



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

MD Legislature Stands Up to Wal-Mart, Sets Standard for US

"NOW applauds Maryland lawmakers for standing up to big businesses like Wal-Mart," said National NOW Executive Vice President Olga Vives. "These legislators put the health and welfare of the people of Maryland above corporate profits, and for that they should be commended."

On Jan. 12, the MD General Assembly voted to require that private companies employing more than 10,000 people statewide spend at least 8 percent of their payroll on health care for employees or contribute the difference to a state fund for those unable to afford insurance. At the present time Wal-Mart is the only employer affected by the legislation. The MD House and Senate not only overrode Gov. Robert Ehrlich Jr.'s veto, they also prevailed in the face of costly advertising and lobbying efforts by Wal-Mart.

The Maryland NOW chapter worked closely with labor unions and other workers' rights advocates to ensure passage of this important bill.

"As the first state to enact such legislation, Maryland has set a bold example for the rest of the country," said Vives, noting that more than 30 other states are considering such measures.

Wal-Mart's workplace abuses are well known because groups such as NOW have been spreading the word. In 2002, NOW named Wal-Mart a "Merchant of Shame" as part of its Women-Friendly Workplace Campaign. The company faces a massive class-action lawsuit filed by 1.6 million former and current female employees for discrimination in wages and promotions. Although women make up two-thirds of Wal-Mart's workforce and have more seniority and higher performance ratings than men, they hold only one-third of the management positions and are concentrated in the lower paying jobs.

Fewer than half of Wal-Mart's employees are able to participate in the company's health insurance plan, due to eligibility restrictions and the high cost of coverage. Many Wal-Mart employees have had to seek assistance from state government programs in order to provide health care for themselves and their families.

"The main reason Wal-Mart is the richest company in the world is because it pays workers so little, while contributing next to nothing toward their health care," said Vives. "The time has come to tell Wal-Mart, and any company tempted to follow its business model, that you cannot stay at the top if you're standing on the backs of your workers."



MD Court Nullifies State's Definition of "Marriage"

BY MARY BAILEY

For 33 years, Maryland law has defined marriage as "a union between a man and a woman." But a ruling last month by Baltimore circuit judge M. Brooke Murdock called the definition unconstitutional. With this decision, says The Washington Post, Judge Murdock has "thrust the state of Maryland into the middle of the national debate about same-sex marriage."

Nine couples and one individual from around the state argued before Judge Murdock that the state's prohibition of same-sex marriage is inconsistent with the Maryland Declaration of Rights (also called the state's Equal Rights Amendment) because the ban discriminates based on gender. Ratified by voters in Nov. 1972, the Declaration used the language of the ill-fate national ERA: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be abridged or denied because of sex." In reaction, the General Assembly in 1973 passed a same-sex prohibition that codified marriage as just between a man and a woman.

Judge Murdock ruled that the prohibition against same-sex marriage is discriminatory and violates the state's Equal Rights Amendment. The Washington Post published her decision on Jan. 29, 2006, giving readers the legal reasoning behind her decision. Below are some of the points she made:

The judge found unpersuasive the argument that prohibitions on same-sex marriage do not create gender-based classifications because they apply equally to both sexes. This argument is known as the "equal application theory," and had been used in Virginia in cases prohibiting racial intermarriage until struck down by the Supreme Court in *Loving v. Virginia* (1967). Using *Loving* as a precedent, Murdock wrote that "This Court is unpersuaded that sufficient differences exist [between race and gender] to distinguish the cases."

Murdock also noted that, under the state's Equal Rights Amendment, classifications based on gender are subject to "strict scrutiny," that is, to serving a compelling state interest. But, she wrote, the Court was "unable to find that the prohibition of same-sex marriage rationally relates to a legitimate state interest." Proponents of the same-sex ban had argued it promoted the traditional family and encouraged procreation and child rearing—all legitimate state interests.

