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DATES TO REMEMBER

March 7 – Women in History resumes

March 15 – Souper Supper 6:00p.m.

March 19 – Book Review Group 2:00 - 4:00pm

March 21 – Reproductive Freedom Day, at the Sacramento Convention Center

March 24 – Gourmet Group, 6:30pm

April 12 – Play: "Private Lives", 8:00pm

IF WINTER'S HERE, CAN THOUGHTS OF SOUP BE FAR BEHIND?

Yes, it's time for the Annual Hayward - Castro Valley Souper Supper! Most of you know that the Souper Supper is a tasty and popular Fund-raiser for the Tech Trek Scholarship. It's also the premier event for winter socializing as we sip delicious soups and munch on cookies donated by our fantastic branch cooks! (Is the branch fantastic or the cooks? You decide!)

Dee Donaldson has promised us an entertaining speaker, too!

When? Thursday, March 15, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

Where? Castro Valley First Baptist Church

18550 Redwood Road on the corner of Redwood & Seven Hills Roads.

Cost? \$8.00 for soup, bread, dessert, beverage and a fine speaker .
\$4.00 for those who bring soup or cookies

Additional donations to Tech Trek are gladly accepted. And, yes, we still need more soups and cookies to be donated. If you can help, please call Sandy Boswell @ 293-9575, or e-mail me:

sandyboswell@rocketmail.com

Bring your spouse, significant other, friends and family. Children and great-grandchildren are welcome.

See reservation form on page 3

What Roe Means to Me: Growing Up Under Legalized Abortion

By Mary Mahoney (originally posted on the Center for American Progress Website)

Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion, turned thirty-four January 22, 2007. To honor the occasion, we should take time to reflect on the women who helped us reach this anniversary. Their struggles and determination made it possible for many women to have autonomy over their own bodies today.

Some of these ground-breaking activists believe that the level of activism they displayed more than three decades ago is difficult to find in young women today. These young women--my generation--simply take all that was handed to them for granted. All we have ever known is legal abortion, so how could we possibly feel the same fire to protect it as the women who experienced back-alley procedures or watched their friends surrender their career ambitions and education to start a family too young?

Though young women often face these and more platitudes, abortion rights are still important to us in 2007--they've just been joined by many other issues that directly affect women's ability to care for their bodies and lead full, healthy lives.

While abortion remains a critical issue to young women, other reproductive health concerns have gained importance in ensuring a woman's ability to have sovereignty over her body. The immediate and enduring threat of HIV/AIDS, for example, is a crucial point of action for people under the age of 25. Half of all new cases come from that age-bracket, and young women are particularly vulnerable.

The Human Papilloma Virus is also a key concern for young women. One in every three sexually active young women has contracted HPV, a virus that can lead to cervical cancer. And by the age of 50, 80 percent of all sexually active women will have, at some point, contracted HPV.

The pro-choice framework is no longer a single-issue agenda; it has expanded to meet the reproductive health concerns facing all women, including those who have historically been excluded from certain aspects of the pro-choice agenda. We are making great waves to broaden the traditional reproductive rights framework into one of reproductive justice so that the needs and concerns of low-income women, women of color, and young women receive equal amounts of support and agency.

Young women today want to take care of themselves yet face many obstacles in doing so, such as barriers to health care and education.

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**THE GOURMET GROUP IS OFFERING A MEAL OF LONGTIME FAVORITES
TO TANTALIZE YOUR PALATES**

MARCH 24, 2007 AT 6:30PM

MENU

Appetizers with wine:

Chicken liver Pate & Tapenade

Cauliflower with Kalamata Olives Salad

Tourtiere (Pork Pie)

Havard Beets

Napoleons

Come join us, as we get together around a table for ten to twelve. You help by providing the food, by making at least one recipe, and we all share the costs, except for the hostess, who provides the setting plus tea and coffee. You will be sent all the recipes, so you can taste them, and add them to your files, for your own entertaining. It's a fun evening, with our wonderful members and some spouses.

DEADLINE: St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2007. Recipes will be sent out as soon as the deadline passes. Call Dee Donaldson at: 510-538-3415, or e-mail at:

cydondee@yahoo.com See you there!

**Hayward - Castro Valley Reservation Form
Souper Supper March 15, 2007 at 6 p.m.**

Make checks out to AAUW H-CV. \$8.00 per person / \$4.00 per cook

Send to Souper Supper c/o Nancy Turner

P.O. Box 6352 Hayward, CA 94540-6352

Name(s) _____

Guest(s) _____

Amount sent \$ _____ Your phone # _____

Bringing Soup _____ Bringing Cookies _____

American Association of University Women

Hayward/Castro
Valley Branch

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.aauw.org

(national site)

<http://aauw-hcv.org>

(local site)



BOOK REVIEW GROUP

Welcome everyone! We meet the third Monday of the month, in each other's home, from 2-4 P.M. On March 19, Barbara Jones will review: **"The Places in Between", by Rory Stewart.** The meeting will be hosted by Irene Zook, 18858 California Street, Castro Valley.

Please mark your calendar and join us.

WOMEN IN HISTORY GROUP

The programs will be under way with the first schools on March 7th. There are 11 of us doing the programs this year and we will be doing three outside programs in addition to the 12 schools. If you would like to come see us perform locally, call Liz Bathgate, at 581-0461, for information on the schedule.

