



<http://www.lwvutah.org>

The League of Women Voters of Utah

230 W. 200 South, Suite #2114 Salt Lake City, UT 84101

(801) 272-8683

Email:

office@lwvutah.org

Follow us on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter @LWVUtah](#)

October 2018

League Examines Inland Port, Election Security, Diversity

by Vickie Samuelson, LWV-UT Co-President



I have been following the Inland Port issue and attended some of the meetings. As it stands, the Inland Port Authority Board has voted to keep the sub-committee's closed to the public. There is no statute to govern sub-committees, so they could have voted to have them open. I am hoping they will decide that this is not the right way do get the public to buy into the project.

Speaking of the Inland Port, I want to thank Nickie Nelson and Kathy Fitzgerald for creating a statement (see pages 8-10) of how the state league feels about the Inland

Port and also creating a list of issues that we hope the board will included into their plans.

On Saturday, Sept. 8, I had the opportunity to speak on an Inland Port panel discussion at a luncheon for the Democratic Women's Group of Utah. I was able to use this statement as well as the national and state position. Sen. Karen Mayne, D-West Valley, said the list is right on point and an excellent list to reach for.

On Friday, Sept. 14, my co-president Catherine Weller and I had a meeting with Justin Lee, the director of elections with the Lt. Governor's Office, to talk about the safety of our elections. Our voter machines are not hooked to the internet and that they are also backed up by paper, he said. The paper is kept by the state so a record will be kept if something happens. Not even

INSIDE:

LWV Agricultural Study 2018 Online/p2-3

Sandy's Farewell/p3-4

Davis Hosts a Meet the Candidates/p4-5

Weber County LWV Presentation on Smart Justice by UCLA/p5-6

2020 Challenge/p6-7

Student Board Member/p6

Fall Fete/p7

Donor Honor Roll Summer 2018/p8-9

Inland Port and Board Statement/p8-10

the machines that count the ballots are hooked to the internet. There are some parts of the process that do go through the internet but the state is always checking and updating the security against any breach of information. Twenty-one states had their systems attacked but Utah was not one of them. Utah did have about 1 billion hits in the primaries but nothing got through our security system. The state is always doing worst-case scenarios to detect any weak spots. If one is found, it is fixed. The state is always looking for new and improved programs to update our systems to be safe.

The \$4.1 million from a federal government grant (Election Systems & Software) will go to new machines and some to the Voters Records Database to update that system, which is a top priority. Also some money will go towards cyber security and to watch for fake accounts and bots on social media.

Mail-in ballots have had a few problems with voters voting in two states, but they were caught and one ballot was invalidated. It demonstrated the importance of state-to-state sharing of information to correct this issue. The Lt. Governor's Office has offered to meet with us in a big or small group meeting if we desire.

In the last *Utah Voter*, Catherine talked about Diversity, Equality, Inclusion being a priority for the League this year. We were asked to partner with the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Assoc. Utah Chapter for their Candidates and Issues Forum. Other partners are the NAACP, League of United Latin American Citizens of Utah, Latinos in Action, and The League of Native American Voters. This event on Saturday, Oct. 20 will reach out to our lowest voting populations. More information will be coming and if you would like to help, please contact me at presidents@lwvutah.org.

Groundbreaking LWV Agricultural Study 2018 Online

by Ann O'Connell, LWV-SL Natural Resources Chair
[Study](#) and [Discussion Questions](#)

This study assesses the profitability of food production in Utah. Our local leagues will be discussing this material and recommending consensus positions this fall. The LWV of Weber and the LWV of Salt Lake will discuss in October. Check with your local league to see what is being planned. Please do remember that individuals may send responses to the League office or to Ann O'Connell, natural-resources@lwvsl.org.

The study committee (Linda Clark, Marilyn O'Dell, Naomi Franklin, Wendy Molteni, Jan Streifel, Jo Lynn Wilson) recommends you do an informal survey of where your food is raised. Note that many fruits and vegetables have stickers with the country of origin. Are you buying local food? Farmers can't stay in the business unless they are making enough to



Local League Leadership

Davis County
Kathy Stockel
& Ann Johnson

davispresidents@lwvutah.org

Grand County
Darcey Brown
& Barb Lacy

GrandLeague@lwvutah.org

Salt Lake
Kathy Biele
Carole Straughn
president@lwvsl.org

Weber County
Terri McCulloch
weberpresident@lwvutah.org

support their families.

Another way to preserve farmland is through programs that cut property taxes or provide grants to preserve important land. Should the League support these programs?

