



Voter

of Southwest Santa Clara Valley



Serving Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, & Campbell

September, 2016

League of Women Voters

LWV Southwest Santa Clara Valley

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Voters Service

during this
Election Season

League of Women Voters of California Education Fund

PROS & CONS



and



For details of events see page 4.



President's Letter

In the next few weeks, our all-volunteer Leaguers will be working nonstop to bring quality meetings with the best presentations. Yes, in this election season, there is so much to do and we are all focusing our efforts to empower voters with knowledge to help them become better informed. Voters will be making important choices on a wide variety of proposals that will impact Californians for decades to come.

During this election season, I want to restate our position that we NEVER support or oppose any political party, any political candidate, or any group that supports candidates. But we do take positions on key policy issues following study and consensus.

Our membership carefully weighs and deliberates a number of stances on key issues before coalescing around a particular position. When these issues come up, then these positions inform our decisions on what legislation we will support or oppose.

To help accomplish our mission, Jackie Costanzo is busy with her team of volunteers to register new voters on campuses and at New Citizens' Ceremonies. They are adopting new ways to register voters to help keep democracy working for all.

On the other hand, Wendy Hendry and Kathy Murtfeldt and their team are hosting several candidate forums in the communities we serve. Check this month's *Voter*, future *Voters*, and our website for updates. Thanks to Barbara Lea and Cherri Nelson for posting updates on social media.

Terry Zaccone and Eleanor Yick are planning many educational presentations on the ballot issues (we call them Pros & Cons Meetings) to help voters learn more about the Propositions and Measures that will affect them. Nearly 20 proposals will be on the Ballot this year.

Special thanks to Tom Picraux, our new local coordinator for Voter's Edge, who is taking on the responsibility for this election season. Voter's Edge is a great tool to help explain who is on the ballot, and help get the word out about important election choices and decisions. We also will be providing Easy Voter Guides to help voters get ready before they vote to learn about what they will be voting on.

In addition to all of the above, we have Sue Cooney, Program Chair, and our Program Leaders who are actively planning educational Programs and engaging exciting partners to give presentations on topics important to us all.

We do not need to look across the ocean to be concerned about Global Warming. We live in a state where Climate Change is an apparent fact. The drought and all the monstrous fires that are presently burning as I am writing my letter help only to dictate that we work harder to reduce carbon emissions. Hearing the reports from the Rio Olympics about the weather, we know that by 2084, rising temperatures will make it practically impossible for most cities to host the Summer Olympics. Only eight Northern Hemisphere cities outside of Europe will be cool enough to host the games, and only three cities in North America capable of serving as hosts including San Francisco. In addition, there are alarming concerns about the Olympic Winter Games being in South Korean 2018.

Thanks to Barbara Lea for leading our August program about gun control, the attendance was great and Eleanor Yick did a marvelous job in moderating the meeting. Eileen Barnes and Liz Gibbons will be planning an important program about energy for our November meeting.

Thank you all for helping our League grow and thrive. I hope to see you soon at our events.

Hana Itani, President LWVSWSCV
408-lwv-1842, hana.lwv@gmail.com.

2016-2017 Board of Directors

Officers

President, Hana Itani

Vice President – Administration
Barbara Lea

Secretary, Nancy Rucker

Treasurer, Danice Picraux

Action, Eleanor Yick

Education, Eleanor Yick

Finance Drive, Tom Picraux

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Natural Resources, Meg Giberson

Observers Chair, Raquel Durand

Programs, Sue Cooney

Public Relations, Eileen Barnes
Assistant, Nancy Rucker

Voter Editor, Cherri Nelson

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Environmental Director, Dave Yick

