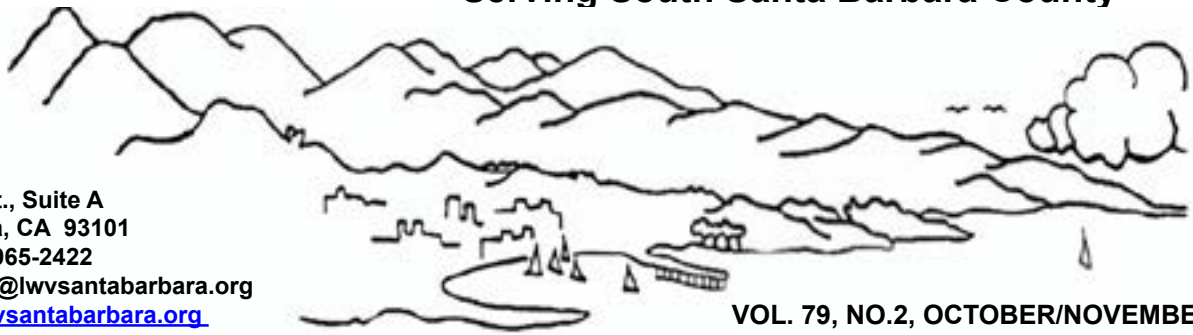




# CHANNEL VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

Serving South Santa Barbara County



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VOL. 79, NO.2, OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

## OFFICERS

**CO-PRESIDENTS:**  
**Program & Advocacy**  
Lindsey Baker (2018)  
**Community Education,**  
**Membership & Administration**  
Joanie Jones (2019)

**VICE PRESIDENTS**  
**Program & Advocacy**  
Connie Hannah (2018)  
**Membership, Voter Service**  
**Administration**  
Beverly King (2019)

**SECRETARY**  
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**TREASURER**  
David Landecker (2017)

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**Publicity**  
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**State & National Action**  
Linda Phillips (2018)  
**Voters Edge & Webmaster**  
Bonnie Lassen (2019)  
**Voter Service**  
Susan Horne (2019)  
**Water**  
Penn Borden (2019)

**Nominating Committee**  
Mary Rose (2018), chair

## MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK<sup>®</sup>

### OCTOBER COMMUNITY FORUM

Wednesday October 18 Noon to 2:00 PM

**How Do We Support-Or Not Support-Local Government?**  
A panel discussion of revenue collection in an era of government mistrust.

### NOVEMBER COMMUNITY FORUM

Wednesday November 15 Noon to 2:00 PM

**Immigration 2017: What's Happening in Santa Barbara County?**

*(Both Community Forums take place at the Faulkner Gallery, Santa Barbara Public Library; Co-sponsors: LWVSB, The Santa Barbara Public Library, TVSB, and Gary Atkins Sound Systems (for more Forum Info see page 4 and 5))*

### MAYORAL FORUM MONDAY OCTOBER 2, 7:00PM

Join us at the First United Methodist Church  
305 E. Anapamu St. Santa Barbara  
*(For more information about this & District Forums see Page 4)*

For Information on  
October & November  
Unit Meetings  
Please see Page 4

Visit our website at:  
[www.lwvsantabarbara.org](http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org)  
Check out our online Calendar  
Like us on our Facebook Page:  
League of Women Voters Santa Barbara  
Follow us on Twitter:  
LWV Santa Barbara@LWVSB  
PHONE: (805) 965-2422

## CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our panel at the September community forum highlighted 150 years of voting history in the USA, shared the effect of gerrymandering, intimidation and voter tests on vote suppression in minority voters. The only voters never suppressed were white males. Our panelists also shared the processes that have continued to suppress the votes of Asian Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanics. California brought citizens into the redistricting process in 2011 with strong support from LWVC. The LWV continues to work for Redistricting reform across the states, similar to California's Redistricting Commission. The latter is selected through a complex process after each census and will lead to fairer districts that are not designed to favor any party, race, etc.

Our California League President Helen Hutchison shared that the League often works in coalitions. Through a variety of activities at the local, state, and national levels, the League protects voting rights and does direct advocacy. In 2016/17 we lobbied for Voting Rights Act revitalization, funding for the Election Assistance Commission and against the sham Election Integrity Commission. League helps make sure that all voters, including traditionally underrepresented or underserved communities, have the opportunity and information to exercise their right to vote. For example since the DMV has not worked to register voters as it was mandated, the State League partnered with attorneys from the ACLU to sue the DMV to have them change their website to add a "register to vote widget." At the US level the League submitted an Amicus Brief in the Gill v. Whitford (watch for a decision on October 3, 2017) on partisan gerrymandering in the Wisconsin 2016 election.

