



Sonoma County NOW July 2019

President's Message

I just got back from a six-day vacation at Yosemite National Park. It was a delightful experience being with family and seeing how much my nine-month-old great-granddaughter Satori has developed, and to watch all those wondrous exercises she's doing getting ready to walk. Every once in a while I would think of those poor children being taken from their families at the borders. In being with her I recognized how quickly we forget the challenges of raising a child, and their need to develop into a healthy human being—which motivated me when I returned to participate in a "Close The Camps" protest.

On July 2, one day after I returned, I attended the rally at Courthouse Square in Santa Rosa, with approximately 250 people in attendance. This was in solidarity with over 180 cities across the country. According to an article in Fortune, children are described as crowded, underfed, unwashed, and alone in reports of detention facilities across the U.S. According to the article, organizers have three demands: "close the camps," "not one dollar for family detention and deportation," and "bear witness and reunite families." <https://fortune.com/2019/07/02/closethecamps-protests-tuesday/> Advocacy groups Move On, United We Dream, Families Belong Together, and the American Friends Service Committee believe that even with the \$4.6 billion bipartisan bill passed to address the current conditions at the border with Mexico, adequate protections are lacking for these children. I know I share this sentiment with many: "I can't believe this is happening in my country."

The times are challenging many of us, and it important we take care of ourselves along with getting involved. One way to do that is to attend our regular meeting on July 17th at Round Table Pizza on Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa. If getting to a meeting is difficult, you can support our efforts by letting folks know they can become members, and renew your own membership if you haven't already. The last page of this newsletter has a membership application and instructions. Happy Fourth of July—when we celebrate our declaration to be independent from England, it never hurts to read The Declaration of Independence. Thank you all for the opportunity to be of service, and see you at our July meeting.

Something to think about: "Our immigration system is fundamentally broken, and ICE's role in supporting the existing system—including separating families seeking refuge in the United States and conducting indiscriminate deportation raids in our communities—is creating an atmosphere of toxic fear and mistrust in immigrant communities." —Ayanna Soyini Pressley (born February 3, 1974), U.S. Representative for Massachusetts's 7th congressional district

NOW SONOMA COUNTY MEETING
July 17, 2019 @ 1:00 P.M.
ROUND TABLE PIZZA
MARLOW & GUERNEVILLE
SANTA ROSA
Please join us



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Sonoma County National Organization for Women
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www.nowsonoma.org
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WOMEN'S SPACES
Elaine B. Holtz Producer/Host "Women's Spaces"
www.womensspaces.com
Show airs: **Mondays** on KBBF 89.1FM
Calistoga Santa Rosa
Time: 11am Live and replays at 11pm

Minutes of Sonoma County NOW June 19, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM

Agenda was approved with additions

Minutes of June 2019 meeting were approved as submitted

Financial - Membership money from National NOW arrived for March and April 2019 but still missing are the dues from the last two years. Marion will write to National NOW. Also not received are names and contact information of all current local members.

Website - Pictures will be posted; there will be a new column ("ACT") for petitions and upcoming events. There is a question as to how others receive our NOW newsletter - what format is provided for access?

Plan 2020 - Work is progressing on the 2020 Commemorative calendar. Pictures and graphic materials are needed. Elaine will go through the box of materials she has; Molly McGregor will be contacted re: Women's History Project as well as contact being made to other local women and organizations. Suggestions: Contact Rosie the Riveter Museum and other museums/libraries.

Marion and Elaine met with Lynda Hopkins and received information about monetary support/application forms.

Next Main Event - Plans for having a film being shown along with a panel in September or October - meant to be a fundraiser for funds for the 2020 event happenings; meeting place is being researched.

Announcements - Anita spoke of the group "Street Survivors" - women who are hassled by police; it was suggested they be invited to our meeting.