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Health Care, Barbara Lea

Hospitality, Judy Zaccone

Immigration, Patty Weber

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Los Gatos: Lynda Jandron

Monte Sereno: Barbara Hawkes

Saratoga: Raquel Durand

Publications, Gail Pedersen

Telephone Tree, Natalie Heling

Voters Service Assistants

Pros & Cons, Terry Zaccone

Registration, Jackie Costanzo

Web Page Co-Chairs

Cherri Nelson, Barbara Lea

2016-2017 Elected Officials

United States

President Barack Obama
(202) 456-1414

www.whitehouse.gov

Senator Dianne Feinstein
(415) 393-0707

www.feinstein.senate.gov

Senator Barbara Boxer
(415) 403-0100

<http://boxer.senate.gov>

Rep. Anna Eshoo
(408) 245-2339

(650) 323-2984

<http://eshoo.house.gov>

California

Governor Jerry Brown
(916) 445-2841

<http://gov.ca.gov>

Senator Jim Beall, Jr.
(408) 558-1295

<http://sd15.senate.ca.gov>

Assemblyman Evan Low
(408) 446-2810

<http://asmcd.org/members/a28/>

Santa Clara County

Supervisor Joe Simitian
(408) 299-5050

supervisor.simitian@bos.sccgov.org

Supervisor Mike Wasserman
(408) 299-5010

mike.wasserman@bos.sccgov.org

Supervisor Ken Yeager
(408) 299-5040

supervisor.yeager@bos.sccgov.org

SCC Registrar of Voters

Locate your elected officials by your street address:

<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/rov/Pages/Registrar-of-Voters.aspx>



Board Bytes

Meeting of Aug 3, 2016

Treasurer: Asset totals reported indicated we're in good shape.

Annual Budget: Membership dues were reported as enough to sustain expenses. The annually published report for the *Voter* is being prepared.

By-Laws: President Itani indicated the changes needed to the *By Laws*, approved at LWVUS Convention, are: 1) members need not be citizens and 2) voting members can now be 16 years of age.

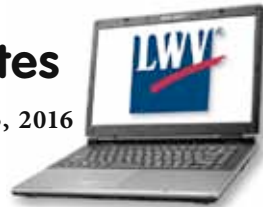
As the new Membership Co-Chair, Chata Alfaro requested she be informed of any Outreach projects for students.

County Measures: Details of the Housing and Transportation Measures were detailed with County Council support.

Programs: Sue Cooney listed various programs plans such as the Holiday Party, water storage issues, as well as Voters Service events being planned.

Voters Service: Events for the November elections are being planned. The Board gave its support to conducting a second Candidates Forum for the California senatorial race.

A structural change to the Candidates Forum question process is being worked on with Gloria Hoo and Eleanor Yick.



Plans for an event at West Valley College for National Voter Registration Day on September 27 were announced.

Natural Resources: Meg Giberson reported on the status of various water projects like the Twin Tunnels, an offer to buy Delta islands by a Southern California Water Company, and a Study to enlarge a San Joaquin River Dam, and the uncertainty and controversy of all the costs involved.

Action: President Itani went over the process of action requests and reminded members to reply to Eleanor Yick when they've participated.

Membership: Chata Alfaro announced that she has revised the standard letter sent to new members.

The *Voter* business advertisers were contacted by Sharon Graham for renewal. Cherri Nelson stated that only paid ads will be included in the next issue.

Observers: The Board reiterated its support for the reports in the *Voter* due to such important issues going on in our communities lately.

Voter: Cherri Nelson reminded the Board that our League intends to add 1-2 new positions for social media manager(s), for the Facebook and web site.

Cherri Nelson, Acting Secretary

League Volunteer Opportunities

Below are a few ways to participate and contribute to our local League:

* **Voters Service:** Register voters at the **New Citizens' Ceremonies**.

Register voters on **National Voter Registration Day!** Contact Jackie Costanzo at jjc717@aol.com.

Candidates Forums will be needing timers, question sorters, and greeters. Contact Wendy Hendry at wenhendry@comcast.net

or Kathy Murfeldt at kmurfeltdt@aol.com.

* **Social Media Manager(s)** for our Web and Facebook accounts; Contact Cherri Nelson at cherri1@comcast.net.

* **Local Elections Finance Study:** If interested in participating in this study, contact Danice & Tom Picraux at dpicraux@gmail.com or (408)356-8129.

VOTERS SERVICE – Election Events



Our Voters Service Chairs, Wendy Hendry and Kathy Murfeldt, are working with Terry Zaccone to organize Candidates Forums and Pros & Cons. Dates are still

being added, as candidates respond, with times and locations still being determined in some instances. Watch your email with further details to come. Also check

the LWVSWSCV Facebook and the Web Site calendar occasionally as events are added as confirmed but too late for the Voter. **Stay Tuned For More to Come!**



Candidate Forums



Campbell City Council

September 19 • 7-9 P.M.

