December is upon us and it’s going to be a busy month. The 19th Amendment Centennial 2020 Woman Suffrage Calendar featuring national and local California heroes is a great success. A special shout out to Vesta Copestakes for funding the first 200 calendars. I am excited to announce that we did a second printing and they are a great gift for that special woman friend during the holidays.

**Calendars will be available at:** The Sonoma County Women’s Suffrage Centennial Kick-off on December 8 at the Saturday Afternoon Club. They will also be available at the Santa Rosa Democratic Club’s holiday gathering and Open MIC on December 11 at the Santa Rosa Vets Building. NOW will have tables at both events and are looking forward to seeing everyone.

Speaking of Calendars, please note there was an error. **The Apple Blossom Parade will be happening on April 18** in lieu of April 11 as indicated on calendar.

Mark your calendars for January 18, 2020, the Women’s March happening in Old Court House Square in downtown Santa Rosa. The goal of the annual marches is “To advocate legislation and policies regarding human rights and other issues, including women’s rights, immigration reform, healthcare reform, reproductive rights, the environment, LGBTQ rights, racial equality, and freedom of religion, workers’ rights and tolerance.”

I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a joyous holiday season, one filled with peace of mind, good health and loving relations. Thank you for allowing me to be your president; it is both a rewarding and challenging experience. A lot will be happening this year celebrating the hundredth anniversary since the signing the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States giving women the right to vote. As we celebrate this anniversary a reminder, our history is our strength and we are standing on the shoulders of many strong women who set an example for us demonstrating that we must fearlessly stand up for what we believe and not be afraid to speak out.

**Please note:** There will be no December meeting of NOW at the Round Table Pizza on Guerneville Road.

Sonoma County National Organization for Women,  
P O Box 6223  
Santa Rosa, CA 95406 ,  
www.nowsonoma.org, info@nowsonoma.org  
707 545 5036

**Something to think about:** The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. Wishing you happiness. Helen Adams Keller was an American author, political activist, and lecturer. She was the first deaf-blind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.
NOW Sonoma County Minutes of November 16th, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM

Introductions were made

Minutes were accepted as submitted (MSC)

Announcements: There had been a meeting regarding the Joe Rodota Trail and there might be a possible sweep of the area.

Agenda was approved with additions (MSC)

Financial Report - Donations for the 2020 celebration calendars have been deposited with a portion being put into the savings account; MSC We will order a second printing for 100 more calendars.

Website is doing well and Elaine will be interviewing the CA NOW president; it is agreed that our website is a good model for other chapters.

Susan Lamont gave a report on the IOLERO (Independent Office of Law Enforcement Review and Outreach) history and updates; MSC was made to support the Evelyn Cheatham IOLERO ordinance which replaces and repeals article XXVII. Details to be in the NOW newsletter.

Planning for 2020 - Berniece Espinoza, Suffragist, information will be at the January meeting.

January meeting 2020, planning will be scheduled for the entire year.

New Business
Email from Shirlee Zane was shared with the members which thanked us for the "wonderful calendars" that were given to the Board of Supervisors.
The distribution of the calendars has been very successful so that another 100 will be ordered.
Julie Combs, City Council member, has resigned. We will send her a letter thanking her and wishing her luck; letter will also be sent to the other Council members expressing our thanks for Julie’s service.

The “kick-off” for the 2020 year of celebrations will be held on December 8th at the Saturday Afternoon Club. Sonoma County NOW will have a table. This event is guaranteed to be a “full house.” See Page 1 for reservation information.

Sonoma County NOW Business cards will be ordered.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM
December Highlights in US Women’s History

December 1, 1955 – Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus to a white person; her arrest sparks the modern civil rights movement in the US

December 5, 1935 – Mary McLeod Bethune creates the National Council of Negro Women

December 7, 1941 – Capt. Annie Fox receives the first Purple Heart awarded to a woman for her service while under attack at Pearl Harbor

December 9, 2002 – Award-winning ABC News journalist, Michele Norris, becomes the first African American female regular co-host of National Public Radio’s news magazine, All Things Considered, she stepped down in 2012

December 10, 1869 – Wyoming is the first territory to give women the right to vote

December 10, 1938 – Pearl S. Buck receives the Nobel Prize for Literature for The Good Earth

December 13, 1993 – Susan A. Maxman becomes first woman president of the American Institute of Architects in its 135 year history

