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From League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara

Subject Subject: OCT: election news, housing update and more



Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.



CHANNEL VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

Serving South Santa Barbara County



October 2022



November 8, 2022 General Election

Every registered voter in California will receive a ballot in the mail, about a month before Election Day, November 8.

Learn more about what's on your ballot:
Check out [votersedge.org](https://www.votersedge.org)

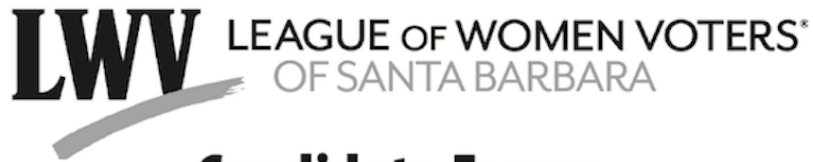
LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF CALIFORNIA
EDUCATION FUND

Election News



Forums and Ballot Information

Attend our forums--go to [our website](#) for the Zoom links. Find out about what's on your ballot. Download the [Easy Voter's Guide](#) and get a look at your own ballot at [Voter's Edge](#). For 102 years the League of Women Voters has been working to help you be an informed voter.



Candidate Forum: For District 37 State Assembly

**Thursday, Oct. 6, from 6 to 7:30pm
Santa Barbara Woman's Club, 670 Mission Canyon Rd.**

Gregg Hart: now a SB County Supervisor representing the 2nd District, previously elected to four terms on the SB City Council.



Gregg Hart

Mike Stoker: served on the SB County Board of Supervisors from 1986-1994, most recently was Southwest Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



Mike Stoker

Each candidate will be asked a list of questions and provided equal time to answer.

The Forum will be recorded by TVSB and live-streamed on the League's Facebook page – lwvsb. Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish will also be provided. Recordings of the forum in both English and Spanish will be available on our website -lwvsantabarbara.org - for later viewing.

For Zoom link, go to www.lwvsantabarbara.org

This event is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Santa Maria Valley, the American Association of University Women, the Future Leaders of America, TVSB, and the Santa Barbara Woman's Club.



The Propositions: Pros and Cons

This Zoom forum will be Thursday, Oct. 13, 6-7:30pm.

League Board member Shane Stark will be the moderator. He will be joined by Board members Dianne Black and Quinby Janes, who will describe all seven statewide propositions that will appear on the ballot as well as the local measures.

They will review the arguments for and against, the supporters and opponents and who is providing the funding for each one.

The Santa Maria Valley League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the Future Leaders of America are co-sponsoring this event, which will be livestreamed on Facebook @lwvsb. Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish will be provided by Silvia Uribe of Transil-Pro. TVSB will record the forum for later viewing on our YouTube Channel in both English and Spanish.



2022 SBUSD SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES FORUM

**FREE
CHILD-
CARE!**

**FREE
SNACKS!**



Come to learn and ask
questions about the
candidates and their
potential journeys as
school board members of
the SBUSD!

***THIS EVENT IS
COMPLETELY FREE!***



Habr  un int rprete de espa ol

WHEN:

**TUESDAY
OCTOBER 11
@6PM**

WHERE:

**Unitarian Society of Santa
Barbara
1535 Santa Barbara St, Santa
Barbara, CA 93101**

**HOSTED
BY:**



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF SANTA BARBARA

This Forum is being organized by the Future Leaders of America and co-sponsored by our League.

The candidates invited to participate are:

Trustee Area #1: Gabe Escobedo, Chair, SB Planning Commission/Student Affairs Professional; Efigenia Banales, Retired Educator, and Dan Le Berge. Executive Director of Mothers' Helpers, a local nonprofit

Trustee Area #4: Rose Munoz, incumbent, and Phebe Mansur, business owner



What LWVC Recommends

You can make a difference! Be sure to vote in the Nov. 8 General Election! Here are the League of Women Voters of California voting recommendations for the statewide propositions on your ballot:

- YES on PROP 1: REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM
- YES on PROP 31: BANNING FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Share the Vote with the League flyer [here](#) with your family and friends. It's in both English and Spanish. You can also read the entire analysis [online](#).

LWVC has no recommendations on other state propositions: Prop 26, In-Person Sports Betting in Tribal Casinos, Prop 27: Online Sports Betting, Prop 28: Funding Arts and Music Education, Prop 29: Kidney Dialysis Clinics Requirements, and Prop 30: Income Tax on Millionaires for Electric Cars

How do we decide? Find out how we take action on ballot measures.

