

Hi, Fred Nelson for Community Comment,

Electioneering is now in full swing. The position of District Attorney is open to new blood with the incumbent choosing not to run this time. Two of our County Supervisor positions are being vied for with both incumbents running for re-election. I think that the incumbents, Virginia Bass (District Four) and Ryan Sundberg (District Five), have shown Humboldt County voters their ability to do the job to which they were elected. I live in the Fourth District and have paid particular attention to the work of Virginia Bass over the years. That includes the time that she spent as a member of the Eureka City Council, her term as Mayor of the city of Eureka and her present term of County Supervisor. I have been impressed with Virginia's ability to communicate with people in general. She listens and is able to give straightforward answers, not the answers that some elected officials are prone to give such as telling a constituent what they want to hear or giving an answer to get someone off their back. If Virginia does not know the answer, she makes it a priority to follow up and find out. She does not take on the aura of the all-knowing all seeing politician. She is able to recognize a problem, identify it as such and admit that it is a problem, all common sense steps needed before looking for a solution. Bringing people from all walks of life together to work toward common goals is not an easy thing to do, especially in a county, such as Humboldt, that contains so much diversity. Virginia has been able to do this. Just look at her past record as an elected official and take the time to look over her present supporters for her re-election. The list of supporters is long and varied and is nonpartisan, as it should be. Accusations of Virginia being a candidate for the rich could not be any farther from the truth. I have not followed Ryan Sunberg's political endeavors to any extent so I will keep my comments limited. From my perspective, Ryan has represented his fellow Native Americans well without diminishing the rest of his constituents. He stated from the beginning that he wanted to "give back" to his county and I think that is exactly what he is doing as County Supervisor. He appears to be a good listener and I think that his decisions are sound. I know that each supervisor represents the population and not the land mass of his or her district but have you ever looked on a map to see just how much territory is included in Ryan Sunberg's District. It is large to say the least. I think that it is most necessary to retain a person of Ryan's caliber in the position of Fifth District Supervisor. I support Virginia Bass and Ryan Sundberg.

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