May, 2020

### **EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.**

### COMING EVENTS

**LWVVC Annual Meeting May 30, 2:00pm** – This will be a *virtual meeting* using Zoom. We will elect new officers, adopt the annual budget and update our bylaws for the coming year. You will receive a packet by *email* to review the nominations, proposed budget and changes to bylaws. If you want to join us, please email Betsy Patterson at <a href="mailto:bpatter123@qmail.com">bpatter123@qmail.com</a> to be invited



to the meeting on Zoom. You will need to download the Zoom App to participate. Those without email will receive a packet by U.S. mail. More information to follow.



**Board Meeting -** Until further notice, board meetings will be held by *video conference* on the second Thursday of the month at 4:30pm. If you wish to join us, please email Betsy Patterson at <a href="mailto:bpatter123@gmail.com">bpatter123@gmail.com</a> to be invited to the meeting on Zoom.

**Meet the Members (MTM)** will resume shortly using Zoom. Your host will send an invitation soon. Look for it in your inbox. This will give us a chance to practice Zoom prior to the Annual Meeting.





LWV 54<sup>th</sup> National Convention "Women Power the Vote for 100 Years". Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> - 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.

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## **ACTION** - VOTE BY MAIL FOR ALL CA VOTERS

Please take a few moments to write individual letters to elected officials in support of VBM.

The safest way for Californians to vote is by mail. States that vote by mail have some of the highest voter turnout. No one needs to miss work to cast a ballot. There is a paper trail. There are no long lines to cast a vote. AND, social distancing is not an issue. Costs can be minimized for poll centers although a few are essential to serve voters who spoil a ballot, provisional voters, or those who need extra help.

County Clerk & Recorder: Mark Lunn <a href="https://recorder.countyofventura.org">https://recorder.countyofventura.org</a>
County Board of Supervisors: <a href="https://www.ventura.org/board-of-supervisors">https://www.ventura.org/board-of-supervisors</a>

Hannah-Beth Jackson: <a href="https://sd19.senate.ca.gov">https://sd19.senate.ca.gov</a>

Henry Stern: <a href="https://sd27.senate.ca.gov/">https://sd27.senate.ca.gov/</a>
Monique Limón: <a href="https://a37.asmdc.org/">https://a37.asmdc.org/</a>
Christy Smith: <a href="https://a44.asmdc.org/">https://a44.asmdc.org/</a>
Jacqui Irwin: <a href="https://www.gov.ca.gov">https://www.gov.ca.gov</a>
Gavin Newsom: <a href="https://www.gov.ca.gov">https://www.gov.ca.gov</a>

Letter to the Editor Ventura County Star: <u>letters@vcstar.com</u>.

## BE PREPARED TO VOTE BY MAIL YOURSELF



In this time of social distancing, we all need to be prepared for the next election. To ensure as few voters and poll workers as possible are endangered by COVID 19, everyone is encouraged to vote by mail. To update your voting preferences (including vote by mail), you will need to re-register to vote. It's quick and easy. There are several online options:

Rock the Vote <a href="https://www.rockthevote.org">https://www.rockthevote.org</a>
When We All Vote <a href="https://www.whenweallvote.org">https://www.whenweallvote.org</a>
CA Secretary of State <a href="https://registertovote.ca.gov">https://registertovote.ca.gov</a>

Update your registration *early* so the Registrar of Voters office is not inundated just prior to the election and so there is plenty of time to print and mail your ballot out. Not sure of your registration? You can review it on the Rock the Vote website.

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### LWV CALIFORNIA UPDATE











LWVC CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE

The LWV California has announced our position on four new climate related bills:

AB 1567 (Aguiar-Curry and Mathis) **SUPPORT** "Organic Waste: Scoping Plan" requires an integrated scoping plan for reducing emissions associated with forestry, agriculture and urban organic waste, providing better coordination across all sectors. Letter of Support

AB 1941 (Gallagher) **OPPOSE** "California Renewables Portfolio Standard: hydroelectric and nuclear generation and suspension" would temporarily pause the state's renewable power mandates to provide funds to harden the grid. Although hardening the grid to reduce the risk and impacts of wildfires is imperative, loosening standards to mitigate climate change would slow our progress toward zero carbon. Letter Opposing

**SB 1052** (Hertzberg) **SUPPORT** "Water quality: municipal wastewater agencies" would authorize municipal wastewater agencies to enter into voluntary agreements to improve stormwater management and to treat stormwater as a local water resource. Letter of Support

**SB 1323** (Skinner), **SUPPORT** "Carbon sequestration: state goals: natural and working lands: registry of projects" creates CO2 removal targets for natural and working lands as a step towards identifying the scope and scale of work needed to reach carbon neutrality. Letter of Support

For a complete list of climate-related bills go to <u>LWVC Climate Change Legislation</u>. For all LWVC bill positions check out the <u>LWVC Bill Status Report</u>.

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## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

We warmly welcome our newest members: Patricia Malchak – Oxnard Judie Beckett - Ojai

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.

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## SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST

The heroes on the front lines – doctors, nurses, emergency responders, local officials, and more – deserve our support now more than ever. When we invest in the health and well-being of our communities and schools, we all benefit. That's why I support the

Schools & Communities First initiative.

The Schools & Communities First initiative will invest more resources locally in critical services and education including in the public health workers and emergency responders that keep all of us safe and healthy. For years, corporate tax loopholes have taken revenue away from our local communities and schools, resulting in under-resourced local services that we all depend on. We can't afford this anymore.

As we continue supporting those on the front lines, we need to start supporting solutions so they can do their jobs effectively. The Schools & Communities First initiative, which just submitted more than 1.7 million signatures of support to qualify for the November ballot, is a solution we all need to support.

For more information, the campaign has created a <u>one-stop shop for all the campaign information</u>. Check it out. Click on the various links to see what you can find.

# YOU COUNT! I COUNT! WE ALL COUNT!

You should have received your U.S. Census 2020 letter in the mail. It contains a website (<a href="https://2020census.gov">https://2020census.gov</a>) 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.



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# THE LEAGUE CONTINUES TO WORK DURING THE COVID-19 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: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LWVVC/">https://www.facebook.com/LWVVC/</a> or @LWVVenturaCo

#### Follow them on **Twitter**:

@LWV

@LWVC

@CountyLwv

Follow local our League on **Instagram**: lwvofventura

### Websites:

• LWVUS: <a href="https://www.lwv.org">https://www.lwv.org</a>

• LWVC: <a href="https://lwvc.org">https://lwvc.org</a>

LWVVC: <a href="https://my.lwv.org/california/ventura-county">https://my.lwv.org/california/ventura-county</a>

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 <a href="https://www.lwv.org/blog/take-action-repair-voting-rights-act">https://www.lwv.org/blog/take-action-repair-voting-rights-act</a>

# **OUR CHANGING WORLD**

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



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

# **VENTURA COUNTY INFORMATION**

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

# RAISE AWARNESS 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

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## **Making Democracy Work...**

Contact us for detailed information.
League of Women Voters of Ventura County
P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006

Please join us!

Membership Form Available online:

https://my.lwv.org/california/ventura-county

Email: info@lwvventuracounty.org

Find Candidate funding and Proposition information on: https://votersedge.org/ca



The League of Women Voters is non-partisan. It does not support or oppose candidates or political parties. The League encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.