



The Voter

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

January 2021

Cindy Plank and Nancy Kleiber, Presidents

Jary Stavely and Lee Tepper, Editors

This month's meeting ...

Program Planning

Setting Our Priorities for the New Year

by Cindy Plank

The Mendocino County League of Women Voters will hold its annual Program Planning Meeting via Zoom on January 12 at 6:00 PM. Those who attend will discuss League policy and [positions at the state level](#), and decide areas of focus at the local and county level, as well. Co-President Nancy Kleiber will introduce and moderate the event, which will also include a virtual version of the traditional placing of colored dots next to each participant's choice of program focus. Charlene McAllister and Pat Dunbar will assist in presenting and recording what transpires, and Vice-President Dorine Real will supervise the virtual polling for the meeting.

**Tuesday, January 12th,
at 6:00 PM on Zoom:
[Click here](#) to join**

The League is a grassroots organization that sets its agenda through the "Program Planning" process. As members and friends of the League, this is your chance to help choose our priorities in education and advocacy and to determine what we want for the future of California and our League. Where should the League focus its energy over the next two years? What are the issues of concern to us here in Mendocino County? Where is there a need for legislative activity and other types of advocacy, both in Sacramento and in our city and county?

State President Carol Moon Goldberg reminds us that Advocacy is a key League activity year-round. For example, we supported or opposed 8 of the 12 statewide ballot measures in November, and in addition, many bills we supported—from racial justice to voting rights—were signed into law.

Please join us for this crucial meeting. Use the link at left or look on the [Mendocino County League's website](#).

President's message

Join Us to Interview State Legislators

We have an exciting opportunity to join fellow Leaguers from Humboldt County in an important process that Makes Democracy Work. We're in the process of scheduling interviews with our California Legislators. Are you interested in joining in, even if only to listen? LWV membership is not required.

Every year, the League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) encourages local League members to interview their state legislators and/or their staffs. Legislative interviews are a powerful tool in gathering information, and in raising awareness among California's state representatives about our interest in policies they are considering. Legislative interviews are an opportunity for legislators to share their priorities with local Leagues and develop an understanding of League positions and priorities. We can discover plans for state legislation that may impact their communities. Furthermore, the state League learns more about legislators and the interests of local Leagues, gaining information useful in planning statewide advocacy and education.

In addition to issues of particular local concern, the interviews will focus on the following topics:

1. *Land Use and Climate Change:* California is working to convert its natural and working lands—which cover 90 percent of California's land—from being net emitters of greenhouse gases to agents that remove CO2 from the atmosphere and sequester it to prevent its re-entering the atmosphere.

2. *Housing and Homelessness, Zoning and Affordability:*

California's housing shortage and affordability crisis continues to grow. Multi-family housing is still illegal to build in most high opportunity neighborhoods with access to transportation, jobs, good schools, and community resources. As a result, most California families are excluded from these neighborhoods and the economic opportunity they provide.

3. *Equitable COVID-19 Recovery:* COVID-19 has exposed and exacerbated existing inequalities in California. The pandemic has disproportionately impacted underrepresented and underserved Californians, including those who are Black, Latino, Indigenous, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, and people with disabilities. Furthermore, Californians with low



by Cindy Plank

incomes are significantly disadvantaged. For example, many have lost jobs and those with jobs are often more subject to workplace exposure and have difficulty finding time and resources for childcare and to assist their children with homeschooling.

We will be scheduling these interviews for sometime between mid-January and mid-February. We will have at least one person with a long-term League background and want to include a variety of folks, like young people and those representing our various community groups. League membership is not necessary. For more info, email LWVMC at info@lwvmendo.org, or call 707-937-4952.

California election ...

Goodbye, Proposition 13

The Coalition will Fight On

The California League has published the following post-mortem on the fate of Proposition 13 in the November election:

The loss of Proposition 13 is painful. That said, there is a lot to celebrate in the effort. First, the campaign was rooted in the grassroots activist communities in California, particularly groups representing traditionally underrepresented and underserved communities. Second, for the first time in over 40 years, the sanctity of Prop 13 was pierced; it is no longer considered untouchable. Third, the campaign established a broad coalition of organizations. These relationships will continue, keeping a diverse group of organizations connected, and working together on a variety of social reforms including redistricting at the state and local level.

