

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TULARE COUNTY

“... To promote informed citizen participation ...”

THE VOTER

OCTOBER 2016

<http://tularecounty.ca.lwvnet.org>

LWVTC Calendar

- October 5** 6:00 pm
Candidates Forum, County Supervisor Dist. 1; at Exeter Memorial Bldg., 324 N. Kaweah Ave, Exeter; sponsored by *The Foothills Sun-Gazette*
- October 6** 12:30–3:15 pm
Voter registration at Sequoia High School (contact Terry Cornelius)
- October 8** 7:30 am–noon
Voter registration at Farmers Market (contact Mary Ann)
- October 10** 7:00 pm
Kaweah-Delta Health Care District Candidates Forum; hosts are 210 Connect & *Visalia Times-Delta*; 210 W. Center Ave., Visalia
- October 11** 9:45–11:00 am
Voter registration at El Diamante H. S. (contact Terry)
- October 12** 7:45 am–11:00 am
Voter registration at VTEC H. S. (contact Terry)
- October 12** 6:00 pm
Town Hall with Devon Mathis; Exeter Memorial Bldg., 324 N. Kaweah Ave.; sponsored by *The Foothills Sun-Gazette*
- October 13** 9:30 am
Board meeting at the home of Dale Simmons
- October 14** 8:15 am–3:30 pm
Voter registration at Golden West H. S. (contact Terry)
- October 15** 7:30 am–noon
Voter registration at Farmers Market (contact Mary Ann)
- OCTOBER 18** 11:30 a.m.
Unit Meeting at Sa Très Bien; Program: Overview of State Props; RSVP by Oct. 14
- October 20** 8:30 am–noon
Voter registration at Redwood H. S. (contact Terry)
- October 24** 8:30 am–3:30 pm
Voter registration at V.C.I.S. (Visalia Charter Independent Study and Online) H. S.

Voter Services Action

VOTERS TURN OUT FOR CANDIDATES NIGHT

By Dale Simmons



LWVTC event organizers Dale Simmons and Mary Lou Burbery flank *Visalia Times-Delta* editor Pete Wevurski between sessions.

Some 180 Visalia voters were in for a treat on September 29. A huge “Thank-you” to Pete Wevurski, Executive editor, and Eric Woomer, Editor/Coach, of the *Visalia Times-Delta* for their part in making that Candidates Night a reality! AAUW and the Tulare-Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce were also cosponsors.

The forum—at the Veterans Memorial Bldg.—was set up in two sessions. The first half was traditional, with questions created and posed by our moderator, Paul Hurley, board member of The Maddy Institute at C.S.U. Fresno. Phoebe Taylor (LWVTC) was our timer. For this part, the Visalia City Council candidates took to the stage and answered questions about homelessness, Measure N, the local economy, air quality and road quality and congestion easing. Then, the V.U.S.D. Board of Trustees candidates had their opportunity to answer questions **SEE FORUM P. 4**

Lunch Reservations

Sue Sa’s Club House has had a rustic-chic make-over. The deli has been renamed **Left of Center** (get it?), and the meeting room is now known as: **Sa Très Bien.**

Also, lunch is now \$15.

Contact: **Mary Ann Bringhamst** on or before Fri. **October 14.**
newellgb@hotmail.com
or 732-1251



Moderator Paul Hurley questions V.U.S.D. Area 5 candidates, Michael Washam, Patricia Griswold and Niessen Foster. in the first session.

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- October 26** 7:00 pm
Movie Night! See p. 7.
- NOVEMBER 8** 7:00am–8:00pm
General Election; (see p. 7 for detailed Election Calendar)
LWVTC **Adopt-a-Poll** effort in Visalia (contact Mary Ann Bringhamst).
- November 10** 9:30 am
Board meeting at Dale’s
- NOVEMBER 15** 11:30 a.m.
Unit Meeting; Program: New Fresno State program at C.O.S.

