

Sonoma County



NOW
February 2018

President's Message

Time flies and with so much going on we decided to cancel the event for Feb. 21 and are planning something for the spring and will keep you posted. NOW had a table at the recent Women's March in Old Courtyard Square in Santa Rosa on Saturday January 20 joining millions across the globe standing up for women and the future for our children and those yet unborn. According to organizer Leslie Graves there were over 4000 participants at the event. I was so excited to have the honor of introducing our Sonoma County 5th District Supervisor Lynda Hopkins and wore my special bright pink jacket and announced that I was wear the jacket to honor "Code Pink, Women for Peace." Special shout out to all those volunteers who supported Leslie Graves and helped make this event so successful.

A little bit of NOW History: February is Black History Month. Feminist Civil Rights Lawyer Pries, Dr. **Pauli Murray**, co-founder of **NOW** was an African-American civil rights activist, who was arrested for refusing to move to the back of the bus in Petersburg, Va. 15 years before Rosa Parks bus protest; and she organized restaurant sit-ins in Washington, D.C. 20 years before the Greensboro sit-ins. She was one of the most important thinkers and legal scholars of the 20th century, serving as a bridge between the civil rights and women's rights movements.

Reverend Murray was a feminist icon ahead of her time, who challenged race and gender discrimination in legal, societal, academic and religious circles. And yet today, not many would recognize the name of the Reverend, Dr. Pauli Murray – let alone her indelible impact on American law, civil rights and women's rights. As a black, lesbian, feminist woman, Pauli Murray has been almost completely erased from the narrative. It is time she was recognized.

Happy Valentine's Day. For me it is a day I celebrate love that has been given and received. Next month is Women's History Month, their theme is, "Nevertheless **She Persisted: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.**" Will have more about that next month.

Something to think about: "If one could characterize in a single phrase the contribution of Black women to America, I think it would be 'survival with dignity against incredible odds'..." – Pauli Murray, "Black Women-A Heroic Tradition and a Challenge" (1977)

NOW SONOMA COUNTY MEETING
February 21, 2018 @ 1:00 P.M.
ROUND TABLE PIZZA
MARLOW & GUERNEVILLE
SANTA ROSA



February 19th. PRESIDENT'S DAY

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www.nowsonoma.org

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N.O.W. Sonoma County Meeting of January 17, 2017

Meeting called to order at 1:03 PM

There were no past minutes to discuss

Financial Report was given with a note of a donation from Jim Grau of \$25.

National NOW has clarified that for dues under \$40, our branch gets \$5.

Website - hosting or other management service needs to be updated/changed.

Our local NOW group needs National NOW to send an updated list of membership so that we can send out our newsletter and other information. President Elaine will contact National. The newsletter will be sent out with member Rebecca's assistance.

There will be a February Newsletter so Mark F. will be contacted to facilitate this distribution.

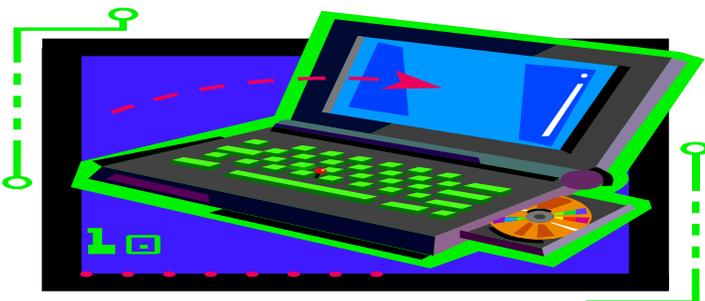
MSC to change to an improved service for internet connection and distribution.

Regarding the upcoming Women's March, January 20th, Elaine will be doing a radio interview (Women's Spaces) and at the March, she will be introducing District 5 Supervisor Lynda Hopkins.

The previous proposed event for February 21st will now be changed to a regular meeting (1 PM at Roundtable Pizza) with the current focus being on the March 17th 40th Anniversary celebration of the Women's History founding led by Molly McGregor. Marion will speak about the 2020 event at this meeting.