League members enthusiastically participated in the campaign, offering personal stories as to why they personally supported the campaign, joining the campaign's speakers bureau, sharing social media, writing letters to the editor or op ed pieces, and participating in phone and text banking. League staff spent hours handling the petitions, pushing out social media, and complying with Fair Political Practice Commission filings.

The coalition supporting Prop 13 is staying together, committed to continue the fight for Prop 13 reform, as well as increased funding for the critical services provided by local governments – schools, health care, human services, infrastructure repair, and more. The League will continue to be a part of this ongoing work.

Challenges of Election Administration

Election Integrity and Record Participation were Hard Won

by Jary Stavelly

On Tuesday, December 8, 2020, LWVUS' CEO Virginia Kase sat down with Florida Secretary of State Laurel M. Lee, New Jersey Secretary of State Tahesha Way, and Carol Hill Williams, Chair of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina Board of Elections for a one-hour discussion about how these women tackled their significant

professional responsibilities during the lead up to, and the counting of, the November elections. They answered questions about the challenges they faced this year and how they were able to overcome them, and the aspects of this election cycle that are critical to our democracy moving forward.



Screenshot of the LWVUS webinar on the challenges of election administration.

All three women emphasized the importance of arranging options for their citizens to vote comfortably. These included providing for early voting, for mail-in ballots, and for safe polling places.

Ms. Way emphasized New Jersey's provision of "no-excuse" absentee voting. Ms. Hill Williams recounted how the use of extra drop boxes was so successful during the primary that they were increased for the November election. The fact that schools and sports facilities were closed also made it easier to establish safe areas where those who wished to vote in person could maintain adequate social distancing.

They also gave similar accounts of the extra challenges which this election posed. These included obtaining PPE for election officials and voters to use, putting out clear information about the new procedures and locations which would be put in place, and having the time to prepare and train new workers. Ms. Lee mentioned how the health crisis diminished Florida's usual complement of elderly poll workers, necessitating the recruitment of new, and younger ones. In Charlotte, a special election portal was established online, and numerous town hall meetings were organized to disseminate accurate information about the upcoming election.

The panel discussed the importance of encouraging women and members of diverse populations both to vote and to become candidates for office themselves. Florida engaged in a campaign for an increased turnout by students, the elderly, and people of color. In New Jersey there was a statewide initiative to recognize the importance and the failures of the 19th Amendment and to publicize the role which people of color played in the struggle for suffrage. The participants agreed on the importance of having women run for and be recognized as role models in public office. "You have to be on the field to be part of team," said Ms. Hill Williams about how to encourage more women to run for office. She said the key was for women to "get involved."

A recording of the event can be found on Facebook.

Our previous meeting ...

Scalpel, Please

"Dissecting" the Election Process and Results

by Jary Stavely

The Mendocino County League held its most recent meeting, entitled "Election Dissection," on November 17 via Zoom. Nancy Kleiber moderated the event.

The first guest speaker, County Clerk-Recorder Katrina Bartholomie, taking a reprieve (at 6PM!) from the intensity of supervising the official count of Mendocino County ballots, reported from her home that voter turnout for the November election at that point looked close to the previous record of 80% achieved by the county in 2008. *[In December the elections office reported a final turnout of more than 82%.]* Because of the expected increase in mail-in balloting, the County was able to hire two extra workers, and with the help of a new computer system and new state regulations allowing early counting, more than 25,000 ballots had been counted on election night, in

comparison to only 10,000 during the last presidential election. She said that election day went smoothly at the county's polling places, with no protests, and only a few people who couldn't or wouldn't wear masks. One potential problem was eased by a military veteran poll worker, who was able to calm down an agitated citizen in Redwood Valley. A few polling places were changed to allow more space for voters and election workers, including the Little River and Albion precincts using the Little River Inn. There are no plans to reduce the number of polling places in the future, despite the increase in mail-in voting.

