

# LEAGUE LINES



**A Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley**  
**P.O. Box 2434, Roseburg, OR 97470**

lwwuv.wordpress.com

*January/February 2016*

## Calendar of Events

Date	Topic	Place	Time	Note
January 28	General Meeting Program Planning	Mercy Community. Education Center Room 2	6-7:30 PM	Soup Supper All LWVUV members please come.
February 2	First Tuesday Talk Time	428 Chadwick Roseburg	12:00-1:00	All are welcome. Chat and learn about the League.
February 22	Day at the Legislature	Salem	Look for updates to come at lwwv.org.	Carpooling options.
February 23	Public Meeting <i>Are We Crazy About Our Kids?</i>	Ford Rm. DC Library Roseburg	7-8:30 PM	Supporting early learning for local children.
March 1	First Tuesday Talk Time	428 Chadwick Roseburg	12:00-1:00	All are welcome. Chat & learn about the League.
March 8	Dialogic Reading Training Early Teaching Project	UCAN Martha Young Family Service Center Conference Rm. 280 Kenneth Ford Dr. Roseburg	10-11:30	Learn a fun and easy way to teach preschool children using picture books.

March 10	Great Schools, Great Communities	Ford Room DC Library	6-8:30 PM	Everyone come.
March 15	Dialogic Reading Training	UCAN same as above	6:30-8:00 PM	For those who can't attend the first session.

## President's Message

### Are You Feeling Heard?

Are you feeling heard? In 1863, at Gettysburg, when President Lincoln spoke of government, "...of the people, by the people, for the people..." his implication, if not the reality, was that "the people" meant everyone. Yet the question of how the people will be heard is flummoxing us still.

Have you felt heard in regard to your thoughts on local park management, the LNG pipeline, gun violence prevention, local public health services (to name a few high-profile issues) lately? We all live busy lives and finding time to compose our thoughts and direct them to where they might make a difference is not always easy to do.

This month the national League wants to hear from members about changes we'd like to see regarding money in politics. It's also seeking our input on which national LWV positions need to be reviewed or updated. We'll consider and decide what our priority issues are as a local League and plan our local actions accordingly. You can make your voice heard on this subject by attending our annual Program Planning meeting. We'll even serve you supper!

With a practical action inspired by the state League's Children at Risk study, our league wants to be heard on the importance of early brain development and opportunities available to our youngest citizens. We're launching our Early Teaching Project by holding an informational event and following that with training sessions to help more people be early and effective teachers in children's lives.

In order to be heard, somebody has to be listening. Really listening. In a bold effort, LWVUV wants to initiate a culture of listening in our community, promoting opportunities for civil conversation and genuine efforts to reach solutions that everyone can feel a part of. We know that divisions exist in our community, and that ways of seeing the world are diverse, but we think there might be some common ground on which we all can stand. LWVUV is planning a Listening Tour, inviting members from a wide variety of community groups to gather for conversation with folks they may not have spoken with before. We'll be collecting the people's thoughts with the ultimate goal of helping them to be more widely heard.

Sixty by 2016 and Seventy by Summer!

Of course, elections are another way the people get heard, and LWVUV will be doing all it can to make sure voters are registered and able to vote. We'll hold candidate forums where your concerns can be heard by those who seek to represent you. We'll try to learn how they plan to make it easier for the voices of the people to be heard on an on-going basis, at the front-end of the process, when making decisions with consequences for the people's lives.

Need a new resolution at this point in the year? Maybe we should all resolve to listen deeply and make our voices heard widely.

For details of the many ways that U can participate in LWVUV, please see our calendar in this newsletter, check our website [lwwuv.wordpress.com](http://lwwuv.wordpress.com), or email or call me at [Jennifer.carloni@gmail.com](mailto:Jennifer.carloni@gmail.com) or 541-672-1914.

Jenny Carloni



## HEALTH CARE NEWS

At our January 28th Program Planning meeting, we will have the opportunity to review the LWVUS position on health care. The first sentence states: "The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that a basic level of quality health care at an affordable cost should be available to all residents". I would encourage our LWVUV members to review the entire statement (<http://lww.org/content/health-care>) in preparation for the program planning meeting.

A national group of League members (HCR4US) meet bi-monthly via telephone to discuss health care activities in their States. At present the group has close to 40 League members from 15 States. Participation in these phone calls is an excellent way to hear what is happening on health care issues throughout the country. A focus for the group this year will be preparing for the June 2016 League National Convention in Washington, D.C. To join the list, e-mail Linda Mahan ([lmahan@alum.bu.edu](mailto:lmahan@alum.bu.edu)) in Colorado.

In addition to my League volunteer activities, I also belong to another statewide organization: Health Care for All Oregon ([hcao.org](http://hcao.org)). The mission for this organization is: "to work for an equitable, affordable, comprehensive, high quality, publicly funded universal health care system serving everyone in Oregon and the United States". HCAO adopted a 5 year Strategic Plan in November 2015 and has several exciting projects planned for 2016. One project is showing a new documentary film: "Fix It-Healthcare at the Tipping Point". I have a copy of the film and would be interested in pursuing a public League showing.

