



League of Women Voters Eden Area

# VOTER

Vol. 56 No. 11 *Political Responsibility Through Informed and Active Participation* Nov 2013

**SAVE THE DATE**

**LWVEA HOLIDAY PARTY**

**Friday, Dec 6, 2013 @ 5:30 p.m.**



**Barba Home, 5787 Highwood Road, Castro Valley**



Over the years, this event has been a combination, fund and fundraiser with good food, “must have” auction prizes including—sports event tickets, lunches with elected officials, a fire engine ride and holiday tree ornaments from Congress. The live auction supports the League’s educational programs.

**Mystery Gift Exchange – Fun for everyone. Bring a wrapped gift (value at least \$10) for the mystery holiday gift exchange.**

**RSVP to Suzanne at [suzbarba@comcast.net](mailto:suzbarba@comcast.net) or call 538-9678.**

**Suggested donation \$10**

**If you would like to help the League Holiday Party Planning Committee let Suzanne know that, too!**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Jennifer Hidalgo Ong, O.D.



Commerce Without Morality--  
What is Your Role?

For me, there is no other display of human cruelty more heinous in directly imposing long term physical, emotional and psychological harm to the weak than when this harm is inflicted for the purpose of commercial advancement. When humans are treated as commodities so that commerce is practiced in the absence of morality, we as a society have an urgent responsibility.

Recently, I was approached by our League family in Alameda about the book "Half the Sky." Along with depictions of the worldwide oppression of women and girls, "Half the Sky" provides concrete steps taken by growing communities to turn these challenges into opportunities inspiring others worldwide ready to acknowledge this "defining issue of our time." I contacted my colleagues at the United Nations East Bay Chapter and fellow team members from my FBI Community Outreach Team on Human Trafficking. Their one request is to expand awareness about human trafficking in both sexual exploitation and forced labor. Recently, the prevalence of labor trafficking has shown to have surpassed sexual exploitation in human trafficking cases especially in the area of agriculture.

Join the League of Women Voters Eden Area in collaboration with the League of Women Voters Alameda and community partners in inspiring the change. Save the date for March 27, 2014 from 7-9 pm for our hot topic on "Identifying and Addressing Human Trafficking in Your Community."

Human trafficking is one of the many hot topics that LWVEA is addressing this year. We thank Sierra Club for our upcoming collaboration on a water issue ("The Twin Tunnel Project") scheduled for Jan. 16 from 6-8 pm and for our Board members, Evelyn Cormier and Beverly Reliford, for organizing the speakers for our hot topic on the funding for the new Hayward Library last Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.

As always, we welcome your ideas and efforts in meeting our League's mission to educate and encourage active participation in government and in your community.

## BOARD BRIEFS October 16, 2013

- **Community Collaborations** – Discussed collaborating with community based organizations that share the League's mission of educating the public on important issues. The issue and collaboration: (1) Water and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan with the Southern Alameda County Sierra Club; (2) Dark Money in Politics with CSUEB; (3) Fundraising Made Easy with the LWV Alameda County Council.
- **Common Core Standards Forum** - The critique indicated it was a successful event, well attended (45) and the three panelists were informative and knowledgeable.
- **Membership** - Reviewed information from Bonnie Hamlin, MTA regarding the importance of the League showing its value to its members to increase membership sustainability.
- **National Voter Registration Day** - Ruth Kuffin, Minane Jameson, Marianne Dimick, Miriam Lens, and Nancy Van Huffel staffed registration tables at various locations. Board agreed that we need to find additional venues for this activity.
- **Fracking** - The Board heard a report on Fracking from Rene' Besold who attended a recent meeting and film on the subject. The LWVC supported new legislation on the topic even though it was not as strong as that for which the League lobbied.
- **Funding New Hayward Library** - Evelyn Cormier, Chair of the committee planning this event, reported she has three speakers: food will be donated by the Hayward Friends of the Library.

*Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:45 p.m. at the Multi-service Center on Amador in Hayward.*

## YOU HAVE A PLACE AT THE TABLE: Words to Action—Ending Hunger and Homelessness in Hayward



On November 16 from 1 to 4 p.m., you have a place at the table to hear

startling facts and then brainstorm to develop concrete actions to end or decrease hunger and homelessness in Hayward.

The forum will take place at the Southgate Community Center, 26780 Chiplay Avenue in Hayward.

Presenter and author Gregory Boyle who wrote *Tattoos on the Heart*, will discuss how grassroots action can turn a community's problems around. Speakers also include a representative from the Alameda County Food Bank and a representative from a housing group, EveryOne Home.

The League is one of many co-sponsors of this important event. For more information contact Sara Lamnin at 432-7703 or [saralamnin@gmail.com](mailto:saralamnin@gmail.com).

