



The Sacramento Voter

MARCH 2018

Get Out the Vote



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Co-Presidents' Corner

Power to the Polls

The second Women's March in January was even larger than the first one held in 2017 that set new records around the globe. Women's civic participation is becoming a powerful movement that has ignited thousands of activists and new leaders and now has a name – **Power to the Polls!**

This movement has harnessed our collective energy that has thus far translated into national voter registration efforts, advocacy for policies focusing on women's rights, and a huge push for women to run for elected office.

The League of Women Voters of Sacramento County is planning to capitalize on this energy at a celebratory event scheduled for **Thursday, March 22, 2018, 5:30 p.m. Wellspring Women's Center.**

Come and learn what the League is doing to greatly expand the number of registered voters in our region. Come and listen as a former mayor shares her story of becoming an elected official at a time when that title was typically reserved for men. Attend this gathering and meet our new members. **Find out how you can become involved in our work to expand the electorate!** You will come away with renewed energy and enthusiasm. Bring a friend or neighbor who may be interested in becoming a member. The evening will include tasty appetizers, wine and non-alcoholic beverages. And you may even win one of the many door prizes.

Please take out your new 2018 calendar and add Power to the Polls on the box for Thursday, March 22. Look for an informational flier which will be sent out in a week or so. We look forward to seeing each of you on March 22! *Nancy & Claudia*

EVENTS

- Wednesday-Friday, March 7-9, 2018. [Housing California Annual Conference](#), Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J Street, Sacramento. Registration 8:00 a.m. March 7, 2018.
- Tuesday, March 13, 2018, Unit meetings, page 3
- Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 5:30 p.m.– 7:30 p.m. Film- *The Story of Rosemary Metrailer*. Central Library Galleria, 828 I Street, Sacramento, page. 2
- Thursday, March 22, 2018, 5:30 p.m. Learn how to help in this year's election, **Power to the Polls**, Wellspring Women's Center 3414 4th Avenue, Sacramento

Marching in the Mountains

Vacationing in Palm Desert during the month of January meant being unable to participate in the Women's March scheduled for January 20 in Sacramento. But with a strong desire to march with women throughout the nation, I checked online and found a march in the small mountain community of Idyllwild.

Idyllwild is nestled in the mountain woods at a 5000 foot elevation between Los Angeles and Palm Springs surrounded by trailheads and granite peaks of the San Jacinto Mountains. Its inhabitants are a friendly and rugged bunch, and it seemed like everyone had at least one dog.

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2017-2018

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Continued from pg. 1

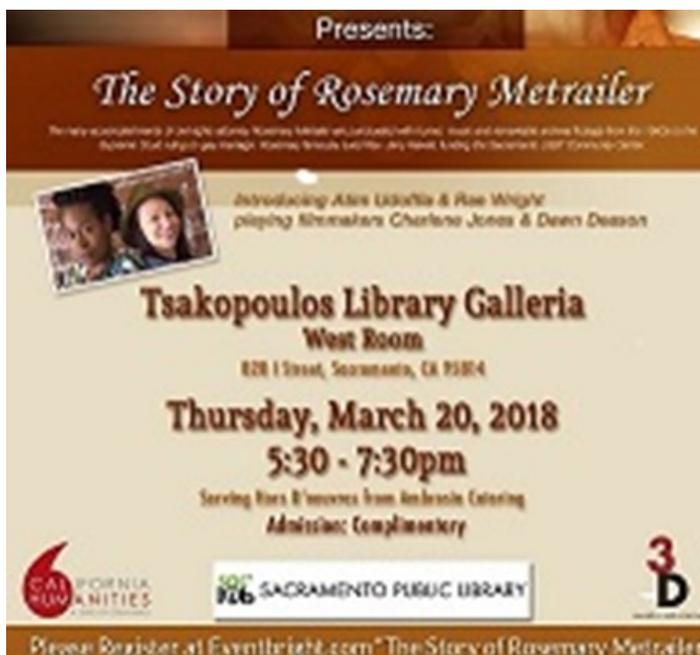
We arrived two hours early to ensure finding a place to park. This was not necessary, as it turned out, but it did give us time to find some hot coffee and have lively conversation with locals. Scheduled to begin at the town center at noon, marchers began gathering at 11:30 with all manner of signs, dogs with sweaters, pussy hats, and heavy jackets. And then it began to snow.