All voters, including underrepresented voters and younger voters are supported with the League Easy Voter guides in many languages and our Californian [www.votersedge.org/ca](http://www.votersedge.org/ca) website.

In the U.S. census prisoners are counted in a community where the prison is located. However, the League believes they need to be counted in the community where the prisoner came from.



Helen Hutchison left us with two actions we could do immediately: contact the Governor to sign AB 918 "**California Voting for All Act**" and we can also respond to a LWVUS Action Alert, signing a petition to reject the "Election Integrity" Commission, an organized attack on voting rights with the agenda to purge voters from the rolls. This commission has perpetuated the false claim of massive voter fraud in the 2016 election. You can do both these tasks online (<https://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov39mail/>) and [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org).

We in California need to continue to support our next redistricting commission and fight all challenges by all parties to redistricting by independent commission. LWV promotes expanding early voting and online voter registration, ensuring that existing pro-voter laws are followed and challenging efforts that limit the ability of voters to exercise this basic right. The League actively opposes voter ID laws, which unfairly impact low-income, elderly, and minority groups. The League also advocates against barriers to the voter registration process, works to prevent last-minute Election Day barriers and helps millions of voters get the information they need to vote.

Our Forum opened with Santa Barbara's new City Clerk, Sarah Gorman, who reported on the city's Nov. 7 election. Please watch the forum online or on <http://tvsvb.tv> Channel 17 or [www.lwvsantabarbara.org](http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org). You will learn from it.  
**Joanie Jones, Co-President of LWVSB**

## VOTER & ELECTION Information

### Voting – This year & Next Year?

•THIS year only one election is being held in SB County – this is in the City of SB. This is a vote-by-mail election only, and voting is for Mayor, Districts' 4, 5, and 6 City Council members and a Tax Proposal. **October** is the time to **VOTE**. Register by Oct. 23, Vote by Nov. 7. Ballots are going out to City registered voters in the mail on Oct. 9. Get informed. Attend the public Mayoral candidate forum on Oct. 2. See candidate forum videos online at [www.lwvsantabarbara.org](http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org) and on <http://tvsb.tv> and on TV Channel 17 broadcasts from October 10 through November 7.

•NEXT year?? It's the BIG one for us all in 2018!  
Elections are in our Cities, County, State, and US Congress!



•YOU CAN'T VOTE unless you are registered.  
So...Why not do it now and be ready to vote?

**Q: What is the most misunderstood line in Registering?** **A:** Political party choices! Many people choose the American Independent Party when they really want to be independent of political parties. That box to check is labeled "No Political Party Preference". The full list of seven choices for a political party is this: American Independent, Democratic, Green, Libertarian, Peace and Freedom, Republican and "No Political Party Preference".  
Your choice of party is not permanent. You can change it at anytime by re-registering.

**Q: Why would I re-register?** **A:** To change your address or name, or political party. Have you moved? Did you want to change your party?

**Q: Where should college students register to vote?** **A:** They can choose which one - either their parent's address or their college address.

**Q: If I register to vote will I be called for Jury Duty?** **A:** Jury duty lists are compiled from various sources including voter registration and DMV records.

**Q: What is the new and popular way to register to vote?** **A:** Online! Click here: [www.registertovote.ca.gov/](http://www.registertovote.ca.gov/)

**Q: Additional questions?** **A:** Go to [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/). Or call the Santa Barbara County Elections Office at (805) 568-2200.



**Q: Who is eligible to vote, anyway?** **A:** Anyone who is a US citizen and 18 years old or older on Election Day (Nov 7) and NOT in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony, or mentally incompetent by a court ruling (for more information, please see <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/>).

**Q: Can younger teens vote?** **A:** Teens can vote only if eligible. But now teens can PRE- register at age 16 and 17. Then they can vote when they turn age 18 and will automatically receive their Ballot and Voter Guide in the mail.

## VOTER FORUMS



### THE MAYOR CANDIDATES FORUM IS ON OCTOBER 2:

This Public Forum is Co-sponsored by LWVSB & its Education Fund, by the Faith & Society Committee of the First United Methodist Church, & TVSB.

