



# THE VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

May 2010

Volume 37 Number 10

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## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PRESENTS

### CANDIDATE FORUMS

*Meet the candidates and ask questions*



#### DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND SHERIFF

**Date:** Wednesday, May 12  
**Time:** 7:00 - 9:00 PM  
**Place:** Cupertino Community Hall  
 10305 Torre Avenue  
 Cupertino  
 Sponsored by LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale

#### SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE OFFICES 7, 11, AND 19

**Date:** Saturday, May 15  
**Time:** 9:30 - 11:30 AM  
**Place:** Campbell Community Center  
 Roosevelt Room  
 1 W Campbell, Campbell  
 Sponsored by LWV SW Santa Clara Valley

### PROS & CONS ON BALLOT MEASURES

*League speakers will explain ballot measures and answer questions*

**Wednesday April 28, 7:00-8:30 PM**  
 Santa Clara Mission Library  
 1098 Lexington St, Santa Clara

**Thursday May 6, 7:00-8:30**  
 Sunnyvale Library  
 665 W Olive Ave, Sunnyvale

**Monday May 3, 7:30-9 PM**  
 Unitarian Universalist Church/  
 Congregational Community Church  
 Remington and Bernardo, Sunnyvale

**Monday May 10, 7:00-8:30 PM**  
 Cupertino Community Hall  
 10350 Torre, Ave Cupertino

**Monday May 10, 7:30-9:00 PM**  
 Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church  
 728 W Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale

**The Better Part: Pros and Cons on Statewide Propositions**  
 will air on Cupertino TV-15 Monday 5/3 4:30 PM,  
 Tuesday 5/4 7:00 PM, Friday 5/7 7:00 PM

Go to [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org) for comprehensive nonpartisan statewide and local election information and [www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org) your nonpartisan quick guide to statewide election information.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 22, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Sunnyvale Senior Center, Sequoia Room  
 Further information will be included in your Annual Meeting Kit which will be mailed soon.

### LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale Board of Directors

President	Elaine Manley
Vice President	Susan Hough
Secretary	Louise Levy
Treasurer	Roberta Hollimon

Directors	Suzanne Ford
	Russ Howard
	Marilyn Howard
	LaVerne Prentice
	Jason Spiller
	Laurel Stell

#### Off Board

Dues Secretary	Evelyn Lundstrom
VOTER labels	Dorothy Givens

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We're getting into high gear on the upcoming election in June. We are so fortunate to have such quality volunteers focusing on Voter Service in Linda Davis, Susan Hough, Marilyn Howard, Jason Spiller, Laurel Stell and Andrea Harris. Please spread the word to your friends and neighbors to come to one of our live candidate forums or Pro/Con presentations. The schedule is posted on our website at [www.cs.ca.lwvnet.org](http://www.cs.ca.lwvnet.org). And be sure to check out [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org) for all types of information. Susan and I have recorded an explanation of the ballot measures and will post it to that site in case you can't make a live meeting. There are likely to be fewer voters than normal so please be sure to vote on the June 8th election.

*Elaine*

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## THE LEAGUE RECOMMENDS

### Proposition 15 - California Fair Elections Act

**SUPPORT**

Proposition 15 would lift the ban on public funding of political campaigns in California and allow such programs to be created by the legislature. It would also establish a public funding program for Secretary of State campaigns until 2019, which could be extended by the legislature and governor.

Candidates running for Secretary of State in 2014 and 2018 could voluntarily receive state funds for their campaigns if they show enough public support and agree to other requirements.

The League is co-chair of the campaign to pass the California Fair Elections Act on the June 2010 ballot.

### Proposition 16 - Two-Thirds Majority Voter Approval Requirement for Local Public Electricity Providers

**OPPOSE**

Proposition 16 would require a two-thirds majority vote of the people before local governments could use public funds to start up electricity service, expand service into new territory, or contract with electric service providers through a community choice aggregation program.

The LWVC opposes Prop 16 and signed the rebuttal to the argument in favor of this measure. PG&E, the largest for-profit utility in the state, is the sole sponsor of Prop 16 and would benefit from this measure's stifling of competition. The impact would be fewer choices and thus higher rates for consumers, and fewer opportunities for local agencies to offer renewable green power.

### Measure B - Fremont Union High School District Parcel Tax

**SUPPORT**

Measure B renews the current Parcel Tax of \$98 with no increase for six years or changing the structure of the proposal voters approved in 2004. This local tax provides over 5% of the District's annual budget – dollars essential to funding an educational program that prepares the youth of our community for success as adults. It will expire next year. The Fremont Union High School District has maintained superior math, science, English and foreign language courses and music and art electives for its students. Check out [www.fuhsd.edu](http://www.fuhsd.edu).

Measure B is a Mail Ballot Election. Ballots must be mailed by April 28. If you are a registered voter in the Fremont Union High School District and did not receive a ballot, call the Registrar of Voters' office at 408-299-VOTE (8683)

## Board Briefs

At its April meeting your board:

- Approved the budget to be presented to members for adoption at Annual Meeting.
- Approved further Bylaws changes to be presented to members for adoption at Annual Meeting.
- Heard that we will have a delegate at the LWVC Leadership Council and also at the LWVUS Convention.
- Decided not to support the Health Care Resolution proposed by 12 Leagues.
- Set Monday May 10 as the date for the next Board Meeting.

## Membership News

Thank you for renewing your membership: Jo Loer, Ruth Mansberger, Betty Nelson, and LaVerne Prentice.

