



# The Voter

## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

October, 2020

Cindy Plank and Nancy Kleiber, Presidents

Jary Stavely and Lee Tepper, Editors

### Election Information to Be Presented Online

The League will host two online events during the first half of October to provide for informed voting on the November 3 ballot. First, on Tuesday, October 6 at 7 PM, candidates for the Mendocino Coast Recreation and Park District board will participate in a forum on Zoom to introduce themselves to voters and answer questions from the Zoom audience about their views on issues facing MCRPD. This is an informational event; as a non-partisan organization, the League does not make recommendations about particular candidates for office.

There are five candidates running for two long-term seats on the MCRPD Board. They are John Huff, Keith Stiver, Cynthia Coupe Audo, Angela Dominguez, and Cutler Crowell. League member Lee Tepper will moderate the forum. Jary Stavely will take questions from the online audience via the Zoom Chat feature, and pass them on to the moderator to be posed to the candidates. This will be a valuable opportunity to find out where all the candidates stand on the issues that we care about.

A week later, on October 13 at 6 PM, League members will present the significant arguments for and against, and answer questions about, the twelve statewide propositions on the ballot. These propositions are listed on

page 3. Although the California League has taken positions on some of the propositions, the “Pros & Cons” is an informational event which will not intentionally advocate for or against any of them.

#### California Propositions Pros and Cons

October 13, 2020 6:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88522989492>

Dial in: 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 885 2298  
9492

#### And don't miss ...

#### Schools and Communities First California's Proposition 15

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Meeting registration link:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvcOuruqjMvGtU\\_ZMramsBXx-16IBLtGQ3O](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvcOuruqjMvGtU_ZMramsBXx-16IBLtGQ3O)

Register and join any time, even during the meeting.

Find more about this special guest presentation on p. 5.

*Editor's note: Please see the article on p. 11 for more information about using Zoom for these events.*

#### LWW Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, strives to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

*President's message ...*

## **Evaluating Ballot Propositions**

*by Cindy Plank*

Have you figured out the Ballot Propositions yet? It's often a confusing and daunting process. The League of Women Voters is here to help! LWV of California examines each California proposition carefully and makes determinations to support or oppose, only when a position has been adopted addressing that particular issue. To establish a position, members study and come to consensus on an issue. This thorough grassroots process ensures that our advocacy is well considered by a broad range of people, understood by our members, and we have a sense of the political environment. Due to that process, there are also propositions on which LWV will not take a position.



Besides making recommendations on propositions, LWV provides “Pros & Cons” for each one. Our local Mendocino County unit will present these Pros & Cons for all interested community members by Zoom on Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00 PM. Please check out the access information on page 1.

In addition, we will also provide more extensive info for Proposition 15, Schools & Communities First, on Wednesday, October 14 at 6:00, also by Zoom. This opportunity will not be a Pro/Con. This will be advocacy in support of Proposition 15. Homeowners have been paying their fair share of property taxes based on the 1978 Prop 13 tax formula, but there are large corporations with multiple owners that have not been held to account like homeowners have, and have not been paying their fair share. Prop. 15 remedies that situation. Residential property and agricultural land are protected. Small businesses will be provided new tax relief. Please join us as Laurel Tamariz explains and answers all of your questions.

In advance of these two opportunities to better understand current propositions on the November ballot, here are a few things to consider when you evaluate how to vote on a particular proposition:

Do you think the proposed changes will make things better?

Who are the real sponsors and opponents of the measure?

Is it “good government,” or will it cause more problems than it will resolve?

Does the measure create its own revenue source? Does it earmark, restrict or obligate government revenues? If so, weigh the benefit of securing funding for the measure's program against the cost of reducing overall flexibility in the budget.

Does the measure mandate a government program or service without addressing how it will be funded?

Does the measure deal with one issue that can be easily decided by a YES or NO vote? Or is it a complex issue that should be thoroughly examined in the legislative arena?

