



THE VOTER

STATE OF THE COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

The 12th Annual State of the Community Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, February 15 at the Woodland Methodist Church. This year the county will be our focus, with Sharon Jensen, Chief Administrator for Yolo county as the guest speaker.

Event chair, Lucinda Talkington, will this month be mailing out sponsorship requests, and tickets for members to sell. Loretta Hansen will be assisting. All League members are encouraged to participate in this event, which is the League's largest annual fundraiser.

Jensen began her job as chief administrator on November 11, 2005. She served as the assistant chief administrator in Yolo county for the previous five years. It is expected that Jensen will include in her remarks comments on such issues as the Conaway Ranch, flood concerns, and the state of the county's budget.

Doors to the event open at 11:45 a.m.



LIVE@NOON RETURNS

.....with Yolo County Clerk Recorder, Freddie Oakley, on **Tuesday, January 24**, in the Leake Room of the Woodland Public Library. Oakley is expected to talk about her experience as an election officer for the recent Iraqi election. The talk begins at noon.

SOUP'S ON

Please join the League's board of directors on **Saturday, February 25** at the annual program planning meeting. It all begins at 10 a.m. and will finish in time to enjoy another one of Pat Murray's soup luncheons.

Program planning this year is to set the agenda for the LWVUS. This is part of the LWV's effort to maintain its grassroots flavor as all members can advise the national organization on positions and areas of concern and interest. RSVP's to Pat will be necessary in February.

SAVE THE DATE

The Yolo County Women's History Month Luncheon will be held **Thursday, March 9, 2006** at the Community Center (Holy Rosary) on California St. in Woodland. Debbie Davis, Editor of the Davis Enterprise, is the honorary chairperson of the event which is themed, "Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams." Nominations for women in Yolo county who exemplify this theme are being solicited, and can be mailed to POB 711, Woodland, 95776. Phone Bj Ford, 662.0952.

ENERGY STUDY DO YOU REMEMBER ROLLING BLACK- OUTS?

Need more be said about the effectiveness of California's energy policy? What needs to change? How do we protect our right to dependable energy, while conserving natural



resources and protecting the environment?

Questions such as these will be addressed as we embark on the study of energy in California, and how to make the League's position relevant and timely. In this month's Voter are two articles to read to get prepared for the energy study discussions being planned for February and March. As you sit down to read, and flip on the light switch, get ready for your energy awareness to be heightened.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Bj Ford, Co-president.

Dear Friends,

Elsewhere in this Voter are comments about our Holiday Progressive Party held on December 9th. My only wish is that all of you could have attended. It was truly an enjoyable evening.

We are starting our new year with numerous activities. Please mark your calendar as you read through the Voter so as not to miss attending these interesting and informative events.

I do not make the statement about attending meetings lightly. As I observe the current state of our country and our world, I cannot help but be encouraged that we as women have the ability to make changes. We can vote. Hallelujah! That right did not come easily. Could we have been as dedicated as those women who fought the fight so many years ago? We, as members of the League of Women Voters have the ability to be a force for change in our country's positions on issues which we have had the opportunity to study and to now lobby our leaders. As members of the League we receive Action Alerts on a regular basis. How many of you take the time to add your name to the petition or to write your representative and encourage him or her to vote yea or nay according to the subject. What a missed opportunity to be a part of decisions being made that will affect us as well as our children's children.

You may think your vote doesn't count. Think again. We may not always "win" but they know we are a strong, well-informed organization and they listen.

Make one of your New Year's Resolutions to be "I will respond when asked by the League and further, I will keep informed through



my membership in the League." I hope that this is one resolution you will keep. And, while you are at it, ask a friend to be-

come a member of the League and to join you in attending our meetings.

*Sincerely,***Bj**

Urban Water Management Planning Act (UWMPA)

California Water Code Section 10620 (a) of the Urban Water Management Planning Act states that every urban water supplier shall prepare and adopt an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) every five years in years that end in 0 and 5. The 2005 plans are to be submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on December 31, 2005. Requirements for the plans include:

- Assessment of current and projected water supplies
- Evaluation of demand and customer types
- Evaluation of the reliability of water supplies
- Description of conservation measures implemented by the urban water supplier
- Response plan in the event of water shortage
- Comparison of demand and supply projections.