**THE MONEY-IN-POLITICS/
PROPOSITIONS NEXUS**

Seventeen state propositions sounds like a lot but, according to *Ballotpedia*, 18 has been our average (for even years) over the past two decades. (It's been only five in odd years.) Many voters moan about this, so it's good to review history a bit. Of course, not every state allows for initiatives (26 do not), and California did not always have them. But there was good reason behind this grass roots-empowering idea.

There was a time—a long time—when the Southern Pacific Railroad wielded corrupt control of government. One consequence was that, rather than setting stable rates for all customers, they would charge “whatever the traffic could bear,” effectively garnering all other businesses’ profits for themselves. This became intolerable, so, in 1911, voters came up with an end-run around the thoroughly bribed legislature: citizen-originated initiatives. (That must have been an electric year for our state’s democracy, as California’s women got the vote then, too.)

If you think 17 is bad (and not everyone does), compare our single local Measure N with the 25 local measures San Franciscans must decide!

Also, after 50 years of allowing propositions on the ballot in every election, California is streamlining things. Now props are back to being on general-election ballots only.

It's sobering to realize that some 100 state-level initiatives tried to make it onto our Nov. 8 ballot. Most failed to get the requisite number of signatures in time. This number fluctuates depending on how many votes were cast for governor most recently—8% of turn-out for constitutional amendments; 5% for other measures. So, if you're not a fan of props, you have added incentive to vote in the non-presidential general elections—which are gubernatorial elections—to keep that signature bar high!

Despite it all, money still manages to leap over whatever hurdles are placed in its way. Oil companies and plastics manufacturers, for example, were able to thwart the plastic-bag ban underlying Prop. 67 after that law was passed in California, and subject it to a referendum before it can be enacted. Just for good measure, those same folks came up with a detour: Prop. 65, a classically deceptive scheme that looks eco-friendly on the surface, but would keep these oil-based bags in production while forcing grocery stores to lose money on their sale. It just took \$3 million—chump change to those guys—to hire a professional signature-gathering firm. According to the very handy *Voters Edge* website—a fantastic resource, by the way—100% of the money behind Prop. 65 and against Prop. 67 is from Texas, New Jersey and South Carolina. Is it fair that they have such influence on our state's laws?

**LWVTC Speakers Bureau
“Ballot Measure Briefing”**

Come hear your colleagues sort all those propositions out for you.

By Faye Zeeb

Our League's Speakers Bureau is formed to serve to inform the community on ballot measures each election, and has completed preparations to present the *Pros and Cons* of the 17 California State propositions on the November 8 ballot. Serving on the committee are Ed Bergtholdt, Jeanine Blessing, Terry Cornelius, Phyllis Ogden and Faye Zeeb.



Members of the Speakers Bureau will present a PowerPoint program of the *Pros and Cons* at our Unit Meeting on October 18. Come at 11:45 a.m. to Left of Center/ Sa Très Bien

(formerly Sue Sa's Club House).

The League has received requests from several service clubs, community organizations and other groups in Three Rivers, Porterville and Visalia, as well as C.O.S. (For our schedule, see p. 5.) The Speakers Bureau will be distributing the very informative *Voters Edge* publication provided by the LWVC Education Fund and *MapLight*. It can be downloaded at:



<http://votersedge.org/ca>.

THE VOTER
Monthly newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Tulare County

P.O. Box 3011
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<http://tularecounty.ca.lwvnet.org>

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THE 17 STATE PROPOSITIONS AT A GLANCE

League recommendations:

Support = **S**
Oppose = **O**
Neutral = **N**
No stand = **NS**

These thumbnails (and more detailed versions) are from LWVC's website: lwvc.org/vote/elections/ballot-measures.

PROP. 51: School Bonds. Funding for K-12 and Community College Facilities. S

Authorizes \$9 billion in general obligation bonds for new construction and modernization of K-12 public school facilities; charter schools and vocational education facilities; and California Community Colleges facilities. Fiscal Impact: State costs of about \$8.6 billion interest over 35 years.



PROP. 52: Medi-Cal Hospital Fee Program. NS

Extends indefinitely an existing statute that imposes fees on hospitals to fund Medi-Cal health care services, care for uninsured patients, and children's health coverage. Fiscal Impact: Uncertain.



