

Calendar

October 5
Absentee Ballots

October 6
Candidate Forum
Ukiah City Hall
6 pm

October 8
Candidate Forum
Ukiah City Hall
6 pm

October 14
Women's Wednesday
Patrona
Ukiah
5:30 pm

October 16-18
NWPC State Board
Waterfront Hotel
Jack London Sq.
Oakland

November 1
Open House
Patricia Darland
Mendocino
2 - 5 pm pm
937-1798

November 3
Election
VOTE!

Here and There

Congratulations to Betty Malmgren, one of Mendocino NWPC's founding mothers, who entered 12 photographs in the Boonville Fair. She took 7 first prizes, 3 second prizes and one honorable mention...Lillian Vogel had a great celebration on her 100th birthday. She treated her 200+ guests to a piano concert and a fun time at Frey Vineyard...Estelle Clifton assembled an incredible team for the Labor Day event. They raised over \$2,000 for Project Sanctuary. We were able to have a tribute to Senator Pat Wiggins who has worked hard in our behalf. Senator Wiggins is retiring at the end of her term in 2010. District Attorney Meredith Lintott told how she was inspired to run for office by Senator Wiggins' story at a Coast NWPC meeting...Irma and Kirsten Turner are kept busy keeping up with the new twins. They are our only mother/daughter members. Want to give your daughter a membership in NWPC? What a great gift!...We had a grand time at the NWPC Convention. Estelle Clifton, Susanne LaFaver and Val Muchowski did the Training of Trainers. Katarzyna Rolzinski and Patricia Darland did the Fundraising Workshop. It was inspiring meeting politically involved women from all over. The Elected women were amazing. Someday we will have a critical mass and change the world.

Val Muchowski

Candidate Nights

For the past 15 or 16 years, Mary Ann Villwock of NWPC, Val Muchowski of AAUW and NWPC and Katie Gibbs of AAUW have organized Candidates Nights at the city hall before every election. The Daily Journal joined us several years ago. We have a format taken from the League of Women Voters and it works very well. The moderator this time will be KC Meadows

Tuesday, October 6

6 p.m. Ukiah Unified School District; 6 candidates for 2 positions 7 p.m. County Board of Education (MCOE) 2 candidates for 1 position

Thursday, October 8

6 p.m. to appx 7:30 p.m. Forum on Measure A. Jeff Adams of Developers Diversified Realty and one other person will be proponents of Measure A and Guinness McFadden of Save Our Local Economy and one other person will present opposition to Measure A. Both forums will be in the Ukiah City Council Chambers. Please join us and help out.

Open House for NWPC

Patricia Juaregui-Darland will host an Open House and Fundraiser for NWPC at her lovely home 44850 Raven Lane in Mendocino on November 1, 2009 from 2 - 5 pm. RSVP 937-1798 or pdarland@afamilyfriend.net. Good food and good company guaranteed.

Newsletter

Our newsletter becomes more and more expensive. Please send us your email address. If you wish to continue getting a hard copy, please send \$10. to cover costs to NWPC, Box 1140, Ukiah, Ca 95482 (members are free).

Members:

New: Caren Callahan, Madelin Holtkamp, Joelle Sumski

Thank you renewed: Arleen Shippey

Due in August: Carre Brown, Dr. Grace Liu, Elaine Norinsky, Lillian Vogel, Senator Pat Wiggins

Due in September: Jessica Thompson,

Due in October: Jody Cole, Meg Courtney, Betty Malmgren, Marjorie Moore, Wendy Pollitz, Maggie Watson,

Caren Callahan

Caren Callahan was born in London, England and lived in Great Britain during her childhood. Moving to the states in the early 1960's, her family settled on the east coast, where she remained until 1978.

Ms. Callahan graduated with a B.A. from Lebanon Valley College, Pennsylvania in 1977. During college, she worked in a variety of different positions, including a job as investigator with the public defender's service in Washington, D.C., an office assistant with the district attorney's office in Washington, D.C., and an investigator with the Lebanon County Detective's Office, in Lebanon, Pennsylvania.



