

Set the Agenda

Zoom

to join

article.

A Civic Valentine

**Election Reflection** 

Young Poets to Read

Assault on Democracy

**LWVMC** Information

January meeting ...

Did democracy win?

Links

Jackson Forest

LWVMC Search

It's

by Dorine Real The theme of our February general meeting (Tuesday evening, February 21, at

at Caspar **Community** 

Caspar Community Center) will be "Program Planning." This slightly obscure League technical term just means deciding what we want to do this year. We will choose our local League's themes and also recommend to the California League what we would like them to work on. It's easy to assume that our recommendations won't have a big effect on the state League's plans. While this may be true, it's a good thing for us to involve

ourselves in the state planning process as a first step towards participating in statewide projects. Especially for a small group like ours, it's energizing to be part of a larger effort. The California League's current "Issues for Emphasis" (adopted by Convention 2021 delegates for 2021-2023) are: Advancing the Making Democracy Work Campaign including civic education Climate Change and Sustainability, including a focus on Water Resources Housing and Homelessness February 21 Criminal Justice Reform LWVC pursues these issues through lobbying and research, as well as by educating members and alerting us to potential actions. You can check out the interest areas and projects that members are pursuing on a statewide level by attending the webinar LWVC Interest Groups Training

Center **Tuesday** 

6:00 pm or you can still from home: (February 16 at 7 PM) as well as by visiting the online discussion groups page. **CLICK HERE** The other part of our planning effort will be choosing our "issues for emphasis" at the local level. Last year we chose four issues, with the intent of forming groups to study, and possibly act, at the local level. The issues were: Water • Land Use Planning (Mill Site) Transparency and Participation in Government Justice System Reform

more scope to develop a deeper understanding and an action plan.

We do *not* need to choose new topics, though we could. State and national

Leagues choose issues for emphasis on a biannual basis, and that approach allows However, there is an emergent topic, brought to our attention by the Grass Roots Institute: the updates of the Fort Bragg City and Mendocino County Local Coastal Plans. The multi-year process to finally update these plans (the county's is 30 version), there will be complete revisions of all the planning elements. Such

years old) has just been funded by the Coastal Commission. Although the big areas. The planning process also challenges us to live up to our mission of promoting a robust and diverse civic engagement process.

topic of the studies is sea level rise (which was not even addressed in the current topics as housing and transportation will be up for reexamination, and decisions made now will determine the quality of life on our coast for decades. This topic has the potential to be an organizing principle to draw together our disparate issue promoting participation and inclusion. GRI has invited us to partner with them in This will be our first face-to-face meeting in quite a while, so we'll have the inperson extras: coffee and tea, a casual before-business social time, and a chance for old, new, and prospective members to meet each other. Socializing will start at 6:00, and we will get down to business by 6:30. The meeting should wrap up by 7:30. Please do bring a friend — more viewpoints make a livelier, more

productive discussion.

Also in this edition: Calendar February 8 (Wednesday) 4:00 PM Zoom Movie, Songs of the Suffragists, LWVNEW February 15 10-11 AM Zoom Criminal Justice IG: Reproductive Rights in California 7 PM February 16 (Thursday) Zoom

Click on the entry to jump to the LWVC Interest Groups training Smart Assistance Aimed at Youth February 21 (Tuesday) 6:00 PM **Essay Contest for Students** 

Caspar CC

General meeting: State and Local Program Planning February 26 (Sunday) 10:00-11:30 AM Young poets reading March 30

Scholarship Opportunities Zoom Deadline for High School name change essays Noyo Harbor's Blue Economy May 19-21 San Francisco California League News LWVC convention

Read, Watch, Sing About Suffrage your friends and neighbors.

