

NOVEMBER 2009

REFORMING CALIFORNIA - REFORMING OUR COMMUNITIES

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GLENDALE BURBANK PROUDLY PRESENTS

TWO FORUMS ON SCHOOL FINANCE

BURBANK
Thursday

November 12, 2009

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Burbank Public Library
Buena Vista Branch

300 N. Buena Vista St.
Burbank California

GLENDALE
Wednesday

November 18, 2009

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Board Room
Administrative Center

220 N. Jackson St.
Glendale California

The Forums will address how the schools are financed, current problems with financing and what changes might be made to improve financing.

The public is welcome to attend. See page 3 for details.

The LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.



Annual Fundraising Drive

LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

Help us celebrate the 90th anniversary of the League of Women Voters and the 70th anniversary of our League here in Glendale and Burbank.

The League was launched as "a mighty political experiment" to educate and empower women to participate in the political process. Nine decades later the League's mission has expanded to educate and empower all members of our society. For seven decades our local League has been fulfilling this mission, educating and empowering the citizens of our two communities through our core activities in voter education, including candidates forums, public forums on important issues and presentations on ballot measures.

We have also fulfilled our mission by being in the forefront of addressing important issues in our communities. We have been a leader in efforts to protect our environment for future generations, to safeguard our libraries as vital assets for our citizens, to support quality public education and to enact campaign finance reform to preserve the integrity of our elections.

Our League must continue its decades of outstanding service to our communities, and to do this we need to supplement the great personal dedication of our members with financial support from our members and friends. So that is what we ask of you today--your contribution will help us to continue to fulfill our mission into the future.

To help us celebrate our League birthdays in a meaningful way, some of our members are providing a challenge grant. They will match, dollar for dollar, any increase in the total contributions we realize through December 31st this year as compared to our fundraising efforts last year. Please show your commitment to the League by being as generous as possible in responding to this challenge.

Donations may be sent to PO Box 21010, Glendale, CA 91221-5110

**HELP THE LEAGUE
CONTINUE
INFORMING
VOTERS AS
WE'VE BEEN
DOING FOR 90
YEARS:**

**Presentation of
Candidate forums**

**Providing free
Pro and Con
literature on state-
wide and federal
ballot measures**

League to Present Forums on School Finance in Glendale and Burbank

Ever wonder about our schools? Millions of dollars are spent each year in California on education, but what does that mean for the individual students in Burbank and Glendale? Do they really see the benefit of all those millions?

To answer that question, the League will present forums on school finance in Burbank and in Glendale. The public is invited to attend and to participate.

The Burbank School Finance Forum will take place on Thursday, November 12, 2009 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Buena Vista Branch of the Burbank Public Library, 300 N. Buena Vista Street, Burbank, CA 91505. The speakers at the Burbank Forum will include:

- DR. KEVIN JOLLY
Superintendent,
Burbank Board of Education
- LORI ORDWAY-PECK
Assistant Superintendent,
Business Services
- DAVE KEMP
President,
Burbank Board of Education
- MICHELLE HURST
President, Burbank Countil PTA

The Glendale School Finance Forum will take place on Wednesday, November 18 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Board Room of the Administration Center, located at 220 N. Jackson St., Glendale, CA 91206. The speakers at the Glendale Forum will include:

- DR. MICHAEL ESCALANTE
Superintendent,
Glendale Unified School District
- EVA LUECK
Chief Business and Financial Officer,
Glendale Unified School District
- MARY BOGER
President,
Glendale Unified School District Board of Education
- Representative of
Glendale PTA Council

We are looking forward to lively discussions from the people who are best informed. Would you like to submit a question for our panels? We'll be taking written questions at the forum, or you can submit questions in advance via our website: "<http://www.lwvglendaleburbank.org>".

WE WELCOME QUESTIONS

You can submit
questions in advance via our website:
“<http://www.lwvglendaleburbank.org>”
or in writing at the forums.

League Members Participate in Redistricting Focus Group

As you may remember, one of the hottest issues on last November's statewide ballot was Proposition 11, on Redistricting. The League of Women Voters of California threw its formidable support behind the initiative, and it was passed by the voters. Prop. 11 created a Citizens Redistricting Commission which will redraw the lines for California Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization.

The Citizens Redistricting Commission will produce a 14 member Commission that is reasonably representative of the state's diversity, and independent from legislative influence. The Commission will include five Democrats, five Republicans and four members who are neither Democrats nor Republicans. The goal of the Commission is to draw lines to:

- Develop reasonably equal populations of districts
- Comply with the federal Voting Rights Act
- Minimize the splitting of counties and cities into multiple districts
- Maintain "communities of interest" and neighborhoods
- Develop geographically compact districts
- Comprise Senate districts of two adjacent Assembly districts
- Comprise Board of Equalization districts of ten

- adjacent Senate districts
- Not favor or discriminate against political incumbents, candidates or parties

There are a number of requirements applicants must meet in order to be eligible to serve on the Commission. Registered voters are eligible to serve on the Commission if they have been continuously registered in California with the same political party, or with no political party, for the five years immediately prior to being appointed to the commission; and they have voted in at least two of the last three statewide general elections.