Campbell City Council Chambers
70 N. 1st Street, Campbell

Donald Young

**Rich Waterman • Susan Landry
Phil Reynolds**

State Senate District #15

September 29 • 7-9 P.M.

Campbell City Council Chambers
70 N. 1st Street, Campbell

CA Senator Jim Beall

Assemblywoman Nora Campos

Monte Sereno City Council

October 6 • 7-8:00 P.M.

Monte Sereno Council Chambers
18041 Saratoga-Los Gatos Rd., M. Sereno

Lon Allan • Curtis Rogers

Roman Dimitrov • Rowena Turner

Saratoga City Council

October 11 • 7-8:00 P.M.

Saratoga Civic Center
13777 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga

Manny Cappello

Howard Miller • Dede Smullen

Saratoga School Board

October 11 • 8:15 P.M.

Saratoga Civic Center
13777 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga

**Rue (Rita) Cao • Sophia Kao
Arati Nagaraj**

Los Gatos Town Council

October 13 • 7-9 P.M.

Los Gatos Town Council Chambers
110 E. Main Street, Los Gatos

**Marcia Jensen • Larry Maggio
Barbara Spector**

Los Gatos Union School District

October 20 • 7-8 P.M.

Los Gatos Town Council Chambers
110 E. Main Street, Los Gatos

Mani Farhadi

Daniel Snyder

Stephen Dale Parsons

Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District

October 20 • 8:15-9 P.M.

Los Gatos Town Council Chambers
110 E. Main Street, Los Gatos

Ron Jones

Kyle Park

Rosemary Rossi

Katherine Tseng



Pros & Cons



Saratoga Library

October 3 • 7:00 P.M.

13650 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga

The Meadows

October 4 • 4:00 P.M.

110 Wood Road, Los Gatos

Events are being added. Watch for the October Voter!

!! National Voter Registration Day !!

Our League will be holding a voter registration day at West Valley College on National Voter Registration Day, September 27 from 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. There will be two shifts: 9:00 A.M. – Noon and Noon – 3:00 P.M. If you would like to help out, please contact me. Thanks to Kathy Murfeldt for securing the location and Gail Pedersen for creating the flyer. Eileen Barnes will be working to get the event in the *San Jose Mercury*.

Voter Registration of New Citizens

Thanks go out to the following members for stepping up to help the San Jose/Santa Clara League at the New Citizen Ceremonies on July 21: Helen Athey, Sue Cooney, Nancy Rucker, Barbara Lea, and Pat White. We are providing a real service to the Registrar of Voters Office.

Jackie Costanzo, Voter Registration jjc717@aol.com



VOTERS SERVICE – Voter Registration



LWV National Voter Registration Day is September 27. Our League will be holding a Voter Registration Event at West Valley College from 9A.M. to 3P.M. on that day to register voters.

The November 8 general election is less than 2 months away. The deadline for registering for the election is October 24. As members of the League, we need to continue to encourage our family, neighbors and friends to be registered and to vote.

Registration can be done online at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration or by picking up an application at your county elections office, library, Department of Motor Vehicles offices, or U.S. post office. It is important that your voter registration application be filled out

completely and be postmarked or hand-delivered to your county elections office at least 15 days before the election.

If sharing your address could put you in a life-threatening situation, then you may qualify for the Safe At Home, www.sos.ca.gov/registries/safe-home, confidential address program. Under this program:

- Victims of domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault are able to use a free P.O. box instead of their home address to help them maintain their privacy when receiving first-class mail and registering to vote.
- Safe at Home registrants can receive their voter information and sample ballots at this P.O. box.
- While in the program, participants are required to vote by mail.

Do not apply to register to vote for this program using the Secretary of State's online registration site. Contact the Safe At Home program toll-free at (877) 322-5227 or by using the Safe at Home email, www.sos.ca.gov/registries/safe-home/contact/email-safe-home.

Are You Already Registered to Vote?

To find out if you are currently registered to vote, visit Check Status of Your Voter Registration. www.sos.ca.gov/elections/registration-status.

When to Re-Register to Vote

You will need to re-register to vote when: moving to a new permanent residence, changing your name, or changing your political party choice.

