



CASCADE ECHOES

CALENDAR FOR MARCH AND APRIL 2015

MARCH

5 FIRST THURSDAY LUNCHEON. 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm. Topic is Hilary Saraceno, Early Learning Development Manager will speak about Deschutes County Health Services (LWVUS is studying "Children at Risk"). See page 2 and last page for more information

12 Board Meeting 10 a.m. at the County Building.1300 Wall St.,Lyons Room

19, Children At Risk consensus meeting at 10 AM to Noon in the Lyon Room of the County/State building. We will be holding our information and consensus discussion of the update of the LWV of Oregon Children at Risk program item.

APRIL

2 FIRST THURSDAY LUNCHEON, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm. Topic is La Pine, "State of the City"with speakers Ken Mullenex, Mayor and Rick Allen, City Manager.

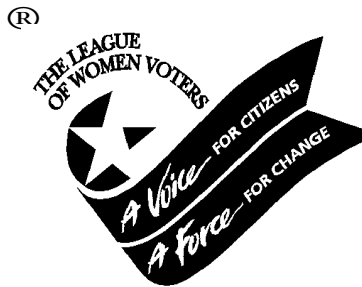
9 Board Meeting 10 a.m. at the County Building.1300 Wall St.,Lyons Room

30 Annual Meeting at 10:30 AM at Kim Smith's home. More details will be sent to you later.

May 1—3State Convention in Eugene



League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy



WEB SITES

Local
www.lwvdeschutes.org/index.htm
State
www.lwvor.org
National
www.lwv.org
Nationwide Election Information
www.VOTE411.org

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-2013 THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY

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President's Message

First Thursday Luncheon Speaker

From the Co-President

We are heading into some very busy times for the League. Our **Affordable Housing** Committee is getting started and will have a proposal for the Annual Meeting in April. You can still participate in it if you will let Dolores Ellis or Anita Elliott know of your interest. Many hands make light work!

The next **First Thursday, March 5**, will feature **Hilary Saraceno** from the Deschutes County Health Services. She is the Early Learning Development Manager. She can give us some updates on issues related to our state study on Children at Risk. Then we will have a **consensus meeting on Thursday, March 19, at 10 AM** in the Lyon Room of the County/State building on the same topic. We hope to have the study materials from the state study committee before that date so we can decide what changes to our current state position on Children at Risk we wish to make. Please come if you possibly can. Our children determine the future of our state and our country.

Our Annual Meeting is planned for Thursday, April 30, 2015 at 10:30 AM at Kim Smith's home. More details will be sent to you later.

State Convention is scheduled for May 1—3, 2015 in Eugene. See announcement on a separate page. It is a great way to network and connect with other League members and learn from each other. If you want to get better acquainted with League work and find out what is happening around our state you should really consider attending. We do have some funds to help with the costs for anyone who wishes to go, so let one of us on the Board know if you are interested.

Another trip you might want to consider is planned for September 9—11, 2015. It is sponsored by the Portland League and includes a tour of the Hanford Facility. See announcement on a later page. If you are interested you need to pay attention to the sign up date because they can take only 40 people.

Enjoy our very Spring-like weather. Maybe we will have winter in March? We hope to see you all soon.
Dalyte Hartsough
Co-President

Hilary Saraceno had been a driving force for good in Deschutes county for many years.

She was the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program Manager for 15 or her 20 years with the program. Was a Director of WIC, a Director of the Deschutes County Children & Families Commission and a Program Manager of Deschutes County Health Department. In 2012, Saraceno was instrumental in getting the state to adopt the "Keep Kids Safe" specialty licence plate that supports efforts to prevent child abuse. She is also known for being able to get others to see the children of abuse as more than statistics.

Educational Trip in September "What Impacts the Columbia River?"

The Portland League is sponsoring a trip to the Tri-Cities area of Washington on **September 9, 10 & 11, 2015**. Only the **first 40 people** who sign up may go. **The sign up day is Monday, April 13 at noon** via email or phone to the Portland League office. Contact by email: info@lwvpdx.org or by phone: 503-228-1675.

Events planned:

Tuesday, Sept. 8: Evening civic education panel discussion in Portland about the Columbia River. Open to the public, as well as trip participants.

