



The Fresno VOTER

Phone: 559-226-VOTE

Web site:
<http://fresno.ca.lwvnet.org>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President	Francine Farber
Vice Presidents:	
Administration	Kay Bertken
Program	Georgia Sisson
Voter Services	Liz Shields
Secretary	Pat Campbell
Treasurer	Jane Worsley

DIRECTORS

Student Unit	Diane Blair
Transportation	John Donaldson
Legislation	Terri Figgs
Natural Resources	Mary Savala
Membership	Dolores O'Neal

VOTER Editor

Francine Farber
WEBMASTER
 Jackie Canfield

Calendar

Tuesday, November 3
Local Elections

Wednesday, November 11
Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 17
NOTE CHANGE OF DAY
Regular Board Meeting
5 p.m., League Office

Thursday, November 26
Thanksgiving

Saturday, December 12
League Holiday Party
See flyer inside

Tuesday, December 15
NOTE CHANGE OF DAY
Regular Board Meeting
5 p.m., League Office

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, February 6, 2010
Annual Program Planning

Pay Me Now or Pay Me Later:

Preschool Progress and Dropout Problem Featured at Lunch & Learn Seminar

by Murray Farber

A Lunch and Learn seminar on October 28 attracted about 30 persons who heard two major education issues discussed by Dr. Michele Cantwell-Copher, administrator for educational services for Fresno County who oversees early childhood education, and Dr. John Minkler, executive director of the Center for Multicultural Cooperation and a member of the planning committee for the recent Graduation Summit that studied school dropouts.

Dr. Cantwell-Copher said that the "importance of pre-K school is so clear." She explained that children who go to preschool are ready to learn when they



reach kindergarten. They have developed social skills and are less likely to need special services. They will receive an important boost toward graduating from high school and are more likely to enter college and become successful in the workforce.

"In the first 30 minutes a kindergarten teacher knows whether a child had pre-

school," she commented. Those children know how to sit and follow directions.

However, in Fresno County where there are 14,000 four-year-olds, there are unmet needs for 3,800 of them. At least 2,000 spaces are needed in the County schools with the lowest Academic Performance Index. She provided background on a two-year study by parents, elected officials, civic and social agency representatives and educators from public, private and faith-based schools that prepared the Master Plan for Preschools with support from Superintendent Larry Powell of the Fresno County Office of Education. The Master Plan strives to improve the quality of preschool programs and increase access for all four-year-olds in the county.

In his presentation Minkler said one quarter to a third of high school students drop out in California, including one-half in some minority communities, and wind up unemployed, in and out of prison, and contributing \$60,000 less in taxes during their lifetimes. They cost California \$46 billion a year in prisons, assistance and other expenses. He is working with the Graduation Improvement Project which is at the beginning stages of building aware-

(continued on page 8)

President's Message



Jane Worsley and I took a trip to Valley Children's Hospital last month to attend the first-ever Central Valley conference on the importance of developing partnerships between early education advocates and other groups, especially business.

Panelist Dr. Lee Anderson, superintendent of the Merced County Office of Education, has developed a pre-school through grade 16 (college) Council including students and representatives from diverse groups throughout the county. The Council includes the chancellor of UC Merced.

Mari Raff, Director of the Low Income Investment Fund's ABCD Initiative, described how her organizations provides economical and quality facility options for early learning programs through loans, grants and technical assistance. ABCD stands for Affordable Buildings for Children's Development.

Ralph Garcia, consultant for Economic and Community Development, noted the benefits to the economy of quality early care and education, including the support of a stable workforce. Along the way he enumerated the sad statistics that in Fresno, 32% of adults do not hold a high school diploma or GED, and only 10 percent hold a bachelor's degree or greater.

The conference was sponsored b HMC Architects together with Children's Hospital and the County Offices of Education of Fresno, Madera and Merced.