Thank you for including a donation with your dues: Jo Lucey.

## The Cupertino-Sunnyvale VOTER

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Editor: Roberta Hollimon  
[lwvcseditor@comcast.net](mailto:lwvcseditor@comcast.net)

Mailing: Dorothy Givens  
LaVerne Prentice

## LEAGUE NEWS

**National** – The LWV of South Carolina has worked hard to defeat the voter photo identification bill that was introduced in their state legislature. The LWVSC slowed the bill's progress and continues to monitor its movement, while poised to take immediate action if necessary with already drafted action alerts and press releases. In addition, the LWV of Idaho is fighting off a similar bill, which both houses of the legislature passed and the governor is yet to sign into law. The LWVID is actively encouraging the governor to veto the bill. In just a few days, its efforts have garnered three radio interviews and coverage in two newspapers. To learn more about the League's work to protect voters' rights, visit [www.lwv.org/PAVP](http://www.lwv.org/PAVP).

**State** – The LWVCEF board has established the Voter Information Working Group. It was made up of League voter service workers with varied experiences and representing the diversity of Leagues and communities across the state. The VIWG examined voter needs, assessed current services and products, and determine how best to deliver information about state ballot measures. They made recommendations for In Depths, Pros and Cons, and an online speakers network.

## EDSOURCE FORUM: CALIFORNIA AT A CROSSROADS

*Our April VOTER contained a report on the EdSource Forum held in March. This is a continuation of that report.*

The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, Jack Scott, said, "The good news is that Community Colleges have never been held in higher esteem than now." He went on to say that Community Colleges may be the key to leading us out of this recession but the bad news is there are fewer resources to serve the students who are flocking to the Community Colleges.

Hal Plotkin, Senior policy advisor to Under Secretary of Education Martha Kanter, said, "The survival and future of our country is at risk. We cannot tax our way out of debt, we cannot cut our way out of debt, we must grow our way out of debt." He feels we must develop our undeveloped human capital. The American graduation program needs a cultural redefinition in higher education. It is now defined by the quality of people denied whereas it should be defined by the quality and quantity of people produced.

Commenting on the graduation bill, Plotkin stated that it would reform the way student loans are processed and would save \$80 billion. The Community College bill has been reinserted into the reconciliation bill in Congress. Plotkin says this is the greatest investment in education since the GI Bill. It promotes competency and proficiency based performance, rewards learning and gives credit for prior learning. He thinks we need to optimize opportunities for learning.

### Join the League of Women Voters

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all men and women of voting age who are U.S. citizens. Others are welcome to join the League as associate members.

Send your check payable to LWVCS to LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale, P.O. Box 2923, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

\_\_\_\_ \$60 Individual member

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \$90 Two members in a household

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \$30 Student

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Membership checks are made out to LWVCS and are not tax deductible.

To make a tax-deductible donation, write a separate check to LWVCS Education Fund.

## CALENDAR

### May

Wed	12	7:00 PM	<b>Candidate Forum - District Attorney and Sheriff</b> Cupertino Community Hall 10305 Torre Avenue, Cupertino
Sat	15	9:30-11:30 AM	<b>Candidate Forum - Judges</b> Campbell Community Center, Roosevelt Room Corner of Winchester and Campbell, Campbell
Sat	15	10:00 AM thru	<b>LWVC Leadership Council</b> Holiday Inn, Capitol Plaza Sacramento
Sun	16	3:00 PM	
Sat	22	11:00 AM -1:00	<b>Annual Meeting</b> Sunnyvale Senior Center, Sequoia Room 550 E Remington Drive, Sunnyvale

### June

Fri	11	thru	<b>LWVUS Convention</b> Atlanta, Georgia
Sun	13		

## WHO REPRESENTS YOU

### UNITED STATES

<b>President Barack Obama</b> <a href="mailto:comments@whitehouse.gov">comments@whitehouse.gov</a>	202-456-1414
<b>Senator Barbara Boxer</b> <a href="mailto:senator@boxer.senate.gov">senator@boxer.senate.gov</a>	415-403-0100
<b>Senator Dianne Feinstein</b> <a href="mailto:senator@feinstein.senate.gov">senator@feinstein.senate.gov</a>	415-393-0707
<b>Rep. Anna Eshoo</b> <a href="mailto:annagram@mail.house.gov">annagram@mail.house.gov</a>	650-323-2984
<b>Rep. Mike Honda</b>	408-558-8075

### CALIFORNIA

<b>Gov. Schwarzenegger</b> <a href="mailto:governor@governor.ca.gov">governor@governor.ca.gov</a>	916-445-2841
<b>Senator Elaine Alquist</b> <a href="mailto:senator.alquist@senate.ca.gov">senator.alquist@senate.ca.gov</a>	
<b>Senator Joe Simitian</b> <a href="mailto:senator.simitian@senate.ca.gov">senator.simitian@senate.ca.gov</a>	650-688-6384
<b>Assemblyman Paul Fong</b> <a href="mailto:assemblyman.fong@assembly.ca.gov">assemblyman.fong@assembly.ca.gov</a>	

### SANTA CLARA COUNTY

<b>Supervisor Dave Cortese</b> <a href="mailto:dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org">dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org</a>	408-299-5030
<b>Supervisor Liz Kniss</b> <a href="mailto:liz.kniss@bos.sccgov.org">liz.kniss@bos.sccgov.org</a>	650-965-8737

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters  
of Cupertino-Sunnyvale  
P.O. Box 2923  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

**FIRST CLASS**