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Mendocino Women's Political Coalition

December 2023 Number 9

Here and There

The March Primary has quickened the election cycle. Filing has opened and will close on December 13, 2023. Jim Wood has decided not to seek another term in the Assembly. Glen McGorthy and Dan Gjerde will not run for re-election as Mendocino Supervisors opening those seats. There are a host of folks running for these seats. We sent out a letter asking the Second Supervisors candidate to send us a note as why they are running. We did the same for the Second Assembly candidates. Some did. Some didn't....This is a season for giving. We asked folks to send us their favorite group they always donate to.....

Candidates for First and Second District Supervisor to Debate on December 14th

Everyone is invited to attend a Candidate Forum to become acquainted with the contenders running to represent both the First and Second Districts on the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. The Forum will be held on Thursday, December 14th at 6:00p.m. at the Ukiah Civic Center located at 300 Seminary Avenue, Ukiah, CA.

Mendocino County encompasses five districts, and the boundaries of the First District include Potter Valley, Redwood Valley, Calpella, and Talmage. The Second District contains the City of Ukiah which is the county seat and the largest city in Mendocino County. Since First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty announced that he will not be seeking a second term, five candidates for the March 5, 2024 primary election have filed initial paperwork to launch their campaigns. Madeline Cline, Adam Gaska, and Trevor Mockel reside in Redwood Valley, and Carrie Shattuck and David Goodman live just outside the City of Ukiah.

Until recently, it appeared that Second District Supervisor Maureen "Mo" Mulheren would be an unopposed incumbent candidate. But on October 17th, Jacob Brown announced that

he was officially a candidate running for the position of Second District Supervisor. Mulheren, a lifelong resident of Ukiah and business owner, has served three years of her first term as Second District Supervisor. Prior to joining the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, she was on the Ukiah City Council for six years as well as a term as mayor. Brown now lives in the Ukiah neighborhood where he grew up. Since serving in



the Marines, he has been working in manufacturing. Though new to local area politics, Brown is set to challenge Supervisor Mulheren.

The citizens of Districts One and Two are encouraged to identify the issues of concern in

their districts and to put their questions before the candidates. Each candidate will have the opportunity for a short opening and a closing statement. Questions from the audience will be submitted to the moderator on index cards, and each candidate will have equal time to answer the questions and to respond to each other. The moderator will ask as many questions as possible, but will use her discretion to choose questions of most interest to the voting public within the time framework. MWPC member, Christine Poremski Rodrigues, will serve as moderator. Campaign literature will be available on the tables in the foyer.

This Candidates Forum is co-sponsored by the Mendocino Women's Political Coalition (MWPC) and the Ukiah branch of AAUW. MWPC has jointly hosted candidate forums on a regular basis for over 25 years with the goal of educating voters and encouraging voter involvement. MWPC experience has shown that their candidate forums generate increased voter interest and turnout.

Katarzyna Rolzinski

Endorsement for Supervisors and Second Assembly District

MWPC would endorse those who were friendly to MWPC issues. MWPC endorsed candidates who supported MWPC Commitments: reproductive choice, elder/child care, the environment and ending discrimination.

Letter, Questionnaire and MWPC brochure will go out to all candidates. The Questionnaire is on the MWPC website <https://mendocinowomen.org/endorsements>.

At the 2023 Annual Meeting, it was decided that the MWPC members would attend the Candidate Forums. After each Forum, the MWPC members would gather and recommend candidates to represent the district, 60% vote needed.

This recommendation would go to all the current MWPC members in good standing (paid members) to vote for endorsement; 60% vote would be needed to endorse.

MWPC financial contributions to candidate campaigns are available to women who receive the vote for endorsement with MWPC financial support, 60% vote needed.

Members:

New Welcome: Ariel Ungerleider

Thank You Renewed: Katrina Bartolomie, Robin Sunbeam

Ariel Kelley

Mayor Ariel Kelley lives in Healdsburg with her husband Tim and two children. Recently recognized as one of North Bay Business Journal's Forty Under 40 notable young professionals, prior to being elected Ariel served as Sonoma County Planning Commission member and an elected assembly district delegate to the state Democratic Party. When she's not attending community meetings all over our region, you'll find her enjoying live music, a glass of local wine, or cheering on her alma mater... GO DUCKS! Ariel Kelley
ariel@arielkelley.com



Santa Is Coming

Mo Mulheren, Second District Supervisor for the County of Mendocino is happy to announce upcoming holiday events. Santa will be joining in the First Friday Art Walk, December 1, 2023 at 304 N State Street in Ukiah. The Art Walk is a recurring event that promotes local artists and musicians and celebrates community, the first Friday of every month. This December



she will be showcasing local artist Tim Poma who will have pieces for sale to give as gifts. The event will run from 5:00p-7:00p, Santa will be available for photo ops from 5:30-6:30p.