A representative from the business community spoke about the early care and education program provided for employees by Paramount Farms in Avenal. With no other preschools in its community, Paramount decided to build an early care and education complex and subsidize employee tuition. Employees pay only \$40 per week for full-day care; the facility has been opened to the community at large, and the general public pays \$120 per week, still a relative bargain for high quality care and education.

Valley Children's Hospital also built a facility dedicated to early care and education for its employees. Although the hospital hoped that the complex would at least break even by this year, the erratic schedules of hospital employees prevent many from taking advantage of full-time care. Together with the generous subsidy from the hospital, the schedules eliminate financial advantages for the hospital. Nonetheless, the hospital is very pleased with the facility because it helps enormously in attracting new employees and retaining present staff.

Francine

In Memoriam

We note with deep regret the passing on October 25 of Ed Eames, a member for a number of years along with his wife Toni. Ed, who became blind at age 42, was a familiar figure in Fresno for 20 years as he and Toni navigated with their loyal guide dogs. Ed attended our Lunch & Learn on special districts just a few weeks ago with faithful Latrell. Ed will be missed by the many organizations to which he devoted his talents and intelligence, especially in behalf of the disabled.

We Welcome New Members

Linda and Rabbi Robert Ourach
1248 East Rosemont Lane
Fresno, CA 93730
433-0261
lourach@sierraendocrine.com

Rabbi Robert Ourach moved to Fresno six years ago from Philadelphia to become the rabbi for Temple Beth Israel. He has been a rabbi for more than 30 years. His education included a BA in American Studies at Know College, a Masters in Hebrew Literature and Doctor of Divinity at Hebrew Union College. He is a second generation League member. His mother was a founding member and president of The League of Women Voters for Laporte County, Indiana, and was deeply involved in starting the Visiting Nurses Association and the county mental health services facility.

Linda Ourach moved to Fresno six years ago to accompany the rabbi. She is an endocrine nurse practitioner with Sierra Endocrine Associates with a focus on providing diabetes care. She earned a BSN in Nursing at Cornell University, an MBA from Widener University, and an MSN as an Adult Nurse Practitioner with Board Certification in Advanced Diabetes Management from the University of Pennsylvania. When Rabbi and Linda were newlyweds they spent a year living in Jerusalem.

Student Unit Members

Akberet Amare
Julie Cates
Amanda Chambers
Ashley Greco
Suzanne Jenkins
Becky Lindh (Chair)
Rachel Monte (Vice Chair)
Dr. Diane Blair, Faculty Advisor

Education

By Kay Bertken

Graduation Summit

While there is much debate about the specific numbers that describe the magnitude of the dropout rate in our area, there is no debate that the numbers are intolerable. In California, about one in four students entering grade nine fails to graduate four years later. In Fresno County, it is about one in three.

On October 10 about 150 stakeholders-- students, educators, business and government representatives, non profit agencies and parents -- assembled at CSUF to learn more about the issue and commit themselves to a cooperative effort to address it. LWVF has partnered with United Way, AT&T, State Farm Insurance and numerous representatives from non-profit agencies, Fresno Pacific, Fresno State, Fresno Unified School District, the County Office of Education and the Fresno Compact over the last year to plan for this Summit (one of twenty sponsored by America's Promise in urban areas around the country).

The day opened with remarks by Mayor Ashley Swearingen; Mike Hanson, Superintendent of FUSD; Dr. Tom Crow, the Chancellor of State Center Community College District and the Executive Director of Fresno Compact; and Eric Johnson, the Executive Director of External Affairs for AT&T here in Fresno. All of them affirmed the critical importance of the issue and their commitment to contribute to a solution. The Fresno Compact has chosen dropout prevention as its focus for the year.

Hanson Lists FUSD Actions

Superintendent Hanson listed actions Fresno Unified has taken to address the issue: expanded counseling services,

ninth grade academies, a mentoring program, and follow-up on comprehensive community studies of Career-Technical Education and English Learners programs. A new initiative on "Equity and Access" finds, encourages and supports capable students who might not have attempted challenging advanced courses.

