### HOMELES IN PARADISE August 12, 2016

#### Column #96







Mary Adams

# Part 2: CALLING ALL WONDER WORKERS Dare You Apply For The Commission On The Status Of Women? By Wanda Sue Parrott

**CITING** Susan B. Anthony, a 19<sup>th</sup>-century role model for Wonder Woman, the Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women has announced August 26 as Women's Equality Day. If you wonder what's involved, contemplate this incident as if you were casting your own vote:

In 1872, Susan B. Anthony went to the polls in Rochester, NY and cast a ballot in the presidential election. She cited her citizenship under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment as giving her the right to vote. She was arrested and fined \$100, which she refused to pay.

#### Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History

Have you ever wanted to be a history-maker like Susan B. Anthony? This could be the year for it.

Are you female, over 18 but under 120? Bold but not brash or brazen? Motivated to hop on the presidential-year political bandwagon? And eager to help homeless--as well as all other--women?

#### What Kind Of Woman Are You?

Are you anything like Susan B. Anthony? Would you stick your neck out for what you believe is right and give a few hours once a month on Monday night to work toward social justice?

If you answered a partial yes, or even a maybe, you might qualify as a candidate for the Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women, aka the Wonder Workers Squad.

The commission advises one of Monterey County's elected Wonder Women, Supervisor Jane Parker, who represents District 4, and that means helping shape history through service.

At present, Jane is the only woman on the five-member Board of Supervisors.

#### **Invitation From The County Commission On The Status Of Women**

Commissioner Molly Doty asked me to share this message with readers of Cedar Street Times:

"The Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women invites you to consider applying to serve on this important Commission and to work with us in improving lives of women in Monterey County.

"We advise Supervisors on needs and problem of women, recommend programs that offer them greater opportunities, and provide information to the public about the accomplishments, problems, and concerns of women."

## **Commission Versus Civil Grand Jury**

The Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women was established by the Board of Supervisors in 1974 to eliminate sex discrimination and prejudice.

The Commission represents the women of Monterey County by informing and advising supervisors of the needs and problems of women in Monterey County. Activities of the commission include: investigating problems and conditions which adversely affect women; recommending programs which offer women greater opportunities and choices; proposing methods for alleviating injuries in pay and job opportunities; providing information to the public about the accomplishments, problems and concerns of women in our county.

The Commission's function is similar to that of the Monterey County Civil Grand Jury to keep supervisors informed about community groups concerned with identifying and removing obstacles to women; unlike the grand jury, whose members serve anonymously, commissioners are known and even recognized at a spring Ten Outstanding Women ceremony.

Another difference between the grand jury and the commission is that the grand jury recommends solutions to homelessness of men, women, and children, including using a tent city as a holding area for homeless women pending finding shelter for them, whereas the commission honors women who actually get the work done to feed and clothe those in need.

Ethel Davis, manager of the food bank at Mount Nebo Baptist Church in Salinas, was one of ten 2016 honorees at the Outstanding Women event March 20 at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies, Monterey.

## The 19th Amendment Turns 96 Next Week

As a result of the bold action taken in 1872 by Susan B. Anthony, women finally won the right to vote when the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed by Congress on June 4, 1919, and ratified on August 18, 1920.

Today, a woman is running for President of the United States, and Mary Adams, former director of The United Way of Monterey County, is Supervisor-elect for District 5.

When Mary takes the oath of office on Jan. 5, 2017, you could already be a commissioner raising awareness of the importance of using nonsexist language in this bold new time of women's advancing equality.

According to Commissioner Molly Doty, "We have openings in each of the 5 districts and need your help to fulfill the vital mission of the Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women. For updates on meetings and information on how you can get involved, please visit our Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/montereycountycsw/">https://www.facebook.com/montereycountycsw/</a>.

"To apply simply follow this link to the application form, fill it out and submit it via our Gmail account: <a href="http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/csw/download/CSWApp2015.pdf">http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/csw/download/CSWApp2015.pdf</a>.

"To speak with our chairperson, please contact Aranyani Azevedo at <u>Aranyani.azevedo@gmail.com</u>, 707-295-6417."

Make that call. I dare you!

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