



# THE VOTER

## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SONOMA COUNTY

Volume 10, No. 4

May 2005

### NEW AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS— MEET OUR LEAGUERS

If you're considering joining League or if you've already joined and want to find ways to get more involved, please join us for an afternoon social on Sunday, May 15, from 3 to 5 PM at Susan Milstein's home, 5804 Owl Hill Avenue, Santa Rosa.

At this informal gathering, refreshments will be served and you'll have an opportunity to meet the LWVSC Board of Directors and committee chairs. There will be time for questions and answers that will inform you about the range of LWV activities.

We look forward to meeting you there. RSVP to Janie Hawker at 584-5210.



Directions: Susan Milstein's home is located in the Skyhawk subdivision in Rincon Valley. Heading east on Highway 12 toward Kenwood, turn left at the light at Mountain Hawk Avenue. Turn left at Great Heron Drive. Make the first right onto Owl Hill Avenue. Susan's house is the second on the left.

### LARKFIELD/WIKIUP WATER FORUM ON SATURDAY, MAY 7.

See p. 3 for details.

#### REMINDER

A forum, *Clean (Not Laundered) Money and the LWV*, will take place on Saturday, April 30, 10:00 AM at the Santa Rosa Main Library at 3<sup>rd</sup> and E Streets. See the April VOTER for details.

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**The League of Women Voters  
of Sonoma County**

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Officers:

Corol Ann Fontana-Cary, President  
Willard Richards, VP Action  
Nancy Richards, VP Administration  
Alexandra Benson, VP Program  
Susan Milstein, Secretary  
Susannah Likins, Treasurer

Directors:

George Ellman, Transportation  
Olive Horrell, Membership  
Rosalie Gillmore, Voters Service

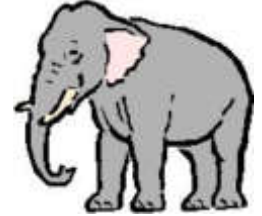
VOTER Team:

Jack Dupre, VOTER Editor  
Marsha Vas Dupre  
May Huddleston  
Lynda Hungerford  
Caroline Ramberg

**BOOK CLUB CORNER**

The members of the book group invite you to join them at 87 Greenrock Court, Santa Rosa, on May 19 to discuss George Lakoff's *Don't Think of an Elephant! Know Your Values and Frame the Debate*.

In *Don't Think ...*, the elephant, of course, represents the Republicans. Lakoff argues that because liberals have been "thinking of elephants," they have let their opponents frame political debate in their own terms. Lakoff urges that people should think in terms of values instead of programs.



In an earlier book, *Moral Politics: How Liberals and Conservatives Think*, Lakoff applied the principles of his academic work to political discourse by examining the basic metaphors which, he argues, guide the thought of liberals and conservatives -- the government as "nurturant" vs. "strict" parent.

The two books are, of course, controversial, both for the arguments they present and for Lakoff's political stance. He is not nonpartisan. He is a leading progressive, and his book is introduced by Howard Dean.

We can examine how fairly he presents the conservative



UC Berkeley linguistics professor and author George Lakoff at the Free Speech Movement Café.

perspective, and how well he dissects the liberal failure to present its own perspective to the public. In addition, if Lakoff is successful, readers of any political stripe will be better able to understand and use the tools of political persuasion.

Lakoff holds a named chair in linguistics, and is a member of the program in cognitive science at the University of California, Berkeley. His specialty is the relationship of thought and language, especially in our often-unconscious uses of metaphor, which in practice govern our lives. His most important book, appropriately enough, is *Metaphors We Live By*. A summary of his interests is available at his webpage:

<http://www.linguistics.berkeley.edu/people/fac/lakoff.html>

League members and guests are invited to join in our book discussions the third Thursday of every month from 10:30 AM until noon. The title of the book selected for June will be posted on our website.

<http://sonco.ca.lwvnet.org>, shortly after the April meeting.

*Lynda Hungerford*

**ANNUAL MEETING ON JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>**

Plan to join League members for the League's Annual General Meeting on Saturday, June 4th, 10:00 AM to 1:15 PM, at the Canine Companions for Independence facility located at 2965 Dutton Avenue, Santa Rosa. A map will be included in the June VOTER.