There was a meeting earlier on this day of CARA (California Alliance for Retired Americans) of a panel discussing Medicare for All.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM

AGENDA NOW SONOMA COUNTY CHAPTER July 17, 2019 MEETING

Call To Order

Introductions

Approval of Agenda

Minutes of June 2019 meeting

Financial Report

Web Site Report

Newsletter Report

Old Business

New Business

Centennial Planning Report

Announcements

Adjourn



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info@nowsonoma.org

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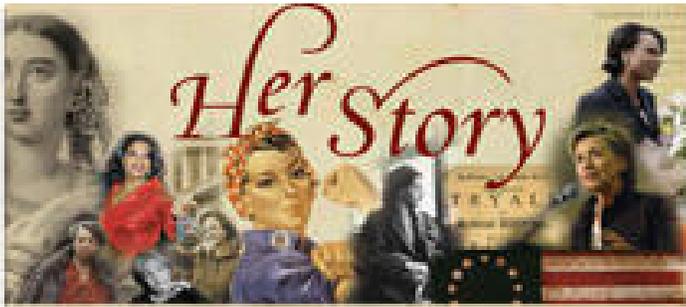
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In July we celebrate essential democratic anniversaries — the birth of the United States on July 4, 1776 and the birth of the Women’s Rights Movement on July 19-20, 1848.

Anniversary of the First Women’s Rights Conference (July 19 and 20)

On July 19-20, 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott spearheaded the first women’s rights convention in American History. Over 300 women and men came to Seneca Falls, New York to protest the mistreatment of women in social, economic, political, and religious life. This marked the first public meeting calling for women’s right to vote.

July 2, 1979 – The Susan B. Anthony dollar is released

July 2, 1937 – Amelia Earhart’s plane is lost in the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island

July 2, 1964 – President Lyndon Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act; Title VII prohibits sex discrimination in employment

July 4, 1876 – Suffragists crash the Centennial Celebration in Independence Hall to present the Vice President with the “Declaration of the Rights of Women” written by Matilda Joselyn Gage

July 6, 1957 – Althea Gibson is the first African American woman player to win a Wimbledon title in women’s tennis singles

July 7, 1981 – President Reagan nominates Sandra Day O’Connor as the first woman Supreme Court Justice?

July 12, 1984 – Representative Geraldine Ferraro (D-New York) is chosen as the first female to run for Vice President of the United States on the Democratic Party ticket with Walter Mondale (D-Minnesota)

July 14, 1917 – 16 women from the National Women’s Party were arrested while picketing the White House demanding universal women’s suffrage; they were charged with obstructing traffic

July 19-20, 1848 – The Seneca Falls Convention, the country’s first women’s rights convention, is held in Seneca Falls, New York Women’s Rights Movement

July 20, 1942 – The first class of Women’s Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC) begins at Fort Des Moines, IA

July 29, 1974. “Philadelphia Eleven” deacons (Merrill Bittner, Alla Bozarth-Campbell, Alison Cheek, Emily Hewitt, Carter Heyward, Suzanne Hiatt, Marie Moorefield, Jeannette Piccard, Betty Schiess, Katrina Swanson, and Nancy Wittig) ordained as the first women Episcopal priests

SANTA ROSA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

July 24, 2019 Dinner Meeting
Veterans Memorial Building
1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa
(across from the So. Co. Fairgrounds)



A special Presentation of Readers Theatre to honor the 100 th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19 th Amendment by Congress

A VOICE OF HER OWN WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE

*Written, Directed, and Narrated
by Bill Trzeciak*

Performed by Shirley Bennett, Nanci Hoban, Millie Olson, Bill Montgomery & Chris Rogers

Power Point presentation by Janet D. Reynolds

For more information contact Janet D Reynolds at janetdreynolds@yahoo.com

RSVP after July 12 th at ww.democlub.org
We are requesting women to wear white in honor of our Suffragettes.

Program Schedule:

5:45 pm -- Mix & Mingle, no-host bar

6:30 pm -- Club Business Meeting

7:00 pm -- Dinner (\$15 members of any Sonoma County Democratic Club; \$20. non-members)

7:30 pm _ Program

Dinner rates (cash or check payable at the door) People are welcome to attend the program only at no cost.

