HERITAGE HERALD

Annual Report of the Eureka Heritage Society, Est. 1973 - Eureka, CA

Winter 2024

Year in review

N HONOR OF THE EUREKA Heritage Society's 50-year celebration, the Eureka Heritage Society hosted events almost every month during 2023.

In **January**, the Society conducted its annual meeting. Held at the Morris Graves Museum of Art, the event was an in-person meeting for the first time since 2020. Mary Ann McCulloch presented a brief history of the Heritage Society from its inception up to the present day.

Put to the membership, and counting proxy votes submitted by members, five new or re-elected board members were confirmed. When the official duties were completed, light refreshments including cake iced with "50 Years" were shared by all. Then a quorum of the new and continuing the Eureka Heritage Society Board of Directors elected board officers for the year.

February saw a "Meet and Greet" gathering at Ron Kuhnel's historical home on G Street. The goal was to bring together representatives from several local nonprofits interested in preservation. The Eureka Heritage Society President Chuck Petty presented a slide show about lost buildings of Eureka. Josh Buck shared information about the Clarke Historical Museum.

In consideration of the Eureka Heritage Society's mission, **March** was a month of educational presentations at the Annie B. Ryan house.

First, Bob Libershal, an Eureka Heritage Society archivist, shared his knowledge about researching histories of buildings using locally available print resources.

Then Carly Marino, the Special Collections Librarian and Archivist at Cal Poly Humboldt, followed with a demonstration showing how to navigate various online resources to research historical homes in Eureka and Humboldt County.

Finally, Jill Macdonald, a local Realtor, presented a slide show of historical architectural styles in Eureka. Using photos of Eureka buildings, Macdonald shared some of the indications marking distinctive styles of buildings readily found in our city.

In **April**, to partially address the ongoing need for funds, the Society held an online auction. Once again the Eureka Heritage Society

membership and friends provided auction items and bid on auction lots. The auction brought in about \$3,500, for which the Society is grateful.

At the end of **April**, the Heritage Society sponsored a float in the annual

Rhododendron Parade. Chuck DeWitt drove his classic automobile decorated with rhododendrons. The Society was honored to have City of Eureka Mayor Kim Bergel ride in the car, while Doris Timm, Tom Schrader and Bob Libershal led the way with the Eureka Heritage Society banners.

A major effort by the Society each year is identifying and honoring preservation efforts to encourage building owners in their maintenance of Eureka's stock of historical structures. Five Preservation Awards were handed out at the Eureka Woman's Club on May 7. Four of the five were to individuals, and one was to an institution. Recipients were given awards for





All photos Eureka Heritage Society

their efforts. Eric Hollenbeck was named Preservationist of the Year. The event was a celebration of successes despite the many challenges that maintaining an aging structure presents.

A major fundraiser for the Society has always been the annual Home Tour. Made untenable by Covid, 2022 saw the reintroduction of a garden tour. For 2023, the Eureka Heritage Society held the garden tour on **June 25**, but added a few house tours to the mix.

Seven gardens were open to the public by owners (Elizabeth Norton, Jenna Catsos and Tom Wheeler, Janet Warren, Ron Kuhnel, Renée



Eureka Heritage Society Board of Directors

President: Chuck Petty

Vice President: Mary Ann McCulloch

Treasurer: Doris Timm Secretary: James Cech

Kathy Dillon
Katherine Eagan
Mary Glavich
Ron Kuhnel
Bob Libershal
Lonni Magellan-Hodge
Elizabeth Norton
Bill Peer
Tom Schrader
Ray Swedenburg
Janet Warren

The board meets on the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Annie B. Ryan House, 1000 F. St. Eureka, CA (and via Zoom)

Committees and Chairs

Annie B. Ryan: Bill Peer Events: Mary Glavich Fundraising: Ron Kuhnel

Historian and Archivist: Bob Libershal

Education: Chuck Petty

Membership: Mary Ann McCulloch Heritage Herald: James Cech

Our Mission

The Eureka Heritage Society will provide leadership, education and advocacy that preserves and enhances Eureka's irreplaceable historical structures and neighborhoods so as to ensure a legacy for future generations.

