

September Monthly Meeting

Monday, September 12
11:30am-1:00pm on Zoom

[Register Here](#)



**Reproductive Rights –
The Path Forward**
a webinar, co-hosted by the Justice and
Health Committees

The esteemed panelists are reproductive experts with years of activism and advocacy experience.

Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris represents the 74th Assembly District (Orange County Coast).

Shannon Olivieri Hovis (she/her) is the Director of NARAL.

Jessica Pinckney Gil (she/her) is the executive director of Access Reproduction Justice.

Bethany Golden is a Registered Nurse and a Certified Nurse Midwife.

See p. 2 & 3 for full biographies



LWVMC Fall Kickoff 2022

Saturday, October 1
2-4:00pm

The Key Room,
Homeward Bound,
1385 Hamilton Pkwy, Novato

Program: Dispelling the Myths of Homelessness

Panelists

Mary Kay Sweeney: Co-Executive Director,
Homeward Bound Marin

Robert Burns: Program Director for Jonathan's
Place Adult Shelter

LaSaunda Tate: Chief Operating Officer, Home-
ward Bound Marin

Lynn Murphy: Mental Health Liaison, San
Rafael Police Department

Carrie Sager: Homeless Management Infor-
mation System Coordinator, Marin County

Presentation of the Community Service Award

Honoring **Julie Monson** and **Suki Sennett** for
their many years of inspiring leadership and
service to our League.

Watch your email for more details!

See p. 4 for more information



October Monthly Meeting

Monday October 3

11:30am-1:00pm on Zoom

Get ready to vote.

Join the Voter Services Pros & Cons Team as they present the pros & cons of this year's seven State Ballot Propositions.

Hear the story behind each Proposition and what a **YES** vote means and what a **No** vote means.
Don't go to the polls without hearing both sides of every story.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

The League of Women Voters of Marin County presents Reproductive Rights – The Path Forward

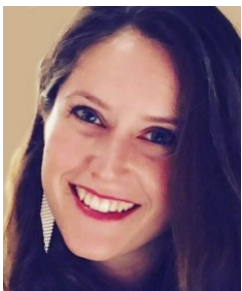
With the Dobbs decision and the overturning of Roe, SCOTUS eliminated five decades of a U.S. constitutional right to abortion, and millions of people lost their right to bodily autonomy and privacy. In the U.S. about half of the states are expected to enact bans on abortion or more restrictive gestational limits on the procedure. Here in California, Prop. 1, if approved by the voters in the November election, will codify fundamental reproductive rights in its state Constitution. When women and those who can become pregnant can no longer make reproductive decisions for their own bodies, they are no longer equal individuals in our democracy. This harm will exacerbate societal inequalities and fall disproportionately on people of color and low-income communities already experiencing inequitable barriers and limited access to adequate health care services. The League of Women Voters believes every US resident should have access to affordable, quality health care, including birth control and the privacy to make reproductive choices. As an ally of reproductive rights organizations, we know that when individuals have safe access to health care including abortion, they can make decisions that are best for their lives and their families and communities thrive. Reproductive Justice is essential to our democracy.

PANELISTS

The esteemed panelists are reproductive rights experts with years of activism and advocacy experience.



Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris represents the 74th Assembly District which includes South Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Laguna Woods, Costa Mesa and most of Irvine. Cottie is the author of AB 1918 California Reproductive Health Service Corps which establishes a program for the purposes of recruiting, training, and retaining a diverse workforce of reproductive health care professionals who will be part of reproductive health care teams to work in underserved areas. Cottie is a successful businesswoman, community leader, wife and mom. Cottie grew up in San Diego County in a hardworking family. Her stepfather was a union machinist and her mom was a homemaker who worked various odd jobs to help make ends meet. Cottie is a proud product of Southern California public schools. Thanks to good schools, great teachers, determination and hard work, Cottie went on to Yale University where she double majored in Economics and English. Over the past 20 years, Cottie has enjoyed a successful career in finance and marketing. She has built businesses and led teams at Fortune 500 corporations, small companies and start-ups. Cottie has lived and worked in Washington DC, South Africa, London and, for the past 7 years, back in Southern California. Cottie lives in Laguna Beach with her family – her husband Colin, two sons Dylan and Hayden, and their rescue dog Flounder.



