



# THE VOTER

## MAY IS VOTERS SERVICE MONTH

The League has scheduled candidate forums on three nights this month. The dates and locations are summarized in the box to the left. All candidates in each race have been invited to participate in the forum and the League looks forward to a good turnout. All candidates have been given questions prepared by the League (summarized below) and will also be asked questions from the public during the forums.

**LWV Woodland City Council Candidate Forum**

**May 8, 2008  
7 p.m.**

**Woodland City Council Chambers  
300 First Street**

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**Yolo County Superior Court Judge & 5th District Supervisor Candidate Forums**

**May 14, 2008  
7 p.m.**

**Woodland Community and Senior Center  
2001 East St. Woodland**

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**8th Assembly District Candidate Forum**

**May 15, 2008  
7 p.m.**

**Woodland Community and Senior Center  
2001 East St. Woodland**

**City Council Candidate Forum**

**Candidates:** Martie Dote, Bobby Harris, Fred Lopez, Jeff Monroe, Artemio Pimentel, and Frank Sieferman Jr.

**LWV Questions:**

1. As a member of the City Council, what role do you believe the city should play in encouraging business development in existing downtown buildings?
2. Given the economic climate the city, county, and state currently face, what can the city and you, as a City Council member, do to identify and encourage new revenues for Woodland?

**Superior Court Judge Candidate Forum**

**Candidates:** Timothy Fall and James Walker

**LWV Questions:**

1. Yolo County Superior Court experienced a 22% increase in “judicial need” from 2004 to 2007, one of the largest increases in the state. Sixteen judges were recommended for Yolo County but only one new judicial seat has been authorized by the legislature. What is the current number of judges in Yolo County’s Superior Court and what recommendations would you offer to manage their ever increasing judicial workload.
2. David Rosenberg, Yolo County Superior Court presiding judge, states that in 2008 Yolo courts will have “over 100 trials, over 100 criminal jury trials.” With the number of criminal trials increasing annually, what recommendations would you put forth to manage the backlog of civil cases in the system?

**5th District Supervisor Candidate Forum**

**Candidates:** Duane Chamberlain and Mel Smith

**LWV Questions:**

1. As a member of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, how would you balance growth pressures in the county with the desire to preserve agricultural land and open space, and the desire for economic development?
2. As a member of the Board faced with both the county’s and state’s current fiscal crisis, what would be your priorities for maintaining county services now and into the next fiscal year?

*(continued on page 3)*

**LWV Board of Directors****2007-08**

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

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[carolsouzacole@cal.net](mailto:carolsouzacole@cal.net)**CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE***by Nancy Rice and Eileen Racki***Dear Loyal Leaguers,**

The time of our annual meeting is fast approaching. That means budget, programs and new board members must be voted on. It also means a good time to gather to celebrate the accomplishments of the year and consider issues for 2008/09.

The LWV board of directors leads LWV in its role as a non-partisan watchdog voice for the community in the work to keep government honest and a true servant to the citizens. For this reason we are asking each of our members to consider serving on the board. Take a look at the list of officers to the left to see the offices that make up the board of directors.



This year the League has chosen to focus on voters service and our members have pitched in and supported this effort. The League has been busy since last fall educating voters, and will have conducted at least 6 voter education forums before 2008 ends. For non-partisan voter education, no one provides this service like the League.

We are looking forward to another great year and joining together as an organization to bring forward issues important to the citizens of Woodland.

Sincerely,  
Eileen and Nancy

**THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER  
TO VOTE FOR THE JUNE 3  
CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE  
DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION IS  
MAY 19**

## **BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

April 8, 2008 Meeting

- Co-presidents Nancy and Eileen will be attending the LWVC Leadership Council on May 17..
- The board took action to join the Davis LWV in a local study on all mail balloting for Yolo County.
- Bj Ford was appointed as chairperson for the annual meeting on June 17.
- Voter Service Chair, Pat Butler, reported on the upcoming candidate forums (described elsewhere in this newsletter).
- The resignation from the board of Barbara Fleck was accepted.
- Bj Ford and Eileen Racki met with WJUSD superintendent Jacki Cottigim regarding the new central office location for the school district.
- The audit committee of Judy Simas, Margaret Nicolson, and Debbie Peterson will meet, review the financial records and submit a report for adoption at the annual meeting.
- Nancy Rice will coordinate the nominating committee in order to develop the slate of officers for election at the annual meeting.

## **Candidate Forum Questions**

*continued from page 1*

### **8th Assembly District Candidate Forum**

**Candidates:** Christopher Cabaldon, Manuel Cosme, and Mariko Yamada

#### **LWV Questions:**

1. As a candidate seeking to represent Woodland's citizens, what do you believe are the challenges facing Woodland in the next five years? In the next 15 years?
2. As an Assembly member how will you support the Woodland and Yolo County goal of agricultural land preservation while balancing the competing interests of development, open space and agriculture?
3. As a Assembly member what are your strategies for working with local leadership, including Woodland's City Council and Yolo County's Board of Supervisors, on matters and legislation of mutual interest?