Kathy Murtfeldt, Voters Service Co-Chair

City & Town Council Observers

Campbell: With Mayor Jason Baker and Vice Mayor Liz Gibbons dissenting, the Campbell City Council voted 3 to 2 to delay pursuing a November ballot measure to modernize the city's library and police headquarters. The staff had recommended the delay based on polling results which suggested getting the measure passed could prove difficult. Baker and Gibbons, as well as Librarians from the Santa Clara County Library District, urged the council to proceed with a ballot measure this year due to the age of the library (built in 1975) and the high cost of maintaining it, as well as the fact that the police department continues to work out of portable buildings.

The Portals Project, connecting downtown Campbell with The Pruneyard on Campbell Avenue, had its official ribbon cutting August 5.

Jackie Costanzo, Observer

Los Gatos: August 2, 2016 Data was received for the pilot project weekend

closure of southbound traffic on south Santa Cruz Avenue at Wood Road to determine if weekend beach traffic could be deflected onto Highway 17 and before Highway 9. Results were mixed as downtown did see a reduction in traffic congestion, but the neighboring Ridgecrest Ave was affected by worsening traffic. A motion passed to continue the program on summer weekends through Labor Day. With more data collection and analysis, the town hopes to gain Caltrans cooperation in finding a more permanent solution.

August 9 & 11, 2016 Public hearings were held on the North 40 project. For consideration: the architectural site plan for development of Phase 1. The plan: 270 for-sale residences, multistory, multifamily; 49 low income senior rental apartments with a 50th apartment for the manager; 66,800 sq ft of commercial space including a market hall; open space to include gardens, varied trees. Concerns



regarding traffic, school crowding and whether the project fit into the "look and feel" of the town, were explored. Lengthy public hearings occurred both evenings which included public comments, staff reports, developers' presentations with Q&A, and council discussion. The issue was to continue August 16.

Lynda Jandron, Observer **Monte Sereno**

Monte Sereno: May 3 – No Meeting

Saratoga: August 12 The City Council recommended that the second reading, amending the Smoking and Tobacco Retailer Regulations which had been scheduled for August 17, be waived and adopted the Ordinance. This amends Article 4-90 of the *Tobacco Retailer License* and Article 7-35 of the *Regulation of Smoking in Certain Places* (such as apartment, and condominium buildings, etc.) For a copy of the detailed Ordinances, email cbotelio@saratoga.ca.us.

Raquel Durand, Observer Chair

Position in Brief: Public Higher Education in California



The Study of Public Higher Education in California concluded when the LWVC State Board approved the draft position at their July 23 meeting. Eleanor Yick chaired the statewide study committee, and Wade Ellis also served on this committee. Thank you to Barbara Lea, Ann Roberts, Lois Smallwood, and Wade Ellis who also participated in our League's local study committee. Below is the newly approved position statement.



LWVC supports a comprehensive system of public higher education that serves the personal, professional, and occupational goals of all adult Californians and advances the social, economic, and civic needs of the state. To achieve these objectives, public higher education must prioritize access, affordability, equity, and excellence. These priorities require state funding, including student financial aid, that is stable, predictable, sustainable, and timely.

Positions

Purpose

1. Support a comprehensive system of public higher education that provides access to educational opportunities to advance both individual and public goals. Support measures that:

- provide post-secondary opportunities for personal and professional growth;
- sustain upward economic mobility across all population groups;
- advance the economic and civic goals of local communities and the state;
- provide and maintain a steady stream of educated Californians to ensure leadership from all sectors of society.

Equity

- Support equitable access to public higher education and equitable rates of completion. Support measures that:
 - increase the diversity of enrollment and completion rates in the community colleges and public four-year universities to reflect the diversity of the state's population;
 - increase the initial freshman enrollment in public four-year universities of qualified California high school graduates from low income and underrepresented minority groups.

- provide effective specialized services for those students (such as emancipated foster youth, veterans, disabled, homeless, incarcerated, first generation, and/or low income) who need additional support to facilitate their successful certificate or degree completion.

Funding and Financial Aid

3. Support state funding for California public higher education and student financial aid. Support measures that:

- ensure funding that meets the objectives of public higher education;
- ensure funding that is stable, predictable, and timely;
- ensure that the full cost of higher education attendance, including tuition, fees, food, housing, transportation, books or other educational materials, is affordable for all qualified students, regardless of their family's financial circumstances;
- share the full cost of attendance in public higher education between government and students or their families based on ability to pay;
- provide adequate funding for services for students with special circumstances, such as emancipated foster youth, veterans, disabled, homeless, incarcerated, first generation, and/or low-income students;
- provide effective counseling to enable students and their families to plan and access financing for their college education;
- develop additional revenue sources for public higher education as needed.