Shannon Olivieri Hovis (she/her) is a policy expert and political strategist who has spent her career fighting for civil and human rights, with fifteen years of experience as a change maker in state and local government, the classroom, electoral campaigns, and mission-driven advocacy. She joined NARAL Pro-Choice California as the Assistant Director in July 2018 and became the Director in April 2019. Under her leadership, NARAL Pro-Choice California is a founding and steering committee of the California Future of Abortion Council, leading a legislative package of 16 bills in 2022, including a constitutional amendment to specifically enshrine the right to abortion and contraception in the California state Constitution. Currently, NARAL Pro-Choice California has action councils in the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, Orange County, Sacramento and San Diego. During Shannon’s tenure, NARAL Pro-Choice California’s membership has grown from 230,000 to 371,400. Previously, Shannon worked at the California Department of Justice

in the Civil Rights section and as Senior Policy Advisor to then-Attorney General Kamala Harris, where she managed California’s Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board and drafted California’s stop data regulations to govern an estimated fifteen million stops made by law enforcement annually. Born in San Francisco and raised in the Bay Area, Shannon is a member of San Francisco’s GLIDE Memorial Church choir, a musical theater performer with the company “Drunk Drag Broadway” at SF Oasis, and an advocate for LGBTQ and women’s rights as a bisexual woman. Shannon currently sits on the Advisory Board for TEACH, an organization that trains clinicians to provide abortion care and cultivates the next generation of reproductive health champions. She previously served as an appointed delegate to the California Democratic Party for Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi. Shannon holds Bachelor’s degrees in Social Sciences and Theatre from the University of Southern California, a Master of Science for Teachers from Pace University, and a Master of Public Policy from the University of California, Berkeley. Shannon, her husband Victor Olivieri, Ph.D., and their daughter Catalina reside in San Francisco.

Jessica Pinckney Gil (she/her) is the executive director of ACCESS REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE, a Reproductive



Justice organization funding abortion and other reproductive healthcare. ACCESS removes barriers and builds the power of Californians to achieve reproductive justice. Jessica oversees the organization’s work to combine direct services, community education, and policy advocacy to promote real reproductive options and access to quality health care for people in California. No other organization in the state provides the same range of support for people considering or seeking an abortion. She returns to her home state of California after living for nearly a decade in Washington, DC, where she worked on federal policy related to social justice issues including intimate partner violence, racial justice, gender justice and reproductive justice. Jessica holds an M.A. in Government with a concentration in Political Communications from John’s Hopkins University and a B.A. in Political Science with an emphasis in Public Service from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for URGE: Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity, the Guttmacher Institute, and SPARK Reproductive Justice NOW (Board Chair) and the Advisory Boards for the California Abortion Alliance, Black Feminist Future's Constellation Network and the California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom and remains a relentless advocate and activist in her spare time.

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Bethany Golden is a Registered Nurse and a Certified Nurse Midwife with deep clinical experience and knowledge of comprehensive reproductive health, family planning, and abortion. In 2019, on behalf of ANSIRH (Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health)/Bixby Center at UCSF, Bethany interviewed front-line abortion leaders in over 40 clinics about their capacity and readiness for clinical expansion in "protected" access states in anticipation of the protections under Roe v Wade may be weakened. As a clinician, consultant, and lecturer, and as part of research teams, she has worked in clinics, hospitals, universities, and villages in New York City, SF Bay Area, Chicago, Fiji, and Nicaragua. She consults in non-profit reproductive healthcare and tech companies around operations, strategy, and partnership formation. In 2002, she co-founded and continues to operate ICAS/Juntos Adelante, a not-for-profit that focuses on health and human rights in Nicaragua. She was awarded the Martin Luther King award and 90 nurses in 90 years by the Yale School of Nursing. She is currently a pre-doctoral scholar for Abortion Care Training Incubator for Outstanding Nurse Scholars (ACTIONS) at UCSF, policy advisor for TEACH, sponsor of AB1918, and AN-SIRH’s lead coordinator for implementation of AB1918. Most importantly, she officiated 7 weddings, loves the great outdoors with family and friends and enjoys dancing.

