

Your VOTER

(GUIDE TO LWV SAN BERNARDINO ISSUES, ACTION, & INFO)

LEAGUE WEIGHS IN ON MEASURE Z

---by Gloria Anderson, President

It took over three hours but the people had their say about how Measure Z funds should be spent. In the end, the council voted to spend \$114,000 of the unallocated anticipated money from the Measure Z sales tax on public safety (police) and to take another \$114,000 from general fund reserves for intervention and prevention programs.

Points the League made:

The voters clearly said how they want Measure Z funds to be spent - not only to fund more police officers but also to fund anti-gang and anti-crime operations, including drug resistance education and supervised after-school youth activities.

State, county and city government, public school systems, communities, and the private sector share responsibility for efforts to deal with the problem.

We urged the council to make a long-term commitment to fund a variety of programs that will help solve San Bernardino's serious crime problems, particularly to divert youth from gangs and drugs and provide healthy, safe alternatives to delinquent behavior.

We asked council members to set aside differences and work together on behalf of the people, especially the young people.



CITIZENS OF ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATION NEARS

Included in YOUR VOTER are nomination forms and member volunteer forms for the annual Citizens of Achievement gala scheduled this year at 2 p.m., Sunday, April 22. A committee has been at work on the event since before January. Clubs and organizations have already received the nomination form, and invitation lists are being compiled. Contact a Board member if you have questions and/or suggestions.

League initiated the Citizens of Achievement event in 1975, an idea originating with Marilyn Bonney, one of League's outstanding presidents. It was unique at the time: a way to recognize volunteers whose efforts succeeded in improving the quality of life in local communities.

For many years the C of A was held in beautiful garden settings at members whose homes were volunteered for a mid-September outdoor celebration. When a sheltered venue became necessary, League rented a hall for an evening celebration with champagne and hot hors d'oeuvres, but that grew too expensive. A suitable site proved to be the grand County Government Center, which League has been fortunate to reserve for the occasion on one Sunday afternoon annually with the help of our local Supervisor.

A ball park figure for the number of citizens of achievement recognized would be over 600 outstanding volunteers.

Your help with this League effort is much appreciated. If you want to nominate a C of A candidate, please send in the form included in this VOTER. You can also pass it on to an organization. You can also help by volunteering to donate refreshments, and/or time to help during the event as a volunteer. League counts on its members and friends to continue its vital programs of voter education and citizen participation in government issues.

HEALTH CARE ISSUES SURFACE IN STATE LEGISLATURE



To date, more than 15 health care coverage bills have been introduced. The chief new contenders are bills introduced by Senate President pro Tem Don Perata and Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, and Governor Schwarzenegger's plan.

Senator Sheila Kuehl will reintroduce her single payer bill (SB 840) which was vetoed by the Governor last September. She also will sign on to some bills competing with SB 840 because she sees them as an opportunity to contrast the benefits, costs and savings of SB 840 with those of the new reform proposals. She plans to release a set of principles as a guide to judging all health care bills and will

provide a comparison of the new reform proposals to SB 840. You may visit her Web site www.sen.ca.gov/kuehl to read her essays that comment on some differences between the bills.

Briefly, the Perata bill calls for mandated purchase of insurance by both employers and employees. The Nunez bill is designed to provide coverage to almost all Californians with a focus on cost containment and prevention. According to the Governor, his plan requires integrating "building blocks" - prevention, health promotion and wellness, coverage for all Californians, and affordability and cost containment.

**LWVSB THANKS HARPER'S PRINTING
FOR HELP IN REPRODUCING THIS 'VOTER'
Harper's, 1956 No. E St., LWV exclusive printer and copy shop**

CAMPAIGN FINANCE SUBJECT OF LWVC CONFERENCE

Clean Money/Clean Cities Conferences. The League of Women Voters of California, California Common Cause, and the California Clean Money Campaign will present two conferences designed to give elected officials and activists practical information on how to effect campaign finance reform at the local government level. Morning panels will cover Clean Money basics and the constitutional and legal issues facing clean money systems; in the afternoon, information on how to run a successful clean money campaign and how to govern and fund a local clean money system will be presented.

The dates: March 15 at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium; March 23 at the San Jose City Hall. The conferences will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information or to register, visit www.cacleancities.org or contact conference@cacleancities.org or 213-252-4552.

