



Presorted Standard  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 OAKLAND, CA  
 Permit No. 379

*Local 853 – organizing and building a stronger union*

*Why is it important for our members to be involved in the upcoming November election and how will you get involved?*



**Atha Brown**  
**Steward, First Transit**

The only way we can win is to be out on the streets. The Teamsters are a powerful union but we need members to be active. I'll do whatever is needed to win. Let's put on our armor and get out there!



**Kim Land**  
**Morton Salt**

It's a no brainer: if we don't vote, we don't have a say in what happens. Voting gives us a voice. I'm going to vote for the people who will do the best for us. I'm going to talk to members every time I can.



**Junior Rodriguez**  
**San Jose Mercury News**

If you want change and want things to be better for you, then you have to get out and vote. I'm a shop steward so I try to rally the troops and let them know how important this election is.

**CALIFORNIA  
 BALLOT MEASURES**

Prop 19	Legalize marijuana	NE
Prop 20	Congressional redistricting	NO
Prop 21	VLF surcharge for state parks	YES
Prop 22	Prohibit state from taking local funds	YES
Prop 23	Suspend air pollution laws	NO
Prop 24	Repeal corporate tax loopholes	YES
Prop 25	Majority vote budget	YES
Prop 26	2/3 vote requirement for fees	NO
Prop 27	Eliminate redistricting commission	YES

*California is only one of three states that require a 2/3 majority of the state legislature to pass a budget. No wonder we can't get a budget on time. Let's get back to majority rule—vote **YES** on Prop 25.*



# CONNECTIONS

Volume XI, No. 1

Election Season, 2010

## Billionaires or working families: You choose in November



**Jerry Brown  
for Governor**

There's an old labor song, "Which side are you on?" If you're on the side of working people, then the 2010 election offers you some clear choices.

**Jerry Brown** has a proven record of creating 1.9 million jobs, giving public workers the right to collectively bargain for better wages, and taking on Wall Street and the banks to stop home loan abuse. **Meg Whitman** outsourced 40% of her eBay workforce, announced that she'll eliminate collective bargaining rights and pensions, and has already spent a record \$119 million to buy the election.

**Barbara Boxer** has fought for working people for 30 years, seeking to bring green and infrastructure jobs to California and ending tax breaks for companies that send jobs overseas. For sending 28,000 HP jobs overseas, **Carly Fiorina** was paid \$108 million in bonuses; she opposed the stimulus package which saved thousands of California jobs.

If you care about rebuilding the economy and taking our state and nation back from the billionaires, then your choice in November is clear: vote for Jerry Brown and Barbara Boxer.



**Barbara Boxer  
for U.S. Senate**

## Your union's local endorsements

### ALAMEDA COUNTY

Supervisor District 2	Nadia Lockyer
AC Transit At-Large	Joel Young
AC Transit Ward 3	Elsa Ortiz
AC Transit Ward 4	Mark Williams
AC Transit Ward 5	James Sajadi
EBMUD	Frank Mellon
Peralta CC Dist Area 3	Linda Handy
Peralta CC Dist Area 7	Abel Guillen

### City of Alameda

Mayor	Marie Gilmore
City Council	Rob Bonta, Lena Tam

### Berkeley

City Council District 1	Linda Maio
City Council District 4	Jesse Arreguin
City Council District 7	Kriss Worthington
Berkeley USD	Karen Hemphill
	Josh Daniels • Leah Wilson

### Castro Valley

Sanitation District	David Silva
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### Dublin

Mayor	Tim Sbranti
City Council	Don Biddle, Eric Swalwell

### Fremont

City Council	Anu Natarajan, Bill Harrison
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### Hayward

USD (Regular Term)	Sheila Sims
	Lisa Brunner
USD (Short Term)	Jesus Armas

### Oakland

Mayor	Don Perata
City Council District 2	Pat Kernighan
City Council District 4	Libby Schaaf
	Melanie Shelby
Auditor	Courtney Ruby

### Pleasanton

Mayor	Jennifer Hosterman
City Council	Cheryl Cook-Kallio

### San Leandro

Mayor	Tony Santos
City Council District 5	Pauline Cutter & Corina Lopez
	Lance James
Unified School District 2	Mike Katz
Unified School District 4	Emily Duncan
Union City At-Large	Gary Singh

