



League Lines

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF UMPQUA VALLEY

www.lwvuv.org

MARCH 2006

Action Alert for Oregon!

Support the Clean Car Proposal

The Clean Car proposal before the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission provides major steps toward reducing emissions of heat-trapping gasses, reducing the threat of global warming, combating air pollution, increasing energy security and creating new jobs. Both the California and the Washington State Leagues support similar clean car standards under the LWV's national air pollution position which is available at www.lwv.org.

Tell the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission that you support the clean car standards. Your comments will make a difference! We need to demonstrate a broad range of support from many Oregonians. The public comment period is open until 5 p.m. March 3, 2006.

Visit the DEQ, Clean Cars Oregon and Oregon Environmental Council to learn more about the program.

Continued on page 3

LWVUS ACTION

National League calls on Congressional Ethics Committees to Investigate Abramoff Lobbying Scandals

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Congressional Ethics Coalition was formed in 2004 to promote reasonable reform of the congressional ethics process on Capitol Hill. It is a nonpartisan, ideologically diverse group of leading government reform organizations: the Campaign Legal Center, the Center for Responsive Politics, Common Cause, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, Democracy 21, Judicial Watch, League of Women Voters, Public Campaign, Public Citizen and US PIRG.

The Coalition has called on congressional ethics committees to conduct investigations into potential violations of congressional ethics rules by Members of Congress who have received favors and campaign contributions from lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

Although the Abramoff scandal is one of the biggest issues facing the 109th Congress, both the House and Senate ethics committees have said they have no plans to investigate. This inaction is yet another example of a congressional ethics process that has ceased to function. An ethics "truce" where threats

of partisan payback silenced the process was followed by an ethics committee that did not function during the entire year of 2005 in spite of numerous pending cases. Among the matters pending and still requiring urgent attention are:

- an inquiry into former Majority Leader Tom DeLay's (R TX) dealings with lobbyist Jack Abramoff;
- an inquiry into Rep. Bob Ney (R OH) and his dealings with Abramoff;
- an inquiry into whether Rep. John Conyers (D MI) and his aides improperly conducted partisan political activities out of his Detroit congressional office;
- an inquiry into allegations that Rep. Jim McDermott (D WA) violated ethics rules and standards in handing over to the press a tape of an illegally intercepted phone conversation;
- an inquiry into whether Rep. Curt Weldon (R PA) improperly used his office to aid his daughter's

Continued on page 3

MISSION

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a grassroots, nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government in order to build better communities statewide.

OFFICERS

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1st Vice President: Betty Mack . . . 672-1706
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Voter's Guides 672-6982

Join the League of Women Voters Today!

We've adopted new membership guidelines to make it easier for you to be a member! Ask us about scholarship opportunities for those who participate on a regular basis.

Please send us your name, mailing address, phone number, email address and a check for:

- \$60 for Annual membership for an individual
\$90 for a Annual household membership
\$30 Full-time Student membership

To: LWV of Umpqua Valley
PO Box 2434
Roseburg OR 97470

Visit http://www.lwvuv.org.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March 2006

Dear League Members and Friends,

This is an action-packed quarter. With the election process underway, we are gearing up for candidates forums. Barbara Nielsen, Douglas County Clerk will speak on Feb. 28th at our February general meeting at Jasmine's Event Center. Barbara's information will help prepare us for the upcoming primary and general elections. Voter's Guides will be published by The News-Review; preparation and fundraising are underway.

We are fortunate and enterprising this year to conduct two candidates forums. On April 18th we will conduct a forum at Roseburg City Hall Council Chambers at 7 PM. Our focus is Douglas County Commissioner Candidates. Questions for candidates are needed from you, the membership. Please email or call in your questions to me. We need volunteers for that evening as well.

