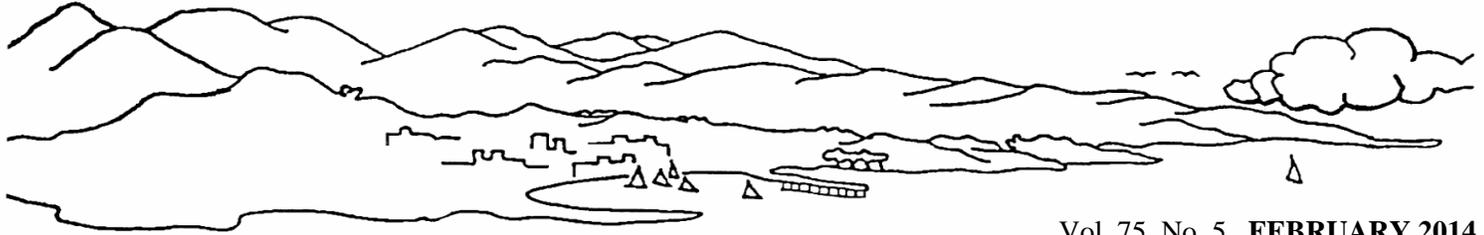




# CHANNEL VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

Serving South Santa Barbara County



Vol. 75, No. 5, FEBRUARY 2014

## February Community Forum: How Can Farm Policy Make Us Healthy?

Wednesday, February 19, noon-2 p.m.—Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De la Vina St.

**Hot Topic:**  
**Agriculture**  
**Study 2014**  
Pages 2,3 & 4

**OFFICERS**  
Co-President  
Membership, Administration  
& Community Education  
Joanie Jones (2015)

Co-President  
Program & Action  
Susan Shank (2015)

Vice-President  
Administration  
Charlene Little (2015)

Vice-President  
Local Action & Program  
Connie Hannah (2015)

Secretary  
Rebecca Claassen (2015)

Treasurer  
Jean Reiche (2014)

**DIRECTORS**  
Hospitality  
Jean Bauman (2014)

Publicity Co-Chair  
Jane Benefield (2014)

Water, Unit Coordinator &  
Hospitality  
Pat Shewczyk (2014)

Channel Voter Editor  
Publicity Co-Chair  
Vicki Allen (2015)

Data Administration  
Suzanne Brothen (2015)

Membership Development  
Amanda Pelch (2014)

Office Manager  
Donna Cairns (2015)

Social Policy Co-Chair  
Jane Honikman (2014)

State & National Action  
Linda Phillips (2015)

Voter Service  
Janice Rorick (2015)  
Bonnie Lassen (2015)

What is a locavore to do? Federal farm policies deeply impact our personal and community health, as well as our planet. Serious dilemmas are created by the political tension between the goals of the big agrifood industries versus the goals of public health advocates.

There are large and long-established subsidies and supportive programs for growing huge amounts of “commodity” crops that include corn, soy, wheat and sugar. Sometimes these are used as ingredients in highly processed foods that promote heart disease and obesity for people. At the same time, the farmers of fruit and veggie crops that help prevent chronic diseases do not receive those subsidies and complain about having to overcome regulatory/financial barriers.

That is one example of the problems the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara will consider when we participate in the LWVUS study of federal farm policies. The kickoff will be at the Feb. 19 community forum featuring three different perspectives on agricultural policies.

UCSB Professor David Cleveland’s field of research trends in the interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Department is global agriculture. He will speak on the big issues of how agricultural policies deeply impact the health of people and of the planet.

We will also hear from Cathy Fisher, Agricultural Commissioner for Santa Barbara County. Her office administers a number of programs affecting local farming operations. These programs originate from all levels of government, federal, state and local and range from pesticide management to the Williamson Act to certified farmers markets.

John Givens, a longtime local farmer, will give us the perspective of one who has “been there, done that.” Givens is actively engaged in the practice of agriculture and is an advocate of sustainable farming and local distribution.

