



NO DECEMBER VOTER

**Role of the Federal Government
in Education, part 2**

Unit Meetings November 8-14
Stories from Oct. Unit Meetings
Education Questions
Make-up Meetings

Holiday Party

December 8
Silent Auction Donations
Flyer

Donating to LWVSD

Using Reward Cards
Planned Giving

Tour

Donovan Correctional Facility
Coming Home to Stay
(prisoner re-entry)
January 26



**ALEC — American
Legislative Exchange Council**
November 5

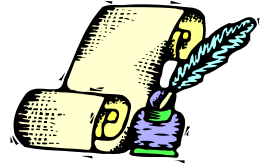
Common Cause / LWVSD
co-sponsored meeting

Freedoms Foundation
Luncheon to honor
Anne Hoiberg
November 14
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President's Message
Balboa Park Update
Listening to League
Meet Your Board
Signing Petitions
Membership
Calendars

So much to think about ...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As members of a local League we are automatically members of the state and national Leagues and also of a regional League, in our case ILO (SD County League of Women Voters.)

Staying informed about the advocacy/actions of our state and national Leagues is not always easy. To bring everyone up to date on what we are doing besides local advocacy, here are some of the actions taken this fall by our national League.

The LWVUS along with coalition partners sent a letter to the House of Representatives urging members to oppose the suite of bills contained in Majority Leader Cantor's legislative agenda. His memo of August 31 laid out his plan for repealing recent and/or upcoming environmental standards involving dangerous pollutants.

The LWVUS and coalition partners sent a letter of thanks to members of the House of Representatives who voted to oppose the TRAIN Act, which could block overdue standards that would reduce pollution and protect public health.

LWVUS President Elisabeth MacNamara sent a letter to President Obama expressing opposition to the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline and urging him to deny the permit for the pipeline's construction. The League believes the permit should be denied for three reasons: the pipeline would be inconsistent with meaningful action climate change, the route of the pipeline poses an unacceptable risk to a critically important water source, and reducing demand is the best way to improve America's energy security. Note: The proposed pipeline would carry tar sands oil from Canada across the U.S. to Texas where it would be refined for export overseas. It would cross the Ogallala Aquifer which is a source of agricultural and drinking water to many of the Plains states.

The League of Women Voters of the United States joined the League of Women Voters of Texas in urging Attorney General Eric Holder to reject the congressional redistricting plan submitted by the state of Texas on the grounds that it would disenfranchise minority voters and that it is in clear violation of the landmark Voting Rights Act.

LWVUS was among the coalition sending a letter to the President expressing concern that the Environmental Protection Agency would not meet its commitment to propose long overdue Clean Air Act Standards by September 30. Note: The EPA did miss the deadline and will set a new schedule.

As part of another coalition, the LWVUS sent a letter to members of the Committee on Deficit Reduction urging them to take steps to voluntarily disclose the efforts of outside interests to lobby them on matters related to their committee. And it urged them to disclose campaign contributions they receive between now and the time they submit their final recommendations to Congress. The letter warned that, "failure to ensure transparency of these fundamental avenues of influence will reinforce the public's mistrust of the process and risks delegitimizing the Committee's work."

At the state level, two bills supported by the League of Women Voters of California have been signed by Governor Brown: AB 420 will make a change to the current redistricting practice of counting prison inmates where they are incarcerated. Instead, the Department of Corrections would provide the last known place of residence for each inmate to the Citizens Redistricting Commission. SB 397 will allow Californians to register to vote online in addition to the current paper-based registration system. This will both save money and increase opportunities for registration.