The Santa Stomp is a community walk on the Great Redwood Trail, December 10th, 2023 at 11am. There is an ugly sweater contest and Santa will be taking part in the stroll. The walk begins at the Commerce Drive entrance to the Great Redwood Trail and lasts between 45 minutes and an hour. The Great Redwood Trail is a paved path that runs through Ukiah, the current length is 1.7 miles. This is a strolling event, pets and strollers are welcome. Santa hats are optional but encouraged.

If you have questions about either of these events you can contact Mo at 707-391-3664 or email her at themyouknow@gmail.com



Report from Ukiah

The City of Ukiah is undergoing several large scale infrastructure improvement projects. Construction is temporarily inconvenient for drivers and pedestrians but should be well worth the wait. Projects include:

- Phase 4 of the purple pipe (recycled water) project is underway and will bring recycled water to the northwest side of Ukiah. Will irrigate Ukiah High School's lawn, the municipal golf course, Todd Grove Park, and more
- Phase 2 of Downtown Streetscape Project continues renovation of State Street with replacement of water and sewer pipes, underground utilities, widened sidewalks, landscaping, new street lights and traffic signals
- Reconstruction and utility improvements on Gobbi, Main and Perkins Streets

City and County staff have agreed on a proposed tax sharing agreement. The BOS will discuss it in January, most likely. If the agreement is approved by both elected bodies, the City will begin annexations of areas to the north and south of the present city limits.

The City Council voted unanimously to require the current owner of the Palace Hotel to submit a plan to stabilize the building or alternatively, demolish it. This is a sad but necessary decision after the City's Chief Building Official determined the hotel has significantly deteriorated and constitutes a threat to the safety of residents and nearby buildings.

The City obtained a \$921,000 grant from the California Office of Emergency Services to build local resiliency efforts and from that funding, a Chief Reliance Officer will be hired to support the City's efforts to prepare for and mitigate disasters like wildfires and floods in addition to executing action items contained in the City's Climate Emergency Resolution.

We will be swearing in a new mayor—Josephina Dueñas— at our December 6th meeting.

There is a vacancy on the City's Diversity and Equity Committee for a representative whose primary language is not English. For more info, contact Tracy Boyl at tboyl@cityofukiah or (707)467-5720.

*Susan She and Mari Rodin
Ukiah City Council*

Community Sing for Peace

Everyone is invited to join in singing songs of the season and songs of peace, hope, and light, on Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 6:30pm.

This is the 25th annual free community Solstice Sing hosted and led by Inland Valley Women's Chorus – finally in person again after four years on Zoom. (Please do not come if you have symptoms or have been exposed to Covid.)

This event will be at the Mendocino Ballet, 205 S. State Street, in Ukiah.

People of all ages, voices, and traditions are invited to sing along. The evening will end with hot cider and cookies. For more information, contact Madge Strong, mstrong@willitsonline.com or (707) 459-1493.

Linda Jupiter

With a heavy heart I am letting you know that our dear friend Linda Jupiter died today, peacefully, surrounded by her dearest people, at the time and in the manner that she felt was right given her serious and complex illnesses.

Linda Jupiter was born in New York City on March 26, 1944, and left us on November 14, 2023, in Fort Bragg, CA, following a short but complicated series of illnesses.

Linda moved to LA to start her adult life in 1967, traveled through Europe and points east and upon return settled in San Francisco in the early 1970s, becoming part of that city's transformation into a welcoming and safe place for gay people.

After moving to Ft. Bragg in 2010, she brought her energy and activism to the north coast, becoming a force in our local community for progressive politics. In the 25 years she lived here, she was a mover and shaker for any number of organization and causes: a mediator for VORP (Victim Offender Reconciliation Program), a constant participant with the Grassroots Institute, a member of the Latino Coalition, the MCJC (Mendocino County Jewish Community) Justice Group, stood with Women in Black for Peace, a long-time organizer of our Martin Luther King Day celebration, assisted in Anne Turner's Citizenship and ESL classes, co-facilitated the MCJC Elders' group on Zoom, and, with others, fought for years to keep our hospital's obstetrics department open.

She created Jupiter Productions, a book production company, which, in turn, allowed her to hire many local people as editors, indexers & art directors, adding much needed jobs to the community.