Preparedness

4. Support programs that foster coordination and articulation between pK-12 school districts and public higher education so that all high school graduates are prepared for college-level coursework and/or gainful employment. Support measures that:

- expand opportunities for high school students to begin earning college credits in high school;
- advise all students and their families about the wide range of career and college opportunities;
- provide outreach to students from underrepresented communities,

disadvantaged, low income, and first generation students while they are still in the pK-12 system to encourage and assist with college applications for admission and financial aid.

Degree Completion

5. Support programs that increase attainment of certificates, and associate, baccalaureate, and professional degrees. Support measures that:

- improve articulation among the three higher education sectors to construct curriculum pathways that enable students to transfer smoothly to four-year universities;
- increase enrollment capacity at the four-year universities to serve more transfers and entering freshman;
- utilize research-based models to increase baccalaureate degree attainment and coordination of the three higher education sectors;
- support the implementation and evaluation of evidence-based improvements in curriculum, instruction and placement to enhance student success and degree attainment.

Workforce Development and Adult Education

6. Support access to credit, non-credit, and workforce training and development. Support measures that:

- expand and increase completion of programs, including certificate programs, that fulfill labor needs and enable people to be trained/retrained for meaningful jobs and careers ;
- provide credit and non-credit adult education courses with entry-level opportunities into post-secondary education, courses such as English as a Second Language, and/or support lifelong learning.

Improving California Public Higher Education

7. Support a comprehensive system of public higher education with viable access points for all adult Californians. Support measures that:

- continue to prioritize the dual values of access and excellence that were

Continued on Next Page.

Position in Brief: Public Higher Education in California (Cont.)

embedded in the 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education;

b. create a mechanism, such as an oversight body, to improve coordination and articulation among the three higher education sectors;

c. evaluate the functioning and efficacy of higher education as a system;

d. provide non-partisan analysis and recommendations for improvement;

e. develop a longitudinal student database to track enrollment, transfer and completion rates across all three higher education sectors and provide feedback to pK-12 schools;

f. expand the use of new technologies, such as online education, that increase student access and success.

To reference this position on the LWVC site, go to <https://lwvc.org/our-work/positions/position-public-higher-education>.

Eleanor Yick, Education Chair

Join the Local Election Finance Study

We are seeking members for a Local Election Finance study, which our SWSCV League will conduct later this year.

During our League's 2016-17 annual planning meeting, it was decided to carry out a Local Election Finance study. The study is a follow-up to a survey of local election finance regulations that our League conducted last year as part of the "Money in Politics" study. This new study will review and analyze information on local

election financing and reporting laws for nearby cities in Santa Clara County. The objective is to understand best practices, educate our membership, and improve transparency on local election financing and regulation. The results will be used to craft and suggest a best practices position on election financing and transparency regulations and compared to current laws in Campbell, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, and Saratoga for consideration by our local elected officials.

If you are interested in participating in the study, please contact Danice and Tom Picraux at dpicraux@gmail.com or (408)356-8129. The main work of the study will be conducted after the fall elections. We anticipate that only a couple of meetings will be required since much of the preliminary work has already been completed.

Danice & Tom Picraux

LWV Presents: Insights & Perspectives

CreaTV Channel 30 airs non-commercial, member-produced videos that educate, express views, and expose talents to the San Jose community and beyond. LWV San Jose-Santa Clara is producing shows to further the mission to inform and encourage active participation in government through education and advocacy.

There are shows that may be of particular interest relative to the current elections during the next couple of months. The subjects presented are in support of ballot measures, voting history and voter rights.

Schedule of Airings in September:

Sunday, August 28, 6 A.M., 4:30 P.M.;
Monday, August 29 12:30 A.M.

Rosaleen Zisch interviews Maryann Haggerty Vice President, LWV SJSC and expert on civics, about 2016 elections and the history of voting in the US. To watch the past airing of this video, go to www.creatvsj.org/207-2/?showid=27000&channel=6

Monday, September 5, 7:30 P.M.; Monday, September 19, 7:30 P.M.

Gloria Chun Hoo interviews Carl Guardino, CEO of Silicon Valley Leadership

Group, on Santa Clara County Measure B, on transportation.

