

Date Sent November 3, 2022

From League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara

Subject Subject: Election Day is Nov. 8. Your Vote is Your Voice!



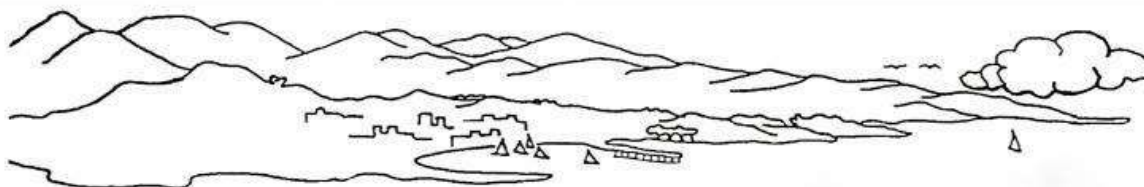
Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.



CHANNEL VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

Serving South Santa Barbara County



November 2022

**YOUR VOTE
IS YOUR VOICE**

Make it heard.



Election News

Thank You For Voting!

If you have not yet returned your completed ballot, be sure to do so right away! (Let's get those voter participation rates up) . All ballots returned by mail must be postmarked by 8pm on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Be sure to sign the ballot envelope before you mail it. The envelope contains pre-paid postage, so you can drop your completed ballot in the mail after you have signed the envelope. Sign up to receive updates on your vote-by-mail ballot via text message, email, or phone call (your choice).

If you are a registered voter but did not receive a ballot in the mail, call the County Elections Office (800) 722-8683 to request a new ballot. To check your voter registration status (e.g, to make sure your address is correct,) [click here](#). If you would like to put your completed ballot in a drop box, go to the California Secretary of State [website](#) for their locations.

Revae Moran, VP Voter Service

Information and Recommendations

For 102 years the League of Women Voters has been "Empowering voters. Defending democracy." The League is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization working to protect and expand voting rights and ensure everyone is represented in our democracy. We empower voters and defend democracy through advocacy, education, and litigation, at the local, state, and national levels. The League does not support or oppose candidates.

Education

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](#). If you missed the Candidate Forum for the 37th Assembly District, watch it now on our [YouTube channel](#). Confused about those ballot measures? Watch the video of the Pros and Cons Forum, also on YouTube, along with the video of a Forum co-sponsored by the City of Carpinteria, about district elections in the South Coast cities and school districts.

Advocacy

[Click here](#) to find out what the League of Women Voters of California recommends for how to vote on the state propositions. The League suggests yes votes on two:

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

At that website there is information on all the propositions, in addition to flyers in both English and Spanish to download and share.

LWVSB is supporting the City of Goleta's Measure B. [Read more here](#).



Why Voting Matters

Hear these teens talk about why it's important to vote. Go to our [YouTube channel](#) to watch the videos

and be inspired. Thanks to Marian Shapiro and Oscar Gutierrez for making this project happen. It is supported by LWVSB.

Please ask your young friends to share on social media.



We've partnered with Lyft to help people in need #RollToThePolls this Election Day. Use code VOTE22 in the Lyft app for a 50% discount up to \$10 for a ride to the polls. (Valid Nov. 8 only.)

Thank You Voter Service Team For Delivering 3500 Easy Voter Guides

Members of the Voter Service Team delivered the Easy Voter Guides we purchased from the League of Women Voters of California (2,500 in English and 1,500 in Spanish) to locations throughout Santa Barbara County. They included libraries, retirement communities, housing complexes, and small Latinx bodegas.

Special thanks to the following individuals for picking up the guides and delivering them: ej Borah (pictured below), Farfalla Borah, Susan Horne, Gail Gilles, Jeana Morelli, Cheryl Rogers and Marie Zondler. My apologies to anyone I missed!

Revae Moran
VP Voter Service



LWVUS Wins Big Victory for Voting Rights

This week a federal court issued an order to block unlawful voter intimidation at ballot drop boxes.