**Location:** First United Methodist Church, 305 E. Anapamu St. Santa Barbara

**Time:** 7:00 P.M.

ADA Accessible; Spanish Translation

### THE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUMS FOR DISTRICTS 4,5, & 6

These candidate presentations will be televised on Channel 17- the public access TVSB, and will also be available online at: [www.lwvsantabarbara.org](http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org), & at <http://tvsb.tv>

## UNIT MEETINGS

### October/November Unit Meetings

Join us for our October & November Unit meetings.

October Units will continue the discussion on Voting Rights and in November, our discussion units will focus on Immigration.

These smaller group meetings give people a chance to share information and participate in lively discussions. Please check out our calendar on PAGE 10 to see the dates, times & locations of these programs.





## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER Community Forums

*The October Forum will take place Wednesday Oct. 18, & the November Forum will take place on Wednesday Nov. 15, noon-2 pm at the Santa Barbara Public Library, Faulkner Gallery (40 East Anapamu St)*

### **OCTOBER FORUM, October 18**

#### **How Do We Support -- Or Not Support--Local Government? A panel discussion of revenue collection in an era of government mistrust**

The League believes that efficient and economical government requires adequate financing and well-defined channels for citizen oversight. At the local level we support measures to provide a flexible and equitable fiscal structure to finance the necessary services for the South Coast cities and County of Santa Barbara.

To that end we have invited Elizabeth Ralston to address the progress of **Make It Fair**, a California movement seeking to reform Proposition 13. Elizabeth Ralston is the past president of the Los Angeles League of Women Voters and a consultant on state and local finance for the League of Women Voters of California.

Santa Barbara Mayor Helene Schneider will discuss Measure C, the Santa Barbara City sales tax for infrastructure repair and essential community services. Santa Barbara County Supervisor Das Williams will discuss his efforts at the local and state levels to identify efficiencies and new revenue sources.

#### **MAKE IT FAIR – PROP 13 REFORM**

Make It Fair is a movement to reform Proposition 13 in order to continue to protect homeowners, while providing for large corporations to pay again the larger share of property taxes. Make It Fair will restore over \$9 billion a year for services that all Californians rely on.

The League of Women Voters of California is a major co-sponsor of Make it Fair. Leaguers will be part of the effort to reform portions of Proposition 13 while not impacting homeowners, renters and owners of agricultural land; providing tax relief for small businesses; and including tough transparency and accountability measures so that everyone can see how any additional funds are spent.

#### **LOCAL 1% sales tax increase in CITY FUNDING: MEASURE C**

The League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara is supporting Measure C on the November 7 ballot, which would raise the local sales tax in the City of Santa Barbara by one percent to 8.75%. If approved, the additional tax would be used for essential services and repair of critical infrastructure, including: police, fire, and 911 emergency medical response; local streets, potholes, bridges and storm drains; neighborhood fire stations/public safety infrastructure; parks, youth/senior services; address homelessness; help retain local businesses; and support other general services.

National, state & local League positions all support “adequate funding” for government services. The LWVSB Board’s decision to support Measure C was also based on a commitment to transparency and accountability, including the provision for a citizens’ oversight committee and public disclosure of all spending, and a promise that all funds will be used locally.

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER Community Forums

*(OCTOBER Forum Information continued)*

### **ADEQUATE COUNTY FUNDING: INNOVATIVE WAYS TO GENERATE REVENUE**

The Santa Barbara County Supervisors faced a roughly \$30 million shortfall in the 2017 budget. Impacting the county budget were employee pension costs, emergency services, infrastructure and future operational expenses for the new jail. These shortfalls, including uncertain federal and state funding, can mean cuts to vital health and human services and an inability to adequately meet infrastructure needs. While supervisors look for efficiencies they are also looking to potential revenue sources from marijuana taxes to new development to looking at ways that services can become self-sustaining. ***Emily Allen, Jane Benefield, Connie Hannah co-chairs***

### **NOVEMBER FORUM, November 15**

#### **Immigration 2017: What's Happening in Santa Barbara County?**

This Forum will focus on what is happening in Santa Barbara County now and how immigrants are being affected. One invited speaker will explain what her “boots on the ground” organization sees happening; another will explain what funding is available to help immigrants; a third will discuss what legal advice is available; and the fourth will address law enforcement policies.

There will be ample time for questions from the audience.