(continued on page 4)

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MC NOW President's Letter BY JEANNETTE FELDNER

Dear MC NOW Members:

I continue to immerse myself in the world of women, whether or not I set out to do so.

I attended MDNOW's US Senate Candidate Town Hall and heard the candidates answer questions pertaining to women's issues in Maryland. It was quite a successful and well-attended event. **Good for MDNOW!**

I attended Eve Ensler's play, "The Good Body." Ensler spoke, in voices of many types of women, about how women view our bodies, what parts we love or hate, how childhood remarks about our bodies follow us into adulthood and haunt us, how we view eating as good or bad. We laughed and cried at her stories of what she has learned as she travels the world talking to women. She is so talented and wonderful. **Good for Eve Ensler!**

I will attend NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland's screening of "The Education of Shelby Knox," where one girl took a stand on sex ed in a small rural town in Texas. And I will continue to follow the decisions made by our own Montgomery County Board of Education's family life and human sexuality committee. Women's reproduction health education is the issue here. **Good for Shelby Knox and for all who are working to get the best sex ed for our students in Montgomery County!**

Another year's anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* is here. Clinics in the area put out extra clinic escorts to protect the rights of women wishing to have an abortion without harassment from anti-choice protesters outside the clinics. And the confirmation of an anti-choice judge to the Supreme Court is a done deal. I am very worried about the future of choice. **Good for clinic workers, clinic escorts, and those who voted against Alito!**

I'm gladdened by the news that a judge in Maryland has just ruled that a Maryland law banning same-sex marriage violates the state constitution. And Gov. Ehrlich's vetoes of the "Wal-Mart Bill" and the raising of the minimum wage were overridden by our state legislators. All of this is good for the women of Maryland. **Good for our Maryland legislators!**

I attended a kickoff for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. I found out that 1 in 3 women will get cancer in their lifetime. I will walk the relay for my friend Donna who is on chemo now, for my many friends and relatives who have survived cancer, for the hope of a cure from money raised for research. **Good for all who volunteered for this event and good for me!**

Women's issues are everywhere. Help where you can.

Jeannette Feldner
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Wendy Wasserstein, Playwright

Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner Wendy Wasserstein died of lymphoma on Jan. 30 in New York City. In her too-short span of 55 years, Wasserstein wrote several plays, including "The Heidi Chronicles," "Uncommon Women and Others," and "The Sisters Rosensweig." Her characters were feminists of her generation, and she followed them through the '60s, '70s and '80s. Wasserstein also wrote screenplays for TV and film, as well as a children's book and personal essays. "I adored her," said MC NOW member Janet Frank. "Wendy Wasserstein was an ardent feminist, a wonderful writer and a brilliant comic. She showed us society's prejudice and hypocrisy with humor and hope. In her own words, 'Don't live down to expectations. Go out there and do something remarkable.'"

Meet FRAN PORTER, MC NOW Corresponding Secretary

“Before joining a consciousness-raising group in the 1970s,” says Fran Porter, “I had not read Betty Friedan’s ‘The Feminine Mystique,’ thinking it was another of those books advising women how to be more feminine and keep their husband interested by wrapping their bodies in Saran wrap.”

Born and raised in Oklahoma and educated at Vanderbilt University in Nashville—“neither place a hotbed of liberalism”—Fran went with her mother to a Unitarian Church regularly. “So I was rather open to this new kind of thinking about women’s place in the world.”

“In the ‘70s, after the light went on in my brain about the importance of feminism,” Fran says, she joined Montgomery County NOW and later served as its newsletter editor. Then she moved overseas, living in India and Madagascar from 1985 through 1991. “Seeing the misery and environmental degradation that overpopulation produced in those countries, I became very interested in promoting birth control and maintaining the right to abortion around the world, as well as in the U.S.”

After returning from abroad, Fran worked as a writer and editor, including a 13-year stint with U.S. News and World Report, several years with a nonprofit in the affordable housing field, and freelance forays into travel writing.