FALL KICKOFF - Dispelling the Myths of Homelessness

What are some common myths about homelessness? How do these impact our perceptions of the needs of people who are un-housed and the solutions to homelessness? Join us for a panel discussion featuring five respected community leaders who are deeply involved in efforts to end homeless in Marin County. Learn about what is happening right now in our community, what is planned for the future, and how you can help.

Meet our panelists.

Our panelists bring a range of experience, expertise, and knowledge to their work. They share the goal of ensuring effective services and appropriate, stable housing for individuals who have experienced homelessness.



Mary Kay Sweeney, PhD
Co-Executive Director, Homeward Bound Marin
Mary Kay has worked for decades—passionately and collaboratively—to end homelessness in Marin County. With an inspired staff and dedicated community partners, she has led

Homeward Bound Marin in a phenomenal rise to one of the most effective agencies in Marin County. She has received numerous rewards for her leadership, including the LWVMC Community Service Award in 2019!



Robert Burns
Program Director for Jonathan's Place Adult Shelter
Robert brings lived experience to his work. After years of homelessness, he found shelter and then permanent housing through Homeward Bound's services. He became a staff member five years ago,

and now begins his new position as Program Director for Jonathan's Place.



Lynn Murphy
Mental Health Liaison, San Rafael Police Department
Lynn is currently the Mental Health Outreach Provider for the San Rafael Police Department. She specializes in connecting seriously mentally ill homeless clients with services in

Marin County, working collaboratively with individuals and groups throughout the county to meet the needs of her clients.



Carrie Sager
Homeless Management Information System Coordinator, Marin County HHS
Carrie coordinates the Homeless Management Information Center for Marin Health and Human Services. The computerized system allows agencies to keep a record of the characteristics and service needs of

persons who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. This resource helps service providers coordinate care and better serve their clients.



LaSaunda Tate
Chief Operating Officer, Homeward Bound Marin

LaSaunda has more than 15 years of nonprofit leadership experience. She previously served as director of SparkPoint Marin, helping low- and moderate-income clients achieve financial self-sufficiency. As Homeward Bound's Director

of Housing, she oversees human resources, compliance and office systems, with an equity approach to housing.

LWVMC Endorses Library Parcel Tax Renewal Measures

Marin County Free Library Parcel Tax Measure B



Marin County Free Library District residents first approved a parcel tax to support library services in 2010. In June 2014, 78.54% of voters approved a renewal for another nine years, through 2024.

The proposed renewal will increase the current tax from \$57.56 to \$98 for a period of nine years, with an annual cost of living adjustment not to exceed 3%. It continues the requirement for an independent citizen oversight committee and senior exemptions. This measure needs a 2/3 majority to pass.

If renewed, the revenue from this tax will provide critical funding for the library in years ahead. It will prevent library closures; maintain hours; grow the book and digital collections; and provide programs, including public education support, for children, teens, seniors, and people with disabilities. The money will also be used to enhance and upgrade library facilities and improve ADA accessibility. This funding cannot be taken by the state.

In addition to endorsing this measure, the LWVMC signed the ballot argument along with Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Wyna Barron, President of Friends of Marin City Library; Eric Lucan, Mayor, City of Novato; and Dave Cort, Executive Director San Geronimo Community Center.

No ballot arguments have been filed against Measure B.

[Learn more](#)

Town of San Anselmo Library Parcel Tax Measure H



San Anselmo, facing a budget shortfall in 2010, passed a \$49 parcel tax for five years that was renewed in 2015 at a rate of \$54 for nine years (2024) with 3.0% annual cost of living increases. The current rate is \$68.40.