This is a Potluck Lunch event. Each member is asked to bring either a dessert or a salad. Beverages, bread and paper goods will be provided.

We are delighted to announce that our guest speaker will be Judge Arnold Rosenfield, noted for his long career involvement in Juvenile Law and Restorative Justice.

He will present "The Juvenile Justice System Today and Tomorrow: Delinquency and Dependency." Judge Rosenfield's passion for his field of expertise makes him a most dynamic speaker.

This meeting is a wonderful opportunity to introduce a prospective member to the League. Please invite a guest and enjoy an opportunity to connect with the energy of our organization.

**The Annual Meeting Kit including the agenda and proposed budget is included in this issue of the VOTER as an insert on pp. 5-6. Please bring it to the meeting.**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Please be sure to mark your calendar for our Annual Meeting, which will be held at Canine Companions. We are very thankful for their generosity in allowing us to use their beautiful meeting room again. Our excellent speaker and fantastic potluck lunch will make this a great day!



*Impact on Issues 2004 - 2006* is now available from LWVUS. This publication is an in-depth guide to all our Public Policy Positions and is a wonderful resource for any of our members. The publication is available to download from <http://www.lwv.org>. If you would like to order a paper copy, please let me know.

LWVC has announced the legislative priorities for 2005. First, the three areas of focus will be Redistricting Reform, State and Local Finances, and Health Care. Second, support requests from local Leagues for advocacy on bills of specific interest to their jurisdictions. Third, take action as appropriate on core issues: Elections, Voting Rights, Campaign Finance Reform, and Reproductive Choices. Fourth, consider Program Director recommendations for action on the highest priority bills in their program areas. And, fifth, review all statewide ballot measures and recommend a position or neutrality on each one to the LWVC Board.

League offers a very well-respected body of information to our voters. Please take advantage of these resources, visit the websites, and spread the word to your friends!

*Carol Ann Fontana-Cary*

## LEAGUE TO FACILITATE LARKFIELD/WIKIUP WATER FORUM

The League will facilitate a public forum by the Larkfield/Wikiup Water Advisory Committee on Saturday, May 7, 10:00 A.M. at Riebli School, to discuss local water issues. Lynda Hungerford will moderate the panel.

Water rights in the Larkfield/Wikiup area were owned by the Citizens Utility Company until 2000. At that time, they were sold to American Waterworks Service Company, the parent company of California-American Company. In 2002, American Waterworks was acquired by RWE AG, a multinational company headquartered in Essen, Germany. In view of the fact that water rates have been raised to a record high and a new well is being proposed, and many other issues about which the citizens need information, a forum has been arranged. The League is participating in the interest of "transparency in government." Please come to learn about an international problem being faced by a small, local community.

Riebli School is located at 315 Mark West Springs Road.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DISCUSSION GROUP

### Outsourcing jobs: U.S. dilemma

The International Relations Discussion Group will meet on Tuesday, May 10, at noon in the Santa Rosa League office. It is a brown-bag lunch session.

The topic for discussion will be "**Outsourcing jobs: U.S. dilemma**." Outsourcing has been characterized as a threat to American jobs and companies by some, while others claim it is necessary to stimulate overall economic



growth. What effects does outsourcing really have on economies that are sending jobs overseas? How does outsourcing affect economies that are receiving the influx of jobs?"

The group meets the second Tuesday of the month. The topics are selected from the *Great Decisions* briefing book published by the Foreign Policy Association in New York City. If anyone has a question about the group, please contact Rosalie Gillmore at 769-8826. All members and friends are welcome to join the group discussion, with or without the briefing book.