The Superintendent recalled his experience as a young teacher in a California State prison-- the men in his class could not read. He called on that memory to explain FUSD's commitment to basic skill mastery in the early grades, an essential precondition to school and life success.

A representative from WestEd-- a nationwide education research, development and service agency with headquarters in San Francisco-- reviewed the available dropout research. High school dropouts are more likely to be unemployed, will earn less over their lifetimes, will contribute less in taxes and productivity to their communities and are more likely to commit crimes.

A Process of Disengagement

Dropping out is not a single event, it is a slow process of disengagement. Several factors are predictors:

- *poor school performance in middle and high school – low test scores and grades, course failure, grade retention;*
- *weak student engagement – poor attendance, misbehavior, discipline problems*
- *early adult responsibilities – becoming a parent, working more than 20 hours per week outside of school to support family income*

A panel presented an overview of some of the successful programs currently in place in the county. To combat the above 50% rates of dropping out among foster youth, county social workers are now located in the high schools, where they monitor attendance and academic work and intervene quickly as problems arise.

The Superintendent of Fowler Unified talked about his district's 90%+ graduation rate He credited much of that success to engaging all students in service learning projects in the community.

Students Were Impressive

The most impressive presentations of the day came from students who told their own stories. All of these students had overcome challenges by joining a project or group that engaged them, particularly finding meaning in service projects. It was significant too that they all had located smaller schools or a community within a larger school where they felt important and connected. Most credited their successes to a strong family influence or another caring adult.

Throughout the Summit, tables of stakeholders reflected on and shared ideas inspired by the presentations. The day ended with brainstorming at each table about potential community initiatives — short term and long term. Proposals included expanded mentoring programs, enlarged programs to train parents to be advocates for their children, involving youth in service learning projects and expanding youth representation on the boards of community groups. All of the proposals will be tallied and discussed over the next weeks as the planning group meets to determine the outlines of an action plan.

With a \$1,500 grant from the State League, the Fresno League was able to encourage and support the Summit participation of parents and students with an allocation to defray transportation costs plus gift certificates from Target. The League will continue to participate in the development of plans to increase the graduation rate of our youth.

*See more Education News
on Page 4*

You're Invited
to the League's Annual Holiday Party



Hors d'oeuvres

Dessert

Beverages

Conversation

Merriment



*Bring holiday music, instruments,
voices, jokes and good cheer*

At the gracious home of Dr. Juan and Clara Touya

2351 West Warner, Fresno

One block South of Herndon, East of Van Ness

Saturday, December 12, 2-4 p.m.

Need a ride or have questions?

Call Georgia, 439-5410

Education

by Kay Bertken



Fresno Unified School Board

At its meeting on October 21, the Fresno Unified School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to request a change in the method of trustee election from at-large voting for trustees who must reside within a particular trustee area to within trustee-area voting for each area's representative.

The request will go to the County Committee for approval. In approving the resolution, the Board also authorized the superintendent or his designee to request a State Board of Education waiver to allow the change without an election to approve it. The District did not adjust its trustee boundaries following the 2000 census; it is undertaking studies to make that adjustment now. Pending

Legislation

(Continued from page 6)

SB 505 (Kehoe) - VETOED Promotes improved fire hazard planning for development in very high hazard severity zones and state responsibility areas and requires the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (to update its "Fire Hazard Planning" document prepared as part of the General Plan Technical Advice Series and issued in November of 2003.

SB 716 (Wolk) - SIGNED Authorizes in rural counties, meaning counties with a population of 500,000 or less, the use of transportation funds for specified farm worker vanpool purposes and helps ensure that transit funds aren't redirected for road projects in urban centers like Fresno, Modesto and Ventura.

approval by the State Board, the new election method and the new boundaries will be in effect for the 2010 election.

As reported in the last Voter, there have been a number of successful suits in recent years against school districts and municipalities under the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (CVRA). The CVRA forbids the use of at-large elections where such elections dilute the voting power of protected classes to elect candidates of their choice or to influence the outcome of elections because of voter dilution. Those suits have prompted many California governing boards, which frequently do not reflect the ethnic diversity of a community, to institute election method changes.

