

Dear LWVHC Members:

Thank you all for your continuing support of our local League and for your support of the California and National League. Such support is increasingly important in these political times. I am continuously impressed by the work that our Board and other members do to support our efforts to preserve and strengthen our democracy.

September 25th was National Voter Registration day. **Helen Hutchinson**, the President of the California League, congratulated us all for our work to register voters in several places on that day. We all need to give **Anne Hartline** a pat on the back for all her work to set up registration events all over the county. **Anne** organized four places for people to register from Arcata to Fortuna.

Also **Carol Masterson** organized seven forums for candidates to answer questions about their reasons for seeking public office. The schedule for these forums is available elsewhere in this VOTER.

The use of social media is an increasingly important way to reach folks about what the League is doing. We need to thank **Kathy Johanson** and **Jessica Snow** for setting up accounts on Facebook and Twitter and providing information to local papers.

Finally the Board of Directors of LWVHC decided to support the local ballot initiative, Measure O, that will continue the sales tax the voters enacted in 2014 as Measure Z that is set to expire in 2020. Our local position on Local Government Financing in Humboldt County states that we support adequate local government financing to maintain government services to meet the demands of the community. This position has been applied to support Measure O, which will continue the sales tax that has been used to support our police and fire departments, repair our roads and help children who have been victims of crime. We will shortly publish a letter prepared by **Nancy Kay** and others both on social media and our local papers.

Have a good month and thanks again for being member of our League.

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.



2018 North Country Fair — Patricia-Anne and George

Tweet, Tweet

by **Kathy Johanson**

We've taken the next step in our social media platform by launching a Twitter account! If you are a Twitter user, look for @LWVHumboldt. Help spread the activity by following us, liking and retweeting our posts. Why Twitter? It allows us to easily promote League actions and news to a large number of people in a quick manner. Twitter isn't limited to friends and family connections like Facebook. We can communicate quickly with other organizations too. For example, to promote Easy Voter Guides or share links to the Library. If you aren't on Twitter, consider joining or let your friends know it's a quick way to find out what's happening with the League. It's one more step in reaching out to our community and providing voter education.

NEW LEAGUE MEMBERS

Elizabeth Eschenbach
Renee Thomas
Joan Williams

MEASURE O SUPPORT

Four years ago, Humboldt County voters decided they were tired of having too few deputies on patrol; inadequate rural fire protection; and crumbling roads. Sacramento kept cutting state funding for these vital services, and so our local citizens passed Measure Z, a one-half cent sales tax. The funds from this sales tax were specifically to be used for maintaining and enhancing public safety and essential services.

With these funds, the county was able to add new deputies in the rural areas of Humboldt, keep the McKinleyville station manned 24/7, increase the number of probation officers, beef up the District Attorney's office; support volunteer fire departments with additional resources and training; provide better support services for children who had been the victims of crime; and repair many miles of decaying roads.

Measure Z is due to sunset on March 31, 2020. In order to keep this very small tax in place, voters need to pass its replacement, Measure O. This will provide Humboldt with a guaranteed source of local funding that cannot be taken by the state. It will not raise the sales tax rates again, but will maintain the current level passed by voters in 2014. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to place Measure O on the November 6, 2018 ballot .

If the measure does not pass, we could go back to the bad old days, when southern Humboldt had no deputies at night, and only two or three deputies covered all of northern and eastern Humboldt.

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County supports adequate local government financing to maintain government services to meet the demands of the community.

Please Vote "Yes" on Measure O.

FALL BACK, Y'ALL

Mary Lou Lowry, Donna Clark, Jim Clark, Bev Strubinger, Rich Strubinger, Patricia-Anne WinterSun, George WinterSun, Becky Simpson, Hawley Riffenburg, Holly Couling, Helen Andrews, Margaret Wallace, and Kathy Johanson are just very fine people who like to give their time to the League and help others become part of the political process! And this time at the North Country Fair they got to help young ones get involved by making their own colorful signs to add to the fun while some of their parents registered to vote. Thanks to each of them! Special thanks to **Becky and the WinterSuns** (watch for their 2019 Tour beginning on the Fourth of July!) for schlepping the props, erecting and deconstructing the booth, and putting it all away. And thanks to Holly Couling for always being there at just the right time.

So NOW it's on to the more exacting task of putting all these November 6 candidates onto as many screens as possible, and it cannot be done without a lot of volunteers giving an hour apiece to help make democracy work. You will find the schedule of our forums (at this writing) elsewhere in this *VOTER*. For each of the five KEET-TV forums, we need a moderator, a timekeeper, two question sorters and four phone answerers: You do the math. We have more than two hundred members in this organization.....piece of cake, right? Oh, speaking of cake, if you work at one of the Rotary forums you get lunch. Make your plans now. Call me at 768-3118, or, if you must, buffy7@suddenlink.net.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Monday, October 22nd

The League will present ***Pros and Cons*** of the upcoming November ballot propositions.

