



**FREMONT, NEWARK & UNION CITY**

**May 2014**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

The following candidate forums will be available on our web site [lwvfnuc.org](http://lwvfnuc.org) as soon as video processing is completed.

20<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

25<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

10<sup>th</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

15<sup>th</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

17<sup>th</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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**Annual Meeting Auction 2014**

Wow! We have some great items for this year's auction – theater tickets, dine around town opportunities like Joe's Corner, The Vine, Thyme for Tea and of course, Niles Pie. This year for the first time Judy Zlatnik is aucitoning one of oher mouth watering pies. Board members are again providing items. This is an auciton you don't want to miss.

If you want to contribute items to the auction call Sam Neeman @ 510-789-3813.

Don't forget our annual raffle for a year's membership for those who renew before or at the Annual Meeting.

**CELEBRATE WITH US  
AT 7 P.M. ON MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>**

**Y VOTE AWARD CEREMONY  
34200 ALVARADO-NILES BLVD  
UNION CITY**

Help us recognize our talented youth  
and their take on how to make  
Democracy work



## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



This year's Annual Meeting will again be a breakfast meeting held at Acacia Creek, 34400 Mission Boulevard, Union City. We had excellent comments last year on the food and venue. After breakfast, our guest speaker and our 3rd Annual Auction we'll begin the business of the day.

Adopting the 2014-15 budget

Re-adopting our positions

Electing Officers for the 2014-2104 term

We have been very fortunate in the past several years to have a healthy budget; this means no increase in dues. Our treasurer will share how we got here and prudent spending is how we stay here. We believe this year's budget reflects the organization's core mission with an emphasis on providing excellent voter education and member services.

Your Call to Annual Meeting will be sent in May. Please plan on participating in this important meeting.

Another thing I hope you won't miss is our 2nd Movie Night with the League on May 30th. This month we are co-sponsoring with Tri-City Ecology the screening of "Watershed", an award winning documentary narrated by Robert Redford. Don't let the rain fool you. We are truly dependent on this resource that is more valuable than oil. So come join us for a movie and some popcorn on May 30th at 7:00pm at our League Meeting Room at the Fremont Community Activities Center.

See you at the show!

Sam Neeman and Carolyn Hedgecock

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-13

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Editor Alex Starr

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### Smart Voter and MapLight Launch Pilot Partnership

As part of the work we have been doing to deliver the Next Generation of Smart Voter, we are pleased to announce that LWVCEF is partnering with MapLight to enhance the voter outreach we currently achieve through Smart Voter. [MapLight](#) is a nonpartisan research organization whose goal is to reveal money's influence in politics. Most of you are familiar with [Maplight's Voter's Edge Web site](#) which many League speakers access to obtain ballot measure campaign funding information.

The League's new collaboration with MapLight is an exciting opportunity to serve more Californians and enhance the quality of nonpartisan information and resources available to voters. Although still a work in progress, our team is working hard to have an initial pilot in place for the upcoming June election. A webinar briefing on the project was offered to Smart Voter County and Local Coordinators in early April and recorded for those not able to attend. In the coming weeks, additional information about the June pilot will be shared through our volunteer leaders and via LWVCEF communications channels. Stay tuned!

### Agricultural Study Complete

The Agriculture Study Committee wrapped up its work during the consensus meeting held on April 5, 2014. The group reached consensus on the questions posed by LWVUS and added additional emphasis.

The April 2014 issue of the Voter gave a thorough discussion of the questions to be studied and considered. In terms of the question regarding Research and Development (R&D), our committee supported all of the questions with added emphasis that diversified and sustainable agricultural systems should be



*worldwide*. Currently the US imports 15% of its food supply, and is a global supplier as well.

In terms of the question regarding Food Safety, our committee again supported all of the questions posed with added emphasis that limits on the use of antibiotics in animal production to treat and control disease should be for *sick animals only*.