*Rosalie Gillmore*



## IN MEMORIAM

**HERBERT LASKY**

**1920 - 2005**

**BOARD BRIEFS**

**April 2005**

At the April 5 meeting of the LWVSC Board, the following key items were covered:

- Budget Committee Chair George Ellman presented the proposed budget for fiscal 2006, which the board reviewed, amended and approved for consideration by the membership at the annual meeting in June. Serving on the budget committee this year along with George were Susannah Likins, Chlele Gummer, Laurie Hall and Lynn Camhi.
- Nominating Committee members Sandy Benson and Janie Hawker presented the nominations to the board and to off-board positions for next year. The slate will be submitted to the membership at the annual meeting in June.
- Rosalie Gillmore, who was in charge of the spring fundraising letter-writing project, announced that fundraising letters will be sent out to about 200 possible donors. Jean Schultz again will serve as honorary chair of the fundraising effort, and Lynda Hungerford again will print the letters and envelopes. Attached to the letter will be a list of LWVSC's accomplishments during this past year.
- The board is still seeking a member to spearhead the LWVSC-sponsored "Meeting the Challenge" program. This LWVSC program offers rewards to local Leagues that accomplish set goals in areas including membership, leadership development and education. Members interested in this program should contact Carol Ann.
- LWVSC Convention: We are entitled to send our president and four members to the LWVSC convention in Garden Grove to be held from May 20-22. There is still space for several more members. Interested members should contact Carol Ann.
- The board voted to co-sponsor a Town Hall meeting focused on the effect of the state budget on children. The meeting, which will be held on Thursday, June 2, at Steele Lane Community Center at 7 PM, will be organized by the Sonoma County Child Care Planning Council. Other sponsors include: Professional Association for Childhood Education, 4 Cs, Parent Voices of Sonoma County and River Child Care Services. Susan Gorin will moderate.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Susan Milstein*

**SMART PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT**

Past issues of the VOTER have contained articles about the development of the Sonoma-Marina Area Rail Transit (SMART) property near Railroad Square. Negotiations between the SMART Board and the City of Santa Rosa have recently been prominently reported in *The Press Democrat*. Those reports have focused on the effect of the negotiations on the possibility of locating the Sonoma County Food & Wine Center on that property, but there are other issues as well. The Housing Advocacy Group has filed a lawsuit with the objective of including low- and moderate-income housing in the development. Consultants to SMART



have prepared a conceptual plan for a mixed-use development that is pre-

dominantly multi-story housing over first-floor commercial space. Plans prepared by consultants to the City of Santa Rosa included a large public parking structure, but the consultants to SMART recommended that public parking for SMART should be at the Jennings station.

The citizens of Santa Rosa and surrounding areas should have the opportunity to learn more about the planning process that is now in progress and various options that might be considered for the development of the 5.5-acre SMART property. The choices made now for the development of that large parcel of empty land in the core of the City will affect the viability of both the City and SMART for decades. Therefore, the League is considering co-sponsoring one or more informational forums to explore the pros and cons of various options for this development. Any members interested in this issue who have ideas for such a forum are urged to contact me.

*Willard Richards*

**JURY SERVICE LAUDED**

Dear Friends,

For the past year, I have been serving on the American Bar Association Commission on the American Jury. Many Americans view jury service as a nuisance and something to be avoided, rather than as a responsibility and privilege. The Commission's mission is to reach out to the public to foster positive attitudes about jury service and to change the negative ones.



LWVUS President, Kay Maxwell

Jury duty, like voting, is just one aspect of civic activity. The League continues its civic leadership at all levels of the organization in advocacy, citizen education and youth involvement. For our leadership in these areas, the League has just received the 2005 National Association of Secretaries of State Freedom Award. We are so honored for this recognition!

*Kay Maxwell*

## 2005-2006 ANNUAL MEETING KIT

### Location

Canine Companions for Independence  
295 Dutton Ave.  
Santa Rosa, CA

### Agenda

**June 4, 2005**

- 10:00 AM Registration and coffee/muffins  
10:15 Call to order  
10:20 President's report  
10:25 Treasurer's report  
10:30 Presentation of proposed budget  
10:40 Presentation of recommended program  
10:50 Break  
11:00 Discussion and adoption of local program  
11:30 Report of nominating committee & elections  
Noon Adjourn to potluck lunch  
12:30 PM "The Juvenile Justice System Today and Tomorrow: Delinquency and Dependency"  
Speaker: Judge Arnold Rosenfield  
1:00 Question and answer period

### NOMINATIONS

#### Officers:

President	Corol Ann Fontana-Cary
V.P. Action	Willard Richards
V.P. Administration	Helen Sundergill
V.P. Program	Sandy Benson
Secretary	Chlele Gummer
Treasurer	Susannah Likens

#### Directors:

Education	Lucille Foster
Membership	Olive Horrell
Public Relations	Laurie Hall
The VOTER Editor	Jack Dupre
Transportation	George Ellman

<b>Nominating Committee:</b>	Lynn Camhi, Chair
	Claire Golding
	Louisa Leavitt

### Program Recommendations

The board recommends retaining all existing positions. You may view or download our current positions from our website at <http://sonco.ca.lwvnet.org>; you may call the office to request that you be sent a paper copy; or you may pick up a copy at the Annual Meeting.

