

SBWPC NEWSLETTER • Spring 2012 Edition

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Jane Gray
SBWPC Board President

DON'T GET MAD, GET EVEN...

We all know the saying, but what does it mean in terms of our feminist values and how these values are reflected in our leadership?

Judging by the current numbers of women in office—the US ranks 71st in the world for percentage of women in office; the percentage of females in the US Congress is only 17%; in 2010, the number of women in office declined for the first time in 30 years; and women of color constitute only 4.5% of the total members of Congress and 3.5% of state legislators¹—it seems to mean very little.

But instead of getting mad, **let's Get Even**. Anger only gets one so far, which is either to the brink of insanity about being stuck in the Middle Ages or it can fuel your way to taking action. And there is, unfortunately, plenty to be mad about. So it is time to take action.

Take, for instance, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform hearing in February on contraceptive coverage that absurdly consisted only of male

participants. Or, take the comments made a month or so back about Sandra Fluke by the ever-controversial Rush Limbaugh, who is notorious for his diatribes. And while the fury and outrage ran high at first, only two radio stations, one in Massachusetts and one in Hawaii, have taken his show off the air. Sponsors are slowly returning and he will weather the storm, unscathed.

Another example: on March 8, 2012, eight of the nine women in the Georgia Senate walked out in protest of the War on Women and their reproductive rights. Two bills were introduced: the first would prohibit state employees from using their state health benefits to pay for abortions and the second would ensure that employees of private religious institutions would have no right to demand that their insurance policies pay for contraceptives.

These are just a very few examples of the on-going, troubling and **unacceptable** state

(continued on p. 2)

Contributions to the SBWPC support the following activities: advocacy and lobbying on issues of importance to women, community education and outreach, recruitment and training of feminist candidates, direct endorsement of candidates, campaigns and candidate support. We welcome and greatly appreciate your donations for the realization of these aims and to bring feminist women into office. Because of the political nature of the work, contributions are not tax-deductible.

President's Message continued...

of affairs in our not-so-democratic, not-so-well or equally represented democracy. That is why we women **have to GET EVEN**. Without women making policy, we are left out—marginalized by policy, dehumanized by policy. If we are to live in a democracy, we must take part in it to make it work for us. Come on, women, we make up 51% of the population and 56% of the electorate. We are the majority, but one would never know that.

Democracy is *not* just the *right to vote*, it is the *right to live in dignity* (Naomi Wolf).

We women cannot sit on the sidelines. We owe it to ourselves and future generations to become actively involved in the politics of issues we find so personal: from union organizing to school boards to the US Presidency—and everything in between and beyond. We must ensure that we have the **RIGHT** to live in dignity, to have our interests and needs respected, protected, and implicit in policies, regulations and the laws which hold this country together. We must strongly, passionately and vociferously represent ourselves and our own interests. **I urge each and every one of you to contemplate**

running for elected office and do it! I urge you to encourage those you know to run for office and support those female candidates who have the courage to do so. **Let's GET EVEN.**

The section at the end of this article provides links to some of the resources that will help you access the tools you need to become active. Elsewhere in this issue, we have information on City and County opportunities to get involved in elected and appointed Boards and Commissions. Take the time to inform yourself and get involved. **Make the number of women in office at least equivalent to that of men. GET EVEN!**

¹ <http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/site/pages/2012Project.php>

<http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/site/pages/2012Project.php>

<http://www.wcfonline.org/>

<http://sheshouldrun.org/>

<http://www.californialist.com/>

<http://cawomenlead.org/>

<http://www.leadershipcalifornia.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1>

SBWPC WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER CAROL FUJIMURA



In January 2012, **Carol Fujimura** joined the SBWPC Board. She is very involved in a number of our sub-committees and has already made a meaningful contribution to our goals and efforts. Please join us in welcoming her.