— Mary Jean Word, Co-President

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San Diego, CA 92117

UNIT CALENDAR — NOVEMBER — Role of the Federal Government in Education

NO UNIT MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

	Coronado	Coronado members are encouraged to attend other Units for now.	
Tuesday, Nov. 8 9:30-11:30 a.m.	La Jolla	Riford Center 6811 La Jolla Boulevard La Jolla, CA 92037	Joan Dahlin 858-454-5019
Tuesday, Nov. 8 1-3 p.m.	University City	North University City Community Library 8820 Judicial Drive San Diego, CA 92122	Shirley Larson 858-272-9752 Mariette Kobrak 858-450-1521
Tuesday, Nov. 8 6-7:45 p.m.	NEW! Mid-City 	City Heights Public Library 3795 Fairmount Avenue San Diego, CA 92105	Amy Hjerstedt ahjerstedt@msn.com
Wednesday, Nov. 9 1-3 p.m.	Tierrasanta	Tierrasanta Library 4985 La Cuenta Drive San Diego, CA 92124	Carole Porter 858-279-5474
Wednesday, Nov. 9 5:30-7:30 p.m.	Mission Valley	Meeting Room Mission Valley Library, Fenton Pkwy Ikea side of shopping center San Diego, CA 92108	Debra Blum 619-225-0353
Thursday, Nov. 10 9:30-11:30 a.m.	East San Diego	College Rolando Library 6600 Montezuma Road San Diego, CA 92115	Barbara Evje 619-462-4772
Saturday, Nov. 12 10 a.m.-noon	Southeastern	Malcolm X Library, Multi-media Room 5138 Market Street San Diego, CA 92105	Robin Loving 619-947-9717 La Quita Robbins 619-470-9095
Monday, Nov. 14 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Rancho Bernardo and Scripps Ranch	The Gateway – TV Room 12751 Gateway Park Rd. Poway, CA 92064	Claire Weiner 858-679-7350 Betsy Stevens 858-451-5653

If you missed the October presentations at our units on the National Education Study or will be unable to attend the November presentation at our regular units, our sister League in East San Diego will be giving the same presentation on the following dates. First meeting - October 29 at Helix at noon (questions 4-9). Second meeting - November 19 at Helix at 11 a.m. (questions 1-3, 10-15). Both meetings will be held at the Helix Water District Offices, 7811 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942

LWVSD CALENDAR — NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

All meetings are held at the LWVSD office unless noted otherwise.



***no December meeting**

1st Tues	4 p.m.	LWVSD Board
1st Thur	9:30-11:30 a.m.	Unit Council*
1st Fri	10:30 a.m.	LWVSDC ILO Board

2nd Fri	9:30 a.m.	Public Policy
3rd Mon	10 a.m.	Membership*
3rd Wed	9:30 a.m.	Education*
4th Fri	10:30 a.m.	Program

Sat, Nov 5, 12-2 p.m.	Common Cause / LWVSD Meeting, ALEC, Mission Valley Library (see p. 4)
Mon, Nov 14, 11:30 a.m.	Luncheon honoring Anne Hoiberg, Admiral Baker Club (see p. 11)
Thurs, Dec 8, 5 p.m.	Holiday Party, Good Samaritan Church, 4321 Eastgate Mall, San Diego



Common Cause San Diego



California
COMMON CAUSE
Holding Power Accountable

Saturday, November 5, 2011, Noon - 2 p.m.

Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway, San Diego, CA 92108-4739

The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)

The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) is one of the most dangerous organizations you've never heard about. Founded nearly forty years ago, in 1973, they have tenaciously kept their existence as private as possible while building their organization into the formidable association that it is today.

ALEC is a secretive group of hundreds of corporations and legislators investing millions of dollars a year writing business-friendly legislation at the expense of the middle class.

ALEC has drafted thousands of model bills for state legislators to privatize schools and prisons, weaken workers' rights, restrict the right to register and vote, and abolish regulations on corporations.

John Smith, California Common Cause, 562-237-3482 (cell)
jsmith@commoncause.org



MEMBERSHIP

Membership In League



Exercises Your Brain

Our new member this month is Karen Gould, 92130.

Please welcome her and introduce yourself. You did a good job of that at the play, "Walter Cronkite is Dead," which attracted several people we don't usually see and people interested in the work of the League. People say we intimidate newcomers because we know so much, so beware and don't let that happen.

We are still looking for buddies - members who would take a new member "under their wing" for a few months to orient them to the LWVSD. If you live in the outskirts, you are particularly needed for new members living in the Rancho Bernardo area, South Bay, Coronado, and East County. Please email Beryl Flom if you are willing to help.

— Beryl Flom, Vice President/Membership, 858-459-4406 or edflom@sbcglobal.net

NOVEMBER UNITS: Education Study Consensus

The LWVUS developed the materials for the local Leagues to use for the study of "The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education," a total of 15 questions on which we will work to find consensus. Last month we looked at questions #1 - 3 and worked on consensus for questions #4 - 9.

This month we will work on consensus for questions #10 - 15 which will focus on Funding and Equity. Finally we will look at #1 - 3, which are General Questions to see if we are ready for consensus on these.

