

## Calendar

Nov. 20  
 Benefit Dance  
 SPACE  
 7 -10 pm

Nov. 29  
 NWPC Board  
 Project Sanctuary  
 564 Dora St.  
 Ukiah  
 5:30 pm

Dec. 12  
 NWPC HOLIDAY  
 PARTY  
 Estelle Clifton  
 121 Calvert Ct.  
 Ukiah  
 Potluck  
 4 - 7 pm  
 462-6620

Jan. 14-16  
 NWPC CA  
 RETREAT  
 Newport Beach

Feb. 2011  
 NWPC Training

March 6, 2011  
 Women's History  
 Celebration

### Election Results

The Big Victory was our endorsed candidate Senator Barbara Boxer. California kept all our Congressional women.

### Locally:

Noreen Evans won her California Senate seat. Meredith Lintott is in a tight race for District Attorney with 12,000 votes to be counted. Holly Madrigal lost in her race for Supervisor. Wendy Roberts lost in her race for Supervisor. Mary Anne Landis was the high vote getter in the Ukiah City Council. Meg Courtney won her Fort Bragg seat without a race. Shari Schapmire won her Treasurer/Tax Collector seat without a race. Ann Moorman won the Judge's seat in the primary.

### Nancy Pelosi Will Run for Minority Leader

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) announced on Friday that she would run for Democratic Party minority leader in the 112th Congress. After the Democrats lost the majority in the House by a considerable margin, some political insiders believed Pelosi, who won reelection to the House, would step down from her leadership position in the party. Pelosi, who became the focus of Republican attacks during the 2010 campaign, may face a challenge from members of the conservative Blue Dog Coalition, some of whom have called on Pelosi to step down. Current Majority Leader Democrat Steny Hoyer (MD, a moderate, said he will not challenge Pelosi and is currently considering running for minority whip, the number two position in House Democratic leadership.

### First Drop in the Number of Women Members of Congress in 30 Years

Despite the number of prominent Senate and House races with women candidates, Tuesday's election will mean the 112th Congress will have fewer women legislators. If the remaining undecided races end as expected, this will be the first decrease in the number of women in Congress since 1978. There will be at least 86 female members come January, including non-voting delegates, with eight new Republican women in the House and four Democrats, including several women of color. **Hawaii made history this week, becoming the first state to send an all-female delegation to the House of Representatives.**

### Thanks NWPC,

Your endorsement, generous campaign donation and most of all, the Running to Win campaign training you offered last January were incredible supports to me in running my first campaign – and winning! Though it's hard to believe this once-shy person is an elected official for the

great little city of Ukiah, it is even stranger to be called a politician. Thoreau said, "*Cast your whole vote, not a strip of paper merely, but your whole influence.*" My very public, politician's face is new to me; I guess, Thoreau would call it my whole vote. Thanks NWPC for helping me win!

*Mary Anne Landis*

"Thank you so much for your generous contribution...Your guidance and support makes all the difference."

*Meredith Lintott*

"Thank you so much for your contribution to my campaign. It is so appreciated. Your support will go a long way towards helping us reach our goal of election."

*Holly Madrigal*

### Holiday Party

We will be gathering at Estelle Clifton's house on December 12th at 4 pm for our Holiday potluck. Estelle's address is 121 Calvert Court, Ukiah, CA 95482. Her phone is 462-6620.

### Here and There

An election cycle is always dramatic, exhausting and sometimes scary. We experienced all of the above in this cycle. The number of women in Congress dropped for the first time. The Republican women came into their own. With a dramatic showing nationwide, women said to the Republican Party we are here and we will be leaders. Republican women won the Governor's races in New Mexico, South Carolina, Arizona and Oklahoma. [http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/fast\\_facts/elections/candidates\\_2010.php](http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/fast_facts/elections/candidates_2010.php)

Locally we still have work to do. There is only one woman on each of the Ukiah, Fort Bragg and Willits City Councils. We have two out of nine judges....The next race will be for School Board in November. With the drop in funding and enrollment our schools face a crisis. Where will we find good women who can say no to a powerful superintendent? Where are the women who can remember what the children need? Lets go find them....We had a grand time at Fresno for Mary Stanley's 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday and the Fresno NWPC's thirty-five Anniversary. It reminds us that Mendocino NWPC's thirtieth Anniversary is coming up in November. Time to celebrate!...This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women Getting the Vote in California. The National Women's History Project has some great ideas up their shelves....Pam Levin took affront at NWPC's support of HPV vaccine. I have published her article but if you check it out at the CDC website, you will find a different story. She reminds me of Barbara Brenner of the Breast Cancer Action group who question the cost and wisdom of these expensive drugs that make the pharmaceutical wealthy with questionable results for women....Katharine Cole worked for the Victory

Fund which sought to elect “out” gay and lesbian people. She is bound for Washington. They had a phenomenal success rate. Out of 123 candidates they endorsed, 106 were elected.... The National NWPC will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Washington, DC on either the last weekend in July or the first weekend in August. Come party with us. Katarzyna who lived in Washington promised to show us all the fun spots.

*Val Muchowski*

**Membership**

**Welcome Renewing Members:** Kristy Kelly, Anne Oliver

**Due in October:** Caren Callahan, Sue Cameron, Madelin Holtkamp, Jennifer Poole, Barbara Rice, Arleen Shippey, Ruth Valenzuela,

**Due in November:** Carre Brown, Meg Courtney, Katharine Elliott, Noreen Evans, Nancy Nanna, Wendy Pollitz, Mary Ann Villwock

**Due in December:** Shannon Cox

**Women’s History**

Anne Molgaard has agreed to Co-Chair the Women’s History event. Please contact her at [acmolgaard@mendochildren.org](mailto:acmolgaard@mendochildren.org) or 468-0338 to be involved. The theme this year is **Our History is Our Strength**. We are looking for a place to meet starting in January.

**Women’s Wednesday**

Women’s Wednesday will resume starting in January 12th at Patrona’s in Ukiah at 5:30pm. Join us for a get together without an agenda.

**Thank You for All You Have Done Gloria Linder**

I had a stroke November 1st. Please encourage our wonderful women to get behind Mendocino Coast Children’s Fund with money and by sharing our web site and story [www.mccf.info](http://www.mccf.info) — I have a long journey back to good health. Volunteers can contact us via email at [MCCF@mcn.org](mailto:MCCF@mcn.org) or by calling Judith Bayer at 937-3988.

*Gloria Linder*



**Gloria Linder & Mike Thompson**

**Camille Ranker**

Camille Ranker is a long time member who is retiring from her business. We appreciate the fact that Camille was always there for the NWPC. She helped organize our Women Getting the Vote Celebrations in 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2010. Her office was always available for interviews of candidates or planning meeting. Camille served long and well on the Coast Hospital Board. When she retired from that Board, she recruited Patricia Jauregui Darland to run and win that seat. As a proud member of the Mendocino Coast Women’s Chorus, she kept us informed as to their doings as well as bringing them to brighten up our Coast Women Getting the Vote Celebrations. Enjoy your retirement Camille. It is well deserved.

**NPWC California**

Dear Members,

As we approach the end of the year, the National Women’s Political Caucus California would like to take a moment to say “Thank You” for your continued support.

When NWPC CA began in 1973 many believed we were well on the way to political equality. We thought all we had to do was to get organized and success would follow. We’ve since learned it’s not that easy to change the political climate. Over the years we’ve had our ups and downs and we’ve learned a lot. One of those things is that it takes more than passionate volunteerism alone to support all that we do. It takes money to have well attended campaign training for women interested in running for office or getting involved in campaigns. It takes money to put together a State Convention that is an exciting, informative event.

Thank you again for your extra support. We appreciate it.

Best,

*Pamela Chaput*

*State Membership Administrator*

*NWPC CA*

**California Women’s Appointment Project**

The nonpartisan California Women’s State Appointment Project’s goal is to encourage and recruit women to apply for an

**NWPC Mendocino County Executive Board**

Chair	Val Muchowski	895-3543
Vice Chair - Inland	Estelle Clifton	462-6620
Vice Chair - Coast	Patricia Darland	937-1798
Treasurer	Joelle Sumski	743-1945
Secretary	Arleen Shippey	462-7173
State Board of Directors	Katarzyna Rolzinski	468-9003
PAC Treasurer	Lynda McClure	463-0629
Membership	Joelle Sumski	743-1945
Historian	Madelyn McCauley	463-0620

appointment to boards, commissions, or in agencies with the incoming gubernatorial administration. California Women Lead, the National Women’s Political Caucus-California, Leadership California, the California Commission on the Status of Women, Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE), and Black Women Organized for Political Action comprise the coalition of organizations leading the effort to have qualified California women make up at least 50% of newly appointed officials. With the support of incoming Governor Jerry Brown, who has endorsed the project and voiced his intention to bring a “spirit of inclusion and diversity” to the Governor’s office, the project is sure to be successful. Now we just need your application by November 30th!

