

The Voter THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

OF MENDOCINO COUNTY Empowering voters, defending democracy

Online October 8 ...

October 2024

Jary Stavely and Dorine Real, Editors

State and local issues On Tuesday, October 8 at 6 pm, a coterie of League members will discuss the

Pros and Cons of Ballot Measures

arguments for and against the ten state and six county measures on the November ballot. Pat Dunbar, Charlene McAllister, Dorine Real, Jary Stavely, Morning Zoom Nichols, and Jessica Morton have agreed to take turns going over the various propositions—what they are intended for, who is sponsoring or opposing them,

from home

and how much money is being spent. The public is invited, so *Voter* readers are encouraged to spread the word to all their friends and neighbors. Time for followup questions will be provided. This will be in the form of a Zoom webinar.. The six county measures only apply to certain areas of the county: • Measure S - Albion-Little River Fire Protection District: repeal former special

Tuesday October 8 6:00 pm CLICK HERE

to join

tax of \$75/unit, and enact new special tax of \$300/unit • Measure T - City of Fort Bragg: Public Safety, Workforce Housing, and Essential Services Measure funded by 3/8¢ sales tax

• Measure U - City of Fort Bragg: Tourist Impact Reduction/Quality of Life Measure increasing TOT by 2%

- Measure V Ukiah Valley Fire District: enact a \$33.50/unit annual parcel tax to fund adequate fire responsiveness Measure W - City of Ukiah: increase TOT from 10 to 13%
- Measure X City of Point Arena: Essential Services Measure establishing 7/8¢ sales tax. More ballot measure information from the California League is available online: a

Pros & Cons summary for the statewide measures and the Easy Voter Guide, which includes general information on propositions. Since we are trying to give a

bias-free program, the League's recommendations, won't be part of the presentation, other than in mentioning supporters and opponents. Calendar

In this issue ... October 2 (Wednesday) 6-7:30 pm Ft. Bragg Town Hall and Ft. Bragg City Facebook page Pros and Cons of Ballot Measures MCHCD candidate forum

Our Mission at Election Time October 6 (Sunday) 4 pm Little Lake Grange Willits 3-office candidate forum Little River Inn October 6 (Sunday) 4-6 pm Measure S information session October 8 (Tuesday) Zoom Pros and Cons presentation 5 pm CalTrans website October 9 (Wednesday)

* A printable version accompanies this Voter Click these entries to jump to the articles.

Meet and Greet

LWVUS News

Climate Migration

Updates for Voters* California Updates

LWVMC Information

Of Community Interest

by Charlene McAllister

As we continue to gear up for the election season, here is a reminder that our mission is Making Democracy Work by **Empowering Voters and Defending**

President's message ...

Democracy. These core values inform all our advocacy and voter education efforts. The League is known for and

Last day to comment on Albion River Bridge October 9 (Wednesday) 6-8 pm Whitesboro Grange Measure S information session

October 13 & 27 (Sundays) 3-5 pm Mendo Community Ctr. GRI election topics series

The public is welcome at these LWVMC events. Please invite

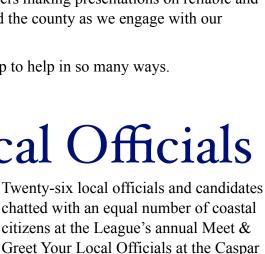
your friends and neighbors. Our Mission at Election Time

> relied upon to be a strictly non-partisan source of accurate electoral information. We don't support individual candidates or political parties, but we are

political in that we take positions on legislation, and work to promote a free

and fair electoral process. We act on national and state League issues, but also on what is happening at our own local level. We have been very busy this election season and continue to thank our

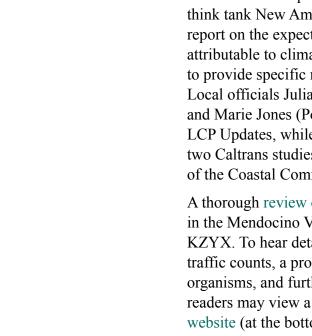
enthusiastic volunteers who help with all our election-related activities: voter registration, Pros & Cons presentations, candidate roundtables and forums, election observers, poll workers, scheduling, and behind-the-scenes roles. This is an important year to engage with and inform our communities as they prepare to vote. We have an active group of members making presentations on reliable and factual information. Look for us around the county as we engage with our community. Thanks again to all who have stepped up to help in so many ways. Our League's program year kickoff Meet and Greet Local Officials



Community Center on September 27. Many thanks are due to League members Charlene McAllister, Jim and Cindy

Plank, Paula Cohen, Pat Dunbar, Morning Nichols, Barbara Rice, Grant Miller, Peter McNamee, Dorine Real, Lee Tepper,

to Cindy. Photos courtesy of Morning (left) and Lee (below).