At the same time, Fran rejoined the chapter, and has been on the MC NOW Board since the mid-1990s, serving as co-president one year. In addition, she has consistently answered the call for volunteers, at various times serving as liaison between the county and state NOW; attending meetings of the MC Board of Education re the new sex education curriculum; working in coalition with the River Road Unitarian Church and the local NARAL chapter on sex ed issues, and traveling to Pennsylvania in 2004 to campaign for a Democrat in the Montgomery County, PA, congressional race. Fran’s home has been host to many a NOW meeting over the years. And, adds MC NOW President Jeannette Feldner, “She goes to every march in town!”

Currently, Fran is serving as Corresponding Secretary for the chapter. “The organization is very important to me,” she says, “for the work we do and for the wonderful people I meet.”



Honor Your Women’s Enews

Were you to take a free subscription to Women’s Enews, you would receive a feminist news story every single day. Even if you chose to read only in your field of interest, just seeing the headlines day after day will give you a substantial overview of what’s happening to and for women. Just look at the headlines from the past half-month, and you’ll see what we mean:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Jan 31, 2006 | Cacho Faces Defamation Charges in Mexico [for making child pornography charges] |
| Jan 30, 2006 | Programs for Batterers Changing Their Focus |
| Jan 29, 2006 | Dove’s Larger Models Spur Sales and Attention |
| Jan 28, 2006 | Bizwomen Ranks Rise; Breast Cancer Hits 1 in 7 |
| Jan 27, 2006 | Female Genital Mutilation Leads Nigerian to Pleads for Daughters’ Asylum |
| Jan 26, 2006 | GOP’s Top Woman Could Also Fall in DeLay’s Wake |
| Jan 25, 2006 | Study: Both Sexes on Campus Are Harassed |
| Jan 24, 2006 | Equal-Opportunity Dangers Face Jill Carroll |
| Jan 23, 2006 | Spain’s Easygoing Siesta Burdens Working Moms |
| Jan 22, 2006 | Women’s Union in India Battles State Changes |
| Jan 21, 2006 | Italian Women March; Nations Fail to Count Women |
| Jan 20, 2006 | Roe Anniversary Stirs Coast-to-Coast Activism |
| Jan 19, 2006 | Chilean Women Celebrate Signs of Rapid Change |
| Jan 18, 2006 | Same-Sex Marriage Wars Causing Battle Fatigue |
| Jan 17, 2006 | Daughter Catches View of Future from Ailing Mother |
| Jan 16, 2006 | Cambodian Shelter Jittery Year After Attack |
| Jan 15, 2006 | Target at Center of Battle Over Plan B |

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Montgomery County Resources For Victims of Rape and Domestic Violence

COMPILED BY CAROLE SCHOR

1. Abused Persons Program: 240-777-4673
2. MC Victims Assistance and Sexual Assault Program: 240-777-1355
3. MC Abused Persons Program: 301-315-4673
4. MD Network against Domestic Violence: 1-800-mdhelps, 301-352-4574
5. MD Coalition against Sexual Assault: 1-800-983-RAPE
6. House of Ruth (POARP) domestic violence assistance, MD judicial center: 240-777-9077

Marriage (cont from page 1)

But, Murdock noted the nine couples did not deny that these are legitimate state interests.

“Indeed, the prevention of same-sex marriages is wholly unconnected to promoting the rearing of children by married, opposite-sex parents,” Murdock wrote, adding that there is no connection between the ban and “an increase or decrease in the number of heterosexual marriages or of children born to those unions.”

Supporters of the prohibition against same-sex marriage also argued that preserving societal values and the traditional institution of marriage are legitimate state interests that deserve to be protected by the ban. Replied Murdock, “Although tradition and societal values are important, they cannot be given so much weight that they alone will justify a discriminatory statutory classification. When tradition is the guise under which prejudice or animosity hides, it is not a legitimate state interest. Similarly, expressing moral disapproval of a class is not sufficient to sustain a classification where there is no other legitimate state interest.”

