



NOW

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
SONOMA COUNTY, CA
NOWSONOMA.ORG

Sonoma County

October 2019

President's Message

What an active month September was. A shout out to all those who participated in the two Global Climate Strikes both locally and globally. It was reported to be the biggest climate mobilization in history, which included 185 countries and 6135 actions, with 7.6 million people who took to the streets to strike for climate. For more information go to: <https://globalclimatestrike.net/>.

In Sonoma County all cities had an action in support of the strike, with the biggest city, Santa Rosa, reporting over 2500 people participating.

All this was inspired by 16-year-old Greta Thunberg, who gave a passionate speech at the United Climate Action Summit 2019 in New York. Thunberg is a Swedish teenager who is credited with raising global awareness of the risks posed by global warming and climate change, and with holding politicians to account for their lack of action on what Thunberg calls the "climate crisis." You can hear her speech at www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYxt0BeTrT8

Special Announcement: At the October 16th showing of the film Iron Jawed Angels, starring Hilary Swank as Alice Paul and Frances O'Connor as Lucy Burns (see sidebar or event information), I am excited to announce that the 19th Amendment Centennial 2020 Women's Suffrage Calendar, including Local and California Heroes, will be available.* Please note at the event there is limited seating and limited copies of the calendar. RSVP at 707-545-5036.

I am so excited that the Sonoma County Chapter of NOW was able to complete this project and a special shout out to all those who participated in this labor of love. A special nod to Vesta Copestakes, publisher of the Sonoma County Gazette, for funding the printing of the first 200 copies. The calendar contains lots of history past, present, locally, and nationally, plus great pictures. There is also a list of "Firsts" for women in northern California, especially Sonoma County, plus some great surprises.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 16th and hearing all the comments about the calendar that evening.

Something to think about: "The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them." Ida Bell Wells-Barnett (July 16, 1862–March 25, 1931) was an African-American investigative journalist, educator, suffragist, and an early leader in the civil rights movement. She was one of the founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

IRON JAWED ANGELS
Wednesday, October 16, 2019
6:30-9:00 p.m. KBBF 1700 Corby
Ave., Santa Rosa
DONATIONS WELCOME



Popcorn, Beverages & Discussion.

***The NOW Sonoma County
limited edition, unique 2020
Celebration Calendar will be
available for purchase
at this event***

**NOW Meeting
October 16, 2019 - 1:00 p.m.
Round Table Pizza
Marlowe & Guerneville
Santa Rosa, CA**

**INSIDE:
HerStory,
It Is Not Normal,
Nine Things,
Access.**

**Sonoma County National Organization
for Women
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Santa Rosa, CA 95406
www.nowsonoma.org
Info@nowsonoma.org**

N.O.W. Sonoma County Minutes of September 18, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM

Introductions were made

The Minutes were approved as submitted

The Agenda was approved as submitted

Financial - A second letter was sent to National NOW noting the lack of past dues from 2017-2018; We need to update the signatures on the bank account.

Bills were paid for the telephone (bill and updated phone) and for the PO Box.

It was noted there is a need for more financial support for our local chapter.

Website - Continues to grow and "looks great." Thanks to the webmaster.

Meeting for 2020 - There is some confusion as to "leadership" - two organizers? However, planning seems to be moving along. There is a big "kickoff" on December 8th. Information to be announced later. Discussion is ongoing as to how we participate.

All submittals for our 2020 Calendar must be received by 9/20/19. Information for sidebars is still needed. Elaine will contact all loose ends.

October 16 event- Press releases will be sent out for the showing of the movie, "Iron Jawed Angels"; Event will be at the KBBF studios; Popcorn and drinks will be provided. **Donation Welcome.**

Announcements: Climate Strike - Happens on Friday, September 20th. In Santa Rosa, there will be a march from the Junior College and rally on the Courthouse Square. Other cities will also be participating in their own places - all across the globe.

Adjourned at 2:20 pm.



