

### *Voter Service Update*

Hello! By the time you receive this VOTER, the June 2, 2026 California Primary Election will be over, but I did want to update you about May activities for LWVHC, as well as to alert you about upcoming voter registration events.

#### HIGH SCHOOL VOTER REGISTRATION

First, on May 11 and 12, I had the pleasure of visiting Adam Pinkerton’s five Government or Economics classes for seniors at Arcata High to register voters. The experience was so enjoyable—I registered 27 new voters, all of whom will be able to vote in the November 3 election, and many will be eligible to vote on June 2! I was so very impressed to see their level of knowledge about U.S. and California elections, as well as their enthusiasm to become part of the process. It did my heart good to see so many young people so excited about voting!

#### A KEET-TV CANDIDATE FORUM

Then, on May 19, LWVHC sponsored a candidate forum on KEET-TV for the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors District 5 candidates Mary Burke and Evan Schwartz. All in all, they answered 21 very diverse questions, along with presenting a closing statement, not an easy task in one hour! Both candidates were appreciative of the opportunity, and hopefully, voters across the geographically vast District 5 got a chance to learn more about these two candidates. After the forum, I received texts from a friend in McKinleyville and another in Hoopa letting me know they had viewed the forum and found it informative. Yay! I hope some of you watched the forum as well!

Thank you LWVHC forum volunteers: **Byrd Lochtie, Bonnie Oliver, Jessica Schlachter, Patricia-Anne WinterSun, Anne Wasson, and Julie Kelly!** You were all wonderful, and without you this type of event could not take place.

I’d also like to thank the LWVHC Board for agreeing to finance the cost of the forum. This has not been something we needed to do in the past, but with the deep cuts to funding for public broadcasting, KEET-TV would not have been able to produce the show without our financial assistance. I am so grateful that LWVHC could do this—it feels like a really appropriate use of our resources.

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FAIRS

Looking to the summer, LWVHC will once again be staffing booths at both the Arcata and Eureka 4<sup>th</sup> of July fairs. Our main goals are to register voters and to provide information about the League, as well as general voting information. If you would like to volunteer for either event, please contact me at [annehartline10@gmail.com](mailto:annehartline10@gmail.com) I will be putting together a volunteer schedule in June, and it would be really helpful for me to know which location you would prefer, whether you prefer a morning or afternoon shift, and/or if you’d like to help set up one of the booths or help take one down. FYI: It’s LOTS of fun, you’ll be working with another Leaguer, and I’m happy to provide training for you if you’re new at working a League booth.

Onward!

*Anne Hartline*  
*LWVHC Voter Service Chair*



#### ***Our Mission Statement...***

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 and advocacy.

**Election Day**  
**Tuesday**  
**June 2**



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2026

SEQUOIA CONFERENCE CENTER, ROOM A

6 pm REGISTRATION

6:30 pm DINNER \$10

(please pay ahead for a quorum count and the caterer count)

7 pm BUSINESS MEETING (NO CHARGE)

ZOOM is available for those who cannot attend in person.

Any questions please let me know.

Thank you,  
Becky Simpson  
707-498-6340

The League needs YOU!

Be sure to attend the ANNUAL MEETING in person or by  
ZOOM

Support the LWVHC in style with a tote bag or bumper sticker! Merch will be available for purchase at the Annual Meeting.

Tote bags are a limited edition ; when this batch sells out, we're on to a different design! \$15 each. Bumper stickers are \$3 each, 2 for \$5, or all 5 for \$10.



## *April Membership Meeting: Local Program Planning*

The April Membership meeting was held on April 16 on Zoom. Eleven members participated in reviewing local program planning.

The idea of changing some of the position updates so they would not all be under the same directorship in the same year was discussed. **Molly Cate** pointed out that there would have to be some overlap as the Natural Resources portfolio has three positions, the Social Policy portfolio has nine positions, and the Government portfolio has seven positions.

**Kay Escarda** pointed out that the directors of the portfolios should not have to be in charge of reviewing positions in their portfolios. The directors need a committee of volunteers to get together and plan those meetings so the directors can pay attention to current events involving their portfolios. A discussion ensued about how to get members who weren't on the board to help with position reviews.

Finally, we discussed changing the dates for the upcoming program reviews. The following changes were agreed upon by the members at the meeting:

- 2027: Transportation
- 2027: Public Health
- 2028: Hazardous Waste Management
- 2028: Local Government Financing

**Peggy Syvertson**  
**LWVHC Program Director**

## *A Tribute to Larry Simpson*

It is with sadness that I write this tribute to my friend **Larry Simpson**, longtime LWVHC member and husband of **Becky Simpson**, LWVHC Membership Chair. Becky and Larry were married for 45 years, and lived in McKinleyville on property Larry purchased in 1970. Their son, Seth, also lives there with his wife Diana.