In 2008 after local Leagues all over the country studied the issues involved with Immigration, the following LWVUS position was adopted:

***“The League of Women Voters believes that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet economic, business and employment needs of the United States; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be made for qualified persons to enter the United States on student visas. All persons should receive fair treatment under the law. The League supports federal immigration law that provides for an efficient, expeditious system (with minimum or no backlogs) for legal entry of immigrants into the United States. To complement these goals the League supports federal policies to improve economies, education, job opportunities and living conditions in nations with large emigrating populations. In transition to a reformed system, the League supports provision for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status. The League supports federal payments to impacted communities to address the financial costs borne by state and local governments with large immigrant populations.”***

As it works to achieve its overall policy goals, the League supports a system for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status, including citizenship, by paying taxes, learning English, studying civics and other relevant criteria. While policy reforms, including a path to legal status remain unachieved, the League does not support deporting unauthorized immigrants who have no history of criminal activity.

Come and learn more about what is shaping Immigration issues here in Santa Barbara County.

***Beverly King and Vijaya Jammalamadaka, co-chairs***

***The community forums are co-sponsored by the Santa Barbara Public Library and Santa Barbara TV. Sound provided by Gary Atkins, Sound Systems.***

**FORUMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

## Inside the League

### STATE & NATIONAL ACTION ALERTS

LWVUS and LWV California (LWVC) have been meeting the current challenges to many of our most pressing issues. In the past, we have had occasional Action Alerts. Now the Action Alerts are frequent and urgent. Please respond to at least some of them - the current word is that our legislators need to hear from us often!

Here is the LWVUS page for current actions, and to sign up for alerts:

<http://lww.org/get-involved>

(Usually this page shows all current alerts - now there may be too many. So to respond to the alerts below, click on the links provided.)

For LWVC, go to <https://lwvc.org/take-action>.

New (and old) action alerts are here, as well as a link to the page <https://lwvc.org/stay-informed> where you can sign up to become a grassroots advocate!

For more information, contact Linda Phillips, [action@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:action@lwvsantabarbara.org) or (805) 967-0922.

The League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara also shares LWVUS and LWVC Action Alerts on our Facebook page (@LWVSB). Please share our posts and "like" us. Also look for Facebook posts from LWVUS (@leagueofwomenvoters) and LWVC (@LWVofCA)

Our League joins other Leagues around the country to tweet information on Twitter: LWV Santa Barbara (@LWVSB)

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED WITH THE LEAGUE?

Have you ever wanted to be more involved with the League? Consider being on the board or chairing a committee. League Board Members set policy and plan exciting programs that inform and engage our community and **Make Democracy Work!**

As a Board Member you will be able to:

- \* Build your leadership skills
- \* Learn to use your skills to make things happen for the League and for our community
- \* Help set the direction for LWVSB
- \* Expand your commitment to the League and our community
- \* Raise your visibility
- \* Be part of a dynamic, fun group of people!

***If this sounds like an opportunity you or someone you know might want to pursue, please contact Mary Rose, Nominating Committee Chair at (805) 448-0663 or [nominating@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:nominating@lwvsantabarbara.org) or one of the other members of the Nominating Committee: Margaret Connell, Janice Rorick, Penn Borden, or Vijaya Jammalamadaka.***

