



M W P C

Mendocino Women's Political Coalition

December 2021 Number 5

Here and There

Even with the cancellation of our major fundraiser this past year, the important work of MWPC continued!

A special celebration at the Sun House thanked Carre Brown for her work in office.

The past fundraising New Experiences will be honored if donors are willing, and we will continue to recruit and encourage women to run for office.

We celebrated the **101st Anniversary of Women Winning the Vote** on August 21, 2021 with the League of Women Voters and the Soroptimists by parading through the streets of Mendocino and enjoying a program led by California Treasurer, Fiona Ma, on the lawn of the Kelley House.



Carre Brown

The **Women Getting the Vote** banner once again flew over State Street in Ukiah. And Ukiah City Hall was decorated with purple and gold lights and signs honoring **Women's Equality Day**. Proclamations were read Proclaiming **Women's Equality Day** in Mendocino County, Ukiah City Council, Fort Bragg City Council and Willits City Council.

We conducted **Campaign Training** on four Saturdays in October, with each being a 3-hour session. Katrina Bartolomie, Maureen "Mo" Mulheren, Michelle Hutchins, and Carre



Katrina Bartolomie

Brown were invited to share their experiences. Each session was video taped and now we have a

now we have a permanent record of our training. We even included two males.

Your renewal dues are even more important for us to continue our work of identifying, recruiting, training, and financially supporting women candidates. Membership dues are \$25.00 and are due! Your membership is from December 2021 until December 2022. Thank you so much! Please fill out the form at the end of the newsletter and mail to the MWPC, PO Box 1140, Ukiah, CA 95482 or better yet, bring it with you to the fabulous Holiday/Annual Meeting Party! To use your credit card, go to our website and PayPal <https://mendocinowomen.org/about/join/>

MWPC Inland Holiday Party

Come meet new members and greet old friends as we finish the year off with a Bang! Plan on attending the MWPC Annual Meeting / Holiday Party on Saturday, December 4, 2021, from 2-5 pm, at Miss Saigon Pho and Bar located at 920 N. State Street! To RSVP Please reply Val at vjmuchowski@gmail.com or text to (707)234-9000 to RSVP and confirm attendance. A multicourse family style meal will be served, and nohost bar for beverages. An auction of " must haves" will happen! Feel free to bring a donation to be auctioned off! Your attendance will be a delight!

Hope to see you at our Holiday/Annual Meeting, Saturday, December 4, from 2-5 pm.



MWPC Coast Holiday Party

Come meet new members and greet old friends as we finish the year off with a Bang! Plan on attending the MWPC Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 from 1 -3 pm at the Noyo Harbor Inn Restaurant, 500 Casa Del Noyo, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-5501. To RSVP Please reply Val at vjmuchowski@gmail.com or text to (707)234-9000 to RSVP and confirm attendance.

We will have to take out our phone calculators to combine our cash for payment because (don't ask me why, I have no idea why) they cannot do separate checks...I do believe we can figure it out. Because it was somehow easier for Bonnie, the reservation is under my name: Linda Rosengarten, 707-964-3782. I told her the MWPC is meeting. Your attendance will be a delight!



Members

Welcome New Members:

Chamise Cubbison, Nicole Glentzer, Cindy Plank

Thank You Renewals:

Val Muchowski



Chamise Cubbison,

Acting Auditor-Controller, County of Mendocino

I grew up in the hills around the Ukiah valley and attended six different inland schools before heading off to college. Attending the various different schools throughout the community provided me the opportunity to interact with a wide range of different friends and families.

After completing my degree, I chose to stay in Ukiah to raise a family and begin my career. Over the last 30+ I've focused my career on financial

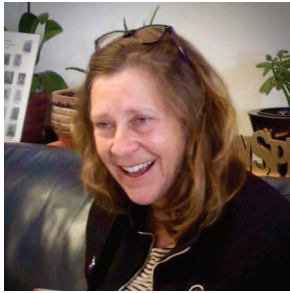
management, working in for profit, non-profit and local government jobs, in the areas of real estate, wine, health care, small business development, resource conservation, and County government.

During the last 13+ years with the County, I've gone from an Analyst, to Deputy Director of Transportation, to Assistant Auditor-Controller and now Acting Auditor-Controller. Throughout my career with the County I have participated in the County's Leadership Initiative and attended regional, state and national trainings and conferences to further expand my skills and professional network.