Criminal Justice Workgroup Activities

The Criminal Justice Workgroup is a collaboration between LWVSB and CLUE SB. We meet virtually Tuesday mornings from 8-9am. Our goal is to increase community safety while reducing the county jail

population. Safe reduction of incarceration serves to protect human liberty, reduce inequality, preserve taxpayer dollars, and reduce harm to disadvantaged populations.

Our two county jails, one in Santa Barbara and the new jail in Santa Maria, currently house roughly 800 residents; about 80% are unsentenced. Similarly sized counties have significantly lower pre-trial incarceration rates in the 50-60% range. During the height of the pandemic, the jail population dropped substantially, but the numbers are rising with the return of cash bail. Without substantial policy changes, the jail population is on a trajectory to reach 900.

Rather than treating people as innocent until proven guilty, our county holds many non-violent people in jail where they quickly lose jobs, housing, the ability to support themselves and their families, parent their children, and participate in treatment programs. Lack of funding and access to early representation by a public defender leaves them locked up for months prior to trial or resolution of their cases.

Death in the North County Jail

Our group recently met with the Public Defender, Tracy Macuga, regarding the death of a 35 year old woman with a history of mental health issues who was arrested and charged with theft of a cell phone. Jailed March 5, she was unlikely to have been able to form the intent to steal. Deemed incompetent to stand trial (IST), she was placed on a long waiting list for treatment at the State Hospital. In jail, she received medication but not therapy or a treatment program. She died alone in an isolation cell in the Santa Maria jail on Sept. 9. Our workgroup is studying ways to prevent similar deaths and trauma from occurring in the future.

Visit to North County Jail

We are scheduling visits to both jails this fall to gain an understanding of what happens to special needs residents in jail and to better understand the program of care.

South County Jail Rehab

We have worked to limit the number of beds and high cost of renovating the Santa Barbara jail which is under a court ordered stipulation due to inhumane treatment of residents with mental health needs. We expect an update this fall on plans for the remodel from General Services and the architects. The County needs instead to allocate funds to mental health beds and treatment in the community so that those suffering from mental health don't end up in our jails.

Ongoing Work

We are continuing to study and report on options for humane housing for IST placement outside the jail, fair assessments through the Public Defender's Early Representation Proposal expected to be considered by the Community Corrections Partnership this November, and increased transparency & accountability as recommended by the July 2022 Grand Jury Report.

To learn more or to join our criminal justice workgroup, [contact](#) Pam Flynt Tambo.

ADVOCATING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ALL!

HOUSING

SANTA BARBARA DAY 2022



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2022 from 10AM - 2PM
at **DE LA GUERRA PLAZA, Santa Barbara**

Join us for our annual free public event dedicated to connecting community members with local affordable housing non-profit agencies and service providers.

30+ Community Agencies & Service Providers • Informative Housing Workshops • Tenant & Landlord Resources • ADU Resources
Workforce Housing Information • Music & Entertainment
Local Food Vendors • Activities for Kids & Families

For more information,
scan or visit our website at
www.housingsantabarbara.org



HOSTED BY
2ND STORY ASSOCIATES
www.2nd-story.org

LWVSB volunteers will be at the Housing Day event to offer voter registration and information about the League.

Affordable Housing Plans for the Fall

The LWVSB Housing and Sustainable Communities Committees decided to continue to share the same two-hour Zoom (11am-1pm) on the first Friday of the month, but to remain as two separate committees. We appreciate the efforts by Sandy Grasso-Boyd, Sustainable Communities chair, who helped us navigate through this process.