Carol has a BFA in Design from Parson's School of Design in New York City. Her graduate studies focused on Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Sciences (MA) at the University of California. She has an additional MA degree from an academic consortium that included UC Berkeley.

While pursuing advanced studies, she volunteered and worked in various capacities as a race relations trainer, non-profit organizational development facilitator, fund developer, grant writer, special projects director, after-school tutor for at-risk kids, resource developer, fieldwork intern for a Bay Area Social Justice organization fighting environmental racism, and an Acting Director for an educational outreach program for underserved Asian Pacific Americans. She has also held

graduate teaching assignments with the Psychology Department at the University of California while completing one of her Master's degrees.

Currently, Carol is a doctoral student at UC Santa Barbara and holds graduate teaching positions in various departments such as the Department of Religious Studies, the Global Studies Program, the Asian American, Black, and Chicana/o Studies Departments, and the Women's Studies Department. She has also advised and mentored at-risk undergraduate students and sat on a number of campus committees affecting graduate and undergraduate student life while serving as Vice-President of Graduate Student Affairs.

Her current research-related activities and interests address issues of race, class, gender, culture, politics, healing/wellness practices/coaching for traumatized communities and individuals.

Carol is also a board member of the Santa Barbara Response Network, a volunteer network of trained crisis responders providing psychological first aid in the City and County of Santa Barbara.

POLITICALLY SPEAKING...

by Jeanette Sanchez-Palacios

A WOMAN IN LEADERSHIP—GROWING INTO A NEW ROLE

When I think about what I do and where I am today, I can't say that at every moment along the way I was sure things would work out as they have. As a matter of fact, if you'd asked me a year ago what I would be doing now, I wouldn't have been able to give you an answer. All I knew was that I cared about my family and my community and I cared about who I was as a Latina. I am blessed to have a boss who also embraces those ideals.

As the District Director for Assemblymember **Das Williams**, I realize that I'm in a powerful, influential position and how I handle that power is entirely up to me. Politics may not be for everyone, but regardless of whether you care about political issues, politics will always affect your life.

Not so long ago in a classroom filled with college students, when asked, no one in the room could name their Assemblymember. They probably couldn't even name the members of their city council, but everyone could name the President. That's the reality of our community today. People are less interested in politics at the state and local levels. And yet, everyone needs to remember that national politics depends on what happens at the local level.

My job can be as simple as writing a letter of support to answering questions about who to call or what's the first step to take? But my job goes beyond that. I have the power to educate, to influence people, to bring solutions. Not just about State Budget issues, but about anything impacting our district.

I am also an avenue by which to relay feedback about what is working and what is not. While Das spends Monday through Thursday in Sacramento, I am in the district as a resource to our constituents; taking the pulse of the community. I am the heart, eyes and ears for Das.

Yet most people don't see me as a resource. By the time I get their call or they walk into the office, they are frustrated, angry and hopeless. It is up to me to analyze and decipher next steps and hopefully bring a solution to their concerns. The "successes" are not always evident, though. It takes patience, persistence and giving my all to the work I do every day. That is why it's important for me to be proac-

tive and not reactive. I take every opportunity to interact with constituents to address the concerns that sometimes they can't address.

It is empowering to be in this position because it's not only an opportunity to lead where typically men have led, but it allows me to have a voice for myself and for the rest of the community. Das has made conscious decisions to empower women. Women run all of his top managerial positions: Chief of Staff, Legislative Director and District Director.

As a woman, this is important for me because access to leadership means the opportunity to address the challenges and the real needs of our communities. When we look at our world today, women play a pivotal role. The future lies in the hands of women, whatever the circumstances. I believe we can play a direct, thoughtful and meaningful role.

Women need to be prepared to take on leadership roles. Sometimes we are asked to be in or are put into positions of power whether we're ready or not. A year ago, I might not have known what my future held, but I didn't let that deter me from developing leadership skills and learning, so that I could grow into a new role. And I have really grown

I hope you'll join me in embracing opportunities for women and continuing to support women in leadership positions.