We hope that everyone that attended last month will be able to make it this month too. If you weren't able to make last month, the presentations will cover the information needed to understand these questions so you don't need to worry that you missed critical information needed for these questions.

As with last month, please bring your Voter to whichever meeting you attend so that you will have these questions.

Funding and Equity

10. In the past most of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding has been non-competitive based on need. All/any schools that prove they fall under the federal guidelines for funding receive those funds. However, competitive grants are now being proposed to states/districts who meet certain federal requirements, such as Race to the Top. Which would be appropriate? (choose one)

- Non-competitive funding for all applicants meeting requirements
- A combination of non-competitive and competitive grants
- Competitive grants only
- No federal funding

11. If the federal government's role is the concern of the "common good," then: (choose one)

- Mandates only should be sanctioned.
- Mandates and funding should both be provided.
- Funding should be provided through grants only.
- A combination of funded mandates and grants should apply.
- No mandates should be required and limited grants for innovation available.

12. Equity in public education means equitable access to: (Rank order)

- High quality teaching/learning
- Adequate and current learning materials
- Clean and well maintained physical facilities
- Food and health care
- Safe and secure neighborhoods
- Secure housing

13. Currently Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding is considered "categorical" rather than for general use. This means that it can only be used with special populations for special purposes. ESEA should remain targeted toward poverty and special needs.

Strongly agree Agree No consensus
 Disagree Strongly disagree

14. The federal government has a role in supporting early childhood education, birth to 5, for all children?

Strongly agree Agree No consensus
 Disagree Strongly disagree

15. Federal support for early childhood education programs (e.g., Head Start, Title I, Special Education, Early Start) should include funding for parent education and support regarding child development, child health and nutrition, and access to other supportive services, such as mental health as needed.

Strongly agree Agree No consensus
 Disagree Strongly disagree

b. This funding should be extended to : All children
 Only those with special needs Special needs first

General Questions

1. The current role of the federal government in public education is

Much too small Too small About right
 Too large Much too large

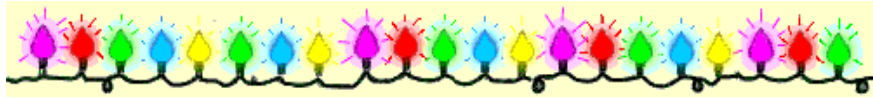
2. What should be the role of the federal government in public education? (Rank)

- To ensure that all students preK-12 receive a quality education.
- To develop accountability measures that will study the progress of all students so that they achieve adequate yearly progress.
- To mandate Common Core Standards for all students K-12.
- To monitor state efforts for funding.
- To measure teacher effectiveness through test data.

This looks like an easy question but will be very important in forming a strong position for future action.

3. A quality public education is important to perpetuate a strong and viable democracy.

Strongly agree Agree No consensus
 Disagree Strongly disagree



League of Women Voters Holiday Party Silent Auction Donation Form



Item _____

Description _____

Estimated Retail Value \$ _____

Name of Donor/Business _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please copy this for your files and return this form with your donation to:

League of Women Voters of San Diego

4901 Moreno Blvd. Bldg 100, Suite 104, San Diego, CA 92117

858-483-8696

lwsd@san.rr.com www.lwvsandiego.org



LWVSD Holiday Party Silent Auction

What can you donate?

Most of us no longer want more things; we want more experiences and we want to continue to learn. So rather than cleaning out your closets, think about what you could donate that other League members would love to experience and/or learn.

Could you donate

- 1) a couple of days or a week in your condo or time-share?
- 2) a lesson on how to knit, crochet, play mahjong?
- 3) bridge lessons?
- 4) babysitting?
- 5) a tutoring session in one of your best subjects?
- 6) a lesson in grant-writing?
- 7) landscape consultation?
- 8) a lesson in Powerpoint or other computer skill?
- 9) a ride on your yacht or plane?

or whatever you are passionate about and would love to pass on.

Got a donation idea? Please fill out the form on the adjacent page and send it into the office at 4901 Morena Blvd, San Diego 92117 by November 18.

We will still have gift certificates from many local merchants.

We want to make this our most interesting and successful silent auction ever!

Stories from the Front — of the Women's Movement!

In September the eight unit meetings generated stories and more stories as well as recommendations about addressing the unfinished business of the Women's Movement.