The public is welcome at these LWVMC events. Please invite President's message ... A Civic Valentine by Paula Cohen February is the second month of our year. For such a short month it has many

willing to lend your time and energy. As your co-Chairs we want to support your

Thirteen people attended the League's January 17 general meeting on Zoom,

regarding the November 2022 election. The program was divided into five parts— Local Results, Redistricting, Voter Suppression, Threats to Election Officials, and

Moderator Pat Dunbar opened the meeting with a recap of local county results,

2020 census. Six more states have independent commissions for state legislative

independent and political commissioners. The rest of the states have redistricting

Cindy pointed out that the over-60 group still represented the highest level of turnout over all the age groups. Despite the comparatively high recent voter turnout, Pat thinks the League and others still have much work to do to bring the U.S. closer to the participation levels in other democracies around the world. Because the number of polling places in poor communities have been reduced, and other restrictions have lately been put in place, there have recently been long lines for people waiting to vote. So legislation has been introduced in Congress to require a maximum of 30-minute wait times for voters across the country. Pat

Jane Person reported on several well-documented cases of threats being made to election officials of both major parties, including the case of an Iowa man who threatened to kill a Maricopa County, Arizona election official during the preelection-day voting period last fall, and the dramatic testimony of Georgia

election officials about the aftermath of the 2020 election, testimony which was televised at the January 6 Committee hearings last summer. Such intimidation has caused many officials to quit — and discouraged volunteer poll workers from continuing their work. Jane listed a number of measures which could support election administrators and encourage public-minded citizens to continue or to step up: better funding for conducting elections, modernized equipment, an

established paper trail of votes, and better oversight by law enforcement officials. A measure is moving through the Senate with the support of Amy Klobuchar and

others, which would provide financial help for cash-strapped local election

Those who spread mis- and dis-information about election results, who claim unfoundedly that the results are wrong, or that the election was 'stolen,' make

boundaries. Two others have hybrid systems involving a combination of

celebratory days, such as Groundhog Day, President's Day, Random Acts of Kindness Day, National Girls and Women in Sports Day, Dark Chocolate Day, and Marijuana Awareness Day. But it is best known for Valentine's Day, as a time to celebrate love. Love is not only for sweethearts -- love can be for an individual, a place, a pet, a special food, an activity or a community. Whatever it is we develop a passion for, we gain meaning, purpose and a direction that energizes us to act and become connected. One of the ways we express our 'love of community' is by participating in civic engagement to improve our environment and institutions and support the people around us. Our local League, LWVMC, will shortly engage in Program Planning to identify activities and programs to support, turning our energy into action. We want this Planning to be based on issues you, the members, are passionate about and are

passions and projects that support democracy.

**Election Reflection** 

Election Fraud Claims.

Local Results

including the fact that the Hopland Fire District special measure to raise funds, though supported by a majority of voters, was not approved by the necessary 2/3 margin. The complete county returns are now available on the county elections website. Redistricting Commissions Cindy Plank began the next section with the League's official position on redistricting, in brief: "The League of Women Voters believes that responsibility for redistricting, preferably, should be vested in an independent special commission, with membership that reflects the diversity of the unit of government, including citizens at large, representatives of public interest groups, and members of minority groups." California is one of eight states (AZ, CO, HI, ID, MI, MN, and WA are the others) with an independent electoral commission (composed, in our case, of five each Democrats and Republicans and four independents) that determined the Congressional redistricting mandated by the

done by their legislatures themselves. It was notable, said Cindy, that in California, unlike in many other states, no court cases were filed challenging its new maps. According to an LA Times editorial, that was due to how well the independent redistricting commission followed the federal voting rights law. Co-President Dorine Real solicited comments from other LWVC leaders regarding criticism of our independent commission, and they all responded with ringing endorsements of how it is a shining model for other states to follow (as Michigan recently did). Although independent commissions are not mandated on the county or city level in California, Cindy lauded our Mendocino County Supervisors for naming an independent citizens advisory group to redraw their districts following the 2020 census. (But see also the report from LWVC, discussed below - eds) Voter Suppression Although a number of states enacted new voting laws which the League and others viewed as attempts to restrict voters' access to the polls, Pat reported that voter turnout in 2022 was historically high, and included a significant improvement in the young voter participation demographic, vis a vis others.

suggested that the League should back it.

agencies to enable such reforms.

be a team player

interesting work.

community

You will be able to:

• build your leadership skills

website (247help.org) states:

