

# LWV THE VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARIN COUNTY

VOLUME XXXIX ISSUE 1

November/December 2021

## Monthly Meetings Continue on Zoom

**Monday, November 1**  
**11:30am -1:00pm**

### November Monthly Meeting



Speaker: Lynda Roberts, Marin  
County Registrar of Voters



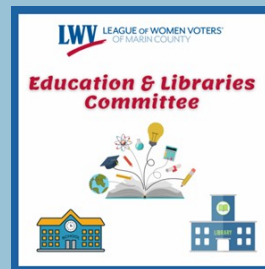
Lynda will talk with us about:  
The Voter's Choice Act in Marin County  
The Recall Election Recap  
New California Voting Legislation  
with Q & A to follow

Voter Service Team Leaders will share recent and  
upcoming voting & election work as well  
as opportunities for members to be involved.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

**Monday, December 6**  
**11:30am -1:00pm**

### December Monthly Meeting



**"Pathways with Intention:  
Building Meaningful Career  
Education and Workforce  
Development Programs at  
College of Marin"**

Presented by panelists

Alicia Bright, Director of Nursing  
Katheryn Horton, Director of Workforce Programs  
Anna Pilloton, Director of School and Community  
Partnerships  
Alina Varona, Dean of Career Education and  
Workforce Development

In anticipation of an alarming skilled-workforce  
shortfall, California has prioritized career education,  
with a focus on comprehensive educational pathways  
to in-demand jobs.

Join us to learn about College of Marin's vital efforts  
to advance career education and equity across the  
county.

Hear about COM's

- ◆ innovative career and workforce development partnerships,
- ◆ dual-enrollment programs, and
- ◆ pathways to jobs in industries like healthcare, construction, technology, and more.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

December Monthly Meeting  
**COLLEGE OF  
MARIN**

**Workforce Development and Career Education at College of Marin**

By 2030, California will experience a shortfall of nearly 1.8 million workers. Nearly 70% of this workforce gap will be in higher skill positions that offer above average wages and require a post-secondary degree. In Marin County, this gap is compounded by retirements and by residents moving out of the region.

Recent legislation has shifted K-12 focus areas toward prioritizing career education, comprehensive educational pathways, and deeper integration of both college and career readiness. However, high schools are unable to meet the tremendous gap in preparing students to enter the workforce when they graduate. And, although, around 76% of the students in Marin County who graduate from a comprehensive high school attend some form of post-secondary education, nearly 24% (or approximately 542 students) disconnect from post-secondary education entirely.

The State has budgeted of over \$320 million to expand pathway-focused workforce development strategies. This means more resources and opportunities to better support students, with specific attention to those disconnected and displaced from education and workforce participation.

Join us as we share College of Marin’s efforts to advance meaningful career education across the county, and hear about the ways in which the college works to advance equity through innovative career education and workforce development partnerships, programs, dual enrollment, and comprehensive educational pathways leading to in-demand jobs in industries like healthcare, construction, technology, and more.

**December Monthly Meeting Panelists**



Alicia Bright, Director of Nursing



Katheryn Horton, Director of Workforce Programs



Anna Pilloton, Director of School and Community Partnerships



Alina Varona, Dean of Career Education and Workforce Development

## CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

### GOODBYE 2021; HELLO 2022 – OUR WORK CONTINUES



As 2021 comes to an end, so does the Climate Change Speaker Series. November 16 will be the final installment of the series, taking a look at “Marin’s Report Card.” Exactly how is Marin doing in addressing climate change-related threats?

Join us on ZOOM on November 16, 11AM for a full overview of Marin towns/cities and county-wide and to learn more about what you can do as an advocate.

[REGISTER HERE](#) for Nov. 16 Meeting

**Did you miss a past Climate Change Speaker Series presentation or would you like to revisit a particular topic?** You can view the recordings on the League’s YouTube channel, under the “Climate Change Speaker Series” playlist.

[Click Here to Find Past Recordings](#)

This is a list of the 2021 Climate Change Speaker Series presentations:

- #1 “Climate Change 101”
- #2 “Mitigating Inequity in Future Climate Change Driven Disasters”
- #3 “Climate Change and the League: Its Positions and Actions”
- #4 “Drawdown: Marin”
- #5 “Drought and Wildfires”
- #6 “Climate Action Planning in Marin”
- #7 “Sea Level Rise and Flooding, Part 1: Assessing the Threats”
- #8 “Sea Level Rise and Flooding, Part 2: Adapting to the Threats”
- #9 “Marin’s Climate Change Report Card”

### KICKING OFF 2022

Understanding human behavior at the deepest levels is no longer an option. **It’s an imperative.**

The ecological challenges we face can feel scary and insurmountable. It’s time to transform our care and concern into powerful action and innovation.

