



LWV Glendale/Burbank VOTER

www.gb.ca.lwvnet.org

March 2017

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- **Join us on Facebook and Twitter!!** We're now on Facebook and Twitter as the League of Women Voters of Glendale/Burbank

Letter from the President

Municipal elections are in full swing. As Burbankers wait for the results of their primary election, the League is conducting candidate forums in Glendale for City Council and School Board in anticipation of the April 4th Glendale election. (See <http://www.glendalevotes.org/> and for more information on the election.)

Preparing for and conducting these forums in the non-partisan tradition of the League is part of our core mission to encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and to work to increase understanding of major public policy issues.

No issue is in greater need of understanding than the increasing number of homeless folks present in our communities of Glendale and Burbank. The Los Angeles Times reported that federal housing officials blame soaring rents and the federal government's failure to fund affordable housing for a rise in homelessness. The need for housing and the backlash against housing developments seem to dominate the political landscape. For LA County's proposed approach to this problem, see the enclosed Pros and Cons on Measure H (1/4-cent sale tax to be used to provide funding to prevent and combat homelessness in LA County).

And let's not forget that March is Women's History Month! The League of Women Voters is a leader in the effort to recognize women's contributions to history, culture and society, which had been discounted for so long. Hidden figures all! Read about our upcoming events in this issue of The Voter and please join us!

Most sincerely, Mary L. Dickson



Glendale Candidates Forum planned for March 1 and 2!



Join us at the Glendale Fire Station 21 for the Glendale City Council Candidates Carousel!

Glendale Candidate Forums

Join us and invite your friends and neighbors to the Candidates Forums in **Glendale** on Wednesday, March 1 for the City Council and Thursday, March 2 for the School Board in the Glendale City Hall Council Chambers beginning at 7PM. Rita Zwern will moderate our forums. 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 television. If you are interested in volunteering for either event and have questions, you can email us at lwvglendaleburbankca@gmail.com Otherwise, please just come to forum!

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

League facilitators and other volunteers are needed on Sunday, March 12th beginning at 1:30pm at Glendale Fire Station #21 (across from Glendale Galleria) for a new and exciting community event sponsored by the League of Women Voters! It's the Candidates Carousel – a place for community organizations to meet the candidates in one location.

League facilitators help organizations formulate a question to discuss with the 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. The recent event in Burbank was enjoyed by all, including the candidates.

We are also still hoping to sign-up additional community organizations. Please contact us about the event to be held in Glendale for Glendale City Council candidates, scheduled for Sunday, March 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.

March is Women's History Month!

Here are two different events to celebrate with LWV:

MARCH 7 – Glendale Community College 7:00pm-9:00pm at in Kreider Hall - The focus of this Women's History Month event is to educate, empower, and activate students to learn about women's suffrage in the early 20th-century United States while desiring to exercise their political power today.

The event will screen 2 short documentaries, host a discussion panel, register students to vote, and include some great photo opportunities!

The event will screen California Women Win the Vote and Votes for Women, both of which are documentaries by director Martha Wheelock (<http://www.ishtarfilms.com/page1.htm>). Martha will be joining a discussion panel, including **Chris Carson, President of LWV**.

MARCH 26 - Join LWV-G/B for The Town Hall Affair Sunday, March 26th 3:00PM RedCat Theatre (DTLA) <https://www.redcat.org/event/wooster-group-town-hall-affair> THE TOWN HALL AFFAIR delves into the revolutionary fervor of feminist thinking and art “happenings” of 1970s New York. The piece is based on the film Town Bloody Hall, a documentary of a 1971 panel that featured feminist thinkers and activists—including Germaine Greer, Jill Johnston, and Diana Trilling — with Norman Mailer serving as an immoderate moderator. This is a live performance and tickets are \$55. For more information, you can email us at lwvglendaleburbankca@gmail.com

LWV-Los Angeles County – Annual Convention

Check out the attached flyer for LA County League's Annual Convention and join us 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 (register); 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (program)

Board Meeting – Weds., March 8th, 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 Burbank Police Department Community Room, 200 N 3rd St, Burbank, CA 91502.

Member Discussion Group continues in Burbank in April

Members meet to discuss topics of interest and how the League of Women Voters can address and respond to our initiative "Making Democracy Work!" Coming together to discuss these issues is important to give our events focus and meaning.

The next discussion group will meet-up in April at date and time to be announced. Please look for our announcement and invite prospective members to join in the discussion.

Save the Date for LWV-G/B Annual Meeting!

Save the date for our Annual Luncheon and meeting

June 17, 2017 at Acapulco Restaurant in Glendale.

Doug Johnson, local expert on re-districting will be speaking.