If the measure amends the State Constitution, consider whether it really belongs in the Constitution. Would a statute accomplish the same purpose? Remember that all constitutional amendments require voter approval: what we put into the Constitution would have to come back to the ballot to be changed.

Be wary of distortion tactics and commercials that rely on image but tell nothing of substance about the measure. Beware of half truths.

Check out these good sources of info:

CA VOTES – PROS & CONS: <https://cavotes.org/news/>

VOTER'S EDGE: <https://votersedge.org/ca>

## California League Publishes Recommendations

Our State League carefully studies each measure submitted to the voters and judges it by the standard of the League's State and national positions, which are based on consensus of the membership. Their recommendations for this ballot:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Endorse	<input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Stem Cell Research		neutral
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15 School & Communities First		yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 16 Opportunity for All (repeal of Prop 209)		yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17 Restore Voting Rights for Parolees		yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18 Voting Rights for 17 Year-Olds		yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19 Homeowner Property Tax Changes		no
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20 Rollback on Criminal Justice Reforms		no
<input type="checkbox"/> 21 Expansion of Authority for Rent Control		neutral
<input type="checkbox"/> 22 Allow App-Based Drivers Not to Have Union Protections		neutral
<input type="checkbox"/> 23 Dialysis Rule Changes		neutral
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 24 Changes to Law on Consumer Privacy Data		no
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25 End Cash Money Bail		yes

Voters are encouraged to learn more about the propositions at Mendocino County League's Pros & Cons discussion at 6 PM on October 13 on Zoom. They can read details and reasons for the LWVC recommendations on this web page: [bit.ly/LWVCBallotRecs](https://bit.ly/LWVCBallotRecs).



## Upcoming Lecture Concerning Politics and Democracy

Mendocino College has announced that a community lecture series called the Mendocino College Symposium will begin on Tuesday, October 6 with a lecture by Political Science Professor Phil Warf entitled, “Thumb on the Scales: Using Gerrymandering and Voter-Suppression to Rig Elections.” The college hopes that the lecture series will connect the college more closely with its community. The subject matter coincides with the League’s efforts towards Making Democracy Work. The symposium will start at 6 PM. It will be recorded, and played back on KZYX at 3 PM on Friday, October 8. For more information and the Zoom link, go to <https://www.mendocino.edu/symposium>.

## Make a Date with Democracy

*The following appeared as a letter to the editor in the Advocate-News.*

How will you vote? I don’t mean who will you vote for, or which measures will you support. I mean how will you decide on your votes, complete the ballot, and get it safely to the elections department to be counted? You have a lot of options this year, both as to how you go about voting and when you do each step, so it’s important to have a plan.

First, are you registered? Check your info at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>. Do it now!

Next, check out what’s on your ballot. Get the facts from LWV by entering your address at this nonpartisan website: <https://votersedge.org/ca>.



### REGISTER TO VOTE

<https://registertovote.ca.gov/>

### EASY VOTER GUIDE

<http://www.easyvoterguide.org/>

### VOTERS EDGE

<https://votersedge.org/ca>

### BALLOTPEDIA CALIFORNIA

<https://ballotpedia.org/California>

### FACT CHECKING

<https://www.factcheck.org/>

<https://www.politifact.com/>

### CA VOTES - PROS & CONS

<https://cavotes.org/news/new-pros-and-cons-ballot-measures-online>

### MENDOCINO COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

707-234-6819

<https://my.lwv.org/california/mendocino-county>

[info@lwvmendo.org](mailto:info@lwvmendo.org)

Plan a time to complete your sample ballot. Talk the issues over with your friends/family but remember your ballot is your own and is completely private. Join LWV for a discussion of ballot measure Pros/Cons. See info at: <https://my.lwv.org/california/mendocino-county>.

If you’re going to a polling place, bring your completed sample ballot with you. Decide what time of day works best for you, and allow enough time in case of a wait. Bring your face covering.

