



LWV Glendale/Burbank VOTER

lwwglendaleburbank.org

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Letter from the President

2017 is here and while many folks are still focused on the presidential election, our local League is busy preparing for the municipal elections in our communities. Here's a reminder about the dates:

Burbank:

February 28, 2017 – Primary election

April 11, 2017 - General election

Offices: 3 Council Members, 1 City Clerk, 1 City Treasurer, 2 Board of Education (each of these seats may be filled during the Primary Election if candidate receives the majority of the votes cast)

Glendale:

April 4, 2017

Offices: 3 Council Members, 1 City Clerk, 1 City Treasurer, 1 member to the Glendale Unified School District Governing Board representing Trustee Areas: B, C, D, and one member to the Glendale Community College Board of Trustees representing Trustee Areas: 2, 3, 4.

Each of these elections presents some unique challenges. For example, in Glendale, new districts for the School District Board and the Community College Board mean six separate elections where there would have been two in the past. How do we meet these challenges? With grace and determination!

Read about our upcoming events in this issue of The Voter and join us!

Mary L. Dickson



Candidates Forums

Our first group of candidate forums will be held in **Burbank** on Friday, January 27th at Burbank City Hall Council Chambers beginning at 7PM. Rita Zwern will once again moderate our forum for both the City Council and Board of Education candidates (subject to confirmation from candidates to attend). Questions are welcome and can be submitted by email to the following addresses:

CityCouncilForum@gb.ca.lwvnet.org

SchoolBoardForum@gb.ca.lwvnet.org

Volunteers are always needed and helping at the forum is a great way to get to know the candidates in-person and to see the League in action. Invite a friend to join you at the forum or call us if you need a ride to the event. Volunteers should arrive no later than 6:30PM.

If you can't make the forum in person, don't forget that it will be taped and televised on local public access Channel 6 (Charter – Spectrum) and will also be available on-line through the City's YouTube channel.

Plans for a candidates' forum in **Glendale** are underway although the date has not yet been confirmed. If you are interested in volunteering for either event, you can email us at lwvglendaleburbankca@gmail.com

Calling all community organizations to the **Candidates Carousel!**

In addition to our traditional candidates' forum, this year the League of Women Voters – Glendale / Burbank will be organizing a Candidates Carousel. This is a new event in which community organizations meet in one location and candidates move from table to table to answer questions from each organization for about 10-15 minutes depending on the number of participating organizations and candidates. This event (sometimes also referred to a "speed – dating" for candidates) has been used by League groups around the country to bring together community groups with the League to help educate voters.

Our first event will be in Burbank at the Buena Vista Library, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, February 12, 2017. If you participate in a community group that you think might be interested in participating in the Candidates Carousel, please contact us at lwvglendaleburbankca@gmail.com .

Look for more information and a flyer to be circulated on this event soon.

Healthcare Needs Assessment

Leagues all across the country are concerned about potential changes to the Affordable Care Act. Member Joan Hardie posted this excellent assessment of our local healthcare needs. Copy this link to your browser to view the report:

<http://communitybenefit.providence.org/~//media/Files/CBR/CA/2016CommunityHealthNeedsAssessmentProvidenceStJosephMedicalCenterBurbank.pdf>

LWV- California Program Planning

The League is a truly grassroots organization that sets its agenda through the Program Planning process. As members, this is our chance to help choose what we want California's and the League's future to be. Join us at Panera Bread Company on Thursday, February 16, 2017, when we'll be discussing League policy and positions at the state level.

Where should the League focus its energy over the next two years?

What are the issues of concern to us here in Glendale and Burbank?

Where is there a need for legislative activity and other advocacy, both in Sacramento and in our city or county?

Advocacy is a key League activity year-round. For example, we supported or opposed 11 of the 17 statewide ballot measures in November, but in addition, 19 bills we supported—from climate change to voting rights—were signed into law, this year alone.

What will we do to participate in the LWVUS Campaign to Make Democracy Work? Should we focus on community education? Was there an issue on the ballot this year on which you wished the League had been able to take a stand—so that we should have a new or updated study?

This is your opportunity to make your voice heard. Join us!

LWV-Los Angeles County – Annual Convention

Save the date for the County League's Annual Convention and plan to welcome League members from all over Los Angeles County:

Saturday, March 25th
LWV-LAC's 55th Annual Convention
Pickwick Gardens (in Burbank!)
9:30 am to 1:30 pm (approximate)

Board Meeting – Weds., January 11th, 7PM

Members are always welcome to attend board meetings and to share information with the board. Meetings are generally held each month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month alternating between Glendale and Burbank. This month's board meeting will be in Burbank. The meeting is held at the Police Department Community Room, 200 N 3rd St, Burbank, CA 91502.

March is Women's History Month

Glendale Community College is organizing a Women's History Month event at the college on Tuesday, March 7th from 6:30pm-9:30pm . The event will include the screening of a documentary on women's suffrage and voting rights, with commentary from the film's director and others. League volunteers may be needed to register voters – wouldn't that be fun!!

More information to follow, but please save the date. The organizer of this event is Michelle Stonis, Instructor of History at Glendale Community College