League of Women Voters Update

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

The Supreme Court ruled in our partisan gerrymandering cases out of North Carolina and Maryland. While we are disappointed in the Court's decision that no fair test exists for courts to determine when partisan gerrymandering has gone too far—our work for fair maps has never been more important.

And there IS a path forward.

Through the establishment of independent, citizen-led redistricting commissions at the state level to draw electoral districts, we can put power back into the hands of the people, not politicians. Redistricting commissions—such as those passed in Colorado, Michigan, and Utah in 2018—have been highly successful in ensuring that district maps fairly represent the population.

Fair maps are also possible through Congressional action. The For the People Act, which the League helped to shape earlier this year, includes fair redistricting standards for the entire country. This legislation has already passed in the U.S. House of Representatives, but it needs more support in the Senate. The League is pushing for a Senate hearing on this bill so that every American can hear for themselves the content of the For the People Act.

The timing of the decision in *Rucho v. LWV of North Carolina* (and its companion cases) could not be more

crucial as we gear up for the 2020 Census—the subject of another important case the Supreme Court decided yesterday.

The Supreme Court ruled in *Department of Commerce v. New York* that a citizenship question in the U.S. Census report cannot proceed for 2020.

In a key part of the decision, the Court rejected the notion that the purpose of a citizenship question was to improve enforcement of the Voting Rights Act. We celebrate the Court's ruling and are relieved that the question will not appear in the census questionnaire—but there is still much work to be done.

The 2020 Census will begin on April 1 and will aim to count every individual living in the United States. The data gathered will serve as the launching pad for the 2021 redistricting cycle, when state legislatures will begin designing new district plans for the next decade.

The interdependency of the census, state reapportionment, redistricting, and elections cannot be minimized—and we will be working overtime in the coming months to ensure the most complete possible census count, with a focus on hard-to-count communities.

Chris Carson

Chris Carson
President, League of Women Voters

**REMEMBER 50 AND 75 YEARS AGO
WHEN "SOCIALISM" DESTROYED OUR
DEMOCRACY AND PLUNGED AMERICA
INTO IRREVERSIBLE RUIN? . . .**



YEAH, NEITHER DO I

IT WAS BASELESS POLITICAL BULLST THEN
IT'S BASELESS POLITICAL BULLS**T NOW**

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

The Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that federal courts are powerless to hear challenges to partisan gerrymandering, the practice in which the party that controls the state legislature draws voting maps to help elect its candidates.

The Trump administration is looking to strip undocumented family members of active-duty service members of protection from deportation. *Slate*

The Trump administration has stopped promoting government-funded research into how higher temperatures can damage crops and pose health risks. *Politico*

During the first year of Trump's presidency, the Trump International Hotel in Washington charged the Secret Service more than \$200,000 in taxpayer money. *NBC News*

"We received reports from children of a lice outbreak in one of the cells where there were about twenty-five children, and what they told us is that six of the children were found to have lice. And so they were given a lice shampoo, and the other children were given two combs and told to share those two combs, two lice combs, and brush their hair with the same combs, which is something you never do with a lice outbreak. And then what happened was one of the combs was lost, and Border Patrol agents got so mad that they took away the children's blankets and mats. They weren't allowed to sleep on the beds, and they had to sleep on the floor on Wednesday night as punishment for losing the comb." *The New Yorker*

It is #NotNormal...

...for the President of the United States to joke with Russian President Vladimir Putin about interfering in our elections.

...for the President of the United States to tell reporters it's "none of your business" what he tells Putin.

...for the President of the United States to say "she's not my type" as a defense against a rape accusation.

...for the President of the United States to continuously attack America's closest allies.