If you decide to return your ballot by mail, fill it out and take it to the Post Office as soon as possible after it arrives. No stamp required.

You can also return your completed ballot at one of the secure drop boxes available throughout Mendocino County and at each polling location. These locations will be included with your sample ballot.

Celebrate your participation in America’s democracy!

— Dorine Real, Board of Directors, LWV of Mendocino County

## League to Provide Focus on Prop 15

Please join the Mendocino County League on Zoom for a discussion of Prop 15, and why the League supports it, on Wednesday, October 14, at 6 PM. Laurel Tamariz, the Statewide Director of the Speakers' Bureau & Training for Proposition 15, will give a comprehensive look at what it would do, and not do, for our state. Considerable misinformation has been passed along, both by design and confusion, and the League wants to make sure that the public receives a true understanding of the measure, also known as Schools & Communities First.

Laurel has spent her career with one foot in the political world and one foot in the private sector. In both cases, her passion is working on programs benefiting working families.

For 14 years she has worked on behalf both of candidates and issue campaigns. Most recently, she was the Speakers' Bureau Director for the Prop. 55 campaign, which secured \$120 billion for California's public education and healthcare as part of the recession recovery effort; and the Stories Director for the Fight For Our Health campaign, which successfully blocked the repeal of the ACA. During non-election cycles, she is a consultant for startups entering funding rounds for venture capital—specializing in honing their story and helping them to align their business models with socially responsible practices.

She has an MBA from UC Davis, with a focus on corporate ethics and finance; and a BA from Mills College in public policy and economics. Born and raised on the Mendocino Coast, she continues to be a big fan of sports done in the great outdoors, notably as a rower for a nationally competitive Women's Masters crew team. She looks forward to the post-COVID era when she can visit her father and stepmother, both retired educators, in Fort Bragg. She resides in Sacramento with her husband and their two little dogs.

Zoom information for this and our other October programs is on page 1.

*League members Meg Courtney and Carrie Durkee made use of old Measure F signs to promote California League-endorsed Prop 15. Also appearing: our League's new GOTV banner.*



## LWV Opposes a Rushed Supreme Court Confirmation Process

League of Women Voters board president Deborah Turner and CEO Virginia Kase have issued the following joint statement on rushing the Supreme Court appointment process:

Four years ago, Senate leaders set a precedent for how the confirmation process for a Supreme Court justice appointee should occur during a presidential election year. In 2016, a Supreme Court seat sat vacant for more than 300 days, showing that there is no reason to rush this process in 2020. If it was too soon then, it's too soon now. The American people are in despair during this global pandemic: millions are out of work and more than 200,000 have lost their lives to this deadly virus. It is the duty of our elected officials to provide relief to the American people and ensure all voters can participate in our democracy by safely casting their votes this year. Supreme Court justices serve for life and make decisions that impact every American. They require a thorough vetting process that is transparent to the American people. Such a process would be undermined if rushed through. Now is not the time to rush a lifetime appointment to the United States Supreme Court.

The link for action on this issue is:

[http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action\\_KEY=13995&utm\\_source=ActionAlert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=092520](http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=13995&utm_source=ActionAlert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=092520)



## Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

The passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg prompted this tribute from U.S. League President Dr. Deborah Turner:

“Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s wisdom, determination & dedication to equal rights embodied the League’s belief in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy. It is with deep and profound sadness that LWV mourns the passing of this judicial giant.”

*A number of local residents turned out for a silent vigil to honor Justice Ginsburg at Town Hall in Fort Bragg. Val Muchowski took this photo of Fort Bragg residents Linda Jupiter (of our League) and Christie Olson Day.*



## In the Steps of RBG

By Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

So let me take one step right now,  
 one step toward respect.  
 And give me strength to take another  
 toward clarity. And though  
 my feet might feel like stones, let  
 me take another step toward justice.  
 And another toward equity. And another  
 toward truth. And though my legs  
 may feel leaden and slow, though someone  
 else may step on my toes, may I inch  
 toward forgiveness. May every step  
 be toward a bridge. Enough divisiveness.  
 And as I go, may I find joy in the stepping,  
 grace in the edging toward great change.  
 But if there’s little joy, let me step anyway.  
 Then take another step. And another. And another.

