

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT, HUMBOLDT COUNTY

9/2/2019-ongoing project, much from secondary sources, open to changes, corrections and additions.

Anderson, Minnie Florence:

- owner, operator, and works on deep sea fishing boat, 1930

Anthony, Ida May:

- born May 13, 1877 and died February 15, 1963
- musician (pianist)
- radio chair for Professional and Business Women's Club
- President, Eureka Women's Club
- matriarch of the Democratic party in Humboldt county
- was a national secretary of Quota Club International
- was an honorary life member of the Eureka Quota Club, and held a record of 15 years of perfect attendance at meetings
- member of Ramona Temple of Pythian Sisters
- member of Humboldt County Historical Society
- was one of the founders of the original Humboldt County Humane Society

Arkley, Cherie:

- born on April 27 (or 28), 1956
- Eureka City Councilwoman from 1998-2002
- very active in civic projects in Eureka
- notable contributions include an extensive revision of the animal exhibits and new interpretive center at the Eureka Zoo, restoration of the downtown performing arts center, completion of the renovated Boardwalk on the Bay, in partnership with the City of Eureka and modernization of the high school community pool
- Cherie and her husband Rob have owned the Arkley Center for the Performing Arts ever since 2003
- has restored many of Eureka's historic properties
- she is a registered nurse, having worked locally at St. Joseph's Hospital, and a local physician
- Vice President of North Coast Dance
- Security National co-owner

Baldy, Dr. Cutcha Risling:

- born in Humboldt County
- she is Yurok, Karuk and Hoopa
- associate professor and department chair of Native American Studies at HSU
- enrolled member of the Hoopa Valley Tribe
- co-founded the Native Women's Collective, a nonprofit organization that supports the

- continued revitalization of Native American arts and culture
- research is focused on Indigenous feminisms, California Indians and decolonization
- received her Ph.D. in Native American Studies with a Designated Emphasis in Feminist Theory and Research from the University of California, Davis
- has published in the *Ecological Processes Journal*, the *Wicazo Sa Review*, and the *Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education and Society* journal
- has also published creative writing in the *As/Us* journal and *News from Native California*
- is the author of a popular blog that explores issues of social justice, history and California Indian politics and culture

Bareilles, Sara:

- born December 7, 1979 in Eureka
- singer-songwriter and actress
- composed music and wrote lyrics for the Broadway musical *Waitress*
- has sold over one million albums over nine million singles and downloads in the U.S.
- has earned eight Grammy Award nominations
- one of three daughters of Bonnie Halvorsen and Paul Bareilles

Baribault, Francis:

- dance instructor
- owned dance studio

Barnes, Mrs. Ross:

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Barnum, Helen Wells:

- born in Eureka on February 5, 1902 and died on July 3, 1993
- owned Eureka Inn from 1960 to either the late '80s or early '90s
- when she died, she left her family home to the Humboldt County Historical Society
- that home was built for her grandparents in 1902, the same year Helen Barnum was born
- her grandparents, Dr. Reuben and Mary Gross, were well off and respected by the time their Colonial Revival home at 703 Eighth Street in Eureka was completed
- only a few blocks away from the new house, the Grosses' daughter and son-in-law, Eleanor and Willard Wells, welcomed daughter Helen
- when Helen was a child, she made frequent visits to see her grandparents, and she never lived far away
- Helen's mother inherited the house when Helen was a teenager, and they took up residence there in 1921
- three years later, Helen married Charles Barnum, a sports writer for the Humboldt Times who later became successful in the timber business

- when her mother died in 1940, Helen and Charlie, along with their son and three daughters, moved into the family home
- after Charlie's death in 1953, Helen traveled far and wide — always returning home
- on July 3, 1993, she took her last breath in the grand old house at the age of 91
- in her will, Helen bequeathed her home to the Humboldt County Historical Society

Barnum, Annie Elzora (Zoe):

- born in Eureka on October 11, 1887 and died in Eureka on October 24, 1971 at age 85
- very active in civic and charitable work with emphasis on children
- this included adult education and the Eureka city schools advisory council, serving many years in the Camp Fire Council
- life member, California and National Congress of Parents and Teachers
- Eureka Continuation High School was named after her

Beal, June:

- born in Iowa on June 17, 1919 and died in Eureka on July 1, 2007 at age 88
- accomplished artist
- retired businesswoman
- active community volunteer

Berg, Patty:

- born in Seattle, Washington on June 6, 1942
- State of California Assemblywoman, 2002-2008
- represented the 1st Assembly District, which includes Del Norte County, Humboldt County, Mendocino County, Lake County, and Trinity County as well as parts of Sonoma County
- founder and executive director on Area Agency on Aging

Bernard, Sister:

- Sister Bernard, along with the other Sisters of St. Joseph, exchanged some timber land, which was gifted to the Sisters, for the hospital in order to better serve the community (in 1918 there was a flu epidemic that killed thousands)

