



THE VOTER

The Newsletter of The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

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Program Planning

League members will start the new year at the Local and National Program Planning meeting. We will discuss local and national policy positions and decide what to recommend to our Board. At the local level we will review positions on the Library, Land Use, and Housing, and any recent action taken on them. Please review them in your 2011 Annual Meeting Kit. You can find a copy at www.lwvhc.org. Members can also introduce ideas for a new local study, which will be evaluated based on these criteria: Is there widespread member interest? Is it a timely issue? Is government action the most effective way to address the problem? Are there members willing and able to do the study?

Every two years we go through the same process for the National Program. We will have a brief overview of those positions as they appear in *Impact on Issues* which can be found online at:

<http://www.lwv.org/content/impact-issues>

This year we have the option to propose a new study, or review and update a study, or recommend a concurrence, or make no recommendation.

This process is a great way to learn what the League stands for at the local and national levels. Please come, listen, learn, and let your voice be heard. We welcome and need your input.

-Carol Johnson
Program Chair

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.

MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK!

Save the Dates!

○ Program Planning

Set the course for the League!
Saturday, January 21, 10 A.M.
League Office, 434 7th Street, Eureka
Refreshments available starting at 9:30 A.M.



○ Choices Breakfast

Friday, **January 27**, Doors open 7:45 A.M.
Baywood Country Club, Bayside
Speaker: *Felicia Brown-Williams* on the
defeated Mississippi Personhood Amendment
RSVP: 442-2961 by January 23

○ State of the Community Luncheon

*Honoring those who
serve our communities*
Friday, **April 20**



SOCL Update!

The 2012 Civic Contribution Award honorees will be:

Paul Nicholson
North Coast Stand Down

President's Message

As we start a new League year, we can look forward to a full calendar of events. We begin with the annual Program Planning review for LWVUS and LWVHC positions, and continue with a celebration of the 92nd anniversary of the League of Women Voters and presentation of the history project on February 18. For those involved with Voter Service, the open primary in June will offer many chances for volunteering.

Each of us can help to make a difference to encourage citizens to understand and participate in their government. What is your New Year's resolution? Mine is to find ways to "work smarter" to advance the objectives of our League.

-Nan Nieboer
President

Membership News

League Updates

Choices Breakfast

The **30th Annual Choices Breakfast** will be held on Friday, January 27, 2012 at the Baywood Country Club. Doors open at 7:45 A.M. and the tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. This event does sell out.

The keynote speaker will be **Felicia Brown-Williams**, Regional Director of Public Policy, Planned Parenthood Southeast (Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia). Felicia will relate how Mississippi came from behind in the polls and defeated **Initiative 26**, which would have amended the state constitution to establish legal "personhood" at the moment of fertilization. Passage of this initiative would have changed reproductive health care as we know it.

The League has been a supporter of the coalition for choice for many years as our national position supports the right of women to make their own decisions concerning their reproductive health. **RSVP by Monday, January 23**, by calling Six Rivers Planned Parenthood at 442-2961.

State of the Community Luncheon

Mark your calendars for our SOCL, which will be April 20, 2012 at the Adorni Center. This year's two honorees will be **Paul Nicholson** and the **North Coast Stand Down** for veterans. Paul has been recognized nationally by the E911 Institute for his ten years of volunteer efforts teaching schoolchildren how to call 911 in the event of an emergency. The North Coast Stand Down brings together hundreds of volunteers over a three day period each year to provide a range of services for veterans, including job placement, health care and more.

Watch for details in our March VOTER. We won't be mailing paper invitations this year. Your energetic committee, chaired by **Maggie Fleming**, is hard at work planning another great celebration of our community!

Dues Notice

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN TO PAY YOUR DUES? We sent a statement this summer—dues are due each year on July 1—and if you overlooked it, we hope that you send your dues right away.

DON'T GET LEFT OUT! This month we send our membership list to the LWVUS and the LWVC, and we don't want to leave you off. Keep your name on all of the membership lists by mailing your dues today.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE! In these trying economic times some of us have been required to reduce our expenditures. Assistance is available. Please contact Judy Bennett, LWVHC Membership Chair, at 443-2855 or at jbennett82@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you for helping to make democracy work!

Thanks So Much!