Measure H proposes to renew the tax at \$70 per parcel for another nine years, with an annual 3% cost of living increase. The funds will be controlled locally, within dependent citizen oversight with exemptions for residents with low incomes.

If passed by 2/3 of voters, Measure H will maintain library operating hours, increase book/eBook collections, maintain programs for children, families, seniors, and people with disabilities, and maintain free internet and access to computers/technology.

The ballot measure was signed by Alexis Fineman, Mayor, Town of San Anselmo; Ford Greene, Council Member, San Anselmo; Suellen Lamorta, Age-Friendly San Anselmo; Scott Fletcher, Town Books Volunteer and Library Advisory Member; and Sarah Sander, Town Books Volunteer and former Hidden Valley School Librarian.

No ballot arguments have been filed against Measure H.

Please help keep this valuable community resource working for everyone by voting YES on either Measure B or Measure H, depending on your residency.



Sue Ream, Education and Libraries

Native Land and Nation Acknowledgment

In September, 2022, the board will be voting on a new protocol for adding a Native Land and Nation Acknowledgment to introductions made at our public meetings. While land and nation acknowledgments are rooted in ancient and current Native traditions and protocols, this new practice of non-native organizations acknowledging the land they live and work on is a gesture toward creating a more equitable and inclusive community.

PROCESS

The board took up the work of creating a Native Land Acknowledgment early in 2022. We researched other land acknowledgments among leagues across the United States and in organizations in Marin County. From that research, we looked to what was in our hearts and what we thought was important to acknowledge.

Our goal was to create an ongoing relationship with the Coast Miwok Nation, as represented by the present-day community of the Federally Recognized Tribe, The Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria ("TFIGR"). TFIGR has a strong commitment to voting for all its members and the surrounding community. After we drafted the language, it was approved by the Board for submission to the Tribal Council of TFIGR. We now have the language (below) with input from the Board and TFIGR that will be voted on in our September Board Meeting.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Once approved, we will open public meetings with a reading of the Acknowledgment. We will create a webpage with more information and links to follow our process and educational opportunities. There is much to be learned about the history of genocide and brutality the settlers in the US, and in California in particular, perpetrated against the Indians here. There is also much to be learned about the thriving Indigenous communities living in Marin, Sonoma and the San Francisco Bay Area.

A land and Nation acknowledgment is a step, but it is only the beginning.

THE LAND AND NATION ACKNOWLEDGMENT

"The League of Women Voters of Marin County live and meet on the ancestral, traditional lands of the Coast Miwok people.

We acknowledge and honor the Coast Miwok Nation and are grateful for the present-day community of the Federally Recognized Tribe, The Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, comprised of direct descendants of Coast Miwok and other contemporary Indigenous groups who live and work in Marin.

We acknowledge the deep harm done by settler-colonialism through religious and governmental groups and individuals. They attempted to erase the Coast Miwok and other Indigenous nations by stealing their land, violating tribal sovereignty, and destroying their culture.

We also acknowledge our own loss of the wisdom of the land and water protectors as we now face the disruption of thousands of years of good stewardship of this land. We commit to creating a culture of honor. We respect the enduring relationship that exists between Coast Miwok and Indigenous peoples and their traditional territories. We strive to be good guests of the Coast Miwok people as we live side by side in this paradise, we now call Marin."

Pat Beaupre Becker

VOTER EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Busy Days for the Voter Education and Outreach Team!

After our July Voter Service Call to Action, we added several new, enthusiastic members to our team! Our work is year-round, just busier around election time. Join us any time!

We've been busy with the county contract voter registration work, preparing and gathering educational materials and resources to share with our community partners, collaborating with the elections dept, planning tabling events and more!

Some of the materials and resources we are sharing are Easy Voter Guides, Voter's Edge bookmarks, voter registration info cards and more.

