



The Voter

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

February, 2017 EXTRA

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Board Member Training Class will Empower Communities

A class designed to build skills for members and prospective members of non-profit and other boards will begin next week. As League member Bob Bushansky announced at the January general membership meeting, this class is being offered at the Coast campus of Mendocino College beginning on Monday, February 6th. The *Voter* would like to encourage members of the local community to enroll and participate in this effort to improve local board performance. The course description follows:

This 12 week workshop will help you develop and refine the skills needed to serve effectively as a member of the Board of Directors of a non-profit organization or a Special District. The topics that will be covered in this interactive workshop include:

- Roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive
- Governing documents for a non-profit organization
- Legal aspects of Board service
- Fiduciary duties and conflicts of interest
- Effective communication and leadership
- Understanding financial statements
- Community relations
- Employment practices and personnel records

- Contract performance monitoring and record keeping
- Conduct of Board meetings
- Role of Board committees

The workshop leaders include Michael Grady, Bob Bushansky and John Allison, who have more than thirty years combined experience serving in leadership roles on non-profit Boards. They have designed a 12-week program to help men and women be effective members of non-profit and Special District Boards. The program is designed for experienced Board members as well as for people with no previous Board experience.

Workshop sessions will be held at the Fort Bragg campus of Mendocino College on Monday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. from February 6 through May 8, 2017. To register for the program or obtain more information call Mendocino College at (707) 468-3236 or visit <https://www.mendocino.edu/academics/community-extension-program/workshops>. The enrollment fee of \$120 covers the entire 12 week program, including all required course materials and a certificate of completion. Enrollment will be limited to a group size that will permit active participation by all workshop participants.

LWV Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, strives to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

February meeting

Hospital Leaders will Address Local Healthcare; Presidents will Introduce 2017 Action Program

Be sure to attend the February League general meeting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, the 14th at the Caspar Community Center. Our Co-Presidents will summarize the January "program planning" meeting, and review what has taken place since then. Twenty-two people showed up on January 10th, despite the storms, and the discussion was lively. There was consensus that we want to take action; that we need to focus on a few topic areas, each of which needs to have at least one passionate advocate; and that we should reach out to other organizations to collaborate on activities consistent with League principles and positions in these topic areas.

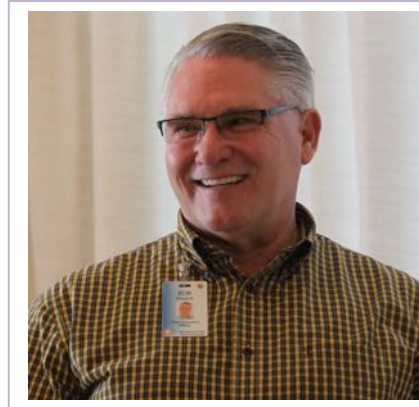
The Local Action Plan for Health Care, which we discussed at our January meeting, says, in part, that we will "gather input from local healthcare consumers and providers (MCDH, clinics, Adventist Health) about what works and what doesn't about the Affordable Care Act and local healthcare in general." To that end, Bob Edwards, the Mendocino Coast District Hospital CEO, and Steve Lund, the Chair of the MCDH Board, will be on hand to discuss the current status of the hospital. They will give a powerpoint presentation and answer questions from those in attendance.

They were given the following questions in preparation for their presentation:



- What is the difference between the Health Care District and the Hospital?

- What services are offered through the hospital and which are offered through the district?
- What can the district do that the hospital cannot?
- What is the current financial status of the hospital?
- What is the current status on a parcel tax measure?



- Do we still need to have a new hospital in 2030 and if so, what plans are recurrently being made to provide for the building?
- Can the

existing facility patient rooms be used for other purposes?

- How has the ACA affected MCDH?
- While it is premature to say what changes may be coming, do you have a sense of how they will affect small rural hospitals?
- What percentage of staff and physicians are "temporary"?
- What are the local barriers to attracting staff and physicians to this area?

This gathering will provide information which we will need in the coming months, as the League takes action in the area of local health care.

Bring friends and neighbors as well as questions for our hospital leaders. As usual, coffee, tea, and conversation will be available at 9:30.

Did you march on 1/21? Please send your selfies to the Voter (voter@mcn.org) or post them on the LWVMC Facebook page (www.facebook.com/LWVMendo1/)!

National League

LWVUS Speaks Up on Deportation and Voter Fraud

The League is opposed to deportation of non-criminal undocumented immigrants. The LWV supports cities, towns, counties and states that make a decision not to cooperate with federal deportation and enforcement actions that include non-criminal undocumented immigrants. Moreover, the Trump Administration's orders are of dubious legality. It is simply wrong, and a perversion of the American system of justice, for the Executive Branch to refuse to obey federal court orders. The LWV is opposed to discrimination, including discrimination in immigration, based on religion. The Trump Administration's orders appear to be targeted at Muslims and immigrants from majority-Muslim nations. We would like to remind all our members that we are faced with many challenges to our positions and the League is involved in serious efforts to address them. Among these, we spent last weekend anticipating the issuance of an Executive Order investigating 'voter fraud'. We continue to monitor this situation and are ready to issue a

statement if that occurs.* We also continue our efforts to lobby on ACA in Congress. Everybody in the country is scrambling to keep up.

Chris Carson, President/Chair
League of Women Voters of the United States

* League of Women Voters president Chris Carson issued the following statement in response to the unsubstantiated claim from the White House that millions of illegal votes were cast in the past election:

“President Trump is calling for a major investigation into voter fraud - in an election that he won! We know that wide-spread voter fraud is a myth perpetuated to push election laws that restrict voting. We cannot allow false claims to drive policies that will limit participation in our election process. There is no need for an investigation into a non-existent problem. The issue has been studied and put to rest.”

Our Facebook Page is Coming Alive



Co-Presidents Cindy and Nancy have been expanding the use of the League of Women Voters of Mendocino County Facebook page. You can visit it and see national, state, and local news of interest, even if you do not have or want your own Facebook account. And the page will really come alive when you engage by commenting on their posts and posting material of your own. Check it out, join the conversation, and tell your friends: www.facebook.com/LWVMendo1/.

Belonging to the League allows us to take action at many levels: local, State, national, and even international. We have the support not only of our State and national organizations, but of our peers in other local Leagues. Keep up with what all levels of League are doing:

LWVMC: www.facebook.com/LWVMendo1/

LWV California: <https://www.lwvc.org>

LWVUS: <http://www.lwv.org>