



## Burton to Address Higher Education at Local Convention

*Betsy Pratt*

Our guest speaker for local convention this year is a man with a diverse and interesting resume. As the Vice Provost and Executive Director of Extended Studies for Portland State University (PSU), Mike Burton is focused on maintaining strong collaborative ties with the University's external constituencies and further expanding its many offerings for learning and programming needs at the local, state, national and international levels. Prior to joining PSU, he served as CEO of Metro, the regional government for Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties, from 1995 to 2003. From 1978 to 1994, Burton was the Business and Management department chair at Marylhurst University and also served as Assistant to the President.

Burton has taught courses at the University of Portland, Portland State University, Portland Community College, Mt. Hood Community College and Clackamas Community College. He was a member of the Oregon House of Representatives, and served for five terms. He is a

board member of the H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics and the Environment, the Trans Atlantic Policy Council for Clean Air

and Transportation and served on the regional board of the President's Council on Sustainability.

### Local Convention

**Keynote Speaker: Mike Burton**  
**Vice Provost, School of Extended Studies,**  
**Portland State University**

Tuesday, May 11

Registration begins at 5:30 pm

Business Meeting begins at 7:15 pm

Carvlin Hall, St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th, Portland

Dinner: \$20.00 • Coffee Only: \$5.00

Dinner menu: Hearty salads, dessert, and beverage

RSVP to the League office (503-228-1675 or [info@lwvpx.org](mailto:info@lwvpx.org))  
by **12:00 noon on Thursday, May 6!**

Parking: Available in church parking lot (enter from 16th).

By TriMet: Bus line: 4-Division to Gresham TC; get off at SE Division & 17th.

### Remember to Vote!

Ballots must be received at an official drop-off site by 8:00 pm on Tuesday, May 18.



### Miss a Candidate Forum?

Watch a replay on local cable TV or the internet! Visit [www.lwvpx.org](http://www.lwvpx.org) for full details.

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of Portland, OR**

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**Voter** is produced 9 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Portland. We welcome your comments, suggestions, story ideas and submissions. Please contact Pat Chor or Heather Drake at the League office, 503-228-1675. Submissions must be received no later than the Friday before the board meeting each month.

**May 2010**



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**President's Column**

*Betsy Pratt*

Every year in April I start putting away the woolly winter wear and wondering whether it's warm enough to wear shorts. These annual cycles provide an opportunity for casting off stuff that's no longer used, for cleaning and organizing the gear that will be needed next fall, and maybe even treating myself to something new. Our local convention on May 11th can be seen in the same light, especially as we consider our portfolio of positions. We will decide this year whether to add the Columbia River Region League positions to the Portland portfolio. As discussed in the April Unit meetings, the LWVCRR convention on April 19 voted to dissolve this interleague organization after nearly 30 years. The LWVCRR positions cover a wide range of important regional issues and were developed through thoughtful League processes, so we would like to assure their continued use. We will also be voting on program, budget, and board members for next year.

Our convention guest speaker, Mike Burton, is a frequent and thoughtful commentator on local government issues. He will be sharing his perspective on issues facing the state's higher educational system. I hope that every League member will be able to attend.

By the time you receive this newsletter, you should have your spring primary ballot in hand and may be looking for good information about the

candidates. The committee responsible for the Multnomah County Voters' Guide, led by Peggy Bengry, developed insightful questions for our local candidates and then worked very hard to get everything ready for publication. A copy is included with this *Voter*, and the Guides are also available at county libraries, the Election Office, and on our own spiffy website. Barb Stalions not only coordinated the Voters' Guide orders for all Oregon Leagues, she took the lead in correcting a small but critical error in nearly 12,000 copies of the State Guide. I am grateful to everyone who helped with these important tasks.

Barb Fredericks, Peggy Bengry and Barb Stalions exceeded expectations for this spring's voter service campaign. Barb Fredericks and her team organized 5 excellent candidates' forums in April, which far surpasses our usual quota. Jessica Sweeney did a great job notifying the local media about these events. Primary elections attract an interesting array of participants, and it's always enlightening to see how they respond to the challenging League questions. If you couldn't attend the forums, please check out our website for the full broadcast schedule.

So our spring activities are in full swing. I hope you are making enough progress on your own to-do list so that you can join us at local convention. And remember to VOTE by May 18th!

LWV Portland gratefully acknowledges  
a thoughtful gift

*In Memory of Louise Questad*

from Elizabeth Joseph.

