



MWPC

MARCH 2021 NO. 2

Mendocino Women's Political Coalition

March Is Women's History Month



March 2020

Calendar

February 22
Proclamation
Fort Bragg City Council

February 24
Proclamation
Willits City Council
6:30 pm

March 3
Proclamation
Ukiah City Council
6 pm

March 9
Proclamation
Board of Supervisors
9 am

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Do you have an item to include in the next newsletter?

Call Val Muchowski (895-3543), or e-mail it to vjmuchowski@gmail.com

Here and There

Wow! We have 3 women on the Fort Bragg City Council, 3 women on the Willits City Council and 2 women on the Ukiah City Council. Marcia Rafanan Meadlin, the newly appointed Fort Bragg City Council member, is Native American. Josefina Duenas was the first Latina elected to the Ukiah City Council. One woman on the Mendocino Board of Supervisors. We are getting there step by step.

Membership

New Welcome: Julie Forrester

Julie Forrester

Thank you for being a welcoming organization, advocating for and supportive of, the success and growth of women!

I am a native of Mendocino County, having been born and raised here in Ukiah, as well as raising my own two, now adult, children in our community.

While attending college at Sonoma State University I also worked part-time work with Mendocino County Superior Court. I graduated in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting. I quickly realized city life and commuting was not for me. I loved my community in which I was raised and sought to build a career in my hometown.

I have worked for Mendocino County full-time since 1992 serving in various functions relating to operations, fiscal, budget, and policy. I served with the Superior Court through 1998, then as Collections Administrator for the County Col-



lections department, and now as Assistant Treasurer-Tax Collector since 2011.

I have served as a board member of the California Revenue Officer's Association and held position as President in 2014-2015. Currently I serve as a trustee of the Mendocino County Employees Retirement Association (MCERA) Board of Retirement.

I look forward to learning more from your organization and assist in the organizations endeavors.

Mo Mulheren's granddaughter

The most important news though: I became a GRANDMA!!

Baby Teagan Maria Mendoza was born 1/29/21 and she's the most perfect little angel you have ever seen!

Mo Mulheren



Jone Lemos' Family

Thanks for asking about the girls everyone is healthy and ultimately bored with the lockdown but understanding. Mei Mei is 25 and is in a master's program at Sac State. She will receive her Master in Social Work and wants to work as a school social worker. Jin is 22 and completing her pre-nursing courses and working at a medical clinic in Berkeley (she received her first COVID shot last week!). Meara is a junior at Fort Bragg High, dealing pretty well with on-line high school. I am blessed with these conscientious and caring young women. Not seeing any future politicians, but given the last 4 years, who would want to wish that on anyone!

Inauguration Letter

We extend our deepest and heartfelt congratulations to President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris on their Inauguration today. As we memorialize the more than 400,000 souls lost to the Coronavirus pandemic, the millions of Americans who have been impacted by the virus, as well as contend with the wake of the insurrectionist attack on our Legislative Branch, it is difficult to fully experience the weight of this historic moment in a way that is respectful.



What makes us unique, however, is that we have the capacity to acknowledge the tragic realities of where we are as a nation while simultaneously commemorating the significance and hopefulness of the installation of these two incredibly capable leaders and public servants. President Biden and Vice President Harris will undoubtedly stand as examples of how to move forward and survive these troubled times unified as a nation. It is incumbent upon us to follow their lead and support them to ensure that our nation is successful.

I will take a moment of personal privilege to specifically recognize the tremendous achievement of experiencing the Inauguration of Senator Kamala Harris as the first woman, who is both Black and Asian American, as Vice President of the United States. Vice President Harris is incredibly special to the MWPC California sisterhood, as we have supported and watched her rise through local elected office from San Francisco District Attorney to California Attorney General to the Junior Senator from California in the United States Senate all the way to the Vice Presidency, shattering barriers along the way. Notably, throughout her journey, Vice President Harris not only focused on her own campaigns and legislating, but she also made it a priority to support other women. Whether hiring

women who would have unprecedented decision-making authority, diversifying agencies, or endorsing women running for every level of office, recognizing the campaign boost that could come from her support, Vice President Harris lived the mantra learned from her mother that while she may be the first in many cases, she will ensure that she is not the last. Vice President Harris embodies the mission of MWPC: pursuing the full inclusion of women in every aspect of political life to achieve full equality.