GRI's LCP update series ...

and Marie Jones (Point Arena), gave reports on the progress of their respective LCP Updates, while Loretta Ellard (MCOG) provided more information about the two Caltrans studies which bear importantly on coastal planning. Caryl Hart, chair of the Coastal Commission, also contributed to many aspects of the discussion. A thorough review of the climate migration discussion was published by Lin Due in the Mendocino Voice. Michelle Blackwell also reported on the meeting over KZYX. To hear details on the specific LCP Updates, including mild surprises in traffic counts, a problem in obtaining permits to study specific aquaculture organisms, and further details about the circulation study of Noyo Harbor, Voter readers may view a recording of the meeting on two sites: on Vimeo and the GRI website (at the bottom of the list of videos). The next meeting in this series will take place on November 21 at 3 pm. Of Community Interest Alternative Medicine Discussion The Mendocino Coast Health Care District held a symposium entitled Traditional

> The Mendocino County League is partnering with the Mendocino College Foundation to offer a scholarship (or -ships) to honor its late stalwart leader, her love of community, and her devotion to democracy. If you would like to contribute, please make your check out to the Mendocino College Foundation, put her name on the memo line, and mail it to LWVMC, P.O. Box 1128, Fort

inauguration of the next President in late January 2025." Admission is free, although donations to GRI are welcomed. Specific future topics will be determined by those who participate. Contact Jim at rtp@mcn.org for more information.

Center, 998 School St. in Mendocino. The first workshop was on Sunday

doing in this regard. According to GRI/League member Jim Tarbell, "This

Governor Newsom has refused to sign SB 1374, a bill to partially restore

incentives for the installation of rooftop solar devices by renters and schools. His decision leaves in place a recent CPUC decision which substantially increased the

September 29, and the second one, October 13, will focus on what the League is

election cycle has been quite a ride so far, and we are thinking that it is not going to end on November 5. So we are planning on holding workshops through the



District Board will be held on October 2 at 6 pm, at Fort Bragg Town Hall. It will also be available online through the city of Fort Bragg Facebook page. Susan

Consecutive sessions will cover the Willits City Council race at 4 pm, the County Board of Education Area 3 Trustee race at 5 pm, and the Willits Unified Schools race at 5:20: Sunday, Oct. 6 at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School St., Willits,

A three part forum for candidates in Willits will be held on October 6.

The Albion Little River Citizens Committee will hold two information sessions regarding Measure S, the proposed property tax increase for fire safety in the Albion Little River Fire Protection District. The featured speaker will be Michael Rees, the fire chief. The first will be held on Sunday, October 6, from 4 to 6 pm at the Little River Inn Abalone Room, 7901 N. Highway One, Little River. The second will be Wednesday, October 9 from 6 to 8 pm at the Whitesboro Grange, 32510 Navarro Ridge Rd., Albion. The organizers promise a

Vote 411: This national website has ballot information customized to your address, including candidate statements, and lots more election information.

Mendocino County Elections Department: If you don't get a ballot, call them at (707) 234-6819, or email (mcvotes@mendocinocounty.gov). They are glad to

California Secretary of State: Register online, check your registration, find out who is spending for or against candidates and measures, and much more. Even

LWV of California Publications: The League's free publication, Easy Voter, is available in English and Spanish at the library and several other locations. Easy Voter contains information on how to vote by mail or at the polling place and a

and https://tinyurl.com/WillitsCandidatesForum.

answer questions and solve voting problems.

track your ballot to make sure it's counted!

brief discussion of the state propositions. A deeper discussion of the propositions can be found in Pros and Cons. Check out the online versions (in English and Spanish) of both publications. More Nonpartisan Sources: Ballotpedia is a respected national, easy-to-use source of ballot information and information on the political process. CalMatters specializes in California issues. Misinformation and Disinformation: LWVUS has a short guide to evaluating what you read and hear. For a quick review, use this online poster from Cornell University. Hone your verification skills by playing this game. You may want to use a fact-checking website such as Politifact or FactCheck.org.

True democracy is free from bigotry; LWV condemned the racist attacks made against Haitians during the Presidential Debate. LWV spoke against political violence following shootings targeting Vice President Kamala Harris's campaign office and former President Donald Trump at his Palm Beach home. The League supported the Freedom from Intimidation in Elections Act, which will enshrine every voter's right to vote free from fear. Advocacy Voters saw wins for registration, accessibility, and more in Alabama, Arizona, Utah, within the Department of Justice, and across federal administrations.