**Election Fraud Claims** 

Threats to Election Officials

three kinds of claims: that voting machines are inaccurate; that voting by mail is unreliable; or that widespread cheating, such as people voting more than once, has taken place. Repeated investigations by the courts and by non-partisan organizations have proved such claims to have next to zero validity. Pat suggested that League members could defuse such deniers by shining a light on how ridiculous the claims are, by welcoming them to air their complaints in a way that highlights the truth. She cited an article by the Brennan Center that suggests deniers' use of social media could be countered by groups such as the League, using the same means to spread accurate information about how elections are actually carried on. LWVMC Search Our League is seeking qualified individuals for future positions as committee and board members. Are you a person able to: be a good problem solver

respond to telephone and email messages

 help to set the direction for the LWVMC expand your commitment to the League

Smart Assistance Aimed at Youth

including: Supplemental Food and Nutrition Programs • Shelter and Housing Options Utilities Assistance Emergency Information and Disaster Relief • Employment and Education Opportunities Services for Veterans • Healthcare, vaccination and health epidemic information Addiction Prevention and Rehabilitation Programs • Re-entry help for ex-offenders • Support groups for individuals with mental illnesses or special needs • A safe, confidential path out of physical and/or emotional domestic violence

**Essay Contest for Students** 

FBHS students will learn and reflect on local history

following background:

contest sponsored by the Change Our Name-Fort Bragg organization. We are not affiliated with this group in any way. Thank you." And, although three of the judges are League members, the League has taken no position on the name change issue itself. Scholarship Opportunities by Kathy Wylie, from the Mendocino Announce List The Community Foundation of Mendocino County is accepting applications for

Youth Poet Laureate and Point Arena High School student, will co-host. Several Mendocino County students have their work published in the anthology and are invited to read. February 26th, 10 - 11:30 AM via Zoom." Register here: http:// ow.ly/C0qA50MwJmT. Jackson Forest Management Pomo tribe and allies continue to insist on a voice The Save Jackson Demonstration State Forest group, a coalition of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians and a number of local environmental and social justice organizations, held a "Pomo Land Back" webinar on Jan. 25 to publicize their effort to enable indigenous leadership in the management of the local state

Young Poets to Read Their

Work Online

Grass Roots Institute

harvester can go out, certain conditions must be met—no whales in the area which could get caught up in operations; low levels of demoic acid in the ocean; sufficient protein in the body composition of the crabs; a quiet ocean (i.e. no storms); and a wholesale price sufficient to pay to cost of harvesting. This year, once all the first conditions had been met, there was no price being offered by the crab buyer. Then there was an offer of \$1.89—not enough to pay the

enough funding for the new infrastructure.

The second half of the meeting was devoted to different GRI 'working groups.' League member Morning Nichols attended the Mendocino Vision working group, led by Peter McNamee, and sent in this report: Peter suggested that the group shift its focus, for the time being, entirely to the upcoming Local Coastal Program updates to be conducted by Mendocino County, the city of Fort Bragg in concert with the Noyo Harbor District, and the city of Point Arena [see Midwinter '22 Voter]. An LCP consists of 2 parts: Policiessetting general rules, purposes, and objectives; and Implementation—how the

Updated Policy on Sustainable Food Production With almost 70,000 farms in California, the agriculture industry employs about 10% of California's labor force. Providing 50% of the fruits, nuts and vegetables consumed in the United States, this \$50 billion/year industry is a vital part of California's economy and is integral to our nation's food security. Climate change is a direct threat to that security. LWVC has responded to these facts with a new LWVC Climate Smart Agriculture and Food Action Policy. Biannual Convention The state convention will be held May 19–21 in San Francisco this year. A wonderful opportunity for Mendocino County members to participate, and to take advantage of the funds in the annual budget which have been allocated to support attendance. California Redistricting In a fundraising appeal California League Executive Director Stephanie Doute announced the release of a new report on redistricting. "In partnership with a coalition of civil rights and civic engagement organizations, the League of Women Voters of California released a report today that evaluates California's 2020 redistricting cycle and the implementation of the Fair Maps Act (FMA) ... Findings show that city councils, county boards of supervisors, and school boards in many regions manipulated redistricting processes to entrench incumbents' political power at the expense of California's communities." The full press release details the problems found and ways to address them. State President Carol Moon Goldberg commented, "We need to build on the success of the Fair Maps Act to give diverse communities even more robust tools to ensure that their voices are heard, gerrymandering is eradicated, and our democracy can thrive. This report is our guide to that work."