From the Fresno Bee

Saturday, October 17

Thumbs up to United Way for convening a successful America's Promise Graduation

*Summit Oct. 10 -- attended by students, parents, business reps, government, education, community organizations -- to raise awareness about the dropout problem in Fresno County, increase understanding of resources available to combat this problem, get community stakeholders to commit to address the issue, and develop a task force to implement a community action plan. Co-sponsors were AT&T, Fresno Compact, State Center Consortium, **the League of Women Voters of Fresno**, Heald College and Union Bank.*



**Want the secret to
recruiting new members?**

**ASK THEM
TO JOIN!**



Student Unit

by Diane Blair

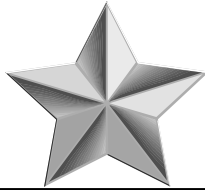
Take Back the Night

The CSU Student Unit participated this month in the annual Take Back the Night event at Fresno State. This was the event's 30th Anniversary on campus. Take Back the Night is an annual event that occurs across campuses nationwide to raise awareness about gendered violence. The student unit ran a table at the event and distributed voter educational cards, information about the League and the student unit, and encouraged students to consider joining the organization.

(Continued on page 7)

Legislation

by Terri Figgs



eligible renewable energy resources by December 31, 2010, (2) procure at least 25% of the electricity

delivered to its retail cus-

tomers from eligible renewable energy resources by December 31, 2015, and (3) procure at least 33% of the electricity delivered to its retail customers from eligible renewable energy resources by December 31, 2020. **Position:** Oppose unless Amended

Health Care

SB 810 (Leno) Single-payer health care coverage. NOT SENT TO GOVERNOR, STILL UNDER SUBMISSION. Summary The bill would make all California residents eligible for specified health care benefits under the California Healthcare System, which would, on a single-payer basis, negotiate for or set fees for health care services provided through the system and pay claims for those services. The bill would provide that a resident of the state with a household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level would be eligible for the type of benefits provided under the Medi-Cal program. **Position:** Support

Voting Rights

AB 30 (Price) Elections: voter registration. SIGNED Summary: Would authorize a person who is at least 16 years of age and otherwise meets all voter eligibility requirements to submit his or her affidavit of registration. The affidavit of registration would be deemed effective as soon as the affiant would be 18 years of age at the

time of the next election.. **Position:** Support

AB 84 (Hill) Vote by mail ballots. VETOED Summary: Would further require the local elections official to establish a free access system by which a vote by mail voter may find out whether his or her ballot was counted and, if not, the reason why it was not counted, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program. **Position:** Support

AB 742 (Saldana) Elections: felony conviction statements. VETOED Summary: Would specify that the court clerk's statement must include only those convicted felons who have been sentenced to prison and would also specify that the county elections official cancel the affidavit of registration of a person imprisoned or on parole for a felony conviction whose name, address, and date of birth are the same as reported on the court clerk's statement. **Position:** Support

Other environmental/natural resource legislation that was sent to the Governor:

AB 1364 (Evans) – **SIGNED** Provides statutory authority to state agencies to amend contracts and grant agreements affected by the bond freeze in a way that preserves the integrity of the project without undue burden on the state or stakeholders.

AB 666 (Jones) – **VETOED** Requires the legislative body of a county to make 3 findings before approving a tentative or a parcel map for an area located in a state

responsibility area or a very high fire hazard severity zone.

AB 1404 (De León) - **VETOED** Limits the use of compliance offsets to no more than 10% of the emission reductions expected to be achieved through AB 32 market mechanisms. This bill requires the California Air Resources Board to prioritize the use of offsets that provide air quality benefits to communities already suffering from disproportionate levels of air pollution. This bill also prohibits offsets from the Kyoto Protocol's international Clean Development Mechanism to be used for compliance with California global warming regulations.