Psychology holds the key to unlocking action on the greatest challenges facing humanity today. It’s about being human. We do not have to be superheroes, or super-powered. But we are--each one of us--being called on today to access new capacities in how we meet our planetary crisis. The very good news is that we each have these abilities, regardless of background or discipline.

**Plan to join us on January 10<sup>th</sup> for the Monthly Member Meeting when Renee Lertzman**, researcher, educator and eco-engagement strategist, applies psychological insights to change our approach to the environmental crisis. Renee uses frameworks and methods that empower people to take action and create impact on climate and sustainability issues and beyond.

[REGISTER HERE](#) for January Monthly Meeting

NOTE: The Climate Change Committee will not meet in December.



## VOTER SERVICE UPDATE

### A Shoutout to all the Members who Helped

On September 1st, we collaborated with Dominican University on a lecture by Alison Howard, Chair of the Division of Public Affairs. She presented “To Recall or not to Recall,” an excellent lecture on the history of the recall process and how it works.

**Ann Wakeley and Robin Diederich explained the League’s work** in general as well as specific information about the 2021 Governor Recall Election process. **Thanks to Jackie Dagg for facilitating.**

Voter Service is hosting the November Member Meeting on November 1 (coincidentally Election Hero Day!) See page 1 for details.

Our Voter Service team leaders are looking ahead to 2022 and are planning for voter education and outreach related to the June 7 Statewide Primary Election and November 8 Statewide General Election. We will be sharing new opportunities for our members to participate in voter education and outreach including leadership roles.

We are looking forward to the pandemic easing and allowing us to do more work in person.

### ELECTIONS

On September 14, California had its first gubernatorial recall election in 20 years. An extremely short timeline presented new challenges for educating voters in Marin County.

By gathering information from our Marin County Elections Dept., the Secretary of State, our state League (LWVCEF) and other trusted sources, we put together a voter guide and other helpful resources. To maximize our impact, we asked our membership (you) and our community allies and partners to share with their networks. We also utilized social media and our website.

The Recall Election was scheduled on September 14, but most voters returned their vote by mail ballots early. Marin County’s turnout was the highest in the state at 76.57%.

Thanks to **Mary Caruso** and **Joyce Rhodes** who helped distribute our “Your Vote Matters/Voter’s

Edge” signs. **Cindy Wagner** and **Mary Caruso** assisted in the Logic and Accuracy Test of the ballot counting equipment

Jackie Dagg and Robin Diederich, Voter Education

### CANDIDATE FORUM

The November 2 Special Election has one contest – a vacated Tiburon Town Council seat. November 2 is the last day to vote, with all registered voters receiving a ballot in the mail. Voter education was online via social media and our website.

Thanks go to **Nancy Bell** for coordinating a virtual candidate forum. **Vida Harband** and **Becky Bingea** participated in the Logic and Accuracy test of the ballot counting equipment.

**Becky Bingea** worked to make sure our county election information is accurately posted on Voter’s Edge for the Recall and November 2 Special Election.

### VOTER REGISTRATION

Under the terms of a contract with the County Elections Department, the League is charged with making sure certain sites are stocked with registration forms. These sites include post offices, city halls, libraries, and some community centers in all cities and localities in Marin County. We also contact Assisted Living facilities to provide forms as requested.

California Registration forms were revised this year due to the passage of Prop. 17 which now grants state parolees the right to vote. As a result, all old registration forms were out of compliance and had to be destroyed and replaced with new forms. Our steady group of volunteers who work on the County contract successfully completed this task.

Thanks to registration form distributors **Judy Baldasari, Katherine Bonnetti, Mary Caruso, Linda Deer, Gloria Elizabeth, Anne Layzer, Julie Monson, Kay Noguchi, Suki Sennett and Barbara Strong.**

Thanks to **Ann Batman** for her invaluable help ordering voter registration information cards, creating flyers and sending out eblasts AND to **Jackie Dagg** for leading this team and doing whatever it takes to get the work done!

## School Elections Ambassador Program (SEAP)



### Are you a leader?

#### Join the Marin County Student Elections Ambassador Program

Learn about voting and get your friends and classmates involved!

Over the past few months, our League has worked to contact schools, community-based organizations, and faculty members to recruit students for the SEAP program. We currently have 18 participants and have been conducting ongoing training sessions. Please take a

look at the information and videos about this exciting program on our website [HERE](#). Thanks to members Pam Cook, Lynn Dooley and Vida Harband for their enthusiastic work!



## Keep Up With What is Going on in the League

Website - Keep using our website to access information about our League and beyond! Check out our NEWSROOM, TAKE ACTION and REDISTRICTING tabs today!

