



Santa Cruz VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

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Calendar

Sunday, October 1, 2017

Noon-4 p.m.

Prescription Drug Community Solutions

Garfield Park Community Church

111 Errett Circle, Santa Cruz

Free and open to the public

RSVP at eventbright.com

Saturday, October 7, 2017

2-5 p.m.

Modern-day Slavery

Santa Cruz Police Dept. Community Room

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz

Free and open to the public

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

10 a.m.-noon

LWVSCC Board Meeting

Santa Cruz County Bank

720 Front Street, Santa Cruz

Saturday, November 4, 2017

1:30-3:00 p.m.

Juvenile Justice—Balancing the Scales

Resource Center for Nonviolence

612 Ocean Street

Santa Cruz

Free and open to the public

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

10 a.m.-noon

LWVSCC Board Meeting

Santa Cruz County Bank

720 Front Street, Santa Cruz

SafeRx—Talk About It:

Prescription Drug Community Solutions

Responding to the opioid epidemic through prevention and positive solutions

Sunday
October 1, 2017
Noon-4 p.m.



Garfield Park Community Church

111 Errett Circle, Santa Cruz

A free, public event ▪ RSVP at eventbright.com

SafeRx—Talk About It: Prescription Drug Community Solutions is a free, interactive, enjoyable family event focused on responding to the opioid epidemic through prevention and positive solutions at community and individual levels. Learn about what our county has been doing to prevent opioid use disorders and how you can be part of the solution.

This event features wellness demos; ask-a-doctor, -pharmacist, or -therapist stations; a drop-box for unused medications; SafeRx information; opioid overdose reversal training; food trucks; arts, crafts, and games; and live music. Plus, the Santa Cruz Warriors will host a three-point basketball shooting contest. Councilmember Martine Watkins and Supervisor Ryan Coonerty will open the event and introduce the keynote speaker, Dr. Bill Morris, medical director of the Janus community clinic. Dr. Morris has taken a lead role in developing safe prescribing practices; he will speak about how to talk to your doctor.

Please RSVP for this free, public event on Eventbright at eventbright.com at [SafeRx--Talk About It](http://eventbright.com). Brought to you by Community Prevention Partners' (CPP) Prescription Drug Education Workgroup; LWVSCC is a co-sponsor of the event. Learn more at their Facebook page: [Talk About It: Community Solutions for Prescription Drug Misuse](https://www.facebook.com/TalkAboutItCommunitySolutions).

President's Message

This is a very good time to continue and increase your involvement in the League of Women Voters, with so much in the balance. We will be sponsoring or co-sponsoring programs on human trafficking, juvenile justice, proposed legislative changes to Proposition 13, media influences on the voting public, and groundwater management before our annual meeting in June. Plans are also underway for membership events, as well as national and local program planning. I look forward to getting better acquainted with our members and hearing about your concerns. I encourage you to participate, recruit others who share the goals of the League of Women Voters, and give us suggestions for future programs and speakers.

—Barbara Lewis, *President LWVSCC*



Membership Report

LWVSCC welcomes two new members, Shirley Marcus and Robin Drury. This month we'll get to know Robin, and we'll catch up with Shirley next month. Robin Drury is a retired academic coordinator who was co-director of the Central California Writing Project at UCSC. She lives in Santa Cruz and enjoys walking in Arana Gulch, as well as tending her prolific garden. She is a writer and an artist whose focus is the natural beauty of the high Sierras, specifically Yosemite's Tuolumne Meadows area. Her interests are varied; she will often be found attending an Osher Life Long Learning Institute class or excursion.

—Lydia Nogales Parker, *Membership chair*

Remembering Jan Beautz

We were saddened to hear of the passing of retired Santa Cruz County supervisor and League member Jan Beautz on Saturday, September 23. A member of the League for several years, she has served on the LWVSCC board since 2013, first as a director-at-large, then as program chair. Beautz received her BS from Pennsylvania State University and her law degree from Monterey College of Law.

First elected in 1988 to represent the First Supervisorial District of Santa Cruz County, which includes the communities of Live Oak, Soquel, Branciforte, and a wide area of the Santa Cruz Mountains from Highway 17 to Forest of Nisene Marks State Park, Beautz served on the board continuously until her retirement in 2008. She served on many local councils, commissions, and associations, including the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, the Santa Cruz County Criminal Justice Council, and the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.

Beautz spearheaded efforts to bring the Redevelopment Agency to Santa Cruz County and her district. This provided important money to help build the Simpkins Family Swim Center, the Live Oak Library, the Live Oak Resource Center, parks, sidewalks, crosswalks, and street landscaping. She fought efforts to develop a very large parcel in Soquel so that the community could have what is now Anna Jean Cummings Park (informally known as Blue Ball Park). Capitola Mayor Stephanie Harlan says, "She was a tireless champion for her district." LWVSCC board member Nancy Litvak remembers her as "...a fine, principled person who worked hard for our community." Jan Beautz will be remembered for her practical guidance and quiet wisdom.

—Pam Newbury, *VOTER Editor*



League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County

PO Box 1745 • Capitola, CA 95010 • (831) 325-4140 • league@lwvsc.org • lwvsc.org

Editor: Pam Newbury • President: Barbara Lewis • Membership: Lydia Nogales Parker

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.

MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

Human Trafficking in Our Backyard

Every year thousands of children, women, and men end up in the hands of traffickers



who exploit them for forced labor or sexual slavery. Learn more about human trafficking at a forum called Modern-day Slavery on **Saturday, October 7, from 2 to 5 p.m. in the community room at the Santa Cruz Police station, 155 Center Street, Santa Cruz.**

Deborah Pembroke, a trafficking survivor, will give an overview of the topic, including her own experiences. The panel will also include speakers from the Santa Cruz County District Attorney's office and the Santa Cruz police department. The panel will address key points including legal issues, enforcement, and safe harbor; following the presentation, the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions.

There will be light refreshments and a silent auction. Proceeds from the silent auction will go for forum expenses and to Monarch Services, <http://www.monarchsc.org/> a local organization that provides shelter and services for victims of human trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual abuse. This free public event is co-sponsored by the Santa Cruz Branch of the [American Association of University Women](#) and the [League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County](#).

Volunteers are needed to help with set-up/clean-up for the event and to bring refreshments (cookies). We also need donations for the silent auction.

For more information about volunteering or donations, contact Martha Mangan at 831-425-1306 or mmanganesesc7@gmail.com. Donations for auction may be delivered to Martha Mangan's house at 201 Prospect Heights, Santa Cruz whenever convenient.

LWVC Convention 2017 Highlights

Alex Padilla: Increasing Voter Options to Increase Voter Turnout

The LWV of California held its biennial convention in Sacramento this June. This is the second of a [series of articles](#) in which LWVSCC delegates Dottie Fry and Pam Newbury will report on convention highlights. More convention materials can be viewed [online](#).

As Voter Service co-chair, I would like to share my impressions of the speech given by Alex Padilla, the California Secretary of State, at the LWVC Voter Service Dinner and the related action taken by the Secretary in July, regarding voter rights.

Alex Padilla became the California Secretary of State on Jan. 5, 2015. He is committed to increasing voter registration and participation, and strengthening voting rights. He shared insights on potential federal policy changes (Election Integrity Commission) and gave us updates on voter registration and voting. He fully supports online registration, automatic registration through the DMV, and same day registration.

The [California Voters Choice Act](#), passed in 2016, allows counties to conduct elections so as to provide voters with greater flexibility and convenience. To increase voter turnout, Padilla said we must organize voting to reflect how we live today. Padilla encourages counties to adopt as many provisions of the Voters Choice Act as possible, including mailing ballots to all voters, establishing ballot drop-off locations, and replacing precinct voting with vote centers where any voter can register to vote, drop off their ballot, vote, get a replacement ballot, or get voting help. Some counties may implement these changes as soon as the 2018 elections. He hopes that in the future, electronic access to voter registration rolls can enable voters to vote at any voting station in the county and allow voters to register on the day of the election. Padilla also mentioned his plans to allow 16- and 17-year-olds to preregister to vote, so that their voter registration will automatically be activated on their 18th birthday ([this plan](#) went into effect on September 1, 2017).

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Juvenile Justice: Balancing the Scales

Juvenile Justice: Balancing the Scales, a moderated panel discussion, will address issues related to juvenile justice in Santa Cruz County: how best practices have changed in the last 20 years, how to decrease ethnic disparity and increase equity through policy changes, and youth and gang violence prevention efforts. Speakers will include moderator Sarah Emmert, Youth Violence Prevention Task Force coordinator; Fernando Giraldo, Santa Cruz County probation chief; and a representative from Barrios Unidos, a grassroots, nonprofit organization focused on intervention programs with at-risk youth and incarcerated individuals.

This free, public event will take place on Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at the Resource Center for Nonviolence Community Room, 612 Ocean St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; it is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County and United Way of Santa Cruz County.

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.

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The Secretary's "call to arms" was that citizens need to get involved in politics and public service, and to join and donate to organizations such as the LWV. He noted that we, as League members, offer an invaluable service when we register voters and encourage voter turnout.



Photo Credit CSUF Photos

Alex Padilla speaks at California State University Fullerton in September, 2016.

Padilla concluded that the current administration is "taking a jackhammer to citizens' rights to vote." Walking his talk, shortly after the convention in July, Secretary Padilla refused to provide confidential voter information to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity, which the administration formed to investigate voter fraud. The LWVC supports this refusal, since complying would legitimize the commission that would prevent eligible citizens from exercising their right to vote. Complying would also normalize the baseless accusations of voter fraud and the invasive requests for personal voter information ([Helen Hutchinson, LWVC President, Reader's Letters, San Jose Mercury News, July 16, 2017](#)).

A [New York Times editorial](#) (July 22, 2017) calls this commission a sham and a scam run by determined vote suppressors. The commission's purpose, according to the Times, is not to restore integrity to elections, but to undermine the public's confidence enough to push through policies and practices that make voter registration and voting harder for certain groups of people who tend to vote Democratic. The data on fraud allegations have confirmed that voter fraud is extremely rare, and in-person fraud is essentially non-existent. The NY Times concludes that if the commission were serious about improving confidence in elections, it would focus on real problems afflicting voting and registration—like aging voting machines, long lines at polls and cyberattacks by hostile nations.

—Dottie Fry, Voter Service Co-chair