League members are in the process of educating ourselves and our community on agriculture policy issues in order to update our current LWVUS Agriculture policy position. See [www.lwv.org/member-resources/agriculture-update](http://www.lwv.org/member-resources/agriculture-update). Also read related articles on pages 2, 3 and 4.

All League forums are free and open to the public. You are encouraged to invite your friends. Bring your own brown bag lunch, and cookies and beverages will be provided. Parking at the center is free during our meeting.

*Jean Holmes and Susan Horne,  
Agriculture Study Committee members*

## February Discussion Units Affordable Housing in a Post Redevelopment Agency World: Creative Solutions to Affordable Housing

In February 2012, California officially dissolved its Redevelopment Agencies (RDAs). The bill (Redevelopment Agency Dissolution) was upheld by the California Supreme Court and required the dismantling of the RDAs.

While we may need to update our local positions due to this change in state law, it is clear that there is still a need to have positions about redevelopment. Potential changes will be discussed at the February unit

*Continued on page 3*

---

## Message From Your Co-President: Susan Shank

---

### An Election Year

Welcome to 2014! This is an election year so the League will be very busy. Locally there is a race for the Second District Board of Supervisors seat. The incumbent, Janet Wolf, is running for re-election and Roger Aceves, a Goleta City Council member, is challenging Wolf. Also up for election are Assemblyman Das Williams and county officials including Sheriff Bill Brown. It is expected that both Congresswoman Lois Capps and Governor Jerry Brown will run for re-election.

The primary is June 3—just over four months away and the general election is Nov. 4. Stay tuned for information on ballot measures and candidate forums. Also, please contact me if you want to help on Voter Service this year.

### Change of Schedule for Channel Voter

After much discussion and thought, the LWVSB Board of Directors voted unanimously to print the Channel Voter bi-monthly. Emailed messages sent through Constant Contact will be distributed between the printed CVs with state and national action alerts and updated event information. Editor Vicki Allen conducted a survey of 27 local leagues and found that half (14) now produce only electronic newsletters. The trend is definitely toward e-mail. However many Leagues also



mail a printed version to members without email.

It costs about \$700 per month to produce the CV, plus innumerable hours of volunteer time to write, edit and proofread it. In addition to saving money, changing the frequency to bi-monthly should make it easier to find a new editor in the future. The Board decided to implement this change in September 2014, when the new schedule will be as follows: September/October, November/

December, no January issue, February/March and April/May. As always, the CV will not be published over the summer.

### Climate Change/Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

The League has long supported efforts to significantly cut GHG emissions which cause global warming. In January, the Obama administration moved to limit the amount of carbon pollution from new power plants. This is a key step in the fight against climate change. League President Elisabeth MacNamara said: "Reducing the amount of carbon pollution, which is the leading cause of climate change, is a life-saving measure that will protect our children, our nation, and the world from the devastating effects of climate change. See Action Alert on page 5.

*Susan Shank, Co-President, Program & Action*

---

## Agriculture Study 2014

---

### Had Your GMOs Today?

Genetic engineering (GMOs) is just one of the many topics that LWVSB's National Study on Agriculture is concerned about. Research on GMOs is skyrocketing. There was no research in 1980, but the National Institute of Health is reporting that by 2010 there were 8,069 studies.

My report is mainly based on articles from the New York Times and Los Angeles Times. Both conclude that the global consensus by reputable scientists hold that genetically engineered crops are no riskier than others and are sometimes beneficial.

The NY Times article concerned the Big Island of Hawaii's papaya farmers. They recently publically testified that GMO engineering had saved their fruit from a devastating disease.

Yet skepticism abounds. Bills to label GMOs have been proposed in 20 states. The states of Washington and California have recently defeated propositions that would have required GMO labeling on all genetically altered crops.