To learn more about me and the office of Assemblymember Das Williams or his upcoming events, please visit his website at: www.asmdc.org/members/a35/

Jeanette Sanchez-Palacios is the District Director for California State Assemblymember Das Williams.



**Would you like to advertise your business
to SBWPC Newsletter readers?**

For information, contact jane@sbwpc.org

SBWPC Endorses...

Doreen Farr for Santa Barbara County 3rd District Supervisorial Seat Das Williams for the 37th State Assembly District

At its noticed Endorsement Meeting on February 8, 2012, at the Eastside Library, two SBWPC Candidate Assessment Teams (CAT) presented reports on their interviews with candidates for the Santa Barbara 3rd Supervisorial District race and the 37th State Assembly race.

Each report contained a thorough accounting of the candidates' positions on issues of particular relevance to the community and/or issues of importance to the specific race.

Doreen Farr was endorsed based on her proven track record in making government more accountable and transparent, preserving the environment and promoting agriculture and supporting and expanding educational programs including the Thrive program and the First 5 Commission. Doreen has also proven effective in promoting gender equity. She has appointed many women to County Boards and commissions, including those not traditionally held by women. Women comprise 38 of her appointments and she has 35 male appointees. Most notably, some of her female appointees sit on the Planning Commission, the Parks Commission, the Finance Commission and the Assessment Appeals Board.



When specifically asked about whether or not she was a feminist and how she defined feminism her answer was, *"I consider myself a strong feminist. I adamantly believe that women should have equal rights with men in all areas of life—political, social, and economic. Women must have equal pay for equal work and equal opportunities for education and employment. This equality must be multicultural and multi-ethnic and -racial and must embrace the LGBT community. Furthermore, I believe it is incumbent upon women who have achieved positions of authority to educate, encourage, model, and mentor other women to carry on their work and further the cause of gender equity and balance in all walks of life. As an elected official, I am trying to do that with my staff, my appointees, students in the community and with my friends and acquaintances."*

Das Williams was endorsed by the SBWPC due to his solid work on health care issues including his support of

a single payer health care bill and his support of individual health care coverage for maternity services.

On issues of education, Das has voted for the California Dream Act and he also supported measures to allow students



that qualify for in-state tuition at public colleges and universities, regardless of immigration status, to be eligible for institutional financial aid awards. He has also been active in his support of LGBT issues supporting measures to improve the climate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students at

public colleges and universities by providing access to student services and by adding gender identity and gender expression to campus anti-discrimination policies.

He also voted for SB48, a bill that requires instruction in social science to include study of the role and contributions of certain ethnic and cultural groups in the economic, political, and social development of contemporary California, including the study of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Americans. Finally, Das also supported several bills to stop the automatic impounding of cars of persons without a valid driver's license and detention of a person solely for not having a driver's license, and he would like the state to issue driver's licenses to non-citizens.

Endorsement by the SBWPC of these candidates is accompanied by financial and other support during their campaigns. SBWPC is proud of its endorsement process and the candidates we have selected to support. The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee is dedicated to furthering gender equality and other feminist values through political and social action, and educational activities. As a political action committee, we endorse the candidacies of women and men who actively support our goals and promote a feminist agenda. We are also committed to taking social action against discrimination based on gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, age or disability

We encourage you to **inform yourself** about issues and **get involved** in the campaigns of our endorsed candidates. See our announcement for more information.

GET OUT THE VOTE FOR OUR ENDORSED CANDIDATES

SBWPC is dedicated to endorsing and supporting strong feminist women and feminist men who actively support our goals, which include but are not limited to promoting choice, gender equality, gender equity, LGBT issues and social justice. This year we have endorsed the following candidates (listed below), and we **URGE** you all to actively **GET OUT THE VOTE** for these candidates by **phone banking, walking, stuffing envelopes, talking to your friends and neighbors and donating.** With re-districting, some of our candidates need you now more than ever!! Contact each of the candidate's campaign offices and/or websites below to get involved and tell them you learned about it from the SBWPC.