The board recommends adoption of amended language in the transportation position, so that it agrees with LWVC Transportation Position.

*"We believe that the true cost of transportation should be made known. Subsidies of any form of transportation should be clear and not hidden.*

~~*"We believe that local tax money should be used to reduce traffic congestion without incurring indebtedness. A variety of funding methods are appropriate including general funds, sales tax revenues and private sources such as developers' fees. The funds generated should be spent on the most cost effective traffic reduction projects..."*~~

The Board recommends the following (if we have members willing to work on the studies):

**Transportation** – Update of our transportation position to include passenger rail as a form of public transportation in Sonoma County. Included in the update would be a study of the SMART proposal to fund a passenger rail system, including suggested routes, projected ridership, and anticipated costs and subsidies.

**Agriculture** – A new study focusing on the use of water and genetically-modified organisms within the County. Further scope will be determined by the Board and Committee.

**Land Use** – A new study of urban growth boundaries.

**Water Privatization** – A new study to include all issues regarding water privatization within the County.

### RULES AND PROCEDURES

#### Proposed Convention Rules

Each speaker shall state name, indicate intention, and speak no longer than three minutes. No one shall speak twice to a question until everyone desiring to speak has had an opportunity to do so.

#### Adoption of Local Program

League program shall consist of those issues chosen for concerted study and action. The local program as recommended by the Board shall be presented first. Items not recommended by the Board may be proposed for consideration by members at the Annual Meeting. If a non-recommended item is voted for consideration, it is presented to the membership for decision with the Board-recommended program.

#### Required Votes

Adoption of by-law changes requires a 2/3 vote. Adoption of budget and program requires a majority vote.

#### Quorum

Twenty percent of the membership as of January 1, 2005 shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting, unless the Board of Directors declares that the quorum is less. The minutes will so state, and any business acted upon will stand, unless written protest is received from any member within 30 days after the Annual Meeting.