www.nowsonoma.org
info@nowsonoma.org

AGENDA NOW SONOMA COUNTY CHAPTER September 18, 2019 MEETING

Call To Order

Introductions

Approval of Agenda

Minutes of August, 2019 meeting

Financial Report

Web Site Report

Newsletter Report

Old Business

New Business

Centennial Planning Report

Announcements

Adjourn

COMING ATTRACTION

Iron Jawed Angels

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

6:30-9:00 pm

1700 Corby Avenue, Suite B

In collaboration with Radio Station
KBBF 89.1 FM

*Space is limited check for availability at
nowsonoma.org*



President: Elaine B. Holtz

Recording Sec'y: Pro Tem-Eileen Bill

Corresponding Sec'y: Mary Chouinard

Newsletter Editor: Marion Aird

Telephone Helpline: Eileen Bill

Webmaster Ken Norton

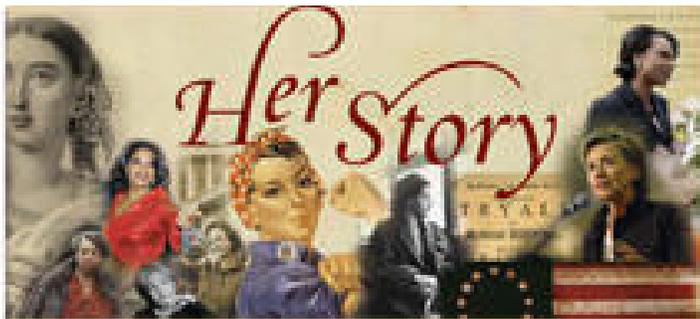
WOMEN'S SPACES

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



October Highlights in U.S. Women's History

October 3, 1904 – Mary McLeod Bethune opens her first school for African-American students in Daytona Beach, Florida

October 4, 1976 – Barbara Walters becomes the first woman co-anchor of the evening news (at ABC)

October 4, 1993 – Ruth Bader Ginsburg joins the U.S. Supreme Court as its second woman Justice

October 8, 1993 – Toni Morrison becomes the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature

October 10, 1983 – Dr. Barbara McClintock receives the Nobel Prize for Medicine for her discovery in genetics about mobile genetic elements

October 11, 1984 – Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan is the first U.S. woman astronaut to “walk” in space during Challenger flight

October 15, 1948 – Dr. Frances L. Willoughby is the first woman doctor in the regular U.S. Navy

October 16, 1916 – Margaret Sanger opens the U.S.'s first birth control clinic in Brooklyn, New York

October 23, 1910 – Blanche Stuart Scott is the first American woman pilot to make a public flight

October 24, 1956 – Reverend Margaret Towner is the first woman ordained a minister in the Presbyterian Church

October 28, 1958 – Mary Roebling is the first woman director of a stock exchange (American Stock Exchange)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

A U.S. drone strike in Afghanistan killed at least 30 civilians. *Reuters*

1 in 16 U.S. women say their first sexual intercourse was rape. *PBS*

North America has lost nearly 3 billion birds since 1970. *Smithsonian*

U.S. officials knew bomb-sniffing dogs were dying from neglect in Jordan. They sent more. *Washington Post*

Whole Foods is cutting medical benefits for hundreds of part-time workers. *Business Insider*

Where did Brett Kavanaugh's tens of thousands of dollars in credit card debt go? *GQ*

A potentially explosive complaint by a whistle-blower in the intelligence community said to involve Trump emerged on Thursday. *New York Times*

It is #NotNormal...

...for the President of the United States to spread lies about a U.S. Congresswoman, putting her life at risk.

...for the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make hateful, anti-transgender remarks.

GOOD NEWS, VICTORIES & HEROES

Hundreds of thousands of young people across the world began pouring into the streets on Friday for a day of global climate protest. Rarely, if ever, has the modern world witnessed a youth movement so large and wide. *New York Times*

Greta Thunberg bluntly told members of Congress to heed scientists' warnings over global heating -- “I don't want you to listen to me, I want you to listen to the scientists.” *The Guardian*

Greta sat down with President Barack Obama for a conversation about how no one is too young to change the world. *The Obama Foundation*

“If we want to make progress on protecting the environment and public health, we should help elect more women to public office, and support them during their tenure.” *Rachel's Action Network*

Gun manufacturer Colt will suspend production of AR-15 rifles for civilian sales. *NBC News*

Purdue Pharma, drugmaker accused of fueling the opioid epidemic, files for bankruptcy. *Washington Post*

The global child mortality rate continues decline. *Axios*

Abortion in the U.S. has decreased to record low levels, a decline that may be driven more by increased access to contraception and fewer women becoming pregnant than by the proliferation of laws restricting abortion. *New York Times*

The New York County District Attorney's office has subpoenaed eight years of trump's tax returns. *CNN*

House Democrats held the first hearing on D.C. statehood in 25 years. *Vox*

California Governor Gavin Newsom has signed Assembly Bill 5 into law, which radically changes the state's employment laws and in many cases will make employees out of independent contractors. *Sacramento Business Journal*

The college-student voting rate doubled in 2018. *Axios*

Amazon has committed moving to 100% renewable energy. *USA Today*

Trump wants to log an enormous Alaska forest -- t Native women traveled 3,000 miles to stop it. *Mother Jones*

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration issued a proposal to increase the critical habitat designation for southern resident killer whales by more than sevenfold. *AP News*

BE INFORMED. BE INVOLVED. BE JOYFUL.