Immediately after Judge Murdock’s ruling, the state appealed the decision and a lawmaker proposed a counter amendment. So the judge stayed the decision pending higher court review. But unwilling to wait for a court appeal, Republicans in Annapolis rushed to amend the state constitution in a fashion being promoted in Virginia. In both states, politicians are seeking constitutional amendments that ban not only gay marriages, but also civil unions and other partnerships between consenting, adult homosexuals.

The MD amendment, penned by Del. Donald H. Dwyer Jr. (R-Anne Arundel), would also nullify laws of Montgomery County and Baltimore granting health care benefits and joint property ownership to lesbian and gay partners who are public employees.

The Jan. 31 hearing before the MD House Judiciary Committee lasted seven hours and was crowded with partisans. At times, the MD State Police were called in to quiet everyone down.

Democrats opposed the measure, arguing that the legislature should wait until higher courts rule. But Republican Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. urged the lawmakers to give the amendment “full deliberation.”

Then, on Feb. 2, Dwyer’s amendment died. The hero was Del. Kathleen Dumais (D-Montgomery County), a member of the MD House Judiciary Committee. In committee, Dumais offered an amendment to Dwyer’s amendment that retained its original language but recognized civil unions, in effect nullifying the intent of Dwyer’s bill. Dumais’s amendment passed the MD House Judiciary Committee by 11 to 10. As a result, the full committee, including Republicans, voted unanimously to kill the whole thing.

Then all the House Republicans—save Montgomery County Del. Jean B. Cryor— in a seldom used procedure voted to get same-sex marriage debated on the House floor, and again they failed by a vote of 61-78. However, the story’s not over. Republicans are mobilizing for another attack on lesbian and gay rights. Or, as Del. Dwyer said, “I always have another trick up my sleeve.”

I Am Depressed

A NOW MEMBER

The conformation of John Roberts and Samuel Alito to the Supreme Court is a result of our country being hijacked by corrupt, lying old white men. I know we have to keep fighting, but sometimes I'd just like to find another country of like minds to resettle into and take refuge and rest. Does one exist? Maybe we could start one.

I can't help thinking about the abortion clinic I defend, and the faces of the patients and their loved ones there with them. They are not there because they want to be. They are there because they NEED to be. And the license plates from other states show how far they've come in that desperate need.

So much is at stake. So few realize it.

I grieve.



Submissions to Newsletter Welcome.

From NOW On reserves the right to edit submissions for brevity. Ads accepted for nominal fees.

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE:
February 20, 2006

Family Planning is a Family Matter

The Constitution safeguards your right to privacy in intimate decisions, like family planning. The U. S. Supreme Court twice has upheld your right to privacy. First, *Griswold v. Connecticut* established access to birth control in 1972. Second, the historic *Roe v. Wade* decision recognized the right to choose a year later.



Samuel Alito questions your right to privacy, one that most families take for granted:

"We regard the question [of *Roe's* legitimacy] as live and open."

From Alito's memo on *Thornburgh v. ACOG*

If confirmed, it is our deep concern that Judge Alito will impose his personal views and overturn the court precedents, especially *Roe v. Wade*, that protect your family's right to privacy and your individual right of choice.

This January, 2006, the 33rd anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, we, the undersigned, affirm our support for a woman's right to safe, legal and accessible birth control and abortion. We believe these rights extend to all women regardless of economic status. We oppose any and all attempts to weaken the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision and deplore all acts of violence and intimidation directed at women and their health care providers.

Marie desJardins
Anne T Gavin
MD Sen Sharon Grosfeld
Pamela Klecan
Jane Houck
Paula J Morris
Mona Langston
Scarlett Swerdlow
Patricia Brecht
Natasha Brecht
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MD Del Brian Feldman
MD Del Ana Sol Gutierrez
MD Del Richard Madaleno
MD Del Jane Lawton
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56 Anonymous

This affirmation of a woman's right to choose was paid for by the Marylanders whose signatures appear and was organized by the Maryland National Organization for Women.