If you have a few more minutes, take a look at GOVERNMENT - useful information about how to connect with your representatives and Civic FAQs. Please also share our website with your family and friends - Marinlww.org !!



From the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area

### ABOUT THE BAY AREA MONITOR

Launched in 1975, the *Bay Area Monitor* is published by the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area and primarily covers transportation, air quality, water, open space, and land use issues in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area.

For 46 years, the *Monitor* was available in hard copy, distributed freely as a paper magazine primarily to elected and appointed officials, government staff, business and community leaders, non-profit affiliates, library patrons, engaged residents, and League members. In July 2021, the *Monitor* transitioned to a digital-only format.

To sign up for our email list or follow us on social media, please visit our [Connect page](#).

### A Sample Article -



## SHOULD WE USE OPEN SPACE TO HELP SOLVE THE HOUSING CRISIS?

Nearly 25 years ago, the U.S. Navy transferred more than 400 acres on Point Molate to the City of Richmond. People have been fighting over them ever since. A core point of contention is whether or not to build housing on part of this headland, which includes one of the few undeveloped shorelines in the East Bay. Where the city envisions a mix of housing, a shoreline park, and hillside trails, opponents envision a regional park all the way from the sandy beach to the 400-foot bluffs.

[Read More](#)

## **Take Action: Tell President Biden to Champion Federal Voting Rights Reforms**

The Biden-Harris Administration rose into office only after the historic 2020 election achieved record-shattering voter participation and necessary expansions to voter access during a deadly pandemic. But now those very same expansive innovations and reforms for voting are under direct assault across the country. The nation is on the precipice of sliding back into an era of Jim Crow, a racial caste system that legitimized anti-blackness and thwarted multiculturalism. Yet the Biden-Harris administration has used few of the tools at its disposal to champion federal voting rights reforms.

Now is not the time to back down, but to surge forward. Federal voting rights protections cannot wait and are vital to saving the soul of our democracy. The League is calling for the White House to harness its substantial power and in-

fluence to lead the fight for voting rights reforms that will:

- Protect and enforce voting rights;
- Address the historical barriers to voting;
- Provide oversight on voting rights violations;
- Hold states and bad actors accountable; and
- Create a democracy that is representative of all Americans.

**Your voice is powerful, now it's time to raise it up to the Oval Office. Call on the Biden-Harris White House to lead this fight to protect the freedom to vote.**

Click [here](#) to send a message

### **More News from the Justice Committee**

#### **November Committee Meeting Speaker**

Thursday, November 11 at 10am (see p. 7)

Laura McMahon (she/they) is the Pro Bono Manager at Legal Aid of Marin, where they lead all aspects of volunteer engagement, including programmatic operations and recruitment. Prior to moving to the Bay Area in June 2021 to take on this role, Laura was a Public Defender in Baltimore, Maryland for two years. From 2015-2019, Laura worked at FreeState Justice, a civil legal services and policy advocacy organization serving LGBTQ+ Marylanders. Laura attended the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law and completed their undergraduate studies at Smith College. Laura lives in San Francisco with their family and cat, Henry.

#### **December Committee Meeting Speaker**

Thursday, December 9 at 10 a.m.

Our guest speaker is Joana Castro-Simonini, Managing Attorney of Canal Alliance. Joana will talk with us about Canal Alliance's direct services and advocacy that they provide for immigrants and their families.



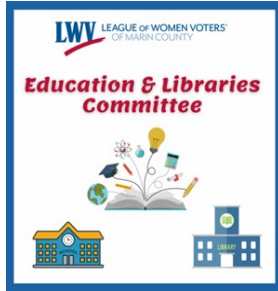
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Jackie Dagg  
Robin Diederich  
Kevin Hagerty  
Vida Harband  
Linda Jackson

Anne Layzer  
Barbara Strong  
Cindy Wagner  
Nancy Weber



### Education/Library Committee Meeting

Friday, November 19, 10am on Zoom



Speaker: Diana Lopez,  
Branch Manager, Senior  
Librarian, Marin City  
Library

Come hear about the partnership between MCFL/Marin City Branch and the Sausalito School District, including the revamping of the school libraries, and the Marin City Friends continued support of early childhood literacy programs.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



### Justice Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 11, 10am on Zoom



Speaker: Laura McMahon,  
(she/they) Pro Bono Man-  
ager at Legal Aid of Marin

Laura will give us an overview of Legal Aid of Marin's (LAM) work. Serving the Marin community for 63 years, LAM provides free legal services to income-eligible and age-eligible residents of Marin County in the areas of housing law, employment law, the Marin Community Court program, and income support, among other general legal services.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

**More Committee News on p. 6**