*Cindy Plank shared this poem, written on the night of Justice Ginsburg’s death.*

September 2020

**PBSO  
NEWS  
HOUR**

## **An Overview of Health Care on the Mendocino Coast**

*by Jary Stavelly*

For its Kickoff Meeting on September 15, the League of Women Voters held an online forum concerning the status and future of health care on the coast, featuring Judy Leach of Adventist Health Mendocino Coast, Lucresha Renteria of the Mendocino Coast Clinics, and Jessica Grinberg of the Mendocino Coast Healthcare District (formerly MCDH) board. The event was organized by Charlene McAllister, Jane Person, Nancy Kleiber, and Paula Cohen. The latter served as the online moderator.

Ms. Leach, now the hospital's chief executive, emphasized her appreciation for all the preparations made by the hospital staff and board before the beginning of Adventist's lease on July 1. She praised the expertise of the paramedics and doctors her organization inherited. Many of her comments related to the hospital's role in having 25 beds available for use. Those beds have already been useful in taking patients from sister units in Willits and Ukiah, and (although it wasn't mentioned) in safely accommodating COVID-19 patients from Sherwood Oaks. She suggested that some beds may also be available for mental health services in the future. Coastal residents now have access to orthopedic and cardiac specialists through the Adventist partnership.

Ms. Renteria recounted the range of programs and services provided by her organization's separate offices for pediatric, adult, dental, behavioral, wellness (including chiropractic), and reproductive health care. She recounted the clinics' history as an arm of the county health department before becoming an independent agency under the leadership of Ms. Cohen. Perhaps because of this history, and because of its reliance on grant funding, her organization has a broad ability to communicate with other county and regional resources, such as when the MCC was able to obtain surveillance testing materials for the pandemic from UCSF. Her organization sees its role as providing a safety net for coastal residents through its sliding scales for those with low incomes.

Ms. Grinberg, by virtue of chairing the healthcare district's board, also sits on the AHMC Community Board. The MCHD board is still finding its feet in learning how to be a good landlord to the new hospital administrators, and is not sure exactly how to otherwise direct its energies. It hopes to identify gaps in what the other two agencies are providing, and then fill them. She suggested that some possible future areas could be in helping to implement the emergency preparations of the Hubs & Routes project, in assisting schools in their attempts at bettering community health, and in helping behavioral health efforts, for example with employment referrals. There may be Measure C funds (which her board has to manage) left over from supporting the physical hospital plant, which might be available for community outreach efforts.

The three health care experts agreed that the coastal community still needs a comprehensive plan for the provision of mental health services. The co-ordination needed to get there will take a very great deal of collaboration. The Healthcare District Board is elected by coastal school district voters, although a current vacancy will be filled by the Board of Supervisors (Ms. Grinberg appealed to viewers to apply). The Clinics has its own board, a majority of which is constituted by its patients. And the AHMC administration has a large Community Board with membership from local government, law enforcement, and residents. (Currently, although two members of the Spanish-speaking community have been approached, it has no latino representation among its 13 members.)

The forum provided its own model for collaboration (and how unwieldy it can be) during a discussion of the countywide Measure B committee, which was created by the voters to establish county-based emergency psychiatric services. Ms. Renteria shared how, after a lengthy period of meetings during which nothing tangible had changed, she contacted 4th District Committee member Mark Mertle about the problem of mental health cases still coming entirely to the hospital ER, and put him in touch with the then hospital CEO to explore making use of available bed space there. Ms. Grinberg excitedly added that her then hospital Planning Committee was then able to share with the Measure B committee their research about a model treatment program in San Francisco. It appeared that this had been the panelists' first opportunity to compare notes on what they had both been involved in. Another hopeful note about successful collaboration: Dr. William Miller, the Hospital Chief of Staff, has been having regular discussions with the Clinics' doctors that has been very helpful for both health agencies.

