

League Lines

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF UMPQUA VALLEY

www.lwuv.org

October 8, 2007

Our September 25th meeting focused on sustainability, specifically on sustainable development in downtown Roseburg, the Historic Mill Pine Neighborhood, and the riverfront. Our sustainability study completed by LWVUV several years ago encourages lively downtowns and compact development. There was a good turnout of about 40 people, including League members, people living downtown and in the Mill Pine neighborhood, Roseburg's City Planner, and one of Roseburg's City Councilors.

We talked about the elements that comprise the best downtowns - great streets that are pedestrian friendly; lively, accessible, public squares; and great retail with large anchors on each end such as grocery stores or cultural centers. Groups then worked with maps applying basic planning principles to build our own downtowns. People were excited about creating our own vision for our community.

We wrapped up by talking about next steps such as reaching out to more groups, forming task forces related to specific elements of the vision, surveying people who live downtown, and putting together a website to continue the dialog.

Our Umpqua Visions and sustainability portfolios are getting a bit of public attention. *The News Review* printed a guest column by Linda Clary on September 25, 2007 about our visioning process, and KPIC interviewed Linda before the meeting.

Rick Coen and Stuart Liebowitz discussing map suggestions



Sharon Lee Schwartz ☺



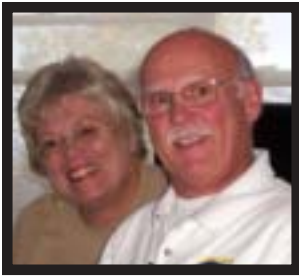
CAPTURED YOUR IMAGINATION

Highlights from our "Build your Own Downtown" included:

- Grocery store – a dominant discussion point.
Potential locations: former grocery store location on Cobb St, the corner of Main and Lane, Mosher and Pine, former Safeway or Oregon Linen.
- Invite local producers (Kruse Farms, New Day, butcher) to come together in one location.
- Umpqua Square - Suggested locations included the old Ricketts Music store or the old Umpqua Hotel.
- How about a multiplex cinema in the downtown area?
- Apartments and condos in the former Phoenix School location.
- Another Half Shell on Elk Island?
- A transparent dome arched over Jackson Street providing for all-weather downtown shopping.
- Traffic was another dominating discussion point – Make Stephens Street two-way; Pine Street becomes a residential street.

The League will develop a web-site to keep the community apprised of progress, developments and to keep the energy flowing and going inviting the community's participation and comments.





CO Presidents' Message

Jim Williams & Linda Clary

COMING TOGETHER

How often have we heard “It takes a whole village to raise a child”? Or something like that. The concept also transfers to “It takes many people to make the village, or town or city.” All of us must be involved, in one way or another. As part of our commitment to participatory democracy, your co-presidents, Jim and Linda, attended the LWVOR’s annual Fall Workshop October 6, 2007.

There were several themes or common threads to the day’s work: stewardship of our beautiful state, League membership, and the League’s continuing challenge and mandate of voter education. As you know the League supports a “Yes” vote on Measure 49. Senator Floyd Prozanski spoke to us regarding the development of this measure and how it will “fix” Measure 37 (M37). One of the more startling statements that he made was there are over 7,500 claims under M37, with an approximate projected cost to the citizens of Oregon of over \$15 billion. Of these claims, most have been filed in the last six weeks. Rather than go into why the League supports a “Yes” vote on M49, I urge you to review the League’s Nonpartisan Voter’s Guide (which you can access on the web, <http://www.lwvor.org/documents/VGSpec07.pdf>).

