



# League of Women Voters Benicia

## VOTER

September 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?

**Sept. 11, Tuesday:** *Proclamation for National Voter Registration Day*, 9 am. Solano County Board of Supervisors, Solano County Administration Center, 675 Texas St., Fairfield.

**Sept. 11, Tuesday,** *Proclamation for National Voter Registration Day*, 7 pm., Vallejo City Council, temporary chambers, lower level, JFK Library, 505 Santa Clara St., Vallejo, Ca

**Sept. 18, Tuesday,** *Proclamation for National Voter Registration Day*, 7 pm., Benicia City Council Chambers, Benicia City Hall, 250 East L Street, Benicia

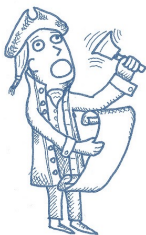
**Sept. 25, Tuesday,** *National Voter Registration Day*, various locations in Benicia and Vallejo.

**Sept. 26, Wednesday,** *LWV Benicia Voter's Forum: Benicia Unified School District Board Candidates*. 7-8:30 pm, Benicia Public Library, 150 East L Street, Benicia, Ca

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



**Sept/Oct: TBD:** *High School Voter Registration sessions* are currently being arranged for Benicia, Vallejo, and Fairfield schools. Contact [vonwindgayle@gmail.com](mailto:vonwindgayle@gmail.com) if you want to join in the fun.



## Proclamation Events:

The Benicia and Vallejo City Councils, and the Solano County Board of Education are issuing proclamations this month regarding the importance of registering and voting which are essential for keeping our democracy strong. Please see the calendar above for dates and times so that you can **plan to attend the council/board meetings for the Proclamation Presentations and show support for the League.**

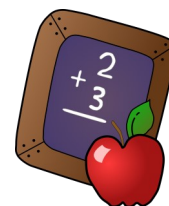
## National Voter Registration Day:

Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> has been set aside by the LWV US as National Voter Registration Day. Members of our League will be registering voters at the Vallejo Ferry during the morning commute, and at various locations around town throughout the day. Now is a good time to check your own registration at [voterstatus.sos.ca.gov](http://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov). to make sure you haven't been purged from the rolls for inactivity and that your data is correct. Have you moved this year? Changed your name? Want to change your party? Then you need to reregister on line at [registertovote.ca.gov](http://registertovote.ca.gov). If you would like to help register others on September 25, please contact [vonwindgayle@gmail.com](mailto:vonwindgayle@gmail.com).



## School Board Forum:

On Wednesday, Sept. 26 the LWV Benicia will host a forum for voters to learn about the current candidates for Benicia Unified School District Governing Board. There are five people running, and all will get a chance to give opening and closing statements, answer questions prepared by the League, and if time allows, answer screened questions from the audience. Those running include incumbent, Diane Ferrucci; Mark Maselli, a teacher in the Pittsburg Unified School District; Sheri Zada, a retired librarian and local activist; Adrean Hayashi, a local realtor; and Gethsemame Moss, Director of Community Engagement at the Solano County Office of Education. With such well-qualified and involved candidates our forum should prove to be very interesting. Come and hear them speak at the Benicia Library at 7 pm., so you can make an informed decision at the polls November 6.



## Benicia City Council/ Measure E Forum:



On Wednesday, October 3, from 7-8:30 pm, the LWV Benicia, AAUW Vallejo-Benicia, and the Benicia Public Library will co-sponsor a public forum for the candidates running for Benicia City Council. There are four people running who will participate in standard debate form, with time for selected questions at the end. Candidates are Christina Strawbridge, former City Councilwoman; Lionel Largaespada, Economic Development Board Chair; Kari Birdseye, Planning Commission Chair, and local activist William Emes. It should be another interesting and informative evening.



Two weeks ago I started in my new role as CEO at the League of Women Voters of the United States.

When I think about the history of this organization, I am proud to see so many women running for political office this year. And I want you to know that I am committed to our mission today:

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Part of my motivation for taking this position is to provide women with an opportunity to be heard, especially those who are often overlooked. I want young women to know that there's no one way to achieve their aspirations. Everyone's path is different.