## Alameda League's New Approach to Youth Engagement

*Voter* readers who follow the our League's Facebook page may have encountered a new online game called Verify It. **VerifyIt!** was developed by volunteer members of the League of Women Voters Alameda, California. It was designed by their Youth Outreach Services Committee to address media literacy, improve voting knowledge and encourage civic engagement.

In keeping with the League's mission to empower voters and defend democracy, the committee developed the game to appeal to people of all ages, but especially to young voters and future ones—ages 16 to 29. The game is designed to encourage them to become informed and active participants in their democracy. By providing the knowledge and understanding of important issues facing our country today, it aims to help these young voters become the civic leaders and League leaders of the future!

Cindy encourages all of us to try it out—for ourselves, and with family and friends. Go to <https://verifyit.buzz> to play!

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Updates

*Voter* readers who have been following the fate of local DACA recipients may be interested to learn that the Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services Team in Sonoma County has been offering DACA renewals for free during September. They have offered to cover the \$495 USCIS fee for those in northern California whose permits expire by the end of the year. The *Press-Democrat* story about this opportunity is at <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/news/catholic-charities-in-santa-rosa-covering-495-immigration-renewal-fee-for/>.

Cindy Plank reports that Christie Olson Day has received some disturbing pushback for having a Black Lives Matter sign in the Gallery Books window in Mendocino. Comments have included a statement that BLM is a terrorist organization, as well as a potentially veiled threat.

Ms. Olson Day has been asked to join the Fort Bragg name change conversation commission. (See the September *Voter* for the previously announced list). A moderator has been hired to help the commission's work because the first meeting was contentious.

The League's Racism group has recommended two more articles for *Voter* readers. "For the First Time, America May Have an Anti-Racist Majority," by Adam Serwer, was published in *The Atlantic*: <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2020/10/the-next-reconstruction/615475/>. "White Supremacist Links to Law Enforcement Are an Urgent Concern" was published by the Brennan Center for Justice. Cindy says it is frightening, but that it contains crucial data: <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/white-supremacist-links-law-enforcement-are-urgent-concern>.

The U.S. League has invited all members and interested citizens to a "powerful discussion on the role systemic racism plays in silencing voters of color and what's at stake in this year's election." This will be a free, live event broadcast on its Facebook Page on Thursday, October 8 at 4 PM Pacific time.

The announcement continues:

As the 2020 Census count comes to a close, states prepare for the 2021 redistricting cycle—but not all states will have maps drawn that truly represent voters. In 2019, the League of Women Voters of the United States launched the People Powered Fair Maps (TM) campaign in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. The campaign has prompted state-led actions to create transparent redistricting processes that involve citizens and ensure the needs of communities, rather than elected officials, are represented as districts maps are drawn.

On October 8, the League of Women Voters of the United States, along with LWV of Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia, will host a discussion on the role systemic racism plays in silencing voters of color and how it's shaped one of the most important processes for ensuring voters' voices are heard. These community leaders will share information on the work being done to end some of the most egregious racial gerrymandering in the country—and what all is at stake in this year's election.

Join us to learn what you can do in your state and across the country to fight systemic racism by voting, being counted in the census, and getting involved in the redistricting process! The link is:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/339323525412478/>



## Update on Emergency Preparedness

*The Hubs & Routes team (see June 2020 Voter) has issued the following announcement:*

After some months of tinkering, we now have Hubs and Routes Offer Forms that work!