Thank you to everyone who helps make democracy work through your dues and volunteer hours, and thanks to those League members whose extra effort and support help the League function at the level of excellence that we have come to expect. The following made extra financial contributions to keep the League running:

Byrd Lochtie
Elaine Rowan
Thea Gast
Judy and John Bennett
Cheryl Ingham
Sara Pillow
Rollin and Ann Richmond
Anne and Mark Harris
Marilyn Tucker
Lisa Naef
Carolyn Otis



2012 History Day Is Coming!



Attention all Leaguers: If you'd like to have a chance to interact with young people who are excited about a history project they have researched, please consider being part of this year's Humboldt County

History Day.

This year's national theme is "Revolution, Reaction, and Reform." No in-depth knowledge of the topics is required. We are looking for caring adults who will encourage kids to share what they have learned. It's lots of fun!

You can be involved in two ways:

1. Help out at the History Day event for **Anne Hartline's** 7th grade McKinleyville Middle School students only, taking place in the morning on January 19 and 20. Call Anne at 822-1161
2. Be a judge or volunteer at Humboldt County History Day at HSU Founder's Hall on January 28 from 7:15 A.M. until noon. Register online at www.humboldthistoryday.com or call Anne at 822-1161.

Action

GPU and Public Participation

For the past couple of years the Action Committee has continued to follow the General Plan Update (GPU) process with regard to public participation using state and local positions. We have written three letters, met with representatives of the Planning Department twice, offered to help fund a revision of the handbook, which gives information on the General Plan, and attended numerous meetings.

On November 17, **Laura Hennings** read a letter to the Planning Commission from our League asking for reinstatement of much of the public participation content that seemed to be missing in the current draft of the Governance section. On December 15, we submitted, at a Commissioner's request, detailed and specific suggestions for revisions to the Draft GPU. The planning staff indicated they intend to include many of our suggestions. We will continue to review the revised draft when it is available.

The hearing has been continued until January 19. The Commission will consider our recommendations, along with other suggestions, at that meeting and then forward their recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for review and adoption.

The update process has been going on for about twelve years, and we hope that 2012 will see a completed General Plan. It will include the Housing Element, which is revisited every five years. The League will continue to follow the process to see that public participation is protected as a primary focus, fundamental to democratic principles, in any consideration of a General Plan for Humboldt County.

-Kay Escarda,
Action Chair

Voter Service

Calm before the Storm

Our thanks to **Anne Hartline, Nan Nieboer, Byrd Lochtie, Helen Andrews, Carole Ziskin and Valerie Eachus**, who staffed our two (only!) candidate forums for the fall election. Rest now, dear ones, for 2012 is shaping up to be a real doozy.

-Carol Masterson,
Candidate Forums

Welcome!

New member:

Richard Leamon

Mental Health Services Meeting

Last May at the Annual Meeting our League chose for Program Emphasis to review our Public Health position. Susan Buckley, Public Health Branch Director, was our guest at the September luncheon. League members, including new and prospective members, gathered at the League office board room on a busy Thursday evening for the second in that series emphasizing Mental Health Services in Humboldt County. **Nancy Starck**, Legislative Analyst for Humboldt County's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and **Dr. Asha George**, Deputy Director for DHHS's Mental Health Branch, presented information on current services and the outlook for the future.

Dr. George provided a listing and brief description of programs supported by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Outpatient Services for Adults and for Children, and 24 Hour Programs. MHSA addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention and service need. A mobile service reaches rural residents in every part of the county. League members commented they had no idea there is such a wide variety of services and that the numbers of people served through these programs are staggering.

Ms. Starck talked about the state role in mental health services that are provided at the local level. These services go beyond direct provision of care to patients, addressing such issues as stigma and discrimination reduction, suicide prevention and integration of services and support with Public Health, Social Services, CalWorks and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), to mention just a few. There is great uncertainty with more services indicated and less money in the state coffers to assist with funding the ever-increasing need. Currently, there is much interest and concern about the return of non-violent prisoners to county jails, since many of the returnees will need mental health services.

We thank our speakers for a very informative presentation that helped us meet our program priorities for 2011-12. The presentation handout outlining County mental health services has been included in this VOTER.