Larry was an avid fisherman and outdoorsman. He was generous and kind in all things, including a willingness to share his knowledge and his time with anyone who sought to learn about fishing or needed help solving a problem. He had a quiet sense of humor and a warm smile that put everyone who interacted with him at ease.

You may not have met Larry at League events, but he was often there in the background. Larry was always available to complete a quorum (Zoom or otherwise) if needed, and he regularly volunteered his talents when something needed to be designed or assembled.

Larry Simpson was the sort of person who made the world just a little bit better everywhere he went. He will be greatly missed. In remembrance of Larry, Becky and Seth urge all of us to take someone fishing, get out and enjoy nature, or clean up trash from a local waterway.

*Anne Hartline*

*LWVHC Board member and Becky Simpson's friend for 40 years*

## *News from Access Humboldt*

By the time you read this newsletter, the Bold Day of Giving on Friday, May 29 should be over. Hopefully, you got to donate to some of your favorite Humboldt County non-profits. This is certainly a year when non-profit organizations will need extra support!

The Bold Day of Giving was sponsored by Access Humboldt, which also provided a series of bootcamps for participating non-profits to get them up to speed on how to conduct an on-line fundraiser, using Mighty Cause as the platform. Access Humboldt also arranged a series of TV promotions about each of the non-profits that showed multiple times on the Access Humboldt channels. Hopefully, you got to see a few. If not, go to the Access Humboldt You Tube channel to find the recordings where you will learn a lot about many of our great non-profits here in our county.

As you know from previous VOTER articles, Access Humboldt has to move from their location at College of the Redwoods by the end of May. It has been quite a challenge to find a new location, preferably one that will belong to Access Humboldt so they do not have to move again. Keep your fingers crossed that all goes smoothly with the potential site they have found. Meanwhile, the equipment that keeps the radio and TV programs going will be moved to different locations and most staff members will work from home.

WHAT ACCESS HUMBOLDT OFFERS by Christina Marie Jeffers, Executive Director of Access Humboldt.

Access Humboldt lifts ALL local voices through Community Media! Cable Access is a crucial gateway to free speech in our community and serves as a platform to represent our friends and neighbors on TV and radio that lets empathy and understanding between people grow. Access Humboldt's cable channels are the only guaranteed channels for an uncensored voice. But even more, Access Humboldt also provides television and radio studios, production gear, and education and training so people in our community can elevate the content they create. Access Humboldt is also a Workforce Development Center that delivers significant economic impact to our region: in the last two years, the agency has provided \$3.6 million dollars of total impact from outside the county!

*Janet Foos*

*LWVHC Access Humboldt Liaison*

## *A Thank you Note and a Picture of History Day League Awardees*

Thank you so much for  
your support in History Day  
this year!  
-Lili Loomis  
"Playing for More Than Gold"

Thank you for your scholarship  
and support for our project!  
-Aunika Herman "Playing for more  
than gold"

Thank you so  
much for your support  
of our National History  
Day students!

We appreciate your  
continued dedication to  
our students and  
community!  
-Drew Rieble  
MHS Social  
Science Teacher



Congratulations!

History Day  
LWVHC  
Awardees  
Left: Aunika Herman  
Right: Lili Loomis  
With their History Day entry  
Playing for More  
Than Gold

## The Avenue of the Giants Marathon Was Fun!

Thanks to a great crew, we pulled off another successful LWVHC aid station this year at the Avenue of the Giants Marathon, supporting runners, raising funds for LWVHC, and having fun the whole time!

The weather forecast for the day predicted rain, but our fearless crew braved the elements and were justly rewarded with only a teeny, tiny bit of rain. My personal thanks to Darlene Sampson, **Patricia-Anne WinterSun**, Barb Hash, **Jessica Schlachter**, **Dan Schlachter**, **Peggy Syvertson**, **Bonnie Oliver**, and **Kay Escarda**. The runners appreciated all of their Gatorade, bananas, and encouragement.

A Little History of The League and the Avenue of the Giants Marathon:

The first sanctioned Avenue race occurred in 1972, sponsored by the recently formed Six Rivers Running Club. Within a few years, signups exploded, and 5,000 runners registered. Runners sometimes come from many states and several countries. The redwoods, cool weather, and the flat course made for good qualifying times for the Boston Marathon. They now cap registration at 2,000.