The Coalition will be presenting Governor Brown and his transition team members with binders of applications from women from throughout the state who are interested in serving in the new administration. We are recruiting women from all backgrounds and for all levels of positions - high level, paid and volunteer. Many of the boards and commissions need women to serve in public positions, so don’t think you need to be an expert in a specific area to apply! There are many women out there who are serving on boards and commissions and learning as they go.

We know there are many amazing women throughout California. As the state faces so many challenges we need to engage women from across the state and encourage them to serve. The Coalition’s goal is to not only increase the number of women in appointed office, but ensure that boards and commissions reflect the rich diversity of California.

Click here to submit your application for the California Women’s State Appointment Project by November 30th.

[www.cawomenlead.org/cwap](http://www.cawomenlead.org/cwap)

**The Little City That Could**

*Meg Courtney, Fort Bragg City Council Member*

In spite of the economic woes of other cities and states around the country, Fort Bragg is bounding ahead with major amounts of funding for exciting new projects. Thanks to a great team – Linda Ruffing, City Manager, Marie Jones, Community Development Director and Jennifer Owings, our super grant writer, not to mention a cohesive council – the grant monies keep rolling in.

Most recently The City was awarded a \$4,850,000 million grant from the State Coastal Conservancy for development of a Coastal Trail and other park facilities on 92 acres of coastal parkland on the former Georgia Pacific Mill Site. Earlier this year the City was able to purchase that land with another grant of \$4,165,000 from the Conservancy.

On October 21<sup>st</sup> the City was awarded yet ANOTHER grant of up to \$500,000 which will enable the City to purchase 12 acres on the Mill Site for a community-generated plan to create a marine science center which has already gotten plenty of traction. Staff has been pushing forward with a collaborative partnership with Sonoma State University - the future facility operator. The schematic designs have already been presented to the City Council to unanimous endorsement. The Noyo Center for Science and Education appears to working it’s way toward another coup for The City.

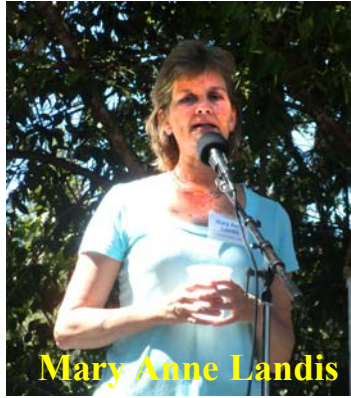
Visitors who haven’t been to Fort Bragg recently are always amazed by the look of our downtown business district. Because of other grant monies and our ½ % sales tax for streets and roads we have been able to completely re-design Franklin Street, narrowing the roadway (a traffic calming measure) and widening the sidewalks (to encourage pedestrian use), not to mention adding new street lighting & tree planting.

And- after some 25 years as a dream – our new skate park will be opening this month right next to the new C.V. Starr Aquatic

Center. Amazingly there is still so much more to report, but for now these are recent highlights from The Little City That Could.

**The View From My Seat**

The big election news from the City of Ukiah includes the re-seating of incumbents Phil Baldwin, Benj Thomas and Mary Anne Landis. The reconvening of the same council for at least two more years will provide a continuity of relationships so we can build on the momentum of progress from the last 2 years. Even with the dismal state of revenues which required many layoffs and reassignments, there has been progress or completion of many major projects within the city. The focused teamwork of the council and staff produced a number of significant projects, including:



- Completion of Sergeant Buzzard Bridge
- Ground breaking and pouring of concrete at the Skate Park
- Lighting on Anton Stadium
- Completion of the sewer plant upgrade
- Completion of two water wells
- Video inspections of all sewer laterals
- Remodeling and rental of The Railroad Depot: The former railroad building which was rehabbed recently welcomed Visit Mendocino and The Mendocino County Arts Council as tenants.
- New dispatch center for our Police
- Assembly of property at the Airport Business Park to encourage full build-out
- A number of parks' maintenance or expansion projects

**Some recent highlights:** A primary goal of the council continues to be relocating the new Courthouse, funded by the State, as near to downtown as possible. Two sites have emerged after reviewing 16 sites, using a matrix of qualities for each location. One is the depot site near the railroad, the other is property behind the library that incorporates a city parking lot and other buildings. Councilmembers Rodin and Landis are the reps on the advisory group that meets monthly to work with the Administrator of the Courts.

In October, after repeated lengthy discussions over the last years, the City Council passed an ordinance modeled after Santa Rosa's ordinance for Mobile Home Rent Stabilization. This ordinance was brought before Council by Councilmember Baldwin. The purposes of the ordinance are "to establish a speedy and efficient method of reviewing certain requested mobile home space rent increases in mobile home parks to protect mobile home owners from arbitrary, capricious or unreasonable site rent adjustments while insuring owners and or operators and investors a fair and reasonable return on their investment in their mobile home park." It will be reviewed in one year.