DOREEN FARR

for the 3rd Supervisorial District of Santa Barbara County • PO Box 47, Solvang, CA 93464 • 805 689-7220
info@doreenfarrforsupervisor.com • <https://doreenfarrforsupervisor.com/index.php>

DAS WILLIAMS

for the 37th State Assembly District • 805 616-2594 • das.williams2012@gmail.com

HANNAH-BETH JACKSON

for the 19th State Senate District • 805 203-6337 • info@hannah-beth2012.com • <http://hannah-beth2012.com/>

SALUD CARBAJAL

for the 1st Supervisorial District of Santa Barbara County • PO Box 20084, Santa Barbara, CA 93120 • 805 637-6022
info@saludcarbajal.com • <http://www.saludcarbajal.com/>

LOIS CAPPS

for the 24th US Congressional District • 805 884-0202
lois@cappsforcongress.com • <http://www.cappsforcongress.com/>



**Santa Barbara
RAPE CRISIS CENTER**
**CENTRO CONTRA
LA VIOLACION SEXUAL**

433 E. Cañon Perdido Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 963-6832
FAX: (805) 965-3271
sbrapecrisiscenter.org

24-Hour Hotline: (805) 564-3696

more than rape, not only crisis

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Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Catherine.Dishion@prospectmtg.com
www.myprospectmortgage.com/CDishion

office 805.898.4234
cell 805.705.5773
fax 877.592.0951



Catherine Dishion
Senior Loan Officer
Branch # 297574
NMLS # 298396

**MARY ROSE
& ASSOCIATES**

211 E. Victoria St. Suite A
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: 805.965.3952



Helping progressive causes & candidates since 1975
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mr@maryroseassociates.com

**LINDA'S FINGERPRINTING &
CHILD ID**

Linda Tuomi
Owner/Operator

PO Box 21433

Santa Barbara, CA 93121
805-682-3710

latuomi@yahoo.com





CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

A listing of current and upcoming vacancies on City boards and commissions

Consider applying for one or more positions and become active in working to improve life in our community! Vacancies are indicated by the number following the listing.

Access Advisory Committee: 2	Measure P Committee: 6
Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals : 1	Mosquito and Vector Management District Board: 1
Central Coast Commission for Senior Citizens: 1	Neighborhood Advisory Council: 2
Community Development & Human Services Committee: 3	Rental Housing Mediation Task Force: 2
Community Events & Festivals Committee: 3	Single Family Design Board: 1
Fire and Police Pension Commission: 3	Transportation and Circulation Committee: 1
Library Board: 2	Water Commission: 1

Applications and appointment information may be obtained by accessing the City's web site at www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov, or from the City Clerk's Office in City Hall at 735 Anacapa Street, 564-5309.

MORE Upcoming Opportunities for Boards and Commissions

ALLAN HANCOCK COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Part-Time Faculty Association of Allan Hancock College, California Federation of Teachers Local 6185, working with other bargaining units on campus, is seeking candidates to run for the college's board of trustees in November. The Allan Hancock Community College District covers the area of Santa Maria, the Santa Maria Valley, Lompoc, and the Santa Ynez Valley. Candidates must live in the part of the District they will represent. There are five areas:

- Area 1: Central and Northern Santa Maria
- Area 2: Southeast Santa Maria and Orcutt
- Area 3: The Santa Maria Valley, Casmalia, and Los Alamos
- Area 4: The Lompoc Valley
- Area 5: The Santa Ynez Valley, Solvang, Buellton, and Los Olivos

IN NOVEMBER 2012, AREAS 1, 2 AND 4 WILL BE UP FOR RE-ELECTION.

