

Dear League Members:

We've got some upcoming events that you should add to your calendars. On Thursday, Feb. 21 at 5:30pm we will have a League membership meeting with John Friedenbach, general manager, Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District telling us about some of the problems facing our water supply. We will be meeting at the Water District office 828 7th Street, Eureka. This meeting is open to the public, though seating is limited.

On Sunday, March 17th at 2pm, we will be meeting at A1AA for Local Program Planning.

We will likely receive a report on the Foster Care Study that has been led by **Keith Flamer, Michele Fell-Casale** and **Mary Lou Lowry** sometime in April. The numbers of children involved in foster care is significant in Humboldt County so our analysis of our position on foster care is very important.

On Friday, April 12th at Noon in the Adorni Center in Eureka, the League will hold its primary fundraiser and a time of inspiration as we honor award recipients for their community contributions and hear from the Board of Supervisors. Doors open at 11:30am. Online tickets available by Feb. 15th on the League's website (<https://my.lwv.org/california/humboldt-county>).

At our recent meeting on January 8th, the Board made an important decision to provide mentors for new Board members. The Board has already secured mentors—experienced League Board members—for two of our new Board members. If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact our Nominating Committee chair, **Sharolyn Hutton**. Your service on the Board will be a real pleasure as a result of excellent help from an experienced Leaguer member.

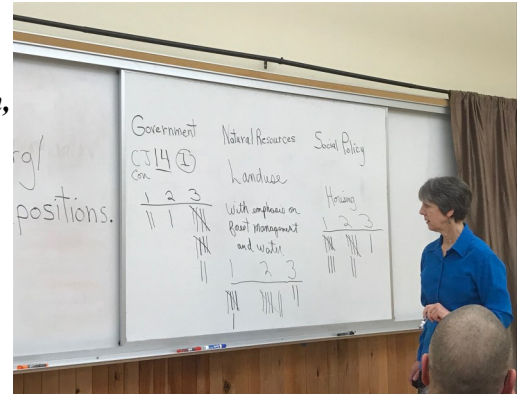
Finally, those of us who serve as poll workers in local elections were reminded by a Board member, **Byrd Lochtie**, that the stipend given to poll workers can be allocated to the League. See the article in this VOTER by about this process and how to ensure the League benefits.

Have a good month and enjoy all that rain.
Rollin Richmond
President

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.

Leslie Leach,
Natural Resources
Chair at January's Program Planning Meeting



WORKING the POLLS

Ever since 2000 LWVHC has encouraged members to participate as poll workers during local elections. There are several members who faithfully participate each election season. The Humboldt County Office of Elections appreciates the enthusiasm and dedication of League poll workers. Several of these dedicated League members also contribute their poll worker earnings to the League. Thank you, thank you to all of you work at the polls and help the League treasury at the same time. I encourage all League members to consider being a part of this great group!

Carolyn Otis
Enthusiastic poll worker and League treasury contributor

The Crucial Natural Resource: Water

Leslie Leach, Natural Resources Director

Perhaps you've heard about the rezoning proposal that threatened to allow an industrial site close to the source of the water supply for thousands of Humboldt County residents. John Friedenbach, District Manager for the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) was the single most instrumental person in beating back this threat to our clean, high quality drinking water consumed by 88,000 residents of Humboldt County. Hear what John has to say about opportunities for citizens to be involved in keeping our water supply safe. Learn how the HBMWD not only keeps us supplied with clean drinking water but also how it maintains the Mad River as a wildlife habitat.

On **Thursday, February 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the offices of the HBMWD, 828 7th Street, Eureka, CA**, John Friedenbach will provide an overview of pertinent information and answer questions regarding our local water supply – present and future.