Wednesday, Sept. 9: Travel to Tri-Cities area with lunch and museum stops, plus evening. Lecture and social time.

Thursday, Sept. 10: **Hanford bus tour**. Participants must be over 18, US citizens, have photo ID. Appropriate dress required. Tour is also non-smoking.

Friday, Sept. 11: Return to Portland.
Registration:

League members	\$50
Nonmembers	\$100

After registering, a \$25 deposit is required.

Transportation, meals and lodging will be at your own expense. The Portland League will help with coordination. Contact for more information or questions: Mary McWilliams at marymcwilliams61@gmail.com or 503-408-5850

Children at Risk Membership Consensus Meeting

WHEN: On Thursday, March 19th, from 10 am to noon, we will be holding our information and consensus discussion of the update of the LWV of Oregon Children at Risk program item.

WHERE: It will be held at the Deschutes County Building, Lyons Room, 1300 NW Wall St., Bend.

WHAT: *We look forward to seeing you there,* as we discuss questions related to this update, with its focus on Early Childhood Learning. An excellent introduction and background for this discussion will be our First Thursday Luncheon speaker this month: **Hilary Saraceno, who is the Regional Early Learning Hub Development Manager. Background information on page 3**

ORGANIZATIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATING IN THE COLLABORATIVE PLANNING

A wide range of organizations and stakeholders from all five sectors identified by the Early Learning Council have been participating in the WEBCO Early Learning Hub (EL Hub) collaborative planning process (see attached Collaborative Partner document for a list of partners who have been participating in, and are committed to, the development of the Central Oregon EL Hub Demonstration Project).

LEAD AGENCY The Wellness and Education Board of Central Oregon (WEBCO) will be the lead organization for the Early Learning Hub of Central Oregon application. The WEBCO will also continue to oversee the facilitation of the planning process and will be the designated signature authority for the application. The WEBCO, established in April 2011, is a regional governmental entity formed under an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties and the High Desert Education Service District, pursuant to ORS 190.010.

SERVICE AREA AND TARGET POPULATION The proposed service area includes Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties and for mutually agreed upon strategies, The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (Tribe). The target population to be served is at-risk children, as defined by 2012 Oregon Statute (Chapter 37, page 4) from birth through six years of age.

Cont. next page.....

The Wellness & Education Board of Central Oregon (WEBCO)

A primary risk factor facing Central Oregon is the number of people living in poverty. There are several other important indicators that have concerning, and higher than state level, rates in the region. Several examples include:

- **72% of Crook and 57% of Jefferson County incoming kindergartners needed intensive interventions** (2012)
- **> 50% of incoming kindergartners at six Bend-LaPine schools needed strategic or intensive intervention**
- **47% (8,200) children 0-6 are below 200% Federal Poverty Level** (ineligible for services if over 100% FPL)
- **50% of Central Oregon births were paid through public Medicaid/Oregon Health Plan sources**
- **56% of children take advantage of free and reduced lunch** (high risk school catchment areas are much higher)

Initial efforts will focus on school catchment areas with higher numbers of children and families living in poverty and whose primary language is not English. In an effort to more fully understand our at-risk population, our region is also using The Harvard University Pathways to Children Ready for Kindergarten data mapping tool. This tool is not only helping us to further define and understand the at-risk population in our local communities and region based on research-based indicators but it is also helping us to avoid the tendency of jumping to solutions and strategies before fully understanding the problem.

HOW ARE PARTNERS ACROSS THE FIVE SECTORS AND FAMILIES INVOLVED

The WEBCO (through county staffing) began coordinating integration of the early education and wellness work with regional stakeholders in 2011. In July of 2011, an agreement was established with local elected officials and key early childhood program partners to create a regional (Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties) Early Learning Hub which would align with the region's health care and education reform efforts. As a part of that endeavor, early childhood providers and stakeholders were brought together in September 2011 to begin informing and engaging the community and regional stakeholders about the state's early learning system redesign goals and requirements. This group has met regularly since that time and grown to include additional regional partners and partners from other sectors. The group was formally named the Central Oregon Early Childhood Collaborative (COECC) in October 2012.