Monday, September 12, 7:30 P.M.

Rosaleen Zisch interviews Jennifer Loving, Executive Director, Destination: Home and Dave Cortese, President of the SCC Board of Supervisors on Measure A, Affordable Housing.

Recent recorded broadcasts:

Gloria Chun Hoo interviews Helen Hutchison, President, LWV California on League priorities, voter registration, voting rights, and governance. To watch this video, go to www.creatvsj.org/207-2/?showid=26998&channel=6.

Rosaleen Zisch interviews Elizabeth Leslie about Voter's Edge California, a one-stop shop for voting information, federal, state, and local candidates, and ballot measures. To watch this video, go to www.creatvsj.org/207-2/?showid=26999&channel=6.

Watch CREATV Channel 30 shows on your computer with an internet connection at www.creatvsj.org/watch/ch-30.

Great Decisions 2017

Great Decisions for 2017 will be held at the same times and place as this year. The eight sessions will be on the first and third Thursdays of February, March, April, and May from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M. We will meet in the Oak Room in the Senior Annex of the Saratoga Senior Center.

Below is a list of the topics we will discuss.

1. EU
2. Trade
3. China
4. Gulf Cooperation Council/Saudi Arabia
5. Geopolitics of Energy
6. Latin America
7. Afghanistan/Pakistan
8. Nuclear Security

Look for an article in October's *Voter* giving detailed information on the cost, where to send your checks and deadlines.

Terry Zaccone, Great Decisions
(408) 257-6575



Vote With the League

Prop 51 School Bonds

Yes

K-12 & Community College – Provide funds for facilities needs

Prop 54 Legislative Transparency Act

Yes

Every bill must be in print and posted online for 72 hours before it passes out of either house—preventing last-minute, closed-door changes. A video recording of every public meeting of the Legislature must be posted online in a timely way.

Prop 55 School Bonds

Yes

Continuing income tax rates on top 2% Californians to spend on education and other services.

Prop 57 Public Safety & Restoration

Yes

Restores authority of judges, not prosecutors, to decide if juveniles as young as 14 should be tried in adult court. Will also allow earlier parole of nonviolent felons, with sentence credits for good behavior and rehabilitation or education.

Prop 58 Multilingual Education

Yes

Repeals most restrictive parts of Proposition 227 (League opposed) which banned multilingual education 20 years ago.

Prop 59 Constitutional Amendment Advisory

No

An advisory constitutional amendment which would overturn *Citizens United* (the LWVC position is that *Citizens United* should be repealed but not by a vague and poorly worded constitutional amendment)

Prop 62 Death Penalty Abolition

Yes

Replaces it with life without possibility of parole. It will ensure time in prison is spent in work, with an increased portion of wages going to restitution to victims' families.

Prop 66 Death Penalty Shortening Appeals

No

A poorly written measure could increase the risk of executing an innocent person raising significant constitutional issues

causing more delays, increase taxpayer's costs and add layers of bureaucracy with 400 taxpayer attorneys to meet the demand.

Prop 63 Safety For All

Yes

Gun safety legislation strengthening background checks; makes felons and domestic abusers give up guns after conviction; requires businesses and gun owners to report lost or stolen ammunition or guns; and bans people who have been convicted of gun theft from owning guns.

Prop 65 Plastic Bag Ban Confusion

No

Deceptive measure by plastic bag industry to damage and thwart the hard-won agreement between environmentalists and grocers to rein in plastic bag waste and litter.

Prop 67 Plastic Bag Protection

Yes

Not an intuitive referendum question—voting yes retains the 2014 statewide law prohibiting single-use carroul bags. California grocers and other retailers support the ban.

Prop 56 Cigarette Tax

Neutral

Establishes an increased tax on cigarettes, with the money collected from this tax earmarked for health care and tobacco use prevention.

Because **League positions do not cover the issues in the following measures**, the LWVC is taking no stand on:

Prop 52 State Fees on Hospitals. Federal Medi-Cal Matching Funds

Prop 53 Revenue Bonds. Statewide Voter Approval

Prop 60 Adult Films. Condoms. Health Requirements

Prop 61 State Prescription Drug Purchases. Pricing Standards

Prop 64 Marijuana Legalization.

Read full details at: <https://lwvc.org/news/ballot-measure-recommendations-november-8-2016-general-election>.