Blackmar Bruson, Dr. Mary:

- born in Michigan on September 29, 1842 and died in Florida on March 19, 1916 at age 73
- first female doctor and surgeon in Rohnerville
- attended Hillsdale College in the late 1850s
- graduated from Women's Medical College of Philadelphia in 1866
- during Civil War, while in medical school, she took a sabbatical and served in the Union Army
- she was stationed at City Point in Virginia during the siege of Richmond

- after the war, she assisted for a year in a dispensary with the pioneer doctors, sisters Mary and Elizabeth Blackwell in NYC
- on March 5, 1870, an advertisement appeared in the “New Advertisements” of the Humboldt Times
- the ad ran for several months, but she ended up moving back to the Midwest in 1871 where she married a doctor named William C. Bruson
- she then moved to Florida, where she was a physician

Blankenship, Blanche:

- born in 1917, died on October 23, 2012 at age 95
- local historian specializing in the Orick area
- graduated from Humboldt State in 1939 where she was president of the senior class
- one of the earliest Yurok women to graduate from college
- taught school in Scotia, Hoopa, Stockton and Big Lagoon
- member of the Yurok tribe
- first woman president of the Humboldt County Farm Bureau
- Blanche and her husband ran a trucking business and cattle ranch for many years

Bradburn, Esther B.:

- born on April 8, 1906 in Minnesota and died September 19, 1996
- first female judge in Humboldt County

Brown, Mary Ann Day:

- born April 15, 1816, died February 29, 1884 at age 67
- widow of abolitionist John Brown (his second wife)
- after his death, brought family west to Red Bluff, then Fortuna

Bryant, Lorna:

- born November 9, 1968
- office manager at KHSU
- hosted KHSU’s *Thursday Night Talk: Race Beat*
- ran for city council
- was instrumental in starting Black Humboldt and the local Juneteenth Celebration

Buchanan, Kate:

- English teacher
- Hum. State's Assoc. Dean of Activities and Housing
- room named after her at HSU

Buck, Sarah:

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Buckley, Jean:

- born December 4, 1931 in Massachusetts and died July 7, 2019
- played centerfield in 1940' girls baseball league

Cahill, Jennifer Fumiko:

- arts and features editor of the North Coast Journal
- author of the *Tomo* story "Paper Lanterns"
- poet, having several of her poems featured in The Southern Review, Greensboro Review, Prairie Schooner, and the Southeast Review

Campbell, Ethel Grace:

- born October 21, 1887 and died September 10, 1953 in Humboldt County
- also named Ethel Grace Seidell
- mail carrier in Arcata, 1906-1909, used horse and buggy, possibly first woman mail carrier

Cardozo, Abigail (Abbie):

- born 1864, died 1937
- studio photographer in Ferndale from 1897-1907
- photographer and gallery owner in Ferndale

Carter, Sarah:

- born December 15, 1904 in Missouri, died August 28, 2005
- teacher at Eureka High School from 1930-1963
- taught at Sequoia High School in Redwood City from 1963-1968, she then retired

Chaffey, Kay Gott:

- born July 18, 1920 and died August 21, 2017
- pilot and p.e. teacher at HSU (then HSC)
- flew planes where needed in WWII
- only woman pilot flying emergency runs during the 1964 flood

Chinn, Betty Kwan:

- actively helping the local homeless people
- President Obama gave her the Presidential Citizens Medal

Chinn, Mary:

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Clarke, Cecile:

- born 1885, died 1979
- teacher and founder of the Clarke Museum

Corbett, Kathryn:

- born August 19, 1916, died January 2016 at age 99
- HSU Professor of Sociology, hired 1952 and retired March 1980

Crawford, Ruth:

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Crnich, Carolyn:

- retired Hum. Co. Clerk/Recorder and Register of Voters, having served 25 years in public office
- was able to get a grant that resulted in the Humboldt Election Transparency Project, no official recounts since the project began

Damas, Chloe:

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Day, Mrs. C.L.:

- V.P of Eureka Newspapers, Inc.
- first woman called for jury duty
- traveller

Delaney, Margaret:

- Humboldt Standard Society and Realm of Women editor

Desir, Mo:

- "Monique Harper-Desir, Mo, is a multi-racial arts activist, from Western Massachusetts. Mo Harper-Desir is a local Educator, Facilitator and Community Organizer, who uses Art techniques and Social Justice Education to spark revolution in everyone she comes across. Mo strives to bring the Arts & Education to disenfranchised communities and identities as a means of empowerment. Working throughout the state of California, Mo, is striving to connect communities of all backgrounds to each other, education and resources. Mo offers curriculum, workshops, trainings, classes, art performances, visual arts & more, to enrich those around her. Currently, Mo follows a career in Digital Media and Education. As an artist Mo actively creates using visual arts, Hip-Hop, Hip Hop theater, dance and poetry. One of Mo's most recent successes has been through co-founding [Black Humboldt](#) alongside Dionna Fletcher. Black Humboldt's mission is to create and sustain safe spaces and positive representation for the Black community residing in Humboldt County. "