We are supporting the work of the Marin County Elections Department more than ever. They are focused on refining their election messaging around the recent changes in our county elections (Voter's Choice Act) and look to us and their other outreach partners to share the information.

Marin County voters have More Days and More Ways to Vote! Voters choose when, where, and how to vote. [Did you get your election information mailer last month?](#)

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

We continue to increase our voter engagement impact through our outreach work - building and maintaining strong relationships with a wide variety of community organizations including Canal Alliance, College of Marin and the Marin County Free Library.

Please bookmark our website for election and voting information and tell your friends! Most helpful tabs are [CALENDAR](#), [VOTER INFO](#), and [NOV.8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION](#).

DEMOCRACY BEGINS WITH YOU!

The November 8, 2022 General Election is right around the corner. Here are five ways to get yourself ready to vote and then share with others.

- ◆ Check your voter status or register to vote. RegisterToVote.ca.gov .
- ◆ Sign up for free ballot tracking. WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov (ballottrax)
- ◆ Bookmark VotersEdge.org, our online voter guide hosted by LWVCEF with local info posted by our League. Get the facts before you vote! [In Spanish too!](#)
- ◆ Follow us on social media and share our posts (@LWVMarin on FB, IG and Twitter)
- ◆ Ask 5 people to do #1 - #4!

Reminders: Elections are run by officials in each state and county; [LWV is always nonpartisan](#) and our voter service work is unbiased.

Robin Diederich, votereducation@marinlwv.org

Pat Beaupre Becker, outreach@marinlwv.org

WEBSITE MAKEOVER

We've been working on the website this summer, to make it more useful to our members. Some de-cluttering and reorganizing along with a change in perspective.

We'll continue to have information helpful to the public and plenty of election-specific info for voters, but otherwise we want the website to be an effective resource for our members to do their work and access information about our League activities.

One big change is that there is now one [CALENDAR](#). We will post some community and civic-related events, but the [CALENDAR](#) will be focused on our League events – Member Meetings, committee meetings, Fall Kickoff, etc.

Go ahead, take a look and bookmark MARINLWV.ORG today!

Robin Diederich and Scott McKown,
webmaster@marinlwv.org

League of Women Voters of Marin County
4340 Redwood Hwy. Suite F-133
San Rafael, CA 94903

Officers:

President: Ann Wakeley
Vice-president: Sue Ream
Secretary: Laurie Nardone
Treasurer: Laurie Nardone

Directors:

Pat Becker
Becky Bingea
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Doug Cooper
Kevin Hagerty
Vida Harband
Anne Layzer
Barbara Strong
Cindy Wagner
Nancy Weber

ART SHOW: HER STORY IN AMERICA

The [HER STORY IN AMERICA](#) art show is made up of portraits of instrumental American women who have helped this country move forward politically, socially, and culturally to celebrate the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment of the Constitution - allowing all women to vote.

A curated group of female artists were asked to choose one American woman who resonated with them and then create a 12" x 12" portrait of her.

[Learn about The Art Show at the Bay Model Visitor Center \(thru Sept. 11\) HERE](#)

[Learn more about "Her Story in America" here.](#)

THE LEGACY OF MARIN CITY - A CALIFORNIA STORY FROM 1942 TO 1962

Currently at the Marin Center Exhibit Hall's Bartolini Gallery is a unique and must-see celebration of Marin City's 80th Anniversary. Marin County Cultural Services and the Marin Cultural Association have put together an interactive, historical and immersive experience that features memorabilia from Black shipyard workers who worked at Sausalito's Marinship shipyard during World War II and were housed in what is now Marin City. The exhibition displays never-before-seen photos and articles about the Black experience in Marin City from 1942 to 1962.

Admission is free. It will run until November 1, open 9am to 4pm. Closed weekends. The Bartolini Galley is located at 10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael in the Exhibit Hall/Showcase Theater.

[Exhibit-Bartolini Gallery \(marincity80.com\)](#)

[Exhibits celebrate and explore history of Marin City \(marinij.com\)](#)