You see, I did not have a traditional path to executive leadership.

I was a teen mom. It took me eight years to finish my college degree, while juggling two jobs and raising my sons.

I started my career as a community organizer working with gang members in Hartford, Connecticut. As an activist, I am passionate about social justice. As an American, I've always believed that America is great, but that we're on a continuing journey as a country to become even better with each generation that passes. What drew me to the League was its commitment to creating that more perfect democracy and its renewed commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

At a time when division and hatred threaten the fabric of our society, the League welcomes all people, regardless of background, to play a part in this great democracy.

Because every vote matters—and we are all equal at the ballot box.

Thanks for trusting in me. We are going to do great things together!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Virginia Kase". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.



Virginia Kase  
CEO, League of Women Voters of the United States

## Monitor Notes for August 15, 2018

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Welcome to *Monitor Notes*, a weekly email newsletter featuring news items, event announcements, and updates on past *Bay Area Monitor* articles.

*Monitor Notes* is produced by *Bay Area Monitor* transportation writer Cecily O'Connor. Reach her at [cecily@bayareamonitor.org](mailto:cecily@bayareamonitor.org).

### Pre-game for the Big



Last week, organizers for the Global Climate Action Summit held their first official press conference in San Francisco to promote the upcoming international forum, which Leslie Stewart just [previewed in the latest \*Monitor\*](#). Members of the media gathered at AT&T Park on August 9 to hear from California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross and San Francisco Department of the Environment Director Debbie Raphael, as well as Jaime Nack, the summit's director of sustainability, who described how [the summit itself will meet or exceed international sustainability standards](#) for such events. The press conference then turned into a tour of the Giants' stadium, showcasing the field maintenance and waste management practices that earned the team "Green Glove" awards from Major League Baseball for nine consecutive years. We've [posted photos](#) from the proceedings on the *Monitor* Facebook page, and will provide further information leading up to the September 12-14 summit.

### Accelerating into the Future



While the idea of self-driving cars is starting to feel less outlandish, countless questions remain about the impact autonomous vehicles will have on transportation networks when they hit the streets. Looking to provide some answers, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments released a detailed report earlier this summer; as part of the agencies' Horizon initiative, the so-called "Perspective Paper" lays out a set of potential planning strategies for navigating the landscape of this evolving technology. It's familiar territory for the *Monitor* — we've written about both [autonomous vehicles](#) and [the Horizon initiative](#) in the past year. Check out those articles and then [get some perspective](#).

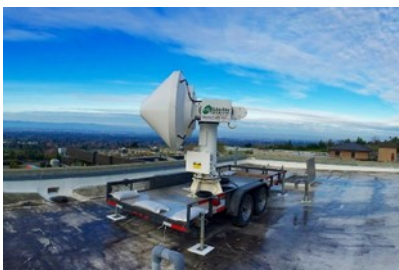
(Monitor Notes continued on next page)

## Pitching in for Parks



Throw a dart at the program for the 10th Biennial Bay-Delta Science Conference and you're likely to hit a topic that Robin Meadows has covered, or a scientist whom she's interviewed. Among the various presentations featured at the September 10-12 (M-W) conference in Sacramento, one special bonus session explores the science of atmospheric rivers, which Robin [wrote about for the \*Monitor\* last winter](#). Editor Lauren Muscatine and filmmaker Enid Baxter Ryce will discuss this compelling weather phenomenon on Tuesday afternoon of the conference, whose theme is "Our Estuary at an Intersection." [Check out the schedule](#).

## Conference at a Crossroads



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[editor@bayareamonitor.org](mailto:editor@bayareamonitor.org)

## Current Board

Judy Potter: Treasurer, Exec. Committee

Nile Medders: Member-at-Large, Exec. Committee

Alice Labay: Reporting Secretary

Malin Coleridge: Member-at-Large, Webmaster

Sandy Coury: Member-at- Large, Membership

Susan Cohen Grossman: Member-at-Large, Programs



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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