LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS*
OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY

THE VOTER

THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 67 No. 8

November 2026

Note from the Editor

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to another edition of THE VOTER. As you might surmise, I'm still getting through the learning curve. Not to mention the election and all the extra activities that it entailed. All worth it.

Thank you for your continued patience.

In League,
Kathy Johanson
VOTER Editor

kathyjohanson@yahoo.com

Membership Meeting - November

by Peggy Syvertson, Vice President

There is a membership meeting on **November 19**. The subject will be **Housing** updates, led by Janet Foos. Guest presenter will be **Cristin Kenyon, Senior Planner for the City of Eureka**. Please join us on Zoom and get the newest updates on housing projects going on! Hope to see you there!

Official Board Actions

Report on Official Board Actions - October 10, 2026
By Laurel Dalsted, LWVHC Board Secretary

At the October 10, 2026, Board Meeting, the LWVHC board took the following actions:

- Unanimously approved that we make a donation of $250 to LWVC VOTE411 Fund from the HAF Fund, in response to the letter received from LWVC requesting contributions to the VOTE411 Fund.
- Unanimously approved that we ratify the votes from the membership brunch for the changes to the articles of incorporation & bylaws to support the change to 501c3.



Our Mission Statement...

The League of Women Voters is 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.

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'S OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY

THE VOTER

The Newsletter of The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County Vol. 67 No. 9 November 2026]

Save the Date!

LWVHC Holiday Party Thursday, December 10th 6:00 p.m.
Tess Coffman's home 1698 Bella Vista Road McKinleyville

Please bring "finger food" to share and your choice of beverage.

The LWVHC will be accepting donations for the tweens of the Boys and Girls Club of Eureka.

Thank you volunteers!

October 3, 2026 was the day of a Wiyot Tribal election. I appreciate all the Leaguers who volunteered to help that day: Dannielle Greco, Leslie Leach, Mary Ann Bansen, Janet Foos, Elaine Weinreb, Helen Andrews, and Janine Randall. We don't usually see many voters, but we do have a number of mail-in ballots to count. I also want to thank Gary Markussen and Brian Mead, who set up and took down the voting booths. That's always a big help!

I am especially pleased to note that Janet and Dannielle are "in training" to be able to do this on their own––my succession plan! They are working with me to set up a complete set of procedures so that anyone will be able to plan and work an election in the future.

A BIG THANK YOU to all my wonderful volunteers!

Byrd Lochtie
Community Elections Director

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VOTER SERVICE WAS BUSY THIS ELECTION SEASON, THANKS TO MANY LEAGUERS!!!!

Well, LWVHC Voter Service was definitely busy in September and October! We staffed a booth for an entire weekend, registered voters in multiple venues, and educated the community with information about candidates and the 14 propositions on the CA ballot. Admittedly, it was somewhat exhausting, but I received so much positive feedback from candidates and voters around the county regarding how much they trust and value the League's non-partisan information, it was SOOO worth it!

On September 19 and 20, we staffed an active and well-visited booth at the North Country Fair in Arcata. Thank you LWVHC volunteers: Patricia-Anne and George WinterSun, Keith Kons, Lorraine Zeller, Peggy Syvertson, Joan Williams, Suzanne McClurkin-Nelson, Kay Escarda, Kathy Johanson, Sylvia Shaw, Connie Roser-Renouf, Julie Kelly, Jessica Schlachter.

On September 30, our Community Comment aired on KINS Radio, informing community members about upcoming voter service events and resources on our LWVHC website.

This year, LWVHC continued our participation in VOTE411, a project of LWVUS and LWVC. However, this year we had the amazing Karen Suiker take on the task of reaching out to candidates throughout Humboldt County to urge them to participate in the program and to include their pictures and responses to specific questions on the free VOTE411 site. Recruiting participation from candidates can be a challenging task since many candidates throughout Humboldt County are reticent to include useful contact information when they submit their candidacy papers. Thanks to Karen, we had a whopping 91% contact rate and a 62% candidate participation rate. Just so you know, this is an outrageous participation rate and something we have never come close to in the past. WAY TO GO KAREN!!!!!

Now, on to candidate forums and community education, something we are famous for! On Friday, October 2, a candidate forum for Blue Lake City Council took place in the Mad River Grange from 6-7:30. Approximately 70 community members attended the event. Thank you LWVHC volunteers: Laurel Dalsted, Judy Bennett, Maggie Fleming, Connie Roser-Renouf

On Tuesday, October 6, a candidate forum for Arcata City Council took place live on KEET-TV from 7-8pm (with recordings available on Access Humboldt and YouTube). Thank you LWVHC volunteers: Byrd Lochtie, Becky Simpson, Julie Kelly, Connie Roser-Renouf, Janet Foos, Suzanne McClurkin-Nelson

On Monday, October 12, LWVHC facilitated a FREE ONLINE PRESENTATION through Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Brown Bag series entitled "The Upcoming California Election Propositions", a discussion of the pro and cons of the California November 2026 Propositions.Thank you LWVHC presenters Anne Wasson and Terry Terry Kanowski.

