Women's News of the Monterey Bay Area

VOLUME 3 NO. 4 JULY, 1980

At Lovers Point

Women’s Run Set for July 19

The Women's Center of the YWCA will sponsor an all-women's walk/run on Saturday, July 19 called “The Women's Movement.” All women are invited to come and run, walk or wheelchair along the beautiful Lovers Point route in Pacific Grove.

The event has two purposes: to raise funds for the Women's Center, and to provide a chance for women to participate in a non-competitive, supportive athletic event. Women of all ages and physical abilities are encouraged to join in.

The day will begin at 9 a.m. with a running clinic at Lovers Point, which will include information about exercises, clothing, nutrition and other pointers for beginning runners.

The run/walk will begin at 10 a.m. with two courses: a 3.1-mile and a 6.2-mile course. Entry fee is $4 received by July 13; $5 on the day of the event.

T-shirts with the “Women's Movement” logo are now on sale for $5 at the Y, and will also be available the day of the run.

A sponsorship drive is going on at present. Any individual, group or business can support a woman walker/runner for a minimum of $25. The runner will wear a T-shirt imprinted with the name of the sponsor. Please call Linda Robinson at the Y to sponsor a runner.

After the run, participants and spectators are invited to Lovers Point Park to picnic. It will be a wonderful day and one you won't want to miss.

Route for the run. For entry form, see page 12.

September 5-7

War Resisters League To Sponsor Feminist Gathering

A women's gathering, to focus on the issues of feminism, nonviolence, and the new militarism, will take place September 5-7 at the Cazadero Music Camp in Sonoma County.

Sponsored by the Feminism and Nonviolence Program of War Resisters League-West, the weekend will provide an opportunity for women from all over the Western states to share their work and insights in the areas of nuclear disarmament, safe alternative energy, anti-draft and counter recruitment organizing, peace conversion, war tax resistance, women's issues such as rape, battery, and employment as they relate to militarism, etc.

The organizers hope participants will strengthen feminist, non-violent analysis and strategies; further develop networks for mutual support; and take time to relax and have fun.

Cost for the weekend, including food, camp and registration fees is $27.50. For more information or to register, contact the War Resisters League-West, 1360 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

Women's Businesses Sought by Area YWCA

The Women's Center of the YWCA is gathering information on women owned businesses on the Peninsula. If you are in business for yourself or know of a woman who is, please contact the center. They want to know about you and others.

The center's files will include all occupations. They have a good list of lawyers, but need more general businesses (store owners, bankers, financial investors); counselors (especially employment and financial); and more service industries such as electricians, general repair, mechanics, painters, licensed child care workers, etc.

The purpose of the resource center is to serve as a tool to improve the status of women through education and exchange of information. With your help the center can be a very effective source of information for women in this community.

Call the YWCA at 649-0834.
An Editorial

Carter's Record — An Analysis

"I am determined to tear down the walls that have kept you out of the decision making and policy making participation in our government. You can depend on that."

Candidate Jimmy Carter, Oct. 2, 1976
to the National Women's Agenda Conference

When questioned about his record on women's issues, President Carter responds by claiming a breakthrough in appointing women to important, policy-making positions in the federal judiciary and the executive branch.

It's time to examine that record.

When Carter took office, one percent of federal judges were women. He was therefore presented with an excellent opportunity to raise that percentage above tokenism, especially since under his administration an expansion of the federal judiciary created 152 new positions.

However, Carter did far less than he could have. Instead of a major breakthrough, the Carter appointments moved women from one percent to five percent of federal judges — an improvement, but still token representation. (Governor Brown has increased the percentage of women in state judgeships from one percent to 15 percent.)

On executive branch appointments, Carter claims a record of 23 percent women among the 1929 appointments he has made. However, a study by the National Organization for Women shows that the president's record on appointments to solid, full-time, paid positions is about 10 percent, compared with five percent for President Nixon. As with judicial appointments, the Carter record is not the dramatic increase he has proclaimed.

While an incumbent's record on appointments is important, it is not the only issue of concern to us when assessing a candidate's performance. NOW points out that more than 13 million women in this country over 65 are living on an income from Social Security below the poverty line, yet last year President Carter proposed a cut in Social Security benefits.

Carter's record on appointments is abysmal, and it is the best evidence he can give us of his commitment to women's issues. It is clear that our concerns are not a high priority for him.

—Joan Weiner

SF Women's Bldg. Needs Our Help

The San Francisco Women's Building, the first women-owned and operated community-based women's building in the country, was gutted by fire on Valentine's Day. Arson is suspected. In order to rebuild, they need our help. Contributions are tax deductible. Send whatever you can to the Women's Building of the Bay Area, 3542 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110.

Invest in a Vision

Editors: JT Mason Debi Busman
Production: Joan Weiner Maureen McEvoy
Graphics: Barbara Bastian Cyndi Sumner
Reporters: Janie Forrest Polly Parker
Diana Skiles Sandra McKee

Demeter is a feminist publication designed to keep women informed of pertinent issues. Contributions of articles, graphics and money are welcome. Subscriptions are $3 for six months or $6 for one year. Mail check or money order to Demeter, P.O. Box 1661, Monterey, CA 93940. Editorial office is located at 591 Lighthouse Ave., No. 7, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. 375-5629

New Subscribers

Thanks and welcome to our new subscribers:
Peter M. Harding
Elaine B. Nast
Gerrica Connolly
Mary Mandy Mason
Unique Nail Boutique
Dua and Huiya
Nancy Hockstaff
Marjory Ingersoll
James Koontz
Estalee Weill
Letters to the Editor

Lolita Lebrón, Another Opinion

Editor:

I thought your readers might be interested in a little background on Lolita Lebrón, the Puerto Rican independence movement worker for whom donations were solicited in the June issue.

Your article stated that Lebrón spent 25 years in prison "for attacking the U.S. Congress to bring the colonial reality of Puerto Rico before the eyes of the world." This explanation omits some important facts.