### UPCOMING 2014 FORUMS

#### GETTING DARK MONEY OUT OF POLITICS

March 2014

LWVEA will collaborate with CSU East Bay to present a forum on Getting Dark Money Out of Politics. The confirmed speaker for this program is Ann Ravel who was recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate as chair of the Federal Election Commission. Ms Ravel was the head of California's Fair Political Practices Commission

## DETECTING AND REPORTING HUMAN TRAFFICING

Feb or March 2014

We are collaborating with the LWV Alameda, Sisters of the Holy Family and several other outreach groups to invite CA Attorney General Kamala Harris to be the keynote speaker for this event. The goal of this forum is to educate the public about human trafficking and provide resources for reporting abuses.

### FUNDRAISING: IT'S EASIER THAN YOU THINK

Leagues in Alameda County will be presenting a workshop for nonprofits on Fundraising: It's easier than you think.

**Saturday, November 9  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Mills College - Oakland  
Bldg 44 Carnegie Hall - Bender  
room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

The workshop will cover the basic principles for creating a workable fundraising structure and how to feel more comfortable asking for money. It will be fast paced, practical and inspiring.

The presenter is Kim Klein who is an internationally known speaker and author. She has written five books including *Reliable Fundraising in Unreliable Times* and *Fundraising for Social Change*, now in its sixth edition.

She has provided training and consultation in all 50 states and other countries. She is a lecturer at the School of Social Welfare at UC Berkeley.

#### LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Questions? Contact Jennifer Ong at [djennifer5ong@gail.com](mailto:djennifer5ong@gail.com)

## HOT TOPIC: FUNDING CONSTRUCTION FOR A NEW HAYWARD MAIN LIBRARY

This League Hot Topic event was held on October 25 and those who attended learned a good deal about what is planned, saw an artist's conception of what it will look like, what it will cost, why we need to do it, and alternatives to building a new library.

According to Sean Reinhart, Hayward Library Director, Hayward has outgrown its existing library. When the present Hayward Main library was built in 1951, Hayward had a population of 14,000 people. Today, the city of Hayward has nearly 150,000 people.



The new library would be built on the corner of C Street and Mission Boulevard, across the street from Hayward's historic central park.

To view a power point presentation on the proposed new library, go to [https://www.hayward-ca.gov/CITY-GOVERNMENT/CITY-COUNCIL-MEETINGS/rp/2010/rp110910-01\\_PowerPoint.pdf](https://www.hayward-ca.gov/CITY-GOVERNMENT/CITY-COUNCIL-MEETINGS/rp/2010/rp110910-01_PowerPoint.pdf)



Kelly McAdoo, Hayward Assistant City Manager explained the status of city finances and future construction needs for police and fire stations which need updating. Raising funds by bonding, sales tax or parcel tax were discussed.

Kari McAllister, member of the Hayward Library Commission spoke of the need for constructing a new library and how it would have a positive impact on Hayward's education system and the business community.



Frank Goulart, a long-time Hayward activist and preservationist, said he liked the plan, but thought there were other ways to expand library services by utilizing school libraries/facilities and tutoring by students from Chabot and CSUEB.

The panel presentation was followed by a Q & A session and an invitation for the audience to attend library commission meetings to offer suggestions and ask questions.

## WATER ISSUE – THE TWIN TUNNEL PROJECT

The LWVEA in collaboration with a Sierra Club Chapter is planning a forum on January 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. to educate the public on the pros and cons of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan—the Twin Tunnel Project. Venue TBD.

As part of the water conveyance, in 2013, California Gov. Jerry Brown also proposed constructing two \$25 billion tunnels to divert Sacramento River water underneath the Delta and then deliver the water to the Central Valley and Southern California. If approved, the Bay Delta Conservation Plan would be implemented over the next 50 years and construction of the tunnels would not begin for another 10 to 15 years.

Four potential speakers have been recommended—one representative from the California Department of Water Resources supporting the plan; one elected official opposed to the plan, one representative from the agricultural sector supporting the plan; and one representative from the environmental community who opposes the plan.

Watch for additional information on the venue for this important forum.

## LWVUS: Leagues to Participate in Environmental Protection Agency Listening Session

By: Jessica Jones 10/21/2013



Beginning next week, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold 11 listening sessions across the country to get community input on carbon pollution from existing power plants. The listening sessions will gather feedback that will “play an important role in helping EPA develop smart, cost-effective guidelines that reflect the latest and best information available.” The new rule will be issued in June 2014 and comes on the heels of the recently updated proposal for the regulation of carbon pollution at new power plants.