The order will block defendants Melody Jennings and Clean Elections USA and affiliated individuals from (1) carrying guns or wearing body armor near a ballot drop box; (2) confronting or following voters when they are casting ballots or near a drop box; (3) photographing voters who are within 75 feet of a drop box; and (4) releasing voters' personal information in connection with a claim that they committed voter fraud. The order will also bar defendants from making false statements about the legality of depositing multiple ballots in a drop box, and require defendants to post information on their website and social media that it is legal in Arizona to deposit multiple ballots in a drop box under some circumstances.

"Today's U.S. District Court decision is a victory for the voters of Arizona who have the right to cast their ballots free from intimidation, threats, or coercion," said Pinny Sheoran, President of the League of Women Voters of Arizona. "The League of Women Voters of Arizona is proud to have challenged activities that are presently interfering with voters' right to cast a ballot safely and without fear, and we encourage voters to continue using drop boxes to vote."

At the hearing, the LWVAZ—represented by Protect Democracy and Osborn Maledon, P.A.—presented evidence about the impact of intimidation on voters who experienced it directly. This included the testimony of voters who felt they could not use drop boxes because of the likelihood of confronting armed surveillance, being accused of breaking the law, or being doxxed simply for exercising their right to vote.

"The brave voters who came forward today offered powerful testimony about the harm that voter intimidation wreaks on our democracy," said Orion Danjuma, Counsel at Protect Democracy. "The court's order today recognizes the importance of the federal laws that ensure voters' ability to participate in democracy without fear, and strikes an appropriate balance between protecting voters from intimidation and not infringing First Amendment rights."

To view the judge's written order, [click here](#)

For more information about this lawsuit, visit [Protect Democracy's website](#), which is updated regularly and includes case documents—like the filed complaint and the U.S. statement of interest—as well as press coverage of the case.



LWVUS Files Brief Against Harmful Election Laws

This week the League of Women Voters of the United States and League chapters from all 50 states and the District of Columbia filed an amicus brief in the Moore v. Harper case before the Supreme Court. The case concerns the so-called "independent state legislature theory" (ISLT), which, if adopted, would have far-reaching implications for the future of American democracy. The League is represented by Fair Elections Center and O'Melveny & Myers LLP.

"Giving states unchecked power to set rules for federal elections is an assault on the American voter," said Virginia Kase Solomón, CEO of the League of Women Voters of the US. "Historically, state legislatures have enacted the most harmful and suppressive anti-voter laws, and pro-voter groups like the League have relied on the ability to fight them in state courts. The Independent State Legislature Theory is a dangerous, fringe ideology that leaves voters effectively defenseless from harmful election laws."

Read more [here](#)

A Local Action Alert

Petition the County Board of Supervisors To Transform Criminal Justice

We can improve our Criminal Justice system in Santa Barbara County by reducing the number of residents in our two county jails (Santa Maria and Santa Barbara). Why?

Our jails incarcerate people who do not pose a threat to the community and who are simply awaiting trial or disposition of their cases. (Roughly 80% of jail residents have not been sentenced.) This does not make us safer. Instead, it traumatizes those unnecessarily left in jail, destabilizes families, causes job losses, and stigmatizes people who by law are presumed innocent. The county is currently under a court-ordered mandate to eliminate inhumane conditions in the old south county jail. Each jail bed costs \$81,761 per year to operate. Reducing the size of the jail and its population by 200 daily could save \$16 million/year to spend on community-based alternatives and housing.

Over 30% of those in our jails have mental health or behavioral wellness issues. Many can be better served in the community than in our jails. In September, a 35-year-old woman died in the Santa Maria jail after waiting over 6 months for a bed in a state mental health hospital. Those with addictions are also better served with treatment rather than jail.

To find out the five steps we want County Supervisors to take and to sign our petition, please log on to our website: lwvsantabarbara.org, then go to Issues, Action Alerts, Local League Action Alerts: Petition to Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to Transform Criminal Justice and Sign on to the Petition.

