

Nov. 1 Channel Voter: Vote!

From: ChannelVoter@lwvsantabarbara.org (league@lwvsantabarbara.org)

To: vickipallen@yahoo.com

Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021, 11:20 PM PDT

[View in your browser](#)



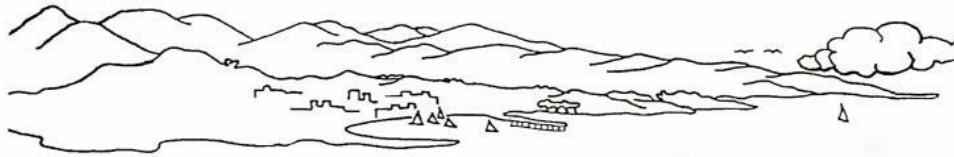
**Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**



**CHANNEL VOTER**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

*Serving South Santa Barbara County*



**November 1, 2021**

## **The Santa Barbara Election: Remember to Vote November 2, 2021**

If you are a registered voter who lives in the city of Santa Barbara you still have time to vote! In-person polling places are available, as well as ballot drop boxes where you can drop off your ballot. [Click here](#) for locations and more information. You can also mail your ballot as long as it's postmarked on Nov. 2.

Six candidates are running for Mayor of Santa Barbara: Cathy Murillo, incumbent; James Joyce III; Matt Kilrain; Randy Rowse; Deborah Schwartz; and Mark Whitehurst. In addition, three City Council seats are up for reelection this fall – Districts 4, 5, and 6. Kristen Sneddon, Eric Friedman, and Meagan Harmon are the incumbents. Eric Friedman is running unopposed. One candidate, Barrett Reed, is running against Kristen Sneddon for the seat in District 4 and three candidates are running against incumbent Meagan Harmon in District 6: Jason Carlton, Nina Johnson, and Zachary Pike.

LWVSB held a Candidate Forum for the Mayor's race on Sept. 30 and for the City Council race on Sept. 22. You can view the videos of these forums on YouTube by clicking on the YouTube icon at the bottom of every page on our website – [lwvsantabarbara.org](http://lwvsantabarbara.org). The videos are available in both English and Spanish, so please spread the word! Go to the Upcoming Elections page on our website for more information.

Revae Moran, VP Voter Service



**It's Election Day!**

**Go vote.**

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF CALIFORNIA



## **President's Message**

Living with the pandemic has become our new normal, and I am confident we have competently adapted our work within the restrictions and we will continue to do so for as long as is needed.

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to take time to step back and appreciate the things we are thankful for in our lives. We are truly thankful to all our members and for all of the support you have given us this year. We are also very thankful for our Board, Off-Board and so many active members, and for all of their hard work.

*November is Native American Heritage month, and a good time to honor the legacy of our ancestors. But every day we should stop to think about our country's beginning; and that the United States of America would not exist if not for a great deal of sacrifice, blood, and tears by Indian Tribes across this country.*

~Deb Haaland, first Native American United States Secretary of Interior

We don't need to wait until the fourth Thursday in November to sit with our family and friends to give thanks. We must make every day a day of thanksgiving!

Gratefully,  
Vijaya Jammalamadaka

## **The November Community Forum**



**A Virtual Community Forum--Public Safety: Beyond**

## **Police and Prisons**

### **Wednesday, Nov. 17, noon-2 p.m.**

Does putting people in prison make our community safer? Can our jails return residents who are healthy, housed, and able to get jobs?

How can we rebuild our criminal justice system to transform a punitive system into a humane, restorative justice system?

How might our public safety agencies and non-profits create “good neighbors”?

Santa Barbara County will be opening its new jail in Santa Maria in December. Should the main jail in South County be rehabilitated?

Come to the Forum to learn what our Public Defender and Probation Department are doing to dismantle racism, provide “holistic defense” and safe alternatives to life behind bars.

Speakers will include:

Tanja Heitman - Chief Probation Officer

Tracy Macuga - Public Defender

La Mer Kyle-Griffiths - Assistant Public Defender

Moderator – Retired Superior Court Judge George Eskin

Simultaneous Spanish translation will be provided. The forum will be live streamed on Facebook @LWVSB. Videos in both English and Spanish will be available for later viewing on our website: [lwvsantabarbara.org](http://lwvsantabarbara.org)

For more information, and to register, [click here](#).