The EPA listening sessions are the next step in fulfilling President Obama’s plan to fight climate change. Cutting carbon pollution from power plants is the central and critical component of a plan that fulfills the President’s commitment to people, not polluters. The League lends a unique voice and perspective to this issue and our voice will be very valuable in the process to developing this new regulation.

Power plants are the largest emitter of life-threatening carbon pollution in our country. Reducing the amount of carbon pollution from power plants is a life-saving measure that will protect our children, our nation and the world from the devastating effects of climate change.

In the spring of 2012, the League was part of an effort to collect over 3 million

comments in support of national standards to limit dangerous industrial carbon pollution from new power plants. This was an unprecedented effort that reflected the strong desire of Americans for national leadership to address climate change and its impact on public health. The League will launch another campaign to collect comments on the recently updated proposed EPA regulation to limit carbon pollution from new power plants.

The listening sessions will be held in 11 states across the country. Locally, it will be held in San Francisco on November 5 at 9:00 am to 4:00 pm PST, U.S. EPA Region 9 Offices 75 Hawthorne St. If you are interested in getting involved in this issue, or representing your League at one of these listening sessions please contact Jessica Jones at [jjones@lww.org](mailto:jjones@lww.org).

### Bay Area Monitor, October/November 2013 edition

Below are titles to articles in the *Bay Area Monitor* which are interesting, informative and even provocative. Please go to the website listed at the end of the article topic to read them. You won’t regret it.

[A Fair Trade?](#)

[Carl Moyer Program Enters Fifteenth Cycle of Funding Cleaner Air](#)

[Scientists Set Seashells by the Seashore](#)

[Burrowing in the Bay Area: The Scoop on Transportation Tunnels](#)

[There Goes the Neighborhood: Will Regional Plan Push People Out?](#)

Go to [www.bayareamonitor.org](http://www.bayareamonitor.org).

## LWVC: Support the League's Work and our Successes: Join us for #GivingTuesday!

By: Renee Davidson 10/24/2013



*We have a day for giving thanks... we have Black Friday and Cyber Monday two-for-one deals... and we have #GivingTuesday for giving back to the community!*

#GivingTuesday is an annual campaign created to promote a national day of giving at the start of the holiday season. Taking place the Tuesday after Thanksgiving – and subsequently after Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday –

#GivingTuesday celebrates and encourages charitable activities to support nonprofit organizations like the League. This unofficial holiday is an initiative that began in 2012 to help change the conversation about holiday spending.

This year, the League will participate in the second annual #GivingTuesday campaign on December 3, 2013. In the same way that retail stores come together to offer deals on Black Friday and Cyber Monday,

#GivingTuesday brings the nonprofit community together on a universal platform to raise awareness about the importance of supporting our valuable missions and work.

As we prepare for #GivingTuesday and reflect on our work, here's a small snapshot of just some of what the League has been up to this year:

- While the League has been [working to protect voting rights for over 90 years](#),

this summer's Supreme Court ruling against the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA) has put our work into overdrive. Leagues across the country are involved in lawsuits regarding voter suppression measures, such as the League of Women Voters of North Carolina's lawsuit in North Carolina, and we continue to push for Congress and the U.S. Department of Justice to protect our democracy and restore the VRA to its full effectiveness.

- We [successfully pushed](#) for President Obama to take the lead to protect our [climate](#) and work to reduce carbon pollution, a move that will protect our children, our nation and the world at large. Our work to protect our climate included [campaigning](#) and [testifying](#) against the Keystone XL pipeline.
- We've continued to promote our [long-standing position](#) in support of gun control, including [urging Washington](#) to help put a stop to gun violence and the League of Women Voters of Connecticut [helped lead the effort to pass landmark state gun control legislation](#) in Connecticut.
- We filed an [amicus brief](#) in *McCutcheon v. Federal Election Commission* (FEC), a Supreme Court case that's crucial to protecting our political system from big-money corruption.

**The League and League members across the country will continue to do everything in their power to make democracy work, but the fight requires the help of all community members.**

#GivingTuesday is propelled by those who believe that passion and commitment can make a difference. On December 3rd, we ask that you think of the League as you reflect on the need to strengthen our country and our great democracy.

## BAY AREA LEAGUE UPDATE

### A New Vision for Bay Area Open Space

Open space is more than just a beautiful landscape or a place to hike. Within the more than a million acres protected permanently from development in the Bay Area, a new vision of the value of open space is emerging. An Ecosystem Survey being conducted by the Santa Clara, Sonoma and Santa Cruz open space districts is developing data on the cost-benefit value of investing in nature. Other open lands are being used as a baseline to study climate change. Habitat conservation plans are being developed to enhance the provision of water supply by preserving and enhancing watersheds and improving flood protection. Did you know about the new law that allows a property tax break for urban agricultural plots?

