues are \$60 per year. Of that \$60, current assessments are as follows:

\$29.70	to National LWV
\$19.00	to State LWV
<u>\$11.30</u>	to Thurston County LWV
\$60.00	Total

This information is being provided as an incentive for current members to pay their membership dues in a timely manner. LWVTC has changed its dues collection procedure so that our membership roster can accurately reflect our actual members.

Currently, a dues renewal notice is sent 1 year after a member joins LWVTC, then again every quarter after that, until dues are paid. Billing has been known to continue for a prolonged period of time without a roster change. Please note the following change:

A dues renewal notice will be sent 1 year after a member joins LWVTC. If the dues payment is not received, a second notice will be sent the following quarter. If there is not a response from the member, the LWVTC membership roster will be changed to reflect the loss of that member. Rejoining LWVTC is always an option.

The League of Women Voters is the organization where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Member participation and dues support make this possible. Every member strengthens the League's political influence. Even when members don't have the time to be personally involved, their dues support the actions of other League members who work to educate and advocate. Members make everything the League does, possible.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR April 28, 2011

The LWVTC April program will be held in LOTT's new LEED Platinum building and will focus on the regional waster water treatment services provided by the LOTT Clean Water Alliance, comprised of Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater and Thurston County.



LOTT

500 Adams Street NE

Olympia



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THURSTON COUNTY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please refer to 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.

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. Anyone of voting age may become a League member.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS THURSTON COUNTY

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