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## **Other Events**

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### **Discussion Group for Community Choice Energy**

#### **Wednesday, Nov. 3, noon**

This virtual Discussion Group is about the Community Choice Energy Forum that was held on Oct. 20. If you have questions or thoughts to share with other League members and especially with forum organizer Colin Jones, you should attend. [Click here](#) for the Zoom link.

In case you missed the forum, a video is available on our YouTube Channel [here](#). The forum will also be shown on TVSB Channel 17. The English version starts Nov. 2 and the Spanish version will start Nov. 3, both at 9 p.m. For complete schedule, see article below.



### **Time to be Happy**

### **Come to League's First Happy Hour**

#### **Wednesday, Nov. 10, 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

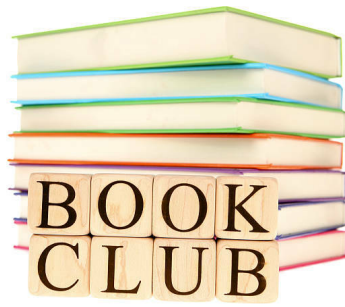
TGI...W! Join us for some fun. Our membership team invites you to our first monthly chat and Zoom Social Hour.

Join us for five minutes or the full hour. Come with questions to ask each other about pressing issues, or just drop by to catch up and check in.

Bring your friends and a favorite libation, then connect to Zoom [here](#).

Your host, Gail Fairburn, Membership Chair

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**DATE:** Thursday, Nov. 11, 3-4 p.m.

**TITLE:** Cut Super Climate Pollutants Now! by Alan Miller, Durwood Zaelke and Stephen O. Anderson

This is a very special and important time for you to come to our Political Book Club meeting. We will have Durwood Zaelke, co-author of our book selection, participating in our discussion. Durwood is likely to join us from the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, where he will have the latest on international negotiations there.

The book is only 114 pages and the authors do a good job of making a complicated subject easy to understand. The focus of the book is NOT on carbon (CO<sub>2</sub>) pollution which we all know needs to be drastically reduced, but on the “super climate pollutants” that buy us time to avoid catastrophic global warming. These are methane, black carbon, and HFCs (hydrofluorocarbons), used in a wide variety of applications including refrigeration and air conditioning.

Here's a quote from the book: “To cut the rate of warming by half within 20 years and reduce the risk of crossing the 2 degree C threshold before 2050, we'll have to cut emissions of methane and black carbon by 75% and HFCs with high global warming potential by as close to 100% as we can get.” (p. 106).

Please invite your friends and family to read the book and attend the Zoom meeting. For those who do not regularly attend the book club discussions, please contact me at [elainerudin@me.com](mailto:elainerudin@me.com) for a Zoom invitation.

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## Action Alerts

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### Make Your Voice Heard for Humane Jails Nov. 9

At the request of our local League and Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE), the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisor's meeting November 9 will focus on plans to rehabilitate the obsolete Main South County Jail and what our public safety agencies (Sheriff, Probation, District Attorney, and Public Defender) are doing to reduce incarceration and transform our criminal justice system from one that is punitive to one that is restorative.

Studies document that our “criminal injustice system” targets people of color, causes trauma, and does not make our community safer. Our League has been studying and advocating for alternatives to prison, more social services, and humane jails. The county has proposed a \$24 million rehab of the obsolete main jail in Santa Barbara just as a new, more humane jail is about to open in Santa Maria.

We urge you to attend, virtually, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting to learn what the County is proposing. You can share your views by emailing the BOS on or before Nov. 8 or making a public comment during the agenda item.

Our criminal justice group within our Social Policy Committee met with County CEO Mona Miyasato and General Services Director Janette Pell on Oct. 27 to discuss our 5 recommendations:

1. Strengthen intake assessment teams in both North and South County jails.
2. Create an online Data Dashboard as a central source updated daily of available beds and services to enable assessment teams, police officers, and Sheriff' deputies to locate placements other than jail for non-violent offenders.
3. Pause any decision on a design/build contract for rehabilitating the Main South County jail until the County receives an expert analysis of how many jail beds our county needs.
4. Design any remodel with best prison models for humane treatment of inmates, reduction of recidivism, and improved health and job retention of correction officers.
5. Host workshops where all stakeholders may consider the best options for use of the South County property now housing the jail.