Lebrón was a terrorist and assassin who, along with three others, fired pistols from the visitors' gallery of the United States House of Representatives, wounding five Congressmembers, one fatally. A score of shots were fired, bullets spraying wildly through the House chamber. Several years earlier, two of her compatriots had attempted to assassinate President Truman.

I do not believe that the end justifies the means. In my opinion, terrorism and assassination are never justified, no matter how valid the terrorist's cause. While I believe that Lebrón is a "strong, committed, courageous woman," I cannot condone violence or terrorism.

To employ violence in the pursuit of our goals is to mimic the patriarchy. Instead of traveling traditional male routes, let us change those routes. Let us, as feminists, achieve our goals through non-violent means.

Joan Weiner
Pacific Grove

A Grateful Reader

Editor:

During this time of change for me (relocating from Northern California and going through a divorce), your paper is a most appropriate and welcome surprise. Thank you for the sample copy.

It's good to know you are out there, and I look forward to taking part in some of the upcoming happenings. Hopefully, too, through you I can connect with other women in the area. Thanks again, and good luck.

Nancy Hockstaff
Salinas

If you know anyone who would like a sample copy, send us a card with the name and address, and we'll forward one.

Notes From Demeter

Whether you would like to clean out your closets and cubby holes of unwanted accumulations or would like to fill them with new found treasures, Demeter can help you. We are having a garage/bake sale on July 12 from 8:30-2:30 at 558 Laine Street in Monterey.

We're looking for donations of saleable items or baked goods. If you have anything to donate, please bring it by our office at 591 Lighthouse, No. 7, Pacific Grove from 12-3 Monday-Saturday or call 659-3752 for pick-up.

Come fill your closets, stomachs and our pocketbooks at the Demeter garage/bake sale!

A quick reminder: Demeter now has a phone: 375-5629. We're looking for an inexpensive answering machine, so please keep your eyes open.

We are always looking for contributions of articles, art work, community events, quotations, perspectives, etc. We need help!

With this issue, you will see us credit a new source for some of our stories — Her Say. Her Say is a national women's news service based in San Francisco, sort of the Associated Press of feminist journalism. Our finances have just allowed us to subscribe to this service and we feel that it will make Demeter more interesting and more professional. We hope that you agree.

Even if you don't have articles or art to contribute, tell us what you want in and from Demeter. Communicate with us, and we'll do our best to keep you informed.

Notice how few photographs there are in this issue? Volunteer to do something about it! We need photos, black and white preferred, especially those taken at community events. We also like to run photos as art. Please submit your work, and Demeter's pages will be more interesting.
Women's Center
YWCA
Women's Movement — All women's run, Saturday, July 19, 10 a.m. at Lovers Point. Five and 10 kilometer walk/run or wheel chair. All women are encouraged to participate. Registration fee is $4 if received by July 13, $5 on the day of the race. Free running clinic at 9 a.m.

Women's Evening — Friday, July 25, 7:30 p.m. at YWCA, 276 Eldorado, Monterey. An evening of music making, poetry reading, and refreshments. Bring your musical instruments and poetry. A 50-cent donation is requested.

Career Counseling — A comprehensive career development program including interest measures and testing, resume writing, and interviewing techniques. Fee: $15 up. Y membership requested.

Women's Health Task Force — A fact-finding group exploring the health needs and resources of Peninsula women.

Library — A lending library featuring books by, for and about women.

Information and Referral — A resource to connect people with services and individuals, i.e., doctors, attorneys, child care, etc.

Women's Community Calendar — Scheduled activities and events of Peninsula women's organizations and agencies.

For further information on any of the above, call the YWCA Women's Center at 649-0834.

Women Against Domestic Violence

WADV will hold its general meeting July 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Y. Susan Carpenter from Sun Street Center's Community Alcohol Program will address the group on the correlation between alcoholism and domestic violence.

Monterey Parks and Rec Dept.

Monterey Parks and Recreation Department is offering a number of dance and exercise classes for women beginning various dates in July. Small fees are charged for the classes, which are held at the Community Center, 542 Archer St., or at the Youth Center at El Estero Park. For specific information call the Rec Dept. at 646-3866.

Sign Language Class

Sandra Faulkner and Carolyn Hansen will teach a workshop on American Sign Language July 14-18, 1-4 p.m. The workshop is designed for beginning and intermediate students and will be held in Carmel Valley. Fee: $20. For more information, call Sandra at 659-5119.

Women's Rap Group

Women interested in forming a women's rap group can call Signe at 624-2133 for more information.

Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women

The Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women will meet Wednesday, July 2, at the Seaside City Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m. This will be the annual meeting that the Commission holds on the Peninsula. For more information, call 394-5120.

Antioch University Monterey

Antioch is offering "The Growing Edge — Contemporary Issues and Applied Psychology," a series of workshops and seminars to provide professional training and personal growth. The series is designed for clinicians, administrators, students, teachers and community members with personal or professional interest in the mental health field as it expands today.

Friday evening seminars include "Play Therapy With Children," with Sylvia Krimsky, M.S.C.C., July 25 from 7:30-10 p.m, and "Birth and Rebirthing," with Pat Upton, M.A., August 1, 7:30-10 p.m. The film "Birth Without Violence" by Dr. LeBoyer will be shown.

Seminars are drop-in, no advance registration is required. A $3 donation is requested.

"Family Therapy — A Systems Approach," is the title of a workshop to be led by JoAnn Schwarz DePetro, M.S.C.C. It will run for five Monday evenings, July 7-August 4, 6-9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, August 2 and 3, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Graduate/college credit is available for this workshop. Fees are on a sliding scale. Advance registration is required.

For more information, call Jackie or Lorna at 649-4949.