PROP. 53: Revenue Bonds. Statewide Voter Approval. NS

Requires statewide voter approval before any revenue bonds can be issued or sold by the state for certain projects if the bond amount exceeds \$2 billion. Fiscal Impact: Unknown.



PROP. 54: Legislature. Legislation and Proceedings. S

Prohibits Legislature from passing any bill unless published on Internet for 72 hours before vote. Authorizes use of recordings. Fiscal Impact: One-time costs of \$1-\$2 million and ongoing costs of about \$1 million annually.



PROP. 55: Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare. S

Extends by 12 years the temporary personal income tax increases enacted in 2012 on earnings over \$250,000, with revenues allocated to public schools, and, in certain years, healthcare. Fiscal Impact: Increased state revenues of \$4-\$9 billion annually from 2019-2030.



PROP. 56: Cigarette Tax to Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research and Law Enforcement. N

Increases cigarette tax by \$2.00 per pack, with equivalent increase on other tobacco products and electronic cigarettes. Fiscal Impact: Net state revenue of \$1-\$1.4 billion in 2017-18; potentially lower in future years.



PROP. 57: Criminal Sentences. Parole. Juvenile Proceedings and Sentencing. S

Allows parole consideration for non-violent felons; credits for rehabilitation, good behavior, and education. Provides judge decides whether juvenile will be prosecuted as adult. Fiscal Impact: State savings likely in the \$10s of millions annually; county costs likely a few million dollars annually.

PROP. 58: English Proficiency. Multilingual Education. S

Preserves requirement that public schools ensure students obtain English language proficiency. Requires school districts solicit parent/community input in developing programs. Authorizes districts to establish dual-language immersion programs for both native and non-native English speakers. Fiscal Impact: No notable effect.



PROP. 59: Corporations. Political Spending. Federal Constitutional Protections. O

Asks whether California's elected officials should use their authority to propose and ratify an amendment to the U.S. Constitution overturning the Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. F.E.C.*, which ruled that laws limiting political spending by corporations and unions are unconstitutional. Fiscal Impact: No direct effect on state or local governments.



PROP. 60: Adult Films. Condoms. Health Requirements. NS

Requires adult film performers to use condoms during filming of sexual intercourse. Requires producers to pay for performer vaccinations, testing, and medical examinations. Fiscal Impact: State spending that could exceed \$1 million annually on regulation, partially offset by new fees.



PROP. 61: State Prescription Drug Purchases. Pricing Standards. NS

Prohibits state from buying any prescription drug from a drug manufacturer at price over lowest price paid by U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Exempts managed care programs funded through Medi-Cal. Fiscal Impact: Potential for state savings of an unknown amount.



PROP. 62: Death Penalty. S

Repeals death penalty and replaces it with life imprisonment without possibility of parole. Applies retroactively. Increases the portion of life inmates' wages that may be applied to victim restitution. Fiscal Impact: Net ongoing reduction in state and county criminal justice costs of around \$150 million annually within a few years, although the impact could vary.

PROP. 63: Firearms. Ammunition Sales. S

Requires background check and DoJ authorization to purchase ammunition. Prohibits large-capacity magazines. Establishes procedures for enforcing firearm laws. Requires DoJ's participation in National Instant Criminal Background Check System. Fiscal Impact: Potential increased enforcement costs in the \$10s of millions annually.



PROP. 64: Marijuana Legalization. NS

Legalizes marijuana under state law, for use by adults 21 or older. Provides for industry licensing and establishes standards for marijuana products. Allows local regulation and taxation. Fiscal Impact: Tax revenues ranging from high \$100s of millions to over \$1 billion annually. Reduced criminal justice costs of \$10s of millions annually.



PROP. 65: Carryout Bags. Charges. O

Redirects money collected by grocery and certain other stores through mandated sale of carryout bags. Requires stores to deposit proceeds into a special fund to support specified environmental projects. Fiscal Impact: Potential state revenue of \$10s of millions annually to support certain environmental programs.