Equal Pay and the Economy

All women agreed that the U.S. Supreme Court dealt two blows to women's economic well-being by siding with Goodyear in the Lilly Ledbetter case and with Wal-Mart in the class action suit pursued by women employees. The 2009 enactment of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act provides some assurance to women who experience sex discrimination in pay. Members were angered about these attacks on equal pay and opportunity, and many told stories about being paid less than their male counterparts. Recommendation: All members agreed that stronger legislation, e.g., the Paycheck Fairness Act, must be enacted, more women must be promoted (only 14% in Fortune's 500), and that we all must unite to fight for equal pay.

Education and Title IX

All women concurred that child care centers and early childhood education should be established in our school districts. Also of importance is providing more opportunities for teens to talk to a compassionate listener. And, girls need to know more about the women's rights movement. Many women recommended the investigation of for-profit colleges and vocational schools. All women supported an upholding of Title IX, including the provision of university scholarships for women. Several women told stories of not having had an opportunity to play sports in school. A fascinating storyteller described her membership in a Los Angeles High School girls' Rifle Club, which challenged the ROTC boys to a "shoot out," a target shooting contest. The girls' Rifle Club won! Recommendation: Quality education must be the top priority throughout our country for the well-being of our children and nation.

Reproductive Health

Many women expressed anger about the War on Women's reproductive rights and the chipping away of women's right to choose. Others urged increased ef-

orts to provide family planning information and contraception to those seeking such assistance among the world's seven billion people. Another issue raised was the "medicalization" of women, especially the overly prescribed Caesarian section procedure (one in three U.S. pregnant women). Several stories related to the various policies enacted for women working during a pregnancy. One of our members worked in a hospital laboratory and was told that she would have to resign when she became pregnant. She needed

the job — the money. Her supervisor relented, but not because he determined that the laboratory hazards were minimal to both her and her fetus, but only because she would have to wear her lab coat, so her pregnancy wouldn't "show." We also learned about the "birds and the bees," but as pertained to dogs and rabbits! Another story referred to the post-WWII era when many men pursued a college degree on the G.I. Bill. A member's husband had to guarantee to her employer that he wouldn't get her pregnant! And, he didn't! Recommendation: Stop the War on Women and the attack on choice!

Violence against Women

Many women cited examples of the killing, abusing, and/or raping of women, whether in cases of domestic violence (e.g., the City College student), in the community (e.g., more than 500 murders of young women in Ciudad Juarez), in wars (e.g., the hundreds of thousands of women and girls raped by Congolese militias), and in the military (e.g., approximately 25% of U.S. military women raped, sexually abused, or murdered). Trafficking in women and children also must be ended—and poverty addressed. Recommendation: Stop all forms of violence against women throughout the world.

Finally, the most important recommendation centers on the recruitment, support, and election of women to public office! Another world is possible, which requires women to serve and speak up to make that change!

— Anne Hoiberg, Chair,
Women's Issues Ad Hoc Committee



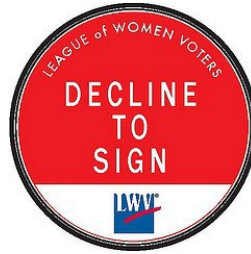
SHOULD I SIGN THIS PETITION?

The League of Women Voters of California encourages its members and the public to be cautious during this period of circulation of initiative and referendum petitions.

Voters are often asked to sign a petition “just to get it on the ballot so people can vote on it.” The League says to voters, “Your signature is valuable, perhaps even more valuable than your vote. Why? Because far fewer signatures are required to qualify a measure for the ballot than votes needed to pass it once it’s on the ballot. Only sign a petition for an initiative or referendum that you believe belongs on the ballot.”

The LWVC suggests six questions voters should ask themselves to help determine whether or not to sign an initiative petition:

- Is it complex? Some issues can be decided by a simple yes or no vote. More complex issues may be better handled by thorough examination and debate in a legislative arena.
- Is it confusing? Some initiatives are not well written or contain conflicts that may require court resolution or interpretation.
- Does it belong in the Constitution? If an initiative amends the Constitution, consider whether it really belongs there. Is it a fundamental law that should be protected from change? Correcting a constitutional amendment later would also require amending the Constitution, is cumbersome and costly, and requires another vote of the people.