The following list is of NINE things a woman couldn't do in 1971 - yes the date is correct, 1971.

1. Get a Credit Card in her own name – it wasn't until 1974 that a law forced credit card companies to issue cards to women without their husband's signature.
 2. Be guaranteed that they wouldn't be unceremoniously fired for the offense of getting pregnant – that changed with the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of *1978*!
 3. Serve on a jury - It varied by state (Utah deemed women fit for jury duty way back in 1879), but the main reason women were kept out of jury pools was that they were considered the center of the home, which was their primary responsibility as caregivers. They were also thought to be too fragile to hear the grisly details of crimes and too sympathetic by nature to be able to remain objective about those accused of offenses. In 1961, the Supreme Court unanimously upheld a Florida law that exempted women from serving on juries. It wasn't until 1973 that women could serve on juries in all 50 states.
 4. Fight on the front lines – admitted into military academies in 1976 it wasn't until 2013 that the military ban on women in combat was lifted. Prior to 1973 women were only allowed in the military as nurses or support staff.
 5. Get an Ivy League education - Yale and Princeton didn't accept female students until 1969. Harvard didn't admit women until 1977 (when it merged with the all-female Radcliffe College). Brown (which merged with women's college Pembroke), Dartmouth and Columbia did not offer admission to women until 1971, 1972 and 1981, respectively.
Other case-specific instances allowed some women to take certain classes at Ivy League institutions (such as Barnard women taking classes at Columbia), but, by and large, women in the '60s who harbored Ivy League dreams had to put them on hold.
 6. Take legal action against workplace sexual harassment. Indeed the first time a court recognized office sexual harassment as grounds for any legal action was in 1977!
 7. Decide not to have sex if their husband wanted to – spousal rape wasn't criminalized in all 50 states until 1993. Read that again...1993.
 8. Obtain health insurance at the same monetary rate as a man. Sex discrimination wasn't outlawed in health insurance until 2010 and today many, including sitting elected officials at the Federal level, feel women don't mind paying a little more. Again, that date was 2010.
 9. The birth control pill: Issues like reproductive freedom and a woman's right to decide when and whether to have children were only just beginning to be openly discussed in the 1960s. In 1957, the FDA approved of the birth control pill but only for "severe menstrual distress." In 1960, the pill was approved for use as a contraceptive. Even so, the pill was illegal in some states and could be prescribed only to married women for purposes of family planning, and not all pharmacies stocked it. Some of those opposed said oral contraceptives were "immoral, promoted prostitution and were tantamount to abortion." It wasn't until several years later that birth control was approved for use by all women, regardless of marital status. In short, birth control meant a woman could complete her education, enter the work force and plan her own life.
- Oh, and one more thing, prior to 1880 the age of consent for sex was set at 10 or 12 in more states, with the exception of Delaware – where it was 7 YEARS OLD!

Feminism is NOT just for other women.

KNOW your HERstory.

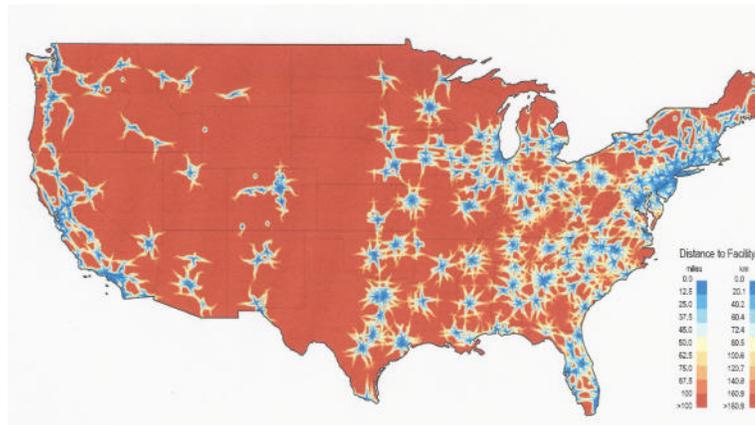
This Map Depicts Abortion Access Across America and It's Really Bleak

Twenty-seven major cities in the country are 100 miles or more from their nearest abortion provider.

It's not just rural women who must travel long distances to get an abortion. Researchers mapped out 780 abortion facilities across America in a new study out Monday and found that 27 major cities are 100 miles or more from their nearest abortion provider. The South and the Midwest have the largest "abortion deserts," according to **the study**.