### Local Ballot Measures

Newark Measure U	Yes
Berkeley Measure H	Yes
Berkeley Measure I	Yes
Berkeley Measure R	Yes
San Leandro Measure Z	Yes

### SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

Board of Supervisors	
District 2	Janet Reilly
District 4	Carmen Chu
District 6	Debra Walker
District 8	Rafael Mandelman
District 10	Malia Cohen
Board Of Education	Hydra Mendoza
	Kim-Shree Maufas
	Emily Murase
Assessor-Recorder	Phil Ting

### San Francisco Ballot Measures

AA Vehicle registration fee	YES
A Earthquake retrofit bond	YES
B City retirement and health plans	NO
C Mayor appears at Board mtgs	NO

# The most important thing you can do is vote

By ROME ALOISE

It's easy to sit back, say you're discouraged with politics, and sit out the election. That would be the worst thing you could do.

The most important thing you can do is vote on November 2 (or absentee). If you haven't yet registered to vote, it's not too late. Talk to your Business Rep, or get a form on line ([www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov)) or at the Post Office.

This year, we have candidates running for Governor and Senator who are polar opposites on many key issues. Both Jerry Brown, running for governor, and Barbara

Boxer, running for U.S. Senate, have proven themselves to be friends of working people.

What does that mean? They support workers getting good wages and benefits, because they know that a strong middle class means there will be a strong economy. Unions support them because they support our members and our way of life.

Their opponents, Meg Whitman and Carly Fiorina, are clearly out to destroy unions and the benefits that we've won for our members. Instead, they want to give tax breaks to themselves and their millionaire friends.

Whether you are a Democrat, Republican, or Independent, you have to agree that restoring the economy in California and across the U.S. must be job one. And that means creating and saving good jobs.

Meg Whitman has proposed laying off 40,000 state workers. I can't imagine the devastation that will bring to the state, and to the services that we have come to expect. Both Whitman and Fiorina talk about "running the government like a business," but both have a track record of sending good jobs offshore. Their solutions for taxes and streamlining red tape for business are the same thing that the Bush administration promised us, and look where that got us.

## Local races

The Joint Council 7 newspaper includes endorsements of the state senate and assembly candidates. This newsletter includes the local races that will be on your ballot. I encourage you to bring these recommendations with you to vote.

Our endorsements are not made lightly. The Teamsters and the local central labor councils go through a painstaking process to ensure that the candidates we endorse understand and support a range of issues important to working people, and that they know how to get things done. We didn't make endorsements in all races because the candidates probably just didn't stand out.

Don't sit back and let others call the shots. Be sure to vote.



## STATEWIDE OFFICES

- GOVERNOR
- LT. GOVERNOR
- ATTORNEY GENERAL
- SECRETARY OF STATE
- TREASURER
- CONTROLLER
- INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
- SUPER. OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
- U.S. SENATOR
- BD OF EQUALIZATION - 1
- BD OF EQUALIZATION - 2
- BD OF EQUALIZATION - 4

- Jerry Brown (D)
- Gavin Newsom (D)
- Kamala Harris (D)
- \*Debra Bowen (D)
- \*Bill Lockyer (D)
- \*John Chiang (D)
- Dave Jones (D)
- Tom Torlaksen (D)
- \*Barbara Boxer (D)
- \*Betty Yee (D)
- Chris Parker (D)
- \*Jerome Horton (D)

## Benefits & Announcements

### WCT Pension Plan Q&A

On the second Wednesday of every month, a representative from the WCT Pension Administrator comes to Local 853's San Leandro office to answer your pension questions. Call 510-895-8853 or 800-400-1250 for an appointment.

### SIP 401(k) enrollment

Most Local 853 members are eligible for the SIP 401(k) Plan. If you are not yet enrolled, or wish to increase your pre-tax deferred amounts—check with your business agent, your company's HR department, or call 1-800-4-PRETAX [1-800-477-3829].

### Monthly meetings

Local 853's membership meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. They are held in the West Bay and East Bay: 2100 Merced St., San Leandro, or 151 W. 20th Avenue, San Mateo, CA. Call 510-895-8853 to confirm location.