Suggestions or comments may be sent to:

- · (707) 445-8775
- www.eurekaheritage.com
- eurekaheritagesociety@gmail.com The Heritage Herald is published quarterly by the Eureka Heritage Society, P.O. Box 1354, Eureka, CA

95502-1354

2023 annual report

For the calendar year ending December 31, 2023:

Assets, Liabilities & Equity

Assets

TOTAL ASSETS.....\$295,329.00

Liabilities & Equity

TOTAL LIABILITIES &

EQUITY.....\$295,329.00

Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue

| Fundraising and Events | 35,997.00 |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Contributions | 6,842.00 |
| Community donations | |
| Membership Dues | 4,320.00 |
| Green Book and Brick Sale | s 1,720.00 |
| Investment Income | 1,817.00 |

TOTAL REVENUE...... 50,696.00

Expenditures

 Fundraising and Event
 12,081.00

 Expense
 12,081.00

 Utilities, Telephone & Maint
 6,770.00

 Insurance
 3,546.00

 Interest Expense
 921.00

 -2% interest on mortage

 Newsletter Expense
 1,715.00

 Operating Expense
 2,861.00

 Covent Enforcement
 350.00

 Miscellaneous
 776.00

 Library Grant Expense
 2,137.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES.......... 31,157.00

NET REVENUE.....\$19,539.00

Notes

HE EUREKA HERITAGE
Society has \$22,484 in Coast
Central Credit Union. This
includes funds awarded in settlement of a lawsuit where Cal Trans
covenants were violated The balance
of the funds is \$3,172. Coast Central
requires a small savings account be
maintained at a minimum of \$50.

One of the mortage holders on the Annie B. Ryan house forgave the balance of his share of the mortage in prior years. This reduces the monthly payment on the property to \$342.74. An additional \$125 has been added to the payment so the mortage will be liquidated in 10 years when the note becomes due.

The Home Tour was not held in FY19/20, 20/21 or 2022 due to Covid. The Home Tour usually raised an average of \$12,000.00 each year. This past year the Home & Garden Tour was very successful raising \$15,846.

A pest inspection report shows damage under the house that must be repaired and recommends a moisture vapor barrier to cover approximately 80% of the subarea soil. Additional vents are also recommended. The total cost is still unknown at this time.

The Eureka Heritage Society is working toward having the retaining wall on the E Street side rebuilt due to structural damage. The forms are in place, ready for the concrete pour when the weather clears. The fence has been sandblasted and painted and was delivered to the Annie B. house at the end of December.

We have survived the past four years, and last year the Eureka Heritage Society had some very successful fundraisers. I would like to thank all of you for your generous support and hard work. If it were not for the generosity of our members and the community, the Eureka Heritage Society would be facing major financial problems. Your gifts are an affirmation of the kindness and humanity that exists in this community.

—Doris Timm

EHS Board Treasurer

The Eureka Heritage Society year in

review continued from page 1

Bouey Chapelle, Ruth and Jim Hargus, the Eureka Heritage Society), while five houses were opened up for visits (the Annie B. Ryan house, Janet Warren, Ron Kuhnel, David Mulhern, Renée Bouey Chappelle). Without the extreme generosity of these property owners, it would not have been a success.

Once again, musicians performed in gardens, artists captured images of houses and gardens, food and drink were offered under the big tent at the Annie B., and a silent auction was held inside the parlor and dining room of the Annie B. We are grateful that sponsors, donors, bidders, and tourgoers contributed more than \$17,600 in support of the Society's efforts.

Speaking of tours, Mary Ann McCulloch gave a historical architecture tour of the city in **June** to members of Coastwalk California. This was the second year in a row the group visited Eureka.

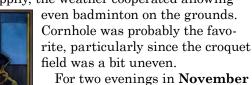
The Society continues to take advantage of the Annie B. Ryan Home and Gardens to offer a setting for meetings. In **August**, it hosted a meeting of the North Coast Museum Alliance. Later that month, the Society hosted

a meeting of the Humboldt County Department of Environmental Health.

A Heritage Society member event took place in **September**. Board members hosted Eureka Heritage Society members and

VALLEY OF THE GIANTS

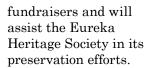
their guests with a barbeque luncheon, drinks, and lawn games. Happily, the weather cooperated allowing



For two evenings in **November** the Eureka Heritage Society hosted the 1919 version of "Valley of the Giants" at the Eureka Theater. More than 400 tickets were sold to guests who saw the restored film—long thought lost—replete with images of Eureka and Humboldt County. Adding to the magic of the evening were live

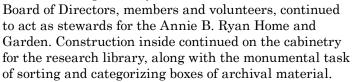
sound effects provided by local musicians, "SqueezeBug."