In 1978, Ms. Callahan moved to the west coast, and graduated from the police academy at Los Gilucos, Santa Rosa, CA. She was employed by the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office as one of four female deputy sheriffs. After suffering a job-related injury, she decided to change careers, and began her pursuit of law at New College of California School of Law in San Francisco.

After successfully completing her first year of law school, Ms. Callahan decided to complete the remainder of her legal education by opting for a little-known alternative called "law-office study". This program is monitored by the State Bar of California, and requires that the applicant be under the tutelage of a practicing attorney throughout the course of study. Additionally, the applicant must study each area of law that is required by the California Bar examiners. During this time, Ms. Callahan was employed as a paralegal in her mentor attorney's office. Ms. Callahan completed law-office study in December of 1989, and sat for the California Bar exam in February, 1990. Upon passing the bar exam on her first attempt, she was admitted to practice law in the State of California on June 12, 1990.

As all of her areas of practice involve financial and tax issues, Ms. Callahan decided to gain further education in the area of taxation to enhance her representation of her clients. In 1998, she graduated with a Masters

A publication of the National Women's Political Caucus of Mendocino County, PO Box 1140, Ukiah, CA 95482-1140. Published 6 times a year. Editor - Val Muchowski

Do you have an item to include in the next newsletter?

Call Val Muchowski (895-3543), or e-mail it to valmuchowski@yahoo.com

of Laws in Taxation, with honors, from Washington School of Law, Sandy, Utah. This degree enables Ms. Callahan to provide tax advice to clients who have a tax matter or tax issue that is governed by the Internal Revenue Code. Ms. Callahan is licensed to practice in all courts in the State of California and any court that operates under federal jurisdiction (U.S. Tax Court, U. S. Bankruptcy Court, District Courts).

In 1990, Caren began her practice as a sole practitioner, which she continues today. Her practice encompasses the areas of estate planning and probate/trust administration, tax matters, business transactions and litigation (including for-profit and non-profit corporations and partnerships), real estate transactions. Caren had argued five appellate cases and has two published California Court of Appeal published decisions.

Caren's political involvement began in the mid-eighties. She was involved with a group of activists in Sonoma County who drafted, and then worked on, the passage of the Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Pride Week Resolution. After a seven-year struggle the Supervisors of Sonoma County passed the Resolution in 1992. It was a group of lesbians, known as "LVAC" (Lesbian Voters Action Caucus) who forced the City of Santa Rosa to issue a permit for the first Lesbian and Gay Pride Week celebration in 1993. Since the first celebration a community group formed to produce the event each year. A group of three women, Elizabeth Fulton, Sheryl Bratton and Ms. Callahan convinced Sonoma County to provide domestic partners benefits in 1998.

Caren moved to Mendocino County in 1993 and remains politically active in the struggle for marriage equality for lesbians and gay men.

Madelin Holtkamp

Madelin Holtkamp has spent the last 16 years working in the field of small business lending and business consulting. She has built and sold several businesses in Northern California. She has taught Small Business Development at Mendocino College. She participated in the founding and development of West Company, a Mendocino non-profit assisting micro-entrepreneurs. She spent 10 years as Executive Director of Economic Development & Financing Corp., the Mendocino county-wide economic development corporation. She has helped many businesses to find capital and improve their financial, management and marketing results. As a member of the Mendocino County Board of Education, she has worked to improve career and technical education for youth and adults. She is currently working with AEDC Small Business Lending Center, providing SBA loans to businesses in Mendocino and Lake counties. She is also a member of the Mendocino County Planning Commission.



