



League of Women Voters of Monterey County



The

VOTER



Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / April 2017, Volume 89, Number 7

Wednesday, April 12, 2017 **Supervisor Mary Adams' First 100 Days**

Mary Adams, newly elected **Monterey County Supervisor**, will tell us about her experiences thus far in her first term. As **Representative 5th District**, her constituents are the people of Carmel, Carmel Valley, Big Sur, Pacific Grove, Pebble Beach, Monterey, Highway 68, and Las Palmas, but of course, her actions affect everyone in the County. And as we all know, these last three months have been very eventful with issues related to immigration and Mother Nature dominating the Supervisors' agenda.



During Mary's 14 years as **CEO of United Way Monterey County**, she helped raise \$50 million to provide crucial services for thousands of local people. She worked with the County on many of these issues, helping homeless children, providing meals for seniors, preventing gang violence, and increasing economic opportunity for working families. Mary helped in solving many problems by bringing people together. Prior to United Way, Mary held senior leadership positions at the **American Cancer Society** and the **American Heart Foundation**, where she took on Big Tobacco, helped save hundreds of millions in funding for public health programs, and reduced tobacco-related illness and death in California. When revenue for these health programs was later threatened, Mary was brought back to save the funding, and received the American Heart Association's **Time, Feeling, Focus Award** for her work.

Mary Adams earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Management from **Saint Mary's College**.
Janet Brennan, JanetB@MontereyBay.com

LWVMC April 12, 2017 General Meeting

12 noon **Lunch** / 12:30 to 1:30 **Presentation**
(Lunch \$17 per person: main course, salad, beverages, & dessert by **The Valley Grille**).

Reservations are a must for lunch!

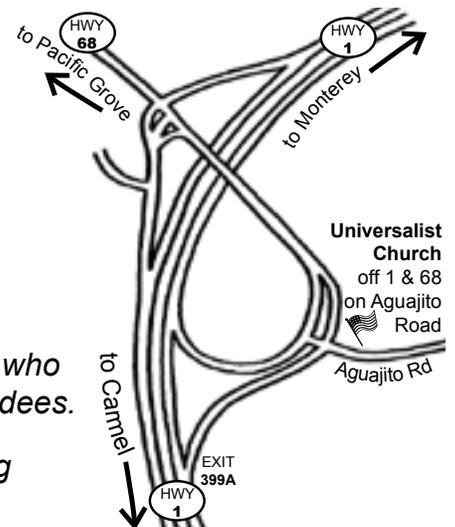
Contact Lorita Fisher by Saturday, April 8.

(phone 375-8301 or e-mail GLFisher@redshift.com)

Pay at the door for lunch: meeting/presentation is **FREE**.

Reminder: The League pays the caterer in advance for everyone who makes a luncheon reservation, and guarantees a minimum of attendees.

L&L meets at: **Unitarian Universalist Church** <http://uucmp.org>
490 Aguajito Road / Carmel CA 93923 (831) 624-7404



WHERE THE ACTION IS

The LWVMC Board directed two letters to be sent to local authorities in March:

March 13, 2017

To: **Monterey County Resource Management Agency - Planning**
168 W. Alisal St., 2nd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901 831-755-5193

Dear Ms Jacqueline R. Onciano, Interim Chief of Planning:

Measure Z, an initiative measure adopted by the voters on November 8, 2016, amends the **Monterey County General Plan** and authorizes the **Monterey County Board of Supervisors** to adopt implementing ordinances, guidelines, rules and regulations to further the purposes of the initiative.



The **League of Women Voters of Monterey County** (LWVMC) believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation at all levels of government. The League further believes that governmental bodies must protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible

We believe that promoting public understanding and participation in decision making are essential elements of responsible and responsive management of our natural resources.

Please include the following comments from LWVMC as you seek public input on the development of procedures to implement Measure Z, including procedures to implement the mandated exemptions.