In November, Building and Planning staff along with Redevelopment agency staff, introduced two promising new programs for the improvement of Ukiah's downtown. The Facade Improvement Program with new easier-to-use guidelines for facades and the Business Improvement Program that will be used to assist property owners with code-required non-facade improvements such as sewer laterals, ADA requirements and seismic retrofits - among other uses. These programs support the Council's desire for the downtown to be a vital civic and commercial hub.

On the horizon for the City of Ukiah:

- the receipt of a \$600,000 grant to construct a rail/trail from Gobbi Street to Clara Avenue
- the completion of Form-Based codes
- a new Electric Utility substation on Gobbi Street.

That's the view from my seat,

Mary Anne Landis, Ukiah City Councilmember

**NWPC CA Report**

Mendocino State Director, Katarzyna Rolzinski, Report on NWPC-CA, State Board, NWPC-CA, 2010 Biennial Conference, Fresno, Ramada Fresno-University, October 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010: Meet, Train, Win. Hosted by NWPC-Fresno Caucus

Pre-Conference, Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>: Roast for Mary Stanley's 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday & NWPC Fresno 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; Anniversary Celebration & Silent Auction

Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 - 4:00:

- NWPC Campaign Training by Val Muchowski & Susanne LaFaver
- Lunch Panel of Elected Women
- NWPC WLF Board Meeting: Education & Training Report — Women's Appointment Project deadline, 10/15/2010 (now extended) for applications to be included to the new governor; kickoffs were 8/26 in Sacramento and 9/21 in Los



Angeles. Coalition (CA Women Lead, Leadership California, NWPC-CA, HOPE, CA Commission on the Statues of Women & Black Women Organized for Political Action) created forms; local caucuses are requested to sign on to project. Regional training for 2011: Jan/Feb- San Diego/Orange; Feb-North Coast; Mar/April-Central Valley/Fresno; July/August-North Coast; Sept/Oct-Sacramento/Alameda. Projects: Develop database of potential women to seek office; Cadre of trainers to work in various regions; work with elected women to provide visibility for our caucuses

**Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>:**

• Election of NWPC-CA State Officers: Tera Stephens was re-elected to serve as President. Our own Patricia Jauregui-Darland was elected as V. P. Membership; Tammi McIntyre-VP PAC; Rochelle Schneider-Secretary; Linda Knight-Treasurer, INC; Justine Quinones-Treasurer, PAC; Carole Nutt-Reg. Dir-North; Judith Hirshberg-Reg. Dir South; Mary Stanely-Reg. Dir Central; Gwen Cross-VP Communications; and VP Fundraising-INC/PAC has no Chair but Judith Gwen & Fred will actually be doing the work of the plan by the Chair.

• Talk by NWPC National President: Lulu Flores: Endorsements-18 questionnaires sent out, 3 back, Senator Boxer was endorsed earlier with \$1,000. EMMAS, the major national NWPC fundraiser held in October at the Cornell Club in NYC; nine winners out of 35 nominees for women in media. Tyne Daly was a special honoree. National is working on a College Women Caucuses Project, the Paycheck Fairness Coalition, and planning for the 40<sup>th</sup> year celebration of NWPC in August 2011 in Washington DC.

• PAC Report: Budget \$25,000; \$21,000 given out this year. Last year, less than \$10,000.

• Membership Report: CA = 665 Members. Largest membership #s in the following CA Caucuses: Alameda North-160; Fresno-84; Mendocino-66; LA Westside-64. Among outreach plans are for San Diego, Long Beach, and Orange with discussion to work toward Sonoma and Marin and San Francisco. Outreach plans will also focus on current electeds and candidates along with previous members. Patricia asked for each Caucus to let her know what they are doing to increase membership and how she can help. A special emphasis will be made toward the Latina and college populations and to partner with the NWPC Education & Training participants.

• Women of Achievement Celebration: The CA-PAC made \$13,000 just from CA caucuses. Jeanette Rankin-Courage to Run, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is this coming April. Perhaps we could plan an event with our Women's History Celebration. There is a Jeanette Rankin pewter bar paperweight that we can obtain via NWPC.

• Lunch Keynote Speaker: Debra Bowen, CA Secretary of State, Election Results You Can Trust. After 200 years, a post-election audit; huge #s of absentee voters including huge #s of overseas & military. She goes to high schools & colleges to advance registering to vote.