For instance, residents of Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, and West Virginia are all limited to one in-state abortion facility, researchers from UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco found. The 27 "abortion deserts"—defined as major cities with populations over 50,000 where residents would have to travel 100 miles or more to get an abortion—include places like Chattanooga, Tenn.; Green Bay, Wisc.; and Springfield, Mo.

The worst major city for abortion access is Rapid City, South Dakota, where women must travel 318 miles to get an abortion.



Distance to nearest abortion facility in the US

UCSF, UC Berkeley

The study, published in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, is certainly bleak, but the results are far from unexpected. Between 2011 and 2014, the number of abortion clinics in the US dropped by 22 percent in the Midwest, 13 percent in the South, and six percent nationwide. Currently, about 90 percent of US counties lack an abortion provider.

"We were able to see what the average person sees when they set out to seek abortion care," Ushma Upadhyay, an associate professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at UC San Francisco, and an author on the study, tells *Mother Jones* in an email. "There are huge parts of the country where the distance to the closest provider poses a massive barrier to getting an abortion."

In California, the team counted 152 abortion facilities, the largest number of any state in the US. Maine had the greatest access per person, at one clinic for every 13,905 women. By contrast, Missouri, which is already known for its restrictive abortion laws, has the worst abortion access of any continental state, at about 1.4 million women per facility.

"Access to transportation is a barrier for people seeking all types of health care, in both urban and rural settings," the authors write. "Lower-income women who are unable to access a car or money for gas may have to travel by bus, train, or other forms of transportation, which also becomes more difficult the farther they have to travel."

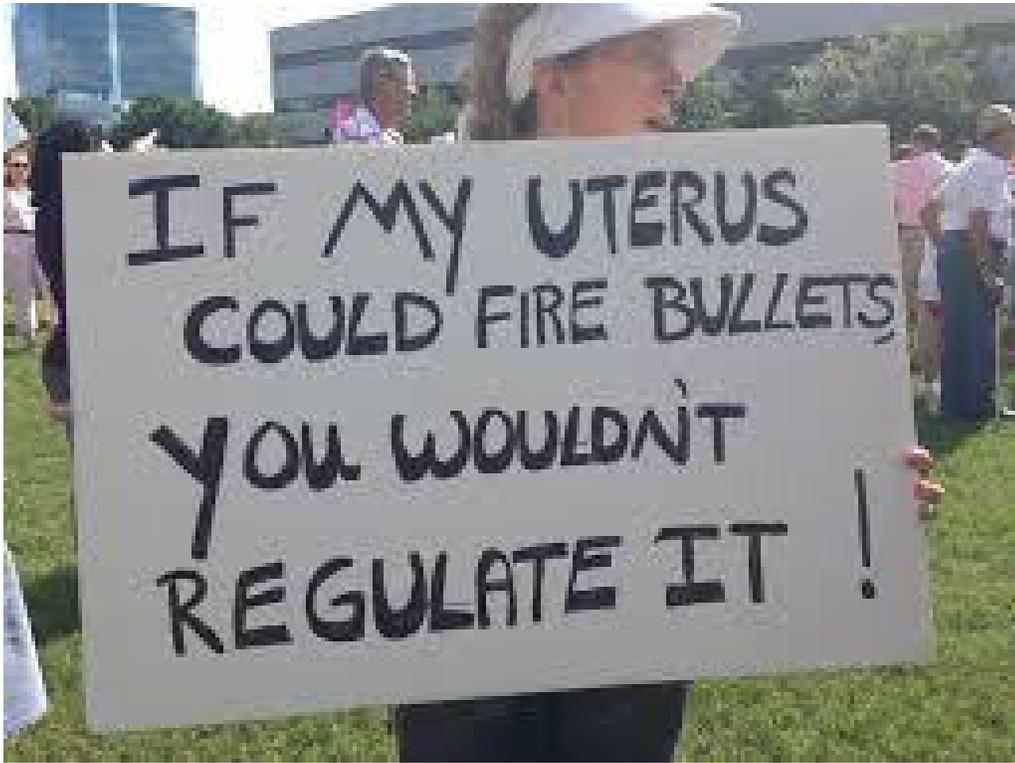
There's no clear solution on the horizon.

"As states continue to pass, implement, and defend restrictions on abortion," the authors write, "it is possible that the number of abortion facilities will continue to decrease in those states with the most restrictions."

Image credit: Cartwright AF, Karunaratne M, Barr-Walker J, Johns NE, Upadhyay UD

Identifying National Availability of Abortion Care and Distance From Major US Cities: *Systematic Online Search J Med Internet Res* 2018;20(5):e186

URL: <http://www.jmir.org/2018/5/e186>



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10/19

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