VOTING RIGHTS VICTORY FOR JAILED PROBATIONERS

On December 21, 2006 the Court of Appeal of the State of California handed down its decision in a case brought by the League of Women Voters of California and other voting rights groups and individual petitioners involving the right to vote of those serving time in a county jail sentence as a condition of felony probation. The decision revolved around proper interpretation of the wording of article II, section 4, of the State Constitution. The Court ruled in the League's favor, saying that those persons confined in local jail as a condition of probation for a felony or in cases where a trial court has imposed a lesser penalty than imprisonment in state prison do have the right to vote. The Court's opinion can be found at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/documents/A114988.PDF. We hope members will read it carefully.



OPEN GOVERNMENT/SUNSHINE WEEK

Sunshine Week is March 11-13. Since 2007 will be the third year with national recognition of the importance of transparency and freedom of information in government, Sunshine Week seeks to enlighten and empower citizens to play an active role in their government at all levels, and to give them access to information that makes their lives better and their communities stronger.

LWVUS IMMIGRATION STUDY

The Immigration Study Committee continues its work. Several of the background papers are now posted on the LWVUS Web site; www.lwv.org, including "Immigration and the Economy," "Economic Aspects of Authorized and Unauthorized Immigration," and "Federal Immigration Policy and Proposed Reforms." More will be posted shortly. The LWV Immigration listserv is now up and running as well. Check the "For Members" section of the LWVUS Web site to sign up. -----Chris Carson, Government Director, govt@lwvc.org

At the LWVC state convention May 18-20 in Bakersfield, workshops on Friday and Saturday will provide educational opportunities for all who register, even those who are not voting delegates. A two-part track will focus on the California state budget: Part I will be a presentation by Next Ten on the budget and how we fund infrastructure; Part II--Follow the Money--will provide information on how to track the spending in your own community. Both will include information pertinent to our three program areas: government, natural resources and social policy. Other workshop topics being considered include alternate board organizational structures, marketing voter service print materials, maximizing online voter service outreach, "green" communities, a League study process tutorial, and health care.



PREZ SEZ

Although we haven't had any meetings so far this year, your board has been busy planning for the rest of the League year leading to our annual meeting. SAVE THE DATE. Our 52nd Annual Meeting will be held on JUNE 3. Details will be forthcoming.

We have been contacting you about helping with the Cal State student fee referendum at three sites on campus on February 28 and March 1 and we have also been discussing a student election at Crafton Hills in April. Good for visibility and our treasury.

Getting in on the action on the local level is also increasing our visibility. We made a statement on the spending of Measure Z funds at the San Bernardino City Council meeting on February 20 and we have joined the Ban the Box campaign being led by Kim Carter. This will be considered by the City Council on March 5.

Student voter registration and civic awareness is finally getting off the ground. I met recently with a San Bernardino School District committee involved in a pilot project at Arroyo High School

this spring and again in the fall before elections. More about that as details emerge.

On the national level, be sure to take a look at your latest National Voter for the first in a series of articles on the new Immigration Study. Background papers may also be found on the LWVUS web site: www.lwv.org. Also of interest are articles questioning the legality of presidential signing statements and on LWVUS President Mary Wilson's travels to protect voter's rights prior to the November election.

On the state level, LWVC is following three health care bills and the Governor's plan for expanding coverage. (See related article.) And we haven't given up on redistricting reform and preparing for the possibility that there may be an initiative on the ballot if the California primary is moved up to February 2008.

Of course, the big event of the year is our Citizens of Achievement reception. Please do what you can to help make it a huge success. Hope to see many of you on April 22. --- Gloria

WHAT'S UP WITH MEMBERS

LENORE SCHON

Lenore was practically a charter member of LWVSB, serving as President from 1991-93, as Voter Service chair for many years, and as an elected officer or director during many terms. She was active in community organizations: Hadassah, San Bernardino's Community Block Grant advisory committee, and agencies helping feed the population living below poverty level and/or homeless. After the death of her husband, Mike, she followed other family members to the Sequim/Port Angeles area of Washington state. You will be glad to hear that she is well and thriving in Port Angeles. Her home has views of the bay and of the Olympic Mountains. Those of you who have been fortunate to spend some years in Washington will recollect that Sequim is in the rain shadow and therefore not as wet as the Mt. Baker, and Seattle/Tacoma areas. She is active in the local senior center and an avid user of the public library. There is a large heated swimming pool. If you would like her address, contact Marion, your newsletter editor.