The state’s Water Resources Department was ably represented by three people who spoke about the quantity and quality of water in our state. The Department recognized Liz Frankel, a longtime League member, with a lovely award. They noted

that throughout the years, the League has been a standard-bearer for good water resources, with Liz leading the charge. I was excited to learn about their forward looking project which is investigating fascinating ways of storing water and a review of the state’s finite resources to ensure pure water for Oregonians. In the West, with our significant history of “Water Wars”, we know that water is precious, must be protected, and fairly allocated. Understanding the issues around who gets water rights, who gets to control its quality (when we take a drink of water, do you wonder about its purity? Do you fervently wish that this is your lucky day and you won’t get sick?), is there enough quantity (Oregon will be home to 20 million new Oregonians in the next 20 years – how many will settle in our community?), and who will be in charge of allocating this endangered resource are vital issues to be examined in this study. The state study on water needs people to work on this important and significant project. Is that you?

All of these discussions told us that the League is a significant force in our communities, states and country. As League members we are concerned about where and how we live. We study and advocate for positions based upon our research and consensus. We plan for the future to ensure our democracy and that all voices are heard. Our local efforts to encourage our elected officials to plan for tomorrow are certainly in concert with the rest of the state’s effort to look ahead, anticipate infrastructure issues, and encourage community input. Umpqua Visions endeavors

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Nonpartisanship Statement

The LWV takes political action on issues on which members have reached agreement. The LWV never supports or opposes any political party or candidate for elective office. However, as individuals, LWV members are encouraged to join fully in the political process. Because of scrupulous adherence to this nonpartisan political policy, the LWV takes action only in the public interest.

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Please email newsletter articles for this publication by the 22nd of each month between September and May to miraney2003@yahoo.com



Transportation System Plan Appeal

Sharon Lee Schwartz

Our transportation system plan (TSP) appeal is moving forward. The City did not respond to our settlement offer, so we will soon be writing a brief for the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) to consider. The appeal process takes about three to four months, unless there are time extensions. The following is a little background about the elements that should be included in TSP and some of the reasons for our appeal.

Transportation System Plans are intended to provide a balanced transportation system to support neighborhood livability and economic development, according to Oregon’s State Goal 12. The content of a local TSP should include steps to reduce reliance on private cars, provide transportation options for all people including the transportation disadvantaged, promote a safe transportation system, and provide a vision of the future of the transportation system. **The Roseburg TSP does not include these and fails to conform to ODOT’s own guidelines.**

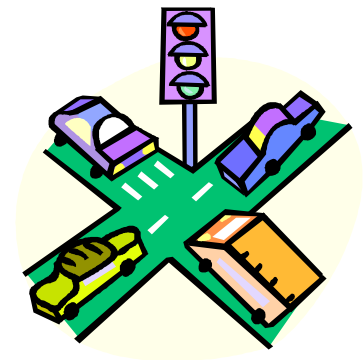
According to resources found on the Oregon Transportation and Growth Management Program website, a joint project of ODOT and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, increasing traffic speed and road capacity to improve transportation is not affordable, imposes high social and environmental costs and cannot solve traffic congestion problems. Since many of the recommended expenditures in the TSP are for increased speed and capacity, adoption of it will cost a tremendous amount and will not solve the congestion problem.

Instead, the Transportation and Growth Management program resources recommend improving access to stores, schools, jobs and services, offering a range of travel options, reducing the length of trips and vehicle miles traveled, and reducing average speeds along roads.

The TSP is not balanced in that over 80% of the cost of proposed projects is for road work which primarily benefits travel

in private vehicles. No projects or funding related to public transportation are identified except for bus shelters. There is no time frame for the addition of bike paths, and no identified funding source, just as there is no time frame or funding plan to make walking as a mode of transportation safer or more viable.

There is no recognizable vision for the future of Roseburg in the draft. If there is an unstated vision, it must be of a Roseburg paved with wide, congested streets, and of people spending more time driving longer distances in private vehicles. This vision is not in line with the type of place people want to live, it is not a balanced transportation system, it does not support livability, and it conflicts with Goal 12. Our appeal will raise these issues and will seek to require the City to amend the TSP to meet the standards set out in State Goal 12. ↪



continued ...

to include all members of our community. It is our responsibility as members of the League of Women Voters to be active and participate in this noble and patriotic effort. If not us, then who? We invite you to involve yourself in our local League’s efforts to build and sustain our beautiful community, state, and country. Are you passionate about the water study? Or Voter Education? Want to “rock the vote” in the next Presidential election? Do you want to be part of envisioning the Umpqua Basin’s future? Your co-presidents look forward to hearing from you. ↪

ACTION ALERT: Override the President's Veto of SCHIP

Despite overwhelming bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, President Bush decided to leave America's children behind by vetoing the reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance (SCHIP) program. It is now up to Congress to provide health care coverage to millions of low-income children. Contact your Representatives and Senators NOW to encourage them to override the Presidential veto.