AB 1242 (Ruskin) - **VETOED** Establishes a right to water for basic human needs as a policy of the state of California. By doing so, and requiring that state agencies comply, AB 1242 ensures that future regulations, grant programs, and agency practices are designed to move California forward toward a day when its citizens can safely drink a glass of water from their tap without fear of sickness.

SB 679 (Wolk) - **VETOED** Prohibits its land acquired for the state park system from being disposed of or used for other purposes incompatible with park purposes without the substitution of other land.

AB 920 (Huffman) – **SIGNED** Allows owners of solar and wind renewable energy systems to receive compensation from their electric utility for any excess power generated at their home on an annual basis. *(continued on page 4)*

Here is the action the Governor took on items of interest:

Community Colleges

SB 19 (Simitian) Education data. SIGNED Summary: Would authorize these provisions to be implemented using federal grant funds received pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 through the provision of funds for statewide data systems under the federal Education Technical Assistance Act **Position:** Support

Education Pre K-12

AB 8 (Brownley) Education finance: working group. VETOED Summary: This bill would require the Director of Finance and the Legislative Analyst to convene a working group to make findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on or before December 1, 2010, regarding restructuring California's school finance system. **Position:** Support

Energy

AB 64 (Krekorian) Energy: renewable energy resources: generation and transmission. VETOED Summary: Would recast the renewables portfolio standard program, to be operative on January 1, 2011, to require that a retail seller and a local publicly owned electric utility: (1) procure at least 20% of the electricity delivered to its retail customers from

Natural Resources

by Mary Savala



Water

LWVF was unable to support recommendations made by a group of Central Valley Water Quality interests to the Central Valley Water Quality Control Board concerning Dairy Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting because we cannot yet address those regional issues without coordinating with other Central Valley Leagues. We are working on an organizational effort to network with the other three Central Valley Leagues (Tulare, Merced and Bakersfield) on regional water issues. We are also working on Air Quality issues with the San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District so that we might speak with coordinated Valley League support on regional Water and Air issues, always keeping in mind State and National League positions.

We have been attending meetings for the past four months with a consortium of water interests to organize a water forum for March 13 at Fresno City College. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is spearheading the event. It is planned as an educational forum and not an adversarial event on West Fresno County water interests, and it is hoped it will counter some of the heated emotions over water resources. It will be held on a Saturday with five key panelists talking about Sustainability, Water Quality, Water Rights, Water and Land Use, and Water Bond initiatives. There will also be breakout sessions on specific water topics such as the City of Fresno's water conservation program. Since it is an educational forum, League can lend its name and resources as a sponsor.

Jessie Morrow Mountain

The draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is published for Jessie Morrow Mountain. Comments can be submitted until December 1. Patsy Anderson and I will be reading the EIR and presenting a draft commentary to the League Board for approval at its November Board Meeting. Other League members are invited to help with the study of the draft EIR and formulating League comments. Please call Mary Savala at 431-1227 if interested.

Student Unit

(Continued from page 5)

Make a Difference Day

The Student Unit is also pursuing options for various volunteer opportunities to increase our visibility on campus and in the community. October 24 was Make a Difference Day, and students from the unit volunteered along with other Fresno State students and organizations. This year the Make A Difference Day efforts focused on the Lowell Neighborhood located between the Historic Tower District and downtown. Volunteers worked on clean-up and beautification of Belmont Avenue from Blackstone to Fulton Streets, including clean-up of vacant lots, beautification of the Lowell Elementary School, and the planting of daffodils.

Facebook

We are now on Facebook! The Student Unit has its own Facebook page for the group (League of Women Voters, CSU, Fresno). This social networking site enables members to interact with each other electronically, post announcements, and share information in multimedia formats. We are also hoping to use the page to generate interest among other students and to serve as a recruitment tool.