Regarding the 2020 event, a possible informational gathering will be planned as a "Summer Barbecue" - place and time TBD. Marion will check on the Finley Center as a potential location.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.



www.nowsonoma.org

N.O.W. Sonoma County AGENDA February 21, 2018

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Minutes of January 2018 meeting
4. Financial Report
5. Web site Report
6. Old Business
7. NOW National memberships - Information
8. NOW local memberships
9. Event Reschedule
10. Announcements
11. Adjourn

February 21, 2018 MEETING

1:00 p.m

Round Table Pizza
Gueneville & Marlow
Santa Rosa, CA

Members and interested persons
are encouraged to attend.

PLEASE JOIN US

NOW OFFICERS 2018

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: Mark Franacszek

Media Contact: Elaine Holtz

WOMEN'S SPACES

Elaine B. Holtz Producer/Host "Women's Spaces"

www.womensspaces.com

Show airs: **Mondays** on KBBF 89.1FM

Calistoga Santa Rosa

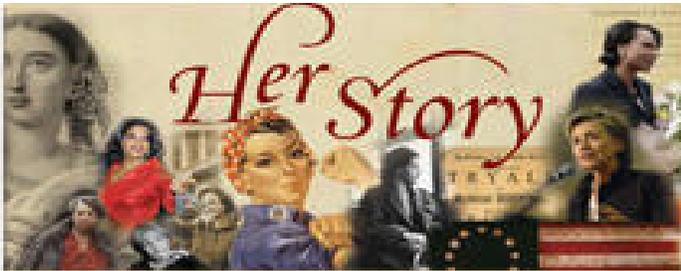
Time: **11am Live and replays at 11pm**



February is Black History Month

Black History Month recognizes and honors important people and events in the history of African-American history. In 1926 noted historian, Carter G. Woodson, originated the idea of “Negro History Week”. Woodson chose the second week of February because it marked the birthdays of two Americans who greatly influenced the lives and social condition of African Americans – former President Abraham Lincoln and abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

The tradition of what became Black History Month greatly influenced the expansion of academic scholarship and the corresponding recognition of the rich history of African Americans.



February Highlights in US Women’s History

February 1, 1978 – First postage stamp to honor a black woman, Harriet Tubman, is issued in Washington, DC

February 4, 1987 – First “National Women in Sports Day” is celebrated by Presidential Proclamation

February 11, 1989 – Rev. Barbara Harris became the first woman bishop in the American Episcopal Church and in the Anglican Communion worldwide.

February 12, 1869 – The Utah Territorial Legislature passes a bill allowing women to vote

February 15, 1921 – The Suffrage Monument, depicting Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott, sculpted by Adelaide Johnson, is dedicated at the U.S. Capitol

February 15, 1953 – Tenley Albright became the first American woman to win the World Figure Skating championship

February 17, 1870 – Esther Hobart Morris in Wyoming became the first American woman Justice of the Peace

February 24, 1912 – Henrietta Szold founds Hadasah, the largest Jewish organization in American history, focusing on healthcare and education in the Israel and the U.S.

February 24, 1967 – Jocelyn Bell Burnell makes the first discovery of a pulsar, a rapidly rotating neutron star

February 27, 1922 – U.S. Supreme Court upholds the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote

For over a year, we have seen an incredible explosion of women's energies across the nation challenging attacks on our rights and our dignity. From the women's marches to #metoo movement to the record numbers of women running for office, women are coming together as never before.

This has been our goal - empowerment - for the past 38 years. At the National Women's History Project, we believe that knowing our history gives us the strength and inspiration to persist against all odds, and to triumph.

Now, more than ever before, young, strong, women of all cultural backgrounds are creating a new future. Join us as we continue to "write women back into history" and encourage women to take the lead.



Cecile Richards stepping down as Planned Parenthood leader

January 26, 2018 2:54 PM EST

NEW YORK (AP) — Cecile Richards, who led Planned Parenthood through 12 tumultuous years, is stepping down as its president.

Under her leadership, the organization gained in membership, donor support and political clout but found itself in constant conflict with social conservatives for its role as the leading abortion provider in the United States.



Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards waves after speaking during the second day of the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia. On Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, Richards, who led Planned Parenthood through 12 tumultuous years, said she is stepping down as its president.

The organization provides a range of health services at clinics nationwide, including birth control, cancer screenings and tests for sexually transmitted diseases. Republicans in Congress tried repeatedly to cut off federal funding that helps subsidize Planned Parenthood's services to some patients, and several congressional committees investigated the organization's role in providing post-abortion fetal tissue to researchers.

In a statement Friday, Richards said she would remain engaged in political activism ahead of the November elections.

"There has never been a better moment to be an activist," said Richards, who was a featured speaker in Las Vegas at one of last weekend's largest women's marches.

Richards, 60, is the daughter of former Texas Gov. Ann Richards. Before joining Planned Parenthood, she was a union organizer and deputy chief of staff to U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, among other roles.

Reaction to Richards' announcement reflected the divisive nature of the debate over Planned Parenthood's role.

Pelosi, the House minority leader, hailed her as "a portrait of energy, intellect, and determination" whose impact transcended reproductive rights.

"As an organizer, activist, and leader, Cecile has helped launch a nationwide movement to defend and advance women's rights, and in doing so, she has inspired countless women to march, vote, run, and win." Pelosi said.

Anti-abortion activists seized the occasion to demonize Richards.

Her legacy "is one of death and destruction," said Kristin Hawkins, president of Students for Life of America. "She leaves broken lives in her wake."

Many of the key battles for Richards and Planned Parenthood were waged in Congress, where Republicans repeatedly, though unsuccessfully, sought ways to cut off its federal funding. GOP lawmakers also organized multiple investigative committees after anti-abortion activists released secretly recorded videos in 2015 that they said showed Planned Parenthood employees illegally selling fetal tissue for profit. Planned Parenthood emphatically denied that claim.

Thus far there's been no formal finding by Congress of wrongdoing by the organization, but the dispute over the allegations is not settled. Justice Department officials confirmed in December that the department was considering investigations related to the transfer of fetal tissue.

There was no immediate word of a possible successor to Richards. Planned Parenthood said it would be announcing future plans after a meeting of its board of directors next week.

Planned Parenthood said Richards helped grow its base of supporters from 3 million to 11 million and build its donor base to its largest ever. She oversaw a notable expansion of services to LGBT people, including sharp increases in HIV testing and the provision of hormone therapy for transgender patients.

Richards' resignation precedes the scheduled publication of her memoir, "Make Trouble," in April.



March 17, 2017

The Data on Women Leaders

Most Americans say women are about equal to men when it comes to key leadership traits such as intelligence and capacity for innovation, yet women still make up a small share of top leadership jobs. Our 2015 report explored Americans' views about women leaders, the barriers they face and prospects for the future. Below, we've charted the most up-to-date data on the share of women in top U.S. political and business roles over time.

There are 21 women serving in the U.S. Senate, a historic high. Of these, 16 are Democrats and five are Republicans. The first woman in the Senate was Rebecca Felton (D-Ga.), who was appointed to the seat as a political maneuver in 1922 and served just one day. Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan.), who served in the Senate from 1978 to 1997, was the first female senator who was not initially elected to fill an unexpired congressional term.

Women in the U.S. House

Percentage of U.S. representatives who are women: 2.5%

Source: Center for American Women and Politics, Rutgers University and U.S. House of Representatives.

There are 83 women serving as voting members of the House of Representatives in the 115th Congress, comprising 19.1% of House members and down slightly from 2015. Of these, 62 are Democrats and 21 are Republicans. In addition, five women serve as nonvoting delegates to Congress, representing American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Jeannette Rankin (R-Mont.) was the first woman to be elected to Congress, taking office in 1917. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) is the only woman to have served as speaker of the House. She was speaker from 2007 to 2011 and is now the House minority leader.

Emily's List: 25,000 women have reached out to us to run for office

EMILY's List, a group that aims to elect pro-abortion rights Democratic women, announced Wednesday that it has heard from more than 25,000 women who are interested in running for public office.

The group said that 25,180 women have now contacted them as part of their new Run to Win recruitment and training program, which provides resources and seminars for women considering possible electoral bids.



"2017 was hard, but we've got 25,000 reasons to be excited for 2018. 25,000 women have told us they want to run for office!" the organization tweeted, linking to the recruitment drive.

Run to Win aims to build momentum from the 2017 Women's March on Washington, according to its website. EMILY's List was an official sponsor of the January march, which championed progressive causes, women's issues and abortion rights in a protest against the inauguration of President Trump.

The latest numbers from the group mark a significant uptick since November, when EMILY's List President Stephanie Schriock told The Hill that 22,000 women had reached out to the group with interest for running in 2018.

Schriock said that the **Women's March** sparked an unprecedented amount of political engagement from women who are "fed up, angry and want change" from the current political environment.



Hey, Donald! I've got your parade right here!



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02/18

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