Take action today to help insure America's children!

The President proposed only a \$5 billion increase in the program - an effective cut in the number of children covered due to inflation and other economic changes. Congress had originally proposed a \$50 billion increase but did their part to compromise and passed only a \$35 billion increase.

For over a decade SCHIP has made great strides in covering children. The program covers children from low-income families who do not qualify for Medicaid. As a direct result of this program the percentage of low-income children in the United States without health coverage has fallen by one-third in the past decade even as employer-based coverage has decreased.

Send a message to your Representatives and Senators to encourage them to **OVERRIDE THE VETO**.

Without SCHIP millions of children whose families cannot afford health care coverage will go uninsured!

TAKE ACTION

1. Contact your Senators and Representatives now, by phone or by email, and urge them to vote to override the Presidential veto.
2. Send this alert to other concerned citizens - your grassroots network, your friends and coworkers. Encourage them to contact their Senators and Representatives today!

BACKGROUND

Learn more about what the League has done to support the reauthorization of the SCHIP.

Sign up to receive Action Alerts directly by email. Don't miss an opportunity to take action! It's easy to sign up and the League will never share your email with others:

<http://takeaction.lwv.org/lwv/mlm/signup/>.

For additional information, please contact LWVUS Grassroots Lobbyist Christina Vamvas at lobbying@lwv.org.

Immigration Consensus Kit Now Available

*The LWVUS Immigration Study Consensus Kit (Leader's Guide) is available online, under the "For Members" area of the Immigration Study section. The Kit includes links to all eight background papers, information about organizing and holding consensus meetings, the consensus questions, suggested times for addressing each question, and background information and discussion questions for each consensus question. **The official Immigration Study Consensus Response Form is online as well:***

<http://www.lwv.org/ImmigrationSurvey/survey.cfm?aid=1468723>.

For more tips, check out this memo on tying the Immigration Study to your Membership activities, and watch a video of the LWVUS Council 2007 Immigration Panel discussion.

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Meet Betty Mack



I am a native of Texas, raised in Temple, Texas. I graduated from Texas Christian University with a B.A. in English.

I first joined the League of Women Voters in 1960 in Lincoln, Nebraska, continuing League membership and board responsibility in Springfield and Columbia, Mo.

When I arrived in Grants Pass in 1969 with my husband, a Forest Service soil scientist, and three children, I was disappointed to find that previous formations of the League had ceased. A new friend turned out to be a former state board member from California. She, I and other interested women persuaded the then Medford League to form a Grants Pass unit. This inclusion of the Grants Pass Unit resulted in the name change to League of Women Voters of the Rogue Valley.

Then Betty Millet, I served on the State Board of the League of Women Voters of Oregon from 1971-73 and then as State President from 1973-1975.

After a divorce in 1978, I was offered a job as land use planning technician for the Grants Pass Planning Department, largely because of my experience as Grants Pass Planning Commission Chair and League activity. I moved to Roseburg in 1979 to work as land use planner for the Douglas County Planning Department, retiring from this position in January 1996. My husband, Larry Mack, is retired from a position as Douglas County Branch Manager of the agency that was Children's Service Division.

I was president of the League of Women Voters of the Umpqua Valley from 1997 to 2001. I am currently first vice president of the League of Women Voters of the Umpqua Valley with responsibility for Program.

