

## Top stories in this newsletter

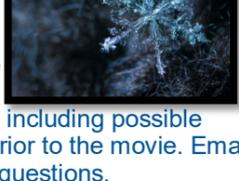


**January Events**



**Committee Updates**

## January Events

- Annual Position Review and Potluck 1/11/20, 10:30am –1pm** at Dale Petruilis' home on us to review the issues and positions taken by the National LWV and recommend changes to be voted on at the summer National Convention. More information to follow.
- A Night in Jail 1/13/20, 7-9pm** at American Martyrs Welcome Center  
 Come watch *A Night in Jail*, a movie written and directed by local residents. This movie depicts the connection between drug abuse, mental illness, and homelessness. A panel discussion will follow, including possible solutions to this growing problem. Please [RSVP](#) prior to the movie. Email [Teri Neustaedter](mailto:Teri.Neustaedter@tmufic@gmail.com) at [tmufic@gmail.com](mailto:tmufic@gmail.com) for further questions.
 
- January Book Club - 1/23/20, 7pm-8:30pm, St. Cross Episcopal Church, Hermosa Beach** Start reading [The Back Channel: A Memoir of American Diplomacy and the Case for its Renewal](#), by William J. Burns during your holiday break!
- Winter League Day - 1/25/20** Please join us at winter League Day for a panel discussion about Climate Action in LA County. Discussion with some background and context:
  - What do climate models predict for our region?
  - What are our greatest risks and how do we reduce them?
  - A data-driven analysis of our county's GHG sources and where we can get the most "bang for the buck" in reducing them.

Interested in joining the Natural Resources Committee? Contact [Grace Peng](#) (310-613-7432).
- Housing - Embracing Change, Planning for Positive Change - 1/30/20, 7pm-8:30pm** Councilman Chris Horvath and representatives from YIMBY (Yes in my backyard) will be speaking. More information to follow!
- Save the Date! February 24th, 2020**  
 The Education Committee is hosting John Chiang, California State Treasurer, and a previous candidate for governor in 2018. He will be addressing California's budget and how its impact on education. More information to come!

Questions? [Contact us anytime!](#)

## Committee Updates



- Education**—The Education Committee is planning a community program hosting John Chiang, California State Treasurer, and a previous candidate for governor in 2018. He will be addressing California's budget and how its impact on education. The committee is also examining two areas of interest for the year - [early childhood education](#) and the [impact of declining enrollment on low-income districts](#). If you are interested in participating with us on either of these topics, please contact [Jeanne Hamilton](#) for more information.
- Health and Wellness** — The Health and Wellness Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 1:00 pm at Harriet's home. Our focus is on helping seniors in our service area to age well. We are planning to move on from presenting our goals to organizations and city departments in the Hawthorne, Inglewood and Lennox to working with them in planning special projects for the seniors. At this meeting will be discussing possible projects. We welcome new members to our committee! Please contact Harriet Chase, Co-chair, for interest or more information at: [hzchase@roadrunner.com](mailto:hzchase@roadrunner.com). Contact [Harriet Chase](#) for interest.
- Homelessness**— People experiencing homelessness have a 1 in 57 chance of dying on the streets of LA County, according to Mark Ridley-Thomas, an LA County Supervisor. Read more about the Statewide Task Force on Homelessness and Supportive Housing he helps lead [here](#).  
  
 Our team meets every 6-8 weeks to work on educational updates for our members and local residents; we also coordinate support for service projects. Most team members work with other organizations actively involved with homelessness and housing, bringing that knowledge back to the League. Email [Teri Neustaedter](mailto:Teri.Neustaedter@tmufic@gmail.com) at [tmufic@gmail.com](mailto:tmufic@gmail.com) or call (913) 568-5466 if you're interested in joining our group!
- Natural Resources**— Green New Deal, Climate Emergency, Climate Action. The public is developing a sense of urgency about Climate Change as we see its effects on our daily lives. While there is a great deal of political disagreement about what steps to take and on what timeline, there is remarkable consensus amongst scientists and policy experts about the most impactful things we can do right here, right now.  
  
 A large, urban area, such as LA County, is well positioned to dramatically ramp down our GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions. Our density and large population is our strength. We already have the tools and technology. We just need to develop the necessary political will.  
  
 Transportation, particularly private automobiles, is the largest source of GHGs in our region. There is no way to stop catastrophic climate change without drastically reducing the amount of miles we drive and the amount of fuel we burn. In the last decade, we've moved in the opposite direction--driving more miles per capita and in bigger cars/SUVs. [The growth in SUV market share has consumed 33 times as much oil as all electric vehicles \(EV\) have saved.](#) Helping people move around without cars, and in smaller cars when they do need to use one, should be a top priority. Let's think transit and electric and analog bikes before electric cars.  
  
 Land use ties together two of [LWVC's Key Issues for Emphasis](#): Climate Change and Housing and Homelessness. Increasing the supply of homes near jobs and along transit corridors is critical. This allows more people to live without relying on cars for every trip. But much of the land in desirable areas close to high numbers of jobs is tied up with restrictive Single Family Home (SFH) zoning. This is why upzoning in some areas is necessary.  
  
 If we modify our land use and transportation policies so that people can live their lives fully while drastically reducing the miles that they drive a car--electric or ICE (internal combustion engine)--then we can stop *climate change and reduce air and water pollution, traffic congestion, and sedentary lifestyle diseases all at the same time. It's really that simple.*  
  
**Please join us at winter League Day on January 25, 2020** for a panel discussion about Climate Action in LA County. I'll kick off the discussion with some background and context:
  - What do climate models predict for our region?
  - What are our greatest risks and how do we reduce them?
  - A data-driven analysis of our county's GHG sources and where we can get the most "bang for the buck" in reducing them.

While the final panel makeup is still not complete, we already have a commitment from the Honorable Meghan Sahli-Wells, mayor of Culver City. As a SCAG Regional Council member, she successfully championed bringing more homes to where the existing jobs are rather than pushing new housing out to the periphery. Come learn about how the Regional Housing Needs Analysis (RHNA) is an opportunity for us to reimagine and revitalize our communities while reducing GHG emissions and making them more inclusive.

I'm working to add panelists to address decarbonizing our lifestyles, particularly in the transportation sector, which is the largest GHG contributor in California and LA county. Please send recommendations of women who are good advocates for risk reduction, transit, active mobility and environmental justice that I may invite for this or future events.

Come join the discussion at Winter League Day and let's organize for meaningful climate action!

Submitted by Grace Peng  
 Natural Resources Chair LWVLA & LWVBC

For further questions, please contact [Grace Peng](#) (310-613-7432).

## Stay Connected!

Like to add something to next months calendar? Please contact us by the following:

LWV of the Beach Cities  
[BeachCitiesLWV@gmail.com](mailto:BeachCitiesLWV@gmail.com)  
 (310) 787-7501

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