I commented that there didn't seem to be the usual trappings of a public event – portable toilets, traffic cones, areas cordoned off, or security, whereby a local explained, "We don't have any governance structure here. Our mayor is a dog."

At noon, the March leader blew a whistle and approximately 150 high-spirited marchers took to the road. We marched up a small hill, then behind a flower shop, down another hill, over toward a mill – all the while chanting and singing with high spirits and much camaraderie. One marcher was 94 years old and pushing a walker, but said she wouldn't have missed it. The roadway was full of pine needles, small rocks, miscellaneous debris, and the gathering snow, but none of it dimmed the enthusiasm of the crowd.

At the end of the March, everyone cheered, the leader encouraged women to run for office, and then marchers dispersed into the various coffee houses and toasty-warm restaurants.

How gratifying it is to know that the spirit that propelled thousands of marchers to take to the streets throughout our cities is alive and well in our smaller communities. It's an experience I won't soon forget. By Nancy Compton



NOTE— The day should be **TUESDAY**, 3/20/18



Google images 2/10/18

"The Story of Rosemary Metrailler ... a deft and delightful 49-minute docudrama, recounting her remarkable 40+ year civil rights and legal career. "Rosy" always used the law to seek social justice, not only for the LGBT community, but for women, African Americans, and all people, with far-reaching national implications.

For more information— <https://vimeo.com/legendsofcourage>

Complimentary seating, register at Complimentary Seating:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-story-of-rosemary-metrailler-tickets-33496266234>

Contact: charlenej@surewest.net 916-612-8906

Unit Meetings—March 2018

Unit	Date & Time	Contact	Location
Suburban	Tuesday March 13, 2018, 9:15 a.m.	Anne Berner 944-1042 Helen Shryock 944-2274	2426 Garfield Ave. Carmichael 95608
Greenhaven Land Park	Tuesday March 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m.	Mary Hopkins 422-6958	455 Sunlit Circle Sacramento, 95831

Homeless Patient Dumping Report & Recommendations

Background: In late January, 2018, Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness (SRCEH) surveyed 20 homeless service agencies asking their experiences with "homeless patient dumping." Seven stated their agency had recently experienced homeless people being dropped off by an ambulance, cab or ride share with Uber or Lyft after being discharged to the streets. Six agencies did not have this experience and seven did not respond.

Hospitals and Agencies: Service providers identified the following hospitals or agency that dropped homeless people off: UC Davis, Heritage Oaks, Sutter, Mercy, Kaiser, Woodland-Dignity Health, Sierra Vista and Sacramento County Adult Protective Services.

Highlights of report:

- + Frequency: One agency said two to three times a week, three said one time a week, one said two times a month and one said two times a year
- + Physical health & behavioral health issues: 100% indicated the person had a combination of physical health and behavioral health issues
- + Medical Issues: 83% said the injury was not fully taken care of, 71% said person was still wearing hospital gown, 57% said person still had an open wound
- + Prescription: 57% said person had prescription from hospital, 43% said they did not
- + Discharge papers: 57% said person had discharge papers, 43% said they did not

Data from [Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness](#)

**Welcome New Members
& Returning Members ***

- Susan Abrams
- Amanda Bacoeh
- Terri Colosimo
- Lynne Goldsmith
- Felipe Jurado
- Eunie Kim
- Christina Lewis

- Lindsay Nevis*
- Janis Nielsen*



Women's march, Idyllwild, 1/20/18. Photo- courtesy of N. Compton

In Memory

Dorothy aka Jean (Cromwell) Morgan
6/10/1924—3/14/2017



Jean was born in Detroit, Michigan, an only child. During her childhood and early adulthood Dorothy lived in many towns in the east and mid-west as her father was a traveling salesman. She attended Iowa State University, Ames, where she graduated in 1946 with a degree in history and government. Later she pursued graduate studies in business administration at Sacramento State University. In 1955 Jean and her husband purchased a radio station, KHUB in Watsonville, CA. They relocated to Sacramento in 1957 after selling the station. Jean was an active 50 plus year member of the League of Women Voters. She was a choir member of the Carmichael Presbyterian Church and a member and officer of the Genealogical Association of Sacramento as well as other organizations and associations.

Excerpted from *The Sacramento Bee*, 3/29/2017

Barbara J. Hansen
1925—January 2018

Barbara was born in Oklahoma. She was one of only 37 women enrolled with a full scholarship in the United States Cadet Nursing Program at Wesley Hospital in Kansas. After graduation Barbara worked as a public health nurse in Topeka, Kansas. In 1961 Barbara and her husband and children moved to Sacramento from Berkeley. She continued to do volunteer nursing and to serve as the neighborhood children's first-aid nurse. Barbara joined the LWVSC and was an active member for many years.

Excerpted from: *The Sacramento Bee*, 1/28, 2018, 7B



Margaret (Peg) Vanderlaan
1/12/1926—1/12/2018



Peg was a native Californian born in Adin, California. She attended the University of California, Berkeley, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations. In 1950 she moved with her husband to Sacramento. Peg was a 50 plus year member of the LWVSC and served as president from 1962-1965. She was involved with fund raising for KVIE and worked with the Peace Action Committee during the Vietnam War. Later she returned to school obtaining a Masters in Social Work from Sacramento State University. She worked as a psychiatric social worker in Yolo County for many years. After retiring she and her husband enjoyed many years of traveling world-wide.

Excerpted from a family member's biographical sketch.

Reese Fights Back with Facts

What do a social worker and a journalist have in common: both are purposeful agents of change. Recently I discovered this commonality when I interviewed *Sacramento Bee* reporter Phillip Reese. A few years ago Reese and Cynthia Hubert wrote an investigative report of a Las Vegas mental hospital that used commercial buses to "dump" more than 1,500 psychiatric patients in 48 states over five years. Frequently and literally the hospital bought bus tickets for discharged mental health patients and sent them to other cities. This inhumane practice stopped as a result of *The Bee's* probing series. Seldom do professionals receive such immediate and gratifying outcomes from their work. Reese and Hubert were Pulitzer Prize finalists in Investigative Reporting in 2014.

Mr. Reese studied social work at North Carolina State University and after a year decided it was too much cumbersome paper work. He then wrote an article in the student newspaper about tuition increases and got hooked. He became an English major and in his final year was reporter/editor of the student newspaper, in addition to carrying a full academic load and graduating in 1999. After moving to Little Rock, Reese worked at the *Arkansas Gazette* and questioned if crime was going up or down. He asked for police crime data, and analyzed it himself. The process whetted his interest and he took classes on statistics.

Fortunately for us, Mr. Reese was hired by *The Sacramento Bee* as a reporter about 13 years ago. He chooses his topics in "Data Tracker" ranging from crime statistics to gun sales and traffic accidents. Also he continues with investigative reporting and recently wrote a series dealing with nursing homes throughout California. Reese exposed a new practice of increasing profits by admitting younger patients in their 50's on Medicaid for mental illness. Nursing homes would provide no treatment, but fill a bed.

There is great need for good, accurate, and factual journalism, a need for asking hard questions of our political leaders and governmental employees, and at times such as today, to be confrontational and speak truth to power. Let us continue to support excellent investigative reporters, such as Mr. Reese, by our subscriptions. A democracy depends upon in-depth factual information. By Alice Ginosar

Web sites to check for LWV news

LWVC.org and LWVUS.org

Safeguarding California Plan: 2018 Update. California's Climate Strategy, January 2018. California Natural Resources Agency. John Laird, California Natural Resources Secretary

[Graph from Housing for health](#): a state-of-the-art program for reducing homelessness in Los Angeles County, by Sarah B. Hunter, et.al. *RAND Research Brief, 2017*. Indicates the decrease in health dollars expended when housing is provided. Submitted by E. Heaser

Figure 2. Los Angeles County Health Spending on Program Participants Decreased



Book Notices

The following three titles discuss the challenges of concentrated economic and political power: *Move fast and break things: How Facebook, Google and Amazon cornered culture and undermined democracy*, Jonathan Tapin; *World without mind: The existential threat of big tech*, Franklin Foer, Journalist; and *The captured economy: How the powerful enrich themselves, slow down growth, and increase inequality*, Brink Lindsey & Steven Teles.

—Tapin’s (music and movie producer) book focuses on the destructive economic basis of creative work, viz., music & movies, by platforms like Facebook and Google. These platforms absorb billions of ad money, e.g., 100,000 plays of a song on Spotify earn only \$500 for the artist. “... culture and knowledge producers can no longer afford to produce.” p. 104. The same is true for newspapers and newsrooms. Foer expands on Tapin’s thesis by showing that “... Google & Facebook leverage user-created content without carrying the burden or cost of producing the content themselves.” p. 104. They keep users hooked on the platform. They can track the marketplace and behavior of individuals and groups and even effect voter behavior and conceivably election outcomes. Brink, Niskanen Center, Vice President and Teles, Johns Hopkins Political Scientist, write that “... dominant tech firms extract returns beyond the fair market value of their products —[that then] is replicated throughout the economy.” p. 104. These dominant firms obtain excessive returns—referred to as rents without investing in broad-based innovation or growth. What is needed are ways of limiting concentrated economic power, e.g., limit their platforms - in the form of public utilities, break up these giant firms. New rules are needed to prevent abuses of market power and concentrated wealth. Consider the anti-trust reforms of a century ago ...” “... our culture, economy and politics are all at stake,” p. 106. Reviewed in [*The American Prospect*](#), Winter, 2018. “Up Against Big Tech,” By K. Sabeel Rahman, pages 104-106.

—*How Democracies Die*, 2018, by Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt, Harvard professors, critique the current circumstances of the United States in historical perspective as well as with democratic breakdowns in societies around the world. The authors note that “... the United States has never been immune to democratic breakdown ... American democracy is not as exceptional as we sometimes believe.” “The country’s first two political parties, the Federalist of Alexander Hamilton and the Democratic-Republicans of Thomas Jefferson, wanted to annihilate each other.” Periods of coexistence and compromise have followed with periods of violence: stabbings, canings, etc. Today’s parties “... represent not just different policy approaches but different communities, cultures, and values. The problem is amplified by gerrymandering, polarizing cable news and social media, and Americans’ growing tendency to ‘self-sort’ into communities of the like-minded.” Warning signs of pending democratic collapse are: contempt for democratic rules of the game ... violating the Constitution, attacks on the legitimacy of political opponents, encouraging violence and a readiness to curtail civil liberties including the freedom of the press. By Caryl Christian, editor of [*DemocracyPost*](#) (*The Washing Post’s Global Opinions* section), a blog that traces the state of democracy around the world.

By E. Heaser

Women’s march,
Idyllwild, 1/20/18.
N. Compton & R.
Trujillo.
Photo- courtesy of
N. Compton.



Legislation — Homeless

—Assembly members Miguel Santiago (D)(53rd District, L.A.) & Laura Friedman (D)(43rd District, Glendale ...) introduced legislation to change the criteria by which local governments are able to provide critical medical care to homeless individuals who are mentally ill. Assembly Bill (AB) 1971, 1/31/18, will change the definition of “grave disability” to consider urgently needed medical treatment as a basic human need when ‘assessing an individual’s need for conservatorship. State law defines “gravely disabled” as a “condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is unable to provide for his or her basic personal needs for food, clothing, or shelter.”

AB 1971 will amend the state’s definition to include “**or medical treatment where the lack or failure of such treatment may result in substantial physical harm or death.**” Contact: Jackie.Koenig@asm.ca.gov

See also: Editorial: *The Sacramento Bee*, 2/11/18 6D

—**AB-3171 Homeless Persons Services Block Grant (2017-2018)**. Introduced by Assembly Member Ting (Principal coauthor: Senator Lara) (Coauthors: Assembly Members Bloom, Bonta, Carrillo, Chiu, Chu, Gloria, Gonzalez Fletcher, Jones-Sawyer, Kalra, Levine, Low, Maienschein, McCarty, Nazarian, Quirk-Silva, Santiago, Mark Stone, Thurmond, and Weber) (Coauthors: Senators Pan, Skinner, and Wiener).

“This bill would establish the Local Homelessness Solutions Program and create the Local Homelessness Solutions Account for the purpose of providing funding to cities, as defined, to create innovative and immediate solutions to the problems caused by homelessness, as specified. The bill would appropriate an unspecified sum from the General Fund to the Local Homelessness Solutions Account and direct the Controller to apportion those funds to cities in proportion to each city’s most recent homeless population, as specified. The bill would require cities to match any funds received from the program. The bill would authorize these funds to be expended for, among other things, shelter diversion, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing.” [For details of AB-3171](#) By E. Heaser

Indivisible

Kevin McCarty (D) Assembly District 7 (parts of Sacramento City/County & West Sacramento) addressed the members of the Indivisible organization on 2/21/18. He discussed the importance of making it easier for people to vote and that Sacramento will be the test place for making it easier to vote with longer vote periods, mailed ballots, Vote Centers, etc. He supports a bill to have all 16-17-year-old teenagers automatically registered to vote by DMV when they get their drivers’ licenses. He supports a bond measure for next year that will modernize voting machines.