PROP. 66: Death Penalty. Procedures. O

Changes procedures governing state court challenges to death sentences. Designates superior court for initial petitions and limits successive petitions. Requires appointed attorneys who take noncapital appeals to accept death penalty appeals. Exempts prison officials from existing regulation process for developing execution methods. Fiscal Impact: Unknown ongoing impact on state court costs. Potential prison savings in the \$10s of millions annually.



PROP. 67: Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags. S

A "Yes" vote approves, and a "No" vote rejects, a statute that prohibits grocery and other stores from providing customers single-use plastic or paper carryout bags, but permits sale of recycled paper bags and reusable bags. Fiscal Impact: Relatively small fiscal effects on state and local governments.

September Program Recap

FROST ON “WHAT IS MEASURE N ALL ABOUT?”

By Newell Bringhurst

On September 22, Visalia City Deputy City Manager Eric Frost discussed Measure N appearing on the November 8 General Election Ballot. Measure N would impose a one-half percent increase in the city's sales tax, the proceeds going to improve public safety services, repairs and maintenance for streets and roads, along with the upkeep of parks and trails.

In his enlightening, well-organized presentation, Frost argued that Measure N is needed for the following reasons: Most basic is eroding local sales tax revenues in the wake of increased internet sales—reflective of changing consumer patterns. Second is the need for increased staffing of the city's Police Department, given that the total number of police officers has stagnated in recent years. A third is funding to maintain city roads and repair those in deteriorating condition. Fourth is the need to improve Fire Department readiness and obtain new equipment. Fifth, Visalia's expanded park and trail system requires additional funding for ongoing maintenance. Finally, revenue is needed to facilitate gang prevention efforts, and alleviate the community's growing homelessness problem.

Frost noted that two citizen's advisory committees offered input in drafting Measure N. The

pair, which met from August 2015 to January 2016, studied both city needs and citizens desires. They recommended this one-half percent increase in sales tax. The City Council then approved placing the measure on the November 2016 ballot requiring a majority vote of the electorate for approval.

Frost also outlined the accountability ordinance accompanying the measure, which requires the following: submission of annual Measure N spending plans to a Citizen Oversight Board and the City Council;

annual review of Measure N expenditures; and independent final audits submitted to the Oversight Board and City Council.

It provides for eight-year Council continuation reviews, with the opportunity to suspend. Measure N spending plans can be changed

by the City Council, following two public meetings. A majority of the funding in the initial plan is allocated to Public Safety, specifically police and fire protection.

During the stimulating Q&A period that followed, Frost assured his audience that the \$10 to \$12 million in annual revenue raised through the measure would be separate from the city's general fund to facilitate careful accounting. There is no formal organized opposition to Measure N, he concluded.

*“Death, taxes and childbirth!
There's never any convenient
time for any of them.”*

— Margaret Mitchell

FORUM FROM P. 1 about school safety and discipline, expulsion and suspension rates, literacy, and how to attract and retain teachers. Their answers are too different and extensive to list here!

The second half had the candidates sitting at tables, by contest, and the public directly asked questions of them. Attendees spoke highly of the animated and pointed discussions which ensued at the tables.

Facilitators at each table were Maile Melkonian and Susan Sevier (LWVTC), AAUW's Joanne Dudley, and TKHCC's Armondo Apodaca. Lina Contreras, also of TKHCC, timed the second session.



(ABOVE) In the tables session, City Council District 2 candidates Adam Arakelian, Bob Link and Susanne Gundy discuss pressing issues with the public, as the League's Maile Melkonian facilitates. District 1 contenders Phil Cox and Adam Peck were also present, as were unopposed School Board incumbents William Fulmer and Lucia Vazquez. **(CENTER)** Our Phoebe Taylor keeps participants to the time limits. **(LEFT)** VTEC students assist the public with maps of the brand-new City Council districts.