Joelle Sumski

Joelle Sumski was born and raised in San Francisco. She attended Katharine Delmar Burke School and Lowell High School. Joelle graduated from Stanford with a degree in political science after a hiatus of seventeen years during which she married, had a baby, and divorced; began work at a major publishing company (Harcourt); and started a business — a clothing boutique in Healdsburg. After graduation, Joelle worked as a freelance writer and editor of educational materials and as a senior editor for Continental Press and then Straight Line Editorial Development. Wanting to be closer to her daughter and three grandsons, Joelle moved from Marin County to Potter Valley in 2005. Now retired, Joelle is pursuing her love of politics as a political activist. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, reading, and swimming.

Women, We Deliver!
August 7 - 9, 2009
2009 NWPC National Convention
Newport Beach, CA

NWPC	Mendocino County	Executive Board
Chair	Val Muchowski	895-3543
Vice Chair - Inland	Mary Ann Villwock	462-3059
Vice Chair - Coast	Patricia Darland	937-1798
Treasurer	Estelle Clifton	462-6620
Secretary	Arleen Shippey	462-7173
State Board of Directors	Katarzyna Rolzinski	468-9003
PAC Treasurer	Lynda McClure	
Membership	Estelle Clifton	462-6620

Personal Highlights by Katarzyna Rolzinski NWPC - Mendocino, State Director

Driving to the Sonoma County Airport, taking the shuttle to Oakland, and landing safely via Southwest Airlines, I thought I had finally arrived. After three calls and nearly an hour wait for the hotel shuttle, I finally gave up and went to the Taxi Stand only to discover I had flown into the Ontario Airport, not the John Wayne/Orange County Airport. What to do? I declined the \$140 taxi for the "bargain" \$80 shuttle at \$80 and an hour's drive while feeling utter embarrassment.

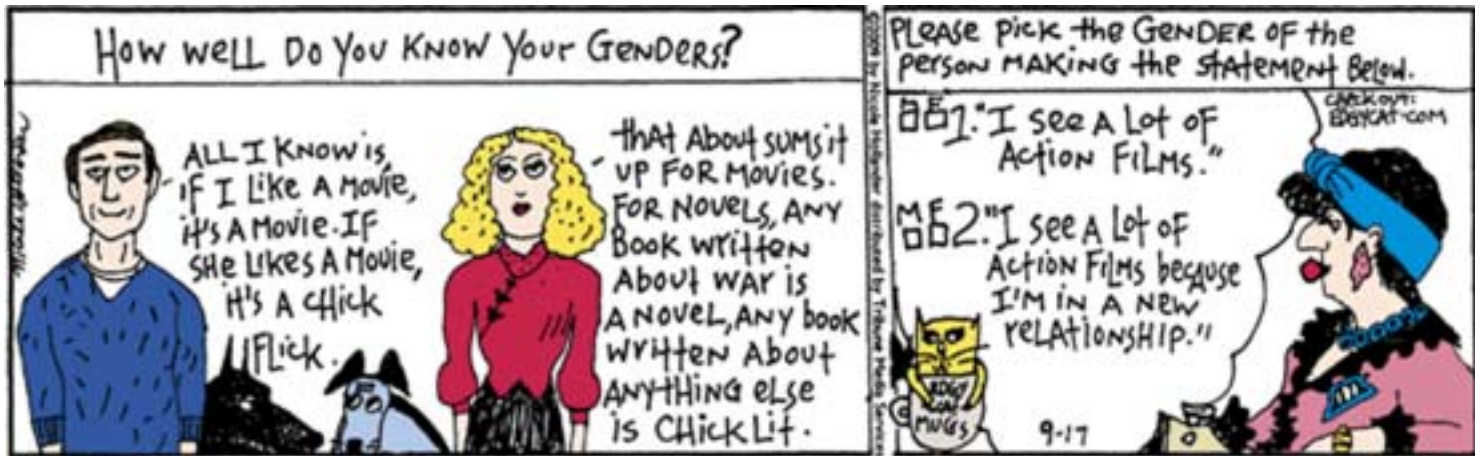
I finally did arrive late Thursday afternoon, August 6th, at the Newport Beach Radisson Hotel. As I was completing my hotel registration, my usual NWPC travel sidekick, Val Muchowski. Appeared alongside me. She had no idea how much I was wishing that we had simply driven down together. First Val, then my second auspicious encounter Gloria Allred was my sole companion in the elevator ride to our rooms. This was still the eve of the NWPC 2009 19th Biennial Convention, but the energy was palpable when I joined the NWPC California member in the Hospitality Suite of Teray Stephens, President, NWPC California. I was feeling the theme, Women, We Deliver.