John was born and raised in Eureka, a fourth generation Humboldt native. His sense of public service began early when he was Student Body President at Eureka High School. After graduating high school, he attended U. C. Berkeley and graduated with a BS in Business Administration. John is involved in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) where he has held numerous positions from Den Leader to Past Council President and District Chairman. He was awarded the District Award of Merit by the BSA. In addition, he is involved in the Kiwanis Club of Henderson Center where he has served as president twice and as treasurer and is currently the Kiwanis secretary and Lieutenant Governor for Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. He has been Kiwanian of the Year three times.

As General Manager of the HBMWD, John has many duties. To name a few, he is responsible for carrying out the Board of Directors' policies, directing District operations, controlling District expenditures, and overseeing all programs and activities of the District. He also provides full charge and control over construction, maintenance, and operation of the regional water system. And of the utmost importance to many Humboldt County residents, John ensures both compliance with water quality laws and regulations and sufficient water supply capability to meet customer demands.

We hope you'll attend to learn how our clean water supply is assured now and how we may help to keep it that way.

STATE OF COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

by **Debbe Hartridge, SOCL**

Time to mark your calendars for our annual State of the Community Luncheon, to be held at the Adorni Center Friday, April 12. The luncheon is our major fundraiser as well as a time to be inspired by the 2019 recipients of our Civic Contribution Award. We have so many worthy local organizations and individuals that it's a challenge each year for the committee to pick the award winners.

This year we'll honor Dell Arte International, a unique theatre program which, back in 1971, chose Blue Lake as the spot to develop a physical theatre like none other. Described by Joan Schirle, founding artistic director, Dell Arte is "a work-in-progress, a living entity, a company-school-laboratory-incubator-presenter-artistic community-home." Their original plays have tackled local issues, their students come from all over the world, and they perform locally as well as internationally and in other parts of the US.

The individual we will honor is Michele McKeegan. She was instrumental in founding Six Rivers Planned Parenthood and served as the executive director from 1975 until her retirement in 1992. After retirement, she has steadfastly volunteered with the Keep Eureka Beautiful group, whose mission is "*to encourage residents and businesses to maintain and enhance the beauty of this Victorian Seaport. Communities that are kept clean and attractive enjoy more economic benefits and experience less crime.*"

Watch your Voter and check our website for info about ticket purchase and details. The luncheon tends to sell out, so we recommend you plan ahead. See you there, April 12!

New League Members

Kintay Johnson

Tricia Hamill

PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING SUMMARY from JANUARY 27th

Judy Bennett, Program Chair

Sixteen League members participated in a lively and stimulating discussion of State Program Planning on Sunday, January 27, 2019 at the Humboldt Area Foundation.

Presenters, **Keith Flamer**, social policy chair, **Leslie Leach**, natural resources, **Elaine Weinreb**, government all gave brief but informing reviews of the LWVC positions in their respective portfolio. Program Chair, **Judy Bennett** explained the meaning of update, study and concurrence. She explained that the decisions made by local Leagues at State Program Planning are submitted to LWVC to be voted on at convention in Pasadena, May 31 -June 2, and will determine what actions LWVC takes over the next two years.

Local Leagues were mandated to find three topics or suggested concurrences that their members wanted to be “issues for emphasis”. This year LWVC asked us to direct our discussion to what positions were best suited for “Making Democracy Work”. There was much discussion and interaction among those attending and most seemed agreeable to all suggestions that were presented by the panel.

We learned from the membership that housing or lack of housing is a problem throughout the state and that we should refer to citizens without homes as Houseless or Unsheltered. Homeless has become pejorative.

Discussion of water problems throughout the state created much discourse. We learned about “Water Fix” and the \$17 billion contract to build tunnels for water in California and a state Senate bill that would tax drinking water.

Forest management and land use also garnered many responses. Though the majority of forests in California are on federal land, California suffers when fires become uncontrollable.

Pending agreement by the LWVHC board, we will be sending a report to LWVC that we want housing for all to be their greatest area of action, followed by natural resources with emphasis on proper water and forest management.