• Framing the Issue of Choice – panel.

• Using Social Media to Increase Membership & Fundraising

• Wine Reception with Christine Pelosi, political strategist: Comments on current political issues & networking.



**NWPC CA Board  
Christina Pelosi & Baby**

**Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>:**

• Installation of New Board Members & photos

• Parliamentary Procedure Discussion



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• Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Relationship Between National & State NWPC – October 5, 2010: Huge discussion and motion for rewording & passed without threat language of withholding dues. Issues: budget, finances, membership growth, communications, and visibility.

**Upcoming Dates:**

- January 14, 15 & 16, 2011 — NWPC-CA Retreat at Newport Beach, Radisson Hotel
- April 29 - May 1, 2011 — NWPC-CA quarterly meeting, Oakland; Alameda N.
- August 2011 — 40 Year national celebration in Washington, DC.



**Mary Stanley Pelosi Poster**

**EMMA AWARDS**

NWPC's Exceptional Merit in Media Awards celebrate writing that highlights women

I bought a \$100 event ticket and flew to New York City last week to meet my heroine Sheryl WuDunn and have her sign my much-underlined copy of *Half the Sky*. She was honored with other talented media at the Exceptional Merit in Media Awards (EMMAs) sponsored by the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) at the Cornell Club in Manhattan Thursday, October 14.



**Patti, Anne, Susanne Val in Fresno**

WuDunn earned her EMMA for *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, which she wrote with her husband New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof.

She graciously autographed my book, and lit up when I said I'd also read *China Wakes: The Struggle for the Soul of a Rising Power*, a

book for which she and her husband earned the Pulitzer Prize in 1990. A third-generation American-Chinese, WuDunn previously worked for New York Times Beijing and Tokyo bureaus. I formerly consulted in Asia for Levi Strauss & Co.

The EMMAs honor and reward journalists and media outlets in radio, television, print and Internet that inform and educate the public about critical issues impacting women's lives. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (NY) opened the event which was emceed by actress and social activist Tyne Daly.

NWPC annually recognizes outstanding pieces of writing that highlight women in this country and around the world," said

President Lulu Flores of Austin, Texas. The stories told within these works wouldn't necessarily get play in a patriarchal press if it weren't for the vigilant authors and dedicated publications in which they appear."

The 2010 EMMAs was dedicated to the memory of NWPC co-founder Liz Sutherland Carpenter, the first professional newswoman to be press secretary to a first lady, Lady Bird Johnson, for whom she also served as staff director. Carpenter was a revolutionary throughout her life – a leader in workplace equality and an empowering example of a woman whose voice carried far in the male dominated political media community.

Carpenter's daughter, Christy, presented NWPC's inaugural Liz Carpenter Award for Political Humor to Samantha Bee of The Daily Show with Jon Stewart. This year's EMMA honorees are: **Movie: Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire by Director Lee Daniels**



**Lulu Flores President**

Director Lee Daniels and his amazing cast produced a searing and often disturbing documentary-like story about Precious, an illiterate, overweight and abused Harlem teenager who suffers beyond comprehension from her parents' inhuman treatment. When Precious confronts her mother and marches out of the social worker's office with children in hand, you see the strength of thousands of women just like her who have faced adversity. Rather than coming away hopeless, viewers see hope in Precious because of the intelligence, resilience and confidence she demonstrates as she begins her new life.

Daniels risked the wrath of many who did not want to face that the Precious women of this world exist. By ignoring his critics, he created an unforgettable character that epitomizes the power of women.

**Internet: Women's eNews, by Rita Henley Jensen, editor-in-chief, and staff**

Women's eNews posts a mission statement claiming it as the "definitive source" of substantive news of particular concern to women. We could not agree more. The site's report on the Status of Women is only one of many, many features that we found to admire in this non-profit daily Internet news site, one of the first all news media outlets to venture into the world of web reporting that Rita Henley Jensen founded in 2000. Jensen is untiring in her journalistic mission to bring a women's perspective to the news. The site not only succeeds in showing how women define their own lives, but it is a model for honest, authentic story telling that women can trust.

**Book: Jesus, Jobs, and Justice African American Women and Religion, by Bettye Collier-Thomas**

Nowhere have the contributions of women in the political process been less recognized than in the pews of black churches. Betty Collier-Thomas's important book recognizes the long history of black women who coped with racism and sexism to facilitate the creation of national organization such as: The National Association of Colored Women, The National League of Council of Negro Women, the YWCA, the Church Women United, the NAACP and The National Urban League. We are pleased to recognize Collier-Thomas for bringing forth the stories of these women with such an accessible and authoritative voice.