DRAMA READING

The play for March will be ***Six Degrees of Separation***, by John Guare. The play will be read at two different times and locations. The evening meeting will take place as usual at 7pm on March 7th at Liz Bathgate's home. A new group is forming for those of you who do not wish to drive at night. It will take place on March 6 at the Green Shutter Gallery at 2pm, at 22654 Main Street in Hayward. Leona Nichandros and Peggy Robinson are the organizers for this afternoon meeting and can be reached at 538-1391 for Leona or 728-0450 for Peggy if you have any questions.

Member News

Longtime branch member, Illene Bolter passed away on Sunday, February 11th, after a battle with cancer. A memorial service was held at the Chapel of the Chimes in Hayward on Wednesday, February 14th. Illene joined the branch in 1959 and enjoyed her many friends and activities. She will be missed.

We all extend our warm congratulations to Evelyn and Al Gertler who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on February 21st. We wish many more happy years together for a special couple.

June Cook is transferring from the Oakland/Piedmont Branch to us because she has moved to Hayward.: 25100 Cypress Avenue, Apt. #105
(510) 782-6433

Please continue to contact your corresponding secretary, Barbara Jones, with member news. Let's show we care. Call Barbara at 538.0516 or e-mail: bb_jones@pacbell.net
Thank you.

(What Roe Means to Me, continued from page 2)

Advanced technologies and opportunities for safe reproductive health care may be within our legal grasp, but for many reasons, including religious pharmacists and reluctant doctors, they remain inaccessible to many young women--particularly those who are uninsured. More than 15 percent of women don't have health insurance in this country, making it difficult, if not impossible, for them to visit a gynecologist for annual exams and sexually transmitted disease screening. Low income women on Medicaid continue to be denied financial coverage from the government to obtain abortions. And a new vaccine, Gardasil, can be used against HPV, yet the cost of this series of shots is beyond most women's means and few insurance companies are offering up their support and coverage. Previous generations have opened many doors for young women; our amount of personal responsibility has multiplied, leaving us feeling empowered and grateful, but also overwhelmed and confused by all of our options. Lack of comprehensive sexual and reproductive education naturally plays a large role in a young woman's ability to understand her reproductive health. Yet young women are being asked to take complete responsibility for their bodies without the access to education that would tell them how to make safe choices.

Under the Bush administration's abstinence-only-until-marriage programming (which disregards the fact that reproductive health is important within marriage as well), young women are often left in the dark when it comes to contraception, pregnancy, and STD prevention, and are being denied referrals to clinics and reproductive health doctors. Women under 18 are not allowed to purchase emergency contraception, also known as the morning-after pill, without a prescription, and many do not even know of its existence. We may have gained ground for the women's movement when Roe was decided, but we have unfortunately fallen behind when it comes to educating our youth about what their reproductive options are and how to access them. Barriers to access and education are still with us despite Roe.

Yet there are reasons to be optimistic. Campus reproductive rights chapters and youth programs are taking foot around the country, giving young people access to more resources. New efforts are also being made by reproductive justice organizations to reach beyond traditional forms of campus outreach so that communities outside of educational institutions can have equal access to information and education about their reproductive health. The majority of these programs are being executed by young women in the movement who have been inspired by their Roe-era predecessors. Many times, however, the efforts of the young people running and participating in these programs are overshadowed by a looming sense of our generation's general apathy and the lack of activism others attribute to us. Our fight may not be the same as the older generations' and the way in which we go about it may be different from what others envisioned for us, but it is still valuable and relevant. In order to build movements, we must be able to fight our own battles in our own way. As we do so, we look to the women who fought for Roe to give us their wisdom and expertise, and we hope they look to us as the future of the movement.

As we celebrate the 34th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, we can be encouraged that we are building a holistic pro-choice framework that is inclusive and adaptable. We are no longer starting and ending our conversations with abortion; we are talking about comprehensive sex education, HIV/AIDS, access to health care, and other reproductive options and concerns. Most importantly, we are learning that in order to empower all women and make the most of our activism, we have to allow for and tailor our work to the diverse set of circumstances in which women of all backgrounds currently live. For my generation, Roe v. Wade is only the beginning.

Mary Mahoney is the development associate of the Pro-Choice Public Education Project, an organization dedicated to engaging young women on their terms around the critical issue of reproductive freedom.----

ADOPT A CAMPER

Help sponsor a girl at AAUW Tech Trek Science Camp at Mills College by paying for all or part of her experience at camp.

- \$700 will pay for her entire week at Mills
- \$350 will pay for ½ of her stay
- \$100 will pay for 1 day of her stay
- \$50 will pay for 1/2 day of her stay
- \$25 will pay for her trip to Chabot Science Observatory
- \$20 will pay for her supplies for science or math core classes
- \$15 will pay for her meals for one day
- \$10 will pay for snacks for the whole week

We hope that you will adopt a camper with a donation of any amount. We plan to send 4 girls to Tech Trek Camp this summer for six days of a wonderful educational experience. Please send your donations to Evelyn Gertler at 22240 Center Street #301, Castro Valley, 94546. Make your checks out to AAUW – CA – SPF if your amount is over \$250. Checks for smaller amounts may be made out to AAUW Hayward/Castro Valley with Tech Trek written in the memo line.

Members who donate to this special fund will be recognized at the Ice Cream Social. If you have any questions call Evelyn at 538-0122

(Health Fair, continued from page 7)

The fair consisted of about 20 community organizations who each gave out information about the work they do, and how their organizations impact healthy living in our community. There were health screenings such as cholesterol, bone density, and