More food for thought: a census of agriculture is done every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The latest figure (2012) for the amount of cropland in Utah is 1.65 million acres. The amount of cropland in Utah seems to have peaked in 1950 at 2.05 million acres.

You might note what the newly imposed tariffs are doing to Utah alfalfa and cherry farmers. The September 27 *New York Review of Books* article, "Green and Pleasant Land by Verlyn Klinkenborg," reviews several books on farming. The [article](#), while depressing, is worth reading.

The League of Women Voters of Salt Lake will hear a presentation from Ryan Beck of Envision Utah on Utah's Agriculture Future on Tuesday, October 16 at 6 p.m. in the Girl Scout Building at 445 E 4500 South.

Beloved Director Sandy Peck Bids Utah Farewell

by Sandy Peck, Executive Director Emeritus

To all my League friends and colleagues
After 46 years my husband Jeff and I will be moving to Norman, Oklahoma. We are getting quite decrepit, which makes it hard for us to negotiate the three flights of steps up to our apartment. The apartment overlooks Big Cottonwood Creek and there's a park, a senior center, a rec center, a market and a wine store nearby, so we have loved living here.



We first came to Salt Lake from Philadelphia in 1972. Jeff was to join the University of Utah psychology department, so we stayed with faculty member Paul Porter and his wife Jean Porter for a few days. As it happened Jean was president of the League of Women Voters of Salt Lake, so she immediately recruited me.

And thus was my fate determined.

I had known about League voter service with its registration drives and voters guides to candidates. What I didn't know was that League members also wrote and published studies, which they used to develop policy positions on not just voting and government but on public education, environmental protection, land use, air quality, civil rights, campaign

Utah League Leadership

Co-Presidents

Catherine Weller
& Vickie Samuelson
presidents@lwvutah.org

Executive Director Emeritus

Sandy Peck
sandypeck@xmission.com

Voter Editors

Charles Bernard & Amy
McCarty
thevoter@lwvutah.org

Office Manager

Trixi Sieger
office@lwvutah.org

finance, health care, child welfare, tax policy, prison programs – the list goes on. Furthermore, studies were done by League organizations at three levels, local, state and national.

Apparently, I was going to have to read nearly all of the newspaper every day just to keep up. But I also got to write and edit – two of my favorite things.

Before long I discovered that League members used those positions on issues they had studied to take action, to urge government (at all levels, remember) to do the right thing. I became part of the League Lobby Corps at the Utah Legislature. This was a wonderful opportunity to observe and work with legislators and legislative staff, state executives like League member Gov. Olene Walker (who died in 2015) and with members of other public interest advocacy groups, such as Common Cause, Voices for Utah Children, Utah Issues, Audubon, People with Disabilities - and more. I'm a terrible public speaker, so it's been challenging, but so exciting.

And the very best part? I've come to know and love, to work with and learn from, you the ladies of the League. I'm really going to miss you.

League Begins Work on Sandy Peck Democracy Fund

The Utah and Salt Lake Leagues have voted to begin formation of a fund to grow the work of the League in honor our longtime executive director Sandy Peck. What better way to honor leadership than by funding its development? Stay tuned for more information on this exciting new chapter for the League of Women Voters of Utah.

Ballot Issues of Interest in Davis Candidates Forum

by Ann Johnson, LWV-Davis Co-President

Davis League hosted a Meet the Candidates forum for North Davis candidates for county commission and Utah Legislature positions on Monday, Sept. 10 at Clearfield City Hall. This area includes Clinton, Sunset, West Point, and South Weber as well as parts of Clearfield, Layton, and Syracuse. Could this be an example of gerrymandering?



The number of different districts and candidates for this meeting created a logistics problem. We solved it by

Take a Run at Gerrymandering

Come join the Salt Lake League's 2018 5K "Gerry-Meander" fun run and walk on Saturday, September 29, beginning in the historic 9th & 9th area to help pass independent redistricting reform on the November ballot!

To volunteer, email 5K@lwvsl.org and direct your ideas to us or just ask how you can help!



dividing the candidates into two groups. County Commission and state Senate candidates answered questions first. Then moderator Nickie Nelson excused those candidates and used a different set of questions for House candidates.

To inform Davis County voters about the numerous ballot measures for this year's election, Nickie Nelson also summarized each ballot issue and printed handouts with the information. Guests arriving at our forum found copies on each seat in the Council chambers. We noticed people reading them as they waited for the meeting to begin. Every copy was taken.

We will hold a **Meet the Candidates forum for Central Davis County in Kaysville on Monday, October 1. Meet the Candidates for South Davis County will be Monday, October 8 in Bountiful.**

Weber League Studies 'Smart Justice' Reform

by Terri McCulloch, LWV-Weber President



Over the last few years, the United States has used the justice/prison system as a method of controlling many things – drugs, mental illness, poverty, and lack of education. The United States incarcerates more people than any other nation. This has impacted many families and lives. If a person commits a minor crime and

is placed in prison, they lose their jobs and their family loses their income. The family then becomes homeless or lives in poverty. The children lose a parent and stability. These things can cause grave effects on society and on the individuals involved.

The ACLU has committed to changing our country's criminal justice system and cutting the incarcerated numbers in half. ACLU partnered with the Urban Institute to study what needed to happen in each state to make this goal a reality. The study found that while costs were cut if ideas were implemented, the issue of reducing racial offenders was not decreased, The ACLU maintains that this needs to be addressed and suggests utilizing bail reform, stopping the incarceration of individuals committing misdemeanor and low level felony charges, and reforming parole policies.

The basic blueprint to meeting goals set includes reducing admissions by offering programs that address the problem the person has, such as rehabilitation for drug use and counseling for mental health issues, instead of holding them in jail pending trial. The Legislature has to cease using incarceration as punishment for every level of offense. Prosecutorial reform would include review of cases by Conviction Integrity Units to see if the case was handled appropriately for the level of crime and the individual's

League Events

Wed., Oct. 17
Legislative Lunch
11:30 a.m. @ Senate Building in Seagull Room

Discussing observations, potential bills and answering Legislature-related questions. Watch the LWV Utah's Facebook page for details about a potential speaker. All are welcome.

If you would like to join the Legislative Action Google Group to observe or see our reports, call the office or email office@lwvutah.org.

Sat., Nov. 10 Fall
ReConnect Orientation
for Salt Lake
9:30 a.m. @ Holladay United Church of Christ, 2631 E. Murray Holladay Road

Come early for brunch. Speakers start at 10 a.m. Officers and directors will give short talks to help everyone understand what the League is trying to accomplish. Speakers will answer questions and meet with attendees.

Learn about the year's program and become acquainted with those who work so hard to make the League of Women Voters an effective non-partisan organization.

needs. Parole reform includes providing programs to prisoners that will help them become successful in society and continuing providing these services when they are released. If crimes were re-evaluated and time served reduced for some lower level crimes, people would be able to be back and productive in society with skills learned. Reducing racial and disability disparities also should be addressed. People of color are expected to be involved in criminal activity, and mentally ill people should be provided help instead of just imprisonment.

This is a quick overview of some of the many points brought up about ways to make our justice system actually serve the purpose for what it was meant. One thing is definite – if we continue to use prison as the only form of punishment for issues, the prison population will grow to be too large to handle and cost taxpayers way too much money.

Salt Lake Welcomes New Student Board Member



Zeia Woodruff has joined the Salt Lake League as a student member from West High School.

Zeia grew up in Boston, and has been active in the political foray around gun violence.

She is on the executive board of the local March for Our Lives group and led the subsequent student walkout.

Zeia has already participated in a Salt Lake board meeting where she offered insights into a younger generation of political activists.

Women to Register Women for 2020

by Dick Gary, Founder, Voterise

For all the magnificence of our great state, Utah has a problem in one critical area. Voting!

In 1980, Utah ranked fifth nationally in voter turnout. By 2016, we had fallen to a dismal 39th! And, there were 288,000 Utah women who were eligible to vote but not registered. For a more inclusive democracy, all voices must be heard.

Community Events

Thur., Sept. 27
Dark Money viewing with panel discussion
6:30 p.m. @ Salt Lake Main Library
sponsored by KUED

The Sundance film focuses untraceable corporate money's influence on elections and public officials.

Robert Gehrke (Salt Lake Tribune) will moderate a diverse panel including Tim Chambliss, Doug Foxley, Rebecca Chavez-Hauck, and Tom Huckin.

Wed., Sept. 26
Money in Politics panel
12 p.m. @ Hinckley Institute at the University of Utah

Thurs.-Sat., Sept. 27-29
The Great Polarization: Economics, Institutions, and Policies in the Age of Inequality Conference
Starts 7 p.m. @ University of Utah, Department of Economics

The Nobel Laureate Joseph E. Stiglitz is the starting keynote speaker
The conference is free but one must register at
<https://economics.utah.edu/forms/great-polarization-rsvp>

VOTERISE has created an initiative that will make great strides to achieving dramatically higher results in bringing Utah's women to the polls, THE VOTERISE 2020 CHALLENGE. This initiative commemorates the centennial anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote.

The program will officially kick off in early 2019 with an initial goal of recruiting 1,000 women to serve as ambassadors and to each register 20 other women. Ambassadors are provided with live and video voter registration training and tools including instructions, highlighted registration forms, text/online registration cards to facilitate registration VOTERISE digital platforms, and a VOTERISE T-shirt. This effort will be supported by publicity, social media messaging, PSAs on radio, television and outdoor as well as corporate partnerships. VOTERISE will be working with other relevant nonprofits including the League of Women Voters and female elected officials to expand its reach. A Utah Women's Voter Registration Day is also being developed for 2020.

Immediately prior to Election Day, VOTERISE will initiate its now traditional and highly-successful Get Out the Vote (GOTV) campaign whereby all VOTERISE registrants receive pertinent information on where and when they can vote as well as names of candidates and ballot propositions. These are delivered on a nonpartisan basis.

To participate as an Ambassador in the VOTERISE 2020 CHALLENGE please sign up via this link: <https://voterise.org/2020challenge>.

Salt Lake's Fall Fete Honors Janice L. Gygi

The Salt Lake board welcomed 45 guests to an evening honoring longtime Leaguer Janice L. Gygi.

Janice, who joined the League in 1983, has served in many capacities, including president of both the Utah and Salt Lake Leagues. A former marketing professor, she has worked at Utah Valley University and the University of North Texas and has lived in Philadelphia, Boston, Alexandria, Va., and Dallas.

Generous donors included Jan Brock (a Moab getaway, wine for our guests, and a basket of wine), Even Stevens (three \$20 gift certificates), Porcupine Grill (\$60 gift certificate), Ririe Woodbury Dance Company (two sets of two tickets to a performance, socks, and cups), Jane Carlston (pencil drawing).



Sat. Sept. 29 Affordable Housing Summit

1 p.m. @ Tyler Branch,
Salt Lake County Library
8041 S. Wood Street (55
West), Midvale
Hosted by United Utah
Party

*Affordable housing
expected to be a "hot"
subject in the 2019
Legislative session.*

*Kent Norton, a former KSL
reporter, will moderate.
The panelists will include
Dejan Eskic from the Kem
Gardner Institute at the
University of Utah, Urban
Planning Professor
Michael Clark from
Brigham Young University,
Tara Rollins of the Utah
Housing Coalition, Jeff
Southard of the Utah
Homebuilders Association,
and Zach Schofield, a
research analyst with the
Sutherland Institute.*

Inland Port Concerns Center on N.W. Zoning

by Ann O'Connell, LWV-SL Natural Resources Chair

The proposed Inland Port will be a concern of the League of Women Voters of Salt Lake and Utah for many years to come. However, this fall our attention must be on the changes to the zoning of the Northwest Quadrant mandated by the bill that established the Inland Port Authority and laid out the ground rules for how the port will be managed and financed. The truth is that Salt Lake City has little power and few choices.

Unit Meetings to Study Inland Port

[Find your unit meeting by clicking here or checking <http://bit.ly/SLUnits>](http://bit.ly/SLUnits)

The Salt Lake City Planning Department worked frantically to write changes to the Northwest Quadrant plan as the port authority bill required. They were presented to the Planning Commission Wednesday evening, September 12. The rest of the session was devoted to public testimony. Each speaker was allotted two minutes, except for five minutes for Great Salt Lake Audubon. Most remarks concentrated on specific, well thought out measures to be added to the plan. An example is a bigger buffer around the prison. Even those few who had more general statements spoke succinctly and eloquently and were very much on point. The session ended with one board member commenting that after nine years of listening to public comments she could say that this was the best testimony she had ever heard. The chair asked the planning department representatives to include all these excellent suggestions in the zoning plan.

The conundrum for everyone is that the Inland Port Authority has veto power over the city's zoning and over any appeal to planning and zoning decisions that might be made in the future. The bill requires zoning text changes be made to allow an "inland port" and associated "inland port uses." These powers may be tested in court in the future, but, at the moment they are intimidating. It will be interesting to see what the planning department returns with in their next presentation to the planning commission.

There will be another public hearing on the new wording in September. The City Council must decide by December 31.

Board's Official Statement on Inland Port

by Nickie Nelson and Kathy Fitzgerald, LWV Utah board members

The League of Women Voters of Utah neither supports nor opposes an Inland Port in the Northwest Quadrant of Salt Lake County.

However, we believe that the utmost care must be taken in determining the concept, design, construction and operation of this Port.