Plan to come to Bay Area League Day, **Saturday, February 1, 2014**. Watch for the full program in November or contact Linda Craig [regional@lwvbayarea.org](mailto:regional@lwvbayarea.org)

### LWV Marin Releases Housing Report

In August, the League of Women Voters of Marin County released "**Dispelling the Myths Surrounding Affordable Housing**," a report intended to provide elected officials with information about housing issues related to the recently adopted **Plan Bay Area**. Some of the myths the report attempts to dispel deal with local control, density, property values, traffic, crime, and schools. Visit **LWV Marin's website** <http://www.marinlwv.org>



## LWVUS AGRICULTURAL STUDY UPDATE

A group of Alameda County Leagues has begun to meet to start studying some of the proposed issues in the LWVUS Agricultural Study Update. The first meeting took place in Oakland. The LWVUS has not yet announced the policy consensus questions that local leagues will be asked to review. However, LWVUS reports that the Agriculture Update will focus on: Current technology issues in agriculture including genetically modified organisms (GMOs), herbicides, pesticides, agricultural water pollution, aquifer depletion, antibiotics in livestock, and accurate food labeling.

The study will also include current agriculture finance issues regarding consolidation in agriculture industries, crop subsidies, and the federal agricultural regulatory process.

The basic information about the study and some resource materials can be found at <http://lwv.org/content/about-agriculture-update-and-committee>. Our current national Agriculture position is <http://ca.lwv.org/issues/agriculture>.

The current proposed timeline for the study is that LWVUS will announce the consensus questions in November; local committees will study the issues, prepare their presentations and present the background information and consensus questions to their members in February and March, and report their consensus decisions to LWVUS in April. This timetable is very short and may change.

**Need volunteers to help  
with an election on  
Saturday Nov 16  
10am to 1 pm**

**League of Women Voters of Eden Area**

P. O. Box 2234 – Castro Valley, CA 94546 • 510/538-9678  
 Representing cities of Hayward and San Leandro  
 and unincorporated areas of Ashland, Castro Valley,  
 Cherryland, Fairview, and San Lorenzo

Just cut out and mail this coupon with your check to:  
 League of Women Voters of Eden Area  
 Treasurer, P.O. Box 2234, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



**Dues:** Regular \$50,  
 2<sup>nd</sup> member same Household \$25,  
 Student \$20

*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of the public in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jennifer Ong, President  
[drjenniferong@gmail.com](mailto:drjenniferong@gmail.com)

Delmo Della Dora – V.P.– Program  
[d3nd@comcast.net](mailto:d3nd@comcast.net)

Open--V. P Membership

Nancy Van Huffel – Treasurer  
[lwvea@aol.com](mailto:lwvea@aol.com)

Linda Slater—Secretary  
[slater@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slater@sbcglobal.net)

Suzanne Barba—VOTER Editor  
[suzbarba@comcast.net](mailto:suzbarba@comcast.net)

René Besold, Director  
[rbesold@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rbesold@sbcglobal.net)

Evelyn Cormier—Director  
[evcormier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:evcormier@sbcglobal.net)

Jewel Spalding--Director  
[jewellspalding@mac.com](mailto:jewellspalding@mac.com)

Gail Lundholm – Director  
[gala05@peoplepc.com](mailto:gala05@peoplepc.com)

Doris Marciel– Director, Affidavit Services  
[owlvr7@aol.com](mailto:owlvr7@aol.com)

Beverly Reliford- Director  
[RelifordB@aol.com](mailto:RelifordB@aol.com)

Cossette Sun – Director  
[csun@comcast.net](mailto:csun@comcast.net)

Victoria Del Rio—Smart Voter Coordinator  
[vcdelrio@yahoo.com](mailto:vcdelrio@yahoo.com)

**CALENDAR**

Nov 9 (Sat)	10am	Fundraising for Non Profits Made Easy—see Page 3
Nov 16(Sat)	1-4pm	Ending Hunger & Homelessness in Hayward—see Page 3
Nov 16(Sat)	9-2pm	Eden Area Livability Initiative Charrette to vote on community goals Eden Church, Oliver Hall, 21455 Birch St., Hayward
Nov 20 (Wed)	5:45-8	LWV Eden Area Board Meeting—Agenda available Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>
Dec 6 (Fri)	5:30-8	LWVEA Annual Holiday Party & Auction -- see Page 1
Dec 18 (Wed)	5:45-8	LWV Eden Area Board Meeting—Agenda available Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>



**For up to date info check out [LWVEA.org](http://LWVEA.org)**