December 14, 1961 – President’s Commission on the Status of Women is established to examine discrimination against women and ways to eliminate it

December 14, 1985 – Wilma Mankiller is sworn in as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma – the first woman in modern history to lead a major Native American tribe

December 17, 1993 – Judith Rodin is named president of Univ. of Pennsylvania, the first woman to head an Ivy League institution

December 28, 1967 – Muriel Siebert becomes the first woman to own a seat on the N.Y. Stock Exchange

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Death rates from suicide, drug overdoses, liver disease and dozens of other causes have been rising over the past decade for young and middle-aged adults, driving down overall life expectancy in the United States for three consecutive years. *Washington Post*

Every year, thousands of Americans are evicted from nursing homes or discharged against their wishes. *NBC*

ICE set up a fake university to trick immigrant students into applying, only to face deportation. *Mic*

A bill to ban abortion introduced in the Ohio state legislature requires doctors to “reimplant an ectopic pregnancy” into a woman’s uterus – a procedure that does not exist in medical science. *The Guardian*

A woman ignored a man’s catcalls – so he chased her down and killed her. *Washington Post*

It is #NotNormal…

…for the President of the United States to tweet a photo of his face superimposed over Rocky Balboa’s body.

GOOD NEWS, VICTORIES & HEROES

A federal judge issued a preliminary injunction ordering the Department of Defense and the White House Office of Management and Budget to comply with a Freedom of Information Act request for records relating to the trump administration’s freeze on security aid to Ukraine. *Axios*

Pro-democracy candidates buoyed by months of street protests in Hong Kong won a stunning victory in local elections on Sunday. *New York Times*

Following a recount, Hester Jackson-McCray officially flipped Mississippi’s HD-40, defeating the Republican incumbent by just 14 votes. *DLCC*

Hundreds of students and alumni from Yale and Harvard stormed the field during the Yale Bowl on Saturday to demand that both universities divest from fossil fuels. *Yale News*

The Minneapolis City Council voted unanimously to ban conversion therapy. *Out*

A New York judge has denied Harvey Weinstein’s request to dismiss two predatory sexual assault charges against him. *The Guardian*

Health officials say the number of people newly diagnosed with HIV in New York City has fallen below 2,000 for the first time since the city started keeping records in 2001. *CBS News*

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has been discharged from the hospital. *ABC News*

Former President Jimmy Carter was released from the hospital following a successful surgery. *HuffPost*

The Baltimore Museum of Art has unveiled plans that it will only buy art by women next year. *CNN*

Taking a moment to practice gratitude is good for your mental and physical health. *Vox*

Even during times of strife, Americans can give thanks. *The Hill*
Ohio bill orders doctors to ‘reimplant ectopic pregnancy’ or face ‘abortion murder’ charges

Ohio introduces one of the most extreme bills to date for a procedure that does not exist in medical science.

Fri 29 Nov 2019 03.54 EST

Ohio abortion law: the Ohio governor, Mike DeWine, signs the ‘heartbeat bill’, one of the nation’s toughest abortion bans, on 11 April 2019.

Ohio abortion law: the Ohio governor, Mike DeWine, signs the ‘heartbeat bill’, one of the nation’s toughest abortion bans, on 11 April 2019. Photograph: Fred Squillante/AP

A bill to ban abortion introduced in the Ohio state legislature requires doctors to “reimplant an ectopic pregnancy” into a woman’s uterus – a procedure that does not exist in medical science – or face charges of “abortion murder”.

This is the second time practicing obstetricians and gynecologists have tried to tell the Ohio legislators that the idea is currently medically impossible.

The move comes amid a wave of increasingly severe anti-abortion bills introduced across much of the country as conservative Republican politicians seek to ban abortion and force a legal showdown on abortion with the supreme court.

Ohio’s move on ectopic pregnancies – where an embryo implants on the mother’s fallopian tube rather than her uterus rendering the pregnancy unviable – is one of the most extreme bills to date.

“I don’t believe I’m typing this again but, that’s impossible,” wrote Ohio obstetrician and gynecologist Dr David Hackney on Twitter. “We’ll all be going to jail,” he said.

The problem abortion poses for Republicans is that the longer they talk about it, the more likely they’ll blurt out what they really think of women (ie, “legitimate rape” or “aspirin between the knees”). The more it fires up the fundagelicals, the more it drives women away. It’s easy for them as long as they only talk about the fetus, but the moment they start talking about women, they inevitably say something stupid like wanting to put women in jail for seeking an abortion. Or Rush will start yelling the word “slut” again.

