

LWW[®] Voter

of Southwest Santa Clara Valley



Serving Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, & Campbell

September, 2018

2018 Election Events

Candidate Forums

Campbell City Council

Mon • Sept 17 • 7-8 P.M.

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

**Elizabeth Gibbons • Anne Souza
Annie Bybee • Daraius Sorabji
Paul Resnikoff**

Campbell Union HS Dist.

Mon • Sept 17 • 8:15 P.M.

Campbell City Council Chambers
70 N. First St., Campbell

**Kristinal Arrasmith • Basil Saleh
Stacey Brown • Robert Varich**

Monte Sereno City Council

Tues • Sept 25 • 7-8:00 P.M.

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

**Liz Lawler • Evert Wolsheimer
Javel Ellahie • Benjamin MacLean
Shawn Leuthold • Ronald Leniak**

Los Gatos Town Council

Thur • September 27 • 7:00 P.M.

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

**Marico Sayoc • Larry Maggio
Rob Rennie • Steve Leonardis**

Los Gatos/Saratoga Joint

Union High School District

Thur • September 27 • 8:00 P.M.

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

**Cynthia Chang • Denise Herrera
David Guidry • Peter Herten**



Pros & Cons

Los Gatos Library

Sat • September 15 • 2:00 P.M.
100 Villa Ave., Los Gatos

Saratoga Library

Tues • September 18 • 7:00 P.M.
13650 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga

Campbell Library

Mon • October 2 • 7:00 P.M.
77 Harrison Ave., Campbell

Free Screening of DARK MONEY



Sat • September 22 • 10 A.M.

Saratoga Library

Community Room

13650 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga

Q&A Following Film with

Ann Ravel

Former Chair
Federal Elections Commission

Open to the Public with Free Parking

Further Details On Page 5.

Mission Statement: The League of Women Voters is a diversified, nonpartisan political group of women and men, influencing public policy through education and advocacy and encouraging informed and active participation in government.



LWVC Diversity & Equity Task Force



The LWVC Board appointed Gloria Chun Hoo, LWVC Vice President; Syeda Inamdar, LWV Fremont Newark Union City; Adena Ishii, LWV Berkeley Albany Emeryville; and Dawna Williams, LWV Oakland to the newly formed Diversity and Equity Task Force. In addition to providing input on

the LWVC nominating committee process, and 2019 Convention planning, the task force will spend the coming months developing goals and structures for the equity work and identifying additional prospective members for the Task Force.

If you are interested in working with the Equity Task Force, please reach out to Gloria Chun Hoo. If you want to know more about the equity work the LWVC is doing, contact equity@lwvc.org.

Gloria Chun Hoo, LWVC Vice President
ghoo@lwvc.org

Learn more about the LWVUS Transformation Roadmap regarding diversity:
www.lwv.org/league-management/policies-guidelines/transformation-roadmap
Listen to the recording of a webinar:
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/3924605991657810178>

President's Letter

Election Season is upon us!! Since one of the League's primary missions is to promote an educated voter, our League has already scheduled many Candidate Forums and Pros & Cons. We hope that each one of you will take advantage of these presentations and attend one or more and bring along a friend or neighbor. This year, there are eleven state ballot measures plus four local measures. The just released *League Recommendations* re: each ballot measure can be found on page 4. And, please do plan to attend our League kick-off program on September 22 with the free showing of the documentary film, *Dark Money*, at the Saratoga Library!! **Do you know how dark money is influencing our elections?**

In thinking about the upcoming election, I'd like to quote Carrie Chapman Catt, founder of the League of Women Voters, upon the ratification of the 19th Amendment affirming women's right to vote, and re-affirm our need today to remember this hard-won right to use our voice to make a difference,

"The vote is the emblem of your equality, women of America, the guaranty of your liberty. That vote of yours has cost millions of dollars and the lives of thousands of women. Women have suffered agony of soul which you never can comprehend, that you and your daughter might inherit political freedom. That vote has been costly. Prize it!"