A voter may not serve on the Commission if the voter or a member of his or her immediate family has been appointed to, elected to, or been a candidate for a California congressional or state office; served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a California political party or of the campaign committee of a candidate for California congressional or

elective state office; has been a registered lobbyist; or has contributed \$2,000 or more to any California congressional, state, or local candidate for elective public office in any year.

Commissioners will be paid \$300 per day for each day he or she is engaged in Commission business. The Act also allows for reimbursement for personal expenses. Commissioners will travel the state and attend numerous public hearings. Although the appointment is for 10 years, the bulk of the work will be completed by September 2011.

Focus Group continued on page 5



What will your legacy be?

As a leader in your community, you know what you want to accomplish for yourself, for your family, and for your community. Consider making the League of Women Voters' part of your overall estate plan next time you speak with your attorney or financial professional, so that your hard work will carry on.

Focus Group

continued from page 4

At present, materials are being developed to recruit members of the Commission. A number of League members participated in "focus groups" to critique the materials, and to offer suggestions for improvement. In addition to the League members, there were participants from other non-profit groups. The focus group activities took place at the offices of the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles, in the mid-Wilshire area. The LA City League shares its offices with another group, Common Cause, which directed the focus groups.

In a two hour session, the participants looked over a draft brochure, fact sheet and a list of 10 questions about the Commission process. The task was to determine what was good, what was not so good, and what was missing. As might be expected with a highly motivated and engaged group, there was a lively divergence of opinion. Some liked what others thought was not so good, and vice versa. However, the conversation remained civil in tone; and although there was disagreement, there was respect for each other's positions.

Are you interested in serving the state on this Commission? For more information, visit the Bureau of State Audits Web-site at "<http://www.bsa.ca.gov/redistricting>" <http://www.bsa.ca.gov/redistricting>. Applications will become available in mid-December 2009.



League members discussed the merits of proposed materials to publicize the Citizens Redistricting Commission at the Los Angeles League's office in the Mid-Wilshire area. At the afternoon session were: standing: Co-President Chris Carson, Joanne Levitt (Santa Monica League). Seated: Yvonne Pine and Celina Lew (LWV Pasadena Area) and Co-President Joan Hardie.



At the evening session were: Co-President Chris Carson, Liza White (Past President, LA League), Laurie Collins and Voter Editor Monica Marquez.