Paula Cohen continued the election analysis with a report on the status of the 2020 census. She summarized the efforts of her MCCCC committee to reach the "hard to count" elements of our county's population—the very young, those for whom English is not their first or primary language, undocumented immigrants, the disabled and infirm, those lacking broadband access, and those living in the wilderness—and thanked all who helped in the effort to achieve as complete a count as possible. She is hopeful about the result. In 2010, the county registered an overall 71.8% response rate. During the current effort, of its 25 tracts, 8 exceeded their rate of 10 years ago, 8 came within 2% of it, 5 came within 10%, and 2 (the cities of Willits and Point Arena) were more than 10% below. The South Coast tract achieved the widest improvement. The Census Bureau had not been able to report numbers to the Trump Administration by December 31, and will likely not finalize them until the new administration takes office.

Charlene McAllister followed by reviewing the history and rules of the Electoral College, of special interest because of the contested and inconclusive results available at the time. She recounted that the institution's rules and procedures derive from Article II and Amendments 14 and 22 of the U.S. Constitution, and are listed in Chapter 1, Title 3 of the U.S. Code. The choice of their official electors is left entirely up to the States. The list of who is to be an elector is usually provided by the political party of the candidate who wins each state, whose governor then gives official approval. All but two of the states follow a winner-takes-all system for apportioning their electors, while Maine and Nebraska award them according to which candidate wins each congressional district. The states are supposed to certify their results before the Electoral College officially convenes on December 14. On January 6 the newly elected Congress approves the count as submitted, unless at least one Representative and one Senator make a challenge, in which case, each chamber has two hours in which to debate and then vote on approving the electoral count.

Charlene reported that in 2016 seven official electors did not vote according to their state vote results, becoming so-called "faithless

electors.” Some states have laws that punish such behavior, but many do not. She also recounted the history of recent efforts to abolish the electoral college. Indiana Senator Birch Bayh proposed such a Constitutional Amendment in 1964. It passed the U.S. House, but was defeated in the Senate by a bloc of southerners. The National Popular Vote Compact, by which states agree to pledge their electors to vote for the winner of the national popular vote (not necessarily of their particular state), has been approved by a number of states, but not yet by enough to affect the total electoral college vote. Although it has the support of the National League, the Compact may violate the Constitutional restriction on sub-national agreements, and thereby not hold up in court.

Cindy Plank and Angela Dominguez concluded the webinar by briefly discussing the fate of Proposition 15. Although it would have greatly benefitted schools and local governments, and was approved in our county, it was defeated in the statewide vote, 48% to 51%. Nancy reminded viewers that the 19th Amendment took 72 years—we should always keep trying. The Zoom [recording of “Election Dissection”](#) is available online.

Voter service ...

Leagues Support Record Turnout

LWVC and LWVMC Services Drive Informed Participation

On Facebook, Val Muchowski set out the following summary of the November 3 voting turnout in California:

Nearly 17.8 million Californians cast ballots in the November election, setting a new state record, according to Secretary of State Alex Padilla, who certified the election results Friday. Nearly 81% of registered voters turned out — the highest percentage since 1976 — and nearly 71% of eligible voters cast ballots, the highest percentage since 1952. Much of this increase was fueled by voters in California’s poor and diverse neighborhoods, with the number of cast ballots increasing by as much as 42% in Orange County’s poor neighborhoods, according to a CalMatters analysis. But increases were seen in all types of California neighborhoods — rich and poor, highly educated and blue collar, ethnically diverse and homogeneous — which experts attribute to the state’s decision to mail every registered voter a ballot amid the pandemic.