Eleanor Yick, LWVSWSCV President

Sustainable Water is Key

"[T]he key environmental challenge of the 21st Century may be the globally sustainable management of water resources" according to a NASA study released in May 2018. State LWV positions support water conservation and encourage wastewater reclamation to minimize reliance on water exported through and around the Delta. And the California State Water Resources Control Board observed in 2009, we should "move toward clean, abundant, local water for California by emphasizing appropriate water recycling, water conservation, ...and the use of

stormwater...; these sources of supply are drought-proof, reliable, and minimize our carbon footprint and can be sustained over the long-term." Unfortunately, local water district wholesaler, Santa Clara Valley Water District, is still looking to imported rather than local water to satisfy perceived county demands, in the process risking millions of ratepayers' dollars on the huge twin tunnels project..

To read Meg Giberson's full article go to <https://my.lwv.org/california/southwest-santa-clara-valley/voter-newsletter>.



The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area Education Fund publishes the *Bay Area Monitor* six times a year. The publication covers policies, plans, programs, and legislation that affect quality of life in the Bay Area and beyond.

In addition to receiving the Monitor by email, subscribers can receive weekly bulletins with Monitor article updates, regional policy news, and announcements from local

Leagues regarding events or activities that relate to the Monitor's coverage areas of transportation, air, water, open space, housing and land use.

To receive these emails, League members can sign up at

<http://bayareamonitor.org/subscribe>.

The *Monitor* is provided to readers for free, both in print and online at www.bayareamonitor.org.

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/bayareamonitor.

Contact us for more information: (510) 839-1608 • editor@bayareamonitor.org.

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League of Women Voters

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lwv.swscv@gmail.com



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Telephone: 510-839-1608
Fax: 510 839-1610
<http://lwvba.ca.lwvnet.org>

LWV California

Phone: 916-442-7215
Fax: 916 442-7362
<http://ca.lwv.org>

LWV of the United States

Phone: 202-429-1965
Fax: 202-429-0854
<http://www.lwv.org>

Board Bytes - Meeting of June 20, 2018

Approved:

- A motion to start moving our *Membership Directory* into a digital version. We'll continue to support the paper copy while working on the electronic database, with the goal of moving the *Directory* online completely next year.



Discussed:

- The content of the current version of *Board By-laws* and *Policy & Procedures. Articles I-V* were reviewed with several changes suggested to make the *By-laws* comply with the *State By-laws* reflecting the current practice of our Board.
- The new format of the *Voter* and what is to be included each month. The new format can be seen starting in August's *Voter*.
- Observer reports to be kept to bullet points and limited to issues related League positions. Other long reports are to be shortened with links to full story online on the website.

Learned:

- We finished last year with a very healthy financial status due to an increase in membership enrollment.
- A sub-committee was formed and recommended the adoption of a new membership software: Member Planet.
- We have many new members joining us this year, several of them also stepping up to chair various committees.
- The program calendar was updated and the kick-off screening event/film, *Dark Money*, is scheduled to take place at the Saratoga Library on September 22.
- Training will be held on August 28 & 29 to equip volunteers to assist in the upcoming Candidate and Pros & Cons Forums.

Sophia Kao, Secretary

Voter Registration of New Citizens

June 14 was our League's turn to man the New Citizens Ceremonies to register new voters. **Thanks to Claudia Aden, Meg Giberson and MaryAnn Palmer** (who joined our League after volunteering!). Since we were short on volunteers, I also invited another friend who helped and I'm hoping will want to join in the future.

August 23 and September 20 will be Palo Alto League's turn to provide volunteers, but of course our members may always drop in to help as well. It's an action-packed hour of volunteer time and the enthusiasm of the new citizens is contagious!

Contact me, at the email address below, if you are interested in volunteering. We will have a new calendar of ceremonies come October. **Thanks for your support!**

Jackie Costanzo, Voter Registration jjc717@aol.com

The most important political office is that of the private citizen.

