Dec. 1 Channel Voter: A Holiday Update

From: League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara (channelvoter@lwvsantabarbara.org)

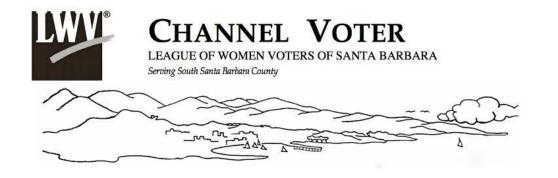
To: ChannelVoter@lwvsantabarbara.org

Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021, 08:11 AM PST

View in your browser



Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.



December 1, 2021



President's Message

As we come to the end of another productive and fulfilling year in the face of pandemic restrictions, I am so proud of the resilience and adaptability of all our Board members and actively engaged League members!

In the new year, the Nominating Committee, chaired by Mary Rose, will begin its work. On Jan. 24 we plan to discuss and review our operations and needs. Please consider offering your time and skills to our local League. You can do as little or as much as you want. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Mary Rose. Contact information for all League members, and many other resources are available on our members-only section of our website.

Happy Holidays! Vijaya Jammalamadaka

Events



TGI...W for December

Join us for our second monthly informal Zoom chat, on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. What's on your mind? Have questions? Info to share? Come for a few minutes or the whole hour. No preparation required. Bring your friends and a favorite libation.

ZOOM link: https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/85304253799

Meeting ID: 853 0425 3799

Gail Fairburn, Membership Chair, Host



DATE: Thursday, Jan. 6, 3-4 p.m.

TITLE: The Premonition: A Pandemic Story by Michael Lewis

This book will help you understand the beginnings of COVID-19 in the U.S. Discover the important role Charity Dean, M.D. played (she was the public health officer in Santa Barbara from 2014-2018).

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 for a Zoom invitation.

Elaine Rudin, Book Club organizer



- 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1 Santa Maria & Zoom
- 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 Santa Barbara & Zoom
- 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8 Santa Barbara & Zoom (Meeting to Adopt a final map)

Details at drawsantabarbaracounty.org

JOIN VIA ZOOM https://ZOOM.US/J/96627818457 or Call (669) 900-6833 or (346) 248-7799 ID: 966 2781 8457

Action Alerts

LWVUS: Voting Rights and What You Can Do

Our National League is emphasizing three Action Alerts this month, all on voting rights:

Action Alert: Tell President Biden to Champion Federal Voting Reforms (here)

Action Alert: Tell the U.S. Senate to Support the Freedom to Vote Act (here)
This bill was introduced recently, and so far only has 7 co-sponsors, including Sen. Padilla. Please thank him for supporting it, and urge Sen. Feinstein to support it.

Action Alert: Tell your Senators to support the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (here) Note that both of our Senators are co-sponsors of the John Lewis VRAA, so we should thank them for supporting it.

All League members may join the LWVUS Field Calls!

What are field calls?

Field calls are calls aimed at connecting LWVUS and state and local Leagues, particularly around aligning our work, building community, and strengthening our work. These field calls are a resource-rich environment created for our League members. Resources both come in the form of the knowledge members across the country bring, as well as information and resources that LWVUS can share and provide to League members.

Why are we (LWVUS) offering regular field calls?

There is a lot of work moving – particularly around key voting rights priorities the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. We know that this work is hard, takes time and commitment, and requires a broad base of support. Through these field calls, we are ensuring that we have a regular space to provide updates on the status of the work, connect with League members working on these issues, discuss challenges, brainstorm actions on the ground and ways to continue to build our people power, review skills from past trainings, and more!

Who can come to field calls?

Any League members!

The next League Field Call is scheduled for Dec. 9 from 5-6pm ET (2-3pm PT). You can register for the call <u>here</u>.

We will be discussing the state of play of the three key federal voting rights bills: Freedom to Vote Act, John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and DC Statehood, as well as strategies for actions to keep up pressure during the December Senate recess as well as into the new year.

Linda Phillips, State & National Action

News



Largest Direct Action To Date: Voting Rights Activists Arrested at White House Protest

Hundreds of voting rights activists escalated demands for the White House to act on voting rights on Nov. 17 in an action that resulted in the arrests of some 200 participants. With approximately 800 protestors in attendance, the demonstration is the fifth and largest in a series aimed at spurring the White House to take action to get the Senate to pass both the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. Both pieces of legislation have been blocked in procedural votes.