Pam Flynt Tambo, VP Social Policy

For Your Information

Affordable Housing Advocacy Work Continues

The Housing Committee will start a little early (11:45) on Friday, Nov. 4 to accommodate three special guests: Clarissa Montenegro from Housing Authority (HACSB), and Ben Peterson and Samantha Omana from State Senator Monique Limon's office to guide us through the maze of state housing bills.

On Nov. 10 there are two important events that require an RSVP (use the email below):

At 2pm that day LWVSB and CLUE members will explore how we can work together to increase housing security with other community leaders including Julia Hamilton, Jeff Shaffer and Wayne Mellinger.

At 6pm CAUSE is hosting another event at Bici Central to share stories and get information about renter challenges with special guest, Council Member Alejandra Gutierrez. Several LWV members gave the previous event high marks for content and food!

At our Nov. 16 "Getting to Know Us" event (see separate article) we will have South Coast maps for you to see locations for hoped for housing projects. Come say hello!

On Nov. 17 is an important workshop for the County's Housing Element Update. They will have online and in person opportunities including a facilitated discussion to obtain your ideas about policies and strategies related to housing and the unveiling of parcels that they hope to upzone in the eastern Goleta Valley (between cities of Goleta and Santa Barbara) and Carpinteria Valley. Register [here](#). The in-person event will be at Santa Barbara County Planning Commission Room, 123 E. Anapamu St.

To request zoom links, more information or RSVP for any of the above except the County Workshop, please email Linda Honikman at housing@lwvsantabarbara.org.

Do You Have Ideas for Earth Day?

The Sustainable Communities Committee (known as SusComm) will meet on Friday, Nov. 4 from 11 to 11:45am to consider themes for a League of Women Voters' Earth Day forum.

That forum could cover a range of SusComm topics. Please join us with your ideas or send them to [Sandy Grasso-Boyd](#). We will also be discussing the Heritage Ridge Project in conjunction with the Housing Committee, which will meet after SusCom at 11:45am.

Note: LWVSB members, Sandy Grasso- Boyd and Bill Boyd, received a national award for their Climate Steward Volunteer project where Sandy initiated the Climate Discussion Group at Vista del Monte, the Retirement Community they live in. This led to Bill revitalizing the Environmental Committee, which has a project to rescue food waste in a sustainable way.

The award is from the Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs on behalf of the University of California, Davis. The Boyds were nominated by the Community Environmental Council, which hosts the Climate Steward programs in Santa Barbara to encourage climate activism.


STATE STREET MASTER PLAN

HELP CREATE STATE STREET'S FUTURE

The City of Santa Barbara has begun the State Street Master Plan process to revitalize downtown. Help create a long-term design for State Street that reflects our community's visions and values and is a safe and vibrant place for all to enjoy now and for generations to come.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD
☒ JOIN AN OPEN HOUSE
☒ COMPLETE THE SURVEY

Two Bilingual Open House Windows
1230 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101
NOVEMBER 3RD **NOVEMBER 4TH**
12:00 pm - 8:00 pm OR **7:00 am - 1:30 pm**

FOR WORKSHOP SCHEDULE AND SURVEY:
<https://StateStreet.SantaBarbaraCA.gov>
 Tess Harris, State Street Master Planner
StateStreetMasterPlan@SantaBarbaraCA.gov



The State Street Master Plan community survey can be found on our website here. It will remain open until mid-December. Please share it widely with your colleagues and friends and make sure to take it yourself. An example of text you can share is:

The City of Santa Barbara is seeking your input to re-envision Downtown, from the 101 freeway to Sola Street and Chapala to Anacapa Streets as part of the State Street Master Plan. Please take this short community survey to share your thoughts and vision for State Street and the downtown Santa Barbara area. We want to hear from you! You can find the survey at bit.ly/CreateStateSurvey. More information about the State Street Master Plan can be found at the City's website here: statestreet.santabarbaraca.gov.

LWVSB board member Dianne Black serves on the State Street Advisory Committee.