Holiday Party

Thursday

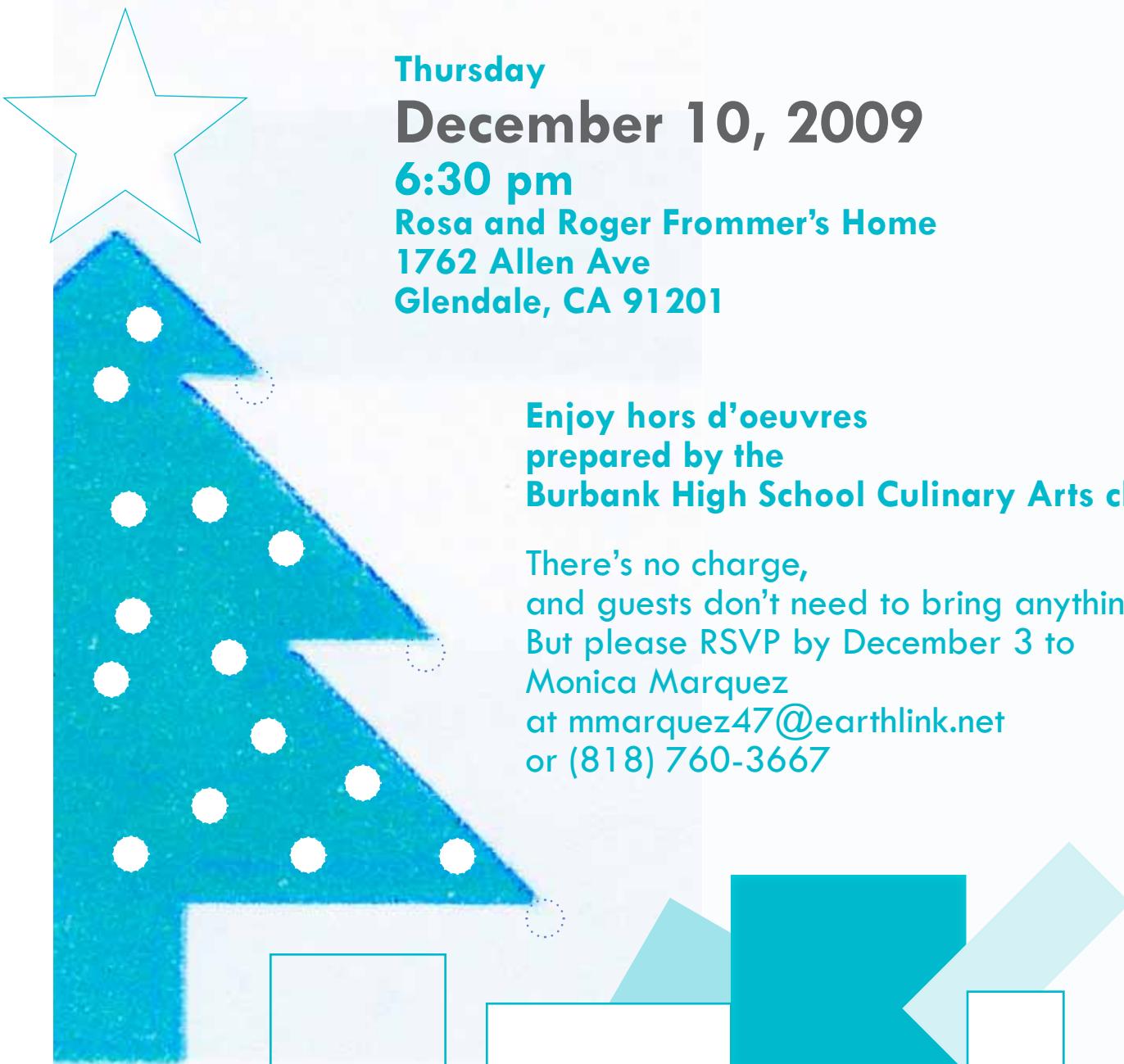
December 10, 2009

6:30 pm

**Rosa and Roger Frommer's Home
1762 Allen Ave
Glendale, CA 91201**

**Enjoy hors d'oeuvres
prepared by the
Burbank High School Culinary Arts class.**

**There's no charge,
and guests don't need to bring anything.
But please RSVP by December 3 to
Monica Marquez
at mmarquez47@earthlink.net
or (818) 760-3667**



LWV Glendale/Burbank is pleased to announce notecards designed especially for us are now available.

Local artist Robin Palanker features five local women.

All proceeds benefit
LWV Glendale/Burbank

**Set includes 10 cards,
on 80 lb. paper
two each of 5 figures
LWVG/B logo on the back**

**\$13.00 per set, 2 sets for \$25.00
includes tax and handling**

**The supply is limited.
To order, send the tearoff with your
check.**



PLEASE mail check payable to:

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS GLENDALE/BURBANK,
PO Box 21010, Glendale CA 91221-5110**

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for _____ sets of notecards.



Membership Application

It is easy to join the League of Women Voters of Glendale/Burbank. All Citizens of voting age are welcome.
Associate Membership is open to all others.

YES! I want to add my voice to yours by joining the League of Women Voters as part of your voice for citizens and force for change. I enclose: (please check one or more of the following)

\$60.00 for a one-year individual membership (includes a copy of our VOTER, nine times per year)

\$100.00 for a one-year household membership for two members who share the same address (includes a copy of our VOTER., nine times per year)

I am unable to join the League at this time, but enclose a contribution of \$ _____
Gifts made payable to the "LWV Education Fund are tax deductible."

Names _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

I would like to receive my VOTER by email.
My email address is _____

Make check payable to League of Women Voters. Mail to Vera Naylor, 7714 Via Capri, Burbank CA 91504

Voter

The VOTER is published nine times a year by the League of Women Voters of Glendale/Burbank, California

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Joan Hardie

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CIRCULATION: Anna Rundle

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education advocacy.

The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. We advocate only on issues that members have studied and come to a consensus on. In an era of proliferating and powerful special interests, the League's advocacy in the public interest is increasingly recognized as an essential voice of democracy.

GREAT Green Corner News

Glendale and Burbank will each receive \$20 million from the Department of Energy. The money will help fund installation of "smart meters" that will track water and electricity usage in real time. The new meters will allow for two way communication between the utilities and their customers. The money comes from the stimulus package.

249 N. Brand Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91203
Corner of Brand/Calif.
tel: 818.244.4448
fax: 818.244.4795
M-F 8:30-6, Sat. 10-4
1125 E. Broadway
Glendale, CA 91205
Btwn Chevy Chase/Adams
tel: 818.242.4270
fax: 818.242.0525
M-F 8:30-6:30
Sat. 10-4, Sun. 12-4



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League websites:
LWV Glendale/Burbank
<http://www.lwvglendaleburbank.org>

LWV California
<http://www.ca.LWV.org>

LWV United States
<http://www.LWV.org>

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