## Big Changes Come to Portland's Police Oversight System

*Debbie Aiona*

The Portland League has a long history with the city's police oversight system. Former president and long-time member Darleane Lemley was a member of the Storrs Commission that created the city's first review board, the Police Internal Investigations Auditing Committee (PIIAC), in 1982. Since then, the League has monitored consistently both PIIAC and the Independent Police Review Division, our current system, created by City Council in 2001. Concerns about the Portland Police Bureau have been prominent in the media for the last several months leading Auditor Griffin-Valade and Commissioner Randy Leonard to propose significant changes that will strengthen the IPR's authority.

City Council held two hearings in March on the proposed changes in front of packed council chambers. Numerous community organizations and individuals offered testimony, including the League. The proposal received overwhelming community support and was adopted by a unanimous vote at the second hearing.

The IPR ordinance revised by City Council will include the following provisions:

- The IPR will have the authority to review any complaint and Internal Affairs Division investigation involving a police-citizen interaction regardless of whether the complaint was filed by a citizen or by the Portland Police Bureau.
- The IPR will continue to have the authority to initiate or conduct independent investigations. To date, the IPR has not conducted an independent investigation.

- IPR will have the power to subpoena documents, witnesses, emergency medical technicians, retired officers, and other non-sworn individuals involved in a case.

- The Use of Force Review Board and Performance Review Board will be consolidated and renamed the Police Review Board. The IPR Director will be a voting member of the new board, thus increasing civilian representation. The review board scrutinizes in detail serious complaints of police misconduct, recommends discipline to the Chief, and identifies policy and training issues.

- Summaries of review board determinations, including policy and training issues, will be published on a regular basis for public review. Names of officers, complainants, etc. will not be included.

- The Police Review Board pool of citizen members will be recommended by the Auditor and confirmed by City Council. Currently, the Chief selects citizen members.

The League supported the proposed changes but urged council to look on them as a first step in creating a stronger and more effective oversight system. We highlighted other changes necessary for creating a system that increases public understanding of police policies and procedures, discourages misconduct through retraining and discipline, and improves police procedures by recommending policy changes.

To see the letter to Council, go to:

**[www.lwvpx.org/issues-and-advocacy/police-oversight/comment-to-proposed-changes-to-ipr-div-code](http://www.lwvpx.org/issues-and-advocacy/police-oversight/comment-to-proposed-changes-to-ipr-div-code)**

Additional improvements recommended by the League:

- The nine-member all-volunteer Citizen Review Committee of the IPR is appointed by City Council. It hears appeals from citizens disagreeing with the outcome of their complaints, makes policy recommendations to the IPR and Police Bureau, and gathers community concerns. Due to the large workload and steep learning curve, the League recommends increasing its size to 11 members and increasing length of term from two years to three.

- CRC should work with the IPR and the public to determine which cases should be investigated independently and routinely by IPR.

- IPR should have the authority to participate in investigations of police shootings and deaths in custody.

- IPR should have the authority to compel officer testimony when conducting investigations.

- More transparency and public participation should be incorporated into the development of Police Bureau policy.

- The number of citizens on the Police Review Board should be increased in order to provide a more equitable balance between Police Bureau personnel and the public.

### Looking ahead

In addition to approving the Griffin-Valade/Leonard proposal, council appointed a stakeholder committee charged with considering CRC- and community-recommended improvements. A number of organizations, including the League, will be represented on the committee. Keep your eye out for more news about changes to the system.

## Have you attended Local Convention?

### *Please consider doing so!*

It is a great evening to socialize with fellow League members and feel good about what you accomplish as well!

The silent service auction will give you an opportunity to meet another member through your purchase, and let you make a painless donation to the work of the League.

Our speaker has long ties to Portland government in its many forms, and also long time ties to the Portland League. He is sure to provide an interesting talk!

The discussion and your votes at the annual meeting will decide our program/studies for next year as well as officers/board and budget.

What a deal! ...all in one location!

Come with a fellow member, or come alone and meet a new friend!

## May Action Committee Meeting

### Affordable Housing in Portland's Urban Renewal Districts

Margaret Van Vliet, Portland Housing Bureau Director

Kate Allen, Portland Housing Bureau Housing Policy Manager

Friday, May 14,  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Room 433, Board of Trade Building, 310 SW 4th Avenue

All members welcome. Questions? Contact Debbie Aiona (mdjaiona@aracnet.com or 503-234-4651).