1. All elements of the implementation process, including the consideration and determination of exemption or amortization extension applications should be fully transparent and allow for public response and participation.
2. Full public notice should be given for each application for exemption or amortization extension, including but not limited to, written or electronic notice of each application to every person who has submitted a request to the Planning Department for notice of such applications.
3. The entirety of each application for exemption or amortization extension with all supporting evidence and materials should be available for public inspection. If an applicant insists that any portion of its application is confidential and cannot be disclosed on proprietary, trade secret, or other grounds, those portions should not be considered in any determinations.
4. Members of the public should be afforded adequate time (minimum of 30 days) to prepare and submit written and oral comments and evidence in response to any application for exemption or amortization extension. Such comments and supporting evidence should be

considered by the Department, Commission and Board in making any determinations on an application.

5. The implementing ordinance should specify detailed written findings that must be made by the Planning Department, Planning Commission and/or Board of Supervisors before approving an application for exemption or amortization extension. Those findings should be based on competent evidence under the existing law.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely, **Janet Brennan**, President LWVMC

15 March 2017

To: **The City Councils of Salinas, Carmel-by-the-Sea, King City, Del Rey Oaks, and Pacific Grove**

The **League of Women Voters of Monterey County** supports local implementation of **Community Choice Energy (CCE)** which allows cities and counties to aggregate the buying power of individual customers within a defined jurisdiction in order to secure alternative energy supply contracts for carbon free energy, while allowing consumers not wishing to participate to opt out.

CCEs can deliver more renewable energy than **PG&E** at the same or lower rates. For example, **Sonoma Clean Power** saved customers \$13 million in its first year, while offering a range of carbon free energy choices. Under CCEs, profit from energy sales that would normally flow to PG&E will stay in the community to help fund renewable energy projects, create jobs and stimulate the local economy.

Our support is based on state League studies leading to support of **SB 350** in 2015, [the **Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act**] a bill requiring 50 percent of our electricity to come from renewable energy sources. The LWV of California also supported **AB 32** in 2006, the **California Global Warming Solutions Act**, which set targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. The League supported SB 32 in 2016 which extends the 2006 **Global Warming Solutions Act** beyond 2020. It increases the goal for greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below the 1990 level by 2030. The League "*recognizes that climate change is real and that its effects are already being seen. This is a critical issue facing our planet that needs to be seriously addressed.*"



The League urges Salinas, Carmel-by-the-Sea, King City, Del Rey Oaks, and Pacific Grove to join the **Joint Powers Agency** now being formed to launch and govern our local CCE, **Monterey Bay Community Power**.

Sincerely,
Janet Brennan, President LWVMC

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF

SPECIAL EVENTS IN MONTEREY COUNTY

A number of special events are held in Monterey County throughout the year. These events range in size from a few hours to week-long multiple events around a theme. They impact the residents and businesses of Monterey County. Questions which our League's **Special Events Impact Subcommittee** are studying include: how do the various jurisdictions in Monterey County handle "special events"; what impact do events have on residents; is there transparency or input by residents; and is there coordination among the various jurisdictions? Some organizations sponsoring special events donate some of their profits to local charities, while others do not.



number of venues where related activities take place, expand attendance size, and increase the number of services provided to attendees.

Can special events be predicted?

Our Subcommittee wondered if an advance centralized calendar was available to residents and tourists (e.g., to plan attendance, avoid crowds, or mitigate traffic). We found that the County and its various cities each keep their own calendars published on the web through Chambers of Commerce, the **Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau (MCCVB)** (<https://www.seemonterey.com>) or local newspapers, but none are coordinated.

What are the largest special events?

According to the MCCVB and the **Monterey County Business Council (MCBC)** (<http://www.mcabc.biz>), the following have the largest attendance (in order of size):

- AT&T National Pro Am** 130,000+
- Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca Events** 118,000+
- Monterey Auto Week & Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance** 85,000+
- Monterey County Fair** 70,000
- Sea Otter Classic** 65,000+
- California Rodeo, Salinas** 50,000+
- Monterey Jazz Festival** 50,000+
- California International Airshow** 40,000+
- Pacific Grove Good Old Days** 40,000
- Artichoke Festival** 30,000+
- Big Sur Marathon** 20,000+

Are impact reports available for special events?