Louis D. Brandeis

LWV of California Recommends – Vote With the League

November 6, 2018 General Election



Prop 1 Veterans & Affordable Housing Bond **YES**

California is experiencing a housing crisis. The state's extreme shortage of affordable housing has life and death consequences, especially for people with low incomes. Housing instability has been linked to public health crises, food insecurity, and developmental problems in children. Prop 1 will build and preserve affordable homes, including supportive housing, for veterans, working families, people with disabilities, Californians experiencing homelessness and others struggling to find a safe place to call home. It will authorize \$4 billion in general obligation bonds, to be used to support these affordable housing programs. It would also leverage federal dollars for construction of new housing.

Prop 2 Homeless Housing Bond **YES**

A quarter of the nation's homeless reside in California—over 130,000 people. A significant percentage of our homeless population suffers from mental illness. Prop 2 allows the use of unspent money, originally allocated through a 2004 measure to fund mental health services, to be used to address the problem. If passed, the unspent money would be used to provide permanent supportive housing for people who need mental health services, and are either currently homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Prop 3 Water Bond **NO**

It is essential that California manage and develop water resources in ways that benefit the environment, and that the environmental focus emphasizes both conservation and use-appropriate high water quality standards. However, this bond is not the way to accomplish those goals. While the League of Women Voters of California supports the use of long-term debt (bond measures) to finance capital projects, this measure has a number of fatal flaws, including:

- Shifting the cost for water from the end users to California taxpayers;
- Reducing state money available for other critical state programs like education, affordable housing, and healthcare;
- Failing to provide for adequate project oversight and financial accountability.

Prop 4 Children's Hospital Bond **NO**

While the League of Women Voters of California supports quality healthcare for all Californians, Prop 4 would use \$1.5

billion in public, general obligation bond money to support privately-owned children's hospitals, along with five children's hospitals in the University of California system. State funds should not be used to support private facilities. This principle stands even when, as is the case in this measure, the facilities serve severely ill children. The bond money would be used for construction, expansion, renovation, and equipment projects. These are capital improvements that could be funded either through revenues the private hospitals generate or through capital campaigns (where, for example, a building is named after a donor).

Prop 5 Property Tax **NO**

Property taxes are the major source of funding for schools and local services. Prop 5 is a costly constitutional amendment that would reduce funds for schools and local services by \$1 billion per year. In exchange for that \$1 billion a year, Prop 5 would provide special tax benefits to some property owners. It does nothing to help low-income seniors, or families struggling to find housing. Seniors already have the ability to keep their tax break when they downsize. Prop 5 drains California's coffers of money that is essential to schools and communities.

Prop 6 Gas Tax Repeal **NO**

California is in critical need of highway and local street repairs and maintenance, and improvements to mass transit and transportation. Prop 6 would repeal the recently-enacted 2017 package of taxes and fees approved by the State Legislature to fund transportation projects, amounting to a loss of \$4.7 billion in annual funding. The measure would also add a constitutional amendment requiring any fuel or diesel taxes to be approved by voters, limiting the legislature's ability to address California's serious infrastructure needs. Passage of this repeal measure would have significant negative impacts and leave our state structures vulnerable, especially during natural disasters.

Prop 10 Repeal Costa Hawkins **YES**

Multiple strategies are needed to address the significant housing shortages and inequities that exist across California. While this rent control measure offers little systemic progress, and may not result in adding new affordable housing units, it does allow local communities to respond to the housing crisis in ways that are appropriate for each of them. We support providing local communities with this control.

Please Note: Because League positions do not cover the issues in the following measures, the LWVC is taking no stand on Prop 7 (Daylight Savings Time), Prop 8 (Dialysis), Prop 11 (Ambulance Drivers), and Prop 12 (Farm Animals). Prop 9 was removed from the ballot by court decision.

Free Screening of the Film *Dark Money*



Dark Money is a 2018 documentary directed by filmmaker Kimberly Reed about the effects of corporate money and influence in the American political system. The film uses Reed's home state of Montana as a primary case study to advance a broader, national discussion on governance in an era of super PACs and *Citizens United*. The 90 minute film follows an intrepid Montana journalist as he works to expose the impact of the

US Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision on elections.