Though this was a national convention, I must say that it often felt more like a California gathering. It was not until this past year that I realized that though we are "national" there are now only nine state caucuses in NWPC: Alaska, Arizona, California, Missouri, New Jersey, South Dakota, Texas, and Washington for a total of 2200 members; 937 are California members. With my North Dakota roots, I made it my mission at the convention to find South Dakota delegates none were there!

August 7 9: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning we listened; we learned; we applauded; we toasted; we met old friends; we did business; we ate; we laughed; we argued; we connected; we made new friends; and most of all we were inspired, I know I was. There were trainings, speeches, resolutions, fundraisings, and fun.

The NWPC-Mendocino Caucus contingency also included Estelle Clifton (inland), Patricia Darland (coast), and Susanne La Faver (Lake County), who is also NWPC Northern California National Representative. On Friday, Val NWPC-CA VP-Education & Training, was a trainer for the Campaign Training Workshop with a Train the Trainer Workshops. Val, Estelle and Susanne were certified as NWPC Campaign Trainers.

The Friday evening special feature was a Diversity Reception with a number of amazing women being honored. Friday highlights for me were twofold: Gloria Allred's talk at the luncheon and the Fundraising for Candidate's Workshop. At this point in my life, I love it when I can leave a workshop with at least one good lesson. Ironically, the best lesson I got from the fundraising workshop is the same one I've often heard from my brother in sales, "Don't talk yourself out of the deal" in other words, after asking for a specific amount for a particular need, "Keep quiet" allow the potential donor to make the next statement and take it from there.





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Truth be told, I've never been overly impressed with Gloria Allred; I'd only viewed her as one of those "talking heads" giving rather caustic commentary on sensational court case. But, how I love it when I am forced to change my opinion! I think Gloria Allred is great! She is smart and articulate; she is also sensitive and gracious. After her talk, Gloria signed one of her books for me, "Fight Back and Win." I also had the audacity to ask her to speak at our Women's History Gala in March (a long shot, I know).

During the night I read Gloria's book and learned just how rooted her personal life experiences have been in terms of our NWPC mission. She married at 19 and was divorced with a daughter shortly thereafter; she was raped in Mexico by a doctor taking her to dinner and nearly died from an illegal abortion; she came to California with her daughter and \$100 and taught school in Watts. Since 1976 Allred has been practicing law and

volunteering for NOW and NWPC. The first news conference she held was for the NWPC to ask then-Governor Jerry Brown why he wasn't appointing enough women judges. Gloria Allred has made her impressive career defending feminist causes.

Amid an array of concurrent workshops, Saturday's agenda included elections of officers and the business of Reports and Resolutions. The most contentious Proposed Resolution



was one that would basically keep our dues more state and locally based, which would, in effect close the DC office. The genesis of this proposal came in part from frustrations of getting timely national recording of memberships. The discussion was juicy, but the outcome was as our Mendocino contingency supported that we keep the dues structure as is to maintain and improve upon the DC office.

Other financial notes: Membership income at mid-year is on target, approximately \$40k of a budgeted \$80k; the Convention PAC breakfast raised \$2,000; President's Circle at convention raised \$500; and Fresno's Mary Stanley, seasoned Silent Auction Organizer raised over \$3,000. NWPC- Mendocino donated four bottles of Mendocino County wine, and I donated a colorful silk ribbon scarf that I knit each of our items brought in close to \$100.