The MCBC surveys individual large special events and commissions reports mainly on their economic impacts. In October 2014, a survey of the **Monterey County Car Week** found that: attendees spent \$53.5 million on hotels,

restaurants, entertainment/sightseeing, car rentals, gas, and retail purchases. This generated \$1.4 million in **Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT)** and \$3.4 million in sales tax.

Why the high amount of TOT?

A majority of visitors during Car Week were from out of town and stayed in hotels/motels. Of these a quarter were from overseas (Germany and Canada topped the list). Attendees from outside Monterey County stayed on average 4.4 nights. During the event, visitors went to Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel Valley, Carmel-by-the Sea, and Pebble Beach (other areas were less frequently visited).

The typical profile for a Car Week attendee was male, middle-aged, wealthy, married, white, college graduate, brought a friend but was not likely to bring children (https://res-1.cloudinary.com/simpleview/image/upload/v1/clients/montereycounty/Car-Week-Economic-Impact-Report--FINAL_22dfdc9e-4437-e663-4aa28c18285a6dfc.pdf).

In contrast to Car Week, the May 2015 MCCVB survey on the **PG Good Old Days** showed a different event: smaller, attended by locals with out-of-towners adding it to their vacation/weekend getaways. Attendees brought along more children but generally traveled as couples. They spent half as much (a mean of \$334 per attendee per day vs \$638 per Car Week attendee per day). The profile of a typical attendee was female, middle-aged, middle-class, married, white, college graduate (https://res-1.cloudinary.com/simpleview/image/upload/v1/clients/montereycounty/PGGOD_Event_Impact_Final_Report_of_Findings_c35ed7d7-51af-4afc-a603-f9c4bf02256b.pdf).

Does Monterey County regulate special events?

While the cities of Monterey County handle special events within their own jurisdictions, unincorporated Monterey County hosts many

large events in Pebble Beach, Big Sur, Carmel Valley, and Laguna Seca County Park. At present all organizers of special events are required to meet with the **Monterey County Planning Department's Permit Coordinator**. New special events and special events which require a use permit continue on to a meeting with the **Monterey County's Special Events Task Force** to review operational plans. The Task Force is made up of regulatory staff (planning, building, fire, police, highway patrol, environmental health, public works, CalTrans, etc.). Special events which have occurred for a number of years are allowed to bypass this process. Also bypassing the process are properties such as golf courses, wineries, and wine tasting rooms. Special events related to the use permit are deemed to be within the scope of the overall use permit.



Is Monterey County concerned with the impacts of special events?

Monterey County may prepare an ordinance for special events as an outgrowth of demand for an ordinance on short term rentals. At the October 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting, **Supervisor Jane Parker** asked staff to report back to the Board with a proposal in mid-2017.

What's next for our Subcommittee?

We will continue our investigation by studying two benefits of special events—charitable donations to the community and taxes which flow into local coffers. Specifically where does the money come from, where does it go, and who benefits? Since a common complaint by local residents is that "we feel trapped in our homes by gridlock and no parking space," we will also look for ways to measure the impact of increased traffic during special events. We encourage League members interested in this issue to attend our next meeting on **Thursday April 20, 12:15pm at Mariposa Hall**.

Kemay Eoyang, Special Events Subcommittee Chair, ckeoyang@gmail.com

TELL THE PRESIDENT: STOP MAKING UNSUBSTANTIATED VOTING CLAIMS



For months, **President Trump** has made unsubstantiated claims that millions of illegal votes were cast in November. Without proof – he continues to perpetuate that voters crossed state lines to illegally vote in the 2016 election.

Federal Election Commissioner Ellen L. Weintraub sent a letter to President Trump insisting the president produce evidence to back up his outlandish claims that millions voted illegally in the 2016 election (see the full letter at <https://petitions.signforgood.com/stop-trump-voting-lies?code=lwv>).

That’s why the League is joining with allied organizations and calling for the President to produce evidence to support his unlawful voting claims – or put these claims to rest. We know that wide-spread voter fraud is a myth perpetuated to push election laws that restrict voting. We cannot allow false claims to drive policies that will limit participation in our election process.