To join our criminal justice group or for more information regarding the Nov. 9 meeting, contact Pam Flynt Tambo, Chair of Social Policy: [SocialPolicy@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:SocialPolicy@lwvsantabarbara.org)

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# NO MORE EXCUSES: VOTING RIGHTS NOW!

Rally & Protest at the White House

11.3.21 and 11.10.21



## Rallies for Voting Rights Lead to Arrests More Rallies Set

On Oct. 5 and 19, LWV continued our "No More Excuses: Voting Rights Now" campaign to demand that President Biden use his full power to promote federal voting rights legislation. Both incidents led to the arrest of multiple coalition members, public figures, faith leaders, and community activists, including LWVUS CEO Virginia Kase Solomón, actress Alyssa Milano, People For the American Way's Ben Jealous, and Declaration For American Democracy's Jana Morgan.

LWV and partners will continue to advocate for the freedom to vote in actions on Nov. 3, 10, and 17.

In a 51 – 49 vote, the U.S. Senate failed to move forward on the Freedom to Vote Act. In response, LWVUS CEO Virginia Kase Solomón stated, "This legislation will provide equal access to voting for all Americans, stop partisan gerrymandering, and limit the influence of dark money so that billionaires can't buy elections. We need federal legislation to protect voting rights before the next election cycle."

Meanwhile, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (VRAA) was introduced in the Senate. This bill would fully restore the Voting Rights Act and put an end to discriminatory voting policies.

Tell your senators to support the John Lewis VRAA, which is anticipated to receive a Senate vote within the next month.

LWV last month hosted a panel discussion among four women in Congress to address the challenges facing U.S. democracy. Representatives from all parties were invited to participate. Panelists included: Congresswoman Terri Sewell; Congresswoman Jackie Speier; Congresswoman Lauren Underwood; and Congresswoman Nikema Williams.

Watch the discussion, which covered redistricting, mis- and disinformation, voting rights legislation, and more. [Click here.](#)

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## News

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### Counselors Not Cops on Campus: A Social Policy and Criminal Justice Local Project

We heard the call to support students at San Marcos High School against racial injustice in the Santa Barbara Unified School District (SBUSD).

**The Issue:** The District was preparing to renew a yearlong contract for a Sheriff's Deputy on campus, called an SRD (Student Resource Deputy) at the cost of \$154,771.

**Student Action:** A group of students wanted the armed deputy off the campus as especially students of color, of disabilities, and of gender differences felt targeted or threatened by policing on campus, often due to past trauma related to law enforcement. They organized a coalition called Cops Off Campus! SB, surveyed other students, and gathered stories and quotes on an Instagram page. Most posts were anonymous because the students feared retaliation.

**Study:** The Social Policy Committee of LWVSB, under Criminal Justice, decided to explore the issue. Susan Horne, Pam Flynt Tambo and Gail Osherinko began several months of studying the history of student safety at SMHS, including reams of research and articles on the topic.

**Findings:** To our shock and dismay, we found NO evidence of policing making schools safer, but plenty of evidence of harm. The racism was startling, as students of color were disproportionately targeted, suspended, and expelled.

We learned that the same thing was evident in the SBUSD data of the past 10 years. The Administration and Board had become aware of it and were hiring more mental health staff. Their goal was moving away from punitive and toward restorative practices. For example, if a student is found smoking, cursing, or talking back to a teacher, staff should ask what are the underlying reasons. And what would help the student and family? Of course, for serious behavior such as selling drugs or sexual assault, the police should be called.

**LWVSB and Partners Collaborate:** The organizations that organized to support the youth coalition included Just Communities, SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice), Ethnic Studies Now, and Healing Justice.

**SBUSD Board Action:** The School Board placed an item to approve renewal of the SRD contract with the Sheriff's Department on the Board Agenda for October 12. Students and their supporters jumped into action. The LWVSB emailed our letter opposing the contract renewal and explaining why. We joined with 30 other individuals to make public comments at the Board meeting!

**SBUSD Board Response:** School Board President Kate Ford made a motion to not renew the contract! Board members each told what they personally thought and why, including League member Rose Munoz. SBUSD Board member Virginia Alvarez added an Amendment to the Motion that called for the one-year cost of \$154,771 for an SRD to instead be used to fund practices and programs to create a safe campus for all students. Board members who made additional comments were Wendy Sims-Moten, Laura Capps and Student Board Member Dawson Kelly.