-Kay Escarda,
Action Chair

County of Humboldt Department of Health and Human Services

Mental Health Services and Programs

Outpatient Services for Adults

The highlighted programs below are supported by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

- Same Day Services available for mental health crisis walk-ins
- Adult Outpatient Services offer assessment, therapy services including individual therapy and group therapy, medication support, and case management.
- Outpatient psychiatric services including medication support services
- Case management services available for persons with severe mental illness
- Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Services provide screening, treatment, and referral services for adults.
- Healthy Moms provides substance abuse services for pregnant women or women with at least one child less than six years old. Childcare is provided.
- Street Outreach Services (SOS) provides services to homeless persons with severe mental illness.
- **Rural Outreach Services Enterprise (ROSE)** provides mobile access to mental health services with efforts focused on reducing cultural and ethnic barriers.
- **The Hope Center** provides a safe, welcoming environment based on recovery self-help principles and the resources necessary for people with mental illness issues to be self-sufficient. It is peer staff run and includes peer-to-peer education and support, system navigation, and linkage to services.
- **Comprehensive Community Treatment (CCT)** provides intensive community services and supports (e.g.: housing, medical, educational, social, vocational, rehabilitative, or other needed community services) as defined by the client to decrease hospitalization and achieve recovery.
- **Older Adults and Dependent Adults Program Expansion** provides in-home services to disabled adults, at-risk adults and older adults. The enhanced adult services team expands an existing partnership between Social Services, Adult Protective Services, In Home Support Services, Public Health Nursing, and a Mental Health Clinician to provide assessment and treatment planning to older and dependent adults with a serious mental illness who are at risk of abuse or neglect or who are in need of support services to remain in their home.
- **Crisis Intervention Services (CIS)** staff responds to intervene and prevent hospitalizations and incarcerations. CIS provides crisis support during critical incidents or potential critical incidents involving persons who may have a mental illness or co-occurring disorder. Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) is a national model where partnerships between law enforcement, mental health systems, clients of mental health services, and their family members can help in efforts to assist people who are experiencing a mental health crisis and to help them gain access to the treatment system where they are best served.
- **Outpatient Medication Services Expansion** provides medication support to people with a serious mental illness residing in remote rural areas utilizing video conferencing equipment.
 - Garberville Satellite Mental Health services for adults and children who live in Southern Humboldt.
 - Willow Creek Satellite Medication Support services for adults who live in Northern Humboldt.

24 Hour Programs

- Crisis hotline available on 24-hour basis (707)-445-7715 or 24-hour toll free 1-888-849-5728
- Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) staff available on a 24-hour basis to provide assessment, counseling, and/or stabilization services to persons who are in acute emotional distress
- Adult Protective Services (APS) available through the after-hours reporting line for elder abuse and neglect.
- Hospital-based services provide for evaluation and treatment of severely acute episodes of mental illness
- Mental health services provided to persons with a severe mental illness housed in the Humboldt County Correctional Facility
- The Children's Center is a short-term residential group home that provides a full array of mental health services to children and youth, 6-18 years old, who are experiencing placement instability in the Child Welfare Services (CWS) system, or who are placed voluntarily due to severe emotional disturbance.

Outpatient Services for Children

- Children and Family Services offers assessment, therapy services including individual and family counseling, medication services and case management.
- Services are provided in collaboration with Child Welfare Services, Public Health, Probation, and Community Organizational Providers.

Handout from the Mental Health Services presentation to the League on November 17, 2011

- Children and Family Services provide an array of services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries that include assessment, individual and family counseling, medication support, and case management for children and youth. Services are provided in a variety of locations throughout the community by staff, organizational, and individual contract providers.
- The New Horizons treatment program is available to residents of the Northern California Regional Facility, a locked treatment facility for adjudicated youth in the Juvenile Probation system.
- Adolescent Treatment Program provides assessment and drug and alcohol treatment services for youth up to age 21.
- Therapeutic Behavioral Services are available to full-scope Medi-Cal beneficiaries under the age of 21 who are at risk of placement failure and/or hospitalization due to a mental health condition, and who meet other eligibility criteria.
- Alternative Response Team (ART) Expansion was initiated in 1996 and is a partnership between Child Welfare Services (CWS) and Public Health to engage families who were referred to CWS but did not meet the criteria for CWS intervention. Through MHSA funding, a Mental Health Clinician position was added to the interdisciplinary team resulting in a more integrated and holistic service experience to families.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

The Mental Health Services Act addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention, and service needs.