For me, Saturday's highlight was our luncheon speaker, Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez. Loretta is the first woman minority person to represent a district in Orange County; the first Head Start child to be elected to Congress; and the first woman to reach the highest positions on the Armed Services and Homeland Security committees in the House. She also has a book with her sister, Linda Sanchez, who is the first Latina to serve on the House Judiciary Committee and the first woman ever to chair its subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law. Another long shot, I also asked Loretta Sanchez to come to speak at our upcoming Women's History Gala when she was signing my copy of "Dream in Color:

How the Sanchez Sisters Are Making History in Congress."

At Saturday night's Gala Dinner, Honorable John Chiang, California State Controller was presented the "Good Guy Award." Though he was obviously highly respected and loved, and he gave an impressive talk, I strongly believe that for a national convention, the NWPC should be able to find a "Good Woman" to honor.

"Women, We Deliver" was well worth the time and even the travel. I found that connecting with old and new friends dedicated to NWPC to be enormously energizing. I left feeling inspired to come back to Mendocino County to pass on this energy and inspiration to work for our women candidates.

NWPC ENDORSES

We have sent questionnaires to the women running for the Mendocino County Office of Education Board, the Mendocino Community College Board, the College of the Redwoods Board and the Ukiah School District Board of Supervisors. An interview team of Arleen Shippey, Sandy Spencer, and Katarzyna Rolzinski met with Beatriz Arkin, Janet Chaniot and Madelin Holtkamp. The membership of NWPC voted for endorsement of the following women.

Vote for Beatriz Arkin for the Ukiah Unified School Board

Ms. Arkin has been a Trustee for eight years. She was drawn to the position of Trustee from her 31 years as a volunteer with UUSD, which began, with her involvement as a parent of four children. She says she is "a tireless advocate for children's well-being and their opportunities for a quality education." She has visited the schools and seems to be generally aware of the school programs including the young parent programs, which she highly supports. When asked about her vision in terms of the current budgetary and other challenges facing the school, she was most concerned about quality education.

Vote for Janet Chaniot for the Mendocino College Board of Trustees

Ms. Chaniot has had two terms as a Trustee, and she is currently Chair of the Board. As a Trustee she has worked to build a team of Board Members, Superintendent/President, college staff, and citizens to understand the economic and cultural roles of the College, she has monitored financial, physical, and human resources for fiscal stability and encouraged partnerships to provide alternative funding opportunities; maintained open communication to ensure progress toward the primary College goals: student success through services that enhance access, aid students in achieving goals, and maintain excellent transfer, career/technical, and lifelong learning programs. Chaniot was recently elected to the State Board and will now have a voice for Mendocino College and all community colleges with the Governor and state legislators. Chaniot is a retired educator (Potter Valley, Mendocino-Lake Community College, Bay Area schools, New York, and three years in Peru).

Chaniot discusses the issues facing Mendocino College with deep passion and commitment. She appears extremely knowledgeable about all facets of administrative and student concerns. When asked about her personal vision and priorities at the College, Chaniot identified her main priorities: scholarships, diversity education, and career/technical education. An enormous concern of Ms. Chaniot is the continuing makeup of the Board of Trustees — she explained in great detail some possible upcoming transitions on the horizon with the possibility of little continuity if she is not re-elected.

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Vote for Madelin Holtkamp

for the Mendocino County Office of Education (MCOE)

Ms. Holtkamp served on the MCOE Board for nearly 12 years before moving out of the area. She has been back about a year and has not attended any Board meetings but has been reading the minutes. As an economic development professional, Holtkamp professes a long-term interest in career and technical education for youth and adults. This is the area that she feels most passionate and qualified to bring to the position. She believes she has an excellent understanding of the complexities of school finance. It is her understanding that the future of young people depends on training that suits them to the occupations of the future. She does not think that the education issues via MCOE are always an issue of money, and she would like to get businesses involved and partnerships established.