I love to read and currently belong to three book clubs. I am a volunteer with Neighbor to Neighbor, serving as a mediator for small claims and landlord-tenant disputes. I am chair of the Douglas County Historic Resource Committee. I am a member of the Douglas County Library Foundation Board. I am educational foundation and public policy chair of the Roseburg Branch of the American Association of University Women. I am Lay Leader Elect of the First United Methodist Church, Roseburg. I love to play bridge. After retirement, I enjoyed classes in art (oil and water color) and French at Umpqua Community College. The study of French was because my younger daughter, her husband and my granddaughter, Tess, live in Paris.

My husband and I enjoy going to movies, theater and musical concerts, taking trips and going to University of Oregon football games. ☺

Meet Shelley Wetherell

I have lived in Douglas County all my life. I work for the US Postal Service as a rural letter carrier. My husband and I also farm. We raise sheep, wine grapes, xmas trees, and timber.

I am relatively new to the League. I was invited to attend a meeting and to speak about my passion, sensible land use that preserves farm and forest lands from development. It was a positive experience and I liked the diversity of the members, so I joined. I like the fact that the League thoroughly researches everything before it takes a position and that members can respectfully disagree.

My passion for sustainable land use is derived from my love of the land. I am happiest when I am working on the farm. I love the smell of freshly cultivated soil or the sight of a newborn lamb. I have al-

ways felt that I have a responsibility to future generations to leave them a planet that is the same or a better than I have enjoyed. I am on the boards of Friends of Douglas County and Goal One Coalition. ☺

Meet Sharon Lee Schwartz



Sharon Lee Schwartz was born and raised in Charlotte, North Carolina. I graduated from Davidson College with a BA in English, then went to law school at Georgetown. Immediately after law school, I spent nine months in New Delhi, India, studying the Indian Supreme Court and traveling.

From there, I moved to an Indian Reservation in South Dakota for two years and worked for legal aid, providing free legal representation to low income people in the tribal courts. When I couldn't stand the blizzards anymore, I moved to Roseburg where I have been working for legal aid for ten years, continuing to provide free legal representation to low income people.

I have two children, Sophia, who is four, and Samuel, who is seven months old. They've both been to enough meetings that I expect them to know Robert's Rules of Order by the time they start kindergarten.

I've been a member of the League for about five years. I like the idea of advocacy based on research instead of party politics, and I support the positions the League has taken. It is important to me to take action locally, statewide and nationally. I'm excited about our Umpqua Visions, and the local league working to help our community grow in a sustainable way.



Meet Linda Furman Clary

For the majority of my youth, I was a Californian...bred and born in the Golden State. I developed a taste for civic involvement at home, watching my dad as a school board member and local activist. I obviously took that home-grown lesson to heart. I've had the pleasure and adventure of living all over the United States, from the northeast to the south, the west and Pacific Northwest.

I've worn several professional hats: worked for several telecommunications companies (including a position of outside linesman climbing poles in Wyoming!); taught English and history in California's public schools; co-owner of a telecommunications consulting company, and a project manager. With my husband, we have a melded family of four grown kiddos who have produced us four grandgirls (and a grandson on the way).

Over the years I've participated in many community-minded activities: as part of a committee to build the Apple Valley Science and Technology Center in California – which became a science magnet school with a university grade telescope, computer lab (it was a big deal in 1988) and a flight simulator; as an educator in the public schools; as a Board member at the Casa de Belen (transitional living shelter for homeless teens and their families); a member of the Umpqua Valley Quilting Guild and the Umpqua Valley Astronomy Club. All of these projects brought me tremendous satisfaction.

I've always admired the work done by the League and witnessed many fine contributions to communities as I moved around the country. I joined the League in Roseburg about five years ago. Before my first meeting, I mentioned to a friend (who is a League member in Pennsylvania) that I was attending local League meetings. Her smile and comment of "They'll put you to work" was certain foreshadowing. I've enjoyed every bit of it and the companionship of other League members.