Ann Ravel, League member and former Chair of the Federal Election Commission (FEC), nominated by President Barack Obama in June of 2013, will respond to questions at the end of the showing. **We welcome your questions!** She served as Chair of the Commission for 2015 and Vice Chair for 2014. Previously she served as Chair of the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), to which Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., appointed her. Before joining the FPPC, she served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Torts and Consumer Litigation in the Civil Division of the United States Department of Justice. Ms. Ravel also worked as an attorney in the Santa Clara County Counsel's

Office, ultimately serving as the appointed County Counsel from 1998 until 2009. She will respond to audience questions at the end of the showing.

This event is being co-sponsored by the League and the Saratoga Library on September 22 at 10:00 A.M. at 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga.

This event is **free and open to the general public**. For questions, contact: lwv.swscv@gmail.com or 408-LWV (598)-1842 and the Saratoga Library www.sccl.org/saratoga or (408) 867-6126.

Parking: Though parking is available at the Library, should the Library's parking lot be full, additional parking can be found across Saratoga Avenue at Saint Andrews Church.

We hope many will come join us and participate in the discussion.

Eleanor Yick, President LWVSWSCV



Santa Clara County Sheriff Candidate Forum



The only LWV-sponsored Candidate Forum for Sheriff in Santa Clara County

Monday • October 8, 2018 • 7–8:30 P.M.

Cupertino Quinlan Community Center

10350 Torre Ave., Cupertino



Meet and hear from the two candidates for sheriff.

What are their ideas for law enforcement?

How will they protect the County?

Why are they running for office?

Sponsored by the SCC Leagues of Women Voters

You can submit questions via email to

lwvforumquestions@sclaraco.ca.lwvnet.org



<https://votersedge.org/ca>

A joint project of MapLight and the LWV California Education Fund, Voter's Edge is a comprehensive, nonpartisan online

guide to elections covering federal, state, and local races in the state of California.

- Access your full, personalized ballot by entering your address.

- View candidate biographies, top priorities, funders, and endorsements.

- Read explanations of ballot measures along with who supports, opposes, and funds them.

- Check where, when, and how to vote, including information on your local polling locations.

- Keep track of your choices to make voting easier.

- Cell phones or tablets can also be used.

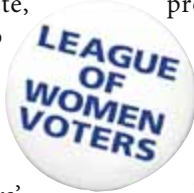
How It Works: Enter your zip code and your street address to access your complete ballot.

City & Town Council Observers

Campbell: The City Council has directed a code amendment to allow dogs on 6-foot leashes in all Campbell parks, excluding children's play areas, swimming pools, the athletic field track and the garden areas in the Civic Center.

The Council voted to place a general obligation bond measure expected to raise \$50 Million on the November ballot. If approved by a two-thirds vote, the money would be used to fund construction of a new police station and an overhaul of the library. The bond would increase commercial and residential property owners' annual tax bills by \$19 for every \$100,000 of assessed value.

The administrator of the city's below market rate (BMR) housing program, HouseKeys, performs financial background checks on program applicants and conducts lotteries for available house units. They currently administer 42 rental units and 78 ownership program units.



Jackie Costanzo, Observer

Los Gatos: – Council members focused on the North 40 specific plan as it affects Phase Two. The moratorium on accepting developer applications expired, and developers can now submit development applications, or they can negotiate agreements with the Town. Grosvenor, developer of Phase One, proposed increasing housing units in Phase Two. Nearby residents favor commercial development instead.

Lynda Jandron, Observer

Monte Sereno: August 7 – Considerable discussion was held re: a potential referendum on the November 2018 ballot that: Consider repealing Resolution No. 3621, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Monte Sereno Amending the Monte Sereno General Plan to Create a Public/Residential Multi-Family Land Use Designation and to Amend the Land Use Designation for that Certain Property Located at 17765 Daves Avenue

City & Town Councils

Members are encouraged to attend the Council meetings of the cities that our League serves.