For a party that’s already bleeding women, they can’t afford to focus on abortion for too long.

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EXTRAORDINARY LOCAL WOMEN EXHIBIT

December 5th, 2019 - March 15th, 2020

GRAND OPENING Saturday December 7, 2019 1:00 PM

West County Museum
261 S. Main Street
Sebastopol, CA

wschs.historycorner@gmail.com
707 829 6711

Come and learn about the first woman doctor in Sebastopol, first Apple Blossom Queen to win Miss Apple Queen USA, the first woman mayor, city planner and Sebastopol Times editor. The first woman to vote in Sonoma County, the first Sonoma County council woman. Local historians, business woman and women in the political and the military.

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Madhubani/Mithila Painting is practiced in the Mithila region of India and Nepal. Painting is done with fingers, twigs, brushes, nib-pens, and matchsticks, using natural dyes and pigments, and is characterised by eye-catching geometrical patterns.
Both men and women turned out at record rates in the 2018 midterm election – mirroring historic turnout increases among other segments of the eligible voting population. Compared with 2014, voter turnout increased by double digits among both men (11 percentage points) and women (12 points).

As in past midterms, women turned out at slightly higher rates than men. As has been the case in the last five midterm elections dating back to 1998, women turned out to vote at slightly higher rates than men. Over half of women (55%) who were eligible to vote cast ballots in the 2018 midterms in November, as did 51.8% of men, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of newly released data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

The 3.2 percentage point gender gap in turnout is similar to the gap in the 2014 (2.2 points), and slightly bigger than the gap in 2010 (less than 1 point). In 2018, women made up about the same share of the electorate as they did in the previous five midterms; 53% of voters were women and 47% were men. Voter turnout was higher among adults of all ages in 2018 relative to 2014 – but increased the most among younger voters. Between 2014 and 2018, turnout among adults under 25 nearly doubled – from 17.1% to 32.4%. Turnout among adults ages 25 to 34 rose by more than 14 percentage points (27.6% to 42.1%) and more than 13 points among those 35 to 44 (37.8% to 51%).

Voter turnout was higher in 2018 among adults of all ages – especially younger adults. The increases in turnout among older adults were more modest. About two-thirds (66.1%) of eligible adults 65 and older cast a ballot in the 2018 midterm – up from 59.4% in the 2014 midterm election. Those ages 55 to 64 increased their turnout rate by 7.8 percentage points. Older age groups continued to be much more likely than younger groups to vote in the midterms.

In year of record midterm turnout, women continued to vote at higher rates than men

May 3, 2019
By Hannah Hartig

In 2018, women made up about the same share of the electorate as they did in the previous five midterms; 53% of voters were women and 47% were men. Voter turnout was higher among adults of all ages in 2018 relative to 2014 – but increased the most among younger voters. Between 2014 and 2018, turnout among adults under 25 nearly doubled – from 17.1% to 32.4%. Turnout among adults ages 25 to 34 rose by more than 14 percentage points (27.6% to 42.1%) and more than 13 points among those 35 to 44 (37.8% to 51%).

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Over and over, we are told that women are not allowed to be angry. It makes us unattractive to powerful men who want us to be quiet.
And it's not just women. When we speak up against Wall Street and Big Tech—when we make our voices heard against injustice and greed—we are told that everyone who has less power should be quiet.
Because, this fight isn’t really about anger or emotion, or civility. It’s about power—those who have it, and those who don’t plan to let go of it.
Well, I am angry and I own it. I’m angry on behalf of everyone who is hurt by Trump’s government, our rigged economy, and business as usual.-- Elizabeth Warren

“To learn who rules over you, simply find out who you are not allowed to criticize.”
- Voltaire

RENEWAL AND MEMBERSHIP FORM
Regular Membership $40/year. $75/two years. $115/3 years.
Reduced dues $15. - $30.

MAIL TO:
N.O.W. Sonoma County National Organization for Women
P O Box 6223 Santa Rosa, CA 95406
707 -545-5036

N.A.ME
ADDRESS
PHONE #
EMAIL

NAME ________________________________________________
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PHONE # ____________________________________________
EMAIL _____________________________________________

12/19

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