I'm especially proud of the work our League did on the runaway and homeless youth study. I think we set a high standard for a study and advocacy. As you know the state study was completed last year and many other Oregon Leagues have taken steps to advocate for their local homeless teens. We've made a big difference in the lives of these young people. I look forward to more meaningful contributions as a League member. ∞

Meet Maryann Raney

I was born in Joliet, Illinois. My dad was in the Navy we moved a lot. After the Navy my father worked for Packard Bell, and we moved to Puerto Rico when I was four. My youngest brother was born there. Then we moved to Arizona and on to California. In 1976 Roseburg became my home. Even though I have left from time to time I always come back.

In 1991 I moved to Seattle, Washington to go to the Art Institute of Seattle for two years and then to Eugene, and attended LCC for a certificate in Administrative Assistant Fast Track Program. I came back to Roseburg and took a job with UARCO where I thought I would retire.

I have two children. Karen who lives in Chicago, and Matt in Florida (Matt has two children).

I have been in the League for about two years off and on. It was my experience with Beta Sigma Phi, and OEA/ACE that open the way to wanting to participate in the League of Women Voters. When I worked for the Educational Service District and joined the union I had the opportunity to attend the OEA National Convention in Washington D.C.. Everyone should have the chance to witness the democratic process with a group of people of this size and intent. When people come together putting the goals and principles

of the process before personal agendas it is awe inspiring. My passion is to see people come together for the good of the world as a whole, putting aside individual interests to make the world a clean, safe and happy place for everyone. *Imagine it's easy if you try, you may say I am a dreamer, but I know I am not the only one!

*Imagine by John Lennon



Lunch

League members are invited to gather together in a series of three informal lunches, on the first Thursday of each month...at the sushi restaurant in Roseburg...Ami Sushi on Cass Ave at 11:45 am. Let's talk about that great meeting we enjoyed last week, the upcoming Ballot Measures, and other items that are of interest to us. No structure, just thought provoking conversation. (The restaurant serves other things if you don't care for sushi)

Linda Clary and Jim Williams
Co-Presidents, LWVUV



The first lunch meeting on Thursday, October 4 had a good turn out. Hope to see you there next time.

LEAGUE MEETING LOCATIONS ARE CHANGING

The Board is researching additional locations for our monthly meetings. We've requested the Presbyterian Church elders consider our request to meet in their basement monthly at a reduced or pro bono rate and are awaiting their decision. September's meeting in the church's basement went well: it was cozy, fostered good conversation and involvement and is centrally located.

Instead of meeting at the County Annex for the October, November, and December meetings we will be meeting at the following places:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------|---|
| October 23, 2007 | 7 pm | Ballot Measures
Linus Oaks
(downstairs in the Community Room) |
| November 27, 2007 | 7 pm | Immigration Study/ Panel Discussion
Library in the Ford
Community Room |
| December 11, 2007 | 7 pm | Continued Immigration Study
discussion
Program Planning
Presbyterian Church Basement |

Stay tuned for the balance of the year's meetings' locations. Information will be included in next month's newsletter.

Water Resources of Oregon

LWVOR will study the water resources of the state, where they are and how they are used; the study shall reflect the interrelationship between quantity and quality with particular consideration of the relationship between water and land use planning.

OUTLOOK FOR WORK:

A state committee will undertake a study of the allocation and management of resources, water quality, pollution sources, and laws and regulations as described in the scope. Study reports will be produced by the end of the first year or the beginning of the second year of the study. If based on its research the committee finds that the existing positions need to be revised, it will propose consensus or concurrence questions for Board and membership consideration during the second year of the study. This study will be coordinated with a update of the Water Quality position and the Water Policy and Planning position.

Robin Wisdom and I attended the first meeting Tuesday, October 9 in Eugene.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 23rd, in Salem. If you are interested in attending this meeting please call Robin at 672-6982 or Maryann at 680-1447.☺

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Family Law





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October Calendar 2007

Board of Director's Meeting

October 2nd - 5 pm

Umpqua Community Development Corp.

605 Kane Street

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

Ballot Measures

October 23rd - 7 pm

Linus Oaks Retirement Center

2665 Van Pelt, Roseburg