Dinsmore, Muriel:

- born in Eureka, grew up in Rio Dell
- Editor of Times-Standard Accent on People Section
- College of the Redwoods Director of Public Relations for 15 years
- founding member of Humboldt Arts Council and Eureka Heritage Society

Escarda, Kay:

- teacher
- community volunteer
- chair for League of Women Voters
- worked to make housing more affordable for people of limited income

Fernleaf:

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Fletcher, Dionna

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Forbes, Dorothy:

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Fountain, Susie Baker:

- came to Humboldt from Nebraska in 1912
- known as Humboldt State's first graduate
- collector of Humboldt County history
- HSU and Humboldt co. Library
- most valuable resource outside of Bancroft

Freeman, Emma:

- born 1880 in Nebraska, died 1928
- photographer
- known for her Native American portraits
- started the Freeman Art Company

Garrett, Edna M.:

- photographer
- she and husband had photo galleries in Ferndale and Fortuna

Giffen and Hunt:

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Gledhill, Mindy:

- born March 7, 1981 in Eureka, California
- grew up in Humboldt Co.
- singer-songwriter
- best known for her songs "I Do Adore" and "Anchor"

Godfrey, Libby:

- Fortuna

Goetz, Katherine “Kathy”:

- born November 28, 1930 in Humboldt County and died April 27, 1987 in Eureka, California
- high school teacher

Gool, Bonnie Benzonelli:

- informal member of Eureka Old Town
- ran for Third Ward
- had an antique store in Old Town

Groom, Barbara:

- co-owner of Lost Coast Brewery

Hadley, Monica:

- born March 7, 1910 and died February 17, 2004
- HSC Professor from 1932-1945
- Dean of Women and Director of Health Services
- co-owner and journalist for the Arcata Union
- V.P. Of Hadley Newspapers, Inc.

Hailstone, Vivian Risling:

- born 1913 at Moreck on the lower Klamath River and died in 2000
- basket weaver
- baskets are part of the Hailstone Collection at the Clarke
- owner of I-Ye-Qee Gift Shop in Hoopa
- as a child was forced into the Indian boarding school in the Hoopa Valley
- was chairman of the Hoopa Tribal Council’s Education Committee and acting chairman of the North Coast chapter of the California Indian Education Association

Hansen, Beatrice White McNulty (Bertie):

- born 1859, died 1938
- first postmaster at Beatrice, which was named after her
- first postmaster at Fortuna for many years and first shipping agent there
- Charter member of Fortuna Monday Club
- among the first to suggest that large Redwood groves be set aside as parks and playgrounds

Hayes, Joyce:

- Executive Director of Humboldt Senior Resource Center, retired after 16 years in the role and 25 years with the organization

- helped create the Alzheimer's Resource Center and spearheaded the creation of PACE (Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly)
- the first rural PACE in California.

Hendrickson, Elta Cartwright:

- born December 21, 1907 in Eureka and died November 29, 2001 in Fortuna at age 93
- first woman selected for America's first Women's Olympic Team, which competed in Amsterdam in 1928
- was a track star, nicknamed "Cinder Elta"
- tied the women's world record in the 100 yard dash (11.4 seconds) and set a new world record in the women's broad jump
- 1959 Member of HSC Hall of Fame
- teacher in Petrolia
- later owned and operated an antique shop

Herrick, Martha:

- born December 11, 1841 in Indiana and died September 15, 1921 in Loleta
- assisted her husband in his work on behalf of the American Indian
- had a ranch in Loleta

Hine, Rachel:

- born September 1881 and died April 20, 1962 in Humboldt County
- WWII veteran
- was head of the Humboldt State Normal School music department from 1915-1918
- known for her efforts during WWII on behalf of military personnel stationed in Eureka
- she also opened up her home to soldiers and their families

Howden, Sgt. Katherine (Kay):

- born 1965
- pioneer woman in law enforcement
- retired in 2016 after 28 years of service
- began her career in 1986 as a correctional officer in the county jail
- she then attended the 54th Basic Police Academy at College of the Redwoods
- upon graduation she was hired as a police officer in Woodland, California
- then joined the Eureka Police Department in 1990
- was promoted to sergeant in 2007

Humboldt, Helen:

- spokesperson for Daly's on TV
- wrote "Your Daly News" articles for the Humboldt Standard

Jacobson, Pearl:

- born 1902
- high school music teacher
- was the music director at Eureka High School
- pianist
- enlisted into the Women's Army Corps during WWII
- won the civic service award in 1952

Janisse, Marie (Moma):

- born in Louisiana
- raised by her grandmother, who taught her how to cook
- African-American owner and chef of Bless My Soul Cafe, specializing in southern creole soul food
- appeared on *Guy Fieri's Diners, Drive-ins and Dives* in 2014

Johnson, Christa:

- born April 25, 1958 in Arcata
- professional golfer
- became a member of the LPGA Tour in 1980
- won nine LGPA Tour events
- won the Women's PGA Championship in 1997

Johnson, Sarah E.:

- born 1826 in Belfast, Northern Ireland and died October 19, 1869 in Eureka
- Humboldt's first woman lighthouse keeper, Humboldt Bay Light Station
- was only the second lighthouse keeper of the HumboldtHarbour Lighthouse after her husband, Captain W. John Johnson, who died October 11, 1857
- tended the lighthouse from 1859-1863 as a widow with a newborn and 5 other children

Jones, Emily Lois:

- born June 30, 1885 in Eureka and died January 7, 1970
- first woman mayor of Eureka, elected in 1929
- worked for the Humboldt Newspapers in 1945

Kelsey, Nancy:

- born August 1, 1823 and died August 10, 1896
- first white woman into California over the Sierra Nevada
- was in Humboldt County for a time during the 1850s

Kemp, Christine:

- born September 7, 1906 and died January 1, 1998
- librarian at Fortuna High, then took up gardening
- woman of the year in 1981 by California Gardening Clubs

- life member of the Humboldt Botanical Gardens Foundation

Krei, LaVerne Jeanette:

- born May 19, 1922 and died January 31, 1997
- hall of fame tap dancer
- owned a dance and art studio in Arcata

Lane, Dr. Martella Cone:

- born 1875 in Iowa and died 1962 in Whittier, California
- artist, Fortuna
- noted for her paintings of Northern California's Redwood trees

Lasley, Rose (Marg):

- born February 14, 1871 in Blocksburg and died January 10, 1950
- first woman photographer in Humboldt County
- her and her husband, Clinton Cockrill Lasley, owned the Elite Gallery in Ferndale

Lestina, Wendy Crisp:

- born 1944
- editor, Ferndale Museum magazine
- lead maker of Ferndale history DVDs
- wrote weekly newspaper columns for the Ferndale Enterprise
- wrote the book, *A Bit of Earth*, in 2016 (tells of her personal stories, many of which were first told as columns)
- owner (with her husband) of Waldner Farm in Ferndale

Lisle, Clara:

- born November 17, 1989 in Humboldt County
- soprano opera singer
- debuted at 18 as winner of Eureka Symphony Young Artists competition
- went to college in London and is now getting her Master's in New York

Logan, Karen:

- born around 1950
- was a pioneer in women's basketball in the 1960s and 1970s
- starred in the made-for-television Superstars competition for women
- was billed as the No. 1 women's basketball player in the country
- averaged 23 points a game and played mostly against men
- was inducted into the Fortuna Hall of Fame

Lytel, Bertha Russ:

- born October 16, 1874 in Ferndale and died October 3, 1972 at age 97

- her parents were pioneers, creating the “Russ Empire” in Humboldt County and Fern Cottage (now a tourist destination)
- was a lifelong member of the First Congregational Church in Ferndale, contributing to this as well as other churches in the area
- Bertha Russ Lytel Foundation

Maddux, Phoebe:

- born 1866 and died February 28, 1937
- Karuk Indian doctor (third generation medicine woman) and basket weaver
- her remembrances were written down by J.P. Harrington while the two were in Washington D.C. from 1928-1929 (documented Harrington’s collection of basketry, stories about Karuk life, reviewed texts about Karuk basket weaving, and reviewed Karuk sound recordings)
- she shared with Harrison her memories and thoughts about a collection of baskets held at the Smithsonian Institution, revealed broader notions of connections to place, relationships among family and community members, and the social changes in Northwest California Indian societies

Mahan, Laura Perrott:

- born November 29, 1867 in Loleta and died in 1937
- co-founder and president of the Humboldt County Women’s Save the Redwoods League
- galvanized early support to save the redwoods
- painter

Martinez, Peggy:

- born September 17, 1960
- local blindness advocate
- entrepreneur who owned Eureka AT, an assistive technology company
- singer and drummer in local bands
- worked at Lighthouse of the North Coast, a satellite program for the blind and visually impaired which was instrumental in getting audible traffic signals in Eureka and Arcata
- was on the Arcata Safety Transportation Committee
- was president of the Humboldt Council of the Blind
- served on the Northwest Committee on Employment for People with Disabilities
- won the Holman Prize

Masten, Susan:

- born March 3, 1952
- leader of the Yurok tribe and past Yurok Tribal Chairperson from 1997-2003
- political activist involved with many tribal and women’s issues
- Chair of the Board of Directors for the Indian Law Resource Center
- served as President of the National Congress of American Indians from 1999-2001

- was appointed to the Humboldt County Planning Commission in 2011
- has been selected as an “Outstanding Young Woman of America,” Humboldt County’s “Outstanding Citizen,” and Del Norte County’s “Young Woman of the Year”