Resources For Women, Inc., will sponsor a benefit showing of women's films on Friday, July 25 at the Louden Nelson Community Center in Santa Cruz. Films being shown are: "Doubleday," produced by the International Women's Film Project, which depicts the efforts of women in Latin America who fight to bring equality to the home and workplace; and "Women of the Toubou," about a nomadic matriarchy which has resisted all efforts of governmental control. Also, there will be some animation with a feminist perspective.

The movies will be shown twice, at 7 and 9:15 p.m. Admission is $2.50 at the door. Proceeds will go toward future productions.

Prior to the films there will be a champagne-book signing party for Resources For Women's most recent book, *Establishing Your Own Business, Handbook for Women.*

Free childcare will be provided with advance registration. To register, call 429-1627.

Childbirth Education League

The Childbirth Education League of the Monterey Peninsula sponsors Parents Talk, an on-going support and enrichment group for parents with children of any age. The group meets each Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon at the Family Resource Center, 500 Hilby Street, Seaside. Free childcare is provided. For more information, call CEL at 375-5737.

UFM

UFM, Monterey's free university, will offer a class on fertility awareness led by Bonnie Sunwood. The class will examine ways to determine ovulation with its potential for birth control or conception. Students will learn to recognize when ovulation occurs through being aware of basic body changes.

The class will be given Thursday, July 17, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Fee is $3. Register in person at the UFM office in the College Center Building on the MPC campus, or by mail. Registration will be accepted until one week prior to the class.
Legal Update

— A Court of Appeals in Albany, New York, has ruled that if an unmarried couple has expressly agreed to share the man's earnings, a woman has the right to sue for her share when they split up.

— The Minnesota Supreme Court has ruled, in the first court decision of its kind, that not only are employers liable for ensuring that women workers are safe from harassment by supervisors, but they are also responsible for protecting women from the same kind of harassment by co-workers.

— Florida Circuit Judge Wallace Sturgis has ruled that Elizabeth Miller, who was convicted of grand larceny, should be allowed to share a cell with her newly-born infant son for six months, saying "an infant should remain with his mother if possible."

— An Oregon labor commissioner has ordered the Polk County School District to pay nearly $3,000 in back pay to a speech and hearing teacher who was suspended for her "inappropriate and unseemly" presence in the classroom because she was pregnant.

Lesbos: Home of Sexism

The Greek island of Lesbos may once have been a place the poet Sappho was proud to call home, but it's now one just one more bastion of sex-typed social codes.

The Fairchild News Service reports that dating is forbidden in Lesbos, marriages are arranged, and duties and diversions are strictly assigned according to sex.

Marriage is reportedly a woman's one chance to escape the confines of the parental home, the news service reports. However, once married, women cannot smoke or drink, and they must be escorted by their husbands when in the company of other men. The women are also expected to forego having children if they work outside the home.

Things are a little different for the men, however: Fairchild reports that men are allowed to spend nights out with the boys whenever possible, and that they often go through life without knowing where the pans or condiments are kept in the kitchen.

Women's Equality Day Marks 19th Amendment

Women's Equality Day is slated for August 26 of this year, and the National Organization for Women is already planning events to help celebrate.

The day marks the 60th anniversary of women's suffrage, when the 19th amendment granting women the right to vote became law. NOW says walkathons will take place across the U.S. in support of the Equal Rights Amendment the weekend of August 23 and 24.

NOW Vice President Judy Goldsmith says that even though women have the vote, their rights will suffer until the ERA is ratified.

Chinese Women Less Equal Than Men

Women in the Peoples Republic of China seem to think they're holding up more than their half of the clothes line.

The Christian Science Monitor reports Chinese women are complaining they are getting the short end of the stick when it comes to division of labor at home.

The newspaper quotes a woman publishing worker as saying, "Besides doing eight hours work every day, we have to do the cooking, washing, sewing, and mending after we get home. If you have a baby you are fully occupied."

The worker adds that some men comrades insist that women and men are equal, but she says, "They live by seeing the chores being done for them."

ERA Could Cause GOP Some Problems

Illinois Governor James Thompson has warned presidential hopeful Ronald Reagan that he may lose votes by eliminating support for the Equal Rights Amendment from the Republican Party platform.

Thompson issued his warning after Reagan supporters in the party indicated recently they were contemplating the move.

Although Reagan does not support the amendment, Thompson insisted the party platform "does not have to be an alter ego" of a candidate's views. Failing to include the measure, Thompson said, would be "a grave mistake."

NSF Funds Science Workshops For Women

The National Science Foundation has awarded over one million dollars to colleges and universities in 16 states to set up science career workshops aimed at raising the numbers of women going into the scientific and technical fields.

Currently, although women comprise 51% of the U.S. population, only about 10% are involved in the scientific and engineering workforce.

The foundation says that about 3000 undergraduate and graduate women are expected to participate in the workshops.

The $1,021,011 grant also goes toward the setting up of "science career facilitation projects" designed to train women in scientific fields offering good employment and advancement futures.
Local and National News Briefs

League of Women Voters Studies Third World

One of America’s oldest women’s organizations, the League of Women Voters, is going into data processing. The League has announced its Overseas Education Fund will set up a worldwide directory of projects affecting women in developing nations — and will put all the information on a computer data base.

The League says the data base, known as WIDATA (Women in Development Data), will contain profiles of development projects the world over, along with information about funding and technical resources.

Information from the WIDATA data base will be available to Third World groups interested in learning more about international programs which help women.

—Her Say

Shipnuck Elected To Statewide Board

Supervisor Barbara Shipnuck of Salinas has been elected a director of the California Elected Women’s Association for Education and Research.

The association consists of more than 450 appointed and elected officials. Shipnuck was elected to the board at its recent annual meeting.

—Monterey Peninsula Herald

NWPC Strong Force At Democratic Convention

Female delegates to the upcoming Democratic convention may bolt from the party if a strong feminist program is not endorsed at the August meeting.