The most recent action follows a previous demonstration at the White House on Nov. 3 at which more than 50 activists were arrested, and an earlier demonstration on Oct. 19 at which 25 activists were arrested. Events have been led by the League of Women Voters of the United States, People For the American Way, and the Declaration for American Democracy. The event featured participants from around the country, including faith leaders, civil rights activists, young elected officials, labor leaders, and students. Activists traveled from locations including Atlanta, Augusta, Baltimore, Charlottesville, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Hartford, CT, Minneapolis, New York City, and as far away as California, Florida, Massachusetts, South Carolina, and Wisconsin.

Those arrested include three LWV national board members and 10 League members who traveled to DC for this action.

"Today we stand as a united coalition, exercising our right to peacefully protest and send a message to our President that the clock is ticking to protect voting rights. Mr. President, we are counting on you to be the voting rights leader our republic needs," said Virginia Kase Solomón, CEO of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

"Redistricting is underway without the full protection of the Voting Rights Act, and midterm elections are around the corner. We are here today to send a message that President Biden must take action now to ensure the promise of our democracy and protect our freedom to vote," said Dr. Deborah Ann Turner, board president of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

For the full press release on the arrests, click here. Visit Facebook for a link to a video of the protest.

JUST THE BEGINNING

A Century of Political Power and the League of Women Voters

Documentary Film Update

With deepest gratitude to the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara, fellow members, and friends that have supported the film (through participation, affiliation, advocacy, funding, and moral support), I am excited to announce that we are close to reaching our goal to enter "Just the Beginning: A Century of Political Power and the League of Women Voters" into the Santa Barbara International Film Festival, to premiere during Women's History Month, March 2-12, 2022. The deadline to submit is Jan. 7, 2022.

With all that is at stake for voting rights, women's rights, and democracy itself, timing could not be better. "Just the Beginning" will inspire audiences to use their power, vote, get involved and make a difference on issues they care about.

We could not have come this far without many individuals who planted the seed of inspiration by their example, and many who watered that seed with generous support of all kinds, including generous gifts. To learn more and to help us cross the finish line, visit <u>our website</u>. (Gifts are tax-deductible. <u>Donate here.</u>)

It is deeply humbling and extremely exciting to reach this far with a community of support behind this project. If you would like to learn more about how to get involved to help ensure "Just the Beginning" is completed and reaches the broadest possible audience, please contact me at beta.com.net/beta.c

With gratitude and best wishes for a better 2022,

Beth Pitton-August Executive Producer, Director "Just the Beginning"

For Your Information



For more information, registration and contact information, click on the event in the website calendar here. Meetings are via Zoom. The 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.

Wednesday, Dec. 1 - noon-1:30 p.m. - Discussion Group of Community Forum--Public Safety: Beyond Police and Prisons

Friday, Dec. 3 - 10 a.m.-noon - **Sustainable Communities Committee** Tuesday, Dec. 7 - 5:15-6:15 p.m. - **Communications Committee** Saturday, Dec. 11 - 10 a.m.-noon - **Board Meeting**

Wednesday, Dec. 15 - 5:30-6:30 p.m. - TGIW Happy Hour Thursday, Jan. 6 - 3-4 p.m. - Book Club--The Premonition: A Pandemic Story

Because of Covid there will be no December Community Forum/Holiday Luncheon for members this year. Hopefully we can resume the tradition in 2022. There will also be no Forums in December or January, but stay tuned for an announcement about a special Community Forum on Feb. 16 to celebrate the Leagues's birthday.

Videos



Videos of Community and Candidate Forums are available on our YouTube Channel in both English and Spanish. If you missed recent Forums, watch here.

Public Safety: Beyond Police and Prisons

Community Choice Energy: A Greener Electric Power People Powered fair Maps: Why Redistricting Matters

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.

Inside the League

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 to set up a time to chat about getting involved.

Need help logging in to the website?

Our new Club Express website (hws.antabarbara.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 or Revae Moran at projectmanager@lwvsantabarbara.org to set up a personalized time for us to help you.

Welcome, New Members

Please welcome the following new members to our local League:

Marcia Rickard Kristen Sneddon Mil Duncan Quinby Janes

<u>Join Us!</u> Gail Fairburn, Membership Chair

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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