In a fundraising letter to members, the California League has listed more accomplishments—its Education Fund has:

- Reached 300% more voters in the 2020 election cycle than in the previous cycles.
- Empowered nearly 2 million Californians, that's 1 in 10 voters, to feel confident in their votes through Voter's Edge, a joint project of the LWVC and Maplight. This also increased participation in down-ballot voting.
- Distributed 175,000 copies of the Easy Voter Guide, in 5 languages, to Californians seeking to understand the ballot measures.
- Modernized our youth outreach, reaching over 6 million people in a youth get out the vote campaign run on Snapchat and TikTok.
- Had over a million visitors to the LWVC websites where voters found Pros & Cons and other valuable educational resources.

And, according to local Voter Services chair Carol Czadek, our local League's distribution of Easy Voter Guides seemed more successful this year. Due to the coronavirus restrictions, our bundles were given directly to individuals who are in direct contact with voters, instead of just being left in piles in public places. All in all, 10 bundles of 50 guides each were given out, 8 in English and 2 in Spanish. Six went to people conducting voter registration and census work; two went to the Senior Center for distribution with Meals on Wheels; one each went to the Fort Bragg Library and the MendoLake Food Hub.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion ...

County Forms DEI Task Force

Concerns of Spanish Speakers Prompt Action

“This past summer, a group of community leaders from 8 LatinX groups came together to advocate for more timely, accessible, and professional Spanish COVID-19 information from the County, and to request the formation of a task force to look at equity, diversity, and inclusion in the County. With approval from the Board of Supervisors, The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force was formed. This group will serve as an ongoing resource for agencies and organizations working to implement equitable practices, educate their staff on systemic racism, and break down barriers with

historically-oppressed communities to shape a more just Mendocino County.”

On December 9 the countywide group Healthy Mendocino hosted a webinar with members of that Task Force. Jani Sheppard of Leadership Solutions, LLC reviewed terminology useful in understanding racism, and later its psychological ‘landscape.’ Medie Jesena Parrot, a pediatric nurse practitioner, discussed health implications. Ulises Velasco, Vice President of Student Services at Mendocino College, reviewed current conditions, including, for example, that the majority of students at county continuation schools are people of color, and that 64% of homeless youth in the county are Native American. Roseanne Ibarra, of Adventist Health Ukiah Valley, reviewed what the group has accomplished since its formation in August, and summarized its mission in seeking to dismantle racism in the County by 2023.

Voter readers can learn more about the task force’s work by viewing the 80-minute [recording](#) on the Healthy Mendocino website.

Meanwhile, the City of Ukiah has issued an [appeal for people to join](#) its own task force.

Partner organizations ...

Latino Coalition Scholarships

The Latino Coalition of the Mendocino Coast is seeking donations for its scholarship program, to be distributed in May 2021. The program, which has been ongoing since 2018, provides \$500 scholarships to young Latinos in the coastal community to further their education after high school.

According to the group’s [press release](#), “High school seniors experienced a difficult and frustrating conclusion to their final year of high school, and many were in doubt about the next step to take. The Latino Coalition of the Mendocino Coast is committed to supporting young Latinos in our coastal community who are determined, even in these uncertain times, to further their education after high school.”

“I will be able to attend UC Riverside and learn more about life as a whole,” said a scholarship recipient in May 2020. “As a low-income, first-generation student, this means a lot to me. I am eternally grateful for the money and I will make good use of it.”

The Latino Coalition's mission is to empower our community through education, social justice and cultural appreciation. Contributions to the group's cause—of any size—are “welcomed and appreciated.”

Tax-deductible checks can be made out to Safe Passage. (Safe Passage is the Coalition's fiscal agent; the Tax ID # is 68-0430046.) Please put “Latino Coalition Scholarship” in the memo line and mail it to Safe Passage at P.O. Box 1718, Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion ...

Me and White Supremacy

Book Discussion Group Forming

Dale Perkins, longtime local educator, is offering an opportunity for *Voter* readers who are interested in understanding, and possibly confronting, their own role in structural racism. The suggested publication offers a workbook-like structure, and has been highly recommended by several recent participants.

