

Gioia and Son Voting Family Tradition

Next Tuesday, June 8th is Election Day. I encourage everyone, regardless of your party affiliation or politics, to get out and vote! It's our civic responsibility.

In my family, next week's election marks the continuation of an important family tradition. I learned the significance of voting from my father, an American Government teacher at Kennedy High School in Richmond.

When I turned 18, my dad and I went to the polls together in June 1976 where I cast my first vote in the Presidential primary election. Wasn't Jerry Brown on the ballot back then?

My son, Christopher, turned 18 earlier this year. And guess what? Yes, we will be going to the polls together to vote next Tuesday.

If you need help finding your polling location, check the website of the Contra Costa County Elections Department at www.cocovote.us. It does a great job of keeping voters informed. You can also get information by calling the County Elections Office at **925-335-7800**.

All you need to do to find your polling location is enter your address in the "precinct finder" at www.cocovote.us/PrecinctFinder.aspx and follow the directions to get the address of your polling place and a sample ballot.

Voters next week get to weigh in on many important federal, state and local races and ballot measures. West County measures include Measure D, a West Contra Costa Unified School District Bond Measure; Measure G, a Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District Special Tax; and Measure E, a parcel tax to fund a designated resident Deputy Sheriff in unincorporated El Sobrante. There are also county races for Sheriff, District Attorney, Assessor, Treasurer, and County Supervisor.

My son and I hope to see you at the polls!

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