Vol. 61 No. 8 September 2020

President's Message

Dear League Members,

The League has been busy this election season making sure the community has the information necessary to make informed decisions. Thank you, **Nancy Kay**, and her team who are busy studying the propositions and providing the pros and cons for each proposition. The information is presented to groups and will be on the website.

The Membership Zoom "Brunch" will be September 12 from 10 am to noon and will feature Kelly Sanders to explain the processes for voting this election year, and to clarify any questions. Be sure to look for that invitation.

The Board just finished an extended planning session via Zoom to work on meeting the directions from the members. The League will be looking at the positions on Public Health, Hazardous Waste and Eureka City government.

The Board decided to improve the League online presence and continue to be the source of information for the community in this election season. The Board hired Allie Jones of Illumine Marketing to provide the necessary expertise to improve our online presence.

The pandemic has not slowed the League down, just moved us to be more creative.

Deborah Downs 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.

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN IMPORTANT MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 12!

Details on page 4

There will be exciting messages in the coming days as Allie Jones of Illumine Marketing assists the League to encourage informed voting.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.

https://my.lwv.org/california/humboldt-county

U.S. Census: Talk About It!

Investment in Economic Development is critical for Humboldt County. Help can come through federal grants for Small Business Development Centers and Community Development Block Grants, based on our census count.

Do you want to know more about the benefits of the 2020 Census? There are more details at https://2020census.ca.gov.

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Coming Soon! Community Education

Many Community Education activities occur during the months that precede an election. For the November 3rd election, given the pandemic, we are not going to be making educational presentations in public meetings, so we have had to be a bit creative about how we can best access voters to provide timely community education.

Twelve state-wide ballot propositions this November! The League will be presenting the Pros and Cons of each at an OLLI Brown Bag program on October 12th. Additionally, we will be making presentations at two local Rotary Clubs in Eureka. These three presentations will be made via Zoom. Access Humboldt is on-board to air our Pros and Cons presentation so that the community at-large will be able to view it, also. The Pros and Cons Committee, Maggie Augustine, Judy Bennett, Kay Escarda, Byrd Lochtie, Amy Moffat and I, are busy preparing the Pros and Cons this month. Wish us luck and try to view one of the presentations.

Measure C, the Eureka City local ballot measure on the November ballot, is about Ranked Choice Voting. The City of Eureka, recognizing that many voters are not familiar with Ranked Choice Voting, reached out to the League and asked that we participate in educating folks about what it is and how it works. The League is scheduled to make a couple of presentations (to Rotary and Soroptimists) via Zoom, but again, Access Humboldt has agreed to air our presentation to inform our community about RCV. League members will be able to learn how Rank Choice Voting works at our September 12th Membership Meeting. (No brunch this year, but we will meet none-theless via Zoom.)

Easy Voter Guides (EVG), the LWV California prepared pamphlet about the state-wide ballot propositions, are a challenge to distribute this year. In the past we delivered EVGs to heavily trafficked locations, such as the library and local businesses, for folks to pick up. Luckily several local school districts, the Boys & Girls Club, the County Library, and others are working with us to distribute the EVGs directly to voters.

The LWVHC remains committed to serving our com-

munity as a reliable resource for unbiased and nonpartisan education for voters, even during a pandemic.

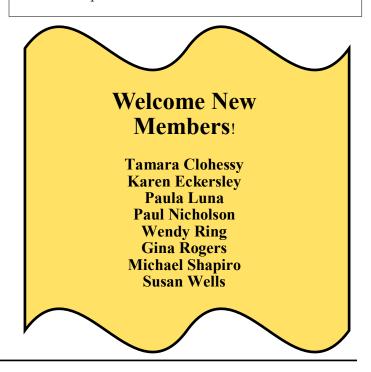
Nancy Kay
Director of Community Education

U.S. Census: Talk About It!

Our League has a position on Housing. A number of housing programs can receive federal funding, based on the census count. These include Section 8 Housing, Low Income Home Energy, Rural Rental Assistance, and Transition from Homelessness.