**The Vote:** It was unanimous in favor of the amended motion to protect students! SBUSD agreed to fund practices and programs that create a safe campus for all students, instead of paying for the presence of an armed Sheriff's Deputy.

**Follow Up:** The School Board president sent an email to the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara, thanking us for our detailed and enlightening letter. Our League affirms that the SBUSD Board and Administration is on the right track to actively address systemic racism. Now, it's time for implementation!

Susan Horne, Social Policy Committee

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## For Your Information

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## Thinking about Inclusive Holidays

As the local Board director for diversity, equity, inclusion, it is my pleasure to review and encourage our members to take advantage of the many resources our national League of Women Voters develops for us. Now available on lwv.org [here](#) is a recording with slides and other resources on being inclusive in our understanding of holidays.

Although we all have our own family traditions for a variety of celebrations throughout the year, knowing about others' feelings and understanding of holidays allows us to plan our League activities with others in mind.

There are many holidays discussed. Here are just a couple of current holidays mentioned in the recording. Columbus Day – now Indigenous People's Day – is a reminder that people already lived in North America before explorers arrived.

Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, and the winter holidays will be here soon. LWVUS's September webinar also included a chat about which holiday celebrations local Leagues host or skip. This webinar and the accompanying resources ([here](#)) help us better understand the history, politics and cultural influences we should be aware of as we celebrate and acknowledge various holidays.

Nov. 11--Veterans Day--was originally called Armistice Day. This federal holiday was established to recognize the date that World War I ended-- 11/11/1918. Renamed Veterans Day in 1954 in the U.S., the holiday celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans and is distinct from Memorial Day, which honors those who died while in military service. This international holiday is recognized and commemorated for diverse reasons. Memorial Day coincides with other holidays including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which are celebrated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. In the United States, our recent veterans and current members of the armed forces often go unacknowledged for their service in a volunteer military.

For those who celebrate Thanksgiving, let's enjoy our traditions but consider the imagery of pilgrims and Indians that may be used in décor or shared with children. Consider a land acknowledgement at the start of your meal. Share resources with friends, family, and your social media network about supporting indigenous voices, causes, and contributions.

Our fall and winter holiday seasons are important times to recognize and ask ourselves questions about how American history was taught and absorbed. Numerous holidays are celebrated in November and December including both religious and cultural celebrations. How can we and our organizations be more inclusive in how we approach the holidays?

- Context can be important in how you greet someone or offer a greeting via mail/email/social media.
- Honoring all holidays doesn't lessen the importance of a specific holiday to you.

As we continue to expand our knowledge of our wonderful diverse country and organization, League has many resources on our local, state and national websites for your use. Please contact me by email with questions, [dei@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:dei@lwvsantabarbara.org)--Joanie Jones.

### **Recent Recording**

September 2021 DEI Webinar: Revisiting Being Inclusive in Our Understanding of Holidays and our Calendars--see link above.

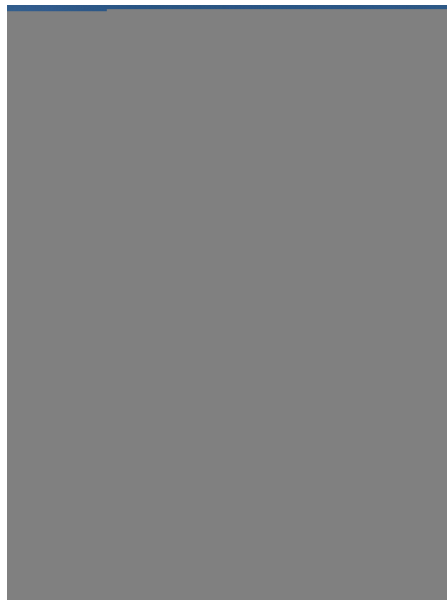
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## Photos

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*LWVUS has a new social media cover photo*



*Walk and Talk on Oct. 28. Led by Linda Honikman, LWVSB, and AIASB member Cass Ensberg, with League members and John Campanella, former Santa Barbara City planning commissioner.*

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## Videos

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**Santa Barbara Candidate and Community Forums**

Videos are in both English and Spanish.