**Book: *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn**

Kristof and WuDunn capture their readers with a book that details how the “paramount moral challenge of the 21st Century will be the struggle for gender equality around the world.” The Pulitzer Prize-winning team illustrated their thesis with hundreds of detailed cases, including graphic photographs. Their compilation breaks down the oppression they found into three categories: forced prostitution; gender-based violence, including honor killings and mass rapes; and maternal mortality. What makes this book worthy of an EMMA Award is not just its wrenching recitation of the stories they uncovered but the final chapter, which lays out specific steps for a “new emancipation movement to empower women and girls around the world”.

**Book: *Notes from the Cracked Ceiling: Hillary Clinton, Sarah Palin, and What it Will Take for a Woman To Win*, by Anne E. Kornblut**

The 2008 presidential election was like none other. For the first time, two women came within striking distance of the Oval Office. But the ultimate political goal remained out of reach, disappointing women in both political parties. Seasoned political reporter Anne Kornblut looks back over what her newspaper, The Washington Post, declared to be the “Year of the Woman,” and concludes it was anything but. Her detailed reporting sheds light on the gender minefield negotiated by Hillary Clinton and Sarah Palin, as well as women candidates in other races and looks at how they suffered and also benefitted politically from being women in the arena. Kornblut’s work embodies the goals of the EMMA Awards to recognize women involved in the political process, to reflect the significance of women’s contributions to the political process, and to provide a dialogue on issues important to women.

**Magazine: *MS The Scandal of Military Rape*, by Helen Benedict**

As a result of Helen Benedict’s provocative article, and subsequent book, *The Lonely Soldier*, the stories of women in the military who have faced sexual assaults, harassment and discrimination now have a voice. Benedict uses her considerable narrative talents to detail with precision the stories of how the United States military has condoned the abuse and discrimination of its women soldiers. It is not only fitting that we honor Benedict but it is of utmost importance that the country’s political powers follow the changes that her reporting so forcefully recommends.

**Magazine: *SELF The Crime Against Women That No One Understands*, by Sabrina Rubin Erdely**

Sabrina Rubin Erdely examines the problem of “acquaintance rape,” or non-stranger rape, which represents 75 percent of all rape cases in the United States. Using a four-year study that shows a conviction rate of only half the rape cases prosecuted against an “acquaintance” in comparison to rapes by strangers, Erdely gathers a variety of perspectives to drive home the point that many of us still think of rape as only occurring between strangers. Using first person accounts, Erdely describes

the victims’ trauma and the way they question their own judgment, which, in many instances leads the victim to decide against reporting one of the most horrendous crimes a woman suffers. This is a sobering report that should lead to serious revisions in how police and prosecutors deal with rape.

**Magazine: *Glamour Meet Generation (R)x*, by Liz Welch**

Given the mass appeal of Glamour magazine, this story offered an important and timely report from a women’s perspective about the serious consequences of sharing prescription pills. In examining this virtually untold story, writer Liz Welch produced a story that challenges the whopping 30 percent of women she claims “borrow” drugs to consider that it might be better to take no pill at all. Recognizing what abusing prescription drugs has done to celebrities like Lindsay Lohan and Anna Nicole Smith, we applaud Welch for uncovering this disturbing cultural trend.

**Magazine: *In These Times “Silenced in the Barracks: The Pentagon Fails to Protect U.S. Troops from Sexual Abuse”* by Jessica Pupovac**

Author Jessica Pupovac puts a spotlight on the problem of sexual harassment and sexual assault of American military women and the failure of the Pentagon to change a culture that tolerates such abuse and even punishes the victims. While women are playing an increasingly large role in the military that often puts their lives on the line in war zones, they continue to be threatened by a “broken system” that finds a way to blame them should they complain about harassment and even assault. Using compelling firsthand accounts from victims who’ve experienced scorn on base, disciplinary actions, and even loss of benefits, the article clearly shows that Pentagon efforts to address the assault problem have fallen far short of the attention the problem deserves.

For information on California’s Caucus, see [www.nwppca.org](http://www.nwppca.org). Follow NWPC CA on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/NWPC-California/120816264601569?ref=ts> and Twitter at [www.twitter.com/nwppca](http://www.twitter.com/nwppca).

Susanne La Faver

**Climbing Kilimanjaro  
Support My Climb for Equality**

I’ve had enough. Enough bullying. Enough negativity. Enough disappointment. And I’m ready to put my frustration into positive action. I’m climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro in January 2011 – the highest mountain on the continent of Africa and one of the “Seven Summits”. It won’t be my first time on the summit, but this time I’ll be pushing my way through the odds to make it to the top for all of us.

