



# Voter

League of  
Women Voters of  
Bellingham/  
Whatcom County

February 2007

## About the Program

**Rosalinda Guillen** is a true community activist. She sees people in need and rather than talk about it, she gets involved! She is a widely recognized farm-worker and rural justice leader, currently holding the position of Executive Director of Community to Community ( De Comunidad a Comunidad), a women-led grassroots organization working for a just society and healthy communities. In her presentation, she will talk about the organization's origin, its purpose and goals, various projects, current immigration practices, and proposed legislation which could affect these practices.

Also on the program is **Aline Soundy**, Project Director of the Mujeres Project, talking about her work with several of the recently arrested laundry workers and other farm-worker women in our county.

At the end of the presentations, there will be time for questions and answers.

Please plan to attend and invite your friends and neighbors. Here is an opportunity to hear from women who really "walk the talk."

**Note:** The League is just beginning a three-year study on Immigration in America. The first part of the study appears in the February issue of the National Voter magazine. You may want to read it prior to the meeting for background information.

—Darlene McLeod

## LWV General Meeting

**Saturday, February 17, 2007**

**Downtown Public Library**

**210 Lottie Street**

**(Lecture Room in Basement)**

**9:30 a.m. Social Time**

**(Refreshments will be served)**

**10:00 a.m. Program**

**Rosalinda Guillen, Executive Director**

**Community to Community**

**(De Comunidad a Comunidad)**

**and**

**Aline Soundy, Project Director of**

**Mujeres Para Un Pueblo Sano**

**Both will be speaking on issues that concern Whatcom County's Hispanic Community**

**\*For Members Only—If your last name begins with A through M, please bring cookies or sweet breads to be served at this meeting.**

## From Co-President Rosemary Hostetler

Where does one go to find accurate information about political, social and economic issues? Sometimes it seems as if we are snowed under with information of all kinds. But what sources can we trust?

For accurate, reliable sources let's start with League publications. First, the NATIONAL VOTER, then the Washington State VOTER and of course, your local VOTER that you are reading now!!

The February National VOTER has an historical perspective on immigration, an article about the legality of presidential signing statements, the "Hill Bulletin" which enumerates current hot issues and what an individual can do about it as well as many other informational articles.

The Washington VOTER has been reviewing state water issues, publishing the latest League study on the Growth Management Act as well as listing local League activities throughout the state. (Did you know that Pierce County voters have approved the Instant Runoff Voting for their county?) And if you haven't signed up for the weekly LWVWA Action Priorities you are

missing one of the clearest state legislative summaries available. Go to [www.lwvwa.org/](http://www.lwvwa.org/) advocacy.

Besides reading, there is a lot of good listening to do at your local League meetings and events that are listed in the local VOTER. Keep the third Saturday morning of the month open between 10 am and noon. In February, the program will focus on immigration in Whatcom County; in March, local government officials will be featured; in April, the program will move to the Nuclear Threat Initiative; and by May we hope to have a special speaker on the new state department of early learning.

Your local League is also involved in two special events this month. Saturday, February 24 from 10 am to noon Whatcom Fair Voting will present a forum at the Bellingham Public Library Meeting Room. Wednesday, February 28 from 6-9 PM a Short Course on Planning will be given by the County Planning Department at the County Council Chambers.

Hope to see you at one or all of these interesting meetings.

## Walking and Talking with LWV

We continue to meet at the Taylor Street Dock for our weekly walk at 2 p.m. on Fridays. Our route then will be to Boulevard Park and back, then on to Fairhaven and to Bookfair at Village Books for coffee or tea.

Hope to see you then.

- Phyllis Haberstroh



**Still Needed: A Webmaster for our local League's website.**

**Small Tasks for Hospitality**

**People to Help Distribute TRY's (*They Represent You* brochure) around the beginning of March.**

**(Call Margaret Woll—734-8427)**

## Voter Registration Rolls in Washington State and Beyond— Clean? Complete? Accurate?

Hacked voting machines are not the only threat to election integrity. Can we rely on the accuracy of our voter registration rolls? How to weigh the problem of duplicate or ineligible registrations against the risk that eligible voters may be purged from the rolls?

**A free public, educational forum** will address state and local voter registration issues and policies. The forum is sponsored by Whatcom Fair Voting, the Bellingham/Whatcom League of Women Voters, and the Whatcom Democratic, Libertarian, and Republican parties.

**When: Saturday, February 24, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**  
(Several of the panelists will remain until 2:00 p.m. for those interested in further discussion.)  
**Snacks will be provided.**

**Where: Bellingham Public Library, downstairs lecture room**  
210 Central Avenue, Bellingham, WA

**Moderator: Marian Beddill**

**A distinguished panel will include:**

**Shirley Forslof, Whatcom County Auditor**

“Management of Whatcom County voter rolls—an update”

**Paul Miller, Washington State Elections Information Manager**

“Creating an integrated Washington State voter registration database—policies, progress, and problems”

**Bob Edelman, Senior Research Analyst, Voter Integrity Project, Evergreen Freedom Foundation.**

“Washington State’s voter rolls—clean and accurate?”

**Mike Slater, Director, Election Administration Program, Project Vote**

“Washington State’s voter rolls—complete and accurate?”

**John Lindback, Oregon State Elections Director**

“Oregon’s approach to its voter registration database”



*On Valentine’s Day, the League of Women Voters will be  
87 years old!  
Happy Birthday, League!*



**League of Women Voters of  
Bellingham/ Whatcom County**

LWV of Bellingham/Whatcom County  
P.O. Box 4041  
Bellingham, WA 98227-4041

Phone: 360-734-2366  
Fax: 360-734-2366  
Website: <http://lwvwa.org/bellingham/>

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featuring issues concerning Whatcom  
County's Hispanic Community.*  
— *Voter Registration Forum*  
— *Info on Upcoming Meetings*  
— *Short Course on Planning*

**A Short Course on Planning  
Given by the County Planning  
Department**

**Date:** Wednesday, February 28, 2007  
**Time:** 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
**Location:** County Council Chambers  
Whatcom County Courthouse  
311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, WA

**Agenda :**

1. Planning and the Law - Attorney Phil Obrechts
2. Basic Comprehensive Planning in Washington- Dee Cuputo
3. Urban Village Discussion- Presenter TBA

This promises to be a grand opportunity to learn more about the planning process. Hope you can make it!!

**LWV of Bellingham/Whatcom County  
Current Officers, Directors, & Chairs**

**Officers:**

Co-Presidents:  
Rosemary Hostetler 676-9456  
Jo Morgan 756-0730  
Margaret Woll, 1st VP 734-8427  
Phyllis Haberstroh, 2nd VP 734-5595  
Georgia MacGregor, Treasurer 738-4616  
Elsie Heinrich, Secretary 671-1035

**Other Directors & Chairs:**

Joan Airoidi, 966-4898  
Dorothy Davis 647-0959  
Darlene McLeod 733-2032  
Amelia Pryor\* 647-7593  
Jo Pullen 752-2300

League Office Phone 734-2366

(\* A hearty welcome to our newest director)