## **Message from LWV Membership**

The Woodland LWV board took action earlier this year to return to the practice of using September as the anniversary date of all membership renewals. By doing this it is anticipated that the dues will be paid before the end of the calendar year. Last year we found that dues due in November/December were delayed payment probably due to holiday and end of year distractions.

For those members whose anniversary would have been February or later in the year, the board has decided to allow their anniversary date to be extended until the following membership year. In summary, all memberships will be expiring annually in September.

In May, look for the new membership list in the mail. I will also be mailing members an interest survey and ask that surveys be returned. The League wants to tap into the talent of our membership - so please let us know what you can do!

To all of the new and renewing members - thank you. Sincerely, Loretta Hansen, 2nd Vice-president, Membership.

## Communicating Through Cooking

*Defining Ourselves and Our Communities by  
Where We Get Our Food*

by Debra Chase, LWV Woodland Natural  
Resources Director

*“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,  
nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”- Dr. Seuss*

On Friday I picked up my CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) box in Woodland and inside were fresh peas, two kinds of lettuce, greens, fresh carrots with green tops still attached, fragrant leeks, fresh garlic and tall fleshy fennel bulbs. Being one of only four people picking up a box it occurred to me that League members may be interested in knowing about the bounty available from our local farms and why it is important to support our local farmers.

Most U.S. produce is picked four to seven days before being placed in a supermarket produce section. In fact, produce is shipped an average of 1500 miles before being sold. Food imported from Mexico, Asia, Canada and South America obviously travels much farther. Not only are more greenhouse gas emissions generated when food has to travel great distances, more packaging and longer refrigeration is required also.

The CSA program has been available in Woodland for quite some time. How many of us ask ourselves where our food comes from? Does it matter to you whether the tomatoes you are buying come from Costa Rica - or twenty miles down the road? Do you expect fresh grapes to be available, regardless of the season? Our grocery stores are providing us with what consumers demand.

We have all heard quite a bit lately about climate change. The kind of food we buy and consume can make an impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Eating “lower on the food chain” takes less energy to produce, and if you eat food produced locally, less energy is involved in transporting it to the store. Freshly picked produce has more vitamins and minerals than packaged fruits and vegetables that have traveled a long distance.

Placing more emphasis on energy efficient agricultural methods, like smaller-scale organic agriculture, and on local production wherever possible reduces some major threats such as the destruction of, and pollution of our soils and water. With the recent hikes in gas and food prices we can help to strengthen our own community by

buying locally grown food whenever possible and reducing our consumption of meat and dairy products. When you do this you are helping to strengthen the community by investing your food dollar closer to home.

The direct marketing of a CSA gives farmers and growers the fairest return on their products and keeps food dollars in the local community while contributing to the maintenance and establishment of regional food production and encouraging communication and cooperation among farmers. A CSA supports the biodiversity of our region and the diversity of agriculture through the preservation of small farms producing a wide variety of crops.

Here’s the good news bottom-line. By making the switch to mostly regionally raised, organic food - each of us can reduce our personal food greenhouse gas budget by at least 60 percent. That’s the equivalent savings of about 200 gallons of oil annually.

Michael Pollan, author of *In Defense of Food*, states

**“Eat Food. Not too Much. Mostly plants.”**

After signing up for your CSA and taking delivery of your first box try this: take a few fresh carrots and grate them into a bowl; add a small

handful of chopped cilantro; and a tablespoon of finely chopped green garlic. Drizzle on a little olive oil, and the juice of a lemon. Let it set for a few minutes while you contemplate your achievement, then toss with some fresh picked lettuces. Serve with fresh baked bread and a local white wine. As you savor the fresh flavor contemplate this old Aesop fable, relishing in the fact that you are doing your part to remain united with your community.

*“A farmer who had a quarrelsome family called his sons and told them to lay a bunch of sticks before him. Then, after laying the sticks parallel to one another and binding them, he challenged his sons, one after one, to pick up the bundle and break it. They all tried, but in vain. Then, untying the bundle, he gave them the sticks to break one by one. This they did with the greatest of ease. Then said the father; “Thus, my sons, as long as you remain united, you are a match for anything, but differ and separate, and you are undone.”*

**To find a nearby Community Supported Agriculture supplier log on to [www.Capayvalleyvision.org](http://www.Capayvalleyvision.org) or call 530-796-4160.**





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](http://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  
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**Calendar 2008**

**May 8** Woodland City Council Candidates Forum, 7 pm, Woodland City Hall, 300 First St.

**May 13** Board Meeting, 6 pm, 607 North St, Tuleyome office. Potluck.

**May 14** 5th District Yolo County Supervisor and Superior Court Judge Candidates Forum, 7 pm, Woodland Community and Senior Center, 2001 East Street, Woodland

**May 15** 8th Assembly District Candidate Forum, 7 pm, Woodland Community and Senior Center, 2001 East Street, Woodland

**June 3** Statewide Direct Primary Election