Elsewhere in the World

ABRIDGED FROM WWW.WOMENSENEWS.ORG

January 6, 2006 Israeli Project Aids Teens, Young Prostitutes

In Israel, thousands of young people work as prostitutes, often at “extremely low prices,” according to a spring 2004 report made to the UN Commission on Human Rights. Nevertheless, only one center exists to help young prostitutes turn their lives around: Awake at Night, a Tel Aviv program. Prostitution is legal in Israel. Being a client, however, is illegal but rarely prosecuted. “No one is registering prostitutes in general, and youth prostitution in particular,” said Yitzhak Kadman, founder of the National Council for the Child. The children are not homeless, he said, but live with their parents, go to school, go to parties—and also work as prostitutes. Research indicates that the top factors in youth prostitution are previous exploitation and physical or emotional abuse. In addition, the government has cut social services for children, and pornography legitimizing sex with children is easily available. Young prostitutes are often placed in the criminal system for drug use without authorities being aware of or treating the real problem. Without aggressive intervention, activists say, they’ll either become adult prostitutes or die on the streets, whether beaten to death by clients or from a drug overdose.

January 8, 2006 Tsunami Aid Maroons Thai Sex Workers

After the tsunami, Thailand’s sex workers were shunned by most relief efforts, even though they helped with the immediate rescue effort. In addition, they helped local officials communicate with stranded residents because many of them could speak English. But when it came time for the government to hand out recognition and small grants to help residents rebuild their lives, many sex workers missed out. Even though sex work is criminalized in Thailand, both men and women solicit customers in the country’s tourist hotspots. After the tsunami, Empower Foundation, a 20-year-old Thai non-governmental organization made up of thousands of sex workers, opened an office in Patong, southern

Thailand. Empower runs three other centers in Thailand, mostly operated by sex workers, who lobby the government for eventual decriminalization and regulation of the Thai sex industry.

January 21, 2006 Italian Women March

On Jan. 14, 50,000 pro-choice women took to the streets of Milan, marching under the slogan, “Let’s Emerge From Silence,” and demanding that Italy maintain its current abortion law. The protest came two days after Pope Benedict XVI reaffirmed the Vatican’s condemnation of abortion. Italian bishops have made abortion a campaign issue in this year’s general elections and ministers in the conservative government of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi have heavily criticized the march. It is the first time the issue of legal abortion is on the table since 1981, when Italians upheld abortion rights by rejecting a referendum backed by the Vatican.

January 23, 2006 Spain’s Easygoing Siesta Burdens Working Moms

Spain’s traditional afternoon nap is key to the country’s reputation for easygoing charm. But women trying to combine career and family say it adds time pressure. In a major change, the socialist government set a 9-to-5 schedule for its own employees. The government’s ability to change a deeply ingrained habit is limited, however, since only about 1 in 42 people work for the national administration. For mothers working elsewhere, the three-hour siesta means arriving home 8 or 9 pm or later, and even paying a nanny to cover the time gap. The siesta was once a pleasant way to break up the workday, but that was when Spain was an agrarian society. Now the custom hangs on, with shops closing and people taking three-hour restaurant lunches. This period of enforced but often unproductive idleness means that work days stretch to more than 12 hours. “Spain’s working hours are male chauvinist working hours,” says the director of a Madrid think tank. What’s needed, anti-siesta campaigners say, is a feminist-led revolution.