- How will it be funded? Is it an “unfunded mandate” that would require the legislature to take funds from other essential programs? Consider the effect on the overall flexibility of a government budget with already limited revenue. An initiative should generally define its own revenue source and not earmark, restrict, or obligate a specific percentage of the General Fund revenues.
- Before you sign, ask about who is circulating the petition. Many initiative campaigns use paid signature gatherers. The only requirement in California is that the petition itself have a disclaimer that it may be circulated by a paid signature gatherer. You can ask whether the person requesting your signature is paid, and if so, how much.
- Who is behind it? It can be difficult to find out who the real sponsors and opponents of a petition are. Sometimes there are news reports, or a website that can help you. Contribution and expenditure reports of committees organized for action on ballot measures are available through Cal-Access, the automated lobbying and campaign disclosure system sponsored by the California Secretary of State’s office. Go to this site – www.cal-access.ss.ca.gov – to read the financial reports of campaign committees.

The League of Women Voters is a trusted, nonpartisan political organization. Our members do the hands-on work that safeguards democracy and leads to civic improvement. More information about the League, including membership information, can be found on the League’s Web site, www.lwvc.org.

LISTENING TO THE LEAGUE

Last month's question asked about moving the cruise ship terminal to the 10th St. pier. We did not get enough opinions from our members to come to any conclusion.

This month's question is: What is the most feminist place in the world?

a) USA b) Sweden c) Iceland d) Brazil

Please email your answer to edflom@sbcglobal.net



UPDATE ON BALBOA PARK

Events are unfolding at a rapid pace since our general meeting on Balboa Park last May. These events include:

On June 19 the League spoke in opposition to Resolution 2012-24 authorizing the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Plaza de Panama Committee which sanctioned the Plaza de Panama Circulation and Parking Structure Project (including the by-pass bridge) proposed by the Plaza de Panama Committee. Save Our Heritage Foundation filed a lawsuit against approval of the MOU as a violation of the California Environmental Quality Act. This will be heard in Superior Court on December 15th.

League members have met with Council President Tony Young and Councilmembers Todd Gloria, Marti Emerald, David Alvarez, Sherri Lightner, and staff of Lori Zapf to express concerns about the new Balboa Park Conservancy MOU based on the wording in the Bylaws which suggest limited public access and transparency. The MOU has yet to be made public. The LWV Public Policy Committee will review and make detailed comments to the mayor and council once we have reviewed



and evaluated the MOU.

On October 12 the League presented a letter to the Rules Committee raising concerns about the latest MOU between the mayor and Balboa Park Celebration Inc. (the 2015 Centennial Committee), a non-profit, public benefit corporation formed to fund, facilitate, and implement public ceremonies and events during the centennial celebration. We will be scheduling a presentation by Balboa Park Celebration Inc. at a future date for all League members who want to know more about plans for this year long celebration.

You can see that we are dealing with three separate and complicated MOU's here. Our new Balboa Park position strengthens our ability to advocate for Balboa Park and to promote access and information for the citizen owners of the Park. It sometimes appears that the major concern in the rush to draw visitors is the amount of money the Park will generate - up to \$661 million by some estimates!

— Joan Dahlin, Nan Valerio
LWV Public Policy Committee

Link **RALPHS** and **FOOD FOR LESS** Rewards Cards to the **LWV Education Fund**



The newly formed Finance Committee of LWVSD is providing ways for Leaguers to "donate" to the LWVSD without shelling out cash. It's easy - if and when you shop at Ralphs or Food 4 Less, you give the cashier your rewards card and then the stores donate a percentage to the LWV Education Fund. It is best to do this online (www.ralphs.com or www.food4less.com) at the "Services, Community Contributions" section, then go to "Get Started, Sign Up Today" and then "create an account" section. Finally, you edit your profile section by putting in the League's account number, 93310.

The only way to get a Food 4 Less rewards card is from the office, so call and one will be mailed to you. You can get a Ralphs reward card at any store. Be sure you have your rewards card with you when you go on line so you can input the number. The LWV Education Fund number is 93310 both for Ralphs and for Food 4 Less. If you have trouble doing it on line, there will be copies of a letter you can take to the Ralphs Service Desk or to Food 4 Less Service Desk with our barcode on it; this letter will be at the League office and you can call and request one. It takes 72 hours after you link your card with the League's number before you will see on your receipt that a donation was made to the LWV Education Fund. If you happen to do this with another organization, you can only choose one and so you can switch it on line as well.

