

President's Message: October 2025



Hello LWVYC Members,

Fall is upon us. Neighborhood kids are back in school, and the summer vacation days are behind us. For those of you who still have autumn plans to squeeze in some time at our less crowded parks or travel to distant adventures before the holidays get into full swing, we wish you happy trails. Are you staying here in beautiful Northern California? There are many local opportunities for harvest festivals, street fairs and farm and vineyard food and beverage events.

Whatever your fall pleasure, our League has a lot brewing for political action and civic engagement. This last week of September gave members a big opportunity to go public with our Voter Services partnerships and Healthcare issue advocacy. I hope you've checked out these events.

Youth Empowerment Summit (Y.E.S.):

For our 4th consecutive year, local League members partnered with the Yolo County Elections Office and Office of Education to promote youth civic engagement, voter registration and election participation.

This year, 137 high school students representing eight different schools around the county came together for

leadership training, learning the importance of our constitutional rights and our civic responsibilities. This event encourages young adults to learn more about our local community and make their own positive civic contribution. The event offers a powerful lesson in how good governance improves our lives.

[See more event photos on our website.](#)



Woodland Chief of Police, Kinnan Ryan with students at YES 2025



NAMI WALKS!: Each year, NAMI Yolo allows our community to stand up for local Mental Health programs. This year, the event also gave our local League an opportunity to promote our new county [Mental Health advocacy position](#). Team Captain **Stephanie DeGraff-Hunt** led our small but mighty team of six LWVYC walkers, as we spoke up for resource awareness and support for county prevention and early intervention services.

Thanks to all of our members who got the word out to donors. Together, we raised \$725 to help fund NAMI's free local programs for clients in need, their families and their support networks.

[See more event photos on our website.](#)

So what's on the calendar for October?

We start the month strong with two important member events. On the evening of **October 9th**, we are highlighting Democracy-in-Action at our fall member meeting. Then, on **October 15th**, we are reaching out with an information-packed community voter education event.

The October 9th member meeting will start by honoring our *2025 Democracy Works Award* recipients, **Dr. Lizette Navarette, President**, and **Dr. Shannon Reed, Dean of Arts & Sciences**, both of **Woodland Community College (WCC)**.

Drs. Navarette and Reed both worked to ensure that youth voters on the WCC campus came out to vote well prepared for election participation by facilitating highly publicized, accessible voting resources and campus presentations to improve their ballot issue and candidate awareness. We invite all League members to join us for this warm reception, expressing our appreciation and well-deserved recognition.

Following a brief intermission and refreshments, we'll shift focus to address voter outreach needs for the *November Special Election*.

Yolo County Registrar of Voters **Jesse Salinas** will present "[Prop 50: Voter Education for Yolo County](#)", providing members with an introduction to the issues and impacts most important to Yolo County voters. We ask all LWVYC Voter Services Committee members and volunteers to come hear this talk so that our local outreach efforts present the most accurate, non-partisan, ballot issue information.

Looking ahead to the Special Election, and the best way for our League to make a positive contribution to the community conversation, LWVYC will host an important public voter education event the following week, on **October 15th**. Despite the [California League's decision](#) to not take a position on Proposition 50, local Leagues are encouraged to continue our tradition of active, visible local voter education.

On October 15th, LWVYC will present "[Understanding the Proposition 50 Special Election: Nonpartisan Voter Information for Yolo County](#)". Our members will distribute the California League's non-partisan November 2025 [Easy Voter Guide](#), which will serve to guide our presentation.

Our members will help voters understand ballot access and ballot return features of this election, along with a concise summary of the single November ballot measure, Proposition 50. Current congressional district maps and proposed federal representation changes for Yolo County residents and the State will be presented.

This is an important time to remind our members wishing to provide League-sponsored voter education (this fall and throughout the year) to honor our nonpartisan League policies while presenting voter registration, ballot issue and election participation voter information.

Voter Services Director **Judy Higginson** will be offering scheduled and individual voter education training in the coming month and throughout the year. Please be sure you are caught up on your training when signing up for league voter outreach.

This fall is definitely going to be a busy time for our League, and the board is thankful for all of our members and community partners who work every day to support, educate and inspire Yolo County voters. Whatever you are doing to support our democratic processes, raise awareness and civic engagement, and however you are inspiring us all to stand together to promote our own wellbeing and a healthy united community, we thank you for being in the League and supporting good governance initiatives.