Finally, I would urge League members to subscribe to the free monthly HCAO newsletter and to monitor the daily newsfeed available on their website. A recent bylaw change is that individuals can now become members... Call their office in Portland for more information (503-206-6709). If you would like more information about HCAO, please feel free to contact me (541-459-2189 or [dcjean45@gmail.com](mailto:dcjean45@gmail.com)).

HIGH SCHOOL AND EVENT



VOTER REGISTRATION

Jean Galleher has volunteered to coordinate our voter registration drive in the high schools and at local events this year. She will need League volunteers to help with this project. Give her a call or e-mail her that you would be available to volunteer for a 2 hour shift (541-459-2189 – [dcjean45@gmail.com](mailto:dcjean45@gmail.com)).

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## Two Early Childhood Education Opportunities



**Please spread the word** to all parents or caregivers of 3/4 and or 4/5 year olds planning to attend and living in a Roseburg school attendance area that the Roseburg school district will hold a series of three classes for the parents or caregivers called **Ready for Kindergarten**.

These fun-filled evenings will be taught by kindergarten teachers. Adults will learn what children need to know to be successful in kindergarten, and how they can help to prepare them. Free childcare, materials, toys, and dinner will be provided.

Classes will be **held Feb. 11, Mar. 10, & Apr. 14** from 6-7:30 PM. To register call **541-440-4005**. Classes will be held at Eastwood, Fir Grove, Fullerton IV, Green, \*Hucrest, \*Melrose, Sunnyslope, or Winchester. (\*4/5 year old classes will not be offered at Hucrest or Melrose.)

### Early Teaching Project

**The League of Women Voters Umpqua Valley is initiating the Early Teaching Project and partnering with UCAN to help spread a technique for sharing books with toddlers.**

The technique, Dialogic Reading, can also be called talking and books. The goal is to expand the vocabulary of young children using picture books, by commenting, questioning and responding in ways that encourage more advanced speech.

We are seeking volunteers to learn the Dialogic Reading technique and teach it to other groups in our community. We'll lead you through. See the calendar for notice of our Feb. 23 kick-off event and two training sessions, one daytime and one evening, scheduled for March.

### *In Memory*



*The League would like to acknowledge the passing of two of our former members, Nancy Kendall Francis and Cynthia Shepard. Our thoughts are with their families and friends at this sad time.*

1/16/16 by Robin Wisdom [rwisdom@jeffnet.org](mailto:rwisdom@jeffnet.org)

## **Great Schools for All Oregonians!**

A “**Great Schools, Great Communities**” forum is coming your way soon. The League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley and the Great Schools’ team have scheduled a forum in Roseburg at the Douglas County Library Ford Room on Mar. 10 from 6PM to 8:30PM. Please mark your calendars and watch for more information.

The approx. two-hour long “Community Café” forum, loosely based on *The World Café* model, will open a conversation about how we would like to envision our schools, and how to get there. *Great Schools, Great Communities* informs and advocates for increased funding for education in general, focusing on K through 12 but also community colleges. We point out the current and past tax and education issues, and what is now possible for increasing funding, but we do not advocate for any one position, ballot measure, legislation, or solution.

Two facilitators from the Oregon Center for Public Policy, Juan Carlos Ordóñez, Communications Director, and Tyler Mac Innis, Policy Analyst, will guide us through an informative presentation and small-group break outs. The goal is to educate and ask Oregonians their solutions to our funding crisis in education. We will go over the possibilities and ask you for your ideas.

This is a forum for everyone who cares about the status of education, especially those with children or grandchildren in school now, students, and League members. We also encourage inviting members of other organizations to attend or people you know who are interested. There will be room for about 50 participants at the library.

Keep an eye open for more news on this subject. You will be hearing more about this in February, and you will have a chance to reserve a spot. Here’s our web page for now: <http://voteoregon.org/issues/great-schools/>. A new web page is a work in progress. For more information call Robin Wisdom, project coordinator, at 541-672-6982 or email her at [rwisdom@jeffnet](mailto:rwisdom@jeffnet)

**Yes! I want to join the League!  as a new member  as a renewing member**

I am enclosing:

\_\_\_ \$60 for Individual Membership

\_\_\_ \$85 for two Household Members

\_\_\_ \$30 for Student or Limited Income Member

\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_ Contribution to LWVUV budget (not tax-deductible)

\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_ Total to LWVUV (not tax deductible)

\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_ Contribution to LWVOR (tax deductible; requires separate check to LWVOR)

(LWVUV can use these funds for educational projects or Per-Member-Payment to LWVUS)

**Please mail your check(s) and form to Treasurer Robin Wisdom, 1260 Arcadia Drive,  
Roseburg OR 97471**

For more information, contact President Jenny Carloni, 541-672-1914,  
[jennifer.carloni@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.carloni@gmail.com) or

Treasurer Robin Wisdom, 541-672-6982, [rwisdom@jeffnet.org](mailto:rwisdom@jeffnet.org)

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