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Ruberta Castro, Vice President for Administration

My name is Ruberta Castro. I am married and have two sons. Through one of my sons, I have three grandchildren. I spent most of my working career in San Diego City Schools. I began as a lunch duty lady when my youngest entered first grade and ended as a Library Tech II at Wangenheim Middle School in Mira Mesa. I retired about nine years ago. That was when I joined the League and attended the University City Unit. I was drafted to head the Education Committee and a year ago accepted the VP for Administration post. The Education Committee was lucky to get Penny Adler as a leader; I would never have been able to spend the amount of time needed for the study they are doing

now. Along with the League, I belong to the St. Vincent de Paul Ladies Guild. I am also on the board for RSVP, a volunteer organization for the San Diego Police Department. I am very active with them because of the lack of staff for the Police Department. I am at Central Division each Friday. In addition, I am the librarian at St. Rita's Catholic School two days a week. I can't seem to get away from schooling. I also have two grandsons that live with me during the week and go to school locally. I have a large population of animals and birds etc., most of whom are rescues or give-aways. When I can make time I garden, read, and make stained glass things.

Honoring Anne Hoiberg



The San Diego Chapter of Freedom's Foundation of Valley Forge cordially invites YOU to attend the Forty-second Annual Awards Luncheon Honoring the 2011 National Award Recipients

Monday, November 14, 2011 No-host cocktails at 11:30 am--Luncheon at 12:00

Admiral Baker Clubhouse 2400 Admiral Baker Road, San Diego, CA 92120

\$45.00 per person — Mail check payable to FFVF San Diego County Chapter, to

Paula Day, Treasurer, 4717 Corte Mariposa, Bonita, CA 91902-1532

RSVP by November 7, 2011

HOW TO AVOID PAYING HIGH TAXES



By doing effective estate planning well ahead of your death, you can avoid paying much of the income, capital gain, and estate taxes which the government imposes on an estate. You are allowed to make gifts of up to \$11,000 per person each year without the recipient paying taxes on that income. If you file a joint return, each of you can donate that much to the same individual. Of course you can make donations of any amount to 501c3 charities such as the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Gifts can be in the form of cash, stocks, or valuable items like cars or real estate. By removing some of your income or assets in this manner, you reduce your income tax bill and everyone benefits. Most people, of course, think

they don't have extra money to give away, but you need to add up all of your assets and you might well figure out that there is no way you can spend that much money even on healthcare. Your assets include real estate, bank and money market accounts, CD's, investments, business and partnership ventures, retirement funds including IRA's, life insurance, valuable collections, household furnishings, automobiles, boats, jewelry, annuities and trusts you control, and potential inheritance. When settling estates, assets can be subject to estate tax at rates as high as 55%. Individual retirement accounts (IRA's) can be hit with both income taxes and estate taxes at rates as high as 75%. It is possible to avoid paying some of these taxes by donating money to charity during your lifetime.

— Beryl Flom, Finance Committee

Are You Ready for a New Experience? — Sign up for the LWVSD Tour Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility “Coming Home to Stay”

On Thursday, January 26, League members will be touring the **Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility** in southeast Chula Vista (480 Alta Road, San Diego, CA 92179) from 9-11:30 a.m. (sorry about the early start, but that's what we were given) and **“Coming Home to Stay,”** located at Joe & Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Avenue, San Diego, CA 92114. We will stop for a Greek salad and baklava lunch at Daphne's in Chula Vista (358 East 8th Street) in between the two tours. Those who want to carpool should meet **on the street outside the League office** (corner of Morena Blvd. and Ariane Dr.) at 8 a.m. We will be back to the office about 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Further details and driving directions will be in the January Voter. If you have questions, please **email** Beryl Flom at ed-flom@sbcglobal.net as she is traveling.

The Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility is one of several state prisons that houses 4,700 people in a facility designed for 2,200. Cells now hold two prisoners and a large gym has been converted to a crowded bunk room with a capacity of 142 level 3 men. Most prisoners come from San Diego and Imperial Counties. There is also a juvenile division. Rehab programs include a large bakery that produces 18,000 loaves per day and services six state prisons. There is also a shoe factory which manufactures all the shoes needed for the state correctional system (2,000 shoes per day). Workers are paid a minimum amount. We hope to learn more about their education and rehabilitation program, medical services, and juvenile division. It will be interesting to learn how the return of state prisoners will affect Donovan.

