



VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

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ELECTION NEWS

Propositions

Discussions are heating up as Californians debate the consequences of the various propositions slated for the special statewide election. The League of Women Voters of California's Smart Voter helps voters become more informed on these controversial ballot issues.

A one-stop shop for voters who want a variety and depth of resources, <http://smartvoter.org> serves up a full range of material. The League and the California Channel have teamed up to produce brief overviews of the eight propositions on video. For up-to-the-minute news articles, consult Smart Voter's "News and Analysis" section. The League's "Pros & Cons" put forth an impartial balance of arguments in favor of and against each proposition. Click on each proposition for more information.

Tell a Friend

One effective way to get out the vote is by your own personal contact. Choose a ballot issue that interests you and talk to or email a friend about the issue. Then multiply that one contact by ten. Refer them to Smart Voter.

Dates to Remember

November 1 -- Deadline for requesting an absentee ballot. Your application must arrive at the county elections office no later than 5 p.m. on November 1st.

November 8 -- **ELECTION DAY** – Polls open 7 am – 8 pm. Absentee ballots must be received by the registrar no later than 8 p.m.

Reprinted from "Smart Voter News"

LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale Board of Directors

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Pros and Cons Presentations

Last chance to hear a presentation of the pros and cons of the ballot measures being given by our members Linda Davis and Susan Hough is **Tuesday, November 1**, 3-4:30 pm St Thomas Episcopal Church 231 Sunset Ave. (at McKinley Ave). This is your opportunity to learn about the initiatives and ask questions to clarify your understanding.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my third President's message to focus on the election, and it may feel as though I sound like a broken record, but the fact is, at election time some of us are just immersed in the political process. I hope that many of you are making time to come to candidate forums and Pro/Con presentations.

At an AAUW meeting last night, Linda Davis, Elaine Manley and I did a different kind of Pro/Con, having one of us serve as the neutral speaker and the other two take on roles as supporter and opponent for each measure. People really seemed to feel it gave a clearer distinction between the neutral analysis and the claims of the partisans. It's that sort of evolving ability to get information out that is so exciting at this time of year. No matter how much work has already gone into the handouts, the Smart Voter site, the ProCons and forums, there is always a way to do it better or make it clearer. The efforts to improve also keep us from getting stale. I know I am forever discovering one more thing that helps to illumine an issue!

Still, as much fun as this work is, I am looking forward to a few more dinners with my family after Election Day, and to seeing many of you in a more relaxed setting at the holiday brunch next month.

Don't forget to vote!

Susan

Board Briefs

At its October meeting, the Board:

- Learned that the National League Convention will be held in Minneapolis, June 10-13, 2006.
- Heard an update on Voters Service activities
- Was given a list of candidates who had not yet entered their material on Smart Voter. At upcoming forums these candidates will be reminded to join Smart Voter .

Looking Back

25 years ago the League participated in a Bay Area study on Regional Airports.

15 years ago members studied transportation issues and learned about strategies for mitigating congestion and auto-related pollution. At that time it appeared the "stick" strategies which significantly increase the cost of driving are considerably more effective than "carrot" strategies such as transit.

VOTE WITH THE LEAGUE

State Initiatives

Prop 73	Parental Notification About Abortion	NO
Prop 74	Public School Teachers	NO
Prop 75	Government Employee Union Dues	NO
Prop 76	State Budget and School Funding	NO
Prop 77	Political Districts	NO
Prop 78	Prescription Drug Discounts	NO
Prop 79	Prescription Drug Discounts and Medi-Cal	YES

Cupertino Initiatives

Measure A	Housing Density	NO
Measure B	Building Heights	NO
Measure C	Building Setbacks	NO

Membership News

Thank you for renewing your membership: Maribel Andonian, Joan Coston, Dorothy and William Normark, Ceci Salomon and Florence Stafford.

Thank you for including a donation with your renewal: Sara Cordell, Richard Lowenthal and Scott and Elaine Manley.

Thank you for your donation: Leonard Doberne.

LEAGUE NEWS

National – LWVUS is offering a new initiative to help local Leagues engage their communities in a conversation about how homeland security is working in their local areas. "How is Homeland Security Working at Home?" is part of the League's commitment to the notion that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens, and the citizen's right to know about governmental actions. Local Leagues can survey key officials who have responsibility for local security and present their responses to their communities.

State – The state League has initiated a vehicle donation program. (See the article on this page.) Through the end of this year proceeds from the program will be shared with local Leagues.

Bay Area – Recommended reading in the *Bay Area Monitor*: "Powering Down: Energy Efficiency in Water and Wastewater Agencies" is an excellent summary of a series of State Water Board workshops held recently around the state including one at the Santa Clara Valley Water District. There is also an article titled "Climate Protection Begins at Home" about global warming. Access articles at <http://www.bayareamonitor.org/oct05>.

County – The County Leagues sent a letter to the Governor urging him to sign into law Senator Simitian's bill, SB 680 which would permit a \$5 surcharge on each registered vehicle in Santa Clara County, with monies spent on projects to mitigate traffic congestion.

WEB SITE RESOURCES FOR ELECTION INFORMATION

Smart Voter: "Directory of California State Propositions"
<http://smartvoter.org/2005/11/08/ca/state/prop/>

Easy Voter Guide -- <http://easyvoter.org/> A nonpartisan resource for new voters and busy voters. Available in multiple languages.

The California Voter Foundation -- <http://calvoter.org> Promoting and applying the responsible use of technology to improve the democratic process.

LEAGUE INTERNET SITES

LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale	www.cs.ca.lwvnet.org
LWV Santa Clara County	www.scc.ca.lwvnet.org
LWV Bay Area	www.lwvba-ca.org
Bay Area Monitor	www.bayareamonitor.org
LWV California	www.lwvc.org
Members	www.lwvc.org/lwvonly
LWV United States	www.lwv.org

EVERY CAR COUNTS

Donate your car, boat, RV or motorcycle by calling 1-800-320-0476. You'll get a deduction on your taxes, avoid a hassle at the DMV and provide a new source of funding for our organization.

From now until December 31, 2005, our League will automatically receive a portion of the proceeds from any vehicle donation made in our area.

Help Make Government Work 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 to LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale, P.O. Box 2923, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

____ \$50 Individual member

Name: _____

____ \$75 Two members in a household

Address: _____

____ Contribution \$ _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Checks made out to LWVCS are not tax deductible.