Later in **November**, the Society, in conjunction with North Coast Repertory Theatre, hosted "It's a Wonderful Life: A Radio Play" at NCRT's theater space on Fifth Street. Both November events were successful



To wrap up this golden anniversary year, **December** saw the Holiday Gala, held at the Eureka Woman's Club. A buffet dinner, festive music performed by Bob Eberstein, and dance music provided by SoHum Girls concluded 2023's roster of events.

In addition, the Eureka Heritage Society



The massive Monterey Cypress trees were addressed more than once in 2023. The snow brought down one

large limb, and later, wind brought down more. The south side hedge has been removed to allow for an improved fence. Security cameras have been installed to better protect the property. Volunteers maintain the gardens and regularly provide produce from them to the Jefferson Community Center.

As a major element of the Eureka Heritage Society mission, the Society regularly monitors building modifications around Eureka, reminding the city, planners and council, of preserva-

tion requirements.

As the financial statement included in this issue shows, despite challenges, the Eureka Heritage Society remained fiscally solvent. Donations, memberships and successful fundraisers keep the Eureka Heritage Society moving on. Thanks to a generous donation by Ron Kuhnel, who excused the remaining balance on his share of the house mortgage, the Society has embarked on a plan to pay off the remaining mortgage within 10 years. In addition, the board has sought better and less expensive insurance and moved funds into higher interest-bearing accounts.

Recognizing the importance of a Web presence, the Eureka Heritage Society has been updating its Web page, www.eurekaheritage.com and will continue doing so.

Many other projects are either in progress, or planned, as the Eureka Heritage Society aims to refocus on its central mission—historical preservation education.

—James Cech EHS Board Secretary





What's in store for 2024?

HE YEAR 2023 WAS A BUSY ONE FOR THE Eureka Heritage Society. The board hopes that you were able to attend at least one of the events. So, what's on the Society's calendar for 2024?

The currently scheduled events are: the annual meeting to be held at the Clarke Historical Museum, on Saturday, Jan. 27, from 1 to 3 p.m.; the Preservation Awards to be held in May (watch for details), and the Home & Garden Tour to be held Sunday, June 23, from noon to 5 p.m. There will also be a play fundraiser in November at the Fifth & D Street Theater, home of the North Coast Repertory and Redwood Curtain Theater companies.

In addition, the Buhne Fence project is moving along nicely. The fence work has recently been completed, and the E Street retaining wall restoration has begun. If you haven't been by the E Street side of the property lately, please check out the progress — when the rains allow.

Pest eradication and remediation at the Annie B.

house is needed, and plans are underway to get that work done (mostly under the house) so regular pest control can be scheduled. It's a dirty job, but it must be done.

The Muriel Dinsmore Library is coming along, albeit not as quickly as hoped. Work continues on sorting and filing, then cataloging will begin. Some shelving and file drawers have been constructed and more are needed.

"Eureka: An Architectural Review, the Second Edition" (the Green Book) is no longer in print and very few books remain for sale. The board has been discussing what to do next. There are several options to consider, including an addendum stating what has changed since the last printing.

A wood window repair workshop is in the discussion phase and may be held in partnership with another nonprofit. This is something the Society board has been pursuing for a while, and we are looking forward to

> providing this workshop so irreplaceable wooden windows may be repaired instead of removed.

The Northern California Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians is coming to Eureka in June, and the Heritage Society board will host a portion of their visit. The goal is for the participants to tour a historic home or two during their visit, along with attending the Home & Garden tour.

Speaking of tours, the board has been interested in developing selfguided historical architectural tours of Eureka for several years, but there is only so much time and energy. If this is something that you're interested in pursuing with the Society board, please contact us.

Of course, the usual duties of maintenance on the house and garden, as

well as providing information and support to historical homeowners and the community, will continue, along with myriad other items that will certainly surface during the year. Stay tuned.