As you may remember, our more formal annual meetings are now biennial, but we still meet once a year for a special luncheon and we may have a few items of business to cover.



An Inter-League Organization
Antelope Valley • Beach Cities • Claremont Area • East San Gabriel Valley • Glendale-Burbank • Long Beach Area
Los Angeles • Palos Verdes Peninsula/San Pedro • Pasadena Area • Santa Monica • Torrance Area • Whittier

The Pros & Cons of Measure H

Sales Tax --- 2/3 Approval Required

Los Angeles County Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness

The Question: To fund mental health, substance abuse treatment, health care, education, job training, rental subsidies, emergency and affordable housing, transportation, outreach, prevention, and supportive services for homeless children, families, foster youth, veterans, battered women, seniors, disabled individuals, and other homeless adults, shall voters authorize Ordinance No. 2017-0001 to levy a ¼ cent sales tax for ten years, with independent annual audits and citizens' oversight?

The Situation: According to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), there were 115,738 homeless in California in 2015, over 20% of the nation's homeless, by far the most of any state. The estimate for one night in Los Angeles County was 46,874, up about 6% from 2014. Homelessness was named as one of the biggest problems in the County.

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (a city agency) conducts counts of the homeless in Los Angeles County as well as in the city, counting both the sheltered and the unsheltered. Although the total dropped from 65,287 in 2005 to 38,602 in 2009, it has been climbing slowly since then. Estimates by the Institute for the Study of Homelessness and Poverty at the Weingart Center are much higher: about 254,000 men, women, and children homeless at some point during a year in Los Angeles County and approximately 82,000 homeless on any given night.

The Proposal: Measure H would raise the county-wide Transaction and Use Tax (TUT) (i.e., the county sales tax) by ¼ cent for ten years, with the funds raised going to combat homelessness as specified in the measure. Application of Measure H funds would be under the direction of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors with oversight by a five-person Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board (COAB) that would semiannually review tax expenditures and annually publish an accounting. In addition, the County Auditor-Controller would prepare an annual audit of Measure H proceeds.

Fiscal Impact: The County estimates that the ¼-cent Homelessness TUT will bring in approximately \$373 million per year, e.g., 1¢ on a \$4 purchase or \$1 on a \$400 purchase. TUTs, whether general or specific, are capped at 2% countywide. With approval by the voters of Measure M, the county levies TUTs that total 1.5% countywide. However, cities also have the authority to levy TUTs. For example, La Mirada, Pico Rivera, and South Gate have their own 1% TUTs, but would not lose that income. If Measure H passes, they would receive the revenue from the countywide TUT to replace their own TUT income, and county income would be reduced accordingly. The \$373 million estimate of Measure H income takes into account the small amount that would be credited to those three cities.

Supporters Say:

- Daily, over 47,000 in our county are homeless, including many women, children, and veterans,
- The growing homelessness crisis disrupts nearly every community in the county.
- The longer we wait, the more expensive it will be to deal with the issue.
- The homeless need more than housing; Measure H is a broad-based approach, urgently needed.

Opponents Say:

- Taxes are already too high and should be reduced, not increased.
- A sales tax is a regressive tax that places the burden on those least able to pay.
- Localities are better equipped to deal with the problem than the county at large.
- Voters recently approved increases in county taxes and should not be asked for more so soon.



League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County

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55th Annual Convention

WHAT DO L. A. WOMEN WANT?

**The State of Women
in Los Angeles County
2016 United Way Study**

presented by
MARGE NICHOLS



Keynote Speaker
Los Angeles County
Supervisor 5th District
KATHRYN BARGER

**Saturday
March 25, 2017**

Registration & Coffee
9:30 AM

**Convention
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

Luncheon

**PICKWICK GARDENS
Orchid Room
1001 W. Riverside Drive
Burbank 91506
See map instructions**

CONVENTION KITS
for delegates will be
mailed to Local League
Presidents by the end of
February. Additional cop-
ies will be available at the
meeting.

—
All members are
encouraged to attend.
Parking is free.

Please send form and check payable to **LWV/LAC**

Call for info: Tel. **310-479-7482**

Mail to **S. Trutt, 1508 Greenfield Ave., #207, Los Angeles, CA 90025**

League Name _____

Name(s) _____

Delegates: Please Mark a "D" after your name

Reservation Deadline is March 10, 2017 # _____ @ \$35.00 Total enclosed \$ _____

If postmarked after March 10, 2017 Reservations # _____ @ \$40.00 Total enclosed \$ _____

Caesar Salad w/Chicken # _____ or Vegetarian Caesar Salad # _____
w/o NUTS _____ # _____