Community Choice Energy: A Greener Electric Power Option  
People-Powered Fair Maps: Why Redistricting Matters.

Watch them all [here](#).

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## 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 PM and on Fridays 2:00 AM

Channel 71, "Culture": on Wednesdays 9:00 PM, on Thursdays 7:00 PM, on Fridays 5:00 AM, and on Saturdays 10:00 AM.

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

Channel 17, "Voice": on Wednesdays 9:00 PM and on Saturdays 3:00 AM

Channel 71, "Culture": on Mondays 7:30 PM, on Thursdays 3:30 AM, on Fridays 3:30 PM, and on Saturdays 2:00 AM.

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*For more information, registration and contact information, click on the event in the website calendar [here](#). Meetings are via Zoom. The Community Forums are live-streamed on Facebook (@LWVSB) and on our YouTube Channel (link at bottom of this newsletter). Some events are featured in separate articles.*

Tuesday, Nov. 2 - until 8 p.m. - **Santa Barbara City Election**

Wednesday, Nov. 3 - noon - **Discussion Group about Community Choice Energy Forum**

Friday, Nov. 5 - 10 a.m.-noon - **Sustainable Communities Committee**

Tuesday, Nov. 9 - 5:15-6:15 p.m. - **Communications Committee**

Wednesday, Nov. 10 - 12-1:30 p.m. - **Housing Committee**

Wednesday, Nov. 10 - 5:30-6:30 p.m. - **TGIW Happy Hour**

Thursday, Nov. 11 - 3-4 p.m. - **Book Club**

Saturday, Nov. 13 - 10 a.m.-noon - **Board Meeting**

Wednesday, Nov. 17 - noon-1:30 p.m. - **Virtual Community Forum--Public Safety: Beyond Police and Prisons**

Thursday, Nov. 18 - 4:30-6 p.m. - **Social Policy Committee**

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## Inside the League



### Happy Birthday and Thanks

Instead of birthday gifts, Elaine Rudin, our Board Secretary and Book Club lead, asked for donations to the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara. Her friends rose to the challenge to the tune of \$1,400!

Sincerest thanks to you, Elaine, and your wonderful friends!

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## Are you looking for an easy way to help the League? Membership is looking for you!

Membership is putting together a hands-on committee for the many activities we need to do to keep our organization together, especially during the pandemic, but also beyond. If you volunteer, you decide how much time you can give and when. You decide which activities you'd like to do. Some of the things we need help with are:

- \* Sending emails and making calls to welcome new members
- \* Calling members who have forgotten to renew to see if they need a dues envelope sent or if they need help getting on the new Club Express website
- \* Printing and mailing our directory or contact roster copies to those who do not have email
- \* Checking in with older members who miss in-person gatherings
- \* Checking and comparing report contents to produce a specific list of members to contact.

If any of these tasks has your name written all over it, email Membership Chair Gail Fairburn at [membership@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:membership@lwvsantabarbara.org) to set up a time to chat about getting involved.

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## Need help logging in to the website?

Our new Club Express website ([lwvsantabarbara.org](http://lwvsantabarbara.org)) has a lot of information that is only available if you log on the website as a member by setting up your member account. This includes registering for events such as the the Community Forums, printing an up-to-date directory or contact roster, and viewing documents available only to members, including Board meeting minutes.

If you need help setting up your member account, logging in or navigating the website, send an email to Membership Director Gail Fairburn at [membership@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:membership@lwvsantabarbara.org) or Revae Moraan at [projectmanager@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:projectmanager@lwvsantabarbara.org) to set up a personalized time for us to help you.

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***Like what you've seen in this newsletter?  
Then please support your favorite causes now  
... with a gift to the League.***

***Democracy depends on people like you.***

Join

Donate

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## In Memoriam

We are sad to report that Thomas Heck, longtime LWVSB Education Fund Board member passed away on October 3, 2021. In addition to his contributions to the world of music — Tom was an accomplished musician and noted scholar of the guitar — Tom was well respected for his intelligence and insights. Our hearts go out to Anne Heck, also a longtime member of the LWVSB Board. Tom personified what it means to be a gentleman and a scholar. He will be missed.

Shane Stark, former Education Fund President