Iris Mitgang of the National Women’s Political Caucus says this year’s Democratic convention will be unusual because, for the first time, a full 50% of the delegates attending will be female.

While some of the women are already committed to Carter, or to Kennedy, Mitgang says about 60% of them will be willing to support the aims of the National Women’s Political Caucus.

The Caucus is a bi-partisan organization with memberships in both major political parties. Democratic members of the Caucus, Mitgang says, are calling for a Democratic electoral program which includes programs to institute “an economy which does not victimize women,” along with freedom of choice over abortion, and passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

If these aims aren’t supported by the Democrats, Mitgang says, “We will cross lines of candidate loyalty to win our priorities.”

In a related story, Alma Quigly, also of the Caucus, says she has studied the make-up of the female delegates from 24 states. Quigly reports 60% of the women from the New Jersey delegation, two-thirds of those in the Alabama delegation, and three-fourths of the women in the Wisconsin delegation are feminists.

—Her Say

Detroit Courts Our Automobile Dollars

Detroit may finally be recognizing the fact that women purchase automobiles. The Detroit News reports that the Chrysler Corporation, as an example, has formed a group called the “Corporate Women Passenger Car Committee,” designed to find out just what women might want in a car. The committee has, according to the paper, determined so far that women are more practical than men when it comes to a car purchase; they dislike condescending male auto salesmen; and the woman is usually the person making the final decision when a married couple buys a car.

—National NOW Times

Fathers As Role Models Questioned By Study

The popular assumption that boys learn to be masculine by modeling their father’s behavior has been called into question in a recent study conducted by Dr. James Turnbull. The reason is simple: according to Dr. Turnbull’s survey of 100 middle and lower income families, a father spends an average of only 25 minutes per week in direct one-to-one contact with his son. “Fathers are certainly important in shaping their son’s behavior, but mothers, peer groups, and other adult males usually have more contact with the boys.”

—National NOW Times

Goodman, Three Others Win Pulitzer Prizes

Boston Globe columnist Ellen H. Goodman has won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary. Many of Goodman’s columns concern the women’s movement and the changes it has wrought in traditional roles of men and women. Other women who won Pulitzers: Joan Vennochi of The Boston Globe for special local reporting; Bette Swenson Orsini of The St. Petersburg Times for national reporting; and Madeline Blais of The Miami Herald for feature writing.

—Sojourner

One Goes, One Stays

Amid growing speculation, Rep. Robert Drinan (D-Mass.) has refused to comment on whether the abortion issue was a factor in the order by Pope John Paul II that Drinan not seek re-election to the U.S. Congress.

An aide to a California congressman active in the anti-abortion movement has been quoted in the press as saying that a Maryknoll priest told him last January “the Drinan matter is on the Pope’s desk.” Drinan has angered many church members by his support of federal funding for abortion for low-income women.

Sister Carolyn Farrell, mayor of Dubuque, Iowa, and a Catholic nun, says she plans to keep her job, because the Pope’s order is directed to clergy and “in the Catholic Church, women have never been in the category of clergy.”

—Sojourner

More Horrors From DES

Add spontaneous abortions and miscarriages to the incredible list of damage caused by distribution of the pregnancy drug DES to pregnant women in the early 1960’s. The drug has already been found to render DES daughters much more susceptible to cervical cancer; now, a new study conducted by the National Cancer Institute has determined that women exposed to DES before birth face a 175% higher risk that their own pregnancies will be terminated spontaneously.

—National NOW Times
National Women’s Music Festival: 1400 Attend Shows, Workshops

Maxine Feldman called it shampoo-banana. It’s really Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, home of the National Women’s Music Festival. This year was the seventh annual, and largest, festival with 1400 women in attendance, double that of last year.

This is the first year the festival has made money (one year it actually lost $6,000) — an impressive accomplishment for the NWMF collective, especially since of the nine members, only two were members last year.

The festival took place on the campus of the University of Illinois, an ideal place. The dorms afforded us the comfort of a room at relatively low cost. Community housing was available for those unable to pay, and for the performers.

We had little problem with transportation since the dorms were only a few blocks from town. The only problem concerned finding rides to the airport for performers once the festival was over.

Many men of the town seemed to have geared up for the arrival of all us women. They appeared to go out of their way to whistle, smile and say hello. There were two cases of open hostility that I know of. One involved a woman walking with another woman who was punched in the ribs. She retaliated with a kick to a most tender spot of his body. The other cases of hostility involved verbal assault and abuse.

The only other unpleasant thing was the weather. I found it almost necessary to take three showers daily because of the humidity. One minute it would be sunny and the next would have thunderstorms and showers. There was even a tornado watch.

Women merchants at the festival provided us with a variety of women’s wares. Available were ceramics, leather goods, jewelry, books, records and a wide assortment of t-shirts and other clothing.

A major part of the festival was the workshops. A wide variety of subjects from music-related topics to topics of general interest were offered.

Technical workshops covered topics such as basic lighting, developing standards, relationship between distributors and producers, and advanced production. For most of these workshops some background was necessary.

There were workshops geared to performers also. These ranged from song writing to basic blues piano to classical guitar techniques to expanding and improving the use of one’s falsetto. Many of these workshops were led by concert performers. It was encouraging to be able to experience them in an informal atmosphere.

For those of us interested in subjects unrelated to music, there were workshops like witchcraft, herbal medicine, mime, and peer counseling. I heard the ritual performed at the witchcraft workshop was very interesting with everyone in attendance participating.

There were mixed responses to the quality of the workshops. Some were too crowded, stifling the interaction within the group, such as the workshop on separatism. Others seemed to have just the right number to allow for group participation. An example was the basic lighting workshop in which the facilitator not only gave suggestions of books and resources but was able to show the system of lighting used at the concerts.