As our final choice, the group agreed with the adoption of a criminal justice position to be created by LWVC through concurrence. This concurrence, in brief, suggests the elimination of private prisons, the removal of mental health from the criminal justice system and more oversight of law enforcement.

I want to thank my panel for all the work they put into preparation for their presentations and for the League members who attended and participated. This is “Making Democracy Work”.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HUMBOLDT

Luncheon Committee

Judy Bennett, Chair

Kay Escarda

Nancy Frost

Debbe Hartridge

Sharolyn Hutton

Nancy Kay

Lorey Keele

Julie Kelly

Byrd Lochtie

Carolyn Presscott

Judith Stoffer

LWVHC cordially invites you to the 28th Annual State of the Community Luncheon to honor

Dell'Arte International

and

**Michele McKeegan
Community Volunteer**

Master of Ceremonies – Anne Hartline
The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

State of the County Remarks – Rex Bohn, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Keynote Speaker – **Cassandra Hesseltine, Film Commissioner**
Humboldt-Del Norte Film Commission

Friday, April 12, 2019

11:30 Seating

12:00 – 1:30 Luncheon and Program

Adorni Center

Please detach and send with your check

My check is enclosed to support the 2019 State of the Community Luncheon:

- A \$45 contribution entitles a **League member** to one luncheon seat.
- I wish to support the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and have my name printed in the program. Please reserve _____ ticket(s) at \$65 per person.
- I am unable to attend the luncheon, but I wish to support the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County with a contribution of \$_____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Payment must be received in advance. Please make checks payable to LWVHC and mail to 4835 Dickson Drive, Eureka, CA 95503 or use PayPal at LWVHC.org (707) 442-2729

Contributions to the LWVHC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

434 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501
P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502
www.lwvhc.org
info@lwvhc.org

2018-2019 BOARD

President.....Rollin Richmond
Vice President.....Deborah Downs
Secretary.....Patricia-Anne WinterSun
Treasurer.....Nancy Kay
Program Director.....Judy Bennett
Natural Resources Director.....Leslie Leach
Election Service Director.....Byrd Lochtie
Forum Director.....Carol Masterson
Voter Service Director.....Anne Hartline
Membership Director.....Becky Simpson
Membership Advocacy.....Hawley Riffenburg
Webmaster/Social Media Chair.....Kathy Johanson
VOTER Editor.....Julie Kelly
Community Education DirectorNancy Kay
Social Policy Director.....Keith Flamer
Communication Director.....Julie Kelly
Traditional Media/Publicity Chair.....Jessica Snow

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.

Annual Dues are due each year on July 1st

Visit www.LWVHC.org or mail the form below!

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

Yes! I want to join the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and become a voice for citizens and a force for change.

I also want to gift a membership!

Name _____ Phone _____

I am enclosing for my annual membership renewal:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

FOLLOW US —
WE HAVE SEVERAL WAYS!!

WEBSITE = lwvhc.org

FACEBOOK = League of Women Voters Humboldt County

TWITTER = @LWVHumboldt



Join Now!

LWV of HUMBOLDT COUNTY

THE VOTER

P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

LWVHC Calendar

- **Board Meeting** **Tuesday, 2/12/2019**
530pm
- **VOTER article deadline** **Friday, 2/18/2019**
- **State Program Planning Mtg** **Thursday,**
2/21/2019
Water District 828 7th St Eureka **530pm**
- **Board Meeting** **Tuesday, 3/12/2019**
530pm
- **Membership Mtg** **Sunday,**
3/17/2019
Location to be announced **2pm**



LWVHC Board Briefs January 2019 Secretary, Patricia-Anne WinterSun

At the January board meeting your board:

- Decided to formalize mentoring for new board members
- Accepted Nancy Kay's resignation from the board to become treasurer
- Appointed Nancy Kay treasurer
- Appointed Hawley Riffenburg to the newly created portfolio of Membership Advocacy