How it Was FEBRUARY (1900 – 1949)

- 4 Betty Friedan, author of “The Feminine Mystique” and co-founder of NOW, born, 1921
- 4 Rosa Parks, “mother of the civil rights movement,” born, 1913
- 5 Gretchen Fraser becomes the first American to win a gold medal in skiing at any winter Olympics, at St. Moritz, 1948
- 9 Russian heroes Alexandra and Ivan Bako graduate together from tank school, and on a tank they paid for themselves, win several battles, 1944. Alexandra is awarded the Order of the Patriotic War; Ivan, the Order of the Red Banner
- 9 Author Alice Walker, 1983 Pulitzer Prize winner for “The Color Purple, born, 1944
- 9 Mormon Martha Cannon, elected Utah state senator over her husband, explains, “A plural wife isn’t half as much of a slave as a single wife. If her husband has four wives, she gets three weeks of freedom every single month,” 1910
- 11 Emma Goldman is arrested for lecturing on birth control in New York, 1916, or, as Margaret Anderson wrote, for advocating that “women need not always keep their mouths shut and their wombs open.”

The Watchful Eye

BY MARY BAILEY



Two cheers for TV capitalists. Two widely watched TV shows—"Law & Order" and "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation"—are "distorting the expectations of real jurors," reports the Associated Press. Apparently, jurors are demanding the same high-tech forensic evidence they see on TV, even though in many cases forensic evidence is sparse. Now law journals include articles suggesting that prosecutors warn jurors that forensic

evidence is difficult to obtain and that circumstantial evidence is sufficient to prove a case.... Watching films that show characters drinking alcohol can predispose young teens to try drinking at a young age, concludes a Dartmouth Medical School study based on 600 films and 5,000 students.

Because it would be a revolutionary act. "Why is it," asks my upstairs neighbor, "that the song 'Who's going to need me, who's going to feed me when I'm 64' is never sung by a woman?"

Is male spatial ability innate? Maybe not. University of Chicago scientists had 547 second- and third-grade students read a map or complete a puzzle. And guess what: only the boys from middle- and high- income families did better than the girls. "There was no difference at all between the boys and girls from the poorest group," says team leader Susan Levine. If boys are innately better at spatial concepts, then it shouldn't matter which group they are in. Perhaps poor boys, like girls of every class, are given fewer Legos, puzzles and video games that foster spatial skills. Also, like girls, poor boys in dangerous neighborhoods may be given less freedom to explore than are boys living in safer areas. (Wall St Jnl, 1-13-06)

Degrading the dead. Marilyn Monroe's death in 1962 was a "probable suicide" from an overdose of Nembutal, according to the official report. But Playboy has its own, sick theory: "murder by enema." Somebody gave Marilyn a sleeping pill, Playboy opines, and after she passed out "administered an enema filled with a toxic Nembutal solution." (Wash Post, 11-22-05)

Food for thought. Unlike wives, husbands don't feel their free time is disrupted after children arrive. In fact, they don't feel any more rushed than do single, childless men, according to an Ohio State University study (Wash Post 1-31-06). The Watcher know some closely related, wonderful exceptions.

This is a test. Federal judges in Illinois and Michigan have blocked laws banning the sale of video games such as "Grand Auto Theft: San Andreas" to children. In Chicago, Judge Richard A. Posner said that these video games deserve as much protection as do the gruesome portions of "The Odyssey" and "The Divine Comedy." He further said, "To shield children right up until the age of 18 from exposure to violent descriptions and images would not only be quixotic, but deforming; it would leave them unequipped to deal with the world as we know it" (Wash Post 12-17-06). Do you see some errors in this line of reasoning?