For those not interested in workshops, the open mike area was a perfect alternative. Here there were continuous performances throughout the day, each act signing up for a 15-minute time slot. The open mike not only provided experience for those new to performing, but also provided them with exposure to a national audience. This was very good entertainment which ran the gamut from mime to song to a lesbian soap opera, which Robin Tyler called “Gays of Our Lives.”

Saturday night was a special night — a night for dancing. We danced to the beat of a very good rock and roll band from Canada called Mama Quilla II. When the heat in the room generated by all those hot-to-trot women got to be too much, we enjoyed the fresh air outside among friends.

The concerts ran a little behind schedule, but the wait was worth it.

Casselberry-Dupree, a very hot duo from San Francisco, was introduced and may be able to perform at the Michigan festival in August. Mischief Mime, of Ithaca, NY, provided the only non-musical entertainment in the concert series. They captivated the audience with their characterizations. Meg Christian was an audience favorite as well as the dynamic Holly Near, who was accompanied on piano by Adrienne Torf, a superb performer.

Julie Homi, who performed with Teresa Trull, also did a solo act. Her fingers seemed to massage the keys and would move like the waves of the ocean. Robin Flower, Nancy Vogl and Laurie Lewis combined their talents on fiddle and guitar to perfect harmony.

The concerts concluded with the dynamite sound of Alive. They are a splendid rhythmic spirituality whose lyrics of the ocean reminded me of home.

There were problems with the sound system. We were assured they were being worked on. The performances went on despite the sound difficulties.

An important aspect of the women’s circuit is that we get to see the closeness among the performers. More than once the stage was shared by performers who sang together to the delight of a willing audience. Yes, a truly close-knit family.

Each concert ended with the playing of the song, We Are Family. It seemed to sum up the feeling of the whole festival and give us strength and support. We all left with more than we came with: new friends, new business connections, and new names and faces to the women’s communities across the United States. Yes, we are family.

—Alv Kim
### July Calendar

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<td>Women's Music, KAZU, 1-4</td>
<td>George Sand born, 1804</td>
<td>Commission on the Statue of Women meeting, Seaside Council Chamber, 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Amelia Earhart is lost over the Pacific, 1937</td>
<td>My Sister's House, KAZU, 19:30-3</td>
<td>Independence Day</td>
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<td>Antioch workshop on family therapy, 6-9 pm</td>
<td>We need calendar items, please keep us informed of what's happening of interest to women.</td>
<td>WADV meeting, YWCA, 6:30</td>
<td>My Sister's House, KAZU, 19:30-3</td>
<td>Women's Rap Group, 7:30</td>
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<td>UFM's class on fertility awareness. Call UFM to register.</td>
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<td>Amelia Earhart born, 1897</td>
<td>Women's Rap Group, 7:30</td>
<td>Demeter softball game, MHS lower field, 4:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women's Music, KAZU, 1-4</td>
<td>Antioch workshop on family therapy, 6-9 pm</td>
<td>Women's Rap Group, 7:30</td>
<td>Women's Rap Group, 7:30</td>
<td>My Sister's House, KAZU, 19:30-3</td>
<td>My Sister's House, KAZU, 19:30-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **July 6**: Women's Music, KAZU, 1-4
- **July 7**: Antioch workshop on family therapy, 6-9 pm
- **July 8**: We need calendar items, please keep us informed of what's happening of interest to women.
- **July 9**: Independence Day
- **July 10**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30, Call Signe, 624-2153
- **July 11**: Women's Rap Group
- **July 12**: Women's Walk/Run, Lovers Point, 10 am, Demeter softball game, MHS lower field, 3 pm
- **July 13**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 14**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 15**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 16**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 17**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 18**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 19**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 20**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 21**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 22**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 23**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 24**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 25**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 26**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 27**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 28**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 29**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 30**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
- **July 31**: Women's Rap Group, 7:30
Two Views

Coming Out — ‘A Family Matter’


A typical parental reaction to an offspring’s homosexuality is guilt. Guilt and fear that one has inadvertently done something wrong in the process of child-rearing, and thereby condemned a person, for whom one wanted the very best, to a life of personal tragedy, social ostracism, political and economic discrimination.

These feelings, according to Dr. Silverstein, are often expressed in defensiveness and anger — or withdrawal — with the result that parents and children may be alienated at a time when they need each other’s love, support and understanding more than ever.

This book is intended to help both parents and children through that troubled period by dispelling some of the prevalent myths about homosexuality. The author, a psychologist, notes ruefully that many of the most destructive concepts on the subject have been perpetuated by psychologists and psychiatrists with their traditional view of homosexuality as a mental disorder, an abnormality created by a person’s upbringing, an unnatural condition requiring “treatment,” including such drastic interventions as drugs and electric shock whose use has been justified in desperate efforts to achieve a “cure.”

Significant changes are taking place in these fields, and while the “causes” of homosexuality are still shrouded in mystery, there seems to be increasingly widespread agreement that it can be a healthy, viable, enhancing mode of relating to individuals and the world.

The book’s emphasis on the loving, caring, and fulfilling aspects of human relationships is beneficial in expanding the reader’s perspective beyond a tendency to be preoccupied with the sex of the persons involved.

One of Dr. Silverstein’s goals is to end the “blaming game” in which many families indulge when confronted with a member’s homosexuality. The parents are not responsible for a child’s sexual identity. The child is not responsible for a parent’s upset feelings about this identity. The situation is a challenge and opportunity for growth on both sides, and can result in a new closeness and honesty among all members of the family.

A particularly pertinent insight the author offers is that people’s ability to accept others’ feelings is primarily a function of how comfortable they are about themselves. Thus, if a parent is rejecting a homosexual child it has more to do with inner conflicts the parent is experiencing than with the child’s homosexuality. Time and patience — and a realization that the other is suffering — may be needed before harmony and mutual trust can be established.

Unfortunately, the families which the author has chosen to represent positive and negative responses to the discovery of an offspring’s homosexuality seen so extreme that they may limit parents’ ability to identify with them and by so doing gain insight into their own reactions and behavior.