- Integrated Program & Planning Support Structures includes the Office of Client & Cultural Diversity which provides department-wide leadership in the areas of policy and program development related to culturally competent client and family driven services and the reduction of racial, ethnic, and geographic disparities; the Research and Evaluation Unit which includes a full spectrum of evaluation services from data management, data verification, statistical analysis and interpretation, to written progress reports; the Training, Education and Supervision Unit which provides supervision for those pursuing licensure and coordinates training opportunities to staff, clients, parents, families, community partners, and providers.
- Stigma and Discrimination Reduction for those with mental illness includes training and social marketing projects that are designed to result in a decrease of hopelessness and of the shame and embarrassment that keeps people from seeking care and increase people's ability to socialize, work with, rent to, and employ people with mental illness.
- Suicide Prevention Project includes training and social marketing projects that are targeted to result in an increased awareness of risk and protective factors and provide prevention resources.
- Transition Age Youth Division includes multiple components throughout DHHS. Humboldt County Transition Aged Youth Collaborative (HCTAYC) developed in partnership with DHHS and state advocacy organizations to provide training and education to youth, professionals, and the community. It includes training that leads to increased TAY leadership and advocacy and culturally appropriate early intervention services for TAY with mental illness. An indicated approach to serving TAY is under development in 2011 and will include access to comprehensive, cross discipline services for TAY who are at risk of or experiencing the onset of serious psychiatric illness, their families, and their other significant supports.
- Workforce Education and Training includes acquisition and implementation of a web based e-learning program for all DHHS staff, specialized training in evidence-based practices for service delivery staff, and support for new staff who have lived experience as mental health clients and family members. Integrated Clinical and Administrative Information System to provide secure, reliable, real-time access to client health record information where and when it is needed to support care.

Co-located Integrated Programs with the Social Services Branch (SSB) and PubHc Health Branch (PHD)

- Mental Health staff are integrated and co-located at Child Welfare Services within the Emergency Response Unit and the Foster Care Units to provide services to children and youth referred by CWS.
- Mental Health staff is co-located at CalWorks Division and the HumWorks Program to provide services to clients who are Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients and who are eligible for Welfare to Work. Services are for clients who have mental health, substance use or domestic violence issues to address barriers to employment. Services include comprehensive mental health assessments, case management services, group, and individual counseling.
- Mental Health staff is co-located at General Relief to provide mental health assessments, referrals, and treatment for General Relief recipients.
- Mental Health staff are co-located in the Alternative Response Team (ART) at Public Health, serving the mental health needs of families referred by CWS.

This list of Mental Health Programs provides a summary of the array of services available but is not exhaustive.

League Positions—Foundations for Action

Topic: Social Policy

Each month in 2011 the VOTER has included information about the League's national, state and local positions. Beginning this month we continue a review of the League's positions on Social Policy.

The following positions are from *Impact on Issues*, published by the LWVUS.

EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Equal Rights. Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and efforts to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.

Education, Employment and Housing. Support equal access to education, employment and housing.

HEALTH CARE

Promote a health care system for the United States that provides access to a basic level of quality care for all U.S. residents and controls health care costs.

IMMIGRATION

Promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises; and provide for student visas. Ensure fair treatment under the law for all persons. In transition to a reformed system, support provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.

MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

Support programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

Income Assistance. Support income assistance programs, based on need, that provide decent, adequate standards for food, clothing and shelter.

Support Services. Provide essential support services.

Housing Supply. Support policies to provide a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family.



The following position can be found in our *Annual Meeting Kits*, prepared each year by us, the LWVHC.

EDUCATION – 1972, 1973, 1994, 1995, 1998, 1999, 2000

Position Summary: Support of a public school system that is accountable to the students and to the taxpayers. Support of the development and maintenance of a high quality educational program.

