

(((GRASSROOTS POWER NEWS)))

A PUBLICATION OF THE GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP NETWORK OF MARIN • AUGUST 2008



Save The Date!

Civic Engagement Luncheon: August 14th 12:30p-2:00p at GLN.

Non-Profits get your advocacy on! Join the Alliance for Justice and other groups as we get informed and involved in non-partisan voter registration and activities.

Please RSVP to Yvette by **August 5th:** yvette@maringrassroots.org.

Equal Voice Festival & Forum! October 18th

From: 10am-1pm
At the Manzanita REC Center - Marin City. Become educated on the issues effecting your community & get involved. Learn more about the November ballot & voting!



EQUAL VOICES CAMPAIGN

Your Family, Your Voice, Your Future!

The Equal Voice for America's Families Campaign is a yearlong effort to build support for a national families-issues platform, created and advanced by working class families.

Locally, we hosted town hall meeting in many North Bay communities where families voiced the issues that matter most to them to be incorporated into the national platform. Residents of Marin County and beyond are thrilled to have the opportunity and have their voices heard at the National Convention in Los Angeles on Sept 5th & 6th, 2008

Grassroots Leadership Network of Marin, Parent Services Project and Marin Parent Voices, along with over 100 North Bay families will be joining thousands of other working class families in LA. We will be advocating social change on policies that most affect our lives.

The Marin County Board of Supervisors has graciously supported our trip to LA and efforts to promote equality through policy making within Marin County and beyond.

"Individually we can make a difference, but together we can make change!"

Luz Vegas, Marguerite Casey Foundation President

Building Healthy Communities

Building Healthy Communities is an initiative supported by a growing number of partners, aimed at raising the voices of under-represented community members and leaders to develop a list of public concerns to promote a healthier Marin.

A series of community dialogues took place in Marin City, the Canal and Novato in April and May 2008. The purpose of these dialogues was to have an insightful conversation about the issues currently preventing under-represented communities in Marin from being healthy.

Along with communities members and our advocacy partners, we are in the process of building a platform of issues including anything from environmental concerns to affordable housing and healthcare. We will continue to build this platform as well as take these issues with us to the Equal Voices Convention in September.

At our Building Healthy Communities Quarterly Meeting we were given a presentation on environmental health issues and grassroots mobilization by leaders of the **STOP THE SPRAY CAMPAIGN:** Judi Shills, from Search for The Cause, and former Mayor of Fairfax, Frank Egger. This is just one of many hot button issues affecting the North Bay today.



Grassroots Leadership Network of Marin
30 N. San Pedro Rd. Suite 290. San Rafael, CA 94903. P: (415) 451-4350.

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Important Dates for the Upcoming Nov 4th Election:

August 8th:

Last day for candidates for local, state-wide and national positions to be put on the Nov. 4th ballot.

August 8th:

Last day for measures to be put on the Nov. 4th ballot

Oct 22nd:

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE!

Oct 28th:

Last day absentee (vote by mail) ballot registration can be received.

Nov 4th:

Vote by mail ballots must be received by 8pm to be counted.

Please visit our calendar located on our website for update upcoming dates such as our Oct.



18th Grassroots Leadership Forum and other events:
maringrassroots.org



Become an Educated Voter!

The Grassroots Leadership Network of Marin is recruiting 7-10 individuals to participate in a community dialogue on important propositions and ballot measures that will have an impact on our neighborhoods. These suggestions will then be taken into consideration in preparing a manual for voting recommendations for the upcoming November 4th election.

These individuals will be committed to promoting equality within our communities and advocating for working families issues & concerns. If this sounds like something you would like to participate in, please contact us at: info@maringrassroots.org. *A small stipend will be available to participants.*



Important Local Positions Still Open



Very important positions are still open in Marin County. The deadline to register as a candidate for these positions is **Aug 8th**.

Listed below are the positions, qualifications, & reasons as to why they are so critical for our communities.

Hospital, Marin Healthcare: 2 positions open:

Marin County is in desperate need of advocates for uninsured families and the working poor. Marin County's free clinics served over 14,000 patients in 2007 and turned away more than 5,000 people for patient care due to lack of capacity in County clinics. These 2 positions must be filled by those community members that will fight for clinics in the neighborhoods with the highest numbers of uninsured residents and to push health issues that are effecting our under-represented communities.

**Qualifications: Candidate must be a registered voter residing within the district.*

School Districts: Sausalito/Marin City 2 positions open:

Over the past 10 years the Sausalito/Marin City school district has improved dramatically. Test scores & parent involvement are up and student behavior as improved. Bayside Elementary school is now a California Distinguished School, due largely to upgrades/renovations and a concerted effort made by parents and the community to make the school better. A new middle school will be opening in Marin City in the fall of 2009 and this commitment to education and school involvement needs to continue. We need members of the school district board to ensure parent and student involvement at both school sites and have the students best interests in mind. Whomever is elected should embrace Marin City as a partner in a strong educational foundation for the County.

**Qualifications: Must be 18 yrs. or older, a citizen of the state, resident of the school district, register voter, not disqualified by the constitution or law of the state from holding a civic office, is eligible to be elected or appointed a member of a governing school district board.*

For More information regarding any of these positions please contact:
Marin County Registrar of Voters
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 121, San Rafael, 94903
(415) 499-6437
www.co.marin.ca/us