I'm looking for six to eight people to join me in a Me and White Supremacy discussion group to “Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor.” This book, written by Layla F. Saad, was originally designed as a thirty-day challenge to encourage people with white privilege to examine their racist thoughts and behaviors. (We'll do it in one to two months of Mondays.) “Who me? I'm not a racist,” I thought, until I joined a MWS discussion group. Now it's your turn to see what a mess we are in!

When: Mondays at 4:00 (or later depending on the group preference)
How : via Zoom

For more information contact Dale Perkins at daleperkins801@comcast.net.

Local Woman Makes Good

Charlene McAllister has alerted us that Cindy Plank has been appointed the State League's Charter School Position Committee. Her name appeared in the midst of a long year-end message to Leaders from State President Carol Moon Goldberg. Although she knew about being on the committee, our Co-President did not realize she had been named publicly until Charlene pointed it out. Congratulations to Cindy, and kudos to Charlene for her perspicacity.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion ...

Racial Justice

New Laws Address Racism in California's Legal System

Governor Newsom has signed several bills into law which are said to “fight against systemic racism and bias in our legal system.” AB 3121 establishes a first-in-the-nation task force to study and make recommendations on reparations for slavery; AB 2542, the Racial Justice Act, supported by the state League, prohibits the use of race, ethnicity, or national origin to seek or obtain convictions or impose sentences; AB 3070 aims to eliminate discrimination in jury selection. *Voter* readers who are concerned about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in our overall community can learn more about these new laws at [the Governor's website](#).

On December 15, Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB) held a [training session](#) with the California Public Defender and several other experts in order to ensure that “our broader communities understand the Racial Justice Act, what it does and doesn't do, and how it can be used to fight racial discrimination in criminal court cases.”

Climate Emergency ...

League Climate Activities

U.S. League Offering Webinar on Renewable Energy

Diz Swift, of the League of Women Voters U.S. Climate Team's Renewable Energy Group, invites you to attend a presentation by Dr Martin Keller, director of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and president of the Alliance for Sustainable Energy. Dr. Keller will speak on the state of renewable energy research and capacity in the United States, followed by a Q&A session.

The online presentation will be at 9:00 AM on January 19, 2021. [Register for it here](#).

Visit the [LWV US Climate Team](#) website to learn more about the League of Women Voters' national effort on climate.

What Local Leagues Can Do About Soils and Agriculture

Mendocino County League's climate activities inspire other Leagues

League members Carol Czadek and Cindy Plank participate in the California League's Climate Change Task Force. They share a list of suggestions for communities and local Leagues to follow:

- Educate members about the need for healthy soils; partner with gardens and other entities to learn how to create healthy soils.
- Support farmers by shopping at the local farmers' market and supporting funding for climate-smart agriculture programs.
- Embrace Climate Victory Gardens, create a community garden on city land, and support efforts like the one in the City of Fort Bragg to become a garden friendly city like the LWV Mendocino did. All school children throughout the County are provided with a free lunch that is sourced by local farmers.
- Work to preserve undeveloped land like the LWV San Jose did for Coyote Valley.
- Support the development of a County Agricultural Plan like the LWV San Jose did in Santa Clara County.
- Support schools in their efforts to teach students how to grow healthy food like the Edible Schoolyard Project in Berkeley does (LWV Berkeley).
- Host a discussion party for local League members on the documentary *Kiss The Ground*.

The list came from what the Food, Soil, Agriculture subgroup of their committee published in December. The complete [FSA web page](#) includes information on a wide range of food and food waste topics.

Matt Drewno emailed this response:

Thanks for sending this out! I think it's important to consider that all ecosystems will function as carbon sinks if we let them. Check out this [amazing video](#).

Fort Bragg Community Garden

From new League member Sydney Grange:

The South Lincoln Street Community Garden [see the September 2020 Voter, p.9] is coming to the CV Starr Center in Fort Bragg in 2021. We are looking for volunteers to help us break ground and build infrastructure, and are also looking for folks in need of plots. We especially encourage folks without access to garden space to apply for plots. If you are interested in volunteering and/or in a plot please reach out to the gfcgardensfortbragg@gmail.com. Thank you!

