



# Santa Cruz VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

May 2015 *Celebrating 50 Years of Voter Education in Santa Cruz County* Volume 49, Number 9

### In this Issue

- Forum on Drug and Alcohol Issues----1
- Women’s Lib Documentary in SC-----3
- Membership Report-----2
- President’s Message-----2
- Higher Education Study in Peril-----3
- Fiftieth Annual Meeting-----3
- Board Meeting Time Changes-----3
- Counting Raindrops: Learning to Live  
With the Water We Get-----4
- Video of Secretary Laird Online-----5

### Calendar

#### Tuesday, May 5, 2015

7-9 p.m.; Doors open at 6:30 p.m.  
 Responding to Drug and Alcohol Disorders  
 In Our Community  
 Harbor High School Little Theatre  
 Located in the lower campus area in the  
 Fine Arts (FA) building.  
 300 La Fonda Avenue, Santa Cruz, 95062  
 Free and open to the public

#### Tuesday, May 12, 2015

1-3 p.m.  
 LWVSCC Board Meeting  
 Santa Cruz County Bank  
 720 Front Street, Santa Cruz 95060

#### Saturday, June 6, 2015

10 a.m. to noon  
 LWVSCC Annual Meeting  
 Featured Speaker: Robley Levy  
 Seascape Golf Club  
 610 Clubhouse Drive, Aptos 95003  
 Hot breakfast buffet: \$20 per person  
 RSVP and prepay by Thursday, May 28  
 LWVSCC  
 P.O. Box 1745,  
 Capitola, CA 95010

#### Tuesday, June 9, 2015

10-12 a.m. (Note new time)  
 LWVSCC Board Meeting  
 Santa Cruz County Bank  
 720 Front Street, Santa Cruz 95060

*The League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County  
Presents a Moderated Panel Discussion*

## Responding to Drug and Alcohol Disorders In Our Community

*With Moderator*

**Ashley B.  
Wheelock**

Attorney-at-Law  
of the  
Law Office of  
Ashley Wheelock



**Tuesday, May 5  
7-9 p.m.**

*Doors open at 6:30 p.m.*

Harbor High School Little Theatre  
 300 La Fonda Avenue | Santa Cruz, 95062  
 The Little Theatre, located in the lower campus  
 area, is in the Fine Arts (FA) building.  
*Free and open to the public*

*Questions may be submitted in advance to [league@lwvsc.org](mailto:league@lwvsc.org) or call 831-426-VOTE (8683). A printable [map](#) to the event can be downloaded at [lwvsc.org](http://lwvsc.org) on the [calendar page](#). [Flyers](#) and [posters](#) to print and share are also available.*

On Tuesday, May 5, our League will address the high rate of drug and alcohol disorders in our community with an educational forum. Drug and alcohol disorders, also known as substance use disorders, include a wide spectrum of behavior from occasional binge drinking to illegal drug addiction, and can range from mild to severe. In order for our community to respond to these disorders, we must understand that they are medical conditions for which effective treatments are available.

*Continued on page 5*

## Membership Report

Welcome to Carey Marsh, a former member of the San Luis Obispo County League, who supported the VOTER newsletter for that League. His training and work experience are in the computer field and websites. Both Carey and his wife, Arlene, were League of Women Voters members in San Luis Obispo. He has expressed interest in our website. Carey joined with an individual membership and a donation; Arlene, who was an active member in the past, hopes to rejoin at a future date when her schedule is less busy.

—Barbara Lewis, 1st Vice  
President/Membership

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## Women's History Documentary To be Aired in Santa Cruz

[She's Beautiful When She's Angry](#), director Mary Dore's documentary of the women's movement in the late 1960s, will be playing at the Nickelodeon this month.

Recommended to us by LWVSCC member Ashley Wheelock, attorney-at-law, the film takes us from the founding of the National Organization of Women to the emergence of women's liberation in the early 1970s. It does not shy away from controversies over race, sexual preference, and leadership that arose in the women's movement and brilliantly captures the spirit of the time.