The LA Times article concerns the nation's citrus crop. The citrus crop in California and Florida is being devastated by the citrus psyllid that turns citrus fruit lumpy and bitter, before it destroys the trees. It is in seven counties in California and 32 counties in Florida. (If you have citrus look for a black seedlike object on the underleaf). It is in our county. UC Riverside's scientists have decided we should import a wasp from Pakistan to control the psyllid. California's orange crop is a \$2 billion industry and accounts for 80 percent of the fresh market citrus. Florida's oranges are mainly for juice.

Florida has gone the GMO route. A Texas researcher has used a gene from spinach and it is showing promising results. Because spinach is so widely accepted the hope is this may save the trees. Other research is also proceeding. There is an urgency because the previously most successful pesticide is not working. There is your dilemma: pesticide or GMO?

It is not too late to join the study. We are meeting weekly.

*Pat Shewczyk, Water and Unit Coordinator*

---

*The Channel Voter is published eight times a year, monthly except for January, June, July, and August, by the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara, 328 East Carrillo Street, Suite A, Santa Barbara, CA 93101.*

**Email:** [league@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:league@lwvsantabarbara.org) • **Web:** [www.lwvsantabarbara.org](http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org)

## A Committee Update

Your Agriculture Study Committee has been working diligently to sift through mass quantities of information. The Committee consists of Co-President Joanie Jones, Pat Shewczyk, Jean Holmes, Eleanor York, Susan Horne, Linda Melsher, Dr. John Ackerman, Bill Shelor, Donna Cairns and Amanda Pelch.

Our kick-off event is on Feb. 19 at the Louise Lowry Davis Community Center. (See front page article for details.) March Discussion Units will discuss the Ag Study information and begin to delve into more details.

At this time we plan a League meeting for Saturday, April 5. It is expected that this will be a 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. meeting, with the location to be determined. We will review the pertinent information and answer the Consensus Questions. Details will be announced in the March Channel Voter and at our February Community Forum. More

information about the study will be presented at the March discussion units.

The Consensus Reports of participating Leagues are to be given to LWVUS by April 18. They will be compiled and the consensus result or new position will be announced before the National Convention in June 2014. More information about the study will be presented at the March Discussion Units.

All resource materials and information are available at: [www.lwv.org/member-resources/agriculture-update](http://www.lwv.org/member-resources/agriculture-update). Please begin your review as soon as possible.

Local contacts for the Ag Study Committee are Joanie Jones at [cnjjones@cox.net](mailto:cnjjones@cox.net) or Amanda Pelch at [apelch@yahoo.com](mailto:apelch@yahoo.com) or call the League office, 965-2422.

Happy Studying!

*Amanda Pelch, Agriculture Study Committee member*

## February Discussion Units - Continued from page 1

meetings. The end to RDAs in California has had negative impacts on communities' ability to increase and preserve the supply of low to moderate-income housing. Additionally, funding from Federal housing programs has been significantly reduced. At the same time the need for affordable housing has not changed. According to a new study by the National Low Income Housing Coalition our state has 21 affordable and available units for every 100 extremely low-income renters.

The League of Women Voters of the United States has a "Social Policy" position on housing that reads "Housing Supply. Support policies to provide a decent home and suitable living environment for every American family." And even more specifically, the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara has a position under "Government" in respect to "Santa Barbara City Re-Development" in support of the following criteria for evaluating central city redevelopment:

- Provision of benefits to the community in any publicly funded redevelopment.
- Top priority for rehabilitation of older homes where feasible, and for expansion of the low and moderate income housing supply
- High priority for consideration of parks and open space.