When the running club began paying organizations to staff the aid stations, longtime LWVHC member Kay Escarda tapped the League membership to help support the race and the League. Our loyal League member **Carol Masterson** brought family and friends and the League banner for years. Runners would yell "Thank you League," "Love the League," and various compliments. We sure miss Carol's presence!

Through all these years, it's been a fun activity for League members and has consistently bolstered our budget. This year, Kay is passing the baton as organizer for the station for next year to me; however, Kay has promised she will stay involved! She certainly does deserve a break, having done it for over 53 years. But seriously, we want to keep Kay on our team for as long as she's willing. Her enthusiasm for the event and her knowledge of all things Avenue of the Giants Marathon are truly priceless.

I do hope Leaguers will continue to step up as past Leaguers have been all these years. The Avenue of the Giants Marathon is always on the first Sunday in May, so keep that in mind and consider volunteering next year. It really is fun!

**Anne Hartline**  
*LWVHC Voter Service Director*

L-R Top row:

1. Anne Hartline
2. Anne Hartline, Bonnie Oliver, Barb Hash, Peggy Syvertson, Kay Escarda, Jessica and Dan Schlachter
3. Runners

L-R Bottom Row:

4. Bonnie Oliver, Kay Escarda, Patricia-Anne WinterSun, Anne Hartline
5. Patricia-Anne WinterSun
6. Kay Escarda and her son, Terry Escarda



### ***Renew Now or Help Someone Become a LWVHC Member!***

Membership in the League of Women Voters, the most respected and effective grassroots organization in the country, is open to men and women of all ages. Our members make a visible difference by serving as community leaders using their experience to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Membership dues and donations to the LWVHC are not tax-deductible.

Donations to the LWVHC-Education Fund, through the Humboldt Area Foundation, are tax deductible.

Your membership will be good for 1 year from the date you pay your dues.

Visit [www.LWVHC.org](http://www.LWVHC.org) or mail the form below!

Please make checks payable to LWVUS. Send to P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502.

A single individual member payment of \$75 is suggested, but you can pay less if you wish, with a minimum of \$20 per member.

I am enclosing payment for my annual membership renewal:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_



### ***The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County***

P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502

[www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org)

[leaguehumboldt@lwvhc.org](mailto:leaguehumboldt@lwvhc.org)

(707) 444-9252

#### **Who's Who in Your 2025-2026 League Board**

- President.....Julie Kelly
- Vice President.....Peggy Syvertson
- Secretary.....Bonnie Oliver
- Treasurer.....Tess Coffman
- Program Director.....Peggy Syvertson
- Natural Resources Director.....Suzanne McClurkin-Nelson
- Social Policy Director.....Corinne Frugoni
- Government Director.....Claire Eyton
- Election Service Director.....Byrd Lochtie
- Forum Director.....Anne Hartline
- Voter Service Director.....Anne Hartline
- Membership Director.....Becky Simpson
- Social Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
- VOTER Editor.....Leslie Leach
- Community Education Director.....Anne Wasson
- Communications Director.....Jessica Schlachter
- Traditional Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
- Website Director.....Leslie Leach
- Access Humboldt Liaison.....Janet Foes
- SOCL Publicity Chair and Board Liaison....Anne Wasson
- Director.....Kathy Johanson
- Director.....Karen Price





P.O. Box 3219  
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

## ***Get Involved!***

We all have unique skills to contribute and limited time. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate. Visit [www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org) or call (707) 444-9252.

## ***Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy***

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County (LWVHC), in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to membership nor participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, or political affiliation. LWVHC recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. LWVHC affirms its commitment to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, Board, and programs. Discrimination or harassment of any kind will not be accepted within the League, including but not limited to race, socio-economic status, age, ability status, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity, or marital status. The League is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging for all people. The League is an organization that respects and values the richness of our community and our members. The collective sum of our individual differences and life experiences represents not only our culture, but our reputation and the organization's mission and achievements as well.

## ***LWVHC Calendar***

Tuesday, June 2	Election Day-VOTE!
Wednesday, June 3	LWVHC Annual Meeting Sequoia Conference Center, Room A Registration 6 pm Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:00
Tuesday, June 9 5:30 pm	Board Meeting 1698 Bella Vista Road, McKinleyville In-person
Zoom <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82436363821?pwd=kAnTSbGXQI88VncVvrFgooTOtRpvv3.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82436363821?pwd=kAnTSbGXQI88VncVvrFgooTOtRpvv3.1</a>	
Anytime	LWVHC Webpage LWVHC Instagram LWVHC X Bluesky <a href="https://bsky.app/profile/@lwvhc.bsky.social">@lwvhc.bsky.social</a>