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Copy of Update: The Recall. Redistricting. And More

1 message

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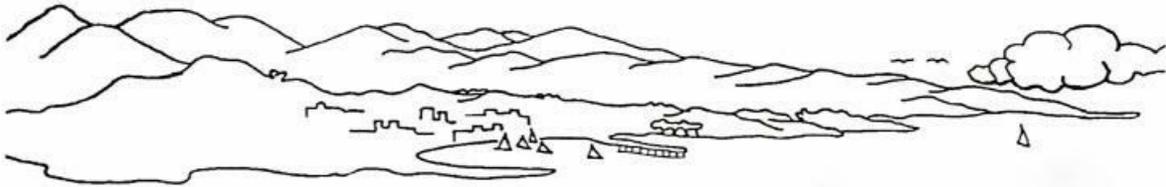
Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.



CHANNEL VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

Serving South Santa Barbara County



**2021
Recall
Election**

Get ready to vote September 14, 2021

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF CALIFORNIA
EDUCATION FUND

Be Sure to Vote in the Recall Election

Ballots for the recall election will be mailed now to all registered voters. Because such a high percentage of all eligible voters in SB County are now registered to vote (88% per the County Elections Office), we know most of you are registered. You can check your registration to make sure everything, such as your mailing address, is up to date [here](#).

Information on the location of secure drop-off boxes throughout the county where you can take your completed ballot, as well as places where you can vote in person if you so choose, will be included with the ballot packet you receive in the mail.

There will be two questions on the ballot:

1. Do you want to recall the governor (remove him from office)?
2. If the governor is recalled, who do you want to replace him?

If more than 50 percent of voters say “no” to the first question, the governor remains in office. If more than 50 percent vote “yes,” the person who gets the most votes on the second question becomes the governor. You do not need to answer both questions - you can answer only the first question, only the second question, or both questions - it's your choice!

Revae Moran, VP, Voter Service



For information about the candidates running for governor, see the State League's website - Voter's' Edge - www.votersedge.org.



Apply Today

Poll workers are needed in Santa Barbara County for the Sept. 14 California Gubernatorial Recall Election. Community participation is essential to staffing precincts and polling places. The Elections Office has less time than usual to recruit poll workers. So please consider applying: [here](#).

Don't Let Your Membership Expire Renew Today on Our New Website

LWVSB has implemented a new management system called Club Express. We now have a jazzy new website, a new color-coded calendar, and an up-to-date online member directory. Go to www.lwvsantabarbara.org. If you need help, contact [Revae Moran](#) or [Gail Fairburn](#).

You should have received an email message from Club Express in mid-June with your new temporary username and password. The message welcomed you to Club Express and asked you to log into your new account and change your password (you can also change your username if you'd like). Check your spam folder or promotions folder – search for messages from Club Express. If you didn't receive a message from Club Express, or can't find it - no worries. Send an email message to me or call me at (805) 845-9219.

To access the online member directory, click on the Member Resources tab on the home page of our new website. (You must be logged into your member account to be able to access it since it's not available to non-members.) Then click on Member Directory (the third item listed) and press the Search button and the system will download all of our member records.

If you are not yet a member, please visit our website and join!

Revae Moran, Club Express Project Manager

State and National Action Update

From LWVUS:

LWVUS has made it easier to find Action Alerts on its website: On lww.org click the "Take Action" button at top right of the page. Action Alerts will appear at the top of your screen, and there is a link to see more of them.

On August 11, LWVUS president, Deborah Turner, issued the following statement following the US Senate's latest failure to advance the #ForThePeopleAct: [Click on the link](#) to read Dr. Turner's powerful statement.

Two important bills related to voting rights should be taken up when Congress returns from its recess in mid-September: The For the People Act is mentioned above as well as in our August Channel Voter. Please respond to its Action Alert if you haven't already. The other bill is the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which doesn't yet have an Action Alert. It has an important history, though, and [this link](#) also has suggestions for what you can do to promote voting rights.

