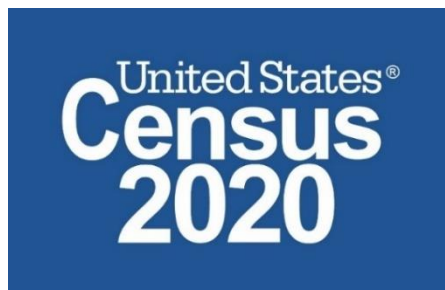




EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.

HAVE YOU BEEN COUNTED?



You should have received your U.S. Census 2020 letter in the mail. If not, it's on the way. It contains a website (<https://2020census.gov>) and a code unique to your address. Please Complete your Census Form today! Click here <https://my2020census.gov/app/intro/state> to complete census questionnaire **without** your code.

The 2020 Census will inform where new hospitals should be built, and it impacts funding for health and wellness programs across California. When we participate in the Census, we help our communities thrive and build a healthier California for All!

Each person not counted costs Ventura County \$2,000 per year for 10 years (\$20,000!) and can jeopardize congressional representation. Include any children living at your address on your Census form. When you do, you help ensure that our kids' schools and childcare centers get more of the funding they need for the next 10 years.

U.S. Census Timeline Updates

Activity/Operation	Original Schedule	Revised Schedule
Self-Response Phase	March 12 – July 31	March 12 – August 14
Mobile Questionnaire Assistance	March 30 – July 31	April 14 – August 14
Count of People Experiencing Homelessness	1-Apr	1-May

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau has adjusted 2020 Census operations. The table below summarizes the adjustments to operations, including extending the Self-Response Phase by two weeks.

Click [here](#) to view the full list of schedule updates.

SUCCESS!

On April 2nd, the Schools & Communities First campaign announced the submission of more than 1.7 million signatures of support to **qualify for the November 2020 ballot** – the most signatures ever submitted in California for a ballot initiative. This historic benchmark was achieved weeks ahead of schedule and surpassed the original 1.6 million goal set by the campaign. A big “thank you” to all our volunteers who gathered signatures to help make this happen!

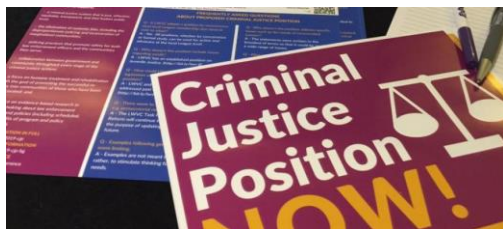


In a sign of the Schools & Communities First coalition’s robust statewide infrastructure and support, a massive grassroots volunteer coalition collected more than 410,000 signatures of the total – an unprecedented number.

The Schools & Communities First initiative would direct \$12 billion every year to the most pressing needs in our communities, including critical local services and schools, while protecting homeowners, renters, and small businesses.

The campaign portal has some updated talking points. There are also suggestions about ways you can be active while at home: share your story, find others in your community with stories to tell (and encourage them to share their stories), write letters to the editor — just to name a few. Campaign information portal: The campaign has created a [one-stop shop for all the campaign information](#). Check it out. Click on the various links to see what you can find.

LWV CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTION



The state League is co-sponsoring the legislation referred to below.

California’s legal system is plagued by racial disparities and discrimination in arrest, trial and sentencing. For far too long, pervasive, structural racism has led to unfair convictions and lengthy sentences for black, brown, indigenous and people of color. Courts only reverse convictions in the most extreme cases, when there is strong evidence of intentional discrimination. In most cases, the courts don’t act, or worse yet, condemn discrimination but call it “harmless error.”

Racial discrimination in our criminal legal system is not inevitable, it is not unfixable, and it is not harmless. [AB 2200, the California Racial Justice Act](#), introduced by Assembly Member Ash Kalra, will prohibit racial

discrimination in convictions and sentences and create a process to challenge racial discrimination at trial or following conviction. You can find more information in this [fact sheet](#).

THE LEAGUE CONTINUES TO WORK DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS!

The Leagues of the United States and California have not stopped working during this crisis. They have been busy communicating on social media.

Follow them on **Facebook**:

<https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/> or @LWVUS

and

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVofCA/> or @LWVofCA

and

our local league: <https://www.facebook.com/LWVVC/> or @LWVVenturaCo

Follow them on **Twitter**:

@LWV

@LWVC

@CountyLwv

Follow local League on **Instagram**:

lwvofventura

Websites:

LWVUS: <https://www.lwv.org>

LWVC: <https://lwvc.org>

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



As Congress works to address the COVID-19 health crisis, it's **CRITICAL** they include provisions to safeguard the right to vote in the upcoming November election. Contact Congress today and ask them to:

- ensure funding and legislation to safeguard elections is included in the next stimulus bill.
- adopt a National Vote-By-Mail Act, working for mail-in ballot options for all states before the November election, including removal of problematic restrictions and assurance of a paper trail for all.

