



# League of Women Voters Benicia

## VOTER

October 2018 <http://www.lwvbenicia.org>

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization which neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties. We encourage informed and active participation in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and action.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

**Oct. 3, Wednesday: *Voter's Forum for Benicia City Council Candidates***, co-sponsored by the LWV Benicia and the Benicia-Vallejo AAUW. 7-8:30pm., Dona Benicia Room, Benicia Public Library, 150 East L Street



**Oct. 4, Thursday: *Voter Registration***, Fairfield High School, 8-11am.

**Oct. 8, Monday:** LWV Benicia presentation on the propositions for members of **Benicia Women's Club**, 11:30am, Sailor Jacks.

**Oct. 10, Wednesday: *Voter Registration***, Rodriguez High School, 8am-2:30pm

**Oct. 10, Wednesday: *Getting Out the Vote, A Community Discussion***, co-sponsored by the LWV Benicia and Heritage Church, 7pm, Heritage Church, East Second Street, Benicia.

**Oct. 19, Friday: *Be Relevant Civic Engagement Event***, Club Stride, LWV Benicia, and others sponsoring. 1:30-8:30pm., Mare Island, Vallejo.

**Oct. 22, Monday: *Last day to register to vote.***

*Details on these events in following pages*

## Benicia City Council Candidates forum

The League of Women Voters Benicia and the Vallejo-Benicia AAUW are cohosting a forum for city council candidates on Oct. 3. All four candidates will be introduced, give an opening statement, and answer questions prepared by the League and selected questions from the audience before giving their closing statements. Jane Keene will be the moderator. Candidates for city council are Kari Birdseye, chair of the Planning Commission; William Emes, a retired carpenter; Lionel Largaespada, chair of the Economic Development Board, and Christina Strawbridge, a small business owner and former councilwoman.



The forum will be video taped and aired on Channel 27. It takes place at 7-8:30 pm in the Dona Benicia Room at the Benicia Public Library.



### Voter Registration

Lack of voter registration is a major deterrent to voting, so check your status to make sure you are registered at your current address. Election materials are not forwarded! You can check online at [voterstatus.sos.ca.gov](http://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov). The last day to register is October 22.

Members of the League and other volunteers are busy registering and preregistering high school students to vote. Last month they registered over 420. Work continues this month when we visit three more high schools in Fairfield.

After receiving proclamations for National Voter Registration Day from the city of Vallejo, the city of Benicia, and the Solano County Board of Supervisors, we registered voters at the Vallejo Ferry and the Benicia Post Office on Sept. 25. We are partnering with Black Women for Political Action, Heritage Church, and Solano County Food bank, as well as several other civic and church groups in north county to get Vacaville and Fairfield citizens registered. Thanks goes out to all those volunteers!

### Voters Edge and Maplight



Mail in ballots will be sent out by the Solano County Registrar of Voters beginning Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>. Once you have your ballot, go to **Voters Edge.org/Ca** where you can find information about all the candidates and ballot measures. You will also find MapLight which give you campaign financing information for each candidate. Take a minute to look and be an informed voter!

## Getting Out the Vote!

The Heritage Church in Benicia has asked the League to join them in conducting a community discussion on getting out the vote. We will discuss the reasons why people don't vote, brainstorm solutions, and form an action plan to get out the vote in Benicia and Vallejo. The event takes place on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7pm at the Heritage Presbyterian Church, 1400 East Second Street, Benicia. Come join us!

## Be Relevant Civic Forum Event

The League is staffing a vote registration table at the civic engagement event organized by Club Stride on Oct. 19. The event is aimed at getting youth voters engaged in the election process. It begins on Mare Island at 1:30 with student interviews of candidates running for office in Vallejo and for the US House of Representatives. Mike Thompson and his opponent, Anthony Mills will be there. Busses are being arranged to bring in students from all the Vallejo High Schools should they wish to attend. The event continues into the evening with dinner and entertainment. Various civic groups like the League are offering volunteer and financial support, but adults attending will be charged. For more information check it out on line: Be Relevant Civic Forum.



## Eye on the Future

There will be a new census taken in 2020, and consequently redistricting of regions for state and county offices as well. The LWVC, working with Common Cause, already helped get the state to use an independent council to redraw district boundaries for state representatives. Solano County Supervisor Monica Brown, working with Common Cause, is suggesting the same kind of independent council to redraw county district lines. The LWV Benicia Board may be reviewing this issue in the coming months.

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## Getting Ready to Vote?

Check out the LWV.org page on state propositions. Here's a quick summary.

There are three types of propositions on the ballot : bonds, constitutional amendments, and regulatory laws. The California League has compared their position stances to the propositions and recommends the following:

**YES Prop 1:** Veterans and Affordable Housing Bonds

**YES Prop 2:** Housing Bond for those with Mental Illness

**No Prop 3:** Water Bond ( would shift cost of new water conveyances to the tax payer)

**No Prop 4:** Children's Hospital Bond ( which shift funding from public hospital to private for profit hospitals).

Constitutional Amendments, proposed

No Prop 5: Property tax ( would allow homeowner to keep their current rate on current house if they move to new property...extends the reach of Prop. 13 and could significantly reduce funds to schools and other general services.)

No Prop 6: Gas Tax Repeal ( would reduce state revenues for roads and transportation and as a constitutional amendment would take 2/3 vote to change).

Yes Prop 10: Allows local communities to vote on rent control.

The state league has no position on the other propositions.

We have done your homework! Vote with the League



## Feb 9, 2019 LEAGUE DAY

Save the Date

Join the Bay Area League of Women Voters at their flagship event on **February 9, 2019** at Bay Area League Day, where we examine diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of Bay Area life in our day-long symposium entitled, **"Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Bay Area: How do Regional Agencies and the League Address DEI? - A Region in Action - Equity in Practice?"**

## Current Board

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Sandy Coury: Member-at- Large, Membership

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Newsletter submissions:  
due by 20th of the month  
Susan Street, [sustreet@pacbell.net](mailto:sustreet@pacbell.net)

League business only  
What where, when why in first paragraph  
200 words or less  
Please use WORD; Calibri 12 pt is preferred.  
No colored backgrounds or fancy font

## Newsletter

Susan Street, Leslie Lessenger and Niles Medders



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