> —Mary Ann McCulloch EHS Board Vice President

Eureka Heritage Society new & renewal memberships



Janet Anderson JoAnn Bauer Macie & Gary Boughton Penelope Chastain Jeanne Sapunor & Ralph Davis Susan Doniger Carole Farlan

Mark Goldhawk Carol Green Jeff & Sharon Lamoree Ted Loring, Jr. Jill Nichols Stanton & Anita Reynolds Doris Timm Steve & Saundra Werner



Winterize your home



Photo created with Adobe Firefly

INTER IN EUREKA offers special challenges to homeowners. The air, as always, is damp. The rains come. And periodically there is a hard freeze. To help keep the inside comfortable, and protect major components in good condition, some "winterizing" is a good preventative practice.

Beginning outside, if it hasn't already been done, gutters need to be cleaned. Look at house eaves on a drive almost anywhere in Eureka, and one can see plant life growing in gutters. The obvious inference is that enough decayed plant life and dirt has accumulated to support plant growth. And that means water probably can't run in the gutter and into downspouts. The result in heavy rain will be water rushing over the gutter sides and down the walls. It also puts significant weight onto the gutter mounting system and can cause damage to both gutter and

rafter ends. This is also a good time to check for clear drainage from the bottom of the downspouts.

For comfort and insulation purposes, double-paned windows are

popular, but not compatible with much of the housing stock in Eureka. The Heritage Society encourages maintaining original wooden sashes. A good solution is to install storm windows. A good storm window creates the same effect as a double-paned window, but will allow the original wooden windows to remain, keeping the historical appearance of Eureka's unique old housing stock.

Depending on how your house is connected to the water mains, you may have exposed pipe above ground and outside your housing perimeter. Though nowhere as serious a problem as one finds in colder areas, exposed pipes can get cold enough for water to freeze causing

pipes to burst.

A simple remedy is to insulate the pipes from the ground to the building. A more ambitious job might include insulating pipes under the home. Aside from protecting against burst pipes, insulating hot water lines reduces cooling as heated water flows from the heater to sinks and showers.

While thinking about hot water, this might be a good time to look at the heater. Are the pipes insulated? Is there any sign of seepage? If it is gas, are there any combustible materials nearby?

In an earthquake-prone area, it is also important to ensure that water heaters are properly secured, and that the metal straps have not rusted through. And while winter might not be the preferred time, since one is looking at the heater, this might be a good moment to drain the tank to remove accumulated mineral deposits.

There aren't too many things the average homeowner can do maintenance-wise to the furnace system, but filters should be checked and replaced as needed. Also, like the water heater, one should check to ensure that there are no combustible materials close to the furnace. If it hasn't been checked for some time, a qualified inspection is a good idea, but visuals checks are worth a moment or two.

Venting is also critical. Take a moment to look for tight connections and that metal vent pipes haven't corroded. Floor furnaces are susceptible to condensation that rusts venting allowing combustion gasses to accumulate under the house.

Drafts definitely take away from interior comfort, so it is a good idea to check door weather stripping. Thresholds usually have some form of compressible contact point with the bottom of the door. Over time constant friction on opening and closing causes wear leading to a gap. A replacement might be in order. Weather stripping on door sides can become compressed and hard. If it no longer flexes to ensure a nice seal it might be time to replace it.

Inspect windows. They, too, have various weather-stripping systems and should close tightly to eliminate air leaks.

Periodically, homes with fireplaces should be inspected. Creosote build-up in chimneys can cause chimney fires. Cracking mortar, loose bricks, chimneys separating from exterior walls, cracking chimney crown and missing or damaged chimney caps should be repaired. Fire is an obvious potential problem when chimneys aren't maintained, but water intrusion into the walls of a home is also possible.

Keeping up on home maintenance can seem daunting, but a little time spent inspecting and making minor repairs will prevent major problems down the road.

 $-- {\it James Cech} \\ EHS \ Board \ Secretary$

Winterize your garden

INTER IS HERE. PUT your garden to bed for winter and prepare your garden for the dropping temperatures and wet season. Here are tips from the University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners.

General Tasks

Compost Turn compost and keep it as moist as a wrung-out sponge. Cover compost during the rainy weather to prevent it from becoming waterlogged.

Drainage Correct any problems in low or poorly drained areas in the landscape.