They are seeking candidates who are pro-labor, pro-education, willing to hold the college administration accountable for its actions, act as a watchdog and as leaders rather than followers. For more information, contact markjamesmiller@charter.net

SANTA BARBARA CITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SBCC Board of Trustees has **two seats open**, one from the SB City downtown area and another from the City of Goleta. There is also a seat open for the unincorporated County area for which an incumbent is running.

The vacancies reflect the adoption of Assembly Bill 684 which allows community college districts using at-large elections to establish a by-trustee area election upon adoption of a board resolution in accordance with the new law and upon the approval of the California Board of Governors.

By-trustee elections, rather than at-large elections, require that the candidates compete to represent specific geographic areas and only voters living in that area can cast votes.

While the new statute is not mandatory, it simplifies the decision to adopt a by-trustees area election without a district having to seek voter approval.

For further background, information and a map, please go to the SBCC website at: <http://bit.ly/wTjDr0>

LET'S GET EVEN!

WE CAN ALL MAKE A DIFFERENCE... by Lisa Guravitz, SBWPC Board Member

"If you aren't at the table, you're often the menu." This is my new favorite quote. It speaks directly to why we need more feminist women to step up and serve in appointed and elected office. It does make a difference. I'm now in the last year of my first term on the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District Board of Directors. A long-winded way to say I'm on the Fire Board, which is a Special District elected position.

Why did I run for the Fire Board? In everyone's life there are "put your money where your mouth is" moments. When I first joined the SBWPC, having a leadership role was not on my radar. I presented myself as a great "worker bee." But thanks to the example and mentoring of strong women who'd already been there, I found myself stepping up.

I'd never been comfortable speaking in front of groups, but a few years on the SBWPC Board, and then my two-year presidency cured me of that. For a long time, I'd been encouraging others to run, and I realized I should follow my own advice and model how it can be done.

As a health care professional, I saw a natural parallel between public health and public safety. Even though I'd been approached to run for City Council, it was the Fire Board meetings that actually interested and excited me. I felt that my unique background and values could be an asset to the fire department and the community it serves. We have a 7 million dollar budget and my learning curve was steep, but I do feel I have contributed in ways that were unforeseen.



Since I've been here, I've been through interviews with prospective firefighters and tough labor negotiations. I've tried to listen to all sides of the issues we've faced as a board and bring another perspective to the Fire District. At my instigation, the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire District became the first public entity to become Green Certified. The concept that women bring different and unique skills to the job is clear. I've decided to run again and encourage you to as well!

★ THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE SALUTES YOU! ★

by Silvia Uribe, SBWPC Board Member

Those of us who participate in the Outreach Committee are very excited. This year, we are continuing our efforts towards diversity and inclusion. Our commitment at SBWPC is to continuously evolve, and have a membership that reflects the diverse fabric of our community and its incredible richness. One of the main goals of SBWPC is to identify and recruit women of color to become a part of our organization, and potentially become leaders in our communities. Help us shape the future political landscape. If you or anyone you know might be interested in joining the SBWPC, please let us know, and we will get in touch very soon. **For more information call 564-6876.**



Kate Silsbury, CRPC®
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Planning Counselor™

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SUMMER OF CHANGE

The SBWPC is looking for CHANGE! A change in our current health care system, a change in the educational priorities, a change in the number of women elected to office...most of all, the change in your sofa, jars, piggy banks, coin purses and coat pockets. **Save up that change for SBWPC.** There will be prizes for the person who contributes the most change and the person who brings the most unique change receptacle. More information to come in the near future, but for now start saving it up. We will be collecting during the months of June, July and August.

SBWPC EVENT RECAP

Over the past few months SBWPC has had some fantastic events. If you took part, thanks for your participation and if you did not, we certainly missed you! Check out the section below and also our **SAVE THE DATE** section on the last page of this newsletter to stay in tune with what we have coming your way.