Please go online to [hubsandroutenets.net](https://hubsandroutenets.net) and fill out a Routes Offer Form, a Private Hub Offer Form, and/or a Public Hub Offer Form to communicate to your neighbors and community and 911 leaders more about what you are likely to need/give help with when times are tough. For help filling it out, email [hubsroutes@mcn.org](mailto:hubsroutes@mcn.org). We will then organize that data into maps that are quickly-searchable, and train the leaders and 911 folks how to use them.

It's still up to each neighborhood to work on creating and improving their alternate routes and bolstering up their Hubs. What this phase of Hubs and Routes can do is to show what routes and resources are already in place, in such a way that it helps you, even if you aren't in your home neighborhood when something goes wrong.

If you *have* downloaded our maps in advance of a crisis, you'll have an easier time finding your way to where you need to go, and an easier time figuring out how to help others, than if you *haven't*. You may wish to put a monthly reminder on your phone to check the online maps, see how they have changed, and decide whether or not to download a more recent version. Thanks in advance!

## Community Garden Plan Goes to City Council

*by Jary Stavely*

At the Sept. 14 meeting of the Fort Bragg City Council, League member Matt Drewno of the Garden Friendly Community Committee presented an update of its plan to create a community garden at the C.V. Starr Center (see the September, 2020 *Voter*). The plan was revised to include ADA compliance measures in the beginning phase of the project, and to reflect new donation and budget numbers.

The budget for the plan now foresees the expenditure of \$6,890 for Phase 1, \$2,300 for Phase 2, and \$7,400 for Phase 3. The garden would have deer-proof fencing, a lockable gate, a greenhouse, a tool shed, raised beds, and pathways which include wheelchair access to certain planting areas. Matt told the council that the committee already has a waiting list of 40 people who want either to garden or to volunteer assistance. Three or four candidates have approached the committee about overseeing the garden. The plan also provides for drought-tolerant, bee-friendly plantings separate from the food-growing beds. He suggested that infrastructure for the project could include the addition of two 3000 gallon water tanks to the two already on site, which could be used to store rainwater catchment.

The committee has already raised more funding than the expenditures in the budget would require. It has received \$7,500 from the Mendocino Coast Children's Fund, \$10,000 from an anonymous donor, and \$2,645 from its online GoFundMe account. Further support from outside foundations is also likely. Matt told the council that he hopes that work on the project can begin by the beginning of 2021, so that plots can be planted in the spring.

Council members appeared to be positive about the plan, while raising questions about soil, shade, salt air, pest control, and security. A discussion about water use revealed that the committee foresees water use in the same quantity as the city is now using to keep down dust on the property. A tentative projection of the cost runs to between \$300–600 per year. The city may also have available spare water tanks of the size that the committee expected to purchase.

Part of the discussion centered around the cost of insurance. The committee already has acquired coverage up to \$1M, but funding to pay for \$2M may be needed. City Manager Tabatha Miller suggested that the city could choose to spend some of the \$10,000 saved from not having to hold an election for council seats this November toward the project, and, that a limited amount of the sales tax raised for support of the Starr Center could also be

allocated to it. Council member Bernie Norvell thought that a good plan might be for the city to own the garden, and to have the committee manage it. In the end, the city manager proposed that city staff could work out the details of a lease and a Memorandum of Understanding to be voted on at a future meeting.

The Garden Friendly Community Committee includes Jaime Jensen, Jill Surdzial, Sidney Grange, Cornelia Reynolds, and Matt Drewno. The city's video of the meeting can be found by starting at the 55:00 mark at [http://cityfortbragg.granicus.com/player/clip/865?view\\_id=1&redirect=true](http://cityfortbragg.granicus.com/player/clip/865?view_id=1&redirect=true).

## **Project Sanctuary Announces Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

*The following message comes from Vicki Wellspring:*

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Project Sanctuary, Mendocino County's crisis response and resource center, invites you to stand with us to honor those whose lives have been lost, support those who have survived, and offer hope and resources to those still in domestic violence relationships. Domestic violence can impact anyone, regardless of gender, class, race, ability or education. If you or someone you know is experiencing violence, please call 707-964-4357 for the coast office, 707-463-4357 for inland. where trained counselors are available 24/7. You CAN break the cycle of violence, and we are here to support you.