Campbell City Council

1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 7:30P.M.

Los Gatos Town Council

1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 7:00P.M.

Monte Sereno City Council

1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 7:00P.M.

Saratoga City Council

1st & 3rd Wednesdays – 7:00P.M.

as Public/Residential Multi-Family" and canceling the election for purposes of the referendum challenging Resolution No. 3621. No decision was made at this meeting. At the subsequent special meeting held on August 14, the Council voted to rescind the zoning on the church and remove the referendum from the November election ballot.

Renate Lytle, Observer

Moving the Needle on Voter Engagement in Our State & Local Communities

Join LWV Palo Alto's Fall Program Kick-Off



Special Guest Speaker
Helen Hutchison
President of
League of Women
Voters
of California

Thursday • September 20 • 7–9 P.M.

**First Congregational Church
Harmony Hall**

1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto

Free Parking on Louis Road

Desserts and Refreshments Will Be Served

Get Inspired to Take Action on Voting, Voter Education, and Voter rights

RSVP at: www.eventbrite.com/e/moving-the-needle-on-voter-engagement-and-turnout-tickets-48752420803

Help Promote Our League

Please help get the word out about our fantastic League!

Write a positive review on our Yelp listing: <https://www.yelp.com/biz/league-of-women-voters-southwest-santa-clara-valley-saratoga>.

If you live in Cupertino or San Jose, help post League events to NextDoor. Contact Gail Nishimura gailnishimura@me.com if interested.

Successful LWV Wine & Cheese Social for 2018!

This summer our League organized a Wine & Cheese social. There was a good turnout of members, new members and a

couple of prospective members to meet and greet. An enjoyable time was had by all who attended.



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 the LWVSWSCV at, lwwswscv@gmail.com. Your contact information will be added to our membership database and our published *Membership Directory*.

Mail this coupon with your dues to:

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

\$ _____ Individual \$80.00

\$ _____ Household \$120.00

\$ _____ Student \$30.00

\$ _____ Voter Mailed to You \$20.00

\$ _____ **Total Enclosed**

\$ _____ Donation to LWV-SWSCV Ed Fund
(include as a separate check)

Support LWV SWSCV Supporters!

We appreciate the support of the following businesses and business professionals!

Please remember to mention seeing these ads when you utilize these businesses' services.

THE STORE FOR NATURE LOVERS



Los Gatos Birdwatcher

Lisa Myers Owner

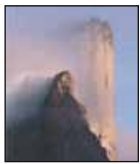
Kings's Court Shopping Center

792 Blossom Hill Rd., Los Gatos, CA 95032

408-358-9453 fax 408-358-4673

info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com

Mon - Fri 10am - 6pm Sun 5pm



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www.whitehouse.gov

Senator Dianne Feinstein

(415) 393-0707

www.feinstein.senate.gov

Senator Kamala Harris

(415) 403-0100

<http://harris.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>

We the People

❧ Event Calendar ❧

- Sep 5 Wed **Board Meeting**, 10:00 A.M. Saratoga Fire Station
- Sep 13 Thu **Clip 'n Come**, Noon, Bring Salad/Food & Clipping to Share Home of Pat White, contact patwh.athome@gmail.com
Please let hostess know you will be coming.
- Sep 22 Sat **Dark Money** with **Ann Ravel**, 10:00 A.M.
Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue,
- Sep 25 Tue **National Voters Registration Day**

❧ Save the Date ❧

- Oct TBD TBD **Political Book Club, will resume again!**
- Oct 8 Mon **Sheriff Candidate Forum**, 7 P.M.
Cupertino Quinlan Community Center
- Oct 22 Mon Last Day to Register to Vote

Contact Information for LWVSWSCV

Phone: 408-lwv-1842/408-598-1842	Email: lwv.swscv@gmail.com	Web: www.lwv-sw-santaclara-valley.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/lwvswscv	Twitter: lwv_swscv	Instagram Name: lwv.swscv