T-Shirts

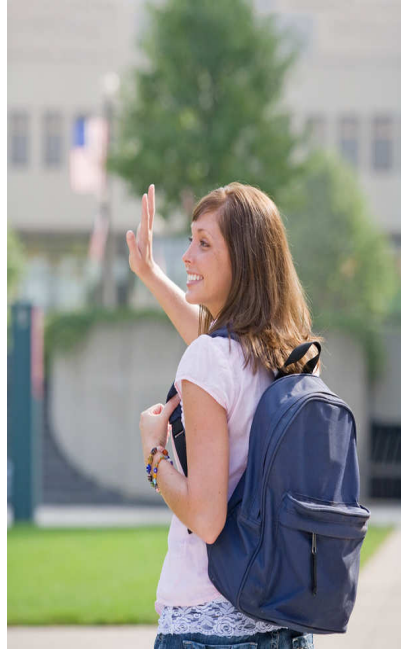
Students are looking into purchasing t-shirts for the group. They would like to wear these t-shirts to the events we participate in as well as around campus to promote the student unit. They have created a design for the t-shirt that incorporates the League logo as well as the motto: Democracy is not a spectator sport!

Preschool and Dropouts

(Continued from page 1)

ness and producing a master plan. He noted there is no single reason for dropouts, instead citing lack of connection to school, boredom, lack of motivation and academic challenge.

Minkler focused especially on the value of offering students a "Civic Mission." At a time when there is less emphasis on social studies in order to stress language arts and math, he urged that students be educated to become responsible citizens through programs that offer leadership training and community service projects. He said that students have been campaigning for a voice in planning and at conferences they have recommended battling the dropout rate through more activities, service projects, vocational



training, culturally relevant curriculum, more youth centers and parks that are safe places, and learning job skills.

As an example of a successful program Minkler cited the Fowler school system which has a one percent dropout rate. That system credits its service learning programs after school, mentoring of younger students, and efforts to combat bullying. He also pointed to partnership efforts with law enforcement, service clubs, government, churches and parents. Among volunteer activities through service learning, students brought the traveling Vietnam Memorial to the community and invited military veterans to attend. "Are we preparing the next generation to contribute to democracy?" he asked. "We are doing a good job on writing and arithmetic. We have to work on other areas as well."

10 Ways to Make a Difference

- ◆ Help teach a child to read
- ◆ Help cook or serve a meal at a homeless shelter
- ◆ Gather clothing from neighbors and donate it to a shelter
- ◆ Make "I Care" kits with combs, shampoo, etc for the homeless
- ◆ Pack and hand out food at a local food bank
- ◆ Adopt a "grandfriend" and visit
- ◆ Visit senior citizens at a nursing home
- ◆ Organize a canned goods drive
- ◆ Clean up a vacant lot or park
- ◆ Plant flowers or trees in public areas that could use color



*Piano, Keyboards, Theory
Instruction, Your Home or Mine*

ALL AGES • ALL LEVELS
ALL STYLES
"BACH TO ROCK"

STEVEN ROBERT VALETT
MUSIC DEGREE - CSUF
559.298.9248(H) • 559.307.2489(C)



SHIRLEY M. GOLDEN, CPA
shirley@cpafresno.com

BYERS
ACCOUNTANCY
CORPORATION

1141 W. Shaw Ave., Ste. 103
Fresno, CA 93711-3713
(559) 803-6981 Phone
(559) 803-6984 Fax


Licensed with the California
State Board of Accountancy

50 years | one million eyes

EYE-Q
Best Technology. Guaranteed.

1 (800) DR-VISION or (559) 486-2000
www.merrilllloydd.com | Fresno | Delta

True wealth is about more than money. It's about achieving life.®



Let Merrill Lynch help you achieve what matters most to you.

Jane Russell-Zwaan
Financial Advisor
(559) 486-2000
6200 N. Palm Avenue, Suite 100
Fresno, CA 93704

Merrill Lynch
P.O. Box 1000
Fresno, CA 93704

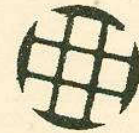
We are grateful to our sponsors for their support in "Making Democracy Work."