“Coming Home to Stay” is a network of community

service agencies working together with a dedicated team of transition advocates and peer mentors to help those formerly incarcerated to build a new life. By assisting to connect with employment, housing, health services, substance abuse treatment, fixing financial and legal issues and reconnecting with family and the community.



“Developed in and by the community, ‘Coming Home to Stay’ is a partnership between provider agencies, public safety agencies, foundations, and formerly incarcerated men and women and their families. The planning group looked at what was working well, and what was not, and why folks failed to stay home despite the best efforts of community-based agencies. Using an ‘It Takes a Village’ model, the program's opportunity for success stems from the coordination of services to meet individual needs.

“‘Coming Home to Stay’ is funded through the generous support of: Alliance Healthcare Foundation, The California Endowment, Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Parker Foundation, Price Charities, and the San Diego County Bar Foundation.

“74% of San Diego County ex-offenders return to jail or prison during the first 24 months post-incarceration. This high recidivism rate costs precious taxpayer resources, creates substantial prison overcrowding, and wreaks havoc in our communities, most heavily in

the Diamond and City Heights neighborhoods, the neighborhoods in San Diego County with the highest number of probationers and parolees.

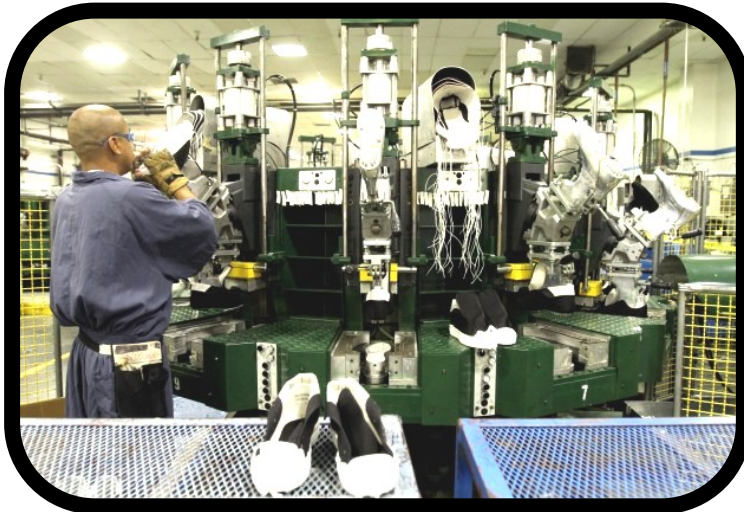
“That’s what ‘Coming Home to Stay’ plans to change. Our goal is to support ex-offenders to develop and maintain a healthy, productive life by helping them



create a personal life plan, connecting them with community resources, and providing daily support systems to keep them from returning to crime and incarceration.

“To transition to a stable, healthy and productive life in the community, services address five critical needs - education, training and employment, health and sobriety, relationships with family and community, vital documents and legal issues, and housing and finances. Transition Advocates, peer mentors and the providers’ Resource Team will assist individuals through an often cumbersome and confusing pathway quite different from the structured environment of prison or jail.”

All this information is located on their website at <http://cominghometostay.org/index.php>



Making shoes at Donovan State Correctional Facility

Reservation for Tour to Donovan Correctional Facility

and “Coming Home to Stay”

Thursday, January 26



Reservations must be received at the League office

by Thursday, January 5 at noon

(there will be no December Voter to remind you, so do it now)

(All participants must provide type of ID AND number AND date of birth THREE WEEKS prior in order to get gate clearance to the state prison)

Full name of each participant _____ Date of Birth _____

____ Social Security # ____ valid CA drivers license OR ____ equivalent number _____

Full name of each participant _____ Date of Birth _____

____ Social Security # ____ valid CA drivers license OR ____ equivalent number _____

\$15 per person

____ carpooling, will meet at office at 8 a.m. ____ will meet group at prison at 8:45 a.m.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO

4901 Morena Boulevard.

Bldg. 100, Suite 104

San Diego, CA 92117

Office hours Tuesdays & Thursdays

7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Call ahead, please.

Phone/Fax: 858-483-8696

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LWVSD Diversity Policy

The LWVSD, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there should be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League of Women Voters on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. LWVSD recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. LWVSD subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs. LWVSD affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Americans in its Board, staff, and programs.

JOIN THE LEAGUE

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I am unable to join at this time, but I am enclosing a tax-deductible* contribution of:

\$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 Other Please contact me with more information

Name(s) Address

City, State, Zip Phone(s) E-Mail

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