Our League will be looking at our position on Hazardous Waste this year. Federal funds, based on the census count, can go to Hazardous Waste Management. Programs on Water Pollution and Watershed Protection may also receive money.

Support of Community Services is based on the census information. These can include Health Care; Transportation Planning, Funding and Construction; Mental Health Services; Help for Crime Victims; and Disaster Preparedness and Relief Aid.



Vote with the League

The League of Women Voters of California supports Proposition 15. The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County concurs, and encourages residents to vote for Proposition 15.

The Proposition closes the loopholes on the industrial and commercial properties. It will protect properties used for residential and agricultural properties. It does NOT impact any residential properties, even rentals. Agriculture land will continue to be taxed as it was with Prop 13.

This proposition fixes the inequities created by Prop 13 more than 40 years ago. At that time commercial and residential each paid 50 percent of the total property taxes. Prop 13 froze the property taxes in time and for the last 40 years homes have been bought and sold. The same transfers have not happened with commercial properties so today 75 percent of property taxes are paid by residential properties, only 25 percent for commercial. This inequity has impacted our schools. What once was a California School system envied, is now dead last.

This proposition will reclaim \$12 billion each year from the largest commercial properties, most businesses will not pay more in taxes. The revenue will go to schools and local governments, not the state. It is for local governments to decide how the money should be spent and they will be held accountable. Every school will receive more funds.

Join with the League to support proposition 15.

Deborah Downs LWVHC President

U.S. Census: Talk About It!

Do you know how the census count can affect your elderly parents? Allocations of federal funding for Supportive Housing for the Elderly, Protections against Elder Abuse, Long-term Care Ombudsman Services, and many other services for seniors are all based on census numbers.

There are potential benefits for Rural Areas from federal funding. Rural Business Enterprise Grants, Rural Education, and Water & Waste Disposal Systems may also receive federal funding based on the census count.

The 2020 Census

I suspect that most League members have already completed their 2020 census forms, either online or on a hard copy. But I am sure each one of you may know some one who has not yet been counted. Some people just don't want to be bothered, or they don't trust the government, or they are afraid because of an immigration issue. So here are a few talking points to help you encourage your friends, neighbors and acquaintances to help Humboldt County achieve an accurate count before the gathering of information ends on September 30, 2020.

- Security and confidentiality is assured; your information is anonymous and used only for statistical purposes.
- Your information can not be released to any government agency, including law enforcement. <u>Title 13 of the U.S. Code</u> requires that your information is kept confidential under penalty of prison and/or a fine up to \$250,000.
- The total count in California will determine the number of representatives California will send to Congress for the next ten years.

Our tax money is allocated back to the states based on the census count. In 2009 \$400 billion of federal funds were distributed annually based on census data.

The money allocated to our state goes to dozens of projects. Look throughout this VOTER to see some of the benefits Humboldt County and California can receive, based on our census data. EVERY person counts when determining how much money goes to what projects throughout California and the United States. We are often undercounted, and that means we lose federal funding that should come to Humboldt County. Let's count every person in Humboldt County so we receive our FAIR SHARE!

To get a form if you didn't receive one or you lost yours, go online to https://my2020census.gov or call toll free 1-844-330-

2020 (English) or 844-468-2020 (Spanish)

Byrd Lochtie Election Service Director Page 4 THE VOTER September 2020

Fall Membership Meeting

Welcome to the 2020/2021 LWVHC year! Every year, LWVHC kicks off the new League year with a Fall Membership Meeting to introduce LWVHC Board members, discuss events for the upcoming League year, and learn from invited speakers who discuss areas of interest to our members. This is one of our most important events of the year, and ALL LWVHC members are encouraged to attend. In addition, this is a meeting at which League members are urged to bring a guest who might be interested in learning about what we do and, hopefully, in joining LWVHC.

Normally, this takes place at a brunch at which we eat and socialize. However, as we all know, this year is FAR from normal and we are all learning how to do important things in new ways.