GOOD NEWS, VICTORIES & HEROES

The Supreme Court ruled that the Trump administration failed to provide an adequate justification for adding a controversial question about U.S. citizenship to the 2020 census. *Mother Jones*

Former special counsel Robert Mueller will testify before House committees in an open session on July 17th. *CBS News*

A federal judge cleared the way for Democrats to continue their lawsuit against Trump alleging that his private business violates an anti-corruption provision of the Constitution. *Washington Post*

The Treasury Department's internal watchdog has agreed to look into why designs of a new \$20 bill featuring Harriet Tubman will not be unveiled next year. *New York Times*

The National Rifle Association has shut down its online TV channel and lost its chief lobbyist. *NPR*

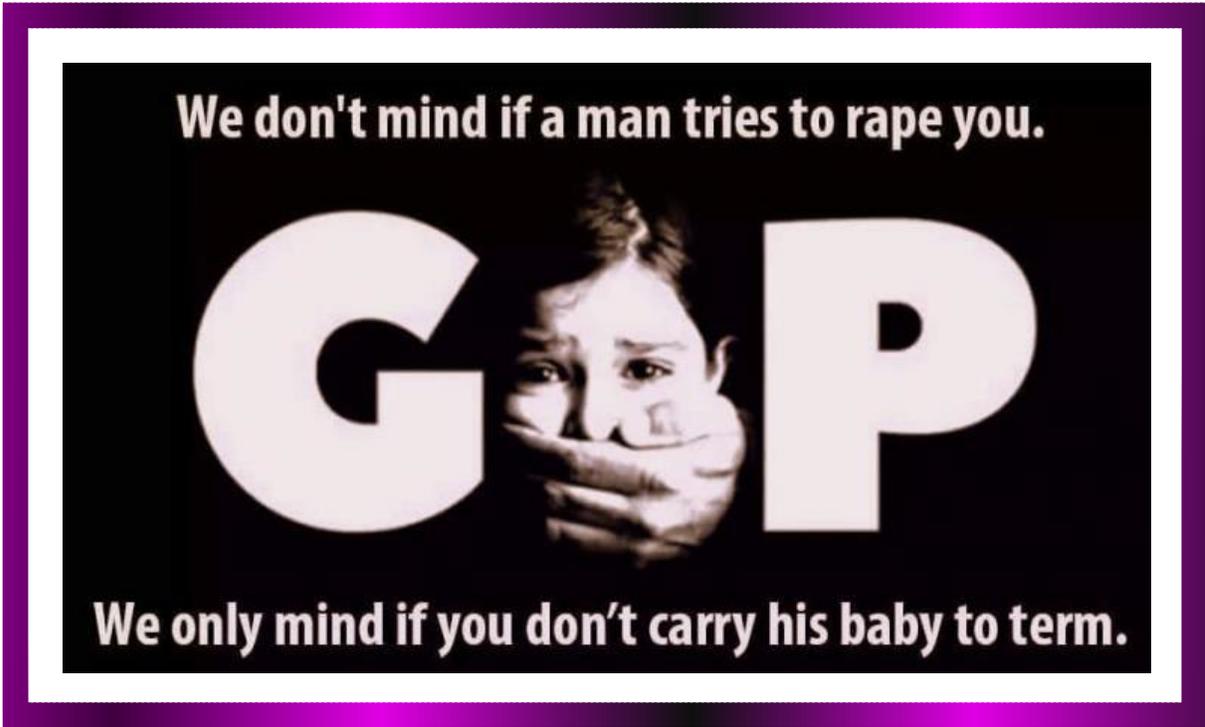
Illinois Governor JB Pritzker signed a bill that bans private immigration detention centers in the state. *CNN*

Bank of America Corp. will stop lending to companies that run private prisons and detention centers.

CALLS TO ACTION

Help the children

Last year, the Department of Health and Human Services said there were more than 2,000 children separated from their parents, thanks to the Trump administration's "zero tolerance policy" when it came to illegally crossing the border. They are being held in harsh conditions that no child should ever suffer. Just last week, reports surfaced detailing decrepit and dangerous conditions at a Border Patrol facility in Clint, Texas, where a group of visiting lawyers were horrified to discover a lack of basic necessities available to detainees, including toothbrushes, soap, towels, and even showers. "There is a stench," one of the visiting lawyers, Elora Mukherjee, director of the Immigrants' Rights Clinic at Columbia Law School, told *The New York Times*. "The overwhelming majority of children have not bathed since they crossed the border."



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07/19

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