Holtkamp has 18 years experience working in economic development; She is currently self-employed on economic development projects for small jurisdictions and a part-time business manager for Atrain Medical Education, a local on-line education company. She is presently an appointee to the Mendocino County Planning Commission. Holtkamp's personal interest and involvement is with the local fiber arts community.

Patricia Darland, our NWPC Coast Vice Chair, assembled a team of interviewers: Phoebe Graubard, Maggie Watson, Camille Ranker who recommended the following candidates.

Vote for Barbara Rice

for the College of the Redwoods Board.

Barbara Rice has over 30 years experience in education as a school psychologist and college counselor, teacher and administrator. She has held various community college and university administrative positions such as Director of Community Education, Director of an Evening Degree Program, and Dean of Students. She was the Mendocino Coast Campus Administrator of College of the Redwoods from 1997 to 2003 and the North Coast Regional Liaison for the University of California from 2004 to 2008. She retired last year, but maintains a small, private practice as a mediator. Barbara and her husband, Grant Miller, have continued to take classes at College of the Redwoods such as Martha Racine's Spanish course and, currently, Greg Grantham's semester-long Bird Identification course. Barbara's son is a 2004 graduate of Mendocino High School where her stepson is currently a high school senior. She also has a married step daughter and two grandchildren.

She is a very straightforward speaker. She delivers her points with enthusiasm and knowledge. She recommends needed change and wants to engage the community in making change that they want. "I would like each community to come up with their own plan." She appears to have a high degree of knowledge and experience and feels she can bring value to the Board. She is looking for creative programming so that needed programs will not be sacrificed and that the nursing program could come back.

Phoebe Graubard, Patricia Jauregui-Darland and Camille Ranker interviewed Nice Alterman

Vote for Nice Alterman

for the Mendocino County Office of Education (MCOE)

Nice Alterman is a nonprofit consultant and professional facilitator. She has been serving as a Trustee of the Mendocino County Board of Education for the past twenty years. During this time she has worked hard to make sure that as many resources as possible are available for students. She has helped to create partnerships, such as the one with the Arts Council of Mendocino, that have brought enrichment activities into the classroom. She has always stressed the need for open and honest communication and an inclusive decision-making process into all of our deliberations.

She is concerned about declining enrollment due to high drop out rates in HS. She is a very creative out of the box thinker when it comes to developing programs. She demonstrates high degree of knowledge about all services. She stated that she is the catalyst for collaboration and partnerships.

Mendocino Coast District Hospital Report

We have just completed our 3rd consecutive profitable year as a critical access hospital. Although the past 12 months have not been as financially successful as the previous 2 years, we are pleased that we have been able to remain profitable despite Medi-Cal cuts in our funding during the past year and a downturn in the economy that has had an effect on reduction in (primarily outpatient) services. Major objectives for the new fiscal year (our year started on July 1) are: rebranding our hospital as a healing hospital, start of construction of a new diagnostic imaging center, addition of a full time orthopedic surgeon in 2010 (Jack Bellah), and preparation for H1N1 anticipated epidemic.

The hospital has started the first 2 months of the current year with lower than anticipated patient volume, resulting in a negative operating margin. August did show some improvement over July with increased inpatient activity (however decreased outpatient activity). The hospital had a negative operating income of \$136,000 for August, including \$50,000 worth of reductions from revenue related to prior month (July) adjustments. Hospital salary savings were achieved during the month due to a reduction in worked hours. A positive note is that when the July adjustments are taken out and when non-operating revenue (tax income) is added back in the total bottom line loss for the month of August is only \$20,000. The hospital's plan to improve financial performance is to market aggressively, including profitable services such as orthopedic surgery, outpatient surgery, diagnostic imaging, laboratory and rehabilitation services.

Although we are not without our challenges at MCDH, I feel very positively about the future of our hospital. We are embarking on a Healing Hospital transformation that I think will create a draw for our facility. We have already heard very many positive comments about this change. The addition of a full time orthopedic surgeon will be a major boost for our hospital. The addition of an experienced CFO to our team in 2009 has made us even stronger.