In honor of domestic violence awareness month, Project Sanctuary is excited to offer a unique online challenge to facilitate self-care and family activities during these complicated and stressful times. Our challenge, #20for2020, was created to highlight the fact that every minute in the United States, 20 people are physically abused in their relationship. This adds up to more than 10 million people experiencing physical violence by an intimate partner every year. Each day that you are able, Project Sanctuary invites you to engage in free activities to promote wellness for individuals and families. In honor of survivors everywhere, take the 20for2020 challenge with us and empower yourself, your family and our community to prevent Domestic Violence.

To participate, head over to <http://projectsanctuary.org> and click on the DVAM tab to sign up and learn more. Not only will you receive a free water bottle and awareness stickers, you can track your progress and be entered to win an online drawing for an Amazon gift card.

Need some motivation and suggestions? No problem! Every day on our social media pages we will post ideas for you to make sure you get your #20for2020. Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/projectsanctuaryinc> and on Instagram @p\_sanctuary. In addition to our list of activities, we also have a full calendar of community events, all available through Zoom. This includes movement classes, offerings for kids and adults, and educational panels in Spanish and English. We want this Domestic Violence Awareness Month to empower our community to feel resilient, connected, and whole. Together we are preventing domestic violence!

## **Time to Pay Your Dues**

*by Jary Stavelly*

As the League Membership Chair, I would like to thank all those who sent their dues in during September. Since we are only having online meetings this fall, you won't be able just to pull out your checkbook when you come in person to one of our meetings, as you may have been in the habit of doing. So, please remember to do it at home. The amount remains the same—\$60 for an individual membership, \$90 for a two-member household. Please feel free to contribute more or less. More helps fund our local budget, as does less, if you don't mind forgoing official membership in the state and national leagues. Checks may be mailed to P.O. Box 1128, Fort Bragg, CA. 95437. Thanks to all for your ongoing support of informed voting and good government.

## Some Tips for Participation In October Zoom Events

*Adapted, with thanks to Tim Bray and the Audubon Society*

The League's October events will be webinar-style: only the host and candidates or presenters will be visible and audible. So just click the link or paste it into your browser (removing any spaces) and start watching.

(For interactive meetings, you can generally join the meeting early and get your settings figured out. At the lower left of your screen you'll see icons to control your audio ("mute" and "unmute") and video. In a big meeting it's helpful if people keep themselves muted unless they need to speak – this eliminates unwanted noises like barking dogs and crunching potato chips.)

Find the "Chat" function on your Zoom screen and learn how to use it. This will be your way to ask questions during the meeting. Please direct all questions to "QUESTIONS," not to "Everyone" (the default setting) or to the presenters. The question master (Jary Stavely) will relay the questions to the moderator (in the case of the candidate forum) or to the proposition presenter (in the case of the pros & cons). We hope this will make the Q&A work smoothly so everyone has a chance to get their questions asked and answered.

*Breaking update ...*

## You Haven't Missed Out on the Census —Yet

*by Paula Cohen*

The last date to respond to the 2020 Census will be somewhere between October 5 and October 31, 2020, depending on a final decision by the Federal Courts. While the courts argue this issue, California's strategy is 'go until they say stop'. Mendocino County's self-response rate—55.6% of households—is still slowly increasing, so we will continue to promote responding to the Census. A new local phone number (707-757-6504) has been added to the list of ways to respond: internet ([my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov)), phone: (1-844-330-2020), or paper form. Please keep talking up the census, EVERY person counts. Questions? Call me at 937-1914.



Keep up with the topics covered in the *Voter* by visiting our Mendocino County League on Facebook. The site is <http://www.facebook.com/LWVMendo/>  
You don't even have to sign up in order to see what is posted there.