The film plays at the [Nickelodeon](#) (210 Lincoln Street, Santa Cruz) from May 15 to May 21. Two special showings, on Friday May 15 at 7 p.m. and Wednesday May 20 at 4:30 p.m., will be followed by post-screening discussions of the film presented by the Women Lawyers of Santa Cruz County.

## President's Message

Dear Members,

Due to a scare with a family member's illness in which much of my time and worry has been spent recently, I would like to thank Pam Newbury, VOTER Editor, for her assist in helping me get the President's Message out to you, and report that improvements are slowly being made in my family member's health.



April saw the 45<sup>th</sup> celebration of Earth Day. Much has been accomplished to protect the environment since 1970, but even more remains to be done. Start by learning about how putting a price on carbon uses market forces as a potent tool in the fight against climate change at [priceoncarbon.org](http://priceoncarbon.org), a new website developed by League of Women Voters of Berkeley-Albany-Emeryville member Diz Swift in consultation with some of the nation's experts.

May starts out with an important event for our members and the public. On May 5, I hope all will attend our League's educational community forum on drug and alcohol disorders. Come and learn about what can be done to improve the way our county responds to this challenge (see article on page 1 for details). Also in May, our VOTER editor, Pam Newbury, will be heading south to San Diego to represent us at the LWVC convention. We look forward to hearing her report when she returns.

June will bring our 50<sup>th</sup> annual meeting! I look forward to hearing from our founding president, Robley Levy, about our League's beginnings. Members will be voting on our new slate of officers and our program and budget for the coming year. We hope to include the California League's study of public higher education as part of next year's program, but we need one or more members to come forward to lead the effort. We have several members interested in joining the committee, but so far none can take the lead. Perhaps two members could work together jointly to oversee the group. Let us know if you would like to help.

—Peggy Walker Marketello, President LWVSCC

## Weighing in On Higher Education

The Public Higher Education Study needs a leader to take the helm. We have members who have expressed interest in being on the committee, but none so far are willing to chair it. This position could be taken on by two co-chairs to lighten the duties. The committee chair's main responsibilities are coordinating meetings for the committee and, with the help of our board's program co-chairs, arranging for three general membership meetings: (1) a speaker or panel of speakers on the topic, (2) presentation of study materials, and (3) answering consensus questions. Study materials and consensus questions are being prepared by our state League. The committee's main process is to present the materials to the members at large.

Because LWVC does not have a position on higher education that includes CSU and UC systems, the League cannot comment on or advocate for or against any legislation. This study was proposed and approved in order to remedy this situation and in recognition of the fact that education is the bedrock upon which democracy is built and sustained. As the home of one of the ten campuses in the University of California system, and a fine community college, Santa Cruz should have an opportunity to weigh in on this study from our unique perspective and vested interest.

Learn more about the study at [lwvc.org](http://lwvc.org). To volunteer contact us at [league@lwvsc.org](mailto:league@lwvsc.org) or 831-426-VOTE (8683).

## Annual Meeting Planned for June 6

Our League tops off our 50<sup>th</sup> year with our annual meeting, featuring our League's first president, Robley Levy as keynote speaker, on Saturday, June 6 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Seascope Golf Club, 610 Clubhouse Drive in Aptos. The cost, \$20, includes admission and a hot breakfast buffet. To reserve your place, send your check for \$20 per person, payable to LWVSCC, to LWVSCC, P.O. Box 1745, Capitola, CA 95010 by Thursday May 28. If you have questions, call 831-426-VOTE (8683) or email [league@lwvsc.org](mailto:league@lwvsc.org).

Expect to receive your annual meeting kit by May 16. Nominations for next year's officers include Barbara Lewis for president, Dottie Fry for first vice president/voter service, Sue Becker for second vice president/voter service, Marcia Minnihan for Secretary, and Jan Karwin for Treasurer. Directors include Jan Beautz and Judi Orbach, program co-chairs, Peggy Marketello, membership chair, Pam Newbury, VOTER editor, Joyce Anderson, publicity, and Dee Takemoto Director-at-large.