LWVUT Thanks Donors

The League of Women Voters of Utah expresses its deepest gratitude to all of our loyal donors. Our amazing work is accomplished by hundreds of hours of volunteer labor with the invaluable help of our part-time office manager, but we depend on our generous donors to pay office expenses like phone, computers, office rent and salary.

These generous friends and members have donated this summer (See next page):
— *Kathryn Fitzgerald, Development Director*

We believe that all local and state government meetings, including subcommittee meetings, to discuss the Port must be open to the public and must take public comment.

We believe that all expenses related to the Port must be paid for by the Port and not by Utah taxpayers.

We believe that the Department of Environmental Quality must certify that Utah's air quality will not be made worse by the Port. If the Port will adversely impact air quality, mitigation and cleanup actions must be taken in areas near the Port such that the overall impact to the state is neutral or better.

We believe that rail, vehicle and air traffic impacts due to the Port must be considered statewide. Impact mitigation for counties with railroads, highways and airports must be provided from Port profits.

We believe that industries approved for the Port must bring high-paying jobs with associated benefits such that the state's average salary is increased.

We believe that state and local governments must ensure that affordable housing is available for employees before an industry is approved for the Port.

We believe that decisions relating to the Port must recognize that the Great Salt Lake and the associated bird habitat is a national asset and must not be degraded by Port construction or operations.

National Positions

The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation at all levels of government. The League further believes that governmental bodies must protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.

The League of Women Voters believes natural resources should be managed as interrelated parts of life-supporting ecosystems. Resources should be conserved and protected to assure their future availability. Pollution of these resources should be controlled in order to preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of ecosystems and to protect public health.

Persons who are unable to work, whose earnings are inadequate or for whom jobs are not available have the right to an income and/or services sufficient to meet their basic needs for food shelter and access to health care.

Donor Honor Roll Summer 2018

Angie Abram
Susan Aldous
Sheryl Allen
Diana Allison
Adele Alsop
Kathleen Atkinson
Nanette Benowitz
Evelyn Bertilson
Georgene Bond
Ruth Brown
Cynthia Buckingham
Letitia Buroker
Rebecca Chavez-Houck
Linda Clark
Bonnie Crysdale
Beverly Dalley
Lynn DeFreitas
Irene Fisher
Kathryn and Gene Fitzgerald
Robin Frodge
Joan Gough
Beverly Grotsky
Maxine Haggerty
Emily and Chauncey Hall
Jennifer Horowitz
Barbara Jensen
Rochelle Kaplan
Katherine Liddle
Susan Lind
Kathryn MacKay
Norma Matheson
Bonnie Miller
Janet Munk
Patti O'Keefe
Jean Roestenburg
Rosemarie Russo
Pat Steele
Alice and Kevin Steiner
Tina Hose and George
Sumner
Paul VanDenBerghe
Norma Wills
Corinne Wunderli
Marilee Yerkovich
Anne Zeigler

In order to prevent or reduce poverty, the LWVUS supports policies and programs designed to: Increase job opportunities; Increase access to health insurance; Provide support services such as child care and transportation; Provide opportunities and/or incentives for basic or remedial education and job training

State Positions

“...it is important that taxes are fair and equitable both for those in similar economic circumstances and those at different economic levels. Other important criteria re benefits received, stability, responsiveness and simplicity. Taxpayers should receive adequate benefits, either direct or indirect, from taxes they pay.”

“In order to promote the wise use of land and related resources in Utah, and in order to reduce negative impacts on the environment, the League favors increasing the capacity of local governing bodies to deal with land use problems by

- 1) Augmenting the role of state government to include a) the setting of minimum standards regarding environmental protection, cultural preservation and aesthetic land uses; b) provisions for technical and planning assistance to local and governing bodies; c) setting up of machinery to facilitate enforcement of general planning provisions.
- 2) Encouraging multi-county regional planning bodies to deal with environmental impacts that exceed county boundaries.
- 3) Establishing a land use planning committee, with statewide representation, whose purpose is to determine, with the assistance of local input, state land use goals and policies.”

Email Service provided by:



XMISSION

You Can Help Vote411

Constituents can make a difference in the midterm elections. If your candidates have not responded to the LWV Voters Guide on Vote411.org, please take a moment to contact them by phone, email or Twitter, and tell them you are interested in their thoughts. Encourage them to speak up on the issues.



Thanks to the Girl Scouts of Utah for their generous in-kind donations to the League of Women Voters of Utah and the League of Women Voters of Salt Lake.