Every year nearly 100 climbers lose their lives in the pursuit of reaching Uhuru Peak (19,340 elevation). I climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in 1998. Then it was a personal goal of mine to go to Africa and reach the peak. I’m not a natural-born athlete by any means. Yes, I



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played my share of sports from swimming, track, softball and field hockey in my youth, but those were youthful pursuits. It was hard. It was painful. But I achieved my goal.

Now a lesbian woman in my mid-forties, I'm looking for a way to stretch my physical limits again in pursuit of a higher goal. Will you join me?

The climb will be hard. It will be painful. It will be exhausting. But I know that whatever I experience on that mountain, it will never equal the pain of our youth lost to suicide, the broken hearts denied marriage, the sting of homophobia, nor the hours and hours of gut-wrenching work Equality California does to ensure our rights.

I've had enough; enough bullying, enough negativity, enough disappointment. If you feel the same, I ask you to support Equality California through my climb for equality in January. If you do, you will be there with me for every step I take up that mountain. Together, we will reach the summit.

Levels of giving will go from the \$25 as a Climb Fan to \$5000 as a Uhuru Peak Sponsor. If folks want to give on the website [www.eqca.org/coleclimbskilimanjaro](http://www.eqca.org/coleclimbskilimanjaro) they can and simply bring the receipt to the event. Or just pay at the door.

Let me know if you need anything. Warmest Regards,

*Jody Cole*

I am sending you all this great opportunity for a fun evening and to help a great organization that fights for equality (Equality California). John and I are on the host committee and would love to see you there. It will be the evening of **November 20th at the SPACE Theater at 7 pm**. Above is a letter from Jody Cole who is the organizer of the event.

*Delynne Rogers*

### Congratulations HHSa and Food for All Mendocino: Our Hunger Champions

Many find it easy to bash government; I'd like to take this opportunity to say "well done" and "thank you".

As you may have read in the October 22 edition of the Ukiah Daily Journal, the Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSa) recently received a Gold Medal in the Hunger Champion Awards from the U.S. Department of Agriculture! Mendocino County is one of only two fed awards given.

In 2009, HHSa staff developed a new community coalition called Food for All Mendocino. The coalition includes local food banks, community dining rooms, local schools, other county programs and our agency, FIRST 5 Mendocino. The goal is to keep Mendocino County residents from going hungry.

The Food For All Mendocino coalition moved beyond "business as usual" to meet with people where they are. This county and this county are experiencing the worst economic downturn since the Depression. Some family breadwinners need extra help for the first time in their lives. They don't know where to turn or how to ask for help. The county and partners are reaching out in a respectful and compassionate way to make sure that families don't go hungry. They coordinated monthly journeys to the most isolated communities in our county to assist with mail-in food stamp applications. They set up outreach tables at local grocery stores, libraries, food banks, and set up a hotline (46-BREAD) staffed by a bilingual outreach worker to respond to those who couldn't make it to an office.

As a result the number of mail-in applications received has increased by 170% since the inception of the Food For All project. (No, not a typo. That's 170%! Overall food stamp cases in Mendocino County have increased by 52% between January 2008 and January 2010. This means less hungry people, children's brains developing better because of better nutrition, and an extra \$38 million circulating locally in our grocery stores – sustaining employment – the employees' paychecks – their mortgage payments – their child care, etc. Enthusiastically;

*Anne Molgaard, FIRST 5 Mendocino*

### HPV Vaccine by Pamela Levin, R.N.

A recent NWPC email promoted HPV (human papilloma virus) vaccination to prevent cervical cancer. Naturally, no one wants cervical cancer. But is this effective, and is it a good idea?

The email stated that HPV is "the virus that causes 96 percent of cervical cancer cases." But according to James Howenstine, M.D., "***The FDA has been aware since 2003 that Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) does not cause cervical cancer***".

Here are some facts about HPV and this vaccine, summarized from Dr. Howenstine (<http://www.newswithviews.com/Howenstine/james170.htm>) and Dr. Joseph Mercola, D.O. (<http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2008/06/24/why-use-vaccine-for-hpv-when-green-tea-works.aspx>) and The National Vaccine Center (<http://www.nvcc.org/Vaccines-and-Diseases/hpv.aspx>)

- HPV virus **does not cause cervical cancer.**
- HPV vaccine **increases the risk of developing a precancerous cervical lesion** by 44.6% in women previously infected with a HPV viral type found in the vaccine.
- **HPV viral infections are self limiting** and are not a health threat to healthy females.

