



Santa Cruz Voter

League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County

October 2010

Volume 45 Number 2

Learn the Pros and Cons of the Nov. 2 State Ballot Issues

Thursday, October 14, 1-3 p.m.

Aptos Branch Library 7695 Soquel Drive, Aptos 95003

What do the nine California state ballot propositions really mean? Who is behind placing these issues on the November ballot? Knowledgeable League Voter Service team members will explain the ins and outs of these measures, leaving time for your questions.

Invite your friends and neighbors to join you in being informed voters. This event is free and open to the public. Donations are gladly accepted to pay for the room rental.

Santa Cruz City Climate Action Plan Explained

Saturday, November 6, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m

Santa Cruz Art and History Museum, First floor auditorium

705 Front Street, Santa Cruz 95060

The City of Santa Cruz, a long-time advocate for environmental conservation and sustainable living, established its commitment to respond to global climate change by adopting the Santa Cruz Climate Action Declaration. Released this fall, the Draft Climate Action Plan outlines actions the City and the public can take to meet requirements and goals to reduce Green House Gas emissions. Ross Clark, Climate Action Coordinator for the City, will share his expertise on the development of the Plan and tell us what to expect in the future.

Salad Box lunches from Eric's Delicafe are available by reservation. Cost is \$14 for either Chinese Chicken salad, Chicken Caesar, Leaf Erikson salad (with turkey, smoked ham and cheeses) or vegetarian salad. Bagette & butter, cookie and cold beverage included. Send your check made out to LWVSCC, with your salad choice by Oct. 29 to: Sandy Warren, 150 Scenic St., Santa Cruz, 95060

Please carpool or call 426-VOTE if you need a ride.

President's Report

On September 14, I presented a League statement to the Santa Cruz City Council regarding an item on its agenda that would authorize a \$4 million contract with an engineering firm to design a desalination facility. The City of Santa Cruz is the lead agency for this proposed project which is intended to provide a new water supply for the Soquel Creek Water District, which presumably would enable the underlying overdrafted aquifers to recover. Santa Cruz City would use the desalinated water during a severe drought.

Although the League has not yet taken a position on the proposed desalination project, the League urged the Council to step back and rather than plunge into this very expensive project, commit to giving full consideration to the proposed alternatives being advocated by individuals and organizations in the community. These alternatives include, but are not limited to: modifying the management of water stored in Loch Lomond Reservoir, additional conservation measures, conjunctive use of existing surface and groundwater resources between water districts, and adopting a water-neutral development policy.

The public testimony presented by groups and individuals at the meeting and by email had a significant impact. Even though the Council voted to proceed with the award of a design contract, City staff was directed to develop a Plan B alternative to desalination and to come back for further evaluation and direction when the first phase of the desalination design has been completed. Staff had indicated that the first phase of the design was necessary in order to complete a draft environmental impact report (EIR), but also assured the Council that the design work could be stopped at that point if the Council wishes.

The desalination project is developing into one of the biggest controversies in the county's history. It is possible that the issue will be put to a vote of the people in the future. It is already an issue for the City Council candidates in the November election.

Jan Karwin
President

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Voter Service

The Voter Service team has been busy since early September assisting with providing candidate forums and pros & cons of the ballot issues. Still to come are these presentations:

- October 7 Lompico Water Board Candidates Forum
- October 11 Ballot measures Pros & Cons for the Newcomers' Club
- October 11 Pros & Cons for the PEO
- October 12 Pros & Cons at Sorrento Oaks
- October 13 Pros & Cons for Delta Kappa Gamma
- October 14 Pros & Cons at the Aptos Branch Library for League members and the public.

Many thanks to Morgan Rankin, Pam Newbury, Joyce Aoyagi, Ilse Rowe, Sandy Warren, and Ann Wise for their dedication.

Yard Sale Fundraiser

Saturday, October 9, 9 a.m. to Noon
The Circle Church Yard, 11 Errett Circle, SC 95060

Call Morgan Rankin, 426-6412, to donate or help at the League's table. Items may be dropped off before 9 a.m. at our table

Join Us For a Membership Coffee

New or almost new League members: please come to a casual coffee on Saturday morning, October 23, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. We'll talk about your interests and League opportunities. Call me at 426-4526 or email krze4kats@sbcglobal.net for directions to my home at 141 Prospect Court, Santa Cruz, 95065. I hope to see you!

Eloise Graham, Membership Chair

You Are Missed

Annual League dues were due July 1 for the fiscal year 2010/2011. If you haven't sent in your membership renewal check, please do so right away. We need your support and commitment in providing voter education to our community. Send your membership renewal check to: Sandy Warren, 150 Scenic St., Santa Cruz 95060

Join the League of Women Voters

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to 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 the League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County or LWVSCC with this form to our League Treasurer Sandra Warren, 150 Scenic Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

___ \$65 Individual annual membership

Name _____

___ \$97.50 Two members in a household

Address: _____

___ Contribution \$ _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Checks made out to LWVSCC are not tax deductible.

Telephone: _____

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

E-mail: _____

We do not share your personal contact information with other organizations.

VOTE WITH THE LEAGUE ON NOVEMBER 2

For this General Election, the League recommends.....

NO on Prop 20	Redistricting of Congressional districts
NO on Prop 23	Suspends Clean energy and Air Pollution Standards
YES on Prop 24	Tax Fairness Act
YES on Prop 25	Simple Majority Vote for Budget
NO on Prop 26	“Polluter Protection”
NO on Prop 27	Eliminates State Commission on Redistricting

The League is neutral or has no position on the other three Propositions on this ballot: 19, 21 and 22. More information about the League's positions is available through our website:

<http://lwvscc.org>.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 1-3 p.m.

League Board Meeting at Santa Cruz County Bank
720 Front Street, Santa Cruz 95060

Thursday, Oct. 14, 1-3 p.m.

Pros & Cons on November Ballot Propositions
Aptos Branch Library, 7695 Soquel Drive, Aptos 95003
The public is invited.

Saturday, Oct. 23, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Casual New Member Coffee
Home of Eloise Graham
Call 426-4526 for directions.

November

Tuesday, Nov. 2

Election Day

Saturday, Nov. 6, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Lunch and Speaker on Santa Cruz Climate Action
Museum of Art and History, 705 Front St., SC 95060
Salad lunch is \$14; mail check to 150 Scenic St., SC 95060
The public is invited.

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 1-3 p.m.

League Board Meeting at Santa Cruz County Bank
720 Front St, Santa Cruz, 95060

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages 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.