Patricia Jauregui-Darland, Board of Directors

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Prop. 13 Encourages Malls

Indeed, California is a mess. And the root cause of the mess is Proposition 13. In 1978, voters thought they were capping real property taxes to allow the elderly to remain in their homes. Property taxes would increase only at the time of sale, or so the voters thought. Corporations, however, soon found ways to transfer property without a resultant increase in property taxes. County and state coffers continue to lose out because of this loophole and you would think there would be an effort to close it, and there is, but only a little. Such is the power of corporations. I surmise that should Measure A pass, DDR, whose finances are in a shambles, would try to unload the site and would structure the deal so that the new "owner" could

evade increased property taxes. Once again, county and state coffers would not be filled and we, the residents, would not benefit.

Post Prop. 13, sales taxes have replaced property taxes as an apparently desirable source of revenue. And shopping malls, as big generators of sales tax revenue, appear desirable. While it is true that a new shopping mall would generate sales tax revenue, it is also true that this would not be additional revenue. Furthermore, sales tax revenue is less than ideal as a source of revenue because 35 cents of every sales tax dollar goes to the federal government. Property taxes, pre-Prop. 13, stayed in the county.

A mall on the Masonite site would decrease sales tax revenue from existing stores. In a telephone conversation, longtime resident Laura Fogg recounted the history of shopping malls in the Ukiah Valley, starting with the Yokayo Shopping Center where the Department of Social Services now stands behind the parking lot at the corner of Gobbi and State streets. And where the Grace Hudson School now stands, the old Deep Valley Shopping Center had once stood its ground and included a large grocery store and eight or 10 little stores. The energy left both those sites in the mid-'70s when Orchard Plaza was built and where today only Long's among the original stores remains. Very soon after that, the Pear Tree Shopping Center took center stage. Next, Crossroads appeared on North State Street. Anchored by Raley's, Crossroads constantly changes tenants in its other stores. All were touted as boons, but we really don't know if anyone other than the developers realized net income as a result.

The Redwood Business Park near the airport was originally the Airport Industrial Park but was quickly rezoned to commercial. The City of Ukiah unwisely allowed Wal-Mart to anchor the "park," sucking the life blood out of the downtown area. Ten years later, the downtown remains fragile. The point of this recitation is that new malls don't generate new revenue. They merely move the revenue around for a period of time as people go to the newest mall.

We wouldn't be desperate for stimulus money and its accompanying red tape if there had not been a real estate bubble fed by shortsighted corporate greed and Chairman of the Federal Reserve Alan Greenspan. You would think that a realty corporation such as DDR would have figured out that a real estate bubble was ill-fated and not in its long-term interest. Alas, no. Now, DDR is in trouble and asking for bailout money from the Federal Reserve.

Long term, Californians need to repeal Prop. 13. New protections for homeowners can be part of the solution, but these protections should be for homeowners only, not corporations. Only then will property tax revenue stay in the county, funding our schools and other services. Sales tax revenue derived from big box retail will lose its allure, illusory though it is. For now, we can vote a resounding NO on Measure A, the misbegotten initiative that would plunk a monster mall on the Masonite site.

Janie Sheppard

Children's Health Coverage Takes a Huge Cut

The mission of Healthy Kids Mendocino, our local children's health initiative, is to achieve universal health insurance coverage for all children in Mendocino County. Since 2006, this public-private partnership has been working with local community health centers, schools, private health care providers, small businesses, family resource centers and others to identify and assist families that need affordable, comprehensive health insurance coverage for their kids. Healthy Kids Mendocino offers assistance to families with enrollment into one of three programs; Medi-Cal, Healthy Families and CalKids. Three years after the launch of the Healthy Kids Mendocino, coalition partners were thrilled to see the results of our work reflected in the community. New data from the California Health Interview Survey revealed that we have reduced by half the number of uninsured children in Mendocino County. (Percentage of children that were uninsured in Mendocino County dropped from 16% in 2005 to 8% in 2007.)