Maynard, Libby:

- born September 21, 1948
- co-founder and executive director of the Ink People Center for the arts
- serves on the Board of Directors for Access Humboldt, Alliance for California Traditional Arts and Humboldt County Workers Investment Board
- sits on Eureka Main Street’s Public Arts Committee
- artist

McArthur, Elma:

- born December 1, 1892 in Ferndale and died March 9, 1990 in Samoa at age 97
- Samoa Peninsula resident who supported the community by serving on a variety of community bodies with emphasis on the Samoa and Fairhaven Fire Depts
- Member of Samoa PTA and helped with coastal lookouts during WWII
- honored for 50 year membership in the California Federation of Women's Clubs

McBride, Viola Russ:

- born March 9, 1906 in Eureka and died October 19, 1996 in Eureka at age 90
- buried at Ferndale Cemetery
- artist (watercolorist)
- saved many of Ferndale's historic buildings
- opened up her own art studio in Ferndale in 1966
- wrote the book, *The University Farm Versus Co-Eds Circa 1926-27*, which discusses the sexism felt by her and other female students at the Farm by sexist professors
- timber owner

McCormick, Evelyn Agnes:

- born May 21, 1909 in Humboldt County and died December 6, 2003 at age 94
- teacher and local historian
- author of *Points in Time: Humboldt History*
- one of her hobbies was making baskets, inspired by the techniques used by Southwestern Native Americans

McCovey, Jean(n)ie:

- Yurok tribal elder
- environmental and human rights advocate
- disability rights and public transportation advocate
- speaks from personal experience as a quadrapolegic who uses a motorized wheelchair

McGaraghan, Annie:

- born January 6, 1878 in San Francisco and died October 7, 1961 in Eureka
- Eureka City Council Woman, 1st Ward
- received an honorary membership from the Parent Teachers Association on behalf of the Eureka Council of Parents and Teachers in recognition of her work in the interest of young people

McNeill, Alex Ozaki:

- born August 10, 1990 in Humboldt County
- director of the North Country Fair
- marketed and managed Brio Baking Inc.'s direct public offering while balancing the other needs of the cafe and staff
- raised in Arcata and graduated from HSU with a major in French and Francophone Studies and Business in 2015
- is active in forming a local housing cooperative, Racial Equity & Alliance (HAF), and the Humboldt Asian Pacific Alliance in Solidarity (formerly Taiko Swing Humboldt)
- she is currently a Quality Assurance Manager at Flower Company

Mendenhall, Ann:

- born September 3, 1925
- co-owner truck and bus line
- local history researcher

Merriweather, Elizabeth (Betty):

- born February 2, 1905 in Kansas City, Missouri and died January 11, 2002 in Orem, Utah
- dance studio owner and instructor (ballet)
- the Merriweather School of Dancing was the very first dance school in the county, opening in the 1940s
- was awarded Quotarian of the Year in 1968
- was President of the Eureka Business and Professional Women's Club, Quota Club and served one year as Secretary-Treasurer for the 12th District of Quota Club

Miles, Marilyn:

- born September 3, 1946
- first female and Native American Superior Court Judge
- was sworn in as Humboldt County's first woman superior court judge in June 1998
- retired July 31, 2017, after 20 years on the court
- prior to becoming a judge, she served as Directing Attorney of the Eureka Office of California Indian Services, where she began her legal career, practicing federal Indian law and representing individuals and tribes throughout Northern California

Milota, Marilyn Keach:

- born March 8, 1930 and died May 20, 2019
- local history researcher
- received many awards and recognition for her work on the county records, compiling 30 books dating back to 1854
- she also has a room named after her at the Humboldt Historical Society
- moved with her family to Eureka in 1945
- graduated from Eureka High and attended Humboldt State for a period of time
- worked at the Arcata Branch of Bank of America as a bookkeeper and teller from 1947 until her retirement in 1985
- one of her many hobbies was travelling, for which she went to 88 countries, along with Antarctica
- when she wasn't travelling, she was copying county records, indexing them to be put into books and reading through old Humboldt County newspapers abstracting obituaries and articles
- belonged to the Humboldt Genealogical Society, the Redwood Genealogical Society, Friends of the Library, Sequoia Park Zoo, and the Parkinson's group

Moore, Violet:

- member of the Yurok tribe
- well-known basket weaver

Morrison, Elizabeth Jane:

- born July 26, 1899 in Illinois and died October 18, 1985 in Eureka
- Humboldt County's first woman attorney
- started her practice in 1925 and remained active in that practice until 1985
- member of the International Women Lawyers
- treasurer of the local Bar Association
- graduated from Stanford Law School
- had a passion for travel, visiting Africa, Switzerland, Australia, and New Zealand among many others
- would give talks and show slides from her travels

Mountaingrove, Ruth

- co-founder of Rootworks Commune
- Writer for "The L Word" newsletter

Murray, Annie Zane:

- born April 20, 1864 in Humboldt County and died June 7, 1960 in Humboldt County at age 96
- member of the Humboldt Pioneer Society, Humboldt Historical Society, North Coast Retired Teachers, Director of the Y.W.C.A., charter member of the Eureka Woman's Club, Associated Charities, and was president and founder of the Trinidad Civic Club

- oldest retired teacher in Humboldt

Murie, Helen:

- born November 2, 1901 and died November 13, 1980
- Eureka city librarian
- prisoner of war specialist
- 1944, made info available to relatives
- formed the Humboldt County chapter of the Red Cross

Muse, Helen Delaney:

- born May 18, 1899 and died December 3, 1989
- musician
- teacher
- music studio owner
- president of the Music Teachers Association

Muzzy:

- born March 22, 1901 in Kansas and died February 20, 1971 in Humboldt County
- real name is Margaret Curtiss Paul
- singer and entertainer
- co-owner of the Monte Carlo Hotel
- operated the "Glo-Room" for which she was well-known for her singing
- moved to Eureka in 1938, where she remained the rest of her life

NAACP Ladies:

- stands for National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- President is Sharrone Blanck
- Secretary is Leslie Rodeland

Neely, Bonnie:

- born February 12, 1949 in Humboldt County
- former 4th District Supervisor
- Senior Policy Advisor on Coastal matters at Nossaman Law Firm
- studied at Humboldt State University

Niles, Dr. Doris:

- born July 26, 1903 and died June 14, 1995
- was a lecturer in Biological Science at HSU from 1938-1943
- University of California extension teacher of botany
- inspiring science teacher
- her memory lives on with the Dr. Doris Niles science fair at HSU

Noe, Melanie:

- owner of Myrtle Avenue Pet center since 2005

Otis, Marge:

- created and dressed clay dolls in various outfits and sold them through the C.O. Lincoln store
- these clay dolls were known as “Little People”
- after her untimely death, Eleanor Otis McKensey and Barbara Morse (Marge's sister) continued her work for a time

Parsons, Sara Mitchell:

- born April 18, 1912 in Georgia and died July 12, 2001
- was apart of the League of Women Voters (joined 1953)
- ran for the Atlanta City Board and won in 1961
- in 1963, she met Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to ask his thoughts on how to improve Atlanta’s schools for black children
- she even helped Dr. and Mrs. King get their younger children enrolled in the previously all-white Spring Street Elementary School
- she then moved to Bayside, California, where her husband taught at HSU
- still wanting to serve others, she became the first woman elected to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Pasquini, Isabella Sutherland:

- born December 15, 1906 and died January 31, 1976

Pearch, Emma:

- born 1838 and died 1913
- Karuk basket weaver
- basket collector
- started what is now the Hover Collection at the Clarke

Perez, Brenda:

- host for the spanish radio show “Radio Centro” which is based in Eureka
- on the show, she discusses the struggles faced by the immigrant community as well as other issues that plague the Latinx community in Humboldt County
- advocated for Measure K which made Humboldt a sanctuary county

Pettengill, May:

- born May 21, 1882 in Nebraska and died April 30, 1973 at age 90
- first woman Realtor in Eureka
- pioneer in Motion Picture business in Humboldt County
- owned and managed the Past Time, Orpheus and Rialto theaters
- was president of the Soroptimist Club of Eureka

Pierce, Helen Ramona:

- born May 30, 1906 and died August 29, 2004 at age 98
- aviator
- first woman to get her pilot's license in Humboldt County
- first woman to fly solo in Humboldt County
- she graduated from Eureka High School, and then graduated from Humboldt State
- she then became a Social Studies and English teacher at the junior high school in Eureka
- once she met her husband Les, who had an airplane, it wasn't long before he taught her to fly
- together they operated the Pierce Flying Service in Eureka

Riklaus:

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Roberts, Ann:

- dedicated Ferndale Museum volunteer for 25 years (research director)
- instrumental in creating a resource and research backroom full of history and cultural materials

Roscoe, Gayle Karshner:

- born September 29, 1916 and died August 29, 2011
- teacher
- local author

Roscoe, Martha:

- born May 19, 1896 in Pennsylvania and died May 15, 1990 in Eureka, California
- North Coast Historian
- charter member and past president of Hum.Co. Historical Society

Rundell, Beth Evelyn:

- born April 6, 1920 in Minnesota and died May 10, 2007
- enlisted in the Army during WWII and was stationed in the Philippines and Shanghai
- moved to Fortuna with her husband, working in advertising at the Humboldt Beacon newspaper
- went into real estate sales
- became a licensed pilot
- was elected to City Council and served as mayor of Fortuna from 1982-1985
- after retiring from politics and the real estate business, her and her husband opened their antique store, Rundell's Antiques in Fortuna, which was open for 27 years

Russ, Zipporah:

- born November 21, 1838 in Pennsylvania and died November 11, 1929 in Humboldt County
- wife of Joseph Russ, rancher and mother of 13
- home was Fern Cottage (built in 1866 by her and her husband)
- became a successful business woman, took over management of Joseph's enormous business estate when he died
- active in the women's suffrage movement
- land donor to Save the Redwoods League

Ryan, Josephine:

- born October 4, 1830 in Ireland and died September 15, 1902 in Eureka, California
- owned a millinery

Ryerson, Vera:

- born August 18, 1916 and died May 10, 1996
- Yurok artist (paintings, Indian jewelry, baskets and prints)

Saulsbury, Aristeia:

- born March 11, 1986
- Yurok
- co-director of Stepping Stone Diversity Consulting
- has a passion for advancing racial justice on the North Coast
- has a background in early childhood education
- received her BA in History from HSU
- pursued her MA in Organizational Leadership and Change at Pacific Oaks College
- Programming and Community Outreach Project Manager for the McKinleyville Family Resource Center
- Board Trustee for Northern Humboldt Union High School District

Scribner, Leila M.:

- she started a former settlement named Scribner (about 12 miles south of Eureka, near Falk)
- she also started Scribner's post office
- was its first postmaster

Sicard, Rita Joan Miller:

- born November 6, 1931 in Kansas and died June 28, 2020
- was an agent and then broker in Eureka
- started Humboldt Bay Real Estate Company in 1975
- she worked with architects, builders, Eureka city staff, soils clean up, and engineers to design what is now Bayfront One

- in 1982, she bought an old laundromat building and transformed it into The Cutten Inn restaurant

Service, Pam:

- children's book author
- Clarke Museum director and curator
- currently assistant archivist for Hum. Co. Historical Society

Shipley, Hilda:

- born September 28, 1914 and died June 22, 1996

Seidner, Cheryl Alberta:

- born June 1, 1950 in Humboldt County
- Weott Tribe chair and leader from 1996-2008
- served as executive secretary for Indian Action Council of Northwestern California
- secretary for Northern California Indian Education Project
- chairwoman for Northern California Indian Development Council
- board member for KEET TV
- Sacramento area vice president of NCAI
- board member for Humboldt County Historical Society
- has been a guest lecturer at various colleges
- AWANA director
- had been a staff member in the Educational Opportunity Program at HSU for 28 years
- received an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters
- helped restore Indian Island to the Weott Tribe

Sister Anna:

- Redwood Hospital

Sparks, Anna:

- born April 4, 1940
- Humboldt Co. Supervisor

Steinberg, Rabbi Naomi:

- born June 3, 1952
- has been associated with Temple Beth El for thirty six years, as a community participant since 1981, as a student rabbi from 1995 to 2004, and as resident rabbi since 2004
- is a lecturer in the Religious Studies Department at Humboldt State University where she has taught Introduction to Judaism, Jewish Mystical Tradition, Women in Religion, and Torah and Kabbalah
- A translator and composer, Rabbi Steinberg has arranged many of her original liturgical songs for the Temple Beth El Choir. Her original songs are featured on "A Child's

Chanukah” with The Jewish Wedding Band on the Music For Little People label

Stewart, Connie:

- born in New Jersey
- graduated from HSU in 1988 with a B.A. in speech communication
- worked at the Northcoast Environmental Center
- member of the City Council in Arcata (1996-2004)
- African American Mayor of Arcata (1999-2001)
- is now the Executive Director of the California Center for Rural Policy at Humboldt State University

Sundfor, Helen Coddling:

- born January 15, 1910 and died June 23, 1990 in Humboldt County
- owner and operator, E-Z boat Landing

Thompson, Lucy:

- born in Pecwan village on October 29, 1853
- died in Eureka on February 23, 1932 at age 79
- Native American author of *To the American Indian: Reminiscences of a Yurok Woman* (published in 1916)
- maiden name was Che-na-wah Weitch-ah-wah
- came from Yurok aristocracy
- her father was what was known as a Talth, the leaders of the tribe who were given the true name of God
- he trained Lucy in the mysteries and laws of the Yurok people, and she became a Talth herself
- in 1875 she married a white man named Milton James Thompson
- they lived along the Klamath River for many years, and moved to Eureka in 1910
- her mission was to tell the stories of her people, stories that were not being told by others
- her book was meant to make others better understand her people and culture
- she also criticized whites for many of their practices, including over-fishing
- had concern for the continued stewardship of Klamath River salmon
- expressed that violence towards indigenous Californians were deliberate acts of genocide

Turner, Claramae:

- born October 28, 1920 in California and died May 18, 2013 in Santa Rosa at age 92
- opera singer and actress
- had a noted career at the Metropolitan Opera and later the New York City Opera
- buried at Ocean View Cemetery in Eureka

Vallerga, Carlotta Moore:

- born March 14, 1942 in Humboldt County
- pastor
- first Congregational Church for 20 years
- retired in 2015

Wachs, Mary A.:

- born January 14, 1922 in Bronx, New York and died January 31, 2004 in Eureka at age 82
- at the age of seven, her and her father moved to England
- during WWII she worked as a nurse in London
- she then returned to the U.S. to Seattle where she worked in 1950
- she married and raised four children in the San Francisco Bay area
- she then received her Master's Degree in the classics from San Francisco State University
- her and her husband moved to Eureka in the 1980s
- founding member of Eureka Chamber Music Society
- volunteer, Eureka Women's Club, AAUW and Eureka Police Dept.

Watkins, Mary:

- born 1831 in Pennsylvania and died June 3, 1935
- also named Mary "Molly" Watkins-Crouch
- one of the first black people recorded to live in Humboldt County
- buried at Ocean View Cemetery in Eureka

Weaver, Harriet E "Petey":

- born June 18, 1908 in Iowa and died July 2, 1993 in Humboldt County at age 85
- was the first woman ranger for what is now the California Department of Parks and Recreation
- was assigned to Big Basin Redwoods Park in Santa Cruz County in the 1930s
- was prohibited from becoming a full time ranger as the job was seen as being more suitable for men during that time
- despite these barriers, she is credited as being the first woman to pave the way for women who finally entered full time service in the 1970s
- was also an author and artist, publishing *Cartooning Plus Good Drawing* in 1939, *Frosty: A Raccoon to Remember* in 1973, as well as a book about the early days of California State Parks in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties

Wiedenbeck, Rhonda:

- born October 8, 1963
- founder and owner of Beck's Bakery, opened 10/2012, featuring local organic produce

Woodcock, Jessie Turner:

- born April 1, 1896 in Caspar, California and died October 11, 1988
- teacher
- considered the first female mail carrier in the West, (Willits), 1918-1919
- created controversy due to her being the first woman allowed into saloons, since she had to deliver their mail, as well as being one of the first women to begin to wear pants (she didn't like all of the dust that her dress would kick up, so she hand-sewn her own uniform, which included pants)
- graduated from Humboldt State Teachers College in 1917
- created the alumni assoc. at Hum. State

Woods, Wendy R.:

- born in Eureka on September 30, 1942
- first female Correctional Officer at San Quentin, 1973
- wrote the book, *Flowers and Guns*, on her experiences at San Quentin (published in 2014)
- before working at San Quentin, Woods — then known as Wilma Schneider — worked at the California Youth Authority, which was being shut down by the State of California, when she was transferred to the Visitor Center of San Quentin
- thinking she was just going to work in visiting, Woods was soon told by the captain that California had come out with equal opportunity rights, saying that the girls were to work the same positions as the male guards
- the other officers were against Woods, as were the inmates at first
- once the inmates saw how Woods was being treated by the male guards, they became supportive and began protecting Woods
- while some critics thought Woods got the job as a stunt for the women's rights movement, others were concerned that women would make the job market too competitive
- life at San Quintin became easier for Woods once she befriended Sgt. Bud Jordan, whom her book is dedicated to
- Jordan worked with the lieutenant who was in charge of the Visitor Center to get Woods in the position she was originally slated for
- Woods even gained national attention and appeared on the TV shows "To Tell the Truth" on April 4, 1973, and "What's My Line" on June 14 of the same year
- knowing that she was a creative person, Woods chose to leave San Quintin, not wanting to harden like the inmates or other guards
- Woods worked as a Mental Health Specialist until retirement

Wright, Cora Bernice:

- born December 18, 1868 in Martinez, California and died January 24, 1948 in Humboldt County
- moved to Eureka in 1888 after marrying Charles Wright, a jeweler
- artist (painter)

- ran a painting studio out of her house
- taught classes in easel and ceramic painting
- she was a popular artist in Humboldt County, having her works collected by the likes of Cecile Clarke
- her work was even exhibited at the Panama Pacific International Exhibition of 1915 as well as the Golden Gate International Exposition of 1939

Young, Dorothy King:

- born January 25, 1904 in Corvallis, Oregon and died October 11, 1999 in Eureka
- graduated from Humboldt State (then called Arcata Normal School) in 1923
- was a teacher in the Eureka school system for many years
- wildflowers was lifelong hobby
- author of *Redwood Empire Wildflowers*
- founding member and supporter of Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation
- founded fellow of the California Native Plant Society

Zane, Catherine:

- born September 21, 1872 in Mateo, California and died April 28, 1966 in Eureka at age 93
- in 1937 she was awarded the first Honorary Degree ever bestowed by Humboldt State College, that of Bachelor of Education
- had been a teacher in rural schools, a vice-principal and an administrator
- last principal at old Winship HS, first at Eureka Junior High
- Zane middle school named after her