Our second forum is a pleasantly-surprising development. We have the good fortune to work with Linus Oakes Retirement Center to co-sponsor a daytime county commissioner candidates forum, thanks to League Member, Adelle Sherwin, and Linus Oakes staff, Marla Summers. Now we can offer both evening and daytime venues for candidates forums that are truly unbiased. The Linus Oakes forum is scheduled for April 28th, Friday, from 12:30 to 2:30 PM in their meeting room. Look for the Linus Oakes signs on the left after you turn into the main Mercy Hospital entrance. Your presence is requested to come and enjoy this new partnership between the League and Linus Oakes. And your help is needed for a smooth presentation. Media will be present at both forum events.

A very special date has been set on March 28th, our March general meeting which this year has become a Women's History Month Celebration. We have the distinct pleasure of welcoming back Shannon Applegate, local author, lecturer, historian, who spoke last year at the Betty Long Unruh Theatre. And we've talked about her presentation ever since! Be sure not to miss this event that promises to be a spirit lifter, laughter evoking and historically enlightening all at the same time. Shannon will reveal her research into pioneer women on the North Umpqua. One outstanding woman was a doctor who lived in a cabin on the North Umpqua in the 1800s. We are asking for a donation of \$5 at the door and there will also be a Dessert Auction during intermission. Members, as a fundraiser and FUNraiser, please make your favorite dessert to bring and share with event goers. Shannon's books will also be available for purchase.

Thank you, All! See you on March 28th at the Betty Long Unruh Theatre!

Robin Wisdom,
League of Women Voters of
Umpqua Valley, President
672-6982, rwisdom@jeffnet.org

Robin

Investigate Lobbying Scandals

Continued from Page 1

- public relations firm; and
- an inquiry into whether Rep. William Jefferson (D LA) misused his public office for personal gain.

The groups represented in the Congressional Ethics Coalition believe that significant changes are needed to improve congressional ethics enforcement, that the House ethics committee should allow individual citizens and

outside groups to file ethics complaints, and that there should be openness in the ethics process generally.

Many of them also support more fundamental reforms, such as the creation of an independent ethics commission or an Office of Public Integrity as an independent office within the legislative branch.

★ reported by Anna Willman,
Local League Action Chair



Tickets for the Women's History Month brunch, an annual event celebrating all women in Douglas County, are now on sale through March 1.

The 10th annual event will take place Saturday, March 11, at the Hilltop Place, 104 C. Hill Place, in Roseburg. It will feature a catered buffet brunch and a program on the cultural concepts and legal definitions of freedom for women by Susan Butruille from Leavenworth, Washington. The doors open at 10 a.m. with brunch served at 10:30 a.m. Women's groups are especially invited to the event and will be recognized before the program.

Tickets cost \$15 each. Reservations may be made by calling 673-2174 or 672-1577. The annual women's celebration is sponsored by the Roseburg

Branch of the American Association of University Women.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Legal Advocacy Fund for AAUW, which provides monetary assistance to women professors seeking tenure or dealing with legal challenges at colleges and universities.

We are excited about the special speaker we have been able to obtain for this event. Through journals, songs, readings, and discussion, historian and author Susan Butruille examines cultural concepts and legal definitions of freedom with a focus on its meaning for women and ways in which historical interpretations shape our notions of freedom today.

✧ from Cheryl Walters for AAUW

Action Alert: Support the Clean Car Proposal

Continued from Page 1

Voice your support using the form available at Clean Cars Oregon, or write a letter to the members of the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission using the information provided at Clean Cars Oregon.

Please send your comments via email to Oregon.LEV@deq.state.or.us, or mail written comments to Oregon DEQ, Air Quality Division, Attention: Dave Nordberg, 811 SW 6th Avenue, Portland, OR 97204.

Find out other ways to comment through DEQ's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking at <http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/aqplanning/orlev/>.

✧ from LWVOR's new web site, www.lwvor.org

Did you know?

Now in Douglas County you can include cardstock in your recyclable "mixed paper". Our waste management person for Douglas County, Chris McCullough, just convinced Weyerhaeuser to accept card stock, i.e., cereal boxes as "mixed paper". Chris said he was getting three calls a day asking why people could not recycle their cereal boxes. And now you can! For more information, see <http://www.co.douglas.or.us/recycle/>.

Celebrating Women's History Month with . . .