From LWVC:

State redistricting: The California Redistricting Commission (get information [here](#)) is doing public "communities of interest" (COI) outreach to help determine districts for the state Legislature and for our Congress Members. Some of their meetings are statewide, others are for specific areas of the state. We are in Outreach Zone E, along the coast. Only one more (virtual) outreach meeting is scheduled for Zone E:

Aug. 27 COI INPUT MEETING

3 – 7 pm or upon closing of business

[Watch live](#). Call in number for public input: (877)853-5247

Details of the meeting and how to participate are [here](#).

The home page, wedrawthelinesca.org, has a lot of information about the commission and its work, as well as a presentation on California redistricting basics.

Linda Phillips, State & National Action



Redistricting: What Can You Do?

Redistricting matters because districts determine that our votes count so that we can be represented equitably. Our elected representatives, be it City, State, or National, determine how our taxes are spent: infrastructure, education, health care, libraries, etc. This affects each of us!

On Aug. 10 the League of Women Voters US participated in a webinar with eight other organizations in a coalition called CHARGE in a webinar on Redistricting and the Census. On Aug. 12 the US Census Bureau

released its data based on the previous Census (legacy data). California is one of 11 states that will use this information to reallocate incarcerated populations. "Tabulated" data will be, hopefully, released by the US Census Bureau by Sep. 30.

The Santa Barbara County Independent Redistricting Commission (SBCIRC) has been reaching out to people in their districts to gather information on Communities of Interest. The Commission is educating people on the redistricting process and how to draw the maps.

What can **you** do? It is now important for us all to be engaged in this process. You have an opportunity to do this. Go to a meeting being held in your district to speak about your Communities of Interest and draw a map to reflect those interests. [Click here](#).

All trainings and past meetings of SBCIRC on located on the Commissions website. Also, the calendar for future meetings can also be found [here](#).

The next public meeting will be Oct. 6 in Betteravia, both in person and on Zoom. Please attend. Learn and give your input! You can insure the SBCIRC is transparent and accountable. Oct. 18 is the deadline for the submission of maps.

Lindsey Baker

Director Observer Corps



Redistricting Twitter Storm

Leagues across the country--including LWVSB-- participated in a "Twitter Storm" on the day census data was released. Sample tweets (like this one) were shared from LWVUS on Twitter and Facebook. We also promoted our Sept. 15 community forum about Santa Barbara County redistricting. When maps are drawn with public input, we protect the interests of our communities, not politicians! It is critical that we all engage in the map-drawing process.

Save the Date--Sept. 15 for "People Powered Fair Maps: Why Redistricting Matters"

One of the reasons I joined the League was to learn more about the community I live in. Never mind that I had been here nearly 20 years--mostly working...a lot. So learning about how my new community worked as opposed to the prior one in another state was nearly impossible for me. The League's community forums helped me bridge the gap.

This year we're focusing on some old themes and some new ones, beginning with Redistricting in September. The Citizens' Independent Redistricting Commission is still a new process for all of us in California. This is only the second redistricting with a state citizens commission. Redistricting is done every 10 years, after each census. Sometimes it's called Fair Maps California or People Powered Maps. We're in high planning mode at the moment with our forum (on redistricting in Santa Barbara County) on Zoom Wednesday, Sept. 15 at noon.

Some of our other community forums for this year will cover CCE (Community Choice Energy), Criminal Justice Reform, Housing, and Voting Rights. We're scheduling the forums to be held at noon on the third Wednesday of nearly every month. Because of the uncertainties with COVID and its variants, we will be holding the forums virtually until we're certain we'll all be safe getting together. There will be translation to Spanish language and videotaping to YouTube as we've done in the past. Forums will also be live-streamed on our Facebook page (@LWVSB).

We'll also hold a discussion group/coffee klatch follow-up (as soon as we can safely meet in person) at noon on the first Wednesday of each month to discuss the forum of the previous month. Come join us.

Pam Flynt Tambo, Vice President Program



Two Candidate Forums in September

Both forums for the City of Santa Barbara races will be held at the Santa Barbara Woman's Club, but neither one will have a live audience. Both will be covered by TVSB and live-streamed on our Facebook page - LWVSB - and recorded in both English and Spanish for later viewing.