Linda loved living in her light, comfortable house in the middle of Ft. Bragg, close to everything she needed. Her years here, she maintained, were the best of her life.

She is survived by her daughters Annie Jupiter-Jones and Ingrid Scantlebury, son-in-law Alejandro Alcantar, granddaughters Justice Kaya Alcantar, Havana Mia Alcantar, and Rio Bella Alcantar; grandsons Jarid Dyon Scantlebury and Aren Malik Scantelbury, as well as her sister Carla Jupiter, brother-in-law Steve Antler & co-parent Diane Jones. She will be sorely missed by her family, and her many friends, colleagues, and fellow activists.

Linda Jupiter
November 14, 2023

Oh Linda, Oh Linda
No more of your hugs, or hugging you back.
No more of your bright, brilliant, and bold perspectives
Leaping out into the discussion of the day.
We will miss your determination,
Your endless energy for social justice,
And your beauty as you walked through the world.
Oh Linda, Oh Linda
We will miss
Your courage of heart
Your clarity of mind
Your kindness of spirit.
Rest in peace, my friend.
Hope to meet and greet you again
On the other side.
By *Carrie Durkee*

Mendocino Women's Political Coalition

The facts: Over half of the USA population and 53% of the registered voters are women. Yet, we still hold only 20 seats in the Senate, and we are still waiting for women to be elected president and governor of California.

With the recent outrageous Supreme Court rulings, we are even more aware of what a difference gender makes. Look at the numbers: If the Supreme Court had a 5-4 female majority, these rulings would never have happened.

Mendocino Women Political Coalition is more determined than ever to increase the number of women elected to office across California and throughout the country. We do this by what we've always done best: Identifying, recruiting, training, and financially supporting women candidates.

Please renew your membership in MWPC. The important work of MWPC is made possible by membership dues, especially in election years. Financial backing comes with MWPC endorsement. Early endorsement along with an MWPC check is often what jump starts a campaign and encourages other supporters.

This is an especially important year for women. Let's be proactive about the futures for women and girls. Remember, we are 53% of the USA voting population. Rejoin MWPC, and together we will work toward further equality. Membership goes from January 1, 2024 to January 1, 2025. If you have rejoined in the last month, you are good until January 2025.

Second District Supervisor Candidates

Mo Mulheren

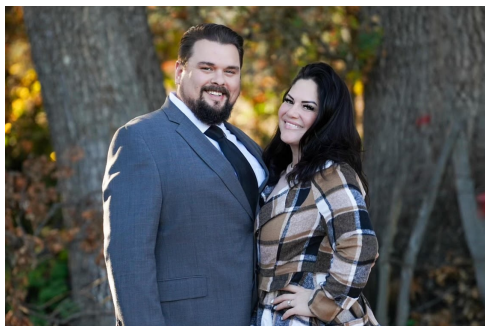
I am Maureen “Mo” Mulheren and for the last three years I have served as the Second District Supervisor and prior to that I was the Mayor of Ukiah. After six years on the City Council, I was ready to bring my dedication and local knowledge to our County Board of Supervisors. Born and raised in Ukiah, I have deep roots in the community and am proud to be raising my family here. Protecting their future and ensuring their quality of life motivates me every day to advocate for our region’s economic well-being and natural resources. As an entrepreneur and local business owner, I understand the challenges our community faces and have used my deep community involvement and relationships to work with you to address our most pressing economic, housing, and healthcare issues.



I am experienced, accessible, invested in our community, and working hard for you. Here is a little more about what has happened over the last three years: over three hundred units of low income and market rate housing available now and approved for construction. Streamlining of the Cannabis program and \$17 million in grants for the County and small businesses. 17 new vehicles for the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office. \$3,000 in American Rescue Plan Funding in addition to a 2% cost of living increase for our County employees. The return to an Economic Development Representative to the County to work with community partners to support local businesses and housing initiatives. Prepare for climate resilience by placing Measure P for Fire Departments and the Fire Safe Council on the ballot and actively campaigning, as well as supporting equipment purchases for Fire Departments from PG&E Funds. Follow up on the Measure B voter initiative including Completion of the Crisis Residential Treatment Center, promotion of the Behavioral Health Training Center, demolition of the former Whitmore Lane Facility in preparation of the future site of the Psychiatric Health Facility, continue to advocate for increased services for mental health and substance misuse disorder including finding ways to support sober living initiatives. The County now has a Grants Management Division added to increase revenues in the County and the region with over \$100 million in grants applied for in its first year.