The board recommends three topics for next year's program: the LWVC state Public Higher Education Study (see article this page), affordable housing in Santa Cruz County, and continuing to study substance use disorders and their contributing factors, such as mental illness and homelessness.

The State League's recommendations, to be voted on at the League's May state convention, are to Update the position on Agricultural Land Preservation by concurrence with a proposal from the LWVC Water Committee and to adopt as issues for education and advocacy are money in politics, protecting California's environment, election reform and voting rights, and minimum/living wage. Details at <https://lwvc.wordpress.com/2015-workbook/proposed-program-2015-2017/>

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## Change in LWVSCC Board Meeting Times.

Beginning this June, LWVSCC board meetings will be held at a new time: 10 a.m. to noon. Meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of the month at the Santa Cruz County Bank, 720 Front Street in Santa Cruz. Only the time has changed.

Board meetings are always open to all LWVSCC members, even those who are not on the board. We welcome membership participation at our meetings.

## Counting Raindrops: Learning to Live with the Water We Get

On April 9, Rosemary Menard, director of the City of Santa Cruz Water Department, spoke to League members and the public about city water supplies. With almost all of Santa Cruz's water supplied by rain, this season's rainfall, almost a third less than normal, means the city must take action to ensure adequate water availability for all needs during the coming year. Beyond the immediate future, Santa Cruz must also begin planning today for uncertain future rainfall in future years due to climate change.

The major drivers for continuing last year's stage three water rationing in Santa Cruz include the condition of river flows and the uncertainty about future water supplies. We were fortunate that high flows in the San Lorenzo River in December allowed capture of significant run off from the river to be pumped into Loch Lomond reservoir for storage. Even so, with other water resources even lower than last year, they are likely to need to take water from the reservoir earlier than usual. As of the end of March, the 2015 water year is classified as critically dry.

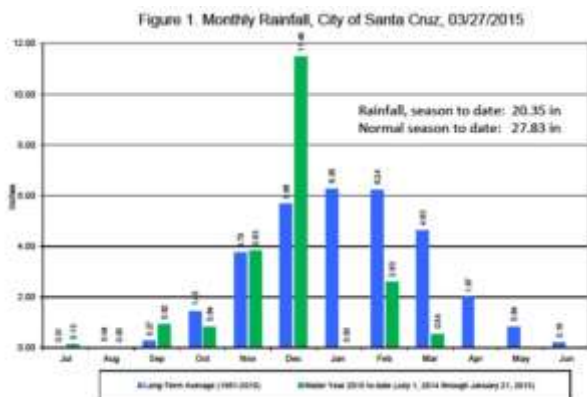


*Menard speaks on water supply issues*

Menard emphasized the city must prioritize needs from many different perspectives. Established priorities begin with making sufficient water available for interior domestic and sanitary uses to protect health and safety. The second priority is to maintain the economy with enough water to accommodate commercial and industrial

activity. The lowest priority, irrigation, includes outdoor residential usage. The city has an additional ball to juggle: keeping sufficient stream flow available to protect and restore endangered fish species.

In the larger picture of statewide drought, water conservation targets for Santa Cruz are smaller than some southern Californian cities that have been less successful at reducing water usage in the last year. Cities such as San Diego and Los Angeles face drastic 20% cuts, while other communities, such as Beverly Hills and Hillsborough, face even larger reductions of up to 36%.



Last year the city established the Water Supply Advisory Committee to develop recommendations for water supply options. Planning today to mitigate the effects of decades-long mega droughts, predicted for later in this century, means looking for actions that work well in responding to multiple possible futures, from plausible to worst-case scenarios. Imagining how to respond to a variety of future scenarios helps explore the best approaches to begin pursuing today. The first-round portfolio includes increased conservation, increased use of winter flows in the San Lorenzo River, and potential aquifer storage and recovery. Other alternatives would include water reuse and recycling, appropriate landscaping, and desalination.