ADOPT-A-POLL REDUX

By Mary Ann Bringham

We will once again participate in Adopt-A-Poll, this time for the November 8 election. This is a great way for non-profits like us to earn money for their group. There is no overhead cost, all supplies are furnished, and training is provided. To qualify as a volunteer, one must be:

- A United States citizen
- A resident of Tulare County
- At least 18 years old
- A registered voter in Tulare Co.
- Not on parole for a felony

The workers spend all or part of Election Day making sure polling activities run smoothly—setting up the facility, greeting voters and answering questions, checking that they are at the correct polling place, and handing out ballots to eligible voters. At the end of the day, all ballots are accounted for, and all polling materials are returned to the elections office.

The Adopt-A-Poll our League conducted in June for the California Primary was a great success. Not only did the Unit earn \$872, but we also learned more about the Election Day process, met with neighbors, and made some new friends with fellow voters. The money we receive will go toward candidate and issue forums, registering voters, gift baskets for our guest speakers, and contributions to worthy local events approved by the Board.

Our upcoming November 8 team consists of 14 volunteers: 9 for the 5-hour shifts, 3 energetic workers for the 6:00am–9:00pm day, and 2 alternates in case someone has an emergency or becomes ill. At this time, **we are lacking just one volunteer, that of the touch screen worker**, an all-day position. Anyone interested, please contact Mary Ann at 732-1251 or newellgb@hotmail.com.

HIGH SCHOOL VOTER REGISTRATION

With the cooperation of Visalia Unified School District, Voter Services Co-chair Terry Cornelius is in the process of scheduling all high school seniors in V.U.S.D. for voter registration. Her team got their feet wet with two days, September 26–27, at Tulare Western High. Terry says more team members are always welcome.



Amid a campaign poster collection (TOP RIGHT), Tulare Western teacher Doug Dethlefs helps his government students understand the history of voting rights in America. (ABOVE) Jeanine Blessing engages students on how important their votes are, especially in local elections. (RIGHT) Government teacher Kelli Medeiros and Terry assist seniors as they register to vote.

Speakers Bureau Schedule

Oct. 3, 6:00pm	Three Rivers Town Hall Memorial Bldg., Three Rivers	Ed Bergtholdt
Oct. 4, noon	Kiwanis Club Cafe 225, Visalia	Faye Zeeb, Terry Cornelius
Oct. 11, noon	Young Democrats C.O.S. campus, Visalia	Terry, Phyllis Ogden
Oct. 17, 10:15am	AAUW Section , Adalian home, Visalia	Terry
Oct. 18, noon	LWVTC , Sa Très Bien, Visalia	TBD
Oct. 21, 3:00pm	Quail Park , Visalia	Ed
Oct. 23, 10:30am	Unitarian Universalist Church Porterville	Ed
TBD	Visalia Lions Pride , Visalia	Ed
Nov. 4, noon	Visalia Host Lions Sa Très Bien, Visalia	Faye, Jeanine Blessing

LOIS BRANNAN

Lois Brannan has been a member of Joy Marshall's Voter Services Registration team for a decade. As such, she contacts some 11 rural Tulare County sites every month—for the League and the Registrar's Office—to make sure voter reg forms are available to folks in towns such as Sultana, Orosi and Yettem. "I'd always wanted to join," she recalls, and retirement in the 90s made time for it. "I was always interested in issues," since being part of the debate team in college.

Lois was born on a farm near Hampton, Kansas—population 290! She grew up in Nebraska, and matriculated at Doane College, where she met a Biology major who was on the football team. They married during her sophomore year. Husband Jim's new job sent him to open a mortuary in Ojai, where they moved, and raised four children.



It was this business that brought them to Exeter, where her children went to Exeter High, and the family moved back and forth between Ojai and Exeter over the years.

Eventually, Lois was able to finish her degree at U.C.S.B., and got a teaching credential—including special ed study—from Fresno State. This led to a 30-year career teaching elementary school in both places, as well as in Porterville and Santa Paula.

Lois has weathered profound difficulty with aplomb. Tragedy struck one day when both of her sons were killed in a automobile accident. At that point, Jim got out of the funeral business, and took a leaf from Lois's book. He, too, went into teaching.