Gardasil vaccine is **unable to eradicate HPV virus from women who have been exposed to HPV** (nearly all sexually active women).

Gardasil vaccine contains just four types of HPV out of the more than 100



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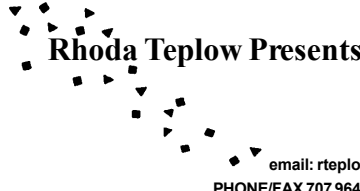
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strains. If you contract one of the 96+ types that aren't included, you're out of luck. And, if you've already been exposed to one of the four types of virus in the vaccine, it doesn't work against those either. (Mercola)

Symptoms reported following vaccination include fatigue, headache, numbness, muscle weakness, joint pain, concentration problems, chest pain, skin disorders, menstrual problems, heart disorders, seizures, dizziness, muscle pain, nausea, miscarriage, paralysis and Guillain-Barré syndrome. (These symptoms increase with the second and third vaccination).

As of January, 2010, 15,829 adverse reactions were reported by the AEFI, including 49 deaths. (<http://www.nvic.org/pdf/Tarsell-Report-Unexplained-Gardasil-Deaths.pdf>)

Spain has already taken the vaccine off their market.

Dr. Howenstine emphasizes that, "This valuable information about the etiology of HPV viral infections has been suppressed from public knowledge. Allowing untruths about Gardasil to be disseminated in public hearings and planting fear have been used to promote sales of this worthless vaccine." And there is an alternative, one that's been demonstrated to be far more effective than the vaccine: a combination of green tea extract and vitamin C.

Even without green tea and vitamin C, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) states, "In 90 percent of cases, your body's immune system clears the HPV infection naturally within two years."

If you start to trace down how this information came through the NWPC, you discover an organization called [NCWO](#), which states it is part another organization called the [Partnership to End Cervical Cancer](#). Tracing down the sponsorship of their [National Cervical Cancer-Free Campaign](#), leads through to CLUW (Coalition of Labor Union Women) which has an arm of their organization called CCPW (Cervical Cancer Prevention Works). Turns out all this is funded by Qiagen, one of the companies which makes an FDA-approved test for HP.

Faced with information from non-pharmaceutical industry sources leads questioning whether, in forwarding this drug company sponsored promotional material on HPV testing and vaccination, the NWPC has become an unwitting shill for the pharmaceutical industry's stated goal to keep women dependent on their products from the cradle to the grave.

Do we really want to first pay for the HP test, then pay for the HPV vaccine, then pay with a lot of unwelcome post-vaccination symptoms, and then, for some of us, pay with our lives or the lives of our daughters? And allow our women's political organization to be co-opted in the process?

### Swiss Women

I am very excited to announce that since yesterday's elections, the Swiss government of 7 ministers has now 4 women ministers, which is a historic first for Switzerland. Switzerland now becomes only the fifth country in the world to have a female majority in government, along with Norway, Spain, Finland and Cap Verde. Since the Swiss government doesn't have a real permanent prime minister, because a president for representative purposes, is usually elected every year for 1 year; he just is a "primus inter pares" (first among equals), so each minister has quasi the weight of a prime minister/7.

This historic event is even more significant if one considers that Switzerland introduced the women's right to vote only in 1971 i.e. almost 40 years ago, and the first time a woman was elected into the government (not to be confused with parliament) dates about 26 years back. At that time, usually only one woman minister figured among her 6 colleagues.

I think this result shows that those who are ready to fight for their rights can sooner or later achieve those.



Jody Cole Climbs Kilimanjaro



Aung Sun Suu Kyi

**Joining the NWPC will mean that you:**

- \* Use your political voice to make important decisions that affect your life and family;
- \* Provide opportunities for all women in your community to gain skills and experience necessary to assume leadership roles at all levels;
- \* Participate in training experiences that can sharpen your skills ... and even change your life.

**Websites**

www.katharinecole.com  
 www.nwpc.org  
 www.nwpcca.org  
 www.ukiahsmartgrowth.org  
 www.MendoChildren.org

*Every choice we  
 make can be a  
 celebration of the  
 world we want.*

*Frances Moore Lappe*



**NWPC LOGO**

*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.*

Yes! I want to increase women's political power and become a member of the National Women's Political Caucus. Enclosed is a check for \$ 70. for annual dues.

\$ 70. regular membership

\$ 30. low income/ student

I want to do more to help NWPC achieve its goals.

Enclosed is a contribution of \_\_\_\_\_

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