100 Days Left!

August 2022 News

Dear NOW friends,
July 31 marks 100 days before our next Election Day on November 8, which will decide whether the Republicans gain the House and Senate, or whether the Democrats will prevail. One way or another, our democracy is at stake and the rights we have may be taken away if more extremists rise to power. It's important that we all work together to ensure a free and fair election, by voting in each election, and in helping our fellow citizens to register to vote; to understand the issues, and to stand with each other to protect our rights. If you haven't registered to vote, you can find booths at the weekly Wednesday Night Market in Santa Rosa, at the County Fair, and at the Sonoma County Registrar of Voters. All registrations must be completed fifteen (15) days prior to an election.

Sonoma County NOW is endorsing Brad Coscarelli as our next Superintendent of Schools. We believe he is the candidate most in line with our goals and he impressed us greatly when we invited the candidates to speak back in April. You can listen to the recording on our Youtube channel. Coscarelli had the most forward-thinking ideas for climate change education and for school employees and facilities improvements for climate and social change, such as changing diesel school buses from diesel to cleaner fuels, creating new curricula, and
adding internships.

Regarding gender issues and BIPOC issues, he has done exemplary pioneering work at Santa Rosa High as their principal. He also works to give employment advancement to the school workers, who are mostly BIPOC women.

Please give him your support in the November election.

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**Molly Murphy MacGregor** will speak at our next meeting (Monday, August 15th) about National Women's Equality Day and its impact on the residents of Sonoma County. Molly co-founded the National Women's History Alliance in 1980 and has a large presence in Sonoma County.

Please join us! Q&A and our Board meeting will follow her presentation.

In addition, Molly will be interviewed by Elaine Holtz on Monday, August 22nd, on Women's Spaces program (KBBF 89.1 FM) at 11:00 am, with a rebroadcast at 11:00 pm.

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On August 19th, there will be a dedication ceremony and a memorial plaque for Janssen's Hall, which is where two suffrage events took place
in 1896. Janssen's Hall was where the Odd Fellows building is now in Sebastopol. See the full details below.

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If you are not yet a NOW member or need to renew your membership, please join our growing organization! Our chapter's ID is CA0660 and you can select it when you sign up here.

Join us on Zoom, Monday, August 15, 2022

7:00-8:30 p.m.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82846374496?pwd=WlA0cE5CaFczUUtqa1Nkc2tYQXkydz09

Meeting ID: 828 4637 4496 Passcode: 035853

--Amy Nykamp, President
The Western Sonoma County Historical Society of Sebastopol in conjunction with
The William G. Pomeroy Foundation
&
The National Collaboration of Women’s Historic Sites
invite you to a
Dedication Ceremony
Honoring a recognized site where Suffrage events took place, known as
Janssen’s Hall in 1896

August 19, 2022
Reception 3:30 p.m.
Dedication 4:00 p.m.
The Western Sonoma County Historical Society will be dedicating a Historical Marker that was awarded us by the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The marker will be placed at the back N/E corner of the Odd Fellows Building at 195 No. Main Street and McKinley Street, Sebastopol at 4 p.m. August 19th. A reception will precede the dedication at 3:30 p.m.

Volunteers at the West County Museum discovered that this was a site where Suffrage activity took place in 1896. Two women spoke here in support of Women’s Suffrage on two different occasions: Elizabeth Upham Yates from Maine was traveling through Sebastopol
and engaged a large crowd at Janssen Hall and Mrs. Helen Hurlbut spoke here at the County Republican Convention.

Significant proof was required by the Foundation and was submitted in 2020 along with the application. The long-awaited letter of the award was received this spring.

We are on the National Votes for Women Trail Map! Nationwide, there are 2,370 Suffrage Trail markers, 104 are in California and currently the only Suffrage Trail site recognized by the Pomeroy Foundation in Sonoma County!

A prominent marker for a significant event.

Please join us for this momentous celebration.

P.S. Please email Mary Dodgion (madbmwr@hotmail.com) if you will be attending so that you may be acknowledged.
Join with us nationwide to celebrate women's right to vote and get the word out for voting in this year's election! We must elect those who will help us keep our rights and win back those we have lost. People and planet are at stake.

Stand with us from 12–1 p.m. at the corners of Hwy. 12 and 116 (Main Street), Sebastopol, or wherever is convenient, visible, and practical. Bring your own sign. Make it BIG AND BOLD for passing cars to easily read. If you can, wear purple, white, and/or gold. You can dress your house or office with purple, white, and gold lights too! Celebrate our hard-won suffrage, and make sure the kids hear about it too.
August dates to celebrate

- **August 3** – *Maggie Kuhn* (1905–1995), founder, Gray Panthers
- **August 6** – *Inez Milholland Boissevain* (1886–1916), suffrage leader
- **August 6, 1965** – Voting Rights Act passed
- **August 13** – *Lucy Stone* (1818–1893), abolitionist, suffrage leader
• **August 19** – **Mary Ellen Pleasant** (1814–1904), abolitionist, Bay Area and Sonoma County rights leader

• **August 22** – **Dorothy Parker** (1893–1967, shown above, photo from Creative Commons), writer, poet, humorist, civil rights activist

• **August 23** – **Lillie Hitchcock Coit** (1843–1929), San Francisco philanthropist

• **August 24** – **Tye Leung Schulze** (1887–1972), San Francisco civil rights leader, suffragist

• **August 26** – **WOMEN’S EQUALITY DAY! 19th Amendment ratification date**—wear **PURPLE, GOLD, and WHITE!**

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Visit our Sonoma County NOW site for news, links, and information:

http://www.nowsonoma.org/

(707) 545-5036

P.O. Box 6223
About NOW

As the grassroots arm of the women’s movement, the National Organization for Women is dedicated to its multi-issue and multi-strategy approach to women’s rights, and is the largest organization of feminist grassroots activists in the United States. NOW has hundreds of chapters and hundreds of thousands of members and activists in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Since our founding in 1966, NOW’s purpose is to take action through intersectional grassroots activism to promote feminist ideals, lead societal change, eliminate discrimination, and achieve and protect the equal rights of all women and girls in all aspects of social, political, and economic life.

Core Issues

NOW is a multi-issue, multi-strategy organization that takes a holistic approach to women’s rights. Our priorities are winning economic equality and securing it with an amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
that will guarantee equal rights for women; championing abortion rights, reproductive freedom and other women’s health issues; opposing racism; fighting bigotry against the LGBTQIA community; and ending violence against women.

**Reproductive Rights and Justice**

NOW fully supports safe and legal abortion, affordable and effective birth control and other contraception, and reproductive health education for all.

**Economic Justice**

NOW advocates for a wide range of economic justice issues, women’s freedom and success and intertwined with racial justice, reproductive freedom, and other systems of oppression.

**Ending Violence Against Women**

NOW recognizes violence against women as the broad and interconnected issue that it is, addressing oppressive structures and attitudes in our nation.

**Racial Justice**

A leader in civil rights since 1966, NOW continues to fight for equal opportunities for women of color in all areas including employment, education, and health care.
**LGBTQIA+ Rights**

NOW is committed to fighting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in all areas.

**Constitutional Equality**

NOW is a proud supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment and prioritizes giving women explicit protections in the United States Constitution.

For additional information go to:  [https://now.org/about/](https://now.org/about/)
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