While there are no longer RDAs there is still a need for policies that promote redevelopment, maintenance of infrastructure and development and preservation of affordable housing. At the February Units (see Calendar for dates) we will discuss both the problem and possible solutions. Some proposed solutions include:

- Establish a permanent State funding source for

affordable housing

- Secure Federal funding that has not previously been granted to Santa Barbara
- Partnership with foundations and faith communities
- Engage in regional planning efforts
- Encourage public private partnerships "in furtherance of the common goals and mutual benefits."
- Update Infrastructure Financing District law to encourage revitalization and the financing of a broader range of projects and facilities

Of course this list is not comprehensive, and we have a lot we can learn from other communities that are successfully addressing affordable housing needs. To that end please Save the Date: On Monday, Feb. 24 Social Venture Partners, the Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness and UCSB will hold a "**Homeless Action Summit**" featuring Philip Mangano, Federal Homeless Policy Czar for seven years and Director of the newly formed American Round Table to Abolish Homelessness, and Becky Kanis, Director of the 100,000 Homes Campaign and Co-Founder of Social Change Agency. There will also be speakers from California communities that have made substantial progress. The summit will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Campbell Hall, UCSB.

*Emily Allen, Social Policy Co-Chair, Managing Attorney of the Homeless Education And Legal Project, Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County*

<sup>1</sup>After Redevelopment New Tools and Strategies to Promote Economic Development and Build Sustainable Communities" (2013)

<sup>2</sup>id.

## Who Gets Food from Federal Food Programs? 3 Key Programs: SNAP, WIC, and School Meals

**SNAP**, the nation’s most important anti-hunger program, helps roughly 35 million low-income Americans to afford a nutritionally adequate diet. SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly Food Stamps.

- Nearly 72% of SNAP participants are in families with children; more than one-quarter of participants are in households with seniors or people with disabilities.
- SNAP caseloads closely track changes in poverty.
- Most SNAP recipients who can work do so.
- SNAP supports healthy eating. Because they can be spent only on food, SNAP benefits increase families’ food purchases. Fruits and vegetables, grain products, meats, and dairy products comprise almost 90% of the food that SNAP households buy. All states operate SNAP nutrition education programs to help participants make healthy food choices.\*
- Recent research on the nationwide expansion of food stamps in the 1960s and 1970s finds that children born to poor women who had access to food stamps grew up with better health outcomes and girls grew up to be more self-sufficient than those born in counties that had not yet implemented the program.

**All the above excerpts are from the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities at [www.cbpp.org](http://www.cbpp.org).** \*In SB County, this SNAP education program is Network for a Healthy California at SB County Public Health Dept.

**WIC** — short for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children — provides nutritious foods, information on healthy eating, and health care referrals to about 8 million low-income pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children under five.

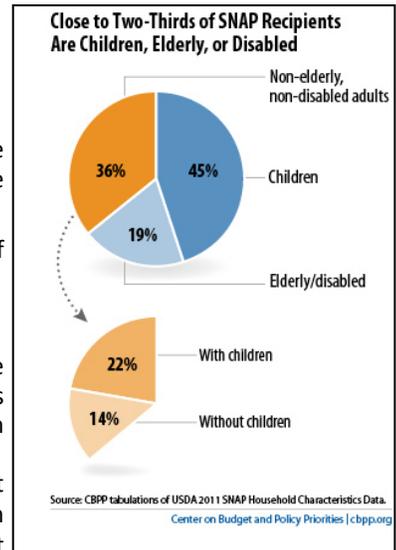
- Locally, in SB County, over three-quarters of almost 19,000 WIC participants are infants and children, while about one-quarter are pregnant women or mothers of infants and children up to age 5, who are at risk of malnutrition. WIC staff provides all participants with nutrition education, breastfeeding education and support as needed, referrals for services, and checks for healthy food to eligible families monthly.
- SNAP and WIC programs add millions to the economies of local communities, as SNAP and WIC checks are redeemed. In SB County, for example, 51 supermarkets and grocery stores redeem over \$13.5 million in WIC checks annually.

**School Lunch And Breakfast Programs** provide free and reduced-price meals that meet federal nutritional standards to over 22 million school children from low-income families.

- In SB County, in recent years, schools have implemented updated federally mandated healthier menus and many are using Farm to School strategies to buy fresh and local produce.

Local WIC facts are from Caro Stinson, Director of Nutrition Services, SBC Public Health Dept.

*Susan Horne, Agriculture Study Committee member and Health Educator*



## Inside The League

### Water News

It looks like the refinancing of the contracts between the individual water districts and the Central Coast Water Authority will proceed.