**Note:** There are no recommended by-law changes.

**DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2005-2006**

	2004-2005	Estimate	2005-2006
	Budget	for this year as of 4/5/2005	Proposed Budget
<b>OPERATING FUND</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
1	Dues \$8,500.00	\$9,363.00	\$9,000.00
	Member Contributions \$1,500.00	\$1,668.15	\$1,500.00
2	Nonmember Contributions \$1,500.00	\$725.16	\$2,500.00
3	Sonoma County Contract \$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,500.00
4	League Lodging \$100.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
5	Fundraising Events (gross) \$4,500.00	\$2,908.00	\$3,000.00
6	Hope Washburn Endowt \$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
	Miscellaneous \$100.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b> \$21,000.00	\$19,464.31	\$21,400.00
	<b>Transfer from Reserves to balance budget:</b>		\$1,821.50
<b>Expense</b>			
	Board Expense \$100.00	\$20.00	\$100.00
7	Membership Expenses \$500.00	\$450.00	\$500.00
	Committees' Expenses \$200.00	\$75.00	\$150.00
	Program Expenses \$550.00	\$500.00	\$550.00
	Annual Meeting \$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
8	Conventions, Workshops \$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
	Liability Insurance \$650.00	\$698.00	\$725.00
	Equipmt Maintenance \$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
9	Office Supplies, Equipmt \$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
10	LWVBA PMP Dues \$184.00	\$184.00	\$192.50
11	LWVC PMP Dues \$3,864.00	\$3,864.00	\$4,042.50
12	LWVUS PMP Dues \$4,380.00	\$4,244.20	\$4,581.50
13	Position Support \$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
14	Postage	\$750.00	\$800.00
15	Publications \$250.00	\$1,145.00	\$100.00
16	Communicatons, web \$300.00	\$153.00	\$250.00
17	Rent \$4,800.00	\$4,860.00	\$4,980.00
	Telephone \$250.00	\$220.00	\$250.00
18	"The Voter" newsletter \$3,000.00	\$1,880.00	\$2,250.00
	Voters Service \$500.00	\$295.00	\$500.00
	Fundraising Expense	\$299.00	\$350.00
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b> \$22,528.00	\$22,337.20	\$23,221.50
1	Our dues: Individual \$50, Households \$75, Limited Income \$37. We have to pay full Per Member Payment dues for Limited Income Members. We pay \$45.80 per member to other levels of League. We have 152 Individual Members (16 are Limited Income) plus 27 Households (54 people) = 206 people		
2	Nonmember contributions include business card ads in newsletter, Spring letter community donations, Water document donations		
3	Sonoma County Contract: Voter registration project countywide. Members fill registration boxes in post offices, schools, etc.		
4	League Lodging: Members make homes available to visiting league members		
5	Fundraising Events include September program donation, Holiday party auction, Spring theater party		
6	Hope Washburn Fund is a restricted Endowment Fund which disbursed \$1,8000 this year. Balance as of December 31, 2004 \$50593.63		
7	Membership Expenses: New & prospective member packets and postage		
8	Conventions: National Convention next May		
9	Office Supplies: Stationery, office needs		
10	Bay Area League is \$1 for Individual and \$1.50 for household (152 x \$1) + (27 x 1.5) = \$192.50		
11	State PMP is \$21 for Individual and \$31.50 for household ( 1 1/2 time Ind. Rate)		
12	National PMP is \$23.80 for Individual and \$35.70 for household (1 1/2 times Ind. Rate) (152 x 23.8=3617.60) + (27 x 35.70=963.90)= \$4,581.50 Per Member Payment dues are based on membership figures as of February 1, 2005. Individuals: 152 Households: 27		
13	Position Support: Member dues to Sonoma County Conservation Council \$150, SC Literacy Foundation \$25, Family Action of SC \$25		
14	Postage: Bulk mail for newsletter, mailings, annual bulk mail fee \$150, last year in newsletter category		
15	Publications: This year published Water Document, 550 copies		
16	Communications, web: Community Media Center \$65, LWVC \$88 (part pyt for website, rest from ED Fund)		
17	Rent: \$415 for 2 years as of April 1, 2005		
18	This item for printing costs only starting this year. We have a new printing company and charges have gone up.		
<b>EDUCATION FUND: Restricted Fund held by LWV California for our Education Projects</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
19	Donations \$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
<b>Expense</b>			
	Smart Voter \$500.00	\$750.00	\$500.00
	Pros & Cons \$500.00	\$499.88	\$300.00
	Web Maintenance	\$72.00	\$72.00
	Easy Reading Voter, etc \$50.00	\$241.70	\$250.00
	<b>Total Withdrawls</b> \$1,050.00	\$1,563.58	\$1,122.00
20	Donations to the LWV Education Fund are tax deductible		

## VOTERS SERVICE

Governor Schwarzenegger has until the first week in May to collect signatures for five of the measures he proposes to place on the fall special election ballot to be held in October or November. Those measures are:

- Redistricting of political boundaries for the legislature and the California congressional delegation by retired judges.
- Two education initiatives that seek to limit tenure and promote the idea of paying teachers based on performance rather than seniority.
- Replacing guaranteed pensions for state and local workers and teachers with a system similar to the 401(k) plans common in the private sector. (See caption below.)
- A budget plan that seeks to prevent future deficits by limiting the growth in state spending to growth in revenues of the average of the previous three years. The measure would give the governor new powers to cut spending midway when revenues fall short of projections and would continue each year's budget indefinitely whenever a new budget is not approved by the start of the fiscal year.



Gov. Schwarzenegger has a "kitchen cabinet" meeting in Santa Rosa on April 8, the same day he withdrew his plan to reshape California's public employee pension system.

The legislature is also considering propositions on doctor-assisted euthanasia and universal-type health insurance plans. Also, a constitutional amendment requiring abortion providers to notify the parent or guardian of minors 48 hours before performing an abortion is close to qualifying for the fall election.