I truly love this community and am passionate about the important role that the Auditor-Controller's office fulfills in local government for the County, Special Districts, School Districts and other organizations that hold their funds in the County Treasury.

Michelle Hutchins

As the current County Superintendent, I wish to continue the great work I started. My first priority was securing business continuity during disasters, as MCOE is the communications and payroll hub for all schools in our county. Soon after, through partnerships with the League of Women Voters and the County Elections Office, the Youth Voter Registration Project began. Retirements created an opportunity to hire new assistant superintendents and a new (all female) leadership team was formed.



This dynamic team transformed MCOE into a values-driven, needs assessing, and outcomes-based organization. In early 2020, after a full redesign of educational services, MCOE prepared delivery of remote learning modules to teachers around the County which made MCOE already positioned to support teachers when the pandemic hit.

Pandemic support included: Daily then weekly zoom and email communications with staff, schools, and community; Periodic town hall meetings for parents, teachers, and staff; and Regular communications with State and local public health departments. MCOE taught remote learning modules to teachers all over the county; distributed over 45 tons of masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer to schools; responded to 34 local educational agency requests; and organized vaccination clinics, surveillance testing, and school surveys. A Road to Reopening Workbook was developed to guide schools in preparing to return to in-person learning whether it was hybrid or full in person.

Having led MCOE in unprecedented times and the completion of a new five-year strategic plan, I am uniquely prepared to continue this work. I hope I have your support.

Michelle Hutchins



Malia Cohen Event

Helen Sizemore represented MWPC attended a fund raising event for Malia Cohen's campaign for California Treasurer in San Francisco. Malia Cohen was our guest speaker at Women's



History in 2018. We had supported her run for The California Board of Equalization. She was successful and now serves on the Board..

"Many electeds from the East Bay attended this intimate front yard fund raiser. I was able to speak with Betty Yee, Kimberly Ellis and Malia Cohen. Betty Yee is excited to support Malia, as she can handle the hard work required from the State Controllers position. Betty Yee and her team kept the funds flowing to the people during the pandemic, as well as attending to the 70+ boards on which she serves.

I also chatted with Robert Collier, Director of external affairs for CIERCO. This is the SoCal Off shore wind generated business, to enhance the power grid sustainably."

Helen Sizemore

Bring Better Internet Connection to Mendocino County

As an enthusiastic community member of our amazing Mendocino County, I'd like to invite you to do something if you live in a rural area of the county — take a speed test. Just go here: <https://tinyurl.com/mendospeedtest>

Why? Lack of high-speed connection made it really hard to do EVERYTHING during the pandemic — for students, businesses, doctors, health workers, and safety and government personnel throughout Mendocino County. High-speed connectivity is no longer optional for our future. It is essential for us to be able to conduct all aspects of healthcare, education, commerce, safety, and government. It is up to us to break down cultural, financial, and geographic barriers to allow internet access for all residents so they can fully participate in economic and civic life beyond their geographic boundaries.

So let's imagine a future where people in Mendocino County can connect easily *even if* they live in or spend time in a rural area.

A place where firefighters can connect online to get info while in rural areas, and young people can study from home if the situation calls for it. A region where visits to doctors can happen without any travel at all and where businesses can still DO business even without a storefront. A community where residents and government officials can have open and honest conversations without any geographical barriers at all.

It's community advocacy for better digital access. Together we can help close the digital divide.

Take the speed test now, or fill out the short form stating you have no internet connection at home. Here's the link again: <https://tinyurl.com/mendospeedtest>

The county's goal is to hear from at least 200 residents of our county over the next month — to get a clear sense of what's needed and WHERE. This data will help the county to pursue funding so that we can build the "Last Mile" of infrastructure and services in our historically unserved and underserved areas where internet service is poor or nonexistent.

Help us get there! #connectupmendo #mendospeedtest

Katie Gibbs

County of Mendocino

Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County

Community Foundation of Mendocino County

West Company

Put Some Music in Your Life with Wendy DeWitt

May your fall be warm and cozy, and full of music. Hoping to see you soon as we continue to get out more and more, with plans in the works for more on-line San Francisco International Boogie Woogie Festival, the return of the Queens of Boogie Woogie, and finally a return to touring.