The League Last Year

LWVUS Adds Up 20 for 2020

This year was challenging on many fronts, but 2020 saw many important expansions for our democracy. Never has our work as defenders of democracy been more important. More voters than ever before participated in our elections in 2020, thanks in part to the work of the League across the country. Here are just a few of our successes in 2020:

1. *Protecting Millions of Voters in the Courts:* Throughout 2020, LWVUS was part of over 60 state and federal lawsuits across more than 35 states to ensure voters had safe access to the ballot in this election.
2. *Informing More than 6 million Voters on VOTE411:* More than six million users came to VOTE411.org for election info in 2020, and for the first time ever, the site was also available in Spanish!
3. *Expanding People Powered Fair Maps™:* Through People Powered Fair Maps™, Leagues partnered with more than 1,000 organizations, coalitions, and groups and held more than 1,300 virtual and in-person events and forums this year to help build power for fair redistricting processes nationwide.
4. *Getting Out the Count for the 2020 Census:* The League partnered with the Census Counts Campaign, which issued digital guidance for how to turn in-person Get Out the Count events into digital activities.
5. *First Ever Virtual National Convention:* In June, LWVUS convened virtually for our 54th biennial convention, hearing a keynote address from CBS News Anchor Norah O'Donnell and electing Dr. Deborah Turner as the board president for the next two years.
6. *Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment:* August 2020 marked one hundred years since the 19th Amendment was ratified and women won the right to vote, but old discriminatory practices like cuts to early voting, polling location closures, and strict voter ID laws, combined with new suppression tactics that have emerged during a global pandemic, have reminded us of the frailty of our democracy if we don't defend it vigorously.
7. *Protecting the U.S. Postal Service:* In the weeks leading up to the 2020 election, LWVUS filed a lawsuit against the Postmaster

General and United States Postal Service asserting that recent changes to postal service procedures and equipment presented an undue burden on the fundamental right to vote.

8. *Women Power the Vote Day of Action:* On February 14, 2020, the League of Women Voters celebrated 100 years of empowering voters and defending democracy, and celebrated with nearly 400 Day of Action events across the nation centering around the theme: Women Power the Vote.
9. *COVID Relief Funding:* Throughout 2020, LWVUS advocated for more stimulus to support the American people during this unprecedented time.
10. *Going Digital for National Voter Registration Day:* From coast to coast on September 22, League volunteers were out in their communities—and at their computers—for more than 850 events and virtual actions! Their historic efforts paid off, with use of our VOTE411 online registration tool at an all-time high this year.
11. *Vote Early Day:* The League has always advocated to expand early voting, but in 2020 we took it to a new level as a premiere partner in launching the first ever ‘Vote Early Day.’
12. *Partnering to GOTV (Get Out the Vote):* This co-ordination contributed to our successfully reaching millions more voters than we could have on our own.
13. *Recruiting Poll Workers:* After the pandemic hit, the League recruited thousands of Americans to help serve at the polls in key states.
14. *Countering Mis- & Disinformation:* This election cycle saw more disinformation targeting voters than ever before, so it was our role to counter that narrative and ensure voters had the facts to decide for themselves how and when to cast their ballots.
15. *Equal Rights Amendment :* 2020 kicked off with an important advancement for equal rights when the Commonwealth of Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment; while the amendment isn’t over the finish line yet, the League won’t stop advocating for this important step to end discrimination against people on the basis of sex.
16. *Standing in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter:* The League is working to be an anti-racist organization and a better ally for communities of color.
17. *Fighting LGBTQ+ Discrimination:* The League joined more than 50 organizations on amicus briefs in two Supreme Court cases. In one, the court ruled that all individuals are protected by the law, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity; the second could decide how federal funding is used by private agencies with a history of discrimination.

18. *Protecting Reproductive Rights*: The League joined civil rights organizations in urging the Supreme Court to strike down Louisiana's anti-abortion law, which it did, protecting the health rights of women, especially women of color.
19. *Passing DC Statehood in the US House of Representatives*: The residents of our nation's capital came one step closer to full representation with the U.S. House of Representatives passage of H.R. 51, the D.C. Statehood bill, in June.
20. *She is Me*: Throughout our 100th year, LWV shared stories of the amazing individuals leading our organization at all levels of League.

For the full account, read the [League's blog post](#) for 12/10/20.

California League Accomplishments

We began 2020 with great optimism and hope, a robust economy, and ambitious goals. But you know what happened next. By mid-March, COVID-19 had started infecting Californians and the ripples that followed impacted every facet of our lives. Our focus both concentrated on priorities like Schools & Communities First, and shifted as we faced the virus' threats to democracy and the exigencies created by the killing of George Floyd.

While 2020 was full of unprecedented obstacles, the League persevered and met the moment. Here are some of our biggest wins:

Free the Vote (McCarty), Prop 17, restores voting rights to 50,000 Californians on parole and confronts the racist legacy of an impediment that has disproportionately impacted the voting strength of California's Black and Latino communities for decades.

The Racial Justice Act (Kalra), co-sponsored by the League, is landmark legislation that prohibits the state from seeking or obtaining a criminal conviction, or from imposing a sentence, based on race, ethnicity or national origin.

Our League members throughout the state worked to get over 7,500 signatures for ballot measure petitions, sent over 8,000 Action Alert messages to the California Legislature and Governor to pass critical bills, and campaigned or advocated locally to accomplish these important reforms. These achievements would not have been possible without your help. [You can read the full wrap-up on our website.](#)

COVID-19 isn't going away just yet, and neither is climate change, the housing crisis, or any number of problems. Our state faces multiple urgent challenges that have been further compounded by the pandemic. With 2020 nearly behind us, we are gearing up for 2021 and the next century of League. We hope you will stand with us once again.

Domestic Terrorism

Attack on the Capitol was an Attack on Democracy

On the events of January 6, 2021:

Yesterday's violence in the U.S. Capitol building was an attack on our democracy, but the violence and hate of white supremacists does not come as any surprise. For months, the sitting president of the United States has refused to concede the free and fair election he lost, while encouraging his supporters to somehow overturn the election. Other cities have also seen similar demonstrations and destruction of government property in the name of Trump and the lies he spews about our election.

The League condemns the attack for what it was: domestic terrorism.

There's no doubt about it: our democracy was shaken yesterday. But the terrorists did not win. Congress resumed their constitutional duty and ascertained Joe Biden and Kamala Harris as the winners of the 2020 election and the next president and vice president of the United States.

We know there is fear and anger across this country today, but our job remains the same as it has for 100 years: empowering voters and defending democracy. We stand together today against the violent tyranny of this president and those who promote and carry out violence in his name.

But wait, there's more ...

Civil Discourse on Mask Wearing

From a correspondent: "[Some good advice](#). Showing civility & grace can work wonders when interacting with community re various topics, including wearing masks."

Hubs and Routes Explained

The Hubs & Routes Committee [*see June 2020 Voter, p.4*] now has an [introductory video](#) available on YouTube. The four minute video may prove helpful in explaining the project to friends, neighbors, and other members of the coastal community.

Join Us!

Recruiting for the City of Ukiah Equity and Diversity Committee.

Dynamic opportunity to assist in the development and implementation of a comprehensive approach to continue the forward progress and evolution of the City of Ukiah as an agency and service provider in our community.



City of Ukiah Equity and Diversity Committee

"With community engagement, develop an action plan to foster diversity and equity in the organization and our community. Review policies, practices, and procedures to promote and enhance equal participation and access to services, resources, and life opportunities and to ensure our organization accurately reflects the diversity of our community."