Positions:

Curriculum

1. School districts should have an on-going curriculum evaluation process, which includes input from the community. We support district curriculum committees composed of school board members, teachers, administrators, students and community members. Curriculum decisions should be based on sound educational research.
2. Evaluation of students should be based on established goals that are clearly understood by students, parents and staff.
3. School districts should have an awareness of and take a leadership role in addressing issues of diversity affecting the school and the community. Schools should support a sense of community by creating a dialogue among families, students and staff. We support on-going teacher and staff training.
4. Students have the right to a qualified teacher, one who has the ability to reach, teach and inspire students and who has a command of the subject matter. It is important that school districts provide and fund on-going in-service training programs pertinent to the particular school and staff. Mentoring of new teachers is recommended.
5. We support reciprocal volunteerism between school and community/business. To be effective, volunteers must be trained and supervised and should not replace paid personnel. Students should be involved in well-coordinated and meaningful service learning projects that are integrated into the curriculum.
6. We support placement of special education students in the least restrictive setting while considering the most productive environment for all students.
7. School libraries should be given high priority. They should be maintained and staffed so as to teach library skills and general research methods.

Support Services

8. The availability of student support services at each school site is important. We support maximum coordination and collaboration of services within the school and among all

districts. We support a community resource position to research appropriate services and serve as a liaison between families and needed support services.

- 9. We encourage and support the use of new technologies for information sharing that ensures interaction among all agencies benefiting students, schools and education. We support electronic transfer of the information normally contained in a student's cumulative file within a district or between districts, provided that access to information is safeguarded according to law.
- 10. We support a continuum of alternative programs designed to meet the needs of students. We support early intervention and all possible efforts to help the student succeed before transfer to an alternative program. This includes the opportunity to return to the school of origin or to transfer to another program that best meets the needs of the student.

Communication

- 11. We support efforts, including policies and practices, to encourage effective communication among all parties, using all available methods of communication without sacrificing personal interaction.
- 12. Policies and practices should include a defined method for parents and community to evaluate schools and for schools to respond to such evaluation.
- 13. The public should be informed of meetings where goals, objectives and budgets are decided and it should be encouraged to provide input. Advisory committees should be ongoing and should receive support from administration and staff.

Administration/Management

- 14. It is important for school districts, school boards and administrators regularly to work together to secure state support for basic funding at no less than the national average. Alternative methods such as unification, parcel taxes and bonds should be considered.
- 15. School districts, school boards, and communities should collaborate to advocate more unrestricted state funding, which could provide more flexibility to meet identified local needs and sustain successful, innovative programs.
- 16. Internal, qualified evaluators should make prescriptive evaluation of teachers regularly. The tenure system should be maintained, provided established dismissal procedures are used and pursued when warranted.
- 17. School plants should be evaluated on the basis of size and needs of student population, condition of plant and finances.
- 18. It is important to provide a safe environment where teachers can teach and students can learn, including, but

not limited to, support for:

- A. Manageable class size;
- B. Presenting a balanced and accurate view of the students and their activities and accomplishments;
- C. Encouraging parent participation in student issues;
- D. Identifying and providing intervention for students needing assistance; and
- E. Preparing and implementing safe school plans.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES - 1974

Position Summary: Support of measures to provide efficient publicly-administered health care, including mental health services, as these are essential and should be available to each individual.

Positions:

- 1. Health care services should be obtainable by all.
- 2. The rights and dignity of the individual should be safeguarded at all times.
- 3. Social services are an important part of patient care.
- 4. County health facilities should offer quality health care, consistent with community standard.
- 5. Preventive medicine is essential and should be promoted in all phases of health care planning.
- 6. Support of a mental health facility in Humboldt County.



There's a New Party in Town ·····

Californians heading to the polls next November could find themselves casting a vote for a presidential candidate picked not by early caucus or primary contests, but on the Web. **Americans Elect**, a nonprofit group planning to stage an online nominating convention to select a multi-partisan presidential ticket, has qualified for the California ballot. The group, which has now secured ballot access in 12 states, says its goal is to create a nonpartisan process to allow voters of all political leanings to choose an alternative presidential ticket. The addition of Americans Elect brings the number of parties cleared for California's ballot to seven. In all, 18 political groups have made the cut since the nominating process began in 1910.

News from the LWVC

Do Initiatives, Referendums and Recalls Make Direct Democracy Work?

Do Initiatives, Referendums and Recalls Make Direct Democracy Work?