Inside the League

Welcome Back Leaguers--and Friends

We're holding a welcome back "Getting to Know Us Again" forum on Wednesday, Nov. 16 for League members and guests. And, we're hoping you will come.

It will be at noon at Direct Relief International, 6100 Wallace Becknell Road, Santa Barbara--just a short distance west of Fairview Avenue and a block north off Hollister--behind Dean Coffee, turn right on Frederick Lopez Rd. The new DRI organization headquarters (with free parking) has a meeting room near the front door.

DRI is a world class organization that responds to disasters all over the world. Bring interested potential members to learn more about the League and about DRI.

We're planning for each of our committees to have an information table so members and visitors can find out more about what we have been and are doing. Or you can just visit in person with those who have been on your Zoom screen for the past two years! A state-of-the-art air filtering system circulates fresh air throughout and the meeting room spans to a lovely patio outside.

This is a "bring your own lunch" event--just like our old League days. We will provide water to drink and dessert. There will be time to chat with other League members and with the committee chairpersons in the meeting room or on the adjoining patio. Gail Fairburn will give us a demonstration of how to use the League website on a large screen for easy viewing.

Also planned is a tour of the DRI facility by their staff at about 1:30. We can celebrate the good work they do worldwide from Goleta, CA. For questions, [contact VP Pam Flynt Tambo](#)

A Holiday Celebration in Solvang

The Santa Maria Valley League of Women Voters is planning a Holiday Brunch for Friday, Dec. 4 at 11am at Hotel Corque in Solvang--and our Santa Barbara League is invited!

We'll have more details later and will post them on our website. We will learn about what the Santa Maria folks are working on and let them know what we're doing as well. This should be an opportunity to connect and collaborate.

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 are some projects that could use your help: mailings, membership help, web proofing, web updating and Speakers Bureau.

Why volunteer? We know you want to make a difference; that's why you joined the League of Women Voters! Take the next step and volunteer. If you are interested in getting involved, let us know what you would like to do, someone will follow up. 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. Are you already working on a project for the LWVSB and need some help? Just [send us](#) an email and tell us you want to do or what you need.

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.

For Your Calendar



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

Friday, Nov. 4 - 11-11:45am - **Sustainable Communities Committee**

Friday, Nov. 4 - 11:45am-1:30pm - **Housing Committee**

Tuesday, Nov. 8 - **Election Day: Vote!**

Tuesday - Nov. 8 - 1pm - **Communications Committee**

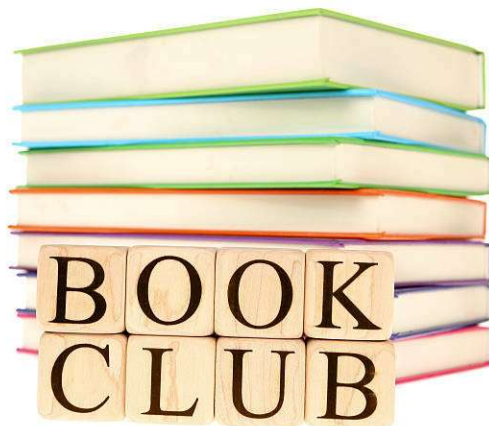
Saturday, Nov. 12 - 10-11:30am - **Board Meeting**

Wednesday, Nov. 16 - noon - **Community Forum at Direct Relief International** (*see article*)

Thursday, Nov. 17 - 3-4pm - **Social policy Committee**

Thursday, Dec. 1 - 11am-12:30pm - **Book Club**

Sunday, Dec. 4 - **Holiday Brunch with LWVSMV**



TITLE: *Horse*

AUTHOR: Geraldine Brooks

DATE: Thursday, Dec. 1 at 11am via Zoom

Based on the remarkable true story of the record breaking thoroughbred Lexington. Brooks moves back and forth between the 19th century and the near present. Horse is also a moving narrative about race and art - historical fiction.

Contact Elaine Rudin, bookclub@lwvsantabarbara.org.