Humboldt State's Extended Education's OLLI program invited The League to participate in its Brown Bag Lunch Presentations



Noon to 1:30pm
Hospice of Humboldt Conference Room
(3327 Timber Fall Court in Eureka).

Bring your lunch and a friend.

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County is hosting candidate forums in the beginning of October to help the public prepare for the November 6, 2018 elections.

The following forums will be broadcast on PBS North Coast/KEET-TV Channel 13:

Monday, Oct. 1: Eureka City Council, Ward 1
Wednesday, Oct. 3: Eureka City Council, Ward 3
Monday, Oct. 8: Eureka City Council, Ward 5
Wednesday, Oct. 10: Eureka City Mayor
Thursday, Oct. 11: Arcata City Council

All of the forums will be broadcast live from 7 - 8 p.m., streamed live online by the StreamGuys, simulcast on KHSU-FM 90.5 Arcata, and archived for later viewing on Access Humboldt. The public may e-mail questions for the candidates to sgreene@keet-tv.org until 6:45p.m., and phone in questions to 707-445-0811 beginning at 6:45.

The following forums are open to the public, and will also be streamed by Access Humboldt and broadcast on AH Channel 12:

Monday, Oct. 1, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., Eureka City Mayor, followed by Eureka City Council Ward 1
Monday, Oct. 8, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., Eureka City Council, Wards 3 & 5,
followed by Harbor District Division 4
Candidates will address questions written by attendees and sorted by League members.

Lunch is available for purchase at 12 p.m. for \$14.50.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

For more information, please call the LWVHC at 707-444-9252.

Humboldt County Elections Transparency Project

by Kevin Collins and Kathy Johanson

The Elections Transparency Project (ETP) is a routine event held during the canvas period following election day. It has been conducted for the last ten years and is unique to our county. The ETP is a volunteer effort to independently scan all ballots cast in Humboldt County elections. Using a high speed scanner, each ballot is digitally scanned into a database allowing for checks and balances in our election system. The scans are then made available to any interested party. In this way, people can have access to ballot images generated by an independent group, even though they cannot have access to the actual paper ballots that have been cast. The advantage of the ETP approach is that it supplements the black box of election tabulating equipment with a more transparent independent scan. Over the years this process has discovered flaws that were corrected, most recently in the June 2018 election. Votes in a certain precinct were miscounted and although it did not change the outcome, it demonstrates the need for accuracy in elections and how the ETP supports that.

This project is entirely run by volunteers and more are needed to help during weekdays and weekends starting mid-November. If you're interested in volunteering or have questions, contact Kevin Collins at 498-2740 or by email at k-bcollins@msn.com

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

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Who's who in the League?!

2018-2019 BOARD

President.....Rollin Richmond
Vice President.....Deborah Downs
Secretary.....Patricia-Anne WinterSun
Treasurer.....Hawley Riffenberg
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
Webmaster/Social Media Chair.....Kathy Johanson
Voter Editor.....Julie Kelly
Community Education DirectorNancy Kay
Social Policy Director.....Keith Snow-Flamer
Communication Director.....Vacant
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!

A Voice for the Voiceless

There are now more children in the Humboldt County Child Welfare System due to abuse and neglect, than there have ever been before. In February of this year, the State Attorney General was forced to intervene in the Humboldt County Child Welfare Department and mandated them to come into compliance to stop their violations of the Child Abuse Neglect & Recording Act. There were several violations, one of which was that Humboldt County was filing child abuse cases at a significantly lower rate than the rest of California Counties. They were also not performing investigations of abuse reports in a timely manner.

Since this mandate went into effect, Humboldt County Child Welfare has had to follow up on child abuse reports they had previously disregarded, resulting in a huge influx of new kids being brought into foster care. In the months since February, the number of children in foster care in Humboldt County has continued to grow and now there are more children in the system than there have ever been before.

Again, intervention from outside of our County was needed for Humboldt County Child Welfare to do their job of protecting children.

It is no wonder that Humboldt County leads the state in childhood trauma indicators and also leads the state in the number of children in foster care by percentage of population. In addition to all of the hurdles foster children face, they also encounter the highest number of challenges to completing high school and going on to college.

When you become a member of the CASA community you change the future for foster children one child at a time, helping them make their dreams a reality. **Children with a CASA advocate:**

- do better in school,
- get more services to counteract their childhood trauma,
- get a stable, consistent advocate who becomes a resilience multiplier in their lives,
- benefit by receiving corrective experiences from their CASA, and
- grow up healthy and happy, reversing generational patterns.

On behalf of the kids, CASA invites you to get involved in the movement to make Humboldt a better and safer place for children. By becoming an Advocate for a child, an event volunteer, or a donor you can make the difference between hope and despair for a child!

Find out more at www.humboldtcasa.org or call (707)443-3197.



**Upcoming CASA Advocate Training
October 23rd-November 27th on Tuesday evenings from 6-9pm
at CASA of Humboldt 2356 Myrtle Avenue in Eureka**



LWV of HUMBOLDT COUNTY
THE VOTER

P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

To: