

***President's Message***

Hello, League Members!

We're officially in the home stretch for the 2024 election season!

LWVHC had another successful membership brunch where we enjoyed hearing from Kevin Collins and Wes Rishel talk about The Transparency Project. Thank you to the catering from the McKinleyville High Culinary Class, it was delicious. Thanks to everyone who attended.

We had another successful booth at the North Country Fair, thanks to **Anne Hartline's** never-ending hard work. NCF is a fall tradition in Humboldt and LWVHC always enjoys being part of it.

LWVHC did the first candidate forum of our election season for Blue Lake city council! We are also set up to do candidate forums on KEET in the coming weeks, including one for District 2 State Assembly where the candidates are coming to participate from Del Norte and Sonoma counties! Please be on the lookout for emails on how you can help.

Lastly, please remember to nominate a deserving local person/business for our State of the Community Luncheon honoree (see included nomination form).

GET OUT THE VOTE!

**Julie Kelly**  
*LWVHC 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.

***Save the Date!***

Please join us for an OLLI Brown Bag talk presenting the Pros and Cons of the measures on the November 5 ballot. We will cover the ten State measures as well as many of the local measures.

This is a good opportunity to explore a non-partisan and factual explanation of the ballot measures before casting your vote.

The date is **Monday, October 14. It starts at noon and ends at 1:30.**

The OLLI classes are all on ZOOM.

To join, go to: [humboldt.edu/olli](http://humboldt.edu/olli) Go to events, and from there, to Brown Bag talks where you will find the link to join this class.

Hope to see you there!

**Karen Price**  
*LWVHC Community Education Director*



## *Voter Service Is BUSY!*

As you might imagine, September and October leading up to a presidential election can be very busy for a humble Voter Service Director, and this year is no exception. So, since I'm already late getting this article to our fearless *VOTER* editor (sorry Leslie!), I'm going to list what's going on in a bulleted format.

By the time you receive this *VOTER*, the following things will have already taken place:

**Sylvia Shaw, Kathy Johanson, and Cyndy Humphry** were on hand to register voters at the **Home Away from Home Potluck** event for college students on September 8.

**Patricia-Anne WinterSun, Peggy Syvertson, Sylvia Shaw, and Kay Escarda** registered voters at Cal Poly Humboldt from 10am-2pm on 9/17 for **National Voter Registration Day!**

Numerous Leaguers were on hand to set up, staff, and take down our booth at the **North Country Fair** on September 21 and 22. Volunteers included: **Patricia-Anne WinterSun, George WinterSun, Randi Larkin, Peggy Syvertson, Joan Williams, Wendy Harden, Michele Fell-Casale, Ellen Ryan, Kathy Johanson, Karen Price, Sylvia Shaw, Julie Kelly, Jessie Hunt, Kay Escarda, Terry Escarda, Bonnie Oliver, Dale Oliver, Cat Koshkin, Cindy Humphry, and Tracy Jordan French.**

Thank you ALL for your help!

We also had a **community forum for Blue Lake City Council candidates**, sponsored by the Blue Lake Ladies of the Lake (LOLAS), at the Mad River Grange, on September 26 from 7-8:30pm. At the time of this report, all volunteer slots had not been filled, so I'll thank all of you in my report next month.

What's on the horizon in October?

We have a **KEET candidate forum for the District 2 California Assembly** candidates scheduled for October 16 from 7-8pm. Woo hoo! It's thrilling when we are able to schedule a forum with the candidates for our large CA district, since, in most cases, the candidates have to drive a long distance to attend a forum. Both of our candidates are both to be applauded for their willingness to come to Eureka so that Humboldt County voters can learn more about them. Please plan to view the forum, and PLEASE call in your questions for the candidates.

We are working on confirming a **KEET candidate forum with the candidates for Eureka City Council, Wards 2 and 4.** We'll update you when that is confirmed.

Also: **Pros and Cons and Easy Voter Guide** have been created by LWVC and are ready to be downloaded and used. Both of them have great, clear information on the 10 State Propositions which will be on the upcoming November ballot, as well as other important information for voters. We have ordered a limited number of hard copies of each publication, so please contact me directly if you would like hard copies to give out to your friends, family, or colleagues. We'll have some Spanish editions of the *Easy Voter Guide* available for distribution. Here are the digital links to both:

LWVC Easy Voter Guides:

<https://cavotes.org/easy-voter-guide/>

LWVC Pros and Cons pdf:

[https://my.lwv.org/sites/default/files/pros\\_cons\\_-\\_nov\\_2024.pdf](https://my.lwv.org/sites/default/files/pros_cons_-_nov_2024.pdf)

Finally, **VOTE411.org**, which replaced Smart Voter this year, is almost ready for voters to access for the November election. Voters will type their physical address into the site, and the candidates and propositions/measures on their ballot will show up. I am in the process of reaching out to all our local candidates to enter specific information, plans, and goals into their individual section of the website so voters can learn more about them in their own words. The site will also have information about CA propositions on the November ballot, as well as local measures. We hope that most candidates will enter their responses onto the site by October 7, the day vote-by-mail ballots will be mailed. Thank you, **Randi Larkin**, for your help with this chal-

### Voter Service Is BUSY! (continued)

lenging, yet important, voter information task!

Last but not least, there’s A LOT going on at Cal Poly Humboldt and College of the Redwoods to enhance voter participation and civic engagement amongst our local college students. I am extremely impressed with all that is being done on both campuses to motivate young people to register, to become informed, and to vote.

At Cal Poly, we registered 20 college students to vote in 3.5 hours on 9/17, National Voter Registration Day, and gave out numerous registration forms for completion later, as well as dispensing a lot of voter information! Yay! We’re working hard in our community to MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK, and I’m VERY proud to be a part of it!

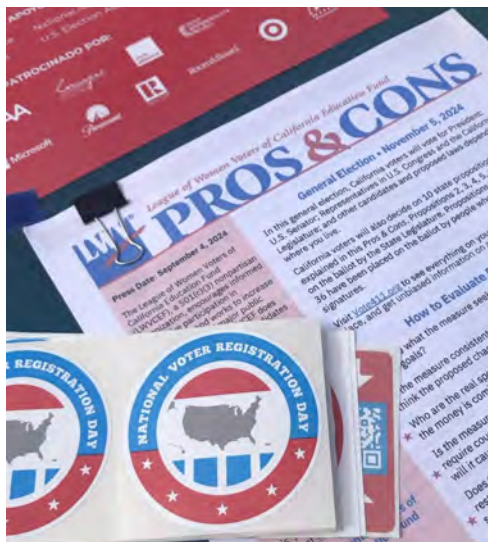
Sincerely,  
**Anne Hartline**  
*LWVHC Voter Service Director*



LWVHC volunteers L-R Sylvia Shaw, Peggy Syvertson, and Anne Hartline at Cal Poly Humboldt on National Voter Registration Day



LWVHC Voter Service Director, the tireless, dedicated Anne Heartline



LWVHC provided materials as part of the League’s voter education efforts.



Jessica Schlachter holds up a NVR Day sticker. Thank you for the pictures, Jessica.

## *Program Schedule for 2024/2025*

The LWVHC Board of Directors has chosen the dates for four program membership meetings between November 2024 and March 2025. These include two position review meetings, a meeting to discuss California League matters and an informational meeting on wind energy and wind industry. All four meetings take place on the third Thursday of the month starting at 6:30 pm, and all will take place on Zoom.

For several years, we have reviewed three of our positions each year, making for a rather hectic schedule. These reviews examine our positions so that we might keep them current. At a membership meeting in October 2023 and ratified at the 2024 Annual Meeting, it was decided to review two positions each year instead.

This year's two positions to be reviewed will be **Civic Engagement** on November 21, 2024 and a revisit of **Resources and Development of Humboldt Bay** on March 20, 2025, specifically to examine whether climate change and sea level rise have been adequately included.

On January 16, 2025 the members will chime in on whatever the California League asks us to address. State league usually contacts us some time in either late November or in December. Stay tuned for more information to come.

On February 20, 2025 we will hold an informational meeting on all aspects of wind energy and wind industry based on two of our existing positions, **Resources and Development of Humboldt Bay** and **The Role of Government in Economic Development in Humboldt County**. Both of these positions are relevant because wind energy and wind industry development will impact both natural resources and socio-economic aspects in the County.

At the League Board of Director retreat in July we chose the directors to head our three position categories. We welcome our new Natural Resources Director, **Cindy Humphrey** and our new Government Director, **Peggy Syvertson**, as well as our continuing Social Policy Director, **Sylvia Shaw**. I continue in the role of Program Director.

I am very grateful for this dedicated team of program directors for 2024/2025 and their commitment to sharing information with and seeking wisdom from our members!

Again, all meetings start at 6:30 pm and are held on Zoom. Here's the schedule in brief:

November 21, 2024 - **Civic Engagement** position review

January 16, 2025 - California League matters

February 20, 2025 - Wind energy and wind industry informational meeting

March 20, 2025 - **Resources and Development of Humboldt Bay** position review

*Molly Cate*

*LWVHC Program Director*

"Democracy is the cornerstone of human dignity, allowing individuals to assert their rights and shape their destinies." – Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

"The beauty of democracy lies in its ability to accommodate dissent, dialogue, and peaceful resolution of conflicts."

– Nelson Mandela

"Democracy is a continual process of renewal, where citizens actively participate in shaping their collective destiny." – Vaclav Havel

## *Thinking about the Future Now*

I am looking for a League member (or members) to assist me for the next **Avenue of the Giants Marathon** on **May 4, 2025**. It's always run on the first Sunday in May. I want to train someone to take over the station for 2026. There's really not a lot to do. The runner's club provides all of the supplies, and we provide the volunteer staff.

I will have chaired the aid station some 60+ times by then. I love going out to the redwoods after a long winter, seeing the sun come through the trees, knowing the runners appreciate our help and adding \$500 or so to the League coffers! What's not to like? I will be glad to help, but I will be 89 next year and 90 (fingers crossed) by 2026, so it's time to pass the baton! It's easier to ease into it rather than jump in at the last minute. So, who will step up? Call me and let's talk.

707-442-7495.

*Kay Escarda*

*LWVHC Avenue of the Giants Marathon Chair*

797-442-7495.



### Welcome New and Returning Members

Mary Ann Hansen

Jessie Hunt

Susan Penn

Cynthia Woods

## *In Memory of Nancy Quintrell*

Nancy Quintrell passed away on July 25, 2024. I met Nancy during our most active time in LWVHC. We were both retired teachers, and she had had my granddaughter in one of her elementary classes. She had an excellent reputation as a teacher at Grant school in Eureka. She was also great to work with in the League and to just be in her company. She contributed a lot to our organization, and we were blessed to have her. We have remained friends for many years, and I shall miss her.

*Kay Escarda*

*LWVHC Member*





The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

### 2025 State of the Community Luncheon Civic Contribution Award Nomination

Each year, at the State of the Community Luncheon, the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County honors individuals and/or groups for contributing to our community through their volunteer work. We are now accepting nominations for those community members you feel deserve this special recognition for their contributions. Please nominate a person or organization you feel should be considered for this honor and why.

Please provide us with the following:

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The best way to contact you (phone, email, text, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit your nomination by Monday, December 2, 2024 to:  
State of the Community Luncheon Committee, Maggie Fleming - P.O. Box 252,  
Eureka CA 95502, or email [maggiefleming2018@gmail.com](mailto:maggiefleming2018@gmail.com)**

Name of individual or group to be nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone or email: \_\_\_\_\_

In what way has the person or group made a positive contribution to Humboldt County?

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PAST CIVIC CONTRIBUTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

- |      |                                   |      |  |
|------|-----------------------------------|------|--|
| 1992 | Sally Upatisinga                  | 2008 | Dr. Douglas Jager                      |
| 1993 | Leon & Jean Wagner                |      | Gwynna Morris                          |
| 1994 | David T. Davis                    | 2009 | Arcata Community Recycling Center      |
|      | John Gierek, Sr.                  |      | Carol Jacobson & the Eureka            |
|      | The Humboldt Open Door Clinic     |      | Symphony                               |
| 1995 | Dr. Doris K. Niles                | 2010 | Rose Baker                             |
|      | Humboldt Literacy Project         |      | Humboldt Community Breast Health       |
| 1996 | Dale Neiman                       |      | Project                                |
|      | The Foodworks Culinary Center     | 2011 | Byrd Lochtie                           |
| 1997 | David Lehman                      |      | Humboldt Sponsors                      |
|      | Eureka Elks Lodge #652            | 2012 | P. J. "Paul" Nicholson                 |
| 1998 | The North Coast Journal           |      | North Coast Stand Down                 |
|      | Carol Masterson                   | 2013 | Sylvia Noel Douglas & Dave Douglas     |
|      | Sandra Warshaw                    |      | Food for People                        |
| 1999 | Sally Arnot                       | 2014 | Jimmy Smith                            |
|      | Ken Collins                       |      | CASA of Humboldt County                |
| 2000 | Ina Harris                        | 2015 | Ruth Mountaingrove                     |
|      | Simona Keat                       |      | Helen Person                           |
|      | Alexandra Stillman                |      | Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods      |
| 2001 | KEET-TV                           | 2016 | Hospice of Humboldt                    |
|      | Ron Perry                         |      | Redwood Empire Quilters Guild          |
| 2002 | Humboldt Area Foundation          |      | Judith Stoffer                         |
|      | Muriel Dinsmore                   | 2017 | Access Humboldt                        |
| 2003 | Santiago Cruz                     |      | Marianne Pennekamp                     |
| 2004 | Kathryn Corbett                   | 2018 | Betty Diehl and the Ferndale Community |
|      | Friends of the Redwood Libraries  |      | Choir                                  |
| 2005 | Evergreen Lodge                   |      | NAMI, Humboldt National Association on |
|      | (American Cancer Society,         |      | Mental Illness                         |
|      | College of the Redwoods,          | 2019 | Dell'Arte International                |
|      | Rotary Club of Southwest Eureka & |      | Michele McKeegan                       |
|      | St. Joseph Health System)         | 2022 | Viviana & Eric Hollenbeck              |
| 2006 | Kay Escarda                       |      | Wanda Wahlund                          |
|      | KINS - For Talk Shop              | 2023 | James "Jim" Glover                     |
| 2007 | Marge Custis                      |      | Humboldt County Children's             |
|      | Jan Kraepelien                    |      | Authors Festival                       |

## *Celebration Time at Access Humboldt!*

After a six-month national search, on September 5 a contract was signed between Access Humboldt (AH) and its new Executive Director and soon the celebrations can begin!

For those of you who know Sean McLaughlin, founding Executive Director of AH, this time of transition is both sad and sweet. Sean has been an energetic and thoughtful leader for the organization and utterly dedicated to equity and full inclusion in all forms of public communications. He will be missed. But we also rejoice that Sean has chosen to step down at a time in his life when he still retains all the vigor and enthusiasm needed to set his sights on other goals. He should be proud of all he accomplished in his many years with Access Humboldt.

The incoming Executive Director is Christine Marie Jeffers, currently Director of Development, Marketing, and Sales for Access Sacramento. She is also an independent filmmaker. Christina brings expertise in fundraising and financial development to AH at a crucial time for many community media centers around the country, Access Humboldt included.

Public access media centers were created in 1971 by the Federal Communications Commission to provide local communities with direct access to public meetings and to teach people how to use media technologies for themselves. Basic funding for these community media centers has long been a small percentage of the fees cable TV companies receive from their customers. As the 21<sup>st</sup> century has progressed, fewer people use cable TV services as increasing numbers turn to the Internet.

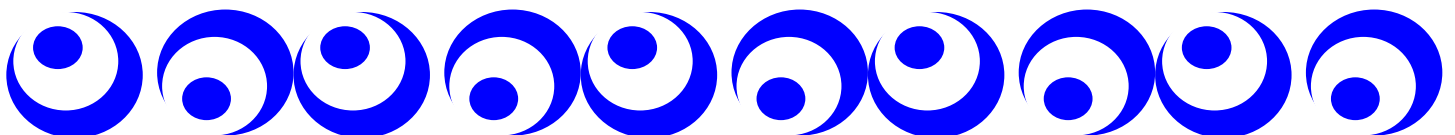
Access Humboldt too is seeing its income from cable fees decline year by year, not precipitously but the handwriting is on the wall, as they say. Long-term dependence on cable fees is untenable. So, Christina is just the right person coming to us at just the right time.

All this matters to the League because we have a designated seat on the AH Board of Directors, a position I have filled for five years. Both organizations strongly promote civic engagement, giving them a natural affinity. Both organizations are dedicated to fully equitable inclusion for all peoples who call Humboldt County home.

Christina is scheduled to begin work at Access Humboldt on October 21. The organization's Annual Membership Meeting is set for October 30 and we will be throwing a party! Plans are underway to celebrate all that Sean has brought to AH and to welcome Christina too. It will be a double party!

Next month the VOTER will include an article giving the details on the big Access Humboldt celebration to come. You are all invited. So, mark your calendars for the afternoon of October 30 and consider becoming a member of Access Humboldt, if you are not already. Want to know more? Go to <https://www.accesshumboldt.net> for more information.

*Molly Cate,  
LWVHC Liaison to AH*







LWVHC volunteers moving the League's materials of all sorts into the new storage area on September 13. L-R: Sylvia Shaw, Maggie Fleming, Peggy Syvertson, Julie Kelly, Bonnie Oliver, and Becky Simpson



### ***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](http://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.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$75 Single Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$115 Family Membership  
(2 in same household)

\_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_



### ***The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County***

627 3rd Street, Eureka, CA 95501  
P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502  
[www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org)  
[leaguehumboldt@lwvhc.org](mailto:leaguehumboldt@lwvhc.org)

(707) 444-9252

#### **Who's Who in Your 2024-2025 League Board**

- President.....Julie Kelly
- Vice President.....Molly Cate
- Secretary.....Bonnie Oliver
- Treasurer.....Michelle Vassel
- Program Director.....Molly Cate
- Natural Resources Director.....Cindy Humphry
- Social Policy Director.....Sylvia Shaw
- Government Director.....Peggy Syvertson
- Access Humboldt Liaison.....Molly Cate
- Election Service Director.....Byrd Lochtie
- Forum Director.....Anne Hartline
- Voter Service Director.....Anne Hartline
- Membership Director.....Becky Simpson
- Social Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
- VOTER Editor.....Leslie Leach
- Community Education Director.....Karen Price
- Communications Director.....Jessica Schlachter
- Traditional Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
- Website Director.....Leslie Leach
- Director.....Kathy Johanson





P.O. Box 3219  
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

## ***Get Involved!***

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We all have unique skills to contribute and limited time. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate. Visit [www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org) or call (707) 444-9252.

## ***Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy***

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The League of Women Voters is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity

## ***LWVHC Calendar***

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Tuesday, October 1  
5:30 p.m.

Board Meeting  
in person at Babe's,  
Pizza and Pasta  
4015 Walnut Drive  
Eureka, CA

OR on Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88910627631?pwd=86i5L042DOBrImhiaA9mMj3oBQiHil.1>

Meeting ID: 889 1062 7631 Passcode: 872197

Monday, October 14  
Noon-1:30

Ollie-LWVHC  
Presents Pros & Cons  
See front page of this  
VOTER for more  
Details.

Anytime

LWVHC Webpage  
LWVHC Instagram  
LWVHC X