



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

April 2016

Volume 43 Number 9

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2016 ELECTION – GET PREPARED AND MEET CANDIDATES FROM ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 24

**Sunday, April 17, 2-3:30 p.m.
Sunnyvale Public Library Program Room
665 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale 94086**

2016 is a big election nationally but it's also big for Sunnyvale. Once again voters must make important decisions. Here are some examples of what we will cover:

- How does the “Top Two” work?
- What ballot do you need to use if you are a “No Party Preference” voter?
- How are delegates allocated in California?
- Tools to help you evaluate ballot measures including funding sources that support or oppose the measure.
- Websites you might want to look at.

We will review:

- Bay Restoration measure on the June Ballot
- Sunnyvale Public Lands measure on the November Ballot
- Other ballot items.

Also, meet candidates for CA Assembly District 24 - this is your opportunity to personally ask them about the issues that matter to you.

*Hosted by the League of Women Voters,
nonpartisan voter engagement and education*

Please RSVP to league@cs.ca.lwvnet.org. If you have any election questions you'd like covered, please let us know that as well.

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VOTER Proofreader	Dorothy Givens
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Voter Registration	Suzanne Ford
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The Cupertino-Sunnyvale VOTER

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This newsletter is posted on our website: cs.ca.lwvnet.org.

Editor: Roberta Hollimon
lwvcseditor@comcast.net

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 4, 2016
Annual Meeting
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church
728 W. Fremont Ave., Sunnyvale 94087



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I’m looking forward to our election related event on April 17. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about “Top Two” primaries and how can you get a ballot if you are registered as “No Part Preference” or NPPs as we call them. We will also have information on how delegates are allocated in California, how to evaluate ballot measures, and a chance to hear from and talk with candidates for the 24th State Assembly District. As we say, “The League provides all you need to know to cast an informed ballot.” I hope to see you there. Thanks to the “Sunnyvale Group” and Elaine Manley for planning this event.

Every year in the spring we conduct a Community Appeal asking members and supporters in the community to make a contribution to our League. The letters have gone out. I hope when you receive yours you will consider making a donation to our League to help us with our work educating and informing our community.

Roberta



TWELVE COMMUNITIES SAY YES TO CHOICE!

All twelve participating communities took action to form and join the Silicon Valley Clean Energy Authority (SVCEA), a local non-profit agency charged with procuring cleaner energy for residents and businesses.

As of March 2016, elected bodies in Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Cupertino, Campbell, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Gilroy and unincorporated parts of Santa Clara County have all committed to providing more renewable energy at competitive rates through SVCEA, Silicon Valley’s newest public non-profit.

The deliberations have ended, but the work for communities is not over. Each City Council and the County’s Board of Supervisors designated a representative to serve on the SVCEA’s Board of Directors, scheduled to host its first meeting next month. The Board of Directors will be responsible for setting CCE program policies and electricity rates. Once policies are approved by the California Public Utilities Commission, the Board will oversee the purchase of electricity for participating communities on the open energy market.

Until then, focus will turn to expanding community outreach and program launch development efforts.

Board Briefs

At its March meeting your board:

- Learned that we made a \$400 donation to Smart Voter.
- Approved the format for the April 17 meeting, which will include information on the June 7 primary election and meet the candidates for Assembly District 24.
- Adopted a plan for next year.
- Appointed members Delores Carson, Russ Howard and Nancie Plumb to the nominating committee for the current year and appointed Linda Davis and Jason Spiller as the board members on the nominating committee.

Community Appeal

Thank you Jean Schwab for your donation to the Community Appeal.

Member News

Welcome new member Janet Kay.

LWVUS BOARD SETS 2016 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

LEAGUE NEWS

National – The League joined other partner organizations on letters to the U.S. House in opposition of the SENSE Act (H.R. 3797) and the BRICK Act (H.R. 4557). These bills would weaken health safeguards for Americans on behalf of special interests and result in more air pollution and health hazards.

Bay Area - LWV of the Bay Area has endorsed Measure AA, the \$12 per parcel tax that will be on the June, 2016 ballot in all nine Bay Area counties. The measure needs 2/3 voter approval within the region to pass.

Bay Area positions support conservation and development of the SF Bay and enhancement and preservation of the Bay and its shorelines. This measure will generate funding for restoration of San Francisco Bay wetlands, benefiting people, wildlife, and the Bay Area economy. More wetlands will improve the bay by filtering out pollution for cleaner water; increasing habitat for fish, birds and other wildlife.

County - The County Council of the Leagues of Women Voters of Santa Clara County is supporting the County Parks Ballot Measure and signing a rebuttal argument.

The LWVUS Board set federal legislative priorities for the second session of the 114th Congress at its January board meeting. The League has many positions from which to take action but establishing a focus for our national advocacy is a critical responsibility of the LWVUS Board as it is for every League Board. In setting priorities, the Board considers a number of factors, the most important of which is focusing League effort where it can have the greatest impact. For 2016, the LWVUS legislative priorities are ranked in two tiers. The first tier priority is Representative Democracy, which includes voting rights and election administration, money in politics, redistricting reform and work on a constitutional convention. The second tier is Climate Change. And we continue to watch action on several issues including immigration, health care, reproductive rights and environmental protection.

Protecting Voters -The League is dedicated to ensuring that all eligible voters – particularly those from traditionally underrepresented or underserved communities, including first-time voters, non-college youth, new citizens, minorities, the elderly and low-income Americans – have the opportunity and the information to exercise their right to vote.

Reforming Money in Politics -The League is deeply committed to reforming our nation's campaign finance system to ensure the public's right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office and allow maximum citizen participation in the political process. We will continue this fight in Congress, with state legislatures, with the executive branch and, where appropriate, the courts.

Constitutional Amendment - The League's new Constitutional Amendment position outlines considerations for evaluating constitutional amendment proposals, to address the ongoing debates in many legislatures regarding constitutional conventions. (See the LWVCS March VOTER for the complete position.)

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.

<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Individual member <input type="checkbox"/> \$90 Two members in a household <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Student <input type="checkbox"/> Contribution \$ _____	Name(s): _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone(s): _____ Email(s): _____
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Membership checks are made out to "LWVCS" and are not tax-deductible. Donations to "LWVCS" are also non-deductible.

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

CALENDAR

April

Thu 14	7:30 p.m.	Board Meeting Burnetts' 729 Stendhal Ln., Cupertino 95014
Sun 17	2:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Election Preview Sunnyvale Library 665 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale 94086

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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.

WHO REPRESENTS YOU

UNITED STATES

President Barack Obama comments@whitehouse.gov	202-456-1414
Senator Barbara Boxer senator@boxer.senate.gov	415-403-0100
Senator Dianne Feinstein senator@feinstein.senate.gov	415-393-0707
Rep. Mike Honda mike.honda@mail.house.gov	408-436-2720

CALIFORNIA

Governor Jerry Brown governor@governor.ca.gov	916-445-2841
Senator Jim Beall senator.beall@senate.ca.gov	408-286-8318
Senator Jerry Hill senator.hill@senate.ca.gov	650-212-3313
Assemblyman Evan Low assemblyman.low@assembly.ca.gov	408-371-2802
Assemblyman Rich Gordon assemblyman.gordon@assembly.ca.gov	650-691-2121

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Supervisor Dave Cortese dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org	408-299-5030
Supervisor Joe Simitian joe.simitian@bos.sccgov.org	408-299-5050

FIRST CLASS

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