Presidents' Circle Luncheon

This year's Presidents' Circle Lunch featuring keynote speaker **Mary Hughes**, founder and director of The 2012 Project, which is sponsored by the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, was a great success and lots of fun.

Ms. Hughes treated everyone to an invigorating and fact-packed talk about how important it is to have women in decision-making roles and why the time is now to increase the number of women in Congress and state legislatures.



Following on the heels of the 2010 census, each and every congressional and state legislative district in the country has been redrawn. With new boundaries and new districts, there are open seats. Research shows that women have more success winning open seats. Hence the goal of The 2012 Project is to capitalize upon this unique opportunity and increase women's representation nationally. Fielding tough questions, Ms. Hughes stressed the importance of supporting women

who dare to enter politics and encourage a culture that allows women to work together and unify on common issues and on common goals, no matter what side of the aisle one is on. Moreover, women do not need to ask permission to run, but should just do it.

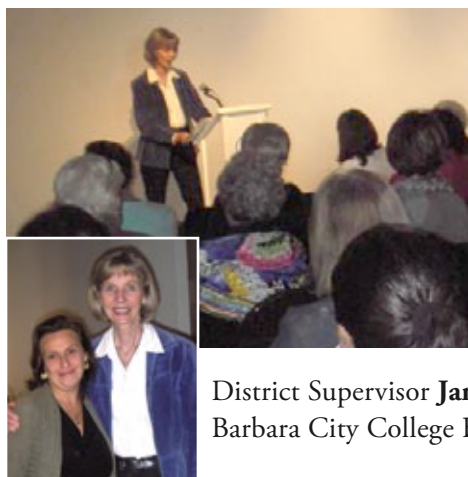
Attended by many of you, our members and friends, we were honored as well to be joined by a number of our elected officials including **Congresswoman Lois Capps**; City of Santa Barbara Mayor **Helene Schneider** and Council members **Cathy Murillo** and **Grant House**; Santa Barbara School Board members **Annette Cordero** and **Kate Parker**; City of Goleta Council members **Margaret Connell** and **Paula Perotte**; Goleta Union School Board member **Pam Kinsley**; President of the Goleta Union School District Board **Susan Epstein**; Goleta Water District Board Member **Lauren Hanson**; Santa Barbara City College Trustee **Marty Blum**; 1st District Supervisor **Salud Carbajal**; 2nd District Supervisor **Janet Wolf**; and 3rd District Supervisor **Doreen Farr**.

Thanks to you all for your support and for helping to make the luncheon such a success.



Coffee With Congresswoman Lois Capps

On Saturday, February 18, 2012, a great crowd turned out at the Contemporary Arts Forum for our annual **Coffee with Lois Capps** event.



This members-only event was attended by many of you, our fabulous members, and various elected officials, including City Council Member, **Cathy Murillo**, 2nd

District Supervisor **Janet Wolf** and Santa Barbara City College Board of Trustees

member **Marty Blum**. Congresswoman Capps gave a rousing speech on some of the highlights of this past year and the challenges that lie ahead in 2012, not the least of which is the continued assault on women's rights, especially when it comes to health. Specifically, she talked about how the Affordable Care Act is working to transform the health care system from one that focuses on treating illness to one that focuses on health, wellness, and prevention.

She spoke about the opportunities for green jobs and how California is leading the way. The congresswoman also answered a number of questions from the audience and was open, accessible and well-spoken, as always.

SBWPC supports Congresswoman Capps in her re-election campaign.

SBWPC's The Economics of Immigration: A Rational Approach A Forum on Immigration

On January 25, 2012, the SBWPC held the first event of its series "It's A Feminist Issue...". The title of this event was "The Economics of Immigration: A Rational Approach". The purpose of the forum was to examine and present relevant and fact-based analysis of the highly charged issue of immigration. Far too often, the reality of the situation of immigration and immigrants is twisted in the public discourse and used divisively. SBWPC wanted to dispel myths, avert visceral reactions and just deal with the facts—and that is exactly what we did.