While generally prepared by staff, there are opportunities for public input, review, and comment during the draft stages and before the report is submitted to the directors of the local water board. In most cases, to see or make comment on a report, you can contact your local water provider. Ask for a hard copy, or ask for the URL where you can download a copy from their Web site. - *from LWVC*

Four times the fun!

by Debbie Peterson

The League went progressive this year for the annual holiday gathering. In fact we "progressed" to 4 different homes throughout the evening on Dec. 9th.

It all began at the Souza Cole's, where Carol and Glenn had a fire crackling in the fireplace and appetizers were served. The wrapped dates were a real crowd pleaser. Look for Carol's recipe in the Voter.

Next we made our way to Dani and Ray Thomas' home where we were treated to holiday tunes played by high school pianist Julia Frank-enbach. An artfully set table tempted us with salmon, asparagus, salads and spreads.

Filled with champagne, food and holiday music we progressed to Pat Murray's house. Pat's collection of antiques and lovely serving pieces continued the festive tone of the evening.

Just when we thought we couldn't possibly hold any more delicious food, we waddled down the street to the Talkington's for dessert. We were greeted by Lucinda, Bob, and a life-size metal sculpture of a woman all decked out for the holidays! We enjoyed perusing the art that fills their home while enjoying desserts and a variety of liqueurs.

Many thanks to our four hosts for a memorable and elegant evening!



County to consider medical marijuana card program

by Barbara Fleck

SB 420 requires medical marijuana cards to identify patients using marijuana for medical purposes, under the direction of a licensed physician. The federal government considers it illegal. The county is caught in the middle.

The County Health Department, in cooperation with the Health Council Advisory Board, has created a task force to look at the potential problems in creating a medical marijuana identification program for Yolo County residents.

The state currently has a 24-hour system for police to call in to verify patients with prescriptions or recommendations. However, to get patients on the system, the county is required to be an administrative agent, taking information from the patient, verifying the doctor's prescription or recommendation and

then sending the data to the state. The state would then send the card to the county to be distributed to the patient. The county would not have an evaluation authority to determine the need for the drug or the potential abuse.

Dr. Betty Hinton, Yolo County Public Health Director, said the county currently receives one to two calls a month asking for an identification card.

The task force will collect data from the half dozen or so California counties that have already started an identification program and will especially want to review data from Humboldt County which has had a similar program the past five years. While the county would have no evaluative authority, the task force will also talk to local substance abuse program providers to consider the potential for abuse and accessibility to non-tampered product.

A recommendation is expected to go before County Supervisors in February. Dr. Hinton estimated a \$50 fee would be required to cover costs for the program.

BACON WRAPPED DATES

Makes 32: Serves 8 to 10

32 pitted dates (about 10 ounces)

2 ounces shelled, salted whole pistachios

2 ounces dried apricots, cut into 32 strips

1 pound lean best-quality bacon, thinly sliced and then halved crosswise

1. Preheat oven to 450. Stuff each date with 2 to 4 pistachios. Lay a stuffed date and apricot strip on top of each bacon slice; wrap to enclose. If not using immediately, freeze up to one month.

2. Transfer to a rimmed baking sheet. Bake until bacon is crisp; about 10 minutes, flipping each wrapped date after 8 minutes. If frozen, bake at 400 for 10 minutes; flip, and bake 10 minutes more. Transfer wrapped dates to paper towels to drain. Serve with toothpicks.

from Martha Stewart Living, December, 2005

Join the League Today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

email address: _____

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.

Mail dues to: LWV Woodland • P.O. Box 2463 • Woodland CA 95776



LWV WOODLAND
P.O. BOX 2463
WOODLAND CA 95695

Calendar

JANUARY 10, 2006

Board Meeting, Bj Ford's house

7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 24, 2006

LIVE@NOON Leake Room, Woodland
Public Library

FEBRUARY 15, 2006

LWV State of the Community Luncheon

Featuring Sharon Jensen, Chief
Administrator, Yolo County

FEBRUARY 25, 2006

Program Planning Pat Murray's

9:30 a.m.

MARCH 9, 2006

Women's History Month Luncheon