It has been 100 years since Californians adopted the three-legged stool of direct democracy:

- initiative—passing laws directly by the people
- referendum—repealing laws already passed by the legislature
- recall—removing elected officials from office

In the intervening years, in statewide elections, the referendum has been used seldom and the recall only once. This year, the use of the referendum is breaking all records. Nine referendums were thrown into the hopper, covering topics that range from budget-related laws concerning the fire prevention fee and redevelopment, to the California Dream Act, to redistricting maps. Several have failed to qualify for the ballot, but others still bear watching.

Referendum voting often confuses voters. The question is asked in what is sometimes described as a “backwards” manner--whether a voter wishes to retain the law under question. A “yes” vote means keep the law as enacted by the legislature, and a “no” vote means repeal the law.

As a League member you can participate in the Initiative and Referendum Study. Members have access to a more detailed page of initiative and referendum resources on our members only Web site.

We also have a Facebook group for this study, which members and the public use to get to know one another, share news articles and videos, and discuss this issue.

Read more about the initiative and referendum study at:

<http://ca.lwv.org/lwvc/issues/initiative-and-referendum.html>

End the Death Penalty

Join us in supporting the SAFE California Act, an initiative in circulation to collect the necessary signatures to qualify for the ballot. This initiative would stop executions and replace the death penalty with permanent imprisonment (life without the possibility of parole), including the conversion of existing death sentences to that alternative.

Sign up for email alerts, make a donation, and find more ways to get involved on the campaign site:

<http://www.safecalifornia.org>

News from the LWVUS

Obama / Jackson Mercury Rule Is A Big Win For Public Health

Washington, DC -- The League of Women Voters of the United States praised the Obama Administration's tough new rules regulating mercury and air toxic pollutants from power plants released earlier today.

“It’s about time. After decades of delay the Obama Administration deserves credit for finally limiting mercury from power plants,” said Elisabeth MacNamara, president of the national League of Women Voters. “This is about protecting people’s lives,” she said.

“The decision announced today by the EPA to set strict standards on mercury and other toxics from power plants is the most important public health decision from this Administration thus far. Limiting mercury and air toxics will save thousands of lives and help those with asthma and bronchitis breathe easier. Mercury particularly harms children, including effects on IQ, learning, and memory,” she said.

“Today, we are glad the Obama Administration, led by EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, got tough with polluters and stood firm behind the public’s health,” said MacNamara.

The League to DOJ: Voters must depend on Atty. General Holder for Real Action

The following is a statement from Elisabeth MacNamara, President, League of Women Voters of the United States

Washington, DC -- “We are so pleased that Attorney General Holder appeared before the American voters tonight in the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library & Museum to tackle head-on, the growing momentum behind anti-voter laws.

“These anti-voter laws are passing state legislatures at an alarming rate. They are cloaked as an attempt to bring integrity to our elections systems yet many are now seeing them for what they really are: an assault on voters and one of the greatest self-inflicted threats to our democracy in our lifetimes. The new laws threaten to silence the voices of those least heard and rarely listened to in this country – the poor, the elderly, racial and ethnic minorities, the young and persons with disabilities.

“While we applaud Mr. Holder’s speech, we are disappointed in the Department of Justice’s record on voting rights enforcement. The League of Women Voters calls on the DOJ to act more forcefully and without delay to ensure fair elections in 2012. The voters are depending on Mr. Holder and DOJ for real action on their behalf. Born out of a movement to expand the franchise, the League of Women Voters continues to fight to protect the foundation of our democracy and will continue to work to ensure every eligible voter is allowed to vote and have their vote counted in 2012 and beyond.”

Board Briefs...

From the November Board Meeting:

- ★ It was moved that the League present a framed certificate and a \$100 gift certificate to a History Day project selected by a League member or committee. The category is to be Junior High or older and in the Exhibit category. Selection of the topic and specifics of the award to be tabled until the January Board meeting.
- ★ **Yvonne Doble** would like to speak to us about the Project for Senior Action and possible formation of a Senior Action Coalition. This will possibly happen at the January meeting.
- ★ **President's Update: Redistricting: State and Local—** Board of Supervisors adopted final district maps; proponents of a ballot measure to overturn the Citizens Redistricting Commission's state Senate district maps claim success with 700,000 signatures to be turned in to Secretary of State for verification. Stay tuned.