In the meantime... stop in for Boogie Woogie Happy Hour starting in December from 5 - 7 every Wednesday, indoors in the show room, keeping the blues and boogie going until Blues Invitational starts back up. December

- 1 Wednesday - Boogie Woogie Happy Hour at Hopland Tap 5 - 7
- 5 Sunday - Ukiah Brewing Co 12:00 - 2:00 Brunch Blues
- 8 Wednesday - Boogie Woogie Happy Hour at Hopland Tap 5 - 7
- 12 Sunday - Ukiah Brewing Co 12:00 - 2:00 Brunch Blues
- 15 Wednesday - Boogie Woogie Happy Hour at Hopland Tap 5 - 7
- 19 Sunday - Ukiah Brewing Co 12:00 - 2:00 Brunch Blues
- 22 Wednesday - Boogie Woogie Happy Hour at Hopland Tap 5 - 7
- 26 Sunday - Ukiah Brewing Co 12:00 - 2:00 Brunch Blues
- 29 Wednesday - Boogie Woogie Happy Hour at Hopland Tap 5 - 7



Music is love, let's share some...

Drop us a line at wette@wettemusic.com

Visit the web site at WendyDeWitt.com

Stop in at Twitter at or Facebook at TQOBW

Booking: 707/467-9343

Wendy DeWitt



Robin Sunbeam

The California Guaranteed Health Care for All Act AB1400 aka CalCare will be heard in the Assembly in January. From CA Proposition 186 in 1994 to SB 562 in 2016, we have tried again and again to be the first state in the Union to enact universal single-payer healthcare. Now, the National Democratic Platform and the CADem Platform both include universal single-payer healthcare. Governor Newsom campaigned on Medicare4All. California has a supermajority of Democrats in both the Senate and the Assembly. We now have an historic opportunity to finally provide all Californians the Right to healthcare.

CalCare would heal this broken health care system. CalCare would:

- Enshrine health care as a human right by guaranteeing comprehensive, lifetime, high-quality care for all California residents.
- Guarantee health care free at the point of service for all medically necessary care, including dental, hearing, vision, reproductive, mental health, prescription drugs, and long-term care.
- Free every California resident to choose their providers without "in-network" or "out-of-network" restrictions.
- Establish a single-payer health care cost-control system, potentially saving billions of dollars annually for California residents and municipal governments that are currently siphoned

into private insurance industry profits.

Our Senator, Mike McGuire, is a principal co-author of AB1400. The main opposition is our own Assemblyman, Jim Wood, the Chair of the Assembly Health Committee, where AB1400 will be heard first. There are powerful monied interests opposing this bill. We have from January 3, when the Assembly resumes after the holidays, until January 31, to pass this bill. This is what you can do to help: text banks, phone banks, join the Zoom legislative visit with Assemblymember Jim Wood, write him a letter urging him to support AB1400, and pass a Resolution from the MWPC in favor of CalCare and send it to Assemblyman Wood.

Here are some links:

CalCare Fact Sheet <http://bit.ly/AB1400factsheet>

CalCare phone bank

<https://act.medicare4all.org/event/ca-phonebank/2912?akid=126812.20085.Oh9Y2P&rd=1&source=em20211115-126812&t=3>

Possible motorcade in December like the one last April. Join the fight for our Right to Health Care for all Californians.

Contact Robin Sunbeam to get more involved. Text: 707-228-9257, email: bodhirobin@pacific.net



Elders Climate Action

Today Friday is Day 6 at COP 26, and before I get into to the highlights of the happenings at the Climate Summit in Glasgow, here is what some of us are doing locally.

Shortly before noon today I looked out my window at a gray cloudy sky. With a promise of rain in the forecast, I grabbed my well-worn sign, facemask, lightweight rain jacket, scarf, a warm pair of gloves and joined my Mendocino Coast climate activist friends in front of Fort Bragg's Town Hall. Every Friday from noon to 1 p.m. we gather there, part of a non-partisan movement of "Elders Climate Action." I try to show up more often now than not.

Our colorful signs have a message that is loud and clear-- our planet's changing climate is an emergency and is affecting all of us and we are taking action.

This part of coastal Highway 1 that runs through Fort Bragg's central downtown has a steady stream of traffic at 25mph; and right where we stand is a stoplight. So, this is a perfect perch to get the attention of folks out on their lunch break or doing errands; and there are tourists cruising through town — delivery trucks, pick-up trucks, trucks of all sorts and sizes, and even logging trucks.

Then there are some pick-up trucks who belch black smoke, a form of conservative protest. These jacked-up diesel pick-up trucks are customized to intentionally emit giant plumes of toxic smoke when they rev their engines. They call it "rollin' coal," and it's something that is not fun to see or experience. Not a way to treat your elders!

