



THE VOTER

ELECTION CALENDAR 2008

Key Election Dates from the Secretary of State

- Friday, April 4** - Overseas citizens/military can apply for special vote-by-mail ballot
- Monday, May 5** - First day to apply for vote-by-mail ballot by mail
- Tuesday, May 13** - Last day for state to mail Voter Pamphlet
- Tuesday, May 13** - Last day for counties to mail Sample Ballot
- Monday, May 19** - Last day to register to vote (for June 3)
- Tuesday, May 20** - Last day for candidates to file for write-in
- Tuesday, May 27** - Last day to apply for vote-by-mail ballot by mail
- Tuesday, June 3** - **ELECTION DAY** - Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

LWV Woodland City Council Candidate Forum

May 13, 2008

7 p.m.

Woodland City Council Chambers

300 First Street

These are the candidates who have filed for the three City Council seats. Each will be invited to participate in the forum:

Art Pimentel *

Jeff W. Monroe *

Frank Siefertman, Jr.

Alfred. S. Lopez

Bobby Harris

Martie Dote

*incumbent

This forum is co-sponsored by the Woodland Chamber of Commerce.

ATTENTION LEAGUE MEMBERS: CIRCULATE THE PETITION!



Currently, the California state legislature draws district lines for themselves and the Board of Equalization. That is why in recent elections, 99% of incumbent politicians were re-elected in the districts they had drawn for themselves. Communities, cities and counties are the losers because they are carved up for political purposes. California Voters First will gather 1 million signatures to put the California Voters FIRST initiative on the **November 2008 ballot**. **We need to collect these signatures by April 15th**. All League members have received four signature petitions in the mail from LWVC and are urged to sign them, circulate them and send them in. <http://votersfirstca.com/>

LWV Board of Directors

2007-08

*Please contact any member of the board
with your ideas and questions.*

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CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

by Nancy Rice and Eileen Racki

A "Pat on the Back"

Recently, we were thinking back over the years of League involvement in the City of Woodland and are amazed at the achievements of League members.

The experience of WLWV members have resulted in the gaining of important skills and courage – which when backed with information (from League of course) result in extremely valuable contributions to our community. Many times League members have presented League's position or their own views before the City Council and city commissions.



We began a list of the positions our members have held in civic offices but lost count. League members have served on the City Council, School Board, County Board of Supervisors, City Boards and Commissions, the

Grand Jury, other county offices and even the State Legislature. Two members currently serving are Carol Souza Cole on the Woodland School Board and Pat Murray on the Woodland Planning Commission.

It is true that some officials join the League after winning a public office, but most have been "home grown," running for office after participating in League studies. The League experience has been useful in other groups such as service and cultural organizations (for example Lions and Shakespeare Club). Others have held long term government positions such as school superintendent, vice principal, teachers and city clerk (Davis). Our members deserve a huge "Pat on the Back." We were amazed at how many of our present and past members have worked hard to improve our community.

We urge you to take part in League and know you are fully able and qualified to contribute to our city's civic life.

Sincerely,
Eileen and Nancy

**CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE DIRECT
PRIMARY ELECTION IS JUNE 3**

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

March 11, 2008 Meeting

- The board took action to authorize Judy Simas, Nancy Rice and



one other member to represent LWV Woodland at the LWVUS convention in Portland in June.

- The Board announced a request from the Davis LWV to participate in a study on all mail ballot voting in Yolo County. The Leagues were invited by Yolo County Clerk, Freddie Oakley, to join her in this effort.

- Voter Service Chair, Pat Butler, reports that she is working on a joint election forum with the Davis League. May 8 is the date being considered with the candidates for Superior Court judge and the As-

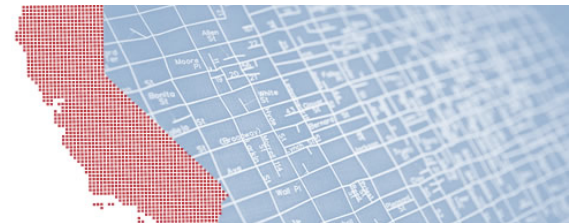
sembly and state Senate being the featured participants. Additionally, it was decided to invite the Woodland Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Chamber, Daily Democrat, and WAVE to co-sponsor the forum(s) with the LWV.

- The board discussed moving forward with meeting with the superintendent of WJUSD to gather information on the school board's decision to purchase property on which to locate the central office.

Get Involved: Redistricting Campaign Is Underway!

The campaign to qualify California Voters FIRST is in full swing. This is the redistricting reform initiative measure supported by the LWVC, California Common Cause, AARP, and the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. The bipartisan coalition promoting the measure is growing, with former State Controller Steve Westly joining Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger as co-chair of the campaign. Groups across California and from all parts of the political spectrum are stepping forward with endorsements. Visit www.CAVotersFIRST.org to see the full list of endorsers.