## Get Ready for the Service Auction

Our May 11 Local Convention will again feature a silent auction with the theme of service and creativity: members are donating their skills, talents and knowledge, a service, or the sharing on an item they own. Last year the auction was a tremendous success, adding fun to our annual gathering and earning our League over \$2700!

As of mid-April we had 23 items donated by League members – but *we are encouraging more members to think creatively about what they might be willing to share and add their items to the auction.* If you need help developing your ideas contact either Debbie Kaye or Pat Osborn for assistance. Here is a listing of items already donated to spark your interest and help you prepare to participate actively in the silent auction bidding.

- Custom-made baby quilt by Jane Gigler
- Personal tour for six of Pittock Mansion by Carolyn Rundorff – June 26 or August 22
- Delectable dinners in lovely locations – one at Mary McWilliams' home (July 10) and one at Barbara Stalions' (date TBD)
- Coaching in speaking & presentation from Elaine Cogan
- Two hours of meeting facilitation by Molly Keating
- Columbia Gorge tour with Gorge Commissioner and LWV member Judy Davis
- Vacation homes for weekend get-aways: Jan Wolf's home at Metolius Meadows and Pat and Alan Osborn's cabin on Mt. Hood
- Cakes and pies and loaves donated by several of the League's fine cooks – Marnie Lonsdale, Lynn Baker, and Beth Johnson
- Computer service/training by Norman Turrill
- Airport transportation by both Margaret Noel and Carol Cushman
- Games galore – a lesson in Scrabble by Claire Corwin-Kordosky, a board game party by Heather Drake, and crossword puzzles from Darleane Lemley
- Help in planning and preparing your garden by master gardener member Brenda Smith
- Transfer of home movies from VHS to DVD by Debbie Kaye
- Use of a power washer by Alyda Gilkey
- Cork trays by Jewell Lansing
- An oil painting portrait of you or someone else by Pat Osborn
- A half cord of wood delivered and stacked by Carol and Art Wilson

Prepare to have a great time bidding on these wonderfully varied donations from our members. Please *bring your calendars to the auction* as some items are date-specific. *And bring your checkbooks as well!*



*Members Kris Hudson and Elizabeth Joseph check on the bids at the May 2009 Service Auction.*

## Calendar

May 2010							June 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
30	31												

5: **Old / New Board Mtg.**  
5:30 pm, Home of Mary McWilliams

11: **Local Convention**  
5:30 pm, St. Philip Neri

14: **Action Committee**  
1:00 pm, Room 433

15-16: **LWVOR Convention**  
Bend

18: **Election Day**

18: **Education Study Committee**  
5:45 pm, Home of Beth Johnson

21: **Office Closed**

24: **Office Closed**

24: **Membership Comm.**  
9:30 am, Room 520

31: **Office Closed**

11-15: **LWVUS Convention**  
Atlanta

19: **Board Retreat**

30: **Voter Deadline**

**SUMMER HOURS UPDATE**  
Please make note of changes to our normal summer hours.

Mon: CLOSED  
Tues: 8:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Weds: CLOSED  
Thurs: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Fri: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

**Summer Hours Begin:**  
Monday, June 7

**Normal Hours Resume:**  
Monday, August 16

**Calendar Location Key:**

**Room 520** and **Room 433** are located at our office building: Board of Trade Building, 310 SW 4th Avenue, Portland (4th Avenue between Stark and Oak Streets)

**St. Philip Neri** is located at 2408 SE 16th Street in Portland.

## New Members

**Maureen Long** • *National*

**Barbara Kelly**

**Ann Snow** • *National*

## Member Updates

**Doris Eisele**

**Marjorie Enneking**

**Elaine Hakala**

**Ruth Hayward**

**Connie Morgan**

**Cary Turkon**

**Anne Willer**



**The League of Women of Voters® of Portland**

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**Help Us Make Democracy Work! Ask a Friend to Join the League!**

Return this coupon with your dues to: **LWV Portland, 310 SW 4th Ave, Ste 520, Portland, OR 97204.** Please make checks payable to **LWV Portland.**

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Dues Levels

- \_\_\_\_\_ Single --- \$70.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Household --- \$105.00  
(2 people at same address)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Limited Income --- \$43.60
- \_\_\_\_\_ Student --- \$25.00