Shannon Applegate

"Live in Roseburg"

March 28th, 2006

7 PM

Betty Long Unruh Theatre

1614 W Harvard Ave,
near the UV Arts Center



Mary Sawtelle, M.D., above, lived in this cabin on the North Umpqua in the 1800s. 📍

"Pioneer Women on the North Umpqua"



Tickets are \$5 at the door. Public is invited. Students with ID are free. Limited seating. Doors open at 6:30 PM.

There will be an intermission at which time Shannon's books may be purchased and a Dessert Auction will be held.

Sponsored by The League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley and UACT, Umpqua Actors Community Theatre.



For more information, call 673-4032.



LEAGUE HISTORY

Abigail Scott Duniway (1836-1915)



Awriter, newspaper publisher, and promoter for women's rights, Abigail Scott Duniway was Oregon's strongest voice for the cause of Women's suffrage. Born Abigail Jane Scott in 1839, she left Illinois for Oregon with her family in 1852, where she met her husband Ben Duniway. The couple settled in Yamhill County, but because of financial difficulties and Ben's permanent injury in a wagon accident they had to sell their land. The couple moved to nearby Lafayette, where Abigail taught school and in 1859 authored *Captain Gray's Company*, or *Crossing the Plains and Living in Oregon*, the first commercially published novel in Oregon. In 1865 the family moved to Albany and Abigail opened a millinery shop where her exposure to the inequalities facing women motivated her to campaign for equal rights.

In 1871 the family moved to Portland and with the help of her numerous children she began publishing the *New Northwest*. This weekly newspaper, according to her 1985 biographer Dorothy Morrison, "sup-

ported women's rights without making them a bore." The paper was financially self-sustaining within a few years and was published until 1887. Her other writings include two novels, an autobiography titled *Path Breaking*, and a collection of poems, all of which highlight the plight of women in the West.

From 1870 to the late 1890s Duniway traveled throughout the Northwest promoting women's rights and campaigned with national suffragist Susan B. Anthony. As a result of her hard work and that of countless other suffragists, women "got the vote" in Idaho in 1896 and in Washington in 1910; however, Oregonians waited until 1912. The state's male electorate denied women's suffrage in 1883, 1900, 1908, and 1910. Abigail maintained that the close election in 1900 failed because her brother Harvey Scott, longtime editor of the *Oregonian*, opposed her efforts. This resulted in a bitter public feud between the two siblings. In 1912 the suffrage amendment passed and Governor Oswald West asked Duniway, who was then 78, to write the Equal Suffrage Proclamation.

Duniway died three years later on October 11, 1915 in Portland.

The autograph at the bottom of the photograph at the top reads:

Yours for Liberty,
Abigail Scott Duniway

▲ from the Oregon Historical Society,
<http://www.ohs.org/>.

Jane McMillin
Attorney

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Mission

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a grassroots, nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government in order to build better communities statewide.

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Your March 2006 Calendar

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING.....MAR 9**
JASMINE'S RESTAURANT, 809 SE MAIN, ROSEBURG AT 5:15 PM
ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME
- WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH BRUNCH.....MAR 11**
HILLTOP PLACE, 104 C HILLTOP PLACE, ROSEBURG AT 10:30 AM
CALL AAUW AT 673-2174 OR 672-1577 TO RESERVE
- WOMEN'S COALITION MEETING.....MAR 15**
KAREN'S COFFEE CUP, 245 NE DIAMOND LAKE BLVD, ROSEBURG
AT 11:30 AM
- LWVUV's WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATIONMAR 28**
SHANNON APPLIGATE WILL SPEAK AND CAJOLE AT THE
BETTY LONG UNRUH THEATRE, 1614 W HARVARD AVE,
NEAR THE UMPQUA VALLEY ART CENTER IN ROSEBURG
7 PM — \$5 ADMISSION PLUS A DESSERT AUCTION
CO-SPONSORED BY THE LWVUV AND UACT, THE UMPQUA ACTORS COMMUNITY THEATRE
DON'T MISS THIS ENCORE APPEARANCE!