Of course this is not a list of all of the projects and initiatives that I have been working on and I would love to talk to you more about the work that I am doing. My cell phone is 707-391-3664 and my email address is MulherenM@MendocinoCounty.Gov

Jacob Brown



A lifelong resident of Mendocino county, I am deeply concerned with our communities current direction due to what I perceive as a need for more effective leadership from the current Board. My decision to run for Supervisor stems from a solid commitment to bring a new perspective and robust leadership, honed through my experience in the Marine Corps and local business management. With a more transparent, accountable, and fiscally responsible

approach, we can navigate the challenging landscape we face, creating a brighter and more prosperous future for all residents of Mendocino County. My campaign is about putting the community first, addressing critical issues, such as affordable housing, economic development, public safety, and restoring confidence in our local government .

Jacob S. Brown
Candidate for Board of Supervisors, District 2

Assembly Candidates

Assembly District 2 stretches from the Oregon Border to Northern Sonoma County. It includes Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity, Mendocino and part of Sonoma Counties.

Ariel Kelley

Mayor Ariel Kelley was elected to the Healdsburg City Council in 2020 and is the former Chief Executive Officer of Pillar, a nonprofit economic recovery organization focused on financially supporting small businesses owned by women and people of color through the COVID-19 pandemic.

An attorney by training, Ariel earned both a Juris Doctorate and MBA from Golden Gate University as well as a bachelor of science in business administration from the University of Oregon. Prior to her role at Pillar, Ariel was Chief Executive Officer of Corazón Healdsburg. Recognized as one of North Bay Business Journal’s Forty Under 40 notable young professionals for 2019, Ariel served for several years on the Sonoma County Planning Commission and was appointed to the Healdsburg Parks and Recreation Commission in 2016.

Ariel has a proven record on the issues that matter in our district. Under her leadership, Healdsburg reduced homelessness by 65%, effectively navigated the COVID-19 crisis, and implemented a housing plan that is yielding more homes for seniors, low-income residents and workforce housing than at any time in the last 20 years. She was instrumental in building a city-funded childcare center for infants and toddlers and launched an adult education program for immigrant women to access job skills training in partnership with the regional junior college.



Her priorities include protecting reproductive freedom, equal pay for equal work, maternal healthcare and access to quality healthcare, maternal mortality rate for women of color, and access to quality, affordable childcare. She gets things done and delivers results – and is ready to bring that tenacity to the Assembly. Ariel lives in Healdsburg with her husband Tim, their two kids ages 8 and 10, a dog Cooper, and five chickens. Learn more at www.arielkelley.com

Ariel Kelley





Ted Williams

As a candidate for Assembly District 2, I am proud to stand among fellow dedicated individuals. My decision to run stems from the belief that the most effective Assembly members evolve from county Supervisors, gaining firsthand experience of state policies' effects. My campaign centers on representing everyday individuals, free from the influence of wealth and special interests. With Sonoma County housing half of our potential voters, it's crucial to also advocate for those extending northward to the Oregon border, ensuring they are equally remembered and represented. Together, we must work to secure equity.

Ted Williams

Rusty Hicks

My name is Rusty Hicks. I am an educator, organizer and a veteran - and now a candidate for California's 2nd Assembly District.



During my statewide journey as a candidate for Chair of the California Democratic Party visiting 58 counties in 58 days, I fell in love with the North Coast and witnessed the challenges our communities face—rising living costs, healthcare access issues, and environmental threats.

With a lifelong commitment to uplifting and empowering others, I bring my experience fighting for working people and all Californians to the State Assembly, aiming to address these challenges, create jobs, provide shelter, ensure quality healthcare, and lead the charge against climate change. To learn more, check out www.rustyhicks.org.

Together, we can preserve the beauty of our North Coast and build stronger, resilient communities. I'm eager to tackle the work ahead and would be honored to earn your support in this campaign.

Rusty Hicks

Chris Rogers

Dear MWPC Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Chris Rogers and I was born, grew up, and still live in neighboring Sonoma County. The values I learned here: hard work, civic duty, and compassion for others have shaped me, and are the reason I am running to represent the North Coast in the Assembly. The privilege of representing the North Coast should be earned through service, and as an Environmental Leader and as a Council Member and Mayor, I have dedicated my life to bettering this place we call home.



After the 2017 Tubbs Fire devastated our community, I led the reconstruction effort, ensuring that our displaced and traumatized neighbors could return home. I steered us through drought, flooding, and a pandemic. During my tenure as Mayor, I accomplished what hadn't been achieved in nearly a decade: balancing the budget. I prioritized the needs of working people by expanding access to affordable childcare and launching a groundbreaking first-time home-buyers program for low-income workers. I worked hard to prevent homelessness and to rebuild our economy in the wake of the pandemic.