The panelists, **Dr. Nelson Lichtenstein** (UCSB), **Dr. William Robinson** (UCSB), **Abbe Allen Kingston** (Immigration Attorney) and **Luis Villegas** (Hispanic Chamber of Commerce) all represented important elements of this issue with respect to historical context, current regulatory framework and societal implications, legal complications and economic impact, both locally and nationally.

One of the topics discussed was undocumented women and their exploitation in the workforce in sweatshops through policies such as NAFTA. The panelists also spoke about the types of employment undocumented women have in the US, the roles they play in larger society through labor



organizing and some of the difficulties that plague these women due to language barriers and fear of law enforcement because of their status. On the upside, however, statistics show that immigrant women in Santa Barbara own a growing number of businesses.

Luis Villegas stated, "In the county of Santa Barbara there are approximately 38,000 businesses—of those, about 4,000 are Latino owned—approximately 10 percent...probably in terms of woman-owned businesses, about 28 percent... The fastest growing entrepreneurial segment in the United States, in our state and in our county are women."

LEGISLATIVE SNAPSHOTS

This new section of our newsletter is aimed at keeping you aware of some of the recently passed legislation and/or pending that directly affects issues that you and the SBWPC care about.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION PASSED

SB 299 Pregnancy or Childbirth Leave (Sen. Noreen Evans) which took effect in January 2012 requires employers with at least five employees to maintain group health insurance coverage for women who take maternity leave for up to four months. Under the measure, businesses have to provide benefits at the same level as if the employee were working during the leave. The measure expands current law, which requires employers with at least 50 employees to provide benefits for women who take pregnancy leave for a maximum of 12 weeks. Susan Kemp—senior employment law counsel at the California Chamber of Commerce—said that not all women will necessarily receive the maximum four-month coverage period because a woman's health care provider will determine how long her leave will last. Read more: <http://www.californiahealthline.org/articles/2011/12/21/new-california-laws-will-affect-maternity-leave-public-health.aspx#ixzz1qIXiilow>

SB 657 California Human Trafficking Law (Steinberg), which took effect on January 2012, enforces mandatory disclosure of efforts that companies take to eradicate slavery and human trafficking from their entire supply chains. The law applies to retail sellers and manufacturers with annual worldwide gross receipts exceeding \$100 million that have even relatively small contacts with California, such as \$500,000 in sales in that state, personal property in that state valued at \$50,000, or payment of \$50,000 in compensation in that state. The law affects sellers and manufacturers of everything from electronics to groceries to clothing and textiles.

AB 9 California Gay Bullying Law (Seth's Law) (Ammiano), which took effect in January 2012 was named after 13-year old Seth Walsh, a gay junior high school student who took his own life after continual harassment in Tehachapi. The law aims to combat bullying of gay and lesbian students in public schools by requiring school districts to have a uniform process for dealing with gay bullying complaints. It also mandates that school personnel intervene if they witness gay bullying.

AB 620 LGBT Equality and Equal Access in Higher Education Law (Block), which took effect in January 2012 requires state universities and colleges create and enforce campus policies protecting LGBTs from harassment and appoint employee contact persons to address on-campus LGBT matters.

AB 887 Transgender Non-Discrimination Law (Atkins), which took effect in January 2012 provides public accommodation and protection in education, housing and employment for gender identity and expression.

SB 222 Maternity Coverage Availability Act (Evans) and **AB 210 Maternity Services** (Hernandez), both of which took effect in January 2012, together require every individual and group health insurance policy to provide coverage for maternity services.

182 Judicial Applicant and Appointment Demographics Inclusion Law (Corbett), which took effect in January 2012 includes gender identity and sexual orientation of potential judges into the state's Judicial Applicant Data Report to ensure that state courts are diverse.