-Anne Hartline,
Secretary

*The League of Women Voters
of Humboldt County*

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Who's Who in Your League 2011-2012

★ **YOUR LEAGUE BOARD** ★

- PresidentNan Nieboer
- Vice President Sarah Reid
- Past PresidentSharolyn Hutton
- Secretary..... Anne Hartline
- Treasurer Nancy Kay
- Director Judy Bennett
- Director Kay Escarda
- Director Laura Hennings
- Director Byrd Lochtie
- DirectorCarol Masterson
- DirectorDave Rosso
- DirectorAmanda Windsor

★ **ACTION** ★

- Action ChairKay Escarda
- Program Chair Carol Johnson

★ **ADMINISTRATION** ★

- Financial Development DirectorJim Anderson
- Historian..... Carole Ziskin
- Membership Chair..... Judy Bennett
- Nominating Committee Michele Fell-Casale
- Publications Lorey Keele
- Communications Support..... Sally Upatisinga
.....PA WinterSun

★ **FUNDRAISING** ★

- Poll Workers CoordinatorCarolyn Otis
- State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL)
CommitteeMaggie Fleming, Byrd Lochtie
- SOCL Committee LiaisonByrd Lochtie

★ **MEDIA** ★

- Media Chair.....Amanda Windsor
- Access Humboldt Rep. Peg Gardner
- Publicity Director..... Dave Rosso
- VOTER Publication.....Amanda Windsor
- VOTER CirculationCarolyn Otis
- WebmasterAmanda Windsor

★ **VOTER SERVICE** ★

- Voter Service Director.....OPEN
- Candidate ForumsCarol Masterson
- Citizen Education Chair..... Laura Hennings
- Election Service Chair Byrd Lochtie
- Smart Voter CoordinatorAmanda Windsor

Looking For a Few Good Leaders!

If you are an experienced leader or would like to gain experience in leadership, the League has a place for you!

If You Haven't Already

Join the League! Membership in the League is open to all U.S. citizens of voting age, both women and men. Others may join as associate members.

Yes! I want to join the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and become a voice for citizens and a force for change. I am enclosing for my annual membership:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Individual membership | <input type="checkbox"/> I cannot join at this time, but please |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$90 Household membership | <input type="checkbox"/> accept my donation of _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Associate membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me more information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional donation of _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to be contacted by |

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Please make checks payable to LWVHC P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502. 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. For more information call 444-9252. **Annual Dues are due each year on June 30.**

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

434 7th Street, Eureka CA 95501 - (707) 444-9252

www.lwvhc.org - vote@lwvhc.org

County Government

Meetings—Get Involved!

* **Board of Supervisors**
January 3, 10, 17, 24 9 A.M.-5 P.M.
825 5th Street, Eureka

Board of Education
January 4 3 P.M.
901 Myrtle Avenue, Eureka

* **Planning Commission**
January 5, 19 6 P.M.
825 5th Street, Eureka

Humboldt Bay Harbor District
January 12, 26 7 P.M.
601 Startare Drive, Eureka

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District
January 12 9 A.M.
828 7th Street, Eureka

* *Broadcast LIVE and rebroadcast by
Access Humboldt on Channel 10
See AccessHumboldt.net for schedule
information and archived video*

LWVHC Calendar

January 9 Board Meeting
5:30 - 7:30 P.M. 434 7th Street, Eureka

January 21 Local and State Program Review
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. 434 7th Street, Eureka

January 27 Choices Breakfast
7:45 A.M. Baywood Country Club
3600 Buttermilk Lane, Arcata

February 13 Board Meeting
5:30 - 7:30 P.M. 434 7th Street, Eureka

February 18 92nd Birthday Party

January 9 : Carrie Chapman Catt's Birthday
Catt (1859-1947) was the founder of the
League of Women Voters and the
International Alliance of Women.

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County Diversity Policy 2011-2012

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief in and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to membership nor to participation in LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, or political affiliation. The LWVHC recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. The LWVHC affirms its commitment to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, board and programs.

THE VOTER

January 2012

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County
P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

Editor: Amanda Windsor