Assemblyman Phil Ting (D) (SF), District 17, and K. McCarty introduced ACA 22 which would redirect the federal corporate tax cut. A surcharge of ½ the federal corporate tax cut given to corporations with revenue over \$100,000, would be used for low income and middleclass families. The tax money could increase support for the earned income tax rebate and make colleges free for families earning less than \$100,000. If ACA 22 does not pass the legislature it will be put on the ballot.

Guns: California has one of the most aggressive laws, but surrounding states are lax, and Californians purchase guns outside the state and bring them back. **Homeless:** A new bill, AB 3171 (see above), supported by Mayor Steinberg and eleven of the largest city mayors, is going forward with a request to the Governor to have the \$1.5 billion state budget surplus go directly to cities to use for affordable and homeless housing. **Commuter rail:** favors Cal-Train, Capital Corridors and inner-city rail service improvements rather than the high-speed train between L. A. & S. F. **Twin Tunnels:** disagrees with two or even one tunnel ... bad for tax payers, environment, Sacramento water supply, etc. We need more conservation and use of gray water systems in ALL new developments. **Net neutrality:** in favor of President Obama’s plan. California Attorney General is filing a suit against the federal policy concerning net neutrality. **Off-shore drilling:** “Won’t happen,” drilling must take place on international waters, that are five miles out to sea; if oil companies cannot get the crude oil refined (done on shore in California) they would have to take the oil elsewhere ... an expensive endeavor.

McCarty ended by stating that the State needs \$20 billion or more to take care of schools, healthcare and other needs. Systemic tax reform is needed, adjust Proposition 13, tax services, and other adjustments are possible.

By Eileen Heaser



The League of Women Voters of Sacramento County

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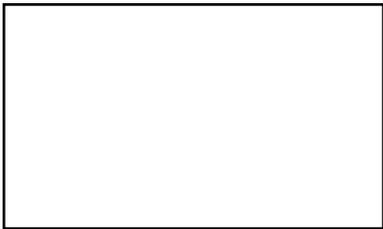
Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916-447-VOTE

Fax: 916-447-8620

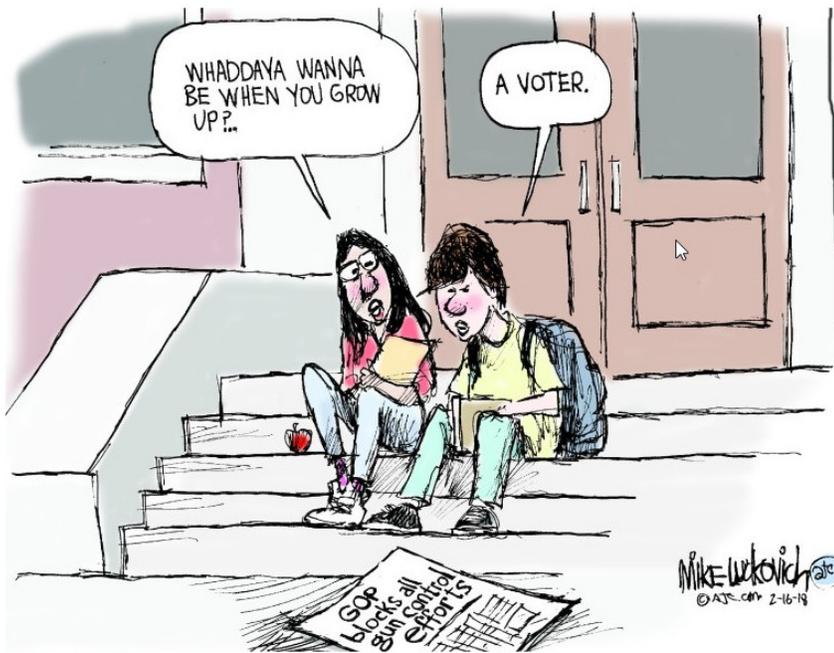
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Credit to cartoonist Mike Luckovich. The Week, 3/2/18 page 22 "Pick of the Week's Cartoons."

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Mike Luckovich signature and date



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