Therefore, PLEASE plan to attend:

LWVHC Fall Membership (Non-Brunch) Meeting via ZOOM

Saturday, September 12th from 10 am to 12 noon Our speakers will be:

Kelly Sanders, Humboldt County Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters, who will provide insight into details about the November, 2020 election and

Nancy Kay, LWVHC Community Education, who will explain "Ranked Choice Voting".

Please invite a friend to join us! Be sure to send **Becky Simpson** (<u>simpson2rebecca@gmail.com</u>) contact emails for any non-members who will be attending so that we can be sure they receive the Zoom invitation.

Note: A ZOOM invitation will be sent out on Friday evening or Saturday morning to all LWVHC members. Therefore, there is no need to RSVP.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12!

U.S. Census: Talk About It!

COVID-19 has made huge changes in our communities. Allocations of federal funding may be used for Unemployment Insurance, Dislocated Workers Funding, Emergency Shelter and Emergency Food Assistance.

Mental Health is in the news a great deal these days. Community Mental Health Services can benefit from federal funding based on the census count. Nutrition and Substance Abuse programs can also receive funds.

"We don't vote for people because they are the exact embodiment of our values, but because they are likely to be the most responsive to them."

— Charles M. Blow



Vote Early and Vote by Mail

The countdown has started. Here are the major points for this election cycle:

Voter registration form must be postmarked by or completed online by 19 October 2020.

Voters must re-register when there is a change of name or address.

Starting on 5 October 2020, postage-free vote-by-mail ballots will be mailed to all registered voters.

- To be complete, a ballot must be signed; then it may be submitted in one of the following ways:
- o Mailed on or before 3 November 2020 and received by 20 November 2020

OR Deposited at drop-off boxes starting 3 October 2020

OR Returned to Humboldt County Voter Assistance Centers between 31 October and 3 November 2020.

If you vote in person be sure to bring the vote-by-mail ballot with you.

On 3 November 2020, you can both register and vote at any Humboldt Voter Assistance Center. The vote will be provisional until the Elections Office clears the registration and ballot signature. This is to ascertain that there is no multiple voting by one person.

- At Humboldt Voter Assistance Centers, there will be:
- Two lines, one for those who vote in person and one for those who are dropping off completed ballots.
- Sanitation methods and physical distancing will be in place.

Those with disabilities can also vote by mail. Voter Assistance Centers will have Remote Accessible Vote-By-Mail (RAVBM) capabilities. Check for this at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.

From alpha to omega, track your voter status online at the California elections website - <u>WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov.</u>

The Humboldt County Elections Office needs volunteers especially those who can speak languages other than English (Spanish and Hmong). Contact the county elections office online or call 707.445.7481.

The big take-away for this pandemic time election is to VOTE EARLY AND VOTE BY MAIL.

Margaret Augustine Voter Service Director

U.S. Census: Talk About It!

Students learn better when they have plenty of nutritious food! Federal money, allocated based on census numbers, goes to the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. Several other special educational grants from federal funding, based on the census, involve Vocational Rehabilitation, Child Care, Rural Education, and Preschool Programs.

We love living on the North Coast with our beautiful recreational and wilderness areas. We want to receive our fair share of federal funding, based on the census, for Wildlife Restoration, Fire Management Assistance, Coastal Zone Management, and the Beach Monitoring & Notification Program.

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LWVHC YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- FYE JUNE 30, 2020 PROFIT AND LOSS BUDGET PERFORMANCE