Co-operate and Govern for the Benefit of the Public On January 31 League of Women Voters of the United States CEO Virginia Kase Solomón issued the following statement about the 118th Congress: "After a historic delay in electing a Speaker of the House, we welcome the new Congress and urge our elected officials to get to the important work of governing this great nation. The American people who voted last fall expect our nation's leaders to work in a bipartisan manner to shape the future of our country and our communities. We congratulate the new Speaker of the House, Kevin McCarthy, and Patty Murray, the first woman to be elected President *Pro Tempore* in the Senate. We urge both chambers to work together to put people over politics and preserve the democracy of this great nation. "For more than a century, the League of Women Voters has worked to empower voters and defend democracy. We believe that voting is a fundamental principle

what has been produced:

and a vehicle for all Americans to have their voices heard. It is critical that this new Congress makes voting rights a priority in this country once and for all. The League of Women Voters looks forward to working with this new Congress and prioritizing the issues that impact our democracy and the American people the

> years published a series of articles on the history of suffragists called The Feminist 4, has finished its work. Cindy Plank sent us their announcement, which contains a convenient index of

January 2021: Feminism Through Fashion February 2021: A Playlist of Feminist Anthems

May 2021: Motherhood and Reproductive Justice

March 2021: Unsung Feminist Heroes

April 2021: Leveling the Playing Field

October 2021: Women Religious Leaders

November 2021: Wartime Women Heroes

September 2021: Women Writers

February 2022: Unpopular Opinions

April 2022: Female Environmentalists

October 2022: Women Journalists November 2022: Women Warriors December 2022: Women Toymakers

Summer 2022: Dominating Extreme Sports September 2022: Calling Balls and Strikes

March 2022: Women in STEM

May 2022: Waxing Poetic

Keep up with the topics covered in the *Voter* by visiting our Mendocino County League on Facebook. The site is http://www.facebook.com/LWVMendo1/ You don't even have to sign up in order to see what is posted there.

January 2022: Memes

Land Acknowledgement The League of Women Voters of Mendocino County wishes to honor the land we are on and its native peoples. We want to offer recognition and respect; to counter the "doctrine of discovery" with the true story of the people who were already here; to support larger truthtelling and reconciliation efforts; and to remind ourselves that colonization is still happening. We acknowledge that the land where we live and work is un-ceded territory of indigenous peoples since time began. We are surrounded by the traditional, ancestral territory and current homeland of many indigenous nations.

> Jimmy Gomez with his son, Hodge, at the U.S. Capitol on January 3. Rep. Gomez is part of the newly formed Dads' Caucus.

Links Complete local election results: mendocinocounty.org/government/assessor-county-clerk-recorder-elections/ Community Foundation scholarships: https://communityfound.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships/

 make decisions and follow through • be a full participant in discussions

Then consider joining other interesting and interested League members doing

• learn to use your skills to make things happen for the League and for your

If this sounds like an opportunity you or someone you know might want to

League member Gary Levinson-Palmer belongs to the Mendocino County

being launched called 24/7 Help, that lists all the resources for youth in

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission, and recently sent us news about a new resource in the county. A new Android and Apple application is

Mendocino and Lake County. The Mendocino/Lake unit is going to be one of only two CASA organizations in the country to have such a phone application. Its

24/7 HELP Information and Referral Service operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week and every day of the year. Live-operator service is available at all times in English and Spanish and assistance is available in other languages via real-time interpreter services. 24/7 HELP operators will help individuals and families throughout the state find resources that are available to them locally, and will provide connections to critical services that can improve—and save—lives,

The GRI working group Change Our Name has announced an essay contest

"designed to get Fort Bragg High School students thinking and writing about their school name." The working group was formed in response to last year's Fort Bragg City Council ad hoc committee's consideration of whether the city should change its name. That committee finished its investigation with a report giving reasons for and against such a change, and stating there was no clear consensus at this time on how the city should proceed. The contest announcement gives the

"Of course the 300 or so folks who are part of our group are clearly in favor of a name change given Braxton Bragg's role as a General in the Confederate Army and as a slaveholder and the Fort's historical role in dispossessing the original Indigenous inhabitants of our land. But we realize that many people and many