On Tuesday, October 13 a candidate forum for Eureka Mayor took place live on KEET-TV from 7-8pm (with recordings available on Access Humboldt and YouTube). Thank you LWVHC volunteers: Becky Simpson, Peggy Syvertson, Kathy Johanson, Janet Foos, Laurel Dalsted, Patricia-Anne WinterSun

On Thursday, October 15, a candidate forum for Eureka City Council, Wards 1, 3, and 5 took place live on KEET-TV from 7-8:30pm (with recordings available on Access Humboldt and YouTube). Thank you LWVHC volunteers: Peggy Syvertson, Suzanne McClurkin-Nelson, Bonnie Oliver, Jessica Schlachter, Janet Foos, Patricia-Anne WinterSun.

Welcome new members

Thank you for joining the League!
Together we make democracy stronger.

Karen Isa
Connie Roser-Renouf
Susan Thorsell



The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County is here to support understanding the issues, listening to our neighbors, and participating in our democracy to strengthen Humboldt County.
Together, we can build a county where every person has the opportunity to participate, and every voice helps shape our shared future.

LWV

Empowering Voters.
Defending Democracy.

2027 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.

Your name

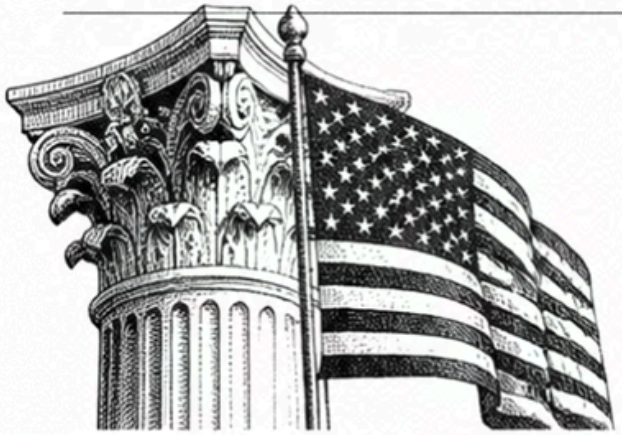
Phone/email: Best way to contact you:

Nominee name or organization

Nominee Address:

Nominee Email or Phone:

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



Submission deadline: **Monday, November 30, 2026**

Submit nominations to:

State of the Community Luncheon Committee, Maggie Fleming P.O. Box 252, Eureka CA 95502, or email maggiefleming2018@gmail.com

PAST CIVIC CONTRIBUTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

1992 Sally Upatisringa
1993 Leon & Jean Wagner
1994 David T. Davis John Gierek, Sr. The Humboldt Open Door Clinic
1995 Dr. Doris K. Niles Humboldt Literacy Project
1996 Dale Neiman The Foodworks Culinary Center
1997 David Lehman Eureka Elks Lodge #652
1998 The North Coast Journal Carol Masterson Sandra Warshaw
1999 Sally Arnot Ken Collins
2000 Ina Harris Simona Keat Alexandra Stillman
2001 KEET-TV Ron Perry
2002 Humboldt Area Foundation Muriel Dinsmore
2003 Santiago Cruz
2004 Kathryn Corbett Friends of the Redwood Libraries
2005 Evergreen Lodge (American Cancer Society, College of the Redwoods, Rotary Club of Southwest Eureka & St. Joseph Health System)
2006 Kay Escarda KINS - For Talk Shop
2007 Marge Custis Jan Kraepelien
2008 Dr. Douglas Jager Gwynna Morris
2009 Arcata Community Recycling Center Carol Jacobson & the Eureka Symphony
2010 Rose Baker Humboldt Community Breast Health Project
2011 Byrd Lochtie Humboldt Sponsors
2012P. J. "Paul" Nicholson North Coast Stand Down
2013 Sylvia Noel Douglas & Dave Douglas Food for People
2014 Jimmy Smith CASA of Humboldt County
2015 Ruth Mountaingrove Helen Person Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods
2016 Hospice of Humboldt Redwood Empire Quilters Guild Judith Stoffer
2017 Access Humboldt Marianne Pennekamp
2018 Betty Diehl and the Ferndale Community Choir NAMI, Humboldt National Association on Mental Illness
2019 Dell'Arte International Michele McKeegan
2022 Viviana & Eric Hollenbeck Wanda Wahlund
2023 James "Jim" Glover Humboldt County Children's Authors Festival
2024 Jeff Lamoree & the Sequoia Park Zoo Foundation Lori Dengler
2025 California Retired Teachers Association North Coast-Division 27 The Elections Transparency Project
2026 Marilyn Tucker, Betty and Gene Senestraro