If you agree, **add your name as a co-signer of Commissioner Weintraub's letter now** at <https://petitions.signforgood.com/stop-trump-voting-lies?code=lwv>. Tell President Trump it’s time to stop spreading misinformation and undermining voter’s faith in our elections.

Sincerely,
Chris Carson, President, League of Women Voters of the United States, lwv.org

LEAGUE STATEMENT ON IMMIGRATION

LWV President, **Chris Carson**, issued the following statement in response to **President Trump's** immigration ban:



"The League of Women Voters is opposed to deportation of non-criminal undocumented immigrants. The League supports cities, towns, counties and states that make a decision not to cooperate with federal deportation and enforcement actions that include non-criminal undocumented immigrants.

Moreover, the Trump Administration's orders are of dubious legality. It is simply wrong, and a perversion of the American system of justice, for the Executive Branch to refuse to obey federal court orders.

The LWV is opposed to discrimination, including discrimination in immigration, based on religion. The Trump Administration's orders appear to be targeted at Muslims and immigrants from majority-Muslim nations."

Sarah Courtney, Senior Director Communications LWVUS, scourtney@lwv.org

Howard Fosler has been attending LWVMC's luncheons for many years, but **Director At-Large** is his first Board position. "I was involved with *Planned Parenthood* for about 15 years and I became aware of the *League* through that," he says.



says, "and Linda and I don't want to miss this opportunity to go back there. I'll have to be on a limited activity agenda, though, which slows everybody down. That's the hard part for me."

Howard's volunteer work for **Planned Parenthood** goes back to the days when current **Monterey County Supervisor Jane Parker** headed it. He also served our community through **Rotary Clubs** in Carmel Valley and Pacific Grove for 18 years.

Howard and Linda have five children, two of whom live locally, plus nine grandchildren. Family visits are one of their lives' joys. Another is riding the rails. "I just love riding trains," Howard says. "I can take a bus here at the *Aquarium* to the *Salinas* train station and get on a train. Linda and I have done a number of trips up and down the coast." He hopes California's plan to upgrade the railroad from Gilroy to San Francisco, which should reduce the Bay Area's commuter gridlock problems, will succeed.

After he retired from his career as an insurance agent for **Allstate**, Howard and his wife, **Linda**, opened a **Sylvan Learning Center**, but he says "that disappeared in the recession." Linda, also a League member, went on to become **Executive Director of Voices for Children** for several years, but is now retired as well.

Howard says he's particularly glad he's involved with the League at this time in history. "With this election and political climate, its role is as important as it's ever been and I'm delighted that it might be putting a spotlight on gerrymandering, something that can be fixed. Here in California, we're so far ahead of everybody else. We have a state that fixed the gerrymandering problem, took it out of the hands of politicians."

"We've lived on the *Monterey Peninsula* for close to 45 years," Howard says. "We lived almost everywhere—*Pebble Beach, Carmel, Pacific Grove, and Monterey*." They've been in their current home in *New Monterey* for 17 years and until recently Howard was actively involved with the neighborhood association there. "When I resigned from that, I was asked to join the *League's Board*," he adds.

The environment is another area where Howard applauds California's efforts. "I remember the years when I'd go to *Los Angeles* and couldn't see the mountains because of the smog," he says. "California said, 'We're going to fix that. Watch what we do.' We got in front of the *Federal Government* on that one. We continue to be the vanguard in so many ways."

Unfortunately, Howard's life since his retirement has had its share of physical trials. "I have a fused ankle and now two replaced knees, one of which had to be replaced twice. It slowed me down a lot," he says. "I was in bed for three months from this last one and I'm just getting back into action now."

Like so many of us, Howard Fosler is grateful to be living in California and to be an active member of LWVMC.

He hopes that action will include taking a trip to *London*, where one of his sons is living during his sabbatical leave from a local teaching position. "I've always loved the *London theater*," Howard

Nancy Baker Jacobs
Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com

LWV **Join the League of Women Voters of Monterey County**

Any person of voting age, male or female, may be a member of the League!