Frost Watch for frost warnings and protect sensitive plants. Light frost 32-29 F, medium frost 28-25 F, heavy frost 24 F and below for fourplus hours.

Irrigation Reduce irrigation or turn it off completely if rainfall is adequate.

Maintenance Inventory all sprays and pesticides; take outdated or unneeded chemicals to a hazardous waste center.

Mulch Add mulch to garden beds where bulbs are planted, and to areas where weeds have been removed.

Soil Prevent compaction and poor aeration of soil by avoiding working, walking on, or using heavy equipment on wet soil.

Tools Clean and sharpen dull blades, lubricate garden tools and repair damaged grips. Cleaning can be done with soapy water and a wire brush or steel wool; air dry and apply a light coat of oil to prevent corrosion. Tools with wood handles can be sanded and rubbed down with linseed oil. File cutting tools, including shovel blades, to sharpen. Store tools in a dry, covered area.

Have your lawn mower serviced to get a jump on spring tasks.

Weeds Inspect lawn and manage rainy season weeds before they flower, using nonchemical methods such as cultivation, hand weeding, or mowing; use toxic chemicals as a last resort. Destroy all roots and underground parts.

Edibles

Clean-up Control overwintering pests by removing fruit mummies and fallen leaves on the ground from fruit and nut trees, especially if codling moth has been a problem. Dispose in green recycle bin. Composting this material could reintroduce pests/pathogens to your garden.

Feed Plants Fertilize citrus trees in January/February just prior to bloom.

Plan Plan your summer garden and order seeds early.

Plant Bare root deciduous trees, shrubs and vines, for example cane berries, fruits and nuts, grapes, and perennial vegetables. For planting, care and maintenance tips see:

Berries and Vines (http://cagardenweb.ucanr.edu/Berries/)

Fruit Trees (http://homeorchard. ucdavis.edu/8048.pdf)

Propagate During the cool season, winter, and spring vegetables should be started indoors 6-8 weeks before planting out (in December and early January). Some can be direct sown. Warm season summer vegetables should be started indoors 8-10 weeks before setting out (late Jan-Feb). Optimum soil temperature for transplanting is 55-60°.

Protect Watch for frost warnings. If a frost is predicted, protect citrus, sub-tropical and tender plants. Pull the mulch away from trees and water well, keeping the root zone moist but not soggy. If not already done in November, cover trees sensitive to frost.

Prune If not done in November, prune deciduous fruit

and nut trees, such as apple, pear, and stone fruits. Prune grapes and cane berries now; it's too late once they have leafed out. Note: apricot and cherry trees are the exception; prune these in July and August only.

Landscape

Clean-up Do a general clean-up of the landscape on a dry day; avoid walking on wet soils.

Plan Select blooming azaleas, camellias and rhododendrons while you can see their color. Order summer blooming bulbs to plant out in early spring.

Plant Plant container ornamental trees, plants and shrubs except subtropical plants. These include frost tolerant perennials; hardy spring blooming annuals; summer blooming bulbs; bare root deciduous trees, shrubs and vines (like roses); seedlings of cedar, fir, pine and spruce. Scatter wildflower seed if this was not done in November. Plant azaleas, camellias and rhododendrons.

Propagate Start frost tender perennials and warm season annuals.

Protect If a frost is predicted, water your plants, keeping the root zone moist but not soggy. Cover frost-tender species as appropriate (bougainvillea, hibiscus and succulents).

Prune Prune winter flowering shrubs just after bloom; woody shrubs and evergreen trees; hardy deciduous trees; dormant shade trees; summer blooming vines; hydrangeas and summer-blooming perennials. Roses should be pruned by mid-February. Wait to prune spring flowering trees and shrubs until after they bloom.

Since 1980, the UC
Master Gardener
Program has
been extending
research-based
information about
home horticulture and pest management to the public.

Eureka Heritage Society invites you to attend the **2024 Annual Meeting**

January 27 • 1-3 p.m. Clarke Museum, 240 E St., Eureka

The Eureka Heritage Society, Inc. Proxy

Nominated Directors

(terms expire January 2027)

- James Cech
- Katherine Eagan
- Bob Felter
- Wendy Petty

If you cannot attend the annual meeting, please sign, detach, and return this proxy to P.O. Box 1354, Eureka, CA 95502 by **Wednesday**, **January 24**, **2024**.

I hereby appoint the Board of Directors of the Eureka Heritage Society, Inc. to vote my proxy in the election of new directors and such other matters as may come before the annual meeting scheduled on January 28, 2024, or at such subsequent adjourned meetings as may be called.

Signed _____

It's time to renew your membership

ANUARY 1 MARKED THE BEGINNING OF THE Eureka Heritage Society membership year that continues through December 31. So it's time to renew. Your membership dollars help the Society operate.

Although it is a 100 percent volunteer organization, it still has costs outside of those for the Annie B. Ryan House and Gardens that need to be covered, such as insurance, telephone, Internet, and events/meetings where there is no charge to attend.

The Society realizes, and accepts, that some members are on a different payment schedule during the year due to personal budget constraints. Should you receive membership reminders prior to your scheduled payment date, please accept those as only reminders.

For those members who joined the Heritage Society in the last quarter of the year, your membership covers the last three months of the year and the entire next year.

The Eureka Heritage Society truly appreciates all of its members and thanks you for your continued support of the organization as it enters its second 50 years.

—Mary Ann McCulloch EHS Board Vice President

2024 Eureka Heritage Society Membership Form

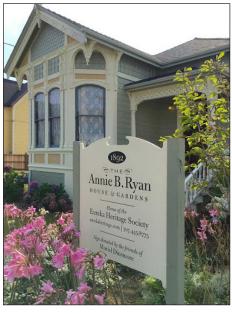
| □ New or □ Renewing Member | | nal Contribution(s) to eka Heritage Society | Interested in volunteering or further information? | |
|---|-----------------|---|--|--|
| (January 1 to December 31) | | Annie B. Ryan House & | Call (707) 445-8775, email: eurekaheritagesociety@gmail.com | |
| □\$25 Individual □\$35 Family □\$15 Student/Senior □\$25 Senior Family □\$50 Nonprofit Sponsor □\$75 Private Sponsor □\$75 Business Sponsor | \$\$ \$\$ | Garden Fund Buhne Fence Fund Carson Carriage Maintenance Fund Scholarship Fund General Contribution | □ Events, including Tour docents, host/hostess, serving refreshment □ Education □ Publications, including mailing and distribution □ Muriel Dinsmore Library Archiva and Research □ Serving on the Board | |
| □\$150 Patron □\$300 Benefactor □\$500 Life Member | the tota | l is my check in l amount of \$ ayable to the Eureka Society) | ☐ Additional commets/suggestions: | |
| Name | | | | |
| Address | | | | |
| Home Phone | _Cell | Email | | |

Send completed form to: Eureka Heritage Society, P.O. Box 1354, Eureka CA 95502-1354 or email to address above.



P.O. Box 1354 Eureka, CA 95502-1354 (707) 445-8775

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Our Home

Annie B. Ryan House & Gardens 1000 F St., Eureka, CA

Heritage Action Calendar

All of the following meetings take place at Eureka City Hall, 531 K St., 2nd floor, City Council Chambers. During the pandemic meetings are held via Zoom. Check online agendas for more details.

City Council

1st & 3rd Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Historic Preservation Commission

1st Wednesday, 4 p.m.

Design Review Committee

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 9 a.m.

Planning Commission

2nd Monday, 5:30 p.m.

It's your estate

AVE YOU CONsidered a planned gift in your estate plan or a charitable contribution from your Individual Retirement Account? Gifts can be accepted in all sizes and many different forms.

People age 70½ and older can make a qualified charitable contribution from their Individual Retirement Accounts tax free.

These gifts will count toward your Annual Required Minimum Distribution and are not subject to Federal or State of California income tax if the gift is made directly from your IRA account. It is as easy as filling out a form that your Plan Administrator

can provide.

Only donations to a 501c(3) public charity qualify. Eureka Heritage Society is a 501c(3) public charity. EHS's federal ID number is 23-7324106. Consult your tax professional and the custodian of your IRA to see if this is a good option for you to consider.

By doing this you are helping to ensure the historical homes and business structures in Eureka will be preserved for the next generation. They will only inherit what we choose to save.

We appreciate you thinking about supporting the Eureka Heritage Society in the long term with a planned gift or currently with a contribution from your IRA.

—Doris Timm EHS Board Treasurer