### Charge your dues

In our continuing effort to make dues payments easier and more convenient, Local 853 is now offering monthly credit card payments for your dues. For more information on this program, please contact the local union office.

## Teamsters Local 853

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**Postmaster:** Send address changes to: Teamsters Local 853, 2100 Merced St., San Leandro, CA 94577

**Members:** Send address changes or comments to the above address or e-mail:

[connections@teamsters853.org](mailto:connections@teamsters853.org)

**Why is it important for our members to be involved in the upcoming November election and how will you get involved?**



**Clifford Culwell**  
**Berkeley Farms Dairy**

We have to vote into office the people who best represent our economic interests, without regard to partisan political talking points. It's all about economics. I'm talking to people and trying to involve as many in DRIVE as possible.



**Mary Arnett**  
**PCA**

It's very important for the Democrats to get in there. We have to stay together in unity to show how strong we are. If we don't, we'll get people in who are not for us. I'm going to talk to my peers and encourage them to vote the right way.



**George Otterstetter**  
**Political Coordinator**

It all comes down to politics. The issues we care about are determined at the political level, so if we're going to have input we need to get involved. I've never phone banked before but this year, I'm going to do it!



**Russ Kastanos**  
**Central Concrete**

We need to get the word out to help organized labor put in Democrats to help put food on the table for working families. As shop steward, I'll talk to all the guys and encourage them to get registered and vote to win this election.

**San Francisco Ballot Measures (cont.)**

- D Non-citizen voting school board elections YES
- E Election Day voter registration YES
- F Health Service Board elections NO
- G Transit Operator wages NO
- H Local elected officials on political party committees NO
- I Saturday voting YES
- J Hotel Fairness Initiative YES
- K Hotel tax clarification/definitions NO
- L Sitting or lying on sidewalks -
- M Community policing/foot patrols YES
- N Real property transfer tax YES

**SAN MATEO COUNTY**

- Board of Supes Dist 3** Don Horsley
- Treasurer/Tax Coll** Dave Mandelkern
- Cabrillo USD** Charmion Donegan  
Charles Jones • Freya McCamant
- Daly City City Council**  
\*Maggie Gomez • \*Michael Guingona
- E Palo Alto City Council**  
\*Ruben Abrica • \*David Woods
- Pacifica City Council**  
Barbara Arietta • William "Leo" Leon  
\*Jim Vreeland

**Sequoia Healthcare District**

- \*Art Faro • Jerry Shefren • Ruth West-Gorrin

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

**Campbell**

- City Council Evan Low  
Phil Reynolds • Richard Waterman

**Gilroy**

- City Council Peter Arellano  
Art Barron • Peter Leroe-Munoz

**Hollister**

- City Council Estevan Guzman

**Los Gatos**

- Town Council Judy Glickman

**Morgan Hill**

- Mayor Steve Tate
- City Council Rich Constantine

**Mtn View**

- City Council Margaret Abe-Koga

**Santa Clara**

- Mayor Jamie Matthews
- City Council Seat 2 Patrick Kolstad
- City Council Seat 5 Patricia Mahan

**Saratoga**

- City Council Yan Zhao

**School Boards**

- Alum Rock SD Darcie Green/Miguel Baldoni
- Berryessa USD David Cohen/David Neighbors
- East Side Union HSD Bob Nuñez  
J. Manuel Herrera • Frank Biehl
- Franklin McKinley SD Buu Thai
- Gilroy USD Francisco Dominguez  
Dom Payne • Jaime Rossi
- Moreland SD Hazel Vasquez
- Morgan Hill USD Shelle Thomas  
Don Moody • Ron Woolf • Claudia Rossi
- San Jose Evergreen Comm College Dist.  
Teaching Area #4 Maria Fuentes
- Teaching Area #6 Richard Hobbs
- Santa Clara County Board of Education  
Teaching Area #2 Michael Chang
- Teaching Area #6 Craig Mann
- Teaching Area #7 Adam Escoto
- Santa Clara USD Ina Bendis
- West Valley Community College  
Teaching Area #1 Jack Lucas
- Teaching Area #2 Maggie Wong
- Santa Clara Valley Water Board**
- District 1 Don Gage
- District 4 Linda LeZotte
- District 6 Tony Estremera
- District 7 Brian Andrew Schmidt

*\*Denotes Incumbent*