HELP WANTED

Do you Walk? Run? Bike? Boat? Bus? Drive? Fly? or otherwise locomote around Humboldt County? Do you have complaints, suggestions or opinions about how transportation could or should be in our county? Or are you just curious about how and why transportation related things get done, or not?
The League needs your help. LWVHC will be reviewing and researching our position on Transportation in Humboldt County. Our existing Transportation Position, last updated in 2013, is below and on our website: https://my.lwv.org/california/humboldt-county/position/government-transportation-humboldt-county-1984-2013-2020)

Transportation in Humboldt County – 1984, 2013

Position Summary:

- Support of a balanced transportation system which includes rail, water, air, road and alternative ideas of transportation, and provides for improvement and funding adequate to maintain a coordinated system.

Position:

1. Encourage improvements to state and county highways within Humboldt County, taking into consideration environmental impacts.
2. Public funds should be used if necessary to subsidize roads, public transportation, airports, railroads, trails and harbor facilities.
3. Shortfalls in funding for state and county roads should be mitigated by increasing fuel and electric vehicle taxes. Roads largely serving private benefits should be funded by the specific property owners; for example, through organizations similar to homeowners associations. The least desirable alternative is for government to abandon roads.
4. The League should help the public understand the need for transportation system maintenance by disseminating information through all possible means including media, publications and public forum.
5. In planning for road use and maintenance, tourism should receive high consideration. Heavy industry, such as lumber, should be encouraged to use available accessible, affordable and alternative modes of transportation, such as water or rail, which will increase cost effectiveness and lessen wear and tear on the roads.
6. Public transportation should be accessible and affordable. Public transportation should be encouraged by improving bus services and providing rail transportation on the existing right of way. Facilitation should be provided using various means such as coordinating schedules, providing parking facilities, developing promotions and public education, adding bus routes when warranted, and meeting tourist, pedestrian, and cyclist needs. Para-transit is an important service to be coordinated and maintained at an adequate level. Para-transit is defined as an alternate mode of transportation that does not follow fixed routes or schedules including mini buses, shared taxis and jitneys, and includes special transportation services for people with disabilities.
7. Para-transit is defined as an alternate mode of transportation that does not follow fixed routes or schedules including mini buses, shared taxis and ride services and includes special transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities.
8. Decisions about alternative modes of transportation should include attention to climate change i.e., sea level rise, environmental impact, sustainability, accessibility, and affordability.
9. Water transportation should be coordinated with other current and future modes of transportation. Passenger service into Humboldt Bay is desirable as a tourist attraction.
10. Local governments should provide incentives to encourage air carriers and routes. However, environmental concerns and new, reduced carbon emission technologies must be considered when evaluating increased airport usage.

If you might be interested in helping us research this issue in preparation for our Membership Meeting focused on this topic on February 18, 2027, and/or if you have ideas on who in the community we should talk to about this topic please contact Claire Eyton (LWVHC Board Government Director) at cdeyton50@gmail.com or Bonnie Oliver (LWVHC Board Member) at bonnie.l.oliver.architect@gmail.com

LWV OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY

P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

THE VOTER

To:

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 or call (707) 444-9252.

Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County (LWVHC), in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to membership nor participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, or political affiliation. LWVHC recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. LWVHC affirms its commit⊠ment to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, Board, and programs. Discrimination or harassment of any kind will not be accepted within the League, including but not limited to race, socio-economic status, age, ability status, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity, or marital status. The League is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging for all people. The League is an organization that respects and values the richness of our community and our members. The collective sum of our individual differences and life experiences represents not only our culture, but our reputation and the organization's mission and achievements as well.

LWVHC Calendar

Tuesday, Nov 10 — LWVHC Board Meeting
5:30 pm — United Congregational Christian Church
900 Hodgson St., Eureka

In-person or Zoom
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82436363821?pwd=kAnTSbGXQI88VncVvrFgooTOtRpvv3.1

Tuesday, Nov 19 — Membership Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, Dec 19 — League Holiday Party

Anytime LWVHC Webpage
LWVHC Instagram
LWVHC X
Bluesky@lwvhc.bsky.social