

North Coast People's Alliance

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NCPA offers free Voter Van on Nov. 6

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Yes, you can!

With California's new, same-day voting rules kicking in, people are learning that they can still register and vote, even on Election Day.

The wrinkle is that this year, there is only one place in all of Humboldt County where you can register and vote on Nov. 6. It's the county Elections Office, at 2426 W. Sixth St., Eureka.

To help people get there, the North Coast People's Alliance is offering a free Voter Van that will run throughout the day between the HSU campus and the Elections Office in Eureka.

"We want to help students engage and vote locally on things that affect their community," said Tamara McFarland, chair of the North Coast People's Alliance Steering Committee.

Important Arcata issues on the November ballot include the Sanctuary initiative (Yes on Measure K), removing the McKinley statue (No on Measure M), and electing two City Council members, who will make key decisions on affordable housing, diversity, public safely and police training, and much more.

"Students deserve a voice in Humboldt elections, and we want to make it as easy as possible for them to get to the polls and get back to campus, even if they missed earlier registration deadlines," McFarland added.

Beginning at 10 a.m. on Nov. 6, the NCPA Voter Van will pick up passengers at HSU's Library Circle and drive them to the Elections Office in Eureka. The van will continue to pick up passengers at Library Circle on the hour, at 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. The last departure from HSU to the Elections Office will be at 7 p.m.

The NCPA Voter Van will also bring passengers back from the Elections Office to HSU, beginning at approximately 10:30 a.m. Departures will continue from the Elections Office area once an hour, at approximately 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., and 6:30 p.m., with later evening departures at 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m. or 8:30 p.m. depending on demand.

There will be no other stops to pick up or drop off passengers in either direction.

Once prospective voters arrive at the Elections Office, county staffers will help them register to vote and will provide them with a ballot for conditional voting. To speed things up and shorten wait times, would-be voters can still register online beforehand at registertovote.ca.gov. Even though the Oct. 22 deadline to register to vote at your own polling place has passed, online registration is still ongoing, and it is expected to make conditional voting at the Elections Office faster, because there will be fewer forms to fill out. (People can also skip the Election Day crowd by going to the county Elections Office to register and vote during business hours from Oct. 23 onward.)

The North Coast People's Alliance organizes for economic justice, social justice and environmental justice. The NCPA does not advocate for any political party; rather, it works for issues that transcend party labels. More information is available at northcoastpeoplesalliance.org.