Renew Your LWVMC Membership.

If your membership has lapsed, please use the form below, or go to <http://lwvmryco.org>. Timely responses are appreciated as they help keep our local chapter strong.

Renewal letter and form gone astray?
Uncertain of your membership due date?
Wish to make a donation?
Want to become a new member?

Use the form below or contact:
Lisa Hoivik, Membership Director
LHoivik@comcast.net or 375-7765

Checks payable to **LWVMC**
Mail to **LWVMC PO Box 1995**
Monterey, CA 93942

Membership Levels

- \$250+ Carrie Chapman Catt
- \$200 Sojourner Truth
- \$150 Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- \$100 Susan B. Anthony
- \$ 95 Household (2 persons, 1 address)
- \$ 65 Single membership

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____ e-mail _____

- Send e-mail reminders for luncheons
- Call to remind me of luncheons
- Scholarship requested

Membership dues & contributions to LWVMC are not tax deductible, nor are donations to the Florence Curlee Scholarship Fund. However, donations to the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund (LWVCEF) are tax deductible.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY LOUISE STUART

The League of Women Voters Monterey County congratulates long-time Member Louise Stuart as she celebrates her 100th birthday on April 5th.

I met Louise on our League's **Public Library Study Committee** which she chaired. While unknown to me until recently, her age is not a secret, but you'd never guess it by looking at her or knowing how active she still is. An Internet search finds a wonderful profile of Louise printed in a 2015 issue of the **Point Lobos Foundation magazine**. (<https://www.pointlobos.org/sites/default/files/Spring%20mag%202015%20pdf.pdf>).

The article notes that Louise first came to Point Lobos in 1943 and retired after 28 years as an active docent at the age of 98 (photo above upon that retirement).

Fortunately staying active in civic affairs does not require tramping through mud (oops, there might be an unintended analogy here) leading trail walks, but the ability to type--isn't that right Marjorie Atkinson?

Louise's most recent letter-to-the-editor in the **Monterey County Herald** appeared February 2017 and was titled "**History shows cooperation leads to a better world.**" May we all be lucky enough to follow your example Louise!

Dennis Mar, DennisRMar3@yahoo.com



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Welcome New Transfers from LWV Burlingame

Janet Zimmer
551 Gibson #327,
Pacific Grove CA 93950
(831) 747-1726
zchrisjan@sbcglobal.net

Whitney Gravel
4467 Ocean Heights Court
Seaside CA 93955
(703) 516-4056, whitney@hi4d.us



Thank You to Our Generous Donors

In honor of Member **Louise Stuart's 100th Birthday**, Members **Barbara Baldock** and **Phil Butler** have made a \$100 donation to our League. Best Wishes to Louise and many thanks to her big-hearted friends.

We also send out a big "Thank You" to **Vickie and John Pearse** for their \$100 donation.

Lisa Hoivik, lhoivik@comcast.net

League of Women Voters of Monterey County

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LWVMC 2017 Calendar



APRIL

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 10 April, 5:00 pm
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
JanetB@montereybay.com

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 13 April, 12 noon
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

Lunch & Learn with the League
Wednesday, 12 April, 12 noon
"Supervisor Mary Adams First 100 Days"
JanetB@montereybay.com

Special Events Impact Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday, 20 April, 12:15pm
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
ckeoyang@msn.com

MAY

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 8 May, 5:00 pm
JanetB@montereybay.com

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 11 May, 12 noon
GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

LWVMC 90th Annual Meeting
Unitarian Universalist Church
Saturday, 13 May, 10am to 12 noon
Speaker: LWVCA President Helen Hutchison

JUNE

SUMMER BREAK
No Board, Lunch & Learn,
Natural Resources, or Special Events
Impact Committee Meetings
(Resume July 2017)

LWV California Convention
Sacramento, June 2-4
Judi Lehman, Bev Kreps & Nancy Selfridge
to represent LWVMC
<https://lwvc.org/events/lwvc-convention>