SB 48 California Gay History Law (Leno), which took effect in January 2012. mandates that school textbooks and social studies include gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender accomplishments.

PENDING LEGISLATION

Stay tuned to the **SBWPC Action Alerts** in your email inbox and on our website for Pending Legislative Updates and Action Requests.

SBWPC's Leadership Series on Building Community proudly presents...

NETWORKING FOR ACTION

Join the SBWPC on **May 23, 2012**

from 6–7:30 pm at the **Faulkner Gallery, Santa Barbara Public Library**
for the second event in our Leadership Series.

In almost every situation we can think of, we interact with a wide cross-section of people from all ethnic backgrounds, genders, gender identities, abilities and belief systems. This special **NETWORKING FOR ACTION** workshop brings together a dynamic panel of representatives from a variety of influential agencies to impart strategies, tactics and approaches to effectively building networks, creating coalitions and positively impacting our community. The confirmed panelists include:



CHECK THE SBWPC WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND UPDATES. SEE YOU THERE!

Welcome, New SBWPC Members!

Priscilla Bender-Shore • Michelle Bruner • Diana Charles • Jane Defnet • Yvonne DeGraw
Jill Denison • Molly Fowler • Jill Frandsen • Catherine Gautier-Downes • Nancy Gottlieb
Anne Gray • Tania Israel • Ryna Jackson • Lynn Jones • Rebecca Keate • Nadia Kelada
Bonnie Lewis • Charisse Matisz-Cordero • Joan Melendez • Erica Ramos • Elena Richardson
Cyndi Silverman • Alicia Wexler • Julie Young



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SAVE THE DATE! Don't miss these important events!

- ★ **NEW MEMBER RECEPTION with special tribute to Selma Rubin**
Thursday, April 26, 2012 • 5:30-7 pm • Arch Rock Fish, 608 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara
Come One, Come All, New Members and all of you Not-So-New Members! Don a red or purple hat and get your Selma Rubin groove on. Come on, she'd want you to join in!
- ★ **FALLING BEHIND: The Impact of the Great Recession and the Budget Crisis on California's Women and Families**
Monday, May 14, 2012 • 7 pm • County Administration Bldg, 5th Floor Hearing Rm, 105 E. Anapamu
A lively and informative panel discussion will address issues facing Santa Barbara County and the state. You may access the full report and a two page summary and find out more at: www.womensfoundca.org.
- ★ **SBWPC Leadership Series: Networking for Action • Wednesday, May 23, 2012 • 6-7:30 pm**
Faulkner Gallery, Santa Barbara Public Library
The second event in the SBWPC Leadership Series, this workshop will bring together a dynamic panel of representatives from a variety of influential agencies to impart strategies, tactics and approaches to effectively building networks, creating coalitions and positively impacting our community. See page 11 of this newsletter for more information.
- ★ **SBWPC 24th Anniversary Cocktail Party • Friday, September 7, 2012 • 5:30-7:30 pm • Venue TBA**
We'll honor our endorsed candidates and enjoy a festive cocktail party featuring live music and comedy.

2012 SBWPC Membership Coupon

SBWPC membership provides the opportunity to participate on several levels: on sub-committees, in events, and financially. Please send your membership check to: SBWPC, P.O. Box 90618, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-0618 • Office: 805.564.6876

☐ \$15 Student/Limited income ☐ \$35 Individual ☐ \$50 Household ☐ \$100 Access ☐ \$250 Voice ☐ \$500 Power

I would like to participate on the sub-committee/in the activities checked: ☐ Elections/Appointments ☐ Media/Newsletter
☐ Membership ☐ Fundraising/Events ☐ Legislation/Advocacy ☐ Campaign Volunteer ☐ Candidate Development

Issues/Interests of Concern to Me: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Employer: _____

Occupation: _____

☐ YES! This is a gift membership from:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Thanks for helping to make Santa Barbara a better place for women!

(Information required by the California FPPC and FEC)