Sonoma County will have a measure on genetically modified organisms (GMO) on the ballot in the fall special election. The County has 88 days before the election to file other measures and if the election is on November 8, the deadline to file is August 12. The deadline, however, will be determined by the Governor's decision to hold the special election in October or November and the County will follow suit.

For more information on the measures that have qualified for the fall special election, check the Secretary of State's website:

[http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_initiatives.htm](http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_initiatives.htm).

There will **not** be a Voters Service meeting in May.

*Rosalie Gillmore*

## ACTION COMMITTEE

Some recent activities of the Action Committee are the result of League members working to organize meetings co-sponsored by the League. These meetings are announced in the VOTER. In addition, letters were written:

- To the Board of the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) District recommending that the SMART Board retain control of the development of its properties.
- To the Santa Rosa Junior College Board asking that Committee reports be made available on the SRJC website before they are on the agenda to be discussed by the SRJC Board.
- To the Sonoma County Supervisors in support of the policies recommended by the Planning Commission. These recommendations included a jobs-housing linkage fee, inclusionary zoning, and permitting higher densities in certain developments.

As always, there are many opportunities for future action by the League. Current issues that could be addressed include:

- The proposed update of the Sonoma County General Plan
- A proposed campaign finance ordinance for Rohnert Park
- The effects on the water bills in Larkfield/Wikiup of a new well and other plans of the privately owned water company supplying that area
- The development of the SMART property near Railroad Square
- The long term plans for the future management of solid waste in the County, and
- The plans for the distribution of funds from the one-quarter percent sales tax for transportation passed in November, 2004 (Measure M).

**The Action Committee could use more help from other members of the League following issues that affect all of us.** Please contact me if you would like more information on how you can become better informed about an issue that interests you so that you can help the League take action.

*Willard Richards*

## CORRECTIONS

Please note these corrections for the April VOTER:

- The phone number for new member Sandra De Bella Bodley is incomplete. The correct number is 823-5268.
- In the section on roster changes, member Chlele Gummer's name is misspelled.

## BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Santa Rosa City Council's Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee meets publicly the 3rd Monday of every month from 4 to 6 PM in Room 7 at City Hall. The Committee meets sometimes additionally with the Planning Commission and works on such issues as plans for bicycle lanes, paths and striping to be sure that alternative



transportation provisions are in accordance with the General Plan. This has resulted in keeping the Aston Avenue bicycle/pedestrian lane designation as well as the Dutton Meadows

project provisions. Bicycle/pedestrian signs, lockers, repairs to paths, convenience for the disabled, and safe bicycle parking are constantly reviewed—and are often provided by the City's Public Works Department.

Bicycle/pedestrian projects are scheduled from 2005 through 2009 and are funded in a number of ways -federal, state, county and city. Some of the projects scheduled for this year are the connection of the Joe Rodota Trail (which begins in Sebastopol and connects to the Prince Memorial Greenway in Santa Rosa). This connection is City funded. A bicycle bridge across Santa Rosa Creek parallel to the existing railroad bridge downstream from the Vineyard Creek Hotel will be part of this. Other high priority projects are striping of Humboldt Avenue for a possible bicycle boulevard which in some places means diverting cars for short distances to make way for safer cross-town biking. Another plan for the near future is creating an access to Dutton Avenue from the Santa Rosa Creek path, which goes beneath Dutton. Another plan for a bike path extension is from Santa Rosa Creek to Mission Boulevard. There are several more projects for which funding is being sought. Regarding the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit corridor, environmental studies have concluded that a path along the rail corridor is feasible with the installation of a fence.

*Beth Martinez*

LWVSC Representative on the Santa Rosa Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee

### MISSION

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.

## SONOMA COUNTY TASK FORCE ON THE HOMELESS

The Task Force meets publicly at the First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Drive, on the first Monday of each month from 9:30 to 11 AM.

The principal 2005 Task Force on the Homeless goals are:

- Identify and promote solutions to chronic homelessness, such as affordable and permanent supportive housing, reduced recidivism in the jails, and integrated, accessible health, mental health, housing, and substance abuse services.
- Work to ensure that the components of the homeless shelter and service system offer shelter for all, including those who may still be using drugs or alcohol or have mental health issues, and that they address the greatest needs throughout the County, including in rural areas.
- Initiate, support, and participate in alliances and cooperative program and resource development activities among those serving, funding and advocating for homeless people, leading to adequate, effective, and integrated service delivery.
- Actively advocate for policies at all levels of government that encourage community participation and facilitate ending homelessness.
- Change community attitudes to make homelessness, not homeless people, unacceptable in Sonoma County, and highlight the costs of homelessness to the broader community, including health and law enforcement.