## Inside the League Continued

### SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

#### HEAR THE NEWS!

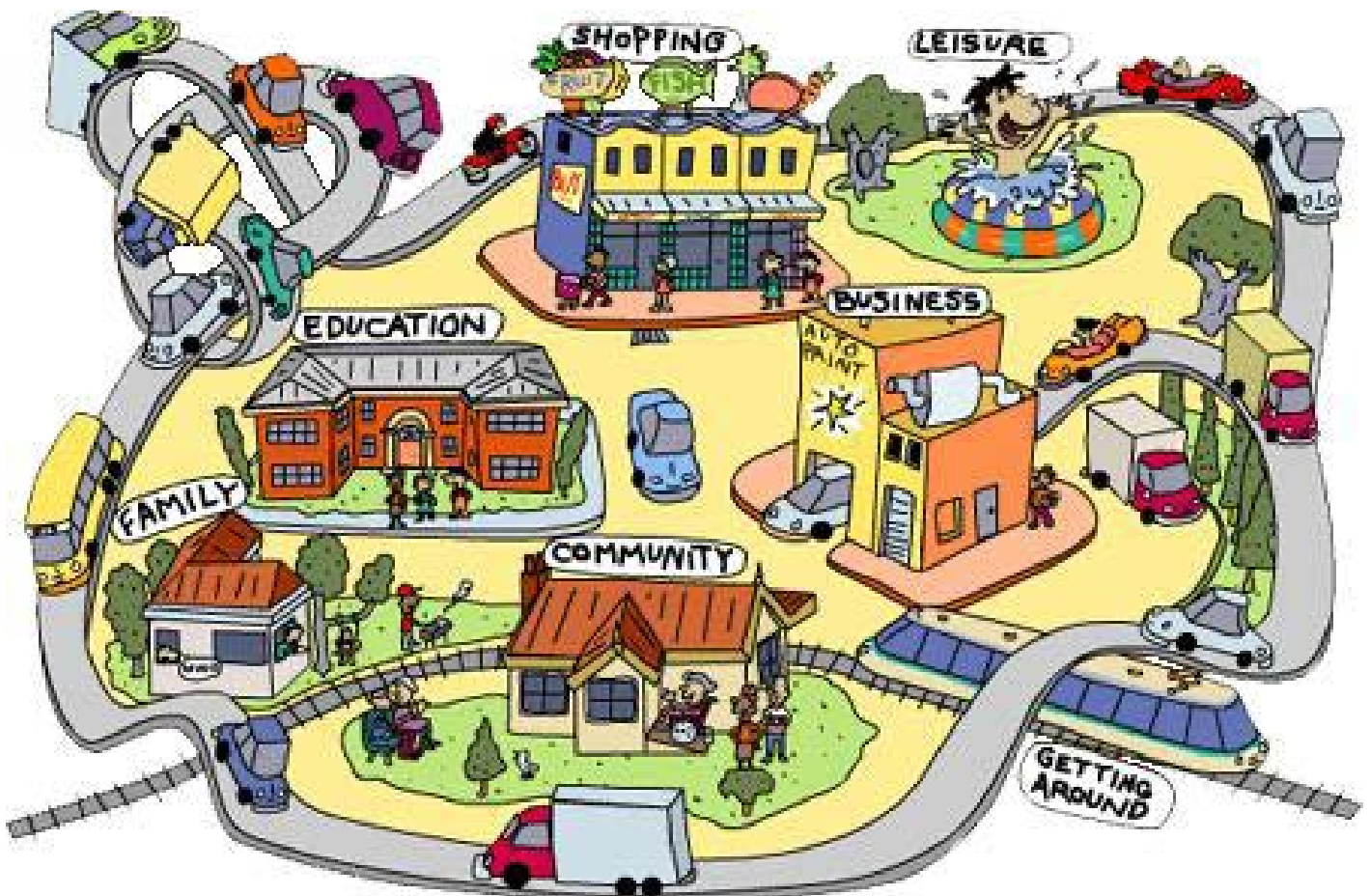
On Friday, October 13 this committee will meet at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse at Maravilla Senior Center, 5487 Calle Real. There will be new ideas from the UCSB Annual Sustainability Summit on October 11. We have found the best new information on our issues at that tri-county meeting, and five members will attend and bring back reports. In addition, Community Environmental Council and the Law Office of Mark Chyttilo have designed a new proposal for the stalled Tajiguas Landfill project, and will be there to explain it.

Parking is free, and some of us stay to lunch in their excellent dining room after. **Connie Hannah, Chair**

### ENERGY REPORT

#### OIL PROJECTS REPORT

The 2017 session of the State Legislature is over. SB 44 (Hannah Beth Jackson), which I have reported on previously, was successfully passed and now is on the governor's desk. It would establish a program to clean up old coastal oil wells and associated hazards (which occur mainly in Summerland). This is a second try for the governor's signature and we hope it is successful. **Jean Holmes, Chair**





## Membership

**DUES ARE DUE:** Those of you who have not renewed your League membership yet for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, please be aware that after October 15 you are considered delinquent and no longer a member of the League. Article VIII Section 2 Dues “Any member who fails to pay dues within sixty (60) days after said dues become payable shall no longer be a member of the League.” Please don’t let that happen!

**REDUCED DUES TO EXPAND MEMBERSHIP:** An ad hoc committee comprised of Co-Presidents Lindsey Baker and Joanie Jones and Vice President for Membership Beverly King presented a motion to the Board of Directors at its meeting of 9/9/17 that a limited number of reduced dues of \$35.00 for 2017 – 2018 be offered for the purpose of expanding our membership among those who cannot afford regular dues. The motion passed. A limited number of reduced dues are now available. Contact [membership@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:membership@lwvsantabarbara.org).