LWVUS and LWV of Texas joined partners to intervene on behalf of voters in a

lawsuit that would make voter registration more difficult.

Links City Council debate: https://www.facebook.com/CityFortBraggCA/

Voter information resources: https://www.vote411.org/; mcvotes@mendocinocounty.gov; https://

www.sos.ca.gov; https://cavotes.org/ballot-measures/; https:// ballotpedia.org/

By mail: P.O. Box 1128, Fort Bragg CA 95437

Our website: lwvmendo.org

By email: voter@mcn.org Message phone: (707) 937-4952

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

CID event: https://cid.usc.edu/cid-october-1-event

b6bdd2318732/34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7; https://default.salsalabs.org/Tda15cebebe96-4787-9f86-ab5c322be43e/34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7; https://default.salsalabs.org/ T01bd4339-e058-4d7a-8b17-5085f07794d2/34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7; https:// bf3a-672b9216f0c7; https://default.salsalabs.org/

Why it's out of touch, and how we can work for a better system: Read How Does the Electoral College Work?;

Contact LWVMC

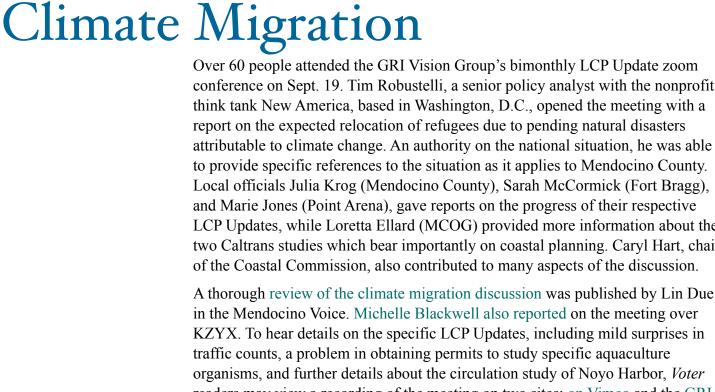
Electoral College: https://default.salsalabs.org/T1d8e79e4-ca90-4fb4-a764-

default.salsalabs.org/Tcb78091d-5102-434a-958c-07dffa3981bd/34be5bff-59c8-45df-T3ccc87bc-6282-4e80-9853-656970c6f5f0/34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7 Guns in polling places: https://default.salsalabs.org/T8605d621-3c23-4b00aa61-501d621c9757/34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7

Ballotpedia%27s Voter Toolkit; https://calmatters.org/california-voter-guide-2024/; https:// www.lwv.org/blog/your-guide-mis-and-disinformation; https:// guides.library.cornell.edu/ Climate migration: https://mendovoice.com/2024/09/mendocino-county-predicted-to-be-haven-for-climate- refugees/; https://www.kzyx.org/2024-09-26/coastal-commission-met-to-discuss-the-impact-climaterefugees-could-have-on-the-county; https://vimeo.com/1011200820?share=copy; https://

Annabell Guinan, Frej Barty, and Jary Stavely, who were on hand to welcome the attendees and provide refreshments. Annual dues were collected from some members in attendance, such as Peter, who is shown getting ready to hand his in

Jim Gagnon, Barbara Rice, Paul Katzeff and Don Cruser enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres



Medicine in Community Health on September 6 in Town Hall, Fort Bragg. The presenters were Jude Thilman, cannabis medicine, Dr. Richard Miller, psychedelic medicine, Gabriel Maroney, herbal medicine, and Ui Wesley, native medicine. MCHCD Director Paul Katzeff moderated the presentation. A recording of the event is available. Covelo Library Wins National Recognition The Round Valley Library recently reported on its Facebook page that the Library Journal has named it the Best Small Library in America. "The library in Covelo would not exist without the past and present support of the Round Valley community. Thank you for using the library, thank you for partnering with us, and thank you for holding your meetings and events here. The branch library shares this award with The Friends of the Round Valley Public Library, a group whose support improves the library each year. Additionally, many of the programs the Friends sponsor are recognized by the award." An article about the award was published on the Library Journal webpage.

Election Sessions The GrassRoots Institute will present a series of workshops on the 2024 Elections every two weeks on Sunday afternoons from 3-5 at the Mendocino Community

Solar Monopoly

Bragg, CA. 95437.