Building partnerships with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (Tribe), the business sector and with parents has been slower to develop. In the short term, the WEBCO EL Hub development team has met individually with both Tribe and business leaders and has utilized a few limited strategies to engage families (i.e. focus groups and surveys). For the long term, the EL Hub leadership team is committed to developing more comprehensive approaches to ensure relevant and meaningful participation for the Tribe, business leaders and parents. In addition, EL Hub leadership is working to ensure diversified representation and participation from a wide range of parents from underserved and at-risk catchment areas across the region and is utilizing "The Head Start Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework", along with feedback from at-risk families, to develop the plan.

FIRST CALL TO CONVENTION 2015

"Connect the dots: How much is your VOTE worth?"

CONVENTION Is the biennial State Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Oregon which is held on alternate years to the State Council. First Call is issued so that local Leagues can begin to plan and discuss matters that will be presented at convention.

TIME & PLACE The 2015 State Convention will be held Friday-Sunday, May 1-3, 2015, at Valley River Inn, 1000 Valley River Way, Eugene, OR 97401

HOSTS League of Women Voters of Lane County

PURPOSE The convention shall consider and authorize for action a program; shall elect the president, first vice-president, secretary, three directors (two-year terms), and three members of the nominating committee, as well as a chair of the nominating committee; shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year; and shall transact such other business as may be presented. Two directors to complete the second half of the current two-year term shall also be elected.

DELEGATES The convention shall consist of the Board of Directors of LWVOR, and delegates chosen by members through the local Leagues. Each local League shall be entitled to two delegates for the first 40 members or fewer. If possible, one delegate should be the President. An additional delegate is allowed for every 20 additional members belonging to the local League as of January 31, 2015. Also, one delegate shall be chosen by the Board of each Inter-League Organization and one delegate for every 20 Members-at-Large (MAL). If there are fewer than 10 MALs, the interest of the MALs shall be represented by the LWVOR Membership Chair.

OBSERVERS Any member of a local League in Oregon may attend as an observer. Observers may not vote but may, upon recognition of the Chair, have the privilege of the floor. League members are urged to exercise this privilege and local Leagues are encouraged to bring many observers to the convention.

BASIC COSTS **Rooms at Valley River Inn:** (+10.5% tax)

1000 Valley River Way, Eugene, OR 97401

Deluxe Room \$89.00 s/d occupancy

River View Room \$109.00 s/d occupancy

Phone: 1-800-916-4339 or (541) 743-1000.

IMPORTANT: Ask for the League of Women Voters block to get the block rate.

Please make your room reservations as soon as possible to insure availability.

Meals: \$50.00 (approx.) covers Saturday lunch and Saturday banquet.

There is no charge for the local League Presidents' Breakfast Sunday morning.

Registration and workbook:

Delegate (includes workbook)	\$75
Full time observer (includes workbook)	\$45
Part time observer (no workbook)	\$10
Workbook mailed in advance	\$10
Workbook	\$10

OTHER Local Fundraiser: Plan to bring items for the Silent Auction! Each local League has the opportunity to bring a Silent Auction offering. For example, your League could offer a single item, fill a basket, a box, or a Chico Bag (available through the League office), and the revenues raised will go to your League.

New Take on Local League Sharing: Make a display board not larger than 24 inches by 36 inches of what your Local League did in the past year or about a successful event you organized. This display board will remain yours and will be displayed behind your Silent Auction basket on a table in a main meeting room. Make sure your League's name is on the display. We will take a photo of it and make a jpeg out of it for your use.

Display space available: There will be additional display space available for those who request it on the registration form. You can use this space to sell local items or share anything about your League.

LWV
124 NW Utica
Bend, OR 97701

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY

FIRST THURSDAY LUNCHEON

MARCH 5, 2015

Hilary Saraceno,

**Early Learning Development Manager
will speak about Deschutes County Health Services
(LWVUS is studying "Children at Risk")**

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm

at Black Bear Diner, on the corner of 3rd and Olney Streets in Bend.

There is a separate dining room for our use. There is no cost to hear the speakers;
however those wanting lunch should arrive about 11:00 a.m. and order off the menu.
The speakers will begin at noon and allow time for questions from the audience.

No reservations are needed. This event is open to the general public.