The National League website ([www.lwv.org/members](http://www.lwv.org/members)) has extensive background material still posted for anyone who wants to continue to follow this subject.



## **Leagues of Women Voters of Alameda, Berkley/Albany/Emeryville, Eden Area, Fremont/Newark Union City, Oakland and Piedmont Support Measure AA on the June 2, 2014 Ballot**

(April 10, 2014)

In keeping with its position on public financing of health care services, the Alameda County Council of the League of Women Voters has voted to support Measure AA on the June 2, 2014 ballot.

**THE SITUATION:** In 2004, county voters overwhelmingly approved Measure A authorizing Alameda County to impose a one-half cent sales tax to provide additional financial support of emergency medical, hospital inpatient, outpatient, public health, mental health and substance abuse services to indigent, low-income, and uninsured adults, children, families, seniors and other residents of Alameda County. 75% of this tax revenue goes to support the Alameda County Medical Center (DBA the Alameda Health Systems) AHA. The remaining 25% of the tax revenue is allocated by the Board of Supervisors for: Critical medical services; to offset uncompensated care costs for emergency care; and essential public health, mental health and substance abuse services.

Since 2004, Measure A has generated more than \$1.02 billion in tax revenues, which have been allocated according to the formula.

**WHAT THIS MEASURE WOULD DO:** The amount of sales tax would stay the same at one-half cent, and the sunset date would be extended from 2019 to 2034. The Measure A Oversight Committee would continue to review expenditures of Measure AA.

### **WHAT WE SAY:**

- Alameda County continues to face diminished federal and state sources of health care funding which affects its ability to provide for the critical and urgent medical needs of low-income and uninsured adults, children, families and seniors.
- Measure A funds helped stabilize the Alameda County Medical Center's budget and expand its health care services, especially as a "safety net" medical center for the county. Measure AA will continue the work of Measure A until 2034 without raising the tax.
- Measure A funds are essential in supporting primary care clinics in targeted areas of need; Children's and St. Rose Hospitals (both "safety net" hospitals); and school health clinics/services in schools throughout the county. Measure AA will continue this assistance until 2034.

[The County Council of the Leagues of Women Voters of Alameda County](#) is a consortium of the Leagues found in the County. It meets regularly and its rules require a super majority of the participating Leagues to take a stand on a ballot measure. Only ballot measures with a subject that has been studied by the League and has an adopted League Position are considered for support or opposition.

**Tri City Ecology and the League of Women Voters  
of Fremont, Newark and Union City presents  
*WATERSHED***

*Executive produced & narrated by Robert Redford  
Produced by the Redford Center and Kontent Films*



Executive Produced and Narrated by Robert Redford and Directed by award-winning filmmaker, Mark Decena, *WATERSHED* tells the story of the threats to the once-mighty Colorado River and offers solutions for the future of the American West.

As the most dammed, diked, and diverted river in the world struggles to support thirty million people and the peace-keeping agreement known as the Colorado River Pact reaches its limits, *WATERSHED* introduces hope.

Can we meet the needs of a growing population in the face of rising temperatures and lower rainfall in an already arid land? Can we find harmony amongst the competing interests of cities, agriculture, industry, recreation, wildlife, and indigenous communities with rights to the water?

Sweeping through seven U.S. and two Mexican states, the Colorado River is a lifeline to expanding populations and booming urban centers that demand water for drinking, sanitation and energy generation. And with 70% of the rivers' water supporting agriculture, the river already runs dry before it reaches its natural end at the Gulf of California.



Unless action is taken, the river will continue its retreat – a potentially catastrophic scenario for the millions who depend on it.

In *WATERSHED*, we meet Jeff Ehlert, a fly fishing guide in Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado rancher Dan James, Delta restoration worker Edith Santiago, Navajo Council member Glojean Todacheene, Rifle Colorado Mayor Keith Lambert, Los Angeles native Jimmy Lizama and a group of Outward Bound teens rafting down the Colorado River as they all reflect a compelling new water ethic—one that illuminates how letting go of the ways of old can lead to a path of coexisting with enough for all.