This would encourage voting, assure recounts are feasible with paper ballots, and avoid polling places where health could be compromised.

You can do your part by calling on your Senators and Representatives to end voting discrimination in this county by repairing and modernizing the Voting Rights Act. See <https://www.lwv.org/blog/take-action-repair-voting-rights-act>

OUR CHANGING WORLD

We've all been made aware of the **CDC's recommendations** for stemming to spread of COVID19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/>). We recommend you check for any updates frequently.

For updates on **Ventura County Coronavirus** information, you can go to <https://www.vcemergency.com/>. There is a breakdown of cases by city.

VENTURA COUNTY INFORMATION

For all relevant news about Ventura County, go to: <https://www.ventura.org/>. Find out how to view Board of Supervisors agenda, documents, broadcasts and videos. Connect with County services.



HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY
BETTY SHERMAN!!

You are an amazing lady and a loyal member of the League of Women Voters! Thank you for being a contributing member for over 50 years.

Your smile, sense of humor, and keen interest in the LWV mission, lifts our spirits and sets a fine example for all members.

Please know that we are all thinking of you, wishing you well, and thanking your daughter, Karen Savitt, for escorting you to our LWV functions.

♥ Your friends in the League of Women Voters of Ventura County

COMING EVENTS

Now! Your **new Membership Directory** should arrive in the mail. It has a **yellow** cover. Please review it.

Wednesday, **April 22nd** is Earth Day - the **50th Earth Day anniversary**. Plant something! Watch clouds float by. Smell the flowers. Enjoy a walk.

June TBD, LWVVC Annual Meeting – This will likely be a virtual meeting. You will receive a packet by mail to review nominations for officers and the proposed budget. More information to follow.

BOARD MEETINGS

Until further notice, board meeting will be held by **video conference** on the second Thursday of the month at **4:00pm**. If you want to join us, please email me Betsy Patterson at bpatter123@gmail.com to be invited to the meeting on Zoom.

Thursday, **June 25th - Sunday, June 28th - LWV 54th National Convention "Women Power the Vote for 100 Years"**. We invite our League members to save these dates and plan to join fellow League leaders for our biennial national gathering to be held in Washington, DC in 2020.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE



The League's Nominations Committee has begun to survey our members and confirm those willing to serve for the coming program year of July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021. Any League member in good standing is eligible to serve on the Board. The Board is composed of up to 15 individuals, and includes the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Board meetings are held monthly, with a few exceptions. Board members work together to plan League events and pursue special projects that make our organization relevant and exciting. League Board members are elected by the membership at the annual June membership meeting and serve for one year, beginning this July and ending June 2021.

If you wish to hold a position on the Board, or be willing to serve on the Nominations committee, please contact Cheryl Collart, Nominations Committee chairperson, (Cheryl.collart@gmail.com or 805.644.2923)

BUDGET COMMITTEE

The League's Budget Committee will be meeting in early April to review the current budget and prepare a new budget for the coming program year, which is July 2020 through June 2021. The Committee will prepare a budget for the Board's review prior to adoption at the June annual meeting. If you are interested in the budget process and would like to assist in the preparation of this important League document, please contact Cheryl Collart, Budget Committee chairperson (Cheryl.collart@gmail.com or 805.644.2923)



WE THANK OUR SUPPORTERS

NEW MEMBERS: We warmly welcome our newest members: Karen Trowbridge – Oxnard.

RENEWING MEMBERS: Many thanks and gratitude to our members who have renewed their membership and also to those who have made an additional contribution toward the expenses of operating the LWVVC.



DONATIONS: A shout-out and gratitude go to Jeanette Hosek for her generous contribution to the Education Fund.

VOLUNTEERS: To all those who have noted your areas of interest on your Volunteer Surveys, thank you for volunteering to help fulfill our mission to empower voters and defend democracy. Our committee chairs will contact you in the coming months as various League activities get underway.

To join or renew your support/membership, please send a check to P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006. Your support is critical! For questions or information, contact us using the below information.

RAISE AWARENESS OF THE LEAGUE

Wear an LWV VC shirt to all our public functions. Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL. Donation of \$20.00 or more requested.

Karen Savitt, Treasurer
ksavitt@aol.com
(818) 497-2631