**NEW MEMBERS:** Please welcome new members Suzanne Dodds, Ellen Kokinda, Colin Stewart, Ann & Paul Ricchiazzi.

**GIFTS IN MEMORY:** Gifts in Memory of deceased members can be made to either the Santa Barbara Education Fund or the Santa Barbara League of Women Voters. Last year the Bennett Trust made a gift in honor of Patricia Bennett to the Education Fund. Pat was a long-time active member of our League. The family of Kathryn Pearl Bowman Halenbeck, 6/20/17, requested that donations be made to their local League of Women Voters. Kathryn’s League involvement was in Annapolis, MD, Aptos, Ventura and Santa Barbara.



*It is with great sadness that we share the  
news of the passing of  
Betty Johnson  
50 year plus member  
League of Women Voters  
DOD 7/30/2017*



### MEMBERSHIP FORM - LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, SANTA BARBARA

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Here is my annual membership dues - \$70.00                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Student - \$35.00                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Second member in same household - \$35.00   | <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me more information about the League |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I can't join right now: here is my contribution of \$ _____ to support the League |   |

Total submitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_ *Make check payable to: League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara  
328 East Carrillo Street, Suite A, Santa Barbara, CA 9310*

I am committed to / Sign me up to: *You may also pay online through PayPal at [www.lwvsantabarbara.org](http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org)  
(\$3 added if you pay online with PayPal) A limited number of reduced dues are available*

- Register voters    Join the League of Women Voters    Invite a friend to join    Pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ support

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## October/November Calendar

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
<b>2 MON: Mayoral Forum 7:00PM</b> First United Methodist Church 305 E. Anapamu St. SB	<b>7 TUES: ELECTION DAY!</b>
<b>3 TUES: Communications Committee 12 to 1:30PM</b> League Office <b>UNIT MEETING: Madame Lu's 5:30PM</b> 3524 State Street, Contact Karen Bunker 967-0838 or Jane Honikman 967-9757 (Supper Unit)	<b>7 TUES: Communications Committee 12 to 1:30PM</b> League Office <b>UNIT MEETING: Madame Lu's 5:30PM</b> 3524 State Street, Contact Karen Bunker 967-0838 or Jane Honikman 967-9757 (Supper Unit)
<b>9 MON: Downtown Unit - Noon to 2:00PM</b> <b>League Office</b> - 328 East Carrillo St. Suite A Brown bag lunch - Contact Connie Hannah (805) 967-4720 On street parking	<b>8 WED: Carpinteria Unit - 10:00AM</b> Carpinteria Women's Club. 1059 Vallecito Rd. Contact Jane Benefield (805) 684-6086
<b>10 TUES: Video tapes of the City of SB Candidate Forums for Mayor &amp; 3 City Council Districts will be online at <a href="http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org">www.lwvsantabarbara.org</a> &amp; <a href="http://tvsb.tv">http://tvsb.tv</a> until November 7, Election Day</b>	<b>10 FRI: Sustainable Communities 10 to 12PM</b> Maravilla Senior Living Community Clubhouse - 5486 Calle Real, S.B.
<b>11 WED: Carpinteria Unit - 10:00AM</b> Carpinteria Women's Club. 1059 Vallecito Rd. Contact Jane Benefield (805) 684-6086	<b>11 SAT: LWVSB Board Meeting 10:00AM</b> League Office - 328 E. Carrillo St. Suite A
<b>13 FRI: Sustainable Communities 10 to 12PM</b> Maravilla Senior Living Community Clubhouse - 5486 Calle Real, S.B.	<b>13 MON: Downtown Unit - Noon to 2:00PM</b> <b>League Office</b> - 328 East Carrillo St. Suite A Brown bag lunch - Contact Connie Hannah (805) 967-4720 On street parking
<b>14 SAT: LWVSB Board Meeting 10:00AM</b> League Office - 328 E. Carrillo St. Suite A	<b>15 WED: Community Forum 12 to 2PM</b> Santa Barbara Public Library Faulkner Gallery
<b>18 WED: Community Forum 12 to 2PM</b> Santa Barbara Public Library Faulkner Gallery	<b>22 WED: Water Committee 12 noon</b> League Office
<b>25 WED: Water Committee 12 noon</b> League Office	<b>30 WED: Social Policy Committee 3:00 to 4:30PM</b> League Office
<b>26 Thurs: Social Policy Committee 3:00 to 4:30PM</b> League Office	