After retiring in Ojai, Lois first got "very involved" with the League in Ventura County. In fact, she was slated for the presidency, but Jim had developed Alzheimer's. "We lived in the country with all kinds of power equipment," she remembers. "I was afraid to leave him alone." Jim passed in 2002.

Before that, "eight of us empty-nesters traveled together for 25 years," she says. Annual trips took them to five continents. Some of her favorite memories are of Patagonia, a Tanzanian safari, and a solar eclipse in Costa Rica. "We had so much fun!"

Her daughters are both in Exeter. "That's why I'm here," she says. She has three grandkids and a 2-year-old great-grand.

Lois always looks fabulous, and one wouldn't know she has Parkinson's, and had a medical crisis involving her heart and kidneys just last spring. This prevents her from tending her beautiful lawn-free garden herself, but it hasn't kept her from reading... *a lot*.

After losing Jim, she was a CASA advocate for six years. Now, she and her rescues—a stray cat and her Dandie Dinmont—take care of each other.

Following are excerpts from three League announcements over the summer. More can be found at <http://lwv.org/news-and-media>.

LEAGUE WINS VOTER RIGHTS CASES AFFECTING SIX STATES

From Maggie Bush September 9, 2016
LWVUS Press Release Contact

WASHINGTON, DC: The League of Women Voters has just won a major federal voting rights case. A federal appeals court blocked the illegal action of Brian Newby, U.S. Election Assistance Commission executive director, who earlier this year unilaterally allowed **Alabama, Georgia and Kansas** to require voters to produce difficult-to-obtain proof of citizenship documentation when completing the federal mail voter registration form. This action has illegally kept voters from the polls, caused confusion, and threatened the lawful voter registration efforts of the League and other groups. ...

From Jeanette Senecal August 1, 2016
LWVUS Senior Director, Elections

On [July 29], a federal appeals court sided with the League in our lawsuit against the state of **North Carolina** and overturned one of the worst voter-discrimination laws in the entire country. ...

The court barred North Carolina from requiring photo IDs and ordered the state to restore a week of early voting and pre-registration and maintain same-day registration and out-of-precinct voting.

In finding that the new law would disproportionately impact communities of color, the judges noted in their decision that "we can only conclude that the North Carolina General Assembly enacted the challenged provisions of the law with discriminatory intent. ..."

The North Carolina law was one of many passed in states across the country shortly after the U.S. Supreme Court gutted the heart of the Voting Rights Act back in 2013. Friday's decision was the third major victory for voters' rights in recent weeks, following similar decisions against anti-voter laws in Wisconsin and Texas. ...

From Chris Carson July 21, 2016
LWVUS President

- On [July 19] a federal judge ruled that voters in **Wisconsin** who do not meet the ID requirements imposed by a stringent new state law cannot be turned away from the polls.
- And then yesterday [July 20] a federal appeals court ordered changes to a similarly strict voter ID law in **Texas** after finding that that state's new law discriminates against persons of color, Hispanics and low-income voters.

These twin victories mean that millions of voters in Wisconsin and Texas will now have the opportunity to fully participate on Election Day this November. ... ★

Community Involvement

WATER AS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT

by Ed Bergtholdt

The Community Water Center (CWC) celebrated its 10th anniversary with a dinner on September 22. This event, co-sponsored by LWVTC, was held at 210 Cafe, and included illuminating updates on CWC's many beneficial projects advocating for equitable access to safe drinking water—especially in rural areas in Tulare County.

Our League's relationship with CWC began shortly after its inception in 2006. Co-founder Laurel Firestone appeared at a Tulare County LWV Unit meeting to explain the work they were doing.

CWC was founded by two women, then in their 20s: Firestone and Susana De Anda. Since then, they have been involved with water issues in East Orosi, Seville, Monson, Cutler, northern Tulare County, Arvin, Lamont, East Porterville, Poplar and West Goshen. CWC counts among its successes having "trained over 2,674 residents as clean water advocates and

provided technical assistance to over 15 local water boards."