California Voters FIRST will end the extreme conflict of interest state politicians have in drawing their own districts. This will be accomplished by creating an independent, diverse, and politically balanced citizens commission to draw district lines. With the help of League members statewide, we can bring reform to California!



As noted on page 1, please sign your petitions (all League members should have received theirs), get two or three other family members, friends, or colleagues to sign, and return them to the LWVC office right away.

***The instructions that are enclosed with the petition are simple—but important!
We want every signature to count.***

Our Most Precious Resource

by Debra Chase, LWV Woodland Natural Resources Director

"We will only know the worth of water when the well is dry."

- Benjamin Franklin

One of our most precious natural resources is water. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007) concludes that "climate change will strain many of North America's water resources, increasing the competition for water." Generally, warmer climate will increase evaporation and reduce snow-packs; groundwater systems are expected to be stressed; and increased variability of precipitation will make water management more challenging. Drought and floods are a natural part of the climate in California's central valley. But with climate change more extremes in weather patterns may be experienced. Longer periods of drought coupled with higher incidences of flooding in certain areas may occur.

The IPCC report also states that "escalating tensions between water users are among one of the key challenges facing North America." In 1999 the World Bank Institute, in their Water Policy Reform Program reported, "Water is essential for all dimensions of life. Over the past few decades, use of water has increased, and in many places water availability is falling to crisis levels. More than eighty countries, with forty percent of the world's population, are already facing water shortages. By 2020 the world's population is expected to double."

The IPCC report goes on to say, "The cost of building and maintaining water infrastructure has risen dramatically. The quality of water in rivers and aquifers has deteriorated, due to pollution by waste and contaminants from cities, industry and agriculture. Worldwide, one billion people lack safe water, and three billion lack sanitation; eighty per cent of infectious diseases are waterborne, killing millions of children each year. Even now nearly 2 percent of United States homes have no running water."

Yolo County is fortunate to have a good water supply but as the climate changes there will be challenges to face. Information about our local water supply and its management is available from these local and regional agencies:

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is a State agency whose mission is to manage the water resources of California in cooperation with other agencies. When you go to their website you will find a plethora of information on all of the many projects, programs and planning goals that this department has developed.

www.water.ca.gov.

On the local level, **The Water Resources Association of Yolo County (WRA)** is a group of local entities working together to provide a water-planning forum. The WRA developed Yolo County's first Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). You can view the plan at

www.yolowra.org.



The Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (YCFWCWCD) mission is to plan, develop, and manage the conjunctive use of the District's surface and groundwater resources to provide a safe and reliable water supply at a reasonable cost, and to sustain the socioeconomic and environmental well-being of Yolo County. They manage water from Clear Lake and Indian Valley Reservoir for Yolo County farming irrigation. www.ycfwcwcd.org

Flood Safe Yolo is a pilot program in a collaborative effort of the City of Woodland, Yolo County, and the YCFWCWCD to research information on Cache Creek and sloughs with respect to flood management. Information will be posted on the YCFWCWCD website.

The Davis/Woodland/UC Davis Surface Water Program. is a joint partnership to secure a new, high-quality surface water supply from the Sacramento River. www.daviswoodlandwatersupply.com/watersupply

Citizens rely on our state, county and city water departments to deliver safe water to drink while also being dependent on these government agencies to prevent the pollution and corruption of water supplies. Community expectations also involve the concept that overuse will not destroy aquatic life and natural habitats

Conservation is a key component in preserving our water supplies for habitat, agriculture and future generations. Awareness of how water is used is key to accomplishing this while working to prevent pollution of both surface and groundwater supplies. Individually, we are each responsible for reducing our contributions to climate change.



Become a member today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

email address: _____

I would prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, *The Voter*, by:

_____ email _____ USPS mail _____ both

Dues: \$45 individual, \$60 for a family. Voluntary contributions of \$5 are welcome to cover recent state dues increases. While dues to LWV are not tax deductible, contributions to our Education Fund are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Education Fund contributions are needed and used for voter outreach and education.

WWW.WOODLAND.CA.LWVNET.ORG

**MAIL
MEMBERSHIP
FORM TO:
LWV WOODLAND
P.O. BOX 2463
WOODLAND CA
95776**



League of
Women Voters
of
WOODLAND
P.O. BOX 2463
Woodland
95776

Calendar 2008

April 8 Board Meeting 7 pm Call 666-1811 for location.

April 16 Latino Community Council City Council Candidate Debate, 6 pm, Leake Room, Woodland Public Library. The public is welcome.

May 13 Candidates' Forum City Council and Fifth District Supervisor

June 3 Statewide Direct Primary Election