The Housing Committee Agenda from noon to 1pm on Oct. 7 will include:

- Changes to the City of Santa Barbara's 'Community Benefit' definition and its impact
- Overview of LWVSB affordable housing advocacy plan for South County for next 3 months (including topics of the Work Groups listed below)
- City of SB Short Term Rental Ordinance - report from Sept. 27 Council Meeting

Work Groups for the next six months

Since we only have an hour a month for our official committee meeting we will need to do most of our work outside of that time. Please let me know at housing@lwvsantabarbara.org if you are interested in any of the following which can be worked on in small groups or individually at times convenient to those with interest:

- Funding for Affordable Housing (fees, taxes, new Housing Trust Fund, etc.)
- Analysis/potential details of Housing Element for City of SB such as a new inclusionary ordinance and Affordable Housing Overlay
- Analysis/potential details of Housing Element for County and Goleta (goals, workforce housing study, parcels proposed for upzoning, etc.)
- Tenant Protections / DEI concerns / rent stabilization / follow City of SB Housing Crisis Task Force
- New state housing laws: how can local actions mitigate potential problems?
- How do we provide significant affordable housing AND environmental protections?
- Focus on housing for City College and UCSB & spring forum plans
- ADU and Short Term Rental policies

Linda Honikman, Housing Committee Chair

Inside the League

A Message to Members

October is the time to watch for your mail-in ballot and remind friends and family to Get Out the Vote (GOTV) by planning your voting priorities early. Check out our virtual Pros and Cons Forum for a deeper dive into understanding the state Propositions and ballot measures in Carpinteria and Goleta. Our in-person/hybrid event in October is our Candidate Forum for State Assembly.

Thank you to those who are now renewed and to new members of our local League. We encourage you to learn more about the League this fall and become active in planning events and broadening your knowledge of League at all levels. You are a member at the local, state and US levels. And each has a robust website to help you be more deeply involved.

You may [contact](#) the nominating committee with suggestions for next year's board, which will be elected in June. Members of the elected committee are Suzanne Cohen and Jane Honikman. Additional appointed members from the board are Dianne Black and Reva Moran. They welcome your input.

A fall general membership "Get to Know Us" gathering is being planned. We hope to see you all in person very soon.

Joanie Jones, Leadership Team

Volunteer a Little Time with the League

Whether you are a member or NOT--do you you have a bit of time and wish to volunteer for the good work of the League?

Here is a list of projects that could use your help. If interested in getting involved, send an email to League@lwvsantabarbara.org and let us know what you would like to do, someone will follow up.

Mailings, membership help, web proofing, web updating, distributing Easy Voter Guides, Speakers Bureau.

Why Volunteer? We know you want to be a part of it. We know you want to make a difference; that's why you joined the League of Women Voters! Take the next step and volunteer. Help out with a single task or event or sign on to something long term. Work remotely or in-person. We'll find the perfect fit for you. Working on a project for the LWVSB and need some help? Send an email to League@lwvsantabarbara.org and tell us what you need. We'll include it in the next monthly LWV Santa Barbara email message. Please include dates, location, time of day.

Joanie Jones, Leadership Team

It's Not Too Late to Renew Your Membership

If you didn't renew online, you should have received renewal information by mail. We don't want to lose you! And of course if you aren't yet a member, you can join today. [Click here](#) to renew or become a member.

Welcome to New Members

Lilyan Cuttler

Wendi Ostroff

In the News



Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization

The Center for Reproductive Rights challenged Mississippi's fifteen-week abortion ban in federal court. LWVUS filed an amicus brief with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and the...

Equal Rights / Health Care Reform / June 24, 2022 / Case Closed

New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen

NYSRPA challenged a New York state law requiring New Yorkers to show a justifiable reason for having a concealed-carry permit to carry guns in public places. The League raised the implications of...

Fighting Voter Suppression / June 23, 2022 / Case Closed

The new Legal Center on LWV.org showcases where the League is fighting for voters' rights and civil rights in courts around the country. For more, [click here](#).

“

LWV

WE CALL ON OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS TO CONTINUE TO PUT THIS ISSUE AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE FIGHT FOR OUR DEMOCRACY.

AND WE CALL ON THE WHITE HOUSE TO ALSO LOOK FOR WAYS TO ADDRESS CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND ENSURE TRANSPARENCY IN OUR ELECTION PROCESS.

”

Virginia Kase Solomón
LWVUS CEO

Disclose Act Fails

The Senate has failed to advance the DISCLOSE Act in a 49-49 vote. But the League will continue to fight to ensure that voters can make decisions free from the influence of dark money and special interest groups in our politics.

Read the full statement [here](#).