The Redford Center created *WATERSHED* as a inspirational social action tool for people who want to engage. Promoting personal water conservation pledges of 5% – symbolic of the small amount of the rivers' flow required to reconnect the river to its delta – and garnering donations to help purchase the water rights necessary to restore the connectivity, *WATERSHED* is a central tool in a larger grassroots effort focused on saving the Colorado River and supporting the communities throughout the river basin.

***Movie will be shown May 30, 2014  
7:00 pm. League conference Room  
3375 Country Drive, Fremont***

## LWVBAEF Launches Water Education Initiative

Written by Editor Monday, 21 April 2014 19:50

The [League of Women Voters of the Bay Area Education Fund](#) has launched a Water Education Initiative to promote better understanding about water issues in the nine-county Bay Area.

With the initiative, the League intends to establish a Water Education Reporting Fellowship, which will enable a professional journalist to research and write about water fellow's coverage will run in the *Bay Area Monitor*, building on the publication's long-standing efforts to spotlight water.

To fund this effort, the League is asking agencies, organizations, and individuals to contribute small donations of \$300, which will be bundled into the fellowship. A letter of inquiry was sent to select water stakeholders in mid-April, but the League welcomes contributions from any parties who support the goal of this initiative.

The League plans to finalize the list of contributors by June 1, 2014.

### RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP For 2014-15

If you renew your membership before or at our Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 14 at 9:00 AM at Acacia Creek, your name will be included in the raffle drawing for a free membership for the year from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Make your check payable to LWVFNUC and send your check to LWVFNUC Membership, PO Box 3218, Fremont, CA 94539

Or Go to [lwvfnuc@lwvfnuc.org](mailto:lwvfnuc@lwvfnuc.org) and renew your membership through Paypal.

Membership dues are as follows:  
Individual: \$60 Household: \$30 for each additional members residing at the same address. Student: \$30

May 8	Action Group	League office dining room, 3375 Country Drive, Fremont
May 12	Board Meeting	6:45 PM League Office dining room, 3375 Country Dr, Fremont
May 19	Y Vote Award Ceremony	7 P.M. Educational Services Center, 34200 Alvarado-Niles Rd, Union City
May 30	"Watershed" - Movie	7:00 pm. League conference Room 3375 Country Drive, Fremont
June 14	Annual Meeting – Breakfast & speaker	9 a.m. Acacia Creek, 34400 Mission Blvd, Union City

ALL MEETINGS ARE FREE, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND WHEEL CHAIR ACCESSIBLE

**IMPORTANT PRIMARY ELECTION DATES**

**May 19** Last day to register to vote  
**May 27** Last day to request vote by mail ballot  
**June 3** Election Day

**Mission**

The League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark, and Union City, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

**Diversity Policy**

LWVFNUC affirms its commitment to reflect the diversity of our communities in our membership and actions. We believe diverse views are important for responsible decision making and seek to work with all people and groups who reflect our community diversity.

**Join the LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TODAY!**

Any person, man or woman, who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League may join. To be a voting member, one must be at least 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen. Members under 18, or non-citizens, are welcome as non-voting Associate Members. Dues include membership in LWVFNUC, Bay Area League, and the California and National Leagues. Financial support for dues is available through our scholarship program. Contact Sets Amann, Membership Chair, for information.

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

New Member       Renewal  
 Transfer from \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your check payable to:  
 LWVFNUC and mail it with this  
 form to:*

LWVFNUC-MEMBERSHIP  
 P. O. Box 3218  
 Fremont, CA 94539

Individual Membership—\$60  
 Household Membership—\$90  
 Donation to LWVFNUC

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to Ed. Fund (*Make  
 separate check payable to  
 LWVFNUC Ed Fund*)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

LWFNUC  
P.O. Box 3218  
Fremont, CA. 94539