	ACTUAL July '19 -	June '20	Annual Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Community Elections Service	nc	4,829.05	6,000.00
Contributions		672.28	900.00
Event Revenues - Membership		370.00	1,225.00
HAF Monies for Education		1,540.00	5,050.00
Interest/Dividends - General		23.49	0.00
Marathon		0.00	500.00
Member Dues		11,385.00	10,500.00
State of the Community Reven	ue	0.00	24,000.00
Total Income		18,819.82	48,175.00
Expense			
Action & Advocacy		0.00	2,000.00
Administrative Postage		332.00	660.00
Annual Meeting Kits and Posta	ige	472.06	495.00
Board Meeting meals		0.00	400.00
Board Retreat		0.00	50.00
Community Education		1,646.77	4,650.00
Community Election Service E	хр	1,434.98	2,500.00
Contribution to HAF	-	350.00	
Conventions and Workshops		0.00	3,500.00
Dues for Local Associations		135.00	225.00
Event Expenses - Membership		944.81	1,800.00
Fees PayPal and Other Bank		69.46	150.00
General Membership Meeting	Cost	0.00	1,000.00
Information Technology/Webs	ite	350.00	350.00
Insurance		935.00	1,030.00
Membership Development		221.46	1,000.00
Office Supplies (includes name	e badges)	0.00	150.00
PMP	,	9,840.00	9,400.00
President		0.00	100.00
Rent		5,400.00	5,400.00
Secretary		0.00	50.00
Special Projects		750.00	2,100.00
State of the Community Expen	ses	775.52	12,700.00
Telecommunications		149.90	80.00
Treasurer		115.00	50.00

LWVHC YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

VOTER expenses	956.61	950.00
Voter Service	0.00	750.00
Voters' Edge	500.00	500.00
Total Expense	25,378.57	52,040.00
Net Ordinary Income	- 6,558.75	-3,865.00

ACTUAL	Annual
July '19 - June '20	Budget

1,400.00
-527.08
1,058.24
492.63
2,423.79
1,019.81
1,540.00
2,559.81
-136.02



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LWVHC YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

BALANCE SHEET

	DALANGE GILL I	Jun 30, 20
ASSETS		
Checking - Umpqua Bank Savings - Umpqua		6,208.46
Bank		6,799.99
Tri Counties Bank CD		10,002.69
Restricted - HAF		54,757.36
TOTAL ASSETS		77,768.50
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Current Liabilities		
Pre-paid Dues Prepaid SOCL		3,295.00
tickets Total Current Liabili-		250.00
ties		3,545.00
Equity Opening Balance		
Equity S		84,495.26
Retained Earnings		-3,576.99
Net Income		-6,694.77
Total Equity TOTAL LIABILITIES &		74,223.50
EQUITY		77,768.50





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, <u>are tax deductible</u>.

Annual Dues are due each year on July 1st

\$75 Single Membership

e-mail

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.

\$115 Family Membership (2 in same household)	
I also want to gift a membership!	
NamePhone	
I am enclosing for my annual membership renewal	l :
Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone_	



The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

434 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501 P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502 www.lwvhc.org vote@lwvhc.org (707) 444-9252

Who's Who in Your 2010-2021 League Board 2016-2017

President	Deborah Downs
Vice President	Julie Kelly
Secretary	Anne Hartline
Treasurer	
Program Director	<i>VACANT</i>
Natural Resources Director	
Social Policy Director	
Access Humboldt Liasion	
Election Service Director	Byrd Lochtie
Forum Director	Carol Masterson
Voter Service Director	Maggie Augustine
Membership Director	Becky Simpson
Social Media Chair	Jessica Schlachter
VOTER Editor	Dave Rosso
Community Education Directo	rNancy Kay
Communication Director	<i>VACANT</i>
Traditional Media Chair	.Jessica Schlachter

"Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."

— Abraham Lincoln





To:

Get Involved!

Eureka, CA 95502

We all have a unique set of skills to contribute and limited time to afford. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate.

Visit www.lwvhc.org or call (707) 444-9252.

Our Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. Not only shall there be no barriers to membership and participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, nor political affiliation, but also the LWVHC will actively seek to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, board and programs.

Making Democracy Work!

LWVHC Calendar

1 ue., Sept. 9 5:30 PM	Zoom
Sat., Sept. 12 10:00 AM	Fall Membership Meeting Zoom
LWVHC Webpage	Any Time!
LWVHC Facebook	Any Time!
LWCHC Twitter	Any Time!