Have a wonderful October. Enjoy the turning leaves. Get outside in cooler weather and enjoy those pumpkin patch and corn maze adventures.

Warm Regards,
Michelle Famula, President
LWV Yolo County
president@lwvyolo.org

Board Report Updates

The Treasurer's Board Report 6-30-2025 Year End Financial Report and Financial Statement is now complete. Per our bylaws, members are to receive this report at the end of the fiscal year once reviewed and approved by the board.

The report was reviewed and approved at our September board meeting and is now available for member review. Members are encouraged to access this financial report [HERE](#).

Advocacy News

LWVUS: League is Official Partner in NO Kings 2 Call to action

LWVUS will be an official national partner for [No Kings 2](#), a day of mobilization to stand in solidarity with fellow pro-democracy advocates. LWVUS is encouraging local Leagues to join events on Saturday, October 18, to stand up against hate and authoritarianism.

The League has consistently and boldly spoken up for pro-democracy principles. Members are encouraged to put words into action and show up in defense of grassroots democracy. While LWVYC is not organizing our own local event, we encourage members to "lean in" locally and join with our non-partisan partners. Indivisible Yolo will host its [Yolo County No Kings 2](#) event, emphasizing peaceful protest in Davis.

Understanding and appreciating that public participation in any rally event comes with some risk, LWVUS and LWVC recommend that League members who decide to attend any "No Kings 2" event please utilize our [protest safety guidance](#) resource on the League Management Site. If representing the League or wearing LWV shirts (which we encourage), please use good judgment when creating signs and participating in nonpartisan chants. National staff will have additional guidance in the

weeks ahead.

LWC: League Hosts Housing Advocacy Webinar

Under the Hood: Housing Advocacy with the League of Women Voters of California

Tuesday, October 14, 6:30 -7:30 pm

A review of the legislative emphasis on CEQA and housing, showing how we balance League positions of housing, climate, and land use, will be available to all interested California League members. We'll also give pointers on how to follow CEQA on local projects.

Registration is required. To sign up, please go to: [Register now!](#)

Local LWVYC Committee Announcements

Voter Services Opportunities: Election Office Presentations

Members wishing to table through the October/November election season and throughout the year need to be clear on our non-partisan League principles as well as our voter registration, ballot issue and election participation voter information. Judy Higerson will be offering scheduled and individual voter education training in the coming month and throughout the year. Please make sure you are up to date on the voter education materials when you sign up to do tabling outreach.

This month, the **Yolo County Elections Office** offers two opportunities to learn about unique voting services in our county. At the Voter Education workshop on **October 2nd, 6:00-8:00 pm**, voters can learn about voter accessibility systems and in-person voter assistance services at the **Mary L. Stephens Davis Library Branch, 315 14th St., Blanchard Room**. Resources for voters needing accessible services and those supporting them are all welcome.

On **October 3rd, 9:30-11:00 am**, elections officials will **demonstrate secure ballot processing procedures**. We invite League members to observe the ballot return process, in-person at the Office of Elections, in the **Yolo County Public Administration building, 625 Court St # B05, Woodland, CA 95695**. All are welcome to visit and observe the ballot validation and curing procedures. Future opportunities will likely come up in 2026, prior to the June primary election, to review this process again.

Housing Committee Interests: Davis General Plan Survey

Davis Residents interested in shaping the future of their community are reminded to take the [Davis General Plan Survey](#). The survey remains open through the end of October. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts on the future of Davis if you are a community member.

Following up on the City's August community planning workshop, the city is still seeking continuing resident participation. Input is still welcome, and residents are

encouraged to go to the project planning website <https://www.davisgeneralplan.com> to learn more.