As your next Assemblymember, I will tackle the issues that matter to the North Coast, addressing the rising cost of living, developing our economy while protecting our rural way of life, and preparing our communities against the threat of natural disasters. As a lifelong resident of the North Coast, I can truly be your voice in Sacramento. Join us at ChrisRogersForAssembly.com

Health Care

We desperately need to reform our broken health care system and move to one in which everyone can get the care that they need. To this end, a group of Mendocino County people are helping build the statewide movement for CalCare. CalCare is short for the California Guaranteed Health Care for All Act. We plan to move the legislation forward in the 2024 session of the California legislature. Leading up to then, CalCare supporters around the state are enlisting local endorsements to support CalCare. Our next AD 02 CalCare organizational meeting will be Sunday, December 10 at 7pm. You are invited to join our efforts to eventually convince Assemblyman Jim Wood to vote in favor of it. To join the meeting, sign up here: https://act.medicare4all.org/event/ca-om_create/4068/host/?akid=.20085.X7fmFg

Will the MWPC endorse CalCare?

Organizational online endorsement form: <https://act.medicare4all.org/signup/calcare-orgs>

Individual online endorsement form: <https://calcarepetition.org>.

For more information about CalCare: <https://www.nationalnursesunited.org/calcare>

Together, we will win! Onward to CalCare!

To universal, single-payer healthcare for all Californians.

Robin Sunbeam

Best Country to Be A Woman

Denmark is the top country in the world to be a woman, according to the 2023 Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Index, which was launched today at the Norwegian Mission to the United Nations in New York.

The country scores more than three times higher than Afghanistan, which ranked the lowest on the index.

The WPS Index, published by Georgetown University's Institute for Women, Peace and Security (GIWPS) and the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), draws on recognized data sources to measure women's inclusion, justice and security in 177 countries.

Denmark, Switzerland, Sweden, Finland and Luxembourg led the rankings on the top countries for women. Afghanistan, Yemen and the Central African Republic ranked among the lowest.

“Countries where women are doing well are more prosperous, peaceful, democratic and better prepared to respond to the impacts of climate change,” said Elena Ortiz (SFS’21), a Georgetown alumna who is the lead author on the report. “When women are doing well, everyone in society is doing well, and our index shows that.”

The 2023 edition of the global Women Peace and Security Index (WPS Index) scores and ranks 177 countries in terms of women's inclusion, justice, and security.

International

The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women is observed worldwide on November 25 each year, as designated by the United Nations General Assembly. The day aims to create awareness that women are victims of various forms of violence, including domestic violence and rape.

From UN Women:

“Violence against women and girls remains one of the most prevalent and pervasive human rights violations in the world. Globally, an estimated 736 million women — almost one in three — have been subjected to physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both, at least once in their life.

This scourge has intensified in different settings, including the workplace and online spaces, and has been exacerbated by post-pandemic effects, conflicts, and climate change.

The solution lies in robust responses, including investment in prevention. However, alarmingly, data on how much nations are committing to counteract violence against women and girls remains glaringly sparse.

For instance, just 5% of government aid is focused on tackling violence against women and girls, and less than 0.2% is directed to its prevention.

We need more investment in women’s organizations, better legislation, prosecution of perpetrators, more services for survivors, and training for law enforcement officials.

Join our 16 days of activism

The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women will mark the launch of the UNiTE campaign (Nov 25- Dec 10) — an initiative of 16 days of activism concluding on the day that commemorates the International Human Rights Day (10 December).”

Who do You Give Your Money To

MENDOCINO COAST CHILDREN’S FUND

<https://www.mccf.info>

<https://www.mccf.info/giving>

FORT BRAGG FOOD BANK

<https://www.fortbraggfoodbank.org>

<https://www.fortbraggfoodbank.org/ways-to-give>

Susan A Nutter

Coast MWPC and Sage Circle Meet at Tess Albin’s House in Fort Bragg



Carrie, Mary
Sharon , Janice, Kyle



Lois Lockart



Tess Albin

MEET KATIE

Smart. Tough. Fearless. When it comes to protecting California families, Katie Porter does not back down.

Katie is a nationally renowned leader in the fight to protect consumers, taxpayers, and middle class families. First as a consumer protection advocate and now a member of Congress, Katie has won big victories against Wall Street and stood up to pharmaceutical companies, oil and gas giants, and corporate lobbyists who cheat Californians.