*Marsha Vas Dupre*

LWVSC Representative on the Sonoma County Task Force on the Homeless

## NEW WATER COMMITTEE MEETS MAY 9

The second meeting of our new Water Committee will be at 10:00 AM on Monday, May 9, at the League office, 100 E Street, Suite 209.

This is an opportunity to follow-up on the recommendations of our water study, as published in "Water Watch." As Sonoma County updates the General Plan, we need to put some strength behind our words and use our LWV positions on water. We cannot make a difference by sitting at home thinking about it. The water issues in our county have reached headline news many times. It has everything to do with the future health of our cities and their services.

If you need more information, please call Phyllis Stanley, 539-1696.

### NEW LOCAL MEMBER

Maureen Latimer  
337 Pythian Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
Ph. 537.7901  
latimer@sonic.net

### NEW NATIONAL MEMBERS

Patricia Cameron  
625 Galland Street  
Petaluma, CA 94952

Candace Demeduc  
10652 Occidental Road  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Lucy Enos  
7410 Oakmont Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Dr. Jean Holroyd-Sills  
3810 Wallace Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Allen Lewis  
419 Sonoma Drive  
Cloverdale, CA 95425

Amy Neese  
1597 Baird Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

### ADDRESS CHANGE

Ann Baumann  
684 Benicia Dr.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

### NEW EMAIL

Carleen Watts  
cwfam46@aol.com

## “ELECTIONS, VOTING, DEMOCRACY” FORUM ADDRESSED BY JANICE ATKINSON AND EVE ROBERSON



Janice Atkinson, Assistant Registrar of Voters for Sonoma County explains the intricacies of voting systems.



Eve Roberson relates her experiences in Ohio with the Citizens for Secure Elections.

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# MAY 2005 CALENDAR

*Unless otherwise noted, meetings are open to the public.*

Date	Time	Place	Description
Saturday April 30	10:00 – 11:30 AM	Santa Rosa Main Library 3 <sup>rd</sup> and E Streets Santa Rosa	<b>Forum</b> Public Funding of Election Campaigns See April VOTER, p. 1.
Tuesday May 3	10:00 AM - Noon	League Office 100 E Street, Suite 209 Santa Rosa	<b>Board Meeting</b> League members are welcome. Board meetings are not open to the public.
Saturday May 7	10:00 AM	Riebli School 315 Mark West Springs Road Santa Rosa	<b>Larkfield/Wikiup Water Forum</b> See p. 3.
Monday May 9	10:00 AM - Noon	League Office 100 E Street, Suite 209 Santa Rosa	<b>Water Committee</b> See p. 8.
Tuesday May 10	12:00 Noon	League Office 100 E Street, Suite 209 Santa Rosa	<b>International Relations Discussion Group</b> Outsourcing jobs: U.S. dilemma See p. 3.
Sunday May 15	3:00 – 5:00 PM	5804 Owl Hill Avenue Santa Rosa	<b>New and Prospective Member Social</b> See p. 1.
Tuesday May 17	10:00 AM	League Office 100 E Street, Suite 209 Santa Rosa	<b>Action Committee</b> See p. 7.
Saturday/Sunday May 21-22		Crowne Plaza Anaheim Resort Garden Grove, CA	<b>LWVC Convention</b>
Thursday May 19	10:30 AM	87 Greenrock Court Santa Rosa	<b>Book Club</b> <i>George Lakoff's Don't Think of an Elephant! Know Your Values and Frame the Debate.</i> See p. 2.
Thursday June 2	7:00 PM	Steele Lane Community Center 415 Steele Lane Santa Rosa	<b>Town Hall Meeting on Child Care</b>
Saturday June 4	10:00 AM – 1:15 PM	Canine Companions for Independence 295 Dutton Ave. Santa Rosa	<b>Annual Meeting</b> See p. 2.

**LINK TO CURRENT CALENDAR**