CWC was responsible, at least in part, for bringing a United Nations representative to northern Tulare County in 2011. They are well known in Sacramento, and



Firestone is now up there full time. De Anda's efforts were recognized in Washington D.C. this past August by President Barack Obama, as a White House "Champion of Change." CWC's work has also been featured on the PBS NewsHour.

At the celebratory dinner, speakers included the California E.P.A.'s Arsenio Mataka, from Sacramento, and CWC board member Genoveva Islas-Hooker, as well as AGUA Coalition board members Lucy Hernandez, from West Goshen, and Tomas Garcia, from East Porterville—both communities that have experienced multiple failing wells.

More about them can be found at communitywatercenter.org.

General Election Calendar

October 4 6:00–7:30 p.m.
Only televised vice-presidential debate, from Farmville, VA

October 9 6:00–7:30 p.m.
2nd televised presidential town hall, from St. Louis, MO

October 10
First day of early voting (in person at Election Office)

October 10
Vote by Mail (VbM) ballots mailed out

October 10
Sample Ballots begin to be mailed out

October 19 6:00–7:30 p.m.
3rd televised presidential debate, from Las Vegas, NV

October 24
Last day to register to vote in General Election

October 25
Write-in candidacy period ends

November 1
Last day to apply for a VbM ballot (Can still be obtained by going into the Election Office up to Election Day.)

NOVEMBER 8
General Election Day

November 11
VbM ballots must be received by Elections Office—must be postmarked no later than November 8. (This is a new rule, first implemented in 2015.)

November 16
VbM signature affidavits must be received by the Elections Office. (These are required of voters who returned VbM ballots—received by Nov. 8—without signatures. This, too, is a new rule since 2015.)

MOVIE NIGHT!

After the Columbine High School shootings, filmmaker Michael Moore wondered why gun-related homicides in the U.S. outpace rates in every other country on earth. A lifelong N.R.A. member himself, he looks beyond weapons themselves to discover a troubling conclusion.

This 2002 work was a multiple prize winner—including the Oscar for Best Documentary and a special Cannes Film Festival award—and is on most critics' lists of the top documentaries of all time. Moore, who is known for his casual style, manages to surprise with a sensitively subtle message about the history of violence in America that is still disturbingly topical.

RT: 2 hrs. — Rated R

Bowling for Columbine

Wed., Oct. 26, 7:00 pm

At the home of Dale Simmons
1501 S. Mountain St., Visalia
(corner Royal Oaks, east of County Center)

*"You campaign in poetry.
You govern in prose."*

— Mario Cuomo

League of Women Voters of Tulare County
P.O. Box 3011
Visalia, CA 93278



Knowledge is Power
Check out this handy voter's toolbox as you prepare to cast your votes.

- ★ Use your address to get a personalized ballot.
- ★ Get in-depth info on candidates, measures, and who supports them.
- ★ Check where, when, and how to vote.
- ★ Keep track of your choices and use them to vote.
- ★ Share and start the conversation!

Find out more at votersedge.org.

More Voter Resources:

To register on-line:
registertovote.gov

For other State election info:
www.sos.ca.gov/elections

For quick state ballot measure info:
lwvc.org/vote/elections/ballot-measures

For full state ballot measure text:
<http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ballot-measures/qualified-ballot-measures/>

For candidate info:
www.easyvoterguide.org

For Tulare County election info:
tularecounty.ca.gov/registrarofvoters/

**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF TULARE COUNTY**

The League is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that encourages informed and active participation in government through education and advocacy. Members include women and men of every age, race, background and political belief. The more than 1,200 local Leagues work to promote citizen action on local, state and national issues.

Why the League ?

Because you care about the future of America. You recognize that your rights as a citizen come with a responsibility to participate fully in the democratic process. As a member you can:

- Stay informed about the issues that concern you the most,
- Make your views heard by adding your voice to ours
- Sharpen your skills for effective leadership, networking and public outreach.

<http://tularecounty.ca.lwvnet.org>