The MD Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee on Jan. 28 approved, 6-4, a bill requiring the state to spend at least \$25 million a year on stem cell research. Funded research would include use of unused embryos from fertility treatments that would otherwise be discarded. The bill must be approved by at least one other committee before being considered by the full MD Senate. Republican senators plan to filibuster. (kaisernetwork.org/medicalnewstoday.com 2-04-06)

Roe v. Wade "is an empty promise for many women seeking safe, legal abortions today," writes Amelia Welsh Jones, a second-year medical student at the University of Washington. Jones notes a shortage of abortion providers in the country, and that nearly one-fourth of women seeking an abortion "have to travel 50 miles or more for the service." Also, there is a "lack of abortion training for medical students and residents" nationwide, and about two-thirds of medical students "spend less than 30 minutes of class time on all aspects of abortion." The "public and the medical community" should "support medical students and residents who are working to make the promise of *Roe* a reality for U.S. women," Jones writes. "What good is a legal right to abortion if there is no one to provide it?" (Seattle Post-Intelligencer 1-23-06/medicalnewstoday.com 2-0406)

How it Was

FEBRUARY (1900 – 1949)

- 13 With women's suffrage a triumphant reality, delegates from the National American Woman Suffrage Association, vowing to educate the electorate and work for needed legislation, rename themselves the League of Women Voters, 1920
- 18 Novelist Toni Morrison, 1993 Nobel Laureate for Literature, born, 1931
- 19 Eighty-five Vassar students march on the N.Y. State Legislature and disrupt the Senate, presenting a petition to encourage defeat of a bill requiring students to take a loyalty oath and aimed at destroying all college radicalism, 1935

- 21 Barbara Jordan, first African American woman from the south to serve in the U.S. Congress, born, 1936
- 24 Margaret Bartlett relaxes in California after yesterday's 41-hour flight in a mail plane, when she became the first woman to fly from New York to San Francisco on a regular airmail schedule, 1928

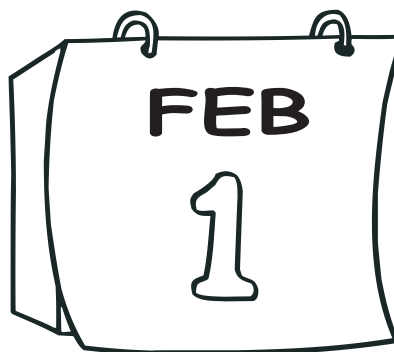
(Selections from *The Liberated Woman's Appointment Calendars, 1972-74*)

MC NOW Calendar of Events

Board Meetings will take place on the first or second Monday of each month. All members welcome.
Chapter meetings and action activities are held regularly.

EBRUARY 2005

- 5 1-3 pm. MC NOW BOARD MEETING (members welcome). The Vegetable Garden, Rockville Pike, Rockville. Yes, it's Super Bowl Sunday, but we'll be finished long before the game. RSVP lj.feldner@verizon.net.
- 6 7 pm. 18th Annual Memorial Service for Victims of Domestic Violence. Joint Hearing Room, Legislative Services Building, Annapolis. MD Network Against Domestic Violence. 301-352-4574.
- 9 12-2 pm. "Medicare for All." National Capital Chapter Older Women's League meeting. 202-408-1777.
- 13 5 pm. Equality MD Lobby Day. In front of State House, Annapolis. www.equalitymaryland.org.
- 14 Noon. Anti-War Protest at Armed Forces Recruiting Center, 3 blocks from Silver Spring Metro. PeaceActionMC.org or agentforchange@comcast.net.
- 15 1 pm. Hearing on Sen. Sharon Grosfeld's (D-Montgomery County) SB297, the Emergency Contraception bill. Participate at hearing and press conference. This issue is MDNOW's top priority this legislative session. duchy@comcast.net.
- 23 7 pm. "African American Women in the Struggle for the Right to Vote." Speaker Dr. Rosalyn Terborg-Penn.
- 27 6:30-8 pm. Pro-Choice Lobby Night 2006. Miller Senate Building, Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee Hearing Room, 11 Bladen St., Annapolis. Abooth@prochoicemd.org, wendy.royalty@comcast.net, or nat.okey@ppmw.org.
- 28. 12-1:30 pm. "The Importance of Organizing Younger Women: Issues and Strategies." Clearinghouse on Women's Issues, One Dupont Circle, 8th floor, Kellogg Room. Bag lunch. Bring photo ID. 202-338-4820.



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