Remembering

Jane Person

cost to individuals, private companies, and public agencies wishing to convert to non-utility-controlled solar energy. [See Sept. '24 Voter.] Newsom said, "While I support the continued growth of the customer solar PV market, this bill would compound the challenge of electric bill affordability, Specifically, this bill would increase the amount that most customers would pay for their own electric service to provide a rate subsidy to certain customers, and public schools, that install solar PV systems on their property." Albion Bridge Replacement The comment period regarding the EIR for Caltrans' proposals (reported on in the September '24 Voter) to replace the Albion River Bridge was extended for another 30 days, now ending on Wednesday, October 9 at 5 pm. The proposals can be viewed online. The Albion Bridge Stewards view of the proposals can be found on their website. Brand new, still true ...

> neutral, fact-based discussion where all voters, for, against, or undecided, will be comfortable. Voter Information Resources This brief roundup of reliable sources has been added to our voter info handout. A printable version of the handout is attached.

Warner moderates.

California League Updates The Governor has signed two pieces of legislation supported by the League: AB 2127 to extend the tenure of the Motor Voter Task Force, and SB 977 to establish an independent Citizens Redistricting Commission in San Luis Obispo County. He vetoed AB 544 to pilot voting in jails. SCA 1, to reform recall elections, has been qualified for the November 2026 ballot. The Center for Inclusive Democracy (CID) is holding a conference entitled Understanding California's Elections and Electorate Ahead of November on

> October 1. The day-long event will feature panels of national and local experts who will discuss the state of voter turnout in California, and the challenges and opportunities for administering (and engaging in) safe and accessible elections this November. The full agenda, including all the panelists, and links to virtual

> Watch our panel on why the Electoral College exists and how to dismantle it;

Learn about the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact;

Play with potential results using CNN's 2024 Electoral Map builder;

Use our <u>One Person One Vote social toolkit</u> to empower your community

Every voter must be able to cast their vote without fear. Our system works best when every voter feels safe and empowered. We must ensure that our polling places remain sanctuaries for democracy. Take action with Common Cause to tell

registration, may be found on the CID's website.

The Electoral College:

Guns in Polling Places

Congress they must ban guns from polling places.

Election Season Statements

with knowledge.

Land Acknowledgement

LWVUS News

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.

Traditional medicine: https://vimeo.com/1007850965 Round Valley library award: https://www.libraryjournal.com/story/mendocino-county-library-round-valleybranch-community-anchor-best-small-library-in-america-2024

evaluate news/infographic; https://playverifyit.org/ www.grassroots-institute.org/vision

Election workshops: rtp@mcn.org Albion River bridge: https://www.albionriverbridgeproject.com/; https://savehighway1.org/ Motor voter: https://ct3.blob.core.windows.net/23blobs/97691f55-4491-4531-81e3-1b5a970679e0 SLO County:https://click.everyaction.com/k/92304014/496671502/993735255 Voting in jails: https://click.everyaction.com/k/92304010/496671498/-575551229 Recall elections: https://click.everyaction.com/k/92304016/496671504/1440945903

Election violence: https://default.salsalabs.org/ T804aeec3-0581-4c36-8451-6cf18c635ed4/34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7; https:// default.salsalabs.org/T804aeec3-0581-4c36-8451-6cf18c635ed4/34be5bff-59c8-45dfbf3a-672b9216f0c7 Voter intimidation: https://default.salsalabs.org/T34e08b56-6d7c-48c9-9d47-

Voter wins: https://default.salsalabs.org/Tb7e4a75d-c991-476b-99b8-df776fb5b95a/34be5bff-59c8-45df-

Tafa9a5ec-15a9-4449-8acc-9ce63691915b/34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7 (Utah); https://

bf3a-672b9216f0c7 (DOJ); https://default.salsalabs.org/Tf28b512a-6b19-4c96-8c8b-26e8e4bb855e/

Texas lawsuit: https://default.salsalabs.org/T4e86829c-da73-41ac-893c-bcefe31ea2ca/34be5bff-59c8-45df-

34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7 (Arizona); https://default.salsalabs.org/

default.salsalabs.org/T735c77c6-a55e-4f63-9262-6a8c74f57fbc/34be5bff-59c8-45df-

bf3a-672b9216f0c7 (Alabama); https://default.salsalabs.org/Tcdc96be8-db17-4f01-a536-949f18a5318d/

bd4ba451b6e2/34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7

34be5bff-59c8-45df-bf3a-672b9216f0c7 (federal)

Racist debate speech: https://www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/addressing-racist-attacks-presidential-

debate-0

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