The future of the double tunnels and the Delta Improvement Plan is once more in doubt. Federal Fish and Game has said that the plan will not produce enough water to improve the fish habitat, one of the major goals. Whether this will be on the November 2014 ballot has not been decided.

After Gov. Jerry Brown declared a disaster in 27 California counties because of drought conditions, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors issued a declaration of local emergency. The board is planning a campaign to educate county residents about water conservation.

*Pat Shewczyk, Water Co-Chair*

### Action On The Fracking Front

Recently League has had several opportunities for action related to well stimulation, the broader term now in use which includes fracking (a well known object of our attention).

On Jan. 13 the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources held a hearing in Santa Maria on the draft regulations that have been under development for quite a while. Linda Phillips testified in person for LWVC, and the Santa Barbara and Santa Maria Valley Leagues submitted a supplementary joint statement.

Also in December and January the division was collecting recommendations on the scope of an Environmental Impact Report. The EIR was required by the Pavley legislation (which took effect Jan. 1) so that the regulatory program of the state could have a firm scientific basis. Once again League submitted comments.

For more information, contact Linda Phillips, [lindakp5@cox.net](mailto:lindakp5@cox.net) or Jean Holmes, [jeanholmes@earthlink.net](mailto:jeanholmes@earthlink.net).

*Jean Holmes, Energy Chair*

### **TAKE ACTION: Urge Congress to Restore the Voting Rights Act!**

Just before Martin Luther King Day, Representatives James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), John Conyers (D-MI), Bobby Scott (D-VA), John Lewis (D-GA), and Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT) introduced common sense legislation that would repair and restore the Voting Rights Act. This bipartisan effort to fix the damage done by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Shelby v. Holder* is necessary to restore and protect the rights of voters across the country.

Tell Congress you support restoring the Voting Rights Act! [http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=9078](http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=9078)

Restoring the Voting Rights Act is common sense policy that will help prevent racial and language discrimination in our elections and protect the fundamental right to vote for all Americans. The legislation will modernize the Voting Rights Act and better protect all voters against discrimination at the ballot box.

The timing of the bill introduction is symbolic. Rep. Lewis worked closely with MLK; he was one of the leaders of the Selma march, which Channel Voter Editor Vicki Allen recalled in our October issue.

Please urge your elected officials to support this important legislation and encourage them to act swiftly to move toward final passage. When you click the link above, your letter will go to your Representative and both Senators. For most of you, that will be Rep. Capps and Senators Boxer and Feinstein. We can thank all of them for their past support of voting rights.

Congress can pass this legislation this year and ensure that the electoral process is free, fair and accessible—but they need to know that you have their backs. Tell Congress that

the Voting Rights Act needs to be repaired and restored this year.

### **TAKE ACTION: Support EPA's Limits on Carbon Pollution**

President Obama and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have proposed a first-ever federal carbon pollution standard for every new power plant built in America. This is a game changer for the climate – especially because power plants are our single largest source of carbon pollution.

You can bet that corporate polluters are already doing everything they can to block these important health protections, while members of the environmental and health communities are already voicing their support. If supporters like you stand up and demand the strongest standard possible, we can ensure a cleaner, healthier future for everyone.

The unlimited dumping of carbon pollution is a chief cause of climate change. And that means more frequent and violent storms and extreme weather events, as well as worse air pollution.

An article explaining the new proposal is at: <http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/01/09/3139921/epa-carbon-rule-power-plants/>.

Will you join others around the country in saying you believe we must put people before polluters and protect our children and future generations from climate change?

Submit a public comment to the EPA in support of the standard and your voice will be part of the official record. Comments must be received on or before March 10. LWV's suggested letter, which you may personalize is at: [http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=8773](http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=8773).

*Linda Phillips, Director, State and National Action*

## Inside The League

*Continued from page 4*

### Website Update

LWVSB's website is now on your smartphone!

Have you recently looked at our website on your smartphone or tablet? In the middle of October, our webhost, League Easy Web, a product of the League of Women Voters of California, made an overnight upgrade which reformatted the content of our pages so they are now easy to read on small-screen devices.

Try it now! Open a browser on your smartphone or tablet and enter [lwvsantabarbara.org](http://lwvsantabarbara.org). You don't need www like you do on a computer.

Also, visit our website to read the email messages we've been sending by Constant Contact. We've also added announcements on the home page. Election results have also been recently updated.

If you want to communicate with any League board member, go to the "CONTACT US" section on the left side of the site and send us a message.

In this Channel Voter you will see internet links in some articles. If you click on these links when the electronic version of the newsletter is posted on our LWVSB website, they will become live and will take you directly to those other websites.

We have taken more steps into the modern world.

*Bonnie Lassen, Webmaster*

## Former Presidents Speak at LWVSB's 75th Birthday Party



Barbara Margerum



Bev King



Linda Phillips



Beth Pitton-August



Marty Blum



Susan Shank and Joanie Jones



Darcel Elliott with proclamation  
from Assemblyman Das Williams



Sheila Lodge



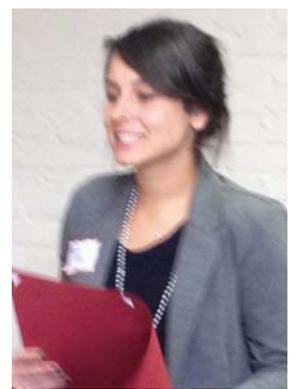
Cathie McCammon



Lessie Nixon



Connie Hannah



Anne Stieg with  
congratulations from State  
Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson

### State and National Action

*Continued from page 5*

#### Talking Taxes: Conversations for the Common Good Friday, March 21 10-3:30, Unitarian Society Parish Hall

Are you tired of the seemingly endless cuts to social services and other public assets? Let's stop talking cuts and start talking revenue. The "Talking About Taxes" project inspires activists and nonprofit staff to become engaged in the reform efforts to overhaul California's tax and budget structure. Organizers believe an important first step is for all Californians to understand California's tax and budget structure and the various reforms that are being proposed to fix it. By working together we can create a state which reflects Californian's shared values and a commitment to the common good.

There will be a two-hour fast-paced morning workshop led by internationally-known speaker and author Kim Klein, followed by a lunch break, and then an afternoon session about how we can all be part of the conversation. A \$35 fee will include the full day's program and lunch.

More information, including how to reserve, will be included in the March Channel Voter.

**MEMBERSHIP FORM to join LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA**

- Here's my annual membership dues of \$60\*
- Second member in same household \$30
- Student \$30
- Please send me more information about League
- I can't join right now; here is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support the League.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara, 328 East Carrillo Street, Suite A, Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
 \*Discounted dues are available for special circumstances. Amanda Pelch, 452-5804.

- I am committed - sign me up to:
- Register Voters
  - Join the League of Women Voters
  - Invite a friend to join the League
  - Pledge financial support      Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_



**Membership News February 2014**

Thank you to all who have renewed your membership for 2013-14. Our Data Administration Team, Suzanne Brothen and Linda Mayo, have inactivated 30 members from 2012-13. You will be missed--everyone is important to the League.

Thank you Linda and Suzanne for all your work; Data Admin is a detailed and time-consuming job. The database makes all our communications happen – via email, snail mail, and Facebook.

Effective Jan. 31, LWVUS tallies each League's membership information in the National Database. They then calculate the per member payment (PMP) and based on this we make our

payments to both State and National Leagues. I hope everyone remembers that this PMP money goes to all the work our State and National LWVs do for us.

And we continue to add new members to our League!

**New Members: Kathleen Weber, Lesley Wiscomb and Betsy Cramer — Welcome!**

*Amanda Pelch, Membership Development Director*

**In Memoriam: Chauncy Shafter Goodrich, Jr.**

**January Community Forum: Covered and Uncovered California  
 Experts Discuss Affordable Care Act and State's Health Care Exchange**



Carole Marks, moderator



Hillary Blackerby, representing Assemblyman Das Williams; Paul Jaconette, chief operating officer for CenCal; Dr. Takashi Wada, director of Santa Barbara County Public Health Department; and LWVSB President Susan Shank



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF SANTA BARBARA, INC.**

328 East Carrillo Street, Suite A  
Santa Barbara, California 93101  
**Phone/Fax:** (805) 965-2422  
**Email:** league@lwvsantabarbara.org  
**Web:** http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Santa Barbara, CA  
Permit No. 120

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Co-Presidents: Susan Shank  
Joanie Jones  
Voter Editor: Vicki Allen  
Production: Wordesigns

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization of women and men, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Printed on recycled paper.



**CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY 2014 DISCUSSION UNITS: Affordable**

**Housing in a Post-Redevelopment World**

- 4 Tuesday: Supper Unit - 5:30 p.m., Madame Lu's Restaurant, 3524 State St., Contact Karen Bunker.**
- 8 Saturday: LWVSB Board meeting, 10 a.m., League Office at 328 A East Carrillo, Suite A.**
- 10 Monday: Valle Verde Unit – noon-2 p.m. in private dining room off breezway (parking in front lot), 900 Calle de los Amigos. Brown bag lunch. Contact Joan Kerns.**
- 12 Wednesday: Carpinteria Unit – 10 a.m., Carpinteria Women's Club, 1059 Vallecito Rd. Contact Barbara Godley.**
- 19 Wednesday: Community Forum: How Can Farm Policy Make Us Healthy? With UCSB Professor David Cleveland; Cathy Fisher, Agricultural Commissioner for Santa Barbara County; and John Givens, a longtime local farmer. 12-2 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De la Vina St.; brown bag lunch; free and open to the public.**
- 21 Friday: Health Care Meeting with speaker Tara Dooley on Affordable Care Act policy issues from Insure The Uninsured Project Conference (ITUP). noon – 1:30 p.m., S.B. County Education Office. Board Room, 4400 Cathedral Oaks Road. Brown bag lunch. Contact LWVSB Health Care Chair Carole Marks.**

**MARCH 2014 DISCUSSION UNITS: Agriculture Study Update**

- 4 Tuesday Supper Unit - 5:30 p.m., Madame Lu's Restaurant, 3524 State St., Contact Karen Bunker.**
- 8 Saturday LWVSB Board meeting, 10 a.m., League Office at 328 A East Carrillo, Suite A.**
- 10 Monday Valle Verde Unit – noon-2 p.m. in private dining room off breezway (parking in front lot), 900 Calle de los Amigos. Brown bag lunch. Contact Joan Kerns.**
- 12 Wednesday Carpinteria Unit – 10 a.m., Carpinteria Women's Club, 1059 Vallecito Rd. Contact Barbara Godley.**
- 13 Thursday "Bridges Over Poverty," 6:30 p.m. Faulkner Gallery of Main Santa Barbara Library. AAUW and LWVSB are co-sponsors. Free and open to the public.**
- 19 Wednesday K-12 Education Forum: Transforming Our Schools: The Common Core Curriculum and Local Control Funding Formula; presented by LWVSB Education Committee. Speakers: Dave Cash, Superintendent of Santa Barbara Unified School District, and Paul Cordeiro, Superintendent of Carpinteria Unified School District. Moderated by Jean Reiche of LWVSB. 12-2 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De la Vina St.; brown bag lunch; free and open to the public.**
- 21 Friday "Talking Taxes: Conversations for the Common Good," 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Unitarian Society Parish Hall. Led by internationally-known speaker and author Kim Klein. Ticket price of \$35 includes lunch.**

**LOOKING AHEAD:** Agriculture Update Study Consensus: **Saturday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.,** location to be determined.

*Remember to check the LWVSB web site (www.lwvsantabarbara.org) for the latest event information.*