Clearly the city's water director has her work cut out for her with more than just getting through this year's drought. Santa Cruz has many valuable assets in its toolkit for dealing with water shortage, not the least of which is an involved citizenry that has shown its determination to use water with great efficiency.

For more information about the committee and how you can conserve water, go to <http://www.santacruzwatersupply.com/>. For more information about City Water Department and water use regulations, go to <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/departments/water>



Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to men and women of voting age who are U.S. citizens. Others are welcome to join the League as associate members.

Send your check payable to League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County or LWVSCC with this form to LWVSCC, Box 1745, Capitola, CA 95010-1745.

\_\_\_\$65 Individual annual membership  
\_\_\_\$100.00 Two members in a household  
\_\_\_\$30.00 Student membership  
\_\_\_Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks made out to LWVSCC are not tax deductible.

To make a tax-deductible donation, write a separate check to LWV Education Fund.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

### Secretary Laird's Talk now Online

If you missed the [keynote address by John Laird](#), California Secretary of Natural Resources, at our League's Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration, February 22, 2015, you can now watch it online by clicking the link on our website (go to the Calendar page and click on "Past" in the sidebar menu.)

## Drug and Alcohol Forum

*Continued from Page 1*

At this open discussion forum, our panelists will examine this issue from many different aspects. Moderator and LWVSCC member Ashley B. Wheelock, Principal of The Law Office of Ashley Wheelock will moderate the forum. Wheelock moderated two candidate forums for our League last fall. A graduate of The George Washington University Law School in Washington, DC, Wheelock passed the California Bar in 2006. After working for law firms in Los Angeles and the bay area, Wheelock opened her own law office in Santa Cruz in 2014.

Panelist Jim Hart, Santa Cruz County Sheriff, has worked for the Santa Cruz Sheriff's department since 1988. In 1996, he received the Attorney General's Award for outstanding narcotics enforcement. In 2011, as the Chief Deputy in Corrections, Hart developed and implemented the Sheriff's Office response to prison realignment. Elected to the office of Sheriff-Coroner in 2014, he was sworn into office this January.

A year ago panelist Vanessa de la Cruz, M.D., became Chief of Psychiatry for Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services at the county's Health Services Agency. A graduate of Tulane Medical School, she completed her psychiatry residency at UCSF and her Public Psychiatry Fellowship at Columbia University. She is certified in Addiction Medicine through the American Board of Addiction Medicine.

Janus of Santa Cruz provides programs for recovery from alcoholism and other chemical dependencies. Licensed by the state of California and nationally accredited, Janus provides residential, day treatment, outpatient, and detox as well as methadone treatment programs. Panelist Rod Libbey, executive director of Janus, has extensive experience in behavioral health and drug program administration.

Jessica Stone, also of Janus Santa Cruz, has worked to give hope to those in recovery since 2006. A certified counselor, she began her work at Janus at the Mondanero-Baskin Center for Women and Children. She has been a recovery program director at Janus since 2012.

Our next panelist oversees the delivery of mental health and substance abuse services in the County for adults and children. Eric Riera, director of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services for Santa Cruz County HSA, has 25 years of experience in behavioral health, including public and private sector community mental health, and state government. Riera earned his bachelor's in psychology at Merrimack College, a master's in education and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies from Harvard University, and a Master's in Business Administration from Franklin Pierce University.

Join the conversation about drug and alcohol disorders by sending us a question for the panel and attending the May 5 forum. Questions can be sent in advance of the event to [league@lwvsc.org](mailto:league@lwvsc.org) or call 831-426-VOTE (8683). A printable map to the event can be downloaded at [lwvsc.org](http://lwvsc.org).

—Pam Newbury, VOTER Editor