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

For LWV, [click here](#).

For LWVC, [click here](#).

Videos



Watch Before You Vote

You can now view the video of the Candidate Forum for the 37th Assembly District with Gregg Hart and Mike Stoker. The Forum on the ballot measures Pros and Cons is also available. And you can see "District Elections: From Theory to Practice." Learn about the move from at-large to districts in the county's schools and in the cities of Carpinteria, Goleta and Santa Barbara. All videos are in both English and Spanish

You will find videos of other Community Forums, including "New Approaches to Youth Justice: Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline," "South Coast Housing 2030: Coming Together Now," and "Fighting for Voting Rights Then and Now." 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.

Forum Videos are 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:

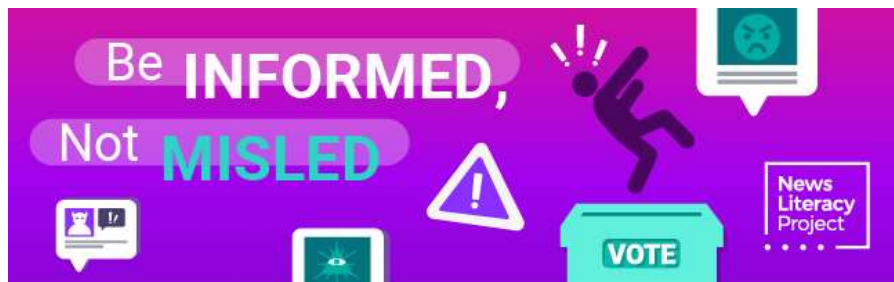
Channel 17, "Voice": on Tuesdays 9:00 p.m. and on Fridays 2:00 a.m.

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.

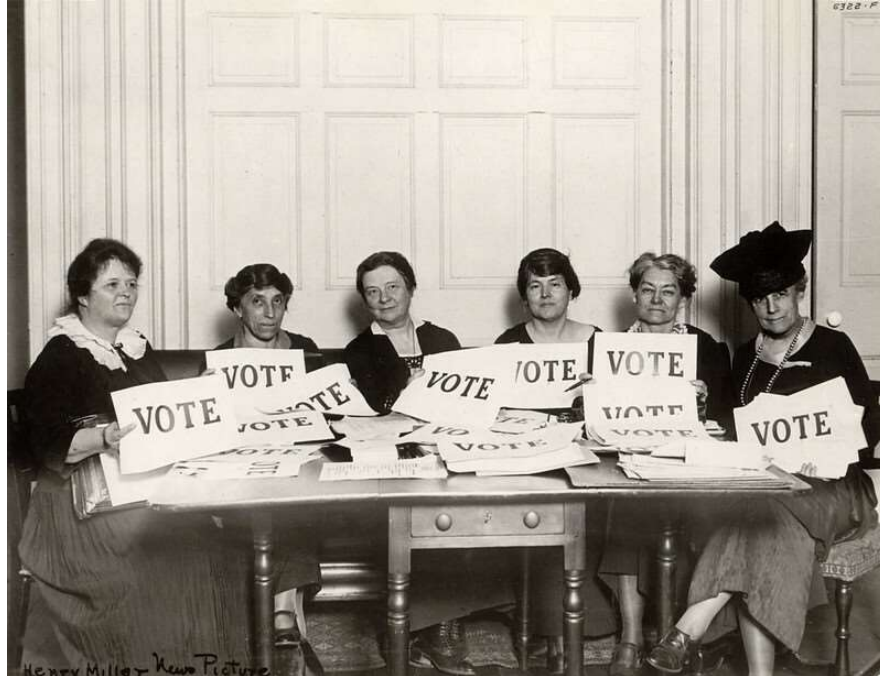
League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara Show - Spanish version:

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.



Watch this informative webinar series on avoiding Misinformation/Disinformation during the election season from News Literacy Project partnered with LWVUS. [Click here](#) for the YouTube video.



MAKING
DEMOCRACY WORK®

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Join



Done