After the announcement, Joseph Aldridge, Superintendent of the FBUSD, published the following statement: "To our Families, Staff Members, and Community: Fort Bragg Unified School District does not endorse the essay

the 2023 Scholarship Program. The program has grown significantly over the last few years, with Community Foundation donors meeting the demand for increased educational opportunities. The 2023 cycle includes over forty scholarships, with offerings for every corner of the county. In 2022, the Community Foundation awarded 110 scholarships totaling \$383,000. Each of the Community Foundation scholarships have been crafted by a local resident. The donor selects the award's criteria and preferences, often naming the scholarship in honor of a loved one. Endowing a scholarship provides a permanent way of honoring its namesake and fostering a legacy in the next generation. In addition to traditional scholarships, the Community Foundation offers support for technical, trade, and vocational school students. Whether a student is seeking a vocational, two-year, or four-year

degree, the Community Foundation has options to sustain them on their

The Mendocino County Office of Education has invited the public to the California Poets State Anthology Reading on Sunday, February 26. Their announcement states that "Sidney Regelbrugge, our own Mendocino County

logging to indigenous land management." A key change which they are seeking is to keep large trees alive, where they can continue to sequester carbon from the atmosphere. Since new timber harvest plans (THP's) are likely to be proposed, the coalition wants to help the public make comments about them. The presenters offered information about the petition to back their efforts, for which they are seeking 10,000 signatures, and about published statements from Ms. Hunter

concerning the forest situation. The coalition also seeks donations, and invites the public to upcoming Volunteer Work Days (to make signs) at noon on February 12 at Bainbridge Park in Fort Bragg, and at 2 PM on February 26 at Rec Grove Park

Noyo Harbormaster Anna Neumann spoke at the monthly meeting of the Grass Roots Institute (GRI) on January 22 at the Caspar Community Center. Anna, who studied oceanography at Humboldt State (now Cal Poly Humboldt), earned a Master's Degree in marine ecosystems there, and engaged in commercial fishing in Noyo Harbor along the way, was named Harbormaster in September of 2021. The Harbor District is in charge of the mooring basin, the marina, and the mud underlying commercial establishments in the harbor, and rents mooring slips both to transient and long-term boats. Besides taking responsibility for maintaining the District's facilities in working condition, she sees her role as supporting fishing

businesses while learning how the harbor can change and develop as new

Noyo-Harbor-CSP-June-2019-FINAL.pdf) published in 2019 gives her a

The Community Sustainability Plan (noyoharbordistrict.org/wp-content/uploads/

convenient to-do list of 11 areas to guide her work. She described the three top

• Renovate and repair the existing docks, which are crucial for fishermen to do

• Develop a new fuel dock downstream from the existing one at Dolphin Isle, which will lower fuel costs for larger vessels which now depend on trucks for

• Develop a new refrigeration facility which would more efficiently provide

She hopes public/private joint ventures can be developed which could provide

the recent Blue Economy Symposium, the harbormaster said that her focus was on making the infrastructure secure enough to support the traditional industries of charter fishing, commercial fishing, and tourism (whale watching and restaurants, for example) as well as any new forms of aquaculture which may develop. She thinks the vision for creating new economies is better left to others, such as the Noyo Center for Marine Science and the Ocean Conservancy. In her view, state and federal regulations have been good for the sustainability of the marine

economy—she cited the comeback of the picacho population as an example of the benefit which current policy provides. She is determined to do what she can to keep the 'fishing village' designation in force, so that tourism co-exists with viable commercial harvesting—a condition which benefits tourism dependent

goals are to be achieved. Creating the LCP is scheduled to take approximately 4 years, a process which includes hiring various consultants, conducting studies, and taking extensive public input. There is nearly \$3M in funding for the three separate updates, which, together, will cover the entire Mendocino Coast and the Noyo and Point Arena Harbors, and even more funding could be provided, should

studies of commercial and recreational fishing; deep exploration of our Coast; and the analysis of data collected. Peter suggested that Mendocino Coast will become attractive to populations who are forced to relocate from other parts of California by the sea level rise which climate change is causing. A next step will be to invite the Fort Bragg city manager to discuss the city's LCP update plans at a public meeting. The main points of contact for LCP information are County Planning Director Julia Krog. and Fort Bragg Asst. City Manager, Sarah McCormick.