We do get quite a few thumbs up, peace signs and folks honking their horns in solidarity.
Mary Rose Kaczorowski

Shari L. Schapmire
Treasurer-Tax Collector
Julie Forrester
Assistant Treasurer-Tax Collector
Mendocino County Treasurer-Tax collector
501 Low Gap Rd. Room 1060, Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 234-6875

DATE: NOVEMBER 23, 2021

TO: VAL MUCHOWSKI, MWPC

FROM: SHARI L. SCHAPMIRE, TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

RE: SITUATION AFFECTING ELECTED OFFICIALS IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

On December 14, 2021, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors will be making the final decision on whether or not to consolidate the Auditor-Controller and Treasurer-Tax Collector positions. As I have been the Treasurer-Tax Collector for the past 15 years, I would like to share my thoughts with MWPC members.

Currently, both the Auditor-Controller and Treasurer-Tax Collector are separate elected positions. If the consolidation is approved by the Board, this combined position will be held by one individual. Unfortunately, due to time constraints in place for the upcoming election, this Board decision must be completed prior to the end of this calendar year. This does not allow ample time to fully evaluate the repercussions of such a financially consequential decision. A full analysis, looking at all the risks and benefits, needs to be completed prior to the Board moving down this path. In addition, this Board item does not address potential public concerns over the elimination of a County elected official.

I am adamantly opposed to consolidating these two positions as the current structure allows for the separation of duties and responsibilities that is absolutely vital for financial offices; this separation of duties and responsibilities is a critical function to safeguard the funds of the County, Schools, and Special Districts. When too much financial responsibility is placed without a singular focus on critical functions, important items run the risk of not being attended to. Separate offices ensure critical functions will remain at the forefront and will not be minimized by lack of time and focus.

In my opinion, the risks of consolidation include, but are not limited to, the destabilization of two stable financial offices, possible exodus of existing staff in both offices which are already short-staffed, issues with audit findings relating to separation of duties and responsibilities, uncertainty of one elected official possessing all knowledge and skills necessary to lead both technical offices. Last but not least, future success of the new \$2 million property system may be in jeopardy.

Social Security 2100 Act

Our Social Security system should be the model for every program our government designs. For more than 85 years, it's been incredibly popular, incredibly effective, and extraordinarily durable, even in the face of well-funded propaganda campaigns designed to destroy it.

We should seek to make government programs simple and universal, like Social Security. Instead of complicated bureaucracy like means testing and work requirements, programs should be easy to apply for. If a rich person gets a benefit, we just need to tax them to make up for it.

The Social Security 2100 Act would make our Social Security system even better. Become a grassroots co-sponsor of it today!

The Social Security 2100 Act will fulfill the promise of our Social Security system by:

- Increasing benefits across the board for all Social Security beneficiaries
- Improving the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) so that it reflects the inflation actually experienced by seniors
- Ensuring that no one retires into poverty after a full career of work by improving benefits for long-serving, low-wage workers
- Improving benefits for widows and widowers from two-income households
- Restoring student benefits up to age 22 for dependent children
- Increasing access to benefits for children living with grandparents
- Repealing the WEP/GPO penalty for public servants
- Ending the five-month waiting period to receive disability benefits
- Increasing benefits for the oldest old, those who have been receiving benefits for 20 years or more
- Providing caregiver credits to ensure that people are not penalized in retirement for taking time out of the workforce to care for children or other dependents
- Ending the disability benefit cliff
- Providing a tax cut for middle-income beneficiaries
- Ensuring that millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share by applying FICA to earnings above \$400,000



Time to Renew Your Membership

Mail your Regular Membership \$25 check to:
MWPC, PO Box 1140, Ukiah, CA 95482

Or

Go to our webpage at <https://mendocinowomen.org/>
and join with PayPal:

Or

You may wish to contribute more:

Sponsoring Membership (Yes, I'd like to make sure that all women belong.) - \$50

Sustaining Membership (I wish to contribute more to accomplish our goals.) - \$100

Name _____
(Print name)

Email _____

Address _____ City: _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell phone Text: Yes / No

Date _____

Signature _____

Yes, I can help out with one or more of MWPC activities: (please circle or write in):

1. Political Action/Endorsement
2. Public Forums
3. Women's History
4. Membership
5. Publicity/Media
6. Appointments
7. I would like

to: _____

In Sisterhood,
Val Muchowski, MWPC Chair / Janice Lombardi, Membership Chair