LWVC Advocacy List Serve

The LWVC has just established LWV California Advocacy, a forum for League action. This Google Group is available for sharing action activities, both statewide and local, and asking questions. While all local Presidents and Action Chairs, along

with the LWVC Legislative Consultants and Program Directors, have been invited to join, the Google Group is also open to all members interested in advocacy. You may join at <https://lwvc.org/stay-informed>.



Santa Clara County Transportation Measure B

I usually don't bother my friends about elections, but I'm tired of sitting in traffic and dodging potholes on our crumbling roads. I just wanted to let you know that I am supporting *Measure B: For Better Commutes and Better Roads*. Measure B promises better roads and better commutes by providing local funding to fill potholes, maintain our roads, and reduce traffic throughout Santa Clara County.

Not only will this help our roads, this initiative will finish the BART extension to downtown San Jose and Santa Clara, linking to Caltrain, which will serve 90,000 daily trips and finally fund rapid rail around the Bay.

Join me, along with Senator Dianne Feinstein, the San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce, the League of Conservation Voters, and the League of Women Voters in supporting Measure B to help relieve traffic congestion throughout Silicon Valley.

The full 75-word text for *Measure B* reads as follows:

To relieve traffic, repair potholes; shall VTA enact a 30-year half-cent sales tax to:

- Repair streets, fix potholes in all 15 cities
- Finish BART Extension to downtown San Jose and Santa Clara

- Improve bicycle/pedestrian safety, especially near schools
- Increase Caltrain capacity, easing highway congestion, improving safety at crossings
- Relieve traffic on all nine expressways, key highway interchanges
- Enhance transit for seniors, students, disabled
- Mandate annual audits by independent citizens watchdog committee to ensure accountability.

Carl Guardino, CEO, Silicon Valley Leadership Group,

Woman Nominee for President

This is the League's Response to the First Woman Nominee for President of the United States by a Major Political Party

The League does not support or oppose candidates running for a political office. Therefore talking points were developed, following a lively and frank conversation at the 52nd LWVUS national convention, about the League commenting on the historic milestone of the first woman nominated as the presidential candidate for a major political party. If asked, please refer to and use the talking points listed at this LWVUS web site, <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/talking-points-first-woman-nominee-president-major-political-party>. Questions may be directed to Maggie Bush at mbush@lwv.org.

Election Funding Action

Help California Reform Campaign Funding!

SB 1107 gives local governments the flexibility to fight big money in politics by publicly funding elections. The LWVC asks you to tell your Assembly member to vote yes on SB 1107 to help restore public trust and strengthen our representative democracy.

SB 1107 will remove a 28-year-old ban on public financing of campaigns, helping state and local governments level the playing field for those wishing to run for public office. This bill will support election innovation, including voluntary programs like those already in place in six California charter cities, but it does not require any government to offer public financing.

Act Now! Use the following LWVC link to contact your Assembly member. www.congressweb.com/lwvofCA/2.

More LWV Advocacy State

Here in California, LWVC is supporting AB 2466, which would codify voting rights of those convicted of low-level nonviolent felonies serving time in county jails or living in communities under supervision. In 2011, the Secretary of State stripped these people of their voting rights, but in 2014, the LWVC won a court victory reaffirming their right to vote. AB 2466 would provide state-wide protection of the voting rights of this population.

National

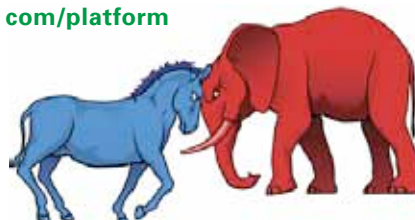
Voting Rights Victories in North Carolina, Texas and Wisconsin; the League of Women Voters North Carolina won an important victory when a federal appeals court found that the North Carolina legislature had deliberately targeted racial minorities when it passed laws which eliminated Sunday voting, preregistration, a week of early voting, same day registration, out-of-precinct voting, and imposed stringent voter ID requirements. A lower court had upheld the law in April, but the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals, known to be conservative, disagreed and struck down the law on August 3. Federal appellate courts have also recently struck down voter suppression laws in Texas and Wisconsin.

Party Platforms

Republican & Democratic

Now that the "exciting" conventions are over, you can read the very important platforms of each party. It's important to know what each of the candidates stands for.

