

Two Del Norte taxfighters honored by Taxpayers Association

October 4, 2023



Donna Westfall



Linda Sutter

The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association has announced two local Del Norters have been bestowed as joint winners of the 2022 Taxfighter of the year. HJTA president Jon Coupal delivered the announcement last week.

Donna Westfall, founder of the Crescent City-Del Norte Taxpayers Association and Taxpayer Association director and community watchdog Linda Sutter will split a \$1,000 award in Sacramento on October 26, where both will be recognized as taxfighters of the year 2022.

Donna and Linda have helped to qualify at least five citizen initiatives, giving taxpayers the ability to vote on local issues in Del Norte County and the City of Crescent City.

Shortly after moving to Crescent City 16 years ago, Westfall challenged the construction of the \$43 million wastewater treatment project, which effectively doubled city sewer rates. Westfall successfully ran for city

council in 2008 and later founded the local Crescent City Taxpayers Association and The Crescent City Times.

Sutter has and continues to battle wasteful government spending. Her latest achievement was the discovery of \$73,000 in unauthorized credit card use by the Crescent City Harbor Commission. The discovery information has been turned over to the state Attorney-General.

The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association is a 501c3 non-profit corporation.

45 years ago, the Jarvis group galvanized the public and passed Prop. 13, limiting property taxes to one percent of the purchase price and limiting increases to two percent, annually. Several attempts to eliminate Prop. 13 have been unsuccessful. The assembly is continuing its effort to revoke Prop. 13, with it currently on the legislative agenda.

Coupal stated, "We are very pleased to honor Linda and Donna for their outstanding efforts to hold government accountable and to protect taxpayers. Congratulations and many thanks to Donna and Linda, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association's 2022 Taxfighters of the Year."