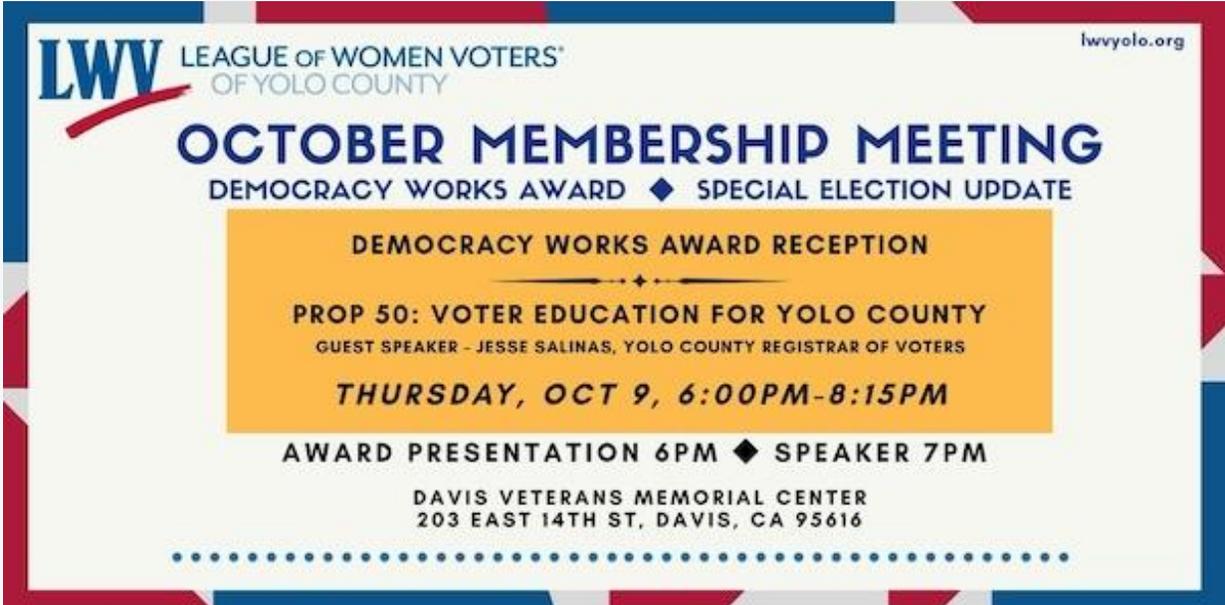
Healthcare Committee County Behavioral Health Engagement

The Yolo County Mental Health Department seeks support to comply with state MHSa assessment requirements. As part of the Community Planning Process, **MHSa requires counties to engage in community planning and engagement** annually to gather feedback on community Mental Health needs to inform the development of the plan. **ALL Yolo County Community Members who have used or simply wish to support these resources are asked to complete [this anonymous Survey](#).**

- The survey can be completed online from home
- The survey will remain open until **March 21st, 2025, 11:59 pm**

To learn more, go to Yolo County HHS Mental Health Services Information [HERE](#)

Upcoming Events: October 2025



The poster for the October Membership Meeting features a red, white, and blue geometric border. At the top left is the LWV logo, and at the top right is the website lwvyolo.org. The main title is "OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING" in large blue letters, followed by "DEMOCRACY WORKS AWARD" and "SPECIAL ELECTION UPDATE" in smaller blue text. A central yellow box contains the text: "DEMOCRACY WORKS AWARD RECEPTION", "PROP 50: VOTER EDUCATION FOR YOLO COUNTY", and "GUEST SPEAKER - JESSE SALINAS, YOLO COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS". Below the yellow box, it says "THURSDAY, OCT 9, 6:00PM-8:15PM" and "AWARD PRESENTATION 6PM" followed by "SPEAKER 7PM". At the bottom, the location is listed as "DAVIS VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, 203 EAST 14TH ST, DAVIS, CA 95616". A dotted line runs across the bottom of the poster.

Register for the October Meeting

**UNDERSTANDING THE PROPOSITION 50 SPECIAL ELECTION:
NONPARTISAN VOTER INFORMATION FOR YOLO COUNTY**

SAVE THE DATE!

**WEDNESDAY, OCT 15, 2025
7:00PM-8:30PM**

IN-PERSON PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Live-streaming available from Woodland TV at bit.ly/LWVYCPProp50

WOODLAND COMMUNITY & SENIOR CENTER, 2001 EAST ST, WOODLAND, CA 95776



**Register for the Prop 50 Public
Presentation**

JOIN THE LEAGUE

DONATE

Click on lwvyolo.org for more information about the Yolo County League!



League of Women Voters of Yolo County | P.O. Box 2463 | Woodland, CA 95776 US

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