Seeking individuals who identify with or who are members of organizations within the City of Ukiah or Ukiah Valley, including Redwood and Potter Valleys, which serve or represent the following diverse demographic groups: (1) Persons with lived experience of poverty (currently or formerly living at or below the poverty level); (2) Persons with physical or mental disabilities; (3) Persons from the LGBTQA community; (4) Native American tribes and communities in Mendocino County; (5) Persons from the Hispanic/Latino community; (6) Persons of color; (7) Persons whose primary language is not English; (8) Youth 21 years and younger; and (9) Seniors 65 years or older. Applications encouraged by Friday, December 18th; open until filled. Applications can be found at [Equity and Diversity Committee Application](#).

For more information contact Traci Boyd, Management Analyst to the City Manager's Office at tboyd@cityofukiah.com or call (707) 467-5720





Dear Latino Coalition -

I am writing this letter to thank you for the opportunity your help has offered me. I will be able to attend UC Riverside and learn more about life as a whole. As a low-income, first generation student, this means a lot to me. I am eternally grateful for the money and I will make good use of it.

From a LatCo Scholarship Recipient in May 2020

What a year 2020 has been for our country! High school seniors experienced a difficult and frustrating conclusion to their final year of high school, and many were in doubt about the next step to take.

The *Latino Coalition of the Mendocino Coast* is committed to supporting young Latinos in our coastal community who are determined, even in these uncertain times, to further their education after high school. We have provided scholarships in 2018, 2019, 2020, and, **with your help, we will provide local high school seniors with \$500 scholarships in May of 2021.**

Contributions to this cause — of any size — will be welcomed and appreciated. You can join other generous members of our community as they help launch the leaders of tomorrow.

Please make your tax-deductible check out to *Safe Passage* and put *Latino Coalition Scholarship* in the memo line. Mail it to Safe Passage, P.O. Box 1718, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. Safe Passage serves as our fiscal agent, and their Tax ID # is 68-0430046.

Thank you from all of us in the Latino Coalition.

The mission of the Latino Coalition: to empower our community through education, social justice, and cultural appreciation.

La misión de La Coalición Latina: empoderar a nuestra comunidad a través de educación, justicia social y reconocimiento cultural.

11-15-20

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 through education and advocacy.

Sturdy Links

in case the inline links don't work

Mendocino County League's website, <https://my.lwv.org/california/mendocino-county>

League positions can be found at <https://lwvc.org/our-work/positions>.

To join the LWVMC Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89709597226?pwd=V25pSUEwOGpHUHpxdmYrRHlrNzJLQT09>

“Election Dissection” recording: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/FYXiynp4kQgBjEo0srHhxN9oZgp7675ZoaoHnye7wQf_Xig1jq-2apRuPuqXMVw5.HtJYvDH9Gkvd7bGA?startTime=1605664813000

County DEI Task Force webinar: <http://www.healthymendocino.org/tiles/index/display?id=201966010441971769>.

New California anti-bias laws: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/09/30/governor-newsom-signs-landmark-legislation-to-advance-racial-justice-and-californias-fight-against-systemic-racism-bias-in-our-legal-system/>.

CURB Racial Justice Act training: <https://www.facebook.com/171549902894327/videos/140747931140885>

Renewable energy webinar: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7483994530844944908>

US Climate Action Team: <https://lwvc.org/lwv-us-climate-team>

Food/Soil/Agriculture committee: <https://lwvc.org/food-soils-and-agriculture>

Global CO2 video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x1SgmFa0r04>

State League 2020 wrapup: <https://lwvc.org/news/advocacy-wrap-up-2020>

LWVUS blog: www.lwv.org/blog/

Civility and Face Coverings: <https://health.clevelandclinic.org/how-to-politely-ask-someone-to-wear-a-face-mask/>

Hubs and Routes intro: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VK3pjD_Sxrl&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3ZpXsx6vyWdxbDpNhQLnGZtbW89_0wmspq60FhndTrntCU0FURdKqz4Pk

[v=VK3pjD_Sxrl&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3ZpXsx6vyWdxbDpNhQLnGZtbW89_0wmspq60FhndTrntCU0FURdKqz4Pk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VK3pjD_Sxrl&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3ZpXsx6vyWdxbDpNhQLnGZtbW89_0wmspq60FhndTrntCU0FURdKqz4Pk)