However, there is much of value in this book, including an extensive bibliography of other material on the subject. Anyone contemplating “coming out” to her or his family should find it useful as advance reading; parents coming to terms with the coming out should find it comforting and reassuring.

—Polly Parker

I first became aware of A Family Matter about three years ago, when a friend told me she had given a copy to her mother. My friend’s mother had reacted to her daughter’s lesbianism in the expected manner — tears and “where did I go wrong?”

After an evening alone in her room reading A Family Matter, she emerged a more rational woman, ready to understand better her daughter’s lifestyle.

When I heard my friend’s story, I went right out and purchased this “wonder book.” For two and one-half years I fantasized about giving it to my mother; about how it would solve all the anxious uncertainty I had in regard to “coming out” to her.

I thought the book would tell me everything I had always wanted to and never quite knew how.

Then, on the plane home last spring, I finally got around to reading it. All my fears momentarily returned when I saw that the book didn’t explain anything about homosexuality in the sense that I had hoped it would.

It didn’t tell my mother that in the United States alone there are approximately 24 million homosexuals, or who is gay in Hollywood, or that “we are everywhere.”

It didn’t tell her those things because, as Dr. Silverstein points out, that’s not what’s important to the parents of a homosexual. Their daughter or son is the only gay person they’re interested in.

That point was probably the most enlightening statement for me in the book. More than anything else, it helped prepare me for the inevitable discussion with my mother.

A Family Matter deals with the individual parent/offspring confrontation in four different cases: A daughter coming out to her divorced mother; a son and his parents; an Orthodox Jewish boy and his parents; and, a woman whose family had completely denied her existence upon learning she was a lesbian.

Parents reading A Family Matter are concerned only with their own daughter or son, but the four cases cited help them know how to discuss this new and often frightening situation with a person they love and are concerned about.

Another important aid the book provides is stressing to the parents that their gay child needs and wants their love and understanding more than ever when trying to cope with her or his homosexuality. Often this is when parents most shut out their children.

Dr. Silverstein mentions other aspects of the homosexual lifestyle such as masculine/feminine stereotypes and myths, and different forms of therapy (when to know if it’s needed and doing something about it).
A Short Story

When once more the firm earth knew her step, there stood a woman. The winds’ kiss turned her brown hair softly and her shining eyes danced a silent greeting. As children, they turned and ran across the sand until they could run no more and tumbled to the arms of the earth.

Beneath the fiery sun they lay; the rhythm of the surf lulling peace into their spirits. They slept, side by side. As the veils of body, mind and normal senses dropped, one by one, away, the energies they each knew arose from below the surface and met. Like colors they swirled and melted, like light they reflected, like light effortlessly traveled to the farthest star, like music on the wings of the wind they became a hum, a sound that sang through their hearts, through their sleep, through their dreams.

III

She awoke alone, to find the sun winking a last goodbye to the rose and silver-colored sea.

—bb bastian

Women Took Back The Night in Santa Cruz

"Women’s bodies, women’s rights, Santa Cruz women take back the night."

This was one of many chants heard June 14 as hundreds of women marched through the streets of downtown Santa Cruz in the Take Back the Night March protesting violence against women.

The evening began with a rally at Government Center, where a crowd of about 100 gathered. The rally included songs, poetry, and drama as well as speakers.

One of the speakers, an 11-year-old girl who had been raped at the age of eight, offered us her strength. A speaker for a male women’s support group provided words of support for both the men and women. The group he represented also provided childcare.

As women took to the street, they quickly grew in numbers, covering the length of a block. Monitors helped to keep the chants and crowd going smoothly.

Because of the size of the group and our eagerness to be vocal, we sometimes had different chants going on at the same time. We marched side by side, about eight abreast, chanting as long as our voices would last. Even those who were hoarse yelled as we passed bars along the route.

The march ended behind the Government Center in a large grassy area where we formed a circle under the starlit sky. First there was silence, then came a steady hum. We shared a few moments of silence for all our battered and raped sisters. Then, together we sang Holly Near’s “Fight Back,” as the crowd dispersed with final words of support.

A handful of women from Monterey and Santa Cruz not yet filled with song lingered on, arm in arm, singing, sharing the love and strength of the night.

Twice during the night men had disrupted the events. Both times they were quickly confronted by strong women who escorted them away.

August 2 is National Take Back the Night Day. It is to be a day when we are all urged to take a walk on the streets, in our neighborhoods, around the block, to call a friend and be visible.

“Women united will never be defeated.”

—Aly Kim

'A Family Matter'—

continued from page 10

There’s a chapter to gays, a long additional reading list and some briefing on different “kinds” of homosexuality. I found most of his comments to be reliable references on gays.

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A Family Matter is a worthwhile book. I highly recommend it to the homosexual who would like some guidance in coming out to her or his parents. I also recommend it to the parents of the homosexual who have the desire to understand their child a little bit better.

—Maureen McEvoy

Beneath a fiery sun and the moon’s one eye, lived a creature, rare of mind and being. She walked the velvet hills, walked the cobbled streets, walked long and far, walked alone. Many were those who would seek to know her, yet in her garden she watched the clouds parade their slow charade.

II

One particular crystal day, she walked where beach waves merrily licked her feet. Bright sailing ships glided on the breath of summer winds. The green water called. As the sun’s rays bounced off her shoulders, she dove, hands parting the arching wave. She plunged into the cold, clear liquid, felt the seas surround her. She was held.

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**Any Old Time Band in Concert July 12 at MPC**

On July 12 at 8 p.m. KAZU (90.3 FM), Pacific Grove's listener supported radio, and Rick Wolter Productions will present the Any Old Time String Band in concert at the MPC Theater.

Any Old Time is an all-woman string band which performs songs from a cross section of America's musical past. Kate Brislin, Sue Draheim, Genny Haley, Valerie Mindel and Susie Rothfield formed the band in 1976; since then Any Old Time has played at festivals, clubs, colleges and on television throughout California.

Their music is a blend of classic blues, traditional fiddle tunes, string band songs and popular tunes of the 1920's and 30's. This combination of musical styles and varied instruments creates a special brand of good times music.

Tickets are $4 in advance and are on sale at Recycled Records, Bookworks, Do Re Mi Music and KAZU.

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**Bookstore To Carry Women's Titles**

A strong selection of feminist books is one of the goals of a new bookstore opening mid-July in Pacific Grove.

An addition to the rapidly growing list of women-owned businesses on the Peninsula, The Open Book will also feature foreign language books, outstanding science fiction, quality paperbacks in a variety of fields, classics, plus the best in current fiction and nonfiction.

Owner Polly Parker along with co-managers Tim Farmer and Bob Miranda worked together for more than three years at Bookworks, and plan to continue the tradition of customer service they established there.

While a good representation of women's titles has already been ordered for the store, suggestions for additional stock will always be welcome. The staff would also like to create a comprehensive bibliography of work relevant to women's concerns, as a valuable reference for people seeking more information or desiring to do research.

The Open Book will be located at 1184 F Forest Avenue, right across the parking lot from the Bagel Bakery, in Pacific Grove.

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**Women's Run**

To: YWCA, 276 Eldorado, Monterey, 93940

Name ___________________________ Address ___________________________

City ___________________________ Zip _______________ Age __________

Divisions: 6.2 mile run/walk □ 3.1 mile run/walk □

I wish to participate in the "Women's Movement" on July 19, 1980. I agree with the rules, conditions, and regulations accepting this entry. I, the undersigned, hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release the Monterey Peninsula YWCA, and individual members thereof, or any other person or official connected with this runners event, their representatives, successors, and assigns, from any and all rights, claim, or liability for damages for any and all injuries to me or those in my entry, or for the damages caused by me or to anyone else while participating in the event or while traveling to and from the event.

Date ___________ Signed ____________

Signature of parent or guardian if participant is under 18 years of age.

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**Women in Music To Meet in NYC**

Plexus reports that the First National Congress on Women in Music will be held in New York City in March 1981, the first such conference since the one held at Chicago's World Fair in 1893.

The three-day conference sponsored by Barnard College Women's Center and Columbia University Music Department, will bring together researchers, performers, and composers from the U.S., Canada, Latin America and Europe for the purposes of sharing information, discussing methodology and research problems, and for the presentation by scholars of little-known works by women.

The aims of the Congress are to give women musicians a sense of their heritage by making public the results of the many research projects about women in music; to provide a chance to hear high-quality performances of works by women, both contemporary and historical; and to provide a forum for discussion of problems and prospects for women in the music profession.

For further information, write: First National Congress on Women in Music, c/o Barnard Women's Center, Barnard Hill, New York, New York 10017, Attn: Doris Hays, Coordinator.
The Men's Room, For Women Too?

Should a woman have a right to use the men's room?
A woman bus driver in Sweden was recently denied a job because the bus company argued it didn't have a ladies room.

Sweden’s traffic minister, Ulf Adelsohn, is taking her complaint to the country’s parliament.
Adelsohn is asking the lawmakers to create legislation which would permit men and women to use the same bathroom at their jobs.

According to the Swedish Traffic Minister, “It's crazy that men and women are not allowed to use the same toilet at their workplace.”

Adelsohn has vowed to “protest against the bureaucracy which forbids it.”

— Her Say

Moving?

Moved recently? If you have a change of address, please notify us at P.O. Box 1661, Monterey, 93940. The post office will not forward Demeter, so if you want to continue receiving the Peninsula's only feminist newsmagazine, please keep us informed of your correct address.

Pregnant Workers Win New Rights

Until recently, employers could legally discriminate against pregnant women. However, in 1978, a coalition of labor unions, women's groups and civil rights groups convinced Congress to make discrimination based on pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions illegal for most employers. Federal law applies to employers with 15 or more employees. California recently amended its law to prohibit discrimination on the basis of pregnancy. California pregnancy laws cover employers with 5 employees.

The new law provides that:
- an employer can't fire a woman because she is pregnant;
- an employer can't refuse to hire a woman because she is pregnant;
- a woman cannot be forced to take a leave of absence because she is pregnant;
- if a woman works for an employer who has 15 or more employees and a health plan, the health plan must cover pregnancy (except abortions);
- in any disability plan, pregnancy must be treated like any other disability.

If you have problems, contact the Women's Labor Project at 1230 Broadway, San Francisco 94109.

FREEDOM OF CHOICE

Margaret Sanger (1915) opened the first birth control clinic in the United States. Fighting the attitudes of her time that defined women's role as mothers, she persevered through government interference in an effort to encourage women to exercise independence through the knowledge of birth control. Sanger devoted her life to making birth control respectable and available.

— Cyndi Sumner
O Woman
did you know how your fate was sealed
leaving the full moon to shine in your open window
tides and madmen pulling on the earth
ripped the screen from its root
and the one who entered your domain
heard your one, soft breath asking “geoffrey, geoffrey?”

but, no, your son is kind like a sweet spring breeze
but, no, this man was not, he was pulled by a moon
so crazy and incomprehensible
a moon inside so big and monstrous and rotten
as he forced his body upon yours, you smelled his sickness
he has laid upon you
what he has laid upon us all

Poetry By

Sandra McKee

Lunatics Are we
or Dancing by the Light of the Luna
We are at the full of the moon
Women pulling like toward like
Defying gravity
We race laughing into the creamy blue of infinity

If they knew they would fear us
Witches we might be called
Yet we link hands unto souls
Into past bleeding, mixing with future

Tribal sisters and sorority
give way to moon urgings
Tides crimson in color ebb and flow
Rich as the blood connecting us

The Towering Goddess
Woman, you are the stars in my eyes
You glitter my words into stammering oblivion
They fly
With the spirit of the Wind

I could stare into you for infinity
But, my eyes, too, stagger childishly off into shadows
They fly
With the spirit of the Wind

On what road will we meet, you and I. We can pass together
Gently into time with you i want to dance
We’ll fly
With the spirit of the Wind
All Things Considered

By Janie Forrest

One thing is certain...with all of the grave problems besetting folks in the world right now, this is probably not a good time for levity.

Richard Pryor remains in grave condition because of attempting to light a cigarette and get high at the same time; poor dear Anita Bryant is going through a divorce; and hundreds of unfortunate people in southern Washington are having their lives disrupted because they were careless enough to park their homes next to a volcano...twice.

It was while I was pondering these tragic problems that I spied the current issue of Teen magazine on a drugstore rack. And as a remarkable coincidence the heading read: “Your Biggest Problems, Solve Them Now.”

Well, I hadn’t had many conversations with teenagers lately and something in me became just a bit curious about what their biggest problems might be. And although the title of the magazine might allow one to believe that it is of interest to teens of both sexes, a five-second examination reveals that its focus is strictly female.

I quickly turned to the lead article wherein I found dedicated instruction on how to solve teenage girls’ biggest problems, which were listed to be the following: thick eyebrows, an uneven smile, split ends, excess body hair, bad figures, make-up for small eyes, nail biting, and bad breath.

Of course I didn’t expect today’s female teens to be plagued with trying to figure out how to triple the gross national product, but I did expect their biggest problems to be somewhat more pressing than making-up small eyes.

But the most important problem of all is that teenage girls are even exposed to this garbage to begin with. It would seem that with all the emphasis or quality feminist publications, someone would realize the need for alternative reading material for young teenage girls. Unfortunately, however, magazines such as this are the only type of periodical literature that teenage girls have available to them.

Ms. and other national feminist magazines have placed their emphasis on issues pertaining to adult women; the young ones remain sadly neglected. This is especially unfortunate when you consider that the teenage years are probably the most crucial time for girls to develop their conditioning patterns about what being female is all about. It is also the time when boys form their impressions about what girls are like. It’s easy to see how our sex continues to get a reputation for being “silly” and having limited interests.

I saw another magazine on the rack at the same time that I picked up Teen. It was called Prime, and it dealt with issues of people in the “prime of life,” (i.e., over 50). I was tempted to buy a copy of that too, so I could better acquaint myself with the concerns of older people. But all things considered, the way things were going I was afraid to find out their biggest problem was going to turn out to be running out of Oil of Olay.
Arriving at a feminist perspective is a profoundly personal experience. The process forces one to re-examine many unquestioned customs and relationships. Feminism helps women realize they have a right to make many more choices than society commonly permits. Through Demeter we hope in some way to reach every woman. Each month a woman will be writing a chronicle of the process she went through in becoming a feminist. We encourage others to send in their own accounts of their emergence as feminists.

I think I thought I was a feminist before I really knew what feminism was all about. In my mind I had equated it with the concept of equality, and since I had always believed in equal rights for women, I assumed I understood the women's movement.

When friends started attending consciousness-raising groups it never occurred to me to go because I thought my consciousness was already right up there. Memberships in the League of Women Voters and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom were a means of taking action on issues; through therapy groups I worked on effecting needed emotional changes and growth.

In many ways I had been fortunate in my upbringing. I was spared the struggle against that insidious conditioning, to which so many have been subjected, which teaches that females are inherently less intelligent, less capable, less interesting, and less worthwhile than males. These stereotypes which have drastically limited women's views of themselves and their potential never had a chance to be lodged in my psyche.

For this I owe a debt of gratitude to my mother, a talented and successful commercial artist who became the first woman art director of an advertising agency in New York City. Seeing her, her sisters, friends, and colleagues, operate with warmth, charm and skill in their various fields meant that I had no reason to doubt women's ability to take on any job, at any level, and do it well. The fact that my father's high expectations for, and enjoyment of, intellectual achievement was directed toward his daughter as well as his son reinforced that image.

It was obvious to me that women — like all human beings, regardless of race, creed, nationally, or economic status — should have the right to move as far as their aptitude and ambition can take them, and that artificial obstacles to their advancement should be eliminated.

My focus, however, was limited to the achievement of equality within the system as it existed, without having looked closely at the system itself and the premises which underlie it. In essence, what I was advocating was little more than the "right to compete", without handicap in economic, political and social structures which are frequently dehumanizing and exploitive of both human and natural resources.

Certainly if women want a chance to rise in that kind of sphere they should not be deprived of equal opportunity, but I now see that such a goal has very little to do with feminism. Reading Adrienne Rich, listening to Holly Near, and becoming acquainted with women like those in Demeter Resources has opened my eyes to the vision of a whole new set of possibilities.

Feminism, it seems to me, at present, is concerned with the creation of a new world, one which transcends competition and scarcity in favor of abundance and sharing; one in which such conditions as war and poverty are not accepted as inevitable; one in which human values and concerns and needs are given primacy.

This is largely unexplored territory and we have to invent as we go along. We are trying to shape new ways of relating to each other — men, women, children, of all backgrounds and ages — as people who share a planet and common yearnings. We are feeling our way toward new and satisfying structures that support and enhance life, that can enrich and strengthen us all, that build a sense of community.

A lot of the time we don't know what we are doing and a lot of the time we flub it up. Often we are not even aware of the lofty aspirations mentioned above, but I think there is a growing feeling of unity and dedication among feminists. There is so much to learn that I'm not sure I am one yet, but I look forward to spending the second half-century of my life in the endeavor.

—Polly Parker

There's been some really bad teachings, and I think that's why I'm really concerned for my own children — especially the girls. You have to recognize that there has been discrimination against women, that women have not had the teaching of the fullness and uniqueness of their abilities.

—Anita Bryant