But today, the coalition faces the daunting prospect of watching their hard work and subsequent success severely undermined by drastic budget cuts by the State Legislature and the Governor. On July 28, Governor Schwarzenegger added an additional \$50 million cut to the severely underfunded Healthy Families program, bringing the total budget shortfall for the program to \$178 million. Faced with such a significant cut, the Healthy Families program was forced to halt all new enrollments into the program. And quite soon, the Healthy Families program may also be forced to disenroll current enrollees. For a statewide and local economy already reeling from the stresses of the severe economic downturn, the cuts to children's health insurance programs come at a time that our community needs it the most.

"Families in our community are struggling," says Megan Van Sant, Program Director for Healthy Kids Mendocino. "Most of the calls to our office these days are from families with a parent who has recently lost a job or been forced to reduce hours. We get calls from struggling small business owners, hairdressers whose clients are not coming in to get their hair done as often, and construction workers and craftsmen who can't find work. Until recently, we always had a solution for these families. But now, with a waiting list for the Healthy Families program, we really have to be creative and resourceful in finding ways to help families. In Mendocino County, about 90 children are newly enrolled into the Healthy Families program each month. If the Healthy Families waitlist continues for a full year, that means that over 1,000 uninsured children in our community will be denied coverage. And that's an injustice and a tragedy that we simply cannot accept."

In spite of the challenges to the Healthy Families program, Healthy Kids Mendocino urges parents to continue to seek assistance and support for health insurance coverage for their children. "A waitlist for any program can have a chilling effect on all programs," says Van Sant. "We're concerned that families may not seek assistance for our office or from their local health clinic or family resource center because they think that all options are closed to them. That's not necessarily the case. Medi-Cal is still a great option for low-income families and the program is still open for enrollment. CalKids is another option that may work for families. We can help eligible families secure a spot on the Healthy Families waitlist, and still explore other options at the same time. The challenges that we face, as a community and as an initiative, are significant, but not insurmountable. Now, more than ever, I am convinced that local solutions to national problems are the most effective way to build the momentum for



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 Anne Molgaard

ERA Sees A Revival Among America's Feminists

A long fought for battle over the whether or not to pass an "Equal Rights Amendment:" appears to be heating up again. On Facebook, there is a group that is called the: Equal Rights Amendment :

This group has over 2,000 members and is growing, It is not the only group on Facebook. There are many others regarding this issue and that have many more members than this group. The point is that this is an issue that is running right below the surface of American politics right now and that smart Progressive politicians would be wise to heed the message: Listen to us because a new revival of feminism is now taking place that will no longer tolerate being submerged by the so called Moral Majority in this country which has lost much power and influence in American society.

Here's what the above listed Face Book group has to say on the issue of the Equal Rights Amendment:

The Equal Rights Amendment, first proposed in 1923, is still not part of the U.S. Constitution. The ERA has been ratified by 35 of the necessary 38 states. When three more states vote yes, the ERA might become the 28th Amendment.

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

States That Have Not Yet Ratified:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia.

The question this reporter asks is: Will the advent of the revival of Progressivism in the United States of America be embraced by the Democratic Party power brokers when it comes to the Equal Rights Amendment or will they will continue be swayed in the fear of the dogmatic and nativist Moral Majority Movement ?

"When you put your hand to the plow, you can't put it down until you get to the end of the row"
 - Alice Paul

Here are some photos of Kirsten Turner's twins.

Left – Zacary Vassily Turner Brezinger

Right – Jacob Jackson Turner Brezinger

Born 4/30/2009.



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 2nd Wednesdays
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no agenda's please
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The Greek symbol for women is used to form five circles representing the five races: black, brown, yellow, red and white. Intertwining of the circles means unity: working together;

we can achieve anything.

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\$70. regular membership

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