We congratulate Vice President Kamala Harris on shattering the penultimate glass ceiling and are proud to continue supporting her leadership with President Joe Biden.

In Solidarity
Val Muchowski
MWPC Chair

Amanda Gorman



Amanda Gorman Quilt
by Laura Fogg

Amanda Gorman, 23-year-old Black woman who is the United States' first-ever youth poet laureate, recited a poem at the inauguration of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

When day comes we ask ourselves,
where can we find light in this never-ending shade?
The loss we carry,
Content by RV Share
Make road-tripping fun - and safe - again
Start your search with RVshare, the largest peer-to-peer RV
rental marketplace on the planet.
a sea we must wade
We've braved the belly of the beast
We've learned that quiet isn't always peace
And the norms and notions
of what just is
Isn't always just-ice
And yet the dawn is ours
before we knew it
Somehow we do it
Somehow we've weathered and witnessed
a nation that isn't broken
but simply unfinished
We the successors of a country and a time
Where a skinny Black girl
descended from slaves and raised by a single mother
can dream of becoming president
only to find herself reciting for one
And yes we are far from polished
far from pristine
but that doesn't mean we are
striving to form a union that is perfect
We are striving to forge a union with purpose
To compose a country committed to all cultures,
colors, characters and
conditions of man

And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us
but what stands before us
We close the divide because we know, to put our future first,
we must first put our differences aside
We lay down our arms
so we can reach out our arms
to one another
We seek harm to none and harmony for all
Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true:
That even as we grieved, we grew
That even as we hurt, we hoped
That even as we tired, we tried
That we'll forever be tied together, victorious
Not because we will never again know defeat
but because we will never again sow division
Scripture tells us to envision
that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree
And no one shall make them afraid
If we're to live up to our own time
Then victory won't lie in the blade
But in all the bridges we've made
That is the promise to glade
The hill we climb
If only we dare
It's because being American is more than a pride we inherit,
it's the past we step into
and how we repair it
We've seen a force that would shatter our nation
rather than share it
Would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy
And this effort very nearly succeeded
But while democracy can be periodically delayed
it can never be permanently defeated

In this truth
 in this faith we trust
 For while we have our eyes on the future
 history has its eyes on us
 This is the era of just redemption
 We feared at its inception
 We did not feel prepared to be the heirs
 of such a terrifying hour
 but within it we found the power
 to author a new chapter
 To offer hope and laughter to ourselves
 So while once we asked,
 how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?
 Now we assert
 How could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?
 We will not march back to what was
 but move to what shall be
 A country that is bruised but whole,
 benevolent but bold,
 fierce and free
 We will not be turned around
 or interrupted by intimidation
 because we know our inaction and inertia
 will be the inheritance of the next generation
 Our blunders become their burdens
 But one thing is certain:
 If we merge mercy with might,
 and might with right,
 then love becomes our legacy
 and change our children's birthright
 So let us leave behind a country
 better than the one we were left with
 Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,

we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one
 We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the west,
 we will rise from the windswept northeast
 where our forefathers first realized revolution
 We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the midwestern
 states,
 we will rise from the sunbaked south
 We will rebuild, reconcile and recover
 and every known nook of our nation and
 every corner called our country,
 our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,
 battered and beautiful
 When day comes we step out of the shade,
 aflame and unafraid
 The new dawn blooms as we free it
 For there is always light,
 if only we're brave enough to see it
 If only we're brave enough to be it

March Is Women's History Month

March Activities

We will hang the banner across State Street



Virtual Proclamations from:

Mendocino County by Mo Mulheren on March 9 at 9 am
Ukiah by Mari Roden on March 3 at 6 pm.
Ft. Bragg by Tees Albin-Smith at 6 pm
Willits by Madge Strong at 6:30 pm

Ukiah City Council - 4 seats
Willits City Council - 2 seats
School Boards
Fire Districts
Water Districts
Community Service Districts
Other Districts

Gala Event

Postpone till August; have on coast, outside. was the scheduled date for 2020's celebration of womens' right to vote, but due to Covid we are having it in 2021 101 year anniversary!