League members who wish to be sponsors or to secure sponsorships for us, may contact Francine Farber at 226-5455

**PATIENCE
MILROD**
LAWYER/LICENCIADA EN LEYES

844
North Van Ness
Fresno, California
93728
559/ 442-3111
pm097@csufresno.edu

Congratulations
League of Women Voters
for
another successful year
of service
to our community



**HEBERGER
& MERRITT INC**
Certified Public Accountants
John W. Heberger, CPA, CVA
Gayle T. Merritt, CPA



**PRINT
SHACK**

Bruce Tamiyasu
Owner

[559] 221-0768
379 E. Shaw at Fresno • Fresno, CA 93710

FAX [559] 221-0760 • printshack@gmail.com
Free Pick Up & Delivery

Joe Figgs



J Figgs Real Estate Brokerage

1576 W. Minarets
Fresno, CA 93711

Email: jfiggs@comcast.net

Phone 559-431-7274
Cell 559-779-3952
Fax 559-432-6608

Between Barstow & Bullard

5680 N. Fresno St., Ste. 110
Fresno, CA 93710-8331

Frederick J. Kruger, D.P.M.
Diplomate, American Board of Podiatric Surgery
Diseases, Injuries and Surgery of the Foot

(559) 447-9040
FAX (559) 447-9042

By Appointment



Lee Horwitz
President

Home: (559) 439-5802

160 E. Bullard
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 448-1000
Fax (559) 448-1010

4495 W. Shaw
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 276-4222
Fax (559) 276-6519

1848 Clovis Ave.
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 323-1940
Fax (559) 298-9934

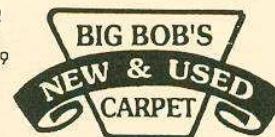
**WEDBUSH
MORGAN SECURITIES**

Member New York Stock Exchange & SIPC

ROBERT GUNNING
Vice President, Investments
Financial Advisor
Sales Office Manager

8050 N. Palm Avenue, Suite 316
Fresno, California 93711
559 389-5855
559 389-5900 fax
Insurance License #0E61490
robert.gunning@wedbush.com
www.wedbush.com

4495 W. Shaw
Fresno, CA 93722
(559) 276-6536
Fax (559) 276-6519



Lee Horwitz
President
chiamleb18@aol.com

3845 N. Blackstone • Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 226-3939 • Fax (559) 230-1201

1848 Clovis Ave.
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 324-1922
Fax (559) 298-9934



League of Women Voters Fresno, Inc.
 1345 Bulldog Lane, Suite 4
 Fresno, CA 93710

Non-Profit Organization
 US Postage Paid
 Fresno 93706

Permit # 896

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	PAGE
Preschool/Dropout Seminar.....	1
New Member Bios.....	2
Graduation Summit.....	3
Education/Student Unit.....	4
Holiday Party.....	5
Legislation.....	6
Natural Resources.....	7
Our Sponsors.....	8-9

Democracy is not a spectator sport

JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS!

Men and Women of Voting Age Making Democracy Work

MISSION: The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens and influences public policy through voter education and advocacy on issues .

NONPARTISANSHIP: The League does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

DIVERSITY POLICY: There shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the LWVF on the basis of race, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or socio-economic level.

TO PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS: For more information, please leave your name and phone number on the League message phone, 226-8683, or contact our **Membership Chair, Dolores O’Neal at 435-1185**. Prospective members receive one issue of *The Fresno Voter* free.

JOIN US! Members receive newsletters from national, state and local Leagues, may access local, state and national League websites and list-serves, and may participate in League studies of issues.

Yearly Dues Individual - \$60 ~ Family - \$90 (2 members, same address) ~ Student - \$30

Please send your check payable to the League of Women Voters, Fresno, with registration form (below),
 to: LWVF, 1345 Bulldog Lane, Suite 4, Fresno, CA 93710.

.....

Name: _____ Ph. _____ E-mail _____

Address: _____