The Forum for the Candidates for City Council Districts 4 and 6 will be held on Sept. 22 at 6 pm. The Candidates are:

District 4 - Kristen Sneddon, Incumbent; Barrett Reed, co-founder of the Miramar Group and member of the Santa Barbara Planning Commission.

District 6 - Meagan Harmon, Incumbent; Jason Carlton, business owner (CEC Electrical Service); Nina Johnson, Senior Assistant to the SB City Administrator; and Zachary Pike, Disc Jockey.

The Forum for the Mayoral race will be held on Sept. 30 at 6 pm. The Candidates for Mayor are Cathy Murillo, Incumbent; James Joyce, Founder of "Coffee with a Black Guy"; Matt Kilrain, local businessman; Randy Rowse, former City Councilman; Deborah Schwartz, Chair, SB Planning Commission; and Mark Whitehurst, Editor of the Voice.

Revae Moran, VP, Voter Service

Gun Buyback Day with CAGV

The Coalition Against Gun Violence (CAGV) has held five previous gun buy-back events, collecting 1169 firearms including 12 assault rifles. These guns will never be used in a homicide, suicide or accidental shooting. CAGV is organizing its next gun buyback event, and help is needed. Please see sbcoalition.org for more info on how the collection works. It will be held on Saturday, Aug. 21 from 8 am until noon.

Volunteers are needed. If you can help, please contact ej Borah by [email](#). There will be two shifts: 7:30 - 9:30 am to unload vehicles, set up tables, canopies, etc.; and 9:30 am - noon to take down and load vehicles. Water and coffee will be provided. Volunteers will not be handling any guns. The Santa Barbara Police Department is assisting with this event. LWVSB is a partner of the Santa Barbara Coalition Against Gun Violence.

Pam Flynt Tambo, VP Program

Watch Forum Videos on TVSB

Tune in: TVSB Channels League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara Show - **English version:** TVSB Channel 17, "Voice" on Tuesdays 9 pm and on Fridays 2 am TVSB Channel 71, "Culture" on Wednesdays 9 pm on Thursdays 7 pm on Fridays 5 am, and on Saturdays 10 am League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara Show - **Spanish version:** TVSB Channel 17, "Voice" on Wednesdays 9 pm and on Saturdays 3 am TVSB Channel 71, "Culture" on Mondays 7:30 pm, on Thursdays 3:30 am, on Fridays 3:30 pm, and on Saturdays 2 am.

Join LWVSB "Walk and Talks"

The first walk--around downtown Santa Barbara--will be Thursday, Aug. 26 from 9-10am. If you are interested in joining, if you are interested in exploring another area in September, or if you would like to be a guide, [email](#) Linda Honikman.

Now that we have final Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) numbers – the state-mandated affordable housing units that should be added over the next decade – each jurisdiction has 18 months to complete a housing element showing where those units could go, and they will have to provide an inventory of available parcels. The LWVSB Housing Committee is helping with that effort in a relaxed, fun way with these "Walk and Talks" through South County neighborhoods.

We are beginning with the higher density parts of the City of Santa Barbara and any areas that residents are aware of that might be part of our affordable housing solution. We can chat and take a few photos and notes about land that could be suitable for affordable housing, assets we need to protect (with the guidance of people who live in those areas), empty buildings that could be repurposed, etc. Our notes will be compiled and entered into a database and a comprehensive map. Of course, an important part of the walk will be an optional coffee or lunch afterwards. Eventually we hope to cover the entire South County, block by block and meet residents from other community groups. We also encourage "Drive and Talks" and "Bike and Talks," and will try to accommodate different physical abilities and time availabilities.

Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI): Ways to Learn More

Demystifying History: A Community Teach-in on Critical Race Theory

Thursday, Aug. 19, 5:30-7 pm

Join Just Communities and UCSB faculty from Chicano Studies, History, and Asian American studies for a virtual panel discussion and Q&A on Critical Race Theory. Panelists will respond to questions aimed at building a community understanding of what critical race theory is and isn't, why culturally relevant history education is important at all levels of education, and how students, parents, and community members can get connected to more opportunities for learning and engagement. Register [here](#)

League August DEI Webinar

Thursday, Aug. 26, 4 pm

We'll discuss and explore intersectionality, or how race, class, gender, and other individual characteristics "intersect" with one another. Members can watch or view later on the website. Explore [lwv.org](#) resources in DEI [here](#)

I encourage you to update your knowledge on where "segregation in housing" came from and how it has been perpetuated for more than 100 years at both national and local levels. Join our League Book Group in reading [The Color of Law](#) by Richard Rothstein. This book gives you the history you didn't get in high school. Clue: segregated housing didn't happen as de facto but rather as de jure. To help make change in our country, many more people need to know our history, not our myths.

Another important local area of interest has to do with supporting multicultural education in the Santa Barbara Unified School District

There are many other ways to participate:

Join our DEI Committee, attend small meetings of committee and community forums

- Attend meetings of community groups, educational opportunities, and social events in under-represented areas.
- Educate yourself on other cultures, implicit bias, and community opportunities by reading, observing, listening, attending webinars, and other methods that may arise
- Visit [lwv.org](#) to see DEI resources [here](#)
- Share information about opportunities to participate in the community
- Share experiences and information learned on the topic or event
- Become an advocate for an under-represented community

All are welcome to participate and share their understandings of diversity, equity and inclusion. Every area of League interest can be viewed through a DEI lens. Contact: dei@lwvsantabarbara.org

Joanie Jones, DEI Chair



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

Tuesday, Aug. 17 - **Recall Election Ballots Mailed**

Thursday, Aug. 19 - 4:30 pm - **Book Club**

Saturday, Aug. 21 - 8 am-noon - **Gun Buyback**

Thursday, Aug. 26 - 9-10 am - **Walk and Talk**

Thursday, Aug. 26 - 4:30-6pm - **Social Policy Committee**

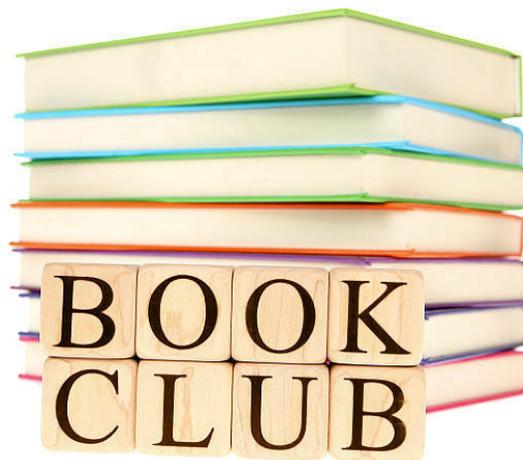
- Friday, Sept. 3 - 10am-noon - **Sustainable Communities Committee**
- Tuesday, Sept. 7 - 5:15 pm - **Communications Committee**
- Wednesday, Sept. 8 - noon - **Housing Committee**
- Saturday, Sept. 11 - 10 am - **Board Meeting**
- Tuesday, Sept. 14 - **Recall Election**
- Wednesday, Sept. 22 - 6 pm - **Candidate Forum, Santa Barbara City Council Districts 4 and 6**
- Thursday, Sept. 23 - 4:30 pm - **Social Policy Committee**
- Thursday, Sept. 23 - 6 pm - **"Race to Save the World" panel discussion**
- Thursday, Sept. 30 - 6 pm - **Candidate Forum, Santa Barbara Mayor**

Book Club on Zoom

Date: Thursday, Aug. 19, 3 p.m.
Book Selection: The Color of Law by Richard Rothstein

This was designated one of ten finalists on the National Book Awards' long list for the best nonfiction book of 2017. "Rosenstein argues with exacting precision and fascinating insights how segregation in America—the incessant kind that continues to dog our major cities and has contributed to so much recent social strife—is the byproduct of explicit government policies at the local, state, and federal levels."

To join the discussion, contact elainerudin@me.com for a Zoom invitation. We invite you to use your computer, iPad, laptop or Kindle to click on a link that Elaine will send you.



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