Anyone interested in participating in this newly focused Working Group is invited

The Diablo Valley League has taken action in response to disinformation reported concerning a school board election in San Ramon. It sent a letter to the East Bay

the need for it arise. The funds are from grants awarded by the Coastal Commission to plan for Climate Change Mitigation, and include money for

necessary ice at reduced prices, making the costs at Noyo more comparable to

in Willits. More information can be found at savejackson.org.

Noyo Harbor's Blue Economy

industries take shape there.

priorities listed there:

other California ports.

their work;

Anna illustrated the economic pressure which is forcing a decline in captains who can stay in business, by discussing the factors which affect the crab industry. Before a crab

overhead. Finally there was a 'handshake' offer of \$3.50, but only for a first quantity, not the whole harvest, a

situation which fosters a frenzied race to be first to bring in

contact the Community Foundation office at (707) 468-9882.

educational journey (see the full list here). Applications can be submitted through the online application portal. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 on March 10, 2023. If you would like to request assistance or accommodations, please

pursue, please contact Carol Czadek, Nominating Committee Chair.

students don't know this history. So the contest will impel them to research and make up their own minds about the issue. The essays will be judged not on whether the students agree with us, but on the breadth of their research and the force of their arguments for or against the name change." The contest offers prizes of \$1000, \$500, and \$200 for the top three essays. A panel composed of Angela Dominguez, Matt LaFever, Blanca Peña, Jane Person, and Loreto Rojas, none of whom are affiliated with the working group, will judge the entries. Submissions will be accepted from February 1 until March 30, and should be sent as Word attachments to changeournamefortbragg@gmail.com.

forest, which is currently operated by CALFire, the state forestry agency. Coyote Valley elder Priscilla Hunter was unable to attend due to illness, but coalition members Andy Wellspring and Megan Wolf, along with attorney Matt Simmons of EPIC, presented some background history and information on the group's current efforts. It is "working to change the mandate of JDSF from industrial

the catch, and which only allows large boats to get their whole catch paid for at a sufficient price. Anna Neumann, Noyo harbormaster Photo courtesy of Carrie Durkee To a question concerning future development at the harbor, such as envisioned by

Times on December 22: Dear Editor: It is troubling to learn that in the 2022 San Ramon Valley Unified School District election, according to your December 16th article, "Campaign Tricks Cited ... in Election", a disinformation effort may have influenced the outcome of that contest. The article reported fabricated information used to attack one candidate. In the current environment of anonymous "publishers," the League of Women Voters Diablo Valley encourages voters to consistently verify sources. Disinformation deprives us of free and fair elections, prevents voters from having accurate information with which to make decisions, and creates distrust in representative government. It is important that voters stay vigilant and alert to honesty and truth in election information. Information about spotting and stopping mis- and disinformation can be found on our website lwvdv.org. Anne Granlund

**Upcoming Webinars** 

President, League of Women Voters Diablo Valley

The LWVC Criminal Justice Interest Group has announced an event to be given

California, and the CA DOJ's efforts to protect and defend access to abortion and reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Supreme Court's Dobbs decision overturning Roe v Wade." The date is February 15, from 10 to 11 AM. Register

by the California Department of Justice concerning "reproductive rights in

The LWVC invites the public to an Interest Group All-Hands Training on Thursday, February 16 at 7 PM. "Join this webinar to learn more about the purpose and operation of LWVC Interest Groups across all areas. As Advocacy Interest groups grow, they continue to provide an important forum for members to

support each other in exploring advocacy and educational work. All Interest Group members are encouraged to attend this educational training!" Register

here. Or find a group in this listing of all the LWVC Interest Groups.

to contact Peter at pmcnamee@sbcglobal.net.

Advocacy for Free and Fair Elections

California League News

"Two years ago today, we all witnessed the insurrection attempt at the Capitol, as anti-democracy forces attempted to circumvent the will of the people and take over the U.S. government. It is a day none of us will forget. As we set out to watch the wheels of democracy turn, we instead were met with violence, hatred, and a disinformation-fueled attempt to overthrow the election. This was not how we imagined the next chapter of American history beginning. And still, it was. On that day, democracy won. The election was certified and power transferred to the lawfully elected President and Vice President. But democracy is not guaranteed. And this chapter of American history, whose story started in violence, disinformation-fueled outrage, and divisiveness, continues to be written. Together, we are fighting for our democracy and the people in it every single day. Last month, we asked you to help protect progress. And you did. This month, we remember January 6, 2020 and take a moment to acknowledge how fragile that progress is and why we do the work we all do. The fight to defend our democracy is not over. Right now, we are watching as the House of Representatives cannot elect a Speaker, because of the ingrained