KNOW YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS TO BE REVISED IN JANUARY

President George W. Bush, The White House, Washington, DC 20500
 Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 445-2841
 Senator Barbara Boxer, 201 No. E St., San Bdn 92401, (909) 888-8525
 Senator Dianne Feinstein, 11111 Santa Monica Blvd #915, LA, CA 90025, (310) 914-7300
 Representative Jerry Lewis, 1150 Brookside #J-5, Redlands, CA 92373 (909) 862-6030
 Representative Joe Baca, 201 No. E St., San Bernardino, 92401 (909) 885-2222
 State Senator, Bob Dutton, 8577 Haven Ave., Rancho Cuc., 91730 (909) 466-4180
 State Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod, 4959 Aalo Verde St. #100B, Montclair, CA 91763, (909) 621-7483
 Assemblyman Assemblyman Anthony Adams, 135 W. Lemon Ave. #A, Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 359-8305
 Assemblywoman Wilmer Carter, 201 No. E St. #205, San Bdn 92401
 Assemblyman Bill Emerson, 10681 Foothill Blvd. #325, Rancho Cuc 91730 (909) 466-9096
 Assemblyman Paul Cook, 34932 Yucaipa Blvd. Yucaipa 92399 (909) 790-0479
 San Bdn County Supervisors: #1 Brad Mitzelfelt (090) 387-4830, #2 Paul Biane (909) 387-4833, #3 Dennis Hansberger (909) 387-3018, #4 Gary Ovitt (909) 387-4866, #5 Josie Gonzales (909) 387-5392, , 385 No. Arrowhead, San Bdn 92415

IN MEMORIAM

LWVSB lost some dedicated members during the few months between VOTERS. Rosemary Binney, June Kennedy, Katharine Roberts, and Alex Sharp have succumbed. In recent memory are Kathy's commitment to international peace and leadership in LWVSB's UN study, chairing the nominating committee, and contributing as a Director.. She was local president for years of Citizens for Global Solutions. Alex was a member of the Board of Directors several years ago and was active in the Prime Time Choraliers as well as doing pro bono legal work. His legal career is noteworthy for many reasons among which are his passing the bar on the first attempt though never having attended law school and for his work as a public defender. You will all be missed.

LWV of San Bernardino Board of Directors

President	Gloria Anderson	Nominating Committee: Micaela Cruz, chair
Vice President/Program	Susan Nieblas	Kathy Roberts (deceased) both elected by membership
Secretary	Kim Carrter	
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Director VOTER Editor	Annetta Casey	
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Membership in LWV is a bargain and a statement. You will be saying that you are committed to the ballot as a means for change and to providing non biased information to voters. The issues your League follows are those that affect every resident's family and community. Get involved in the League of Women Voters.



- * \$50 One Year individual membership, \$75 household membership, \$40 student membership
- * Please send me more Information.

NAME/NAMES: _____ ADDRESS _____
 CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

Please make checks payable to League of Women Voters and return with this application form to:
 League of Women Voters, San Bernardino, 568 No. Mountain View #150, San Bernardino, CA 92401-1218

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. LWV does not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. It does, however, take action on selected government issues in the public interest.

CALENDAR

March 10 (Sat.)	C of A nominations due
March 11 – 13	Sunshine Week focuses on open government and public's right to public info and mtngs.
March 15 (Thurs.)	C of A volunteer to help forms due
March 15 (Thurs.)	LWVC Campaign Finance conference, Pasadena – see info in this VOTER
April 22 (Sunday)	Citizens of Achievement Event, 2 – 4 p.m., County Govt. Center, San Bdn
May 18 – 20 (Fri. – Sun.)	LWVC convention, Doubletree Hotel, Bakersfield – call Gloria for info 338-4163
June 3 (Saturday)	LWVSB Annual Meeting, time and place to be announced

Citizens of Achievement Recognition Ceremony Sunday, April 22
Nominations due Saturday, March 10
Volunteer forms due Thursday, March 15
Information and forms in this VOTER

League of Women Voters of San Bernardino
568 No. Mountain View Ave.
San Bernardino, CA 92401

March 2007

Dated Material

YOUR VOTER