For Your Calendar

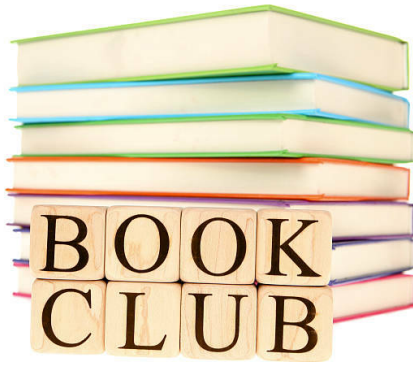


Women Demand Rights

Join women and allies around the country on Saturday, Oct. 8 at noon for a national day of action to send the message: "Women demand our rights. We will not sit back and accept the attacks on our families, our future, and our freedom."

The event will be at the corner of State and Anapamu Streets.

Organizers say, "Prepare for the Women's Wave. Across California we continue to stand together to voice our support of Reproductive Rights for all. Our rights are literally on the ballot this November!"



DATE: Thursday, Oct. 13 at 11am (*note: new time*)

TITLE: The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together by Heather McGhee

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • LONGLISTED FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD • One of today's most insightful and influential thinkers offers a powerful exploration of inequality and the lesson that generations of Americans have failed to learn: Racism has a cost for everyone—not just for people of color.

Contact bookclub@lwvsantabarbara.org. The meeting will be via Zoom. All are welcome.

Elaine Rudin, Overbooked Book Club Coordinator



For more information, registration and contact information, click on the event in the website calendar [here](#). Meetings are via Zoom.

Community Forums are livestreamed on Facebook (@LWVSB) and on our YouTube Channel (link at bottom of this newsletter). Some events are featured in separate articles.

Thursday, Oct. 6 - 6-7:30pm - **Candidate Forum for Assembly, SB Women's Club, 670 Mission Canyon Rd., and on Zoom**

Friday, Oct. 7 - **11am-noon - Sustainable Communities Committee**

Friday, Oct. 7 - **noon-1pm - Housing Committee**

Saturday, Oct. 8 - 10am-2pm - **Housing Day, De La Guerra Plaza**

Saturday, Oct. 8 - noon - **Women's March, State and Anapamu Streets**

Tuesday, Oct. 11 - 1pm - **Communications Committee**

Thursday, Oct. 13 - 11am - **Book Club (note new time)**

Thursday, Oct. 13 - 6-7:30pm - **Pros and Cons Forum for Ballot Measures**

Saturday, Oct. 15 - 10-11:30am - **Board Meeting**

Thursday, Oct. 20 - 6-8pm - **Candidate Forum, Santa Barbara Unified School District,
Unitarian Society, 1535 Santa Barbara St.**

For Your Information

Keep Up to Date on Action Alerts From the State and National League

For LWV, [click here](#).

For LWVC, [click here](#).

Videos



You can now watch a video of the forum "District Elections: From Theory to Practice" in both English and Spanish. Learn about the move from at-large to districts in the county's schools and in the cities of Carpinteria, Goleta and Santa Barbara.

The video of the most recent Community Forum, "New Approaches to Youth Justice: Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline," is available on our YouTube Channel. If you missed the Community Forum on "South Coast Housing 2030: Coming Together Now" or the Feb. 16 Community Forum "Fighting for Voting Rights Then and Now" you can see those videos. The video of the Jan. 29 "Vigil: Shine a Light on Injustice in Our Jail" is there too.

For these and other Forums, [watch here](#). Subscribe to the channel to be notified of future videos.

Watch Forum Videos on TVSB

Tune in: TVSB Channels League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara Show.

LWVSB Show - Weekly Spots

League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara Show - English version:

Channel 17, "Voice": on Tuesdays 9:00 p.m. and on Fridays 2:00 a.m.

Channel 71, "Culture": on Wednesdays 9:00 p.m., on Thursdays 7:00 p.m., on Fridays 5:00 a.m., and on Saturdays 10:00 a.m.

League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara Show - Spanish version:

Channel 17, "Voice": on Wednesdays 9:00 p.m. and on Saturdays 3:00 a.m.

Channel 71, "Culture": on Mondays 7:30 p.m., on Thursdays 3:30 a.m., on Fridays 3:30 p.m., and on Saturdays 2:00 a.m.

Democracy is... Fragile. Powerful. Inspiring. Of the people, by the people, for the people.

And as we are seeing in the news almost daily, not to be taken for granted. Now is not the time to be a bystander. You can help support the untiring, non-partisan work of the

League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara with a one-time or ongoing tax-deductible donation.

Give what you can to help safeguard democracy.



Donate

Join



Done