Republican: www.gop.com/platform
Democratic: www.demconvention.com/platform



Leagues of Women Voters Endorses Affordable Housing Bond Measure A

The Leagues of Women Voters of Santa Clara County has endorsed the county's affordable housing bond measure that will appear on the November 8 ballot.

"This measure is a significant step in addressing the most pressing issue facing thousands of residents across our county – the lack of affordable housing options," said Roberta Hollimon, chairwoman of the County Council of the Leagues of Women Voters, which represents all cities in the county. "The League supports the affordable housing bond for its ability to drive immediate and long-term positive outcomes and benefits for many individuals and families of Santa Clara County, from our homeless communities to our working families."

Members of the Leagues noted that the affordable housing measure supports a number of the organization's positions. The group identified the bond as an important mechanism in addressing the homeless crisis in Santa Clara County, where the region is estimated to have the



<http://yesonaffordablehousing.org>

fourth largest homeless population of all major metropolitan areas in the nation.

"The affordable housing bond measure aligns with fundamental League positions, first and foremost supporting the basic human need that everyone should have access to a safe and affordable home," Hollimon said. "The measure is consistent with our strong positions about clean air and climate change. By ensuring more affordable homes near job centers and transit, we will reduce traffic congestion and reduce polluting greenhouse gases."

Hollimon commended the measure language for its inclusion of financial

accounting and public review provisions. Annual audits are required and will be reviewed by an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee.

Proponents said Santa Clara County will work with private and nonprofit housing construction companies to build the housing and will use portions of the funds for land acquisition to build the needed housing.

Supporters of the \$950 million bond measure claim that it will create safe, affordable homes for local residents, including the homeless, seniors, veterans, people with disabilities and low-income and working families.

If approved by two-thirds of voters, the bond will provide \$700 million for affordable housing, \$100 million for affordable housing for low-income families and \$150 million for affordable housing and programs for working families.

Reprinted with permission from Los Altos Town Crier – Original article by Los Altos Town Crier Staff, August 12, 2016

Join the League of Women Voters or Give a Gift of Membership

Name: _____ Date: _____

Membership Renewal: ☐ New Member: ☐ Check# _____

An (Elected or Appointed) Public Official: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work/Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Membership year is from July 1 to June 30. Members joining after January 1 shall pay one-half the annual dues amount. Dues and contributions to the League are not tax deductible. Contributions to the Education Fund are deductible to the extent allowed by law. Joining at the local level makes

you a member at all levels: County, Bay Area, State, and National. Financial assistance is available; please address questions regarding membership to Chata Alfaro at calfaro@aol.com or call 408-374-5077 and Sharon Graham at sharona.graham@gmail.com or call 408-204-2585.

Mail this coupon with your dues to:

LWV Southwest Santa Clara Valley
PO Box 2865
Saratoga, CA 95070-0865

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\$ _____ Household \$120.00

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\$ _____ **Total Enclosed**

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(include as a separate check)

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❧ Event Calendar ❧

- Sep 7 Wed **Board Meeting**, 10:00 A.M. Saratoga Fire Station
- Sep 8 Thu **Clip 'n Come**, Noon, Bring Salad/Food & Clipping to Share Home of Dale Hill, 150 Robin Way, Los Gatos
Call (408) 356-7679 **Please let hostess know you will be coming.**
- Sep 15 Thu **New Citizens' Voter Registration** 10-11:30 A.M. & 1-2:30 P.M.
Campbell Community Center, 1 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell
- Sep 19 Mon **Candidates Forum, Campbell City Council**, 7-9:00 P.M.
Campbell City Council Chambers, 70 N. 1st St, Campbell
- Sep 27 Tue **!!National Voter Registration Day!!**
West Valley College, 14000 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga
- Sep 29 Thu **Candidates Forum, State Senate District #15**, 7-9:00 P.M.
Campbell City Council Chambers, 70 N. 1st St, Campbell

❧ Save the Date ❧

Candidates Forums and Pro & Cons

See page 4 & Watch For Emails, Facebook Postings and the Web Site Calendar

Contact Information for LWVSWSCV

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Facebook:

www.facebook.com/lwvswscv

Twitter: [lwv_swscv](https://twitter.com/lwv_swscv)

Mission Statement: The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League neither supports nor opposes political candidates and parties, but does take action on issues. League membership is open to all women and men who are U.S. Citizens and of voting age.