Date - August 21st

Location suggestions were Kelly House, Botanical Gardens, McCullum House. Lynda is checking in with the venues.

Honorees The theme, set by the Women's History Project, is the same as last year: Valiant Women of the Vote. We were perplexed by who would fit this category beyond the women honored last year.

Bonnie suggested we honor all women who voted, which was agreed upon by the group. It was also discussed that we honor relevant organizations as well: League of Women Voters.

Katrina Bartlome, Registrar of Voters, was suggested to be honored and/or have as an MC

**Running for Office in 2022
County Positions in June 2022**

Assessor/Clerk/Recorder

Supervisor - District 3

Supervisor - District 5

Auditor/Controllor

County Superintendent of Schools

Treasurer-Tax Collector

Open in November 2022

Fort Bragg City Council - 4 seats

Equal Rights Amendment

We are writing to share some very good news! On January 21, Rep. Jackie Speier (D-Calif.) introduced a Joint Resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives with bipartisan support of 200 co-sponsors, including Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.), to declare that three-fourths of the states have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment and deem it to be a part of the Constitution. The resolution would also remove the arbitrary timeline for ratification put into the preamble of the amendment by congressional opponents of the ERA. The next day, Senators Ben Cardin (D-Md.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) introduced an identical Resolution in the Senate.

This means that after a decades long fight for equality, we are now on the verge of seeing the Equal Rights Amendment added to the U.S. Constitution.

Thanks to victories by feminist-supported candidates in the 2020 elections and in the recent run-off elections in Georgia, the U.S. Senate flipped from red to blue, the blue majority was sustained in the U.S. House, and Joe Biden and Kamala Harris were elected to the White House.

With these victories and the newly introduced House and Senate Joint Resolutions, Congress can now vote to, at last, ensure gender equality for all Americans.

As we write in the new Winter 2021 issue of Ms., the Biden-Harris administration "has already established its ambitious agenda for advancing women's rights." And both Biden and Harris have long supported the ERA.

Membership in Mendocino Women's Political Coalition is a bargain and a statement. You will be saying that you are committed to reproductive choice, equity and equality. Dues will run from September 2018 to September 2019

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Annual MWPC Dues, \$25

Yes. I would like to donate _____ to the MWPC PAC to put more women at the tables where decisions are made that affect all of us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone:(H) _____ W) _____ Cell: _____

Please check (x) your special interests/skills:

By-Laws: _____ Membership: _____ Website: _____

Newsletter: _____ Candidate Endorsements: _____

Appointments to Boards/Commissions: _____ Events: _____

Hospitality/Food: _____ Mailings: _____ Fundraising: _____

Other Skills or Ways to Help:

Issues I would like to see MWPC address:

Are you interested in being a MWPC officer? Which position? _____

Mail with your enclosed check to: MWPC, P.O. Box 1140, Ukiah CA 95482

UN Commission on the Status of Women

Takes place 15 - 26 March 2021

This is a lot to take in but participating in the Forum is exhilarating just to be connected to other women around the world and learn from each other!

Over the two weeks of the Commission on the Status of Women, NGO CSW/NY (headquartered in NYC) organizes more than 500 events that inform, engage and inspire grassroots efforts and advocacy needed to empower women and girls.

Just a brief note: The UN Commissions do not make laws for member states (aka nations). The United Nations is an international organization founded in 1945 after the Second World War by 51 countries committed to maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and promoting social progress, better living standards and human rights. Accredited NGO representatives to the UN have opportunities to participate in UN Commission sessions, but member states' domestic laws are dealt with within their own nation.

The UN CSW 65 Official Sessions follow specific thematic working sessions with governmental delegations attending their sessions virtually some of which will be webcast on UNwebTV.

The NGO CSW Forum runs parallel to the official events occurring within the UN Headquarters. This provides civil society the opportunity to engage in the processes and events of CSW without ECOSOC-accreditation or a UN grounds pass.

Civil society is the collection of social organizations, formed voluntarily by citizens to advance shared goals or interests. This includes independent public policy research organizations, advocacy organizations, organizations that defend human rights and promote democracy, humanitarian organizations, private foundations and funds.

Mary Rose Krazorowski