On January 6, California League Executive Director Stephanie Doute published the following reflection on the second anniversary of the uprising at the national

divisiveness, and the love of power over progress. We are seeing what happens when those we elect fail to put the people and our democracy at the heart of our

Democracy is not guaranteed. And this is why the League, our mission, and the

democracy work. Whether you are registering voters, educating them, driving equity-based policy change, holding your local officials accountable – you are making democracy work. And as long as we remember that we are all needed to do our part, and we keep showing up, I have optimism and hope for the future we

work we do matters so much. Each of you, in your own ways, makes our

Will it be difficult? Yes. Will it take time? Yes. But we are the League of

do the difficult work ahead and continue to defend our democracy for the

Women Voters. This is our legacy. We have been fighting the good fight for over 100 years and difficult things have never stopped us. On this anniversary of the January 6 insurrection, I encourage you to take a little time to reflect. Appreciate the work that you and our League community have done to defend democracy. And shore yourself up for the work we have yet to do, because together we will

*Voter* readers may also wish to review the US League's statement issued after the final report of the January 6 Committee was released. And LWVUS executive director Virginia Kase Solomón and LWVC President Carol Moon Goldberg both spoke at the January 6th Remembrance & Action Sundown Vigil held by the East

Assault on Democracy

Remembering the January 6 Insurrection

Capitol:

government.

will build together.

generations to come."

Bay League.

League urges Congress:

Read, Watch, and Sing About Suffrage Songs of the Suffragists: The New York area League unit which over the past several Lyrics of American Feminism 1850-2020

egister to attend

ia ZOOM

Learn about the history of

American feminism

through suffragist song lyrics

From the right to write to the right to be free from violence American women have campaigned for equality. But the

women's movement is more than a mere political light, it's a cultural baille for American hearts and minds. This free, virtual program includes a 25-minute documentary focusing the

intersection of music and politics in the Women's Novement,

which will be followed by an author-led conversation based on

the book and film, "Songs of the Suffragists,"

Register for this movie presentation

.EAGUE or WOMEN VOTERS\*
OF NORTHEAST WEST CHEST

most."

Contact LWVMC By mail: P.O. Box 1128, Fort Bragg CA 95437 By email: voter@mcn.org Our website: lwvmendo.org Our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/LWVMendo1 **LWV Mission Statement** The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, strives to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy.

LWVC interest groups: https://my.lwv.org/california/join-online-discussion-group current-election-results Essay contest: changeournamefortbragg@gmail.com

scholarship-programs/; application portal: https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon? urlkey=mendocinocountyscholarship Young poets: http://ow.ly/C0qA50MwJmT Jackson Forest petition: https://epic.salsalabs.org/protectpomohomelandsandredwoodforestsjacksonforest/ index.html; statements: mendocinotrailstewards.org/stewards-readings-blog/priscilla-hunter-speaks Noyo Community Sustainability Plan: noyoharbordistrict.org/wp-content/uploads/Noyo-Harbor-CSP-June-2019-FINAL.pdf Email GRI re LCP updates: pmcnamee@sbcglobal.net. Register for reproductive rights webinar: doj-ca.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/ WN iO9cvefHTsutuZv8U2ZuxQ Register for interest groups webinar: us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ tZcoduCqrjMiGNCSQ3 nG84eAO3Dcgodyarr LWVC interest groups: my.lwv.org/california/join-online-discussion-group

Climate smart agriculture action policy: lwvc.org/climate-smart-agriculture-and-food-action-policy

LWVUS statement on January 6 committee closing: lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/lwv-statement-

Songs of the Suffragists: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN kOlquS6EQKOrTHN3yI61sQ

january-6th-committee-final-business-meeting; vigil: lwvbae.org/league-news/the-january-6th-vigil/.

California redistricting: lwvc.org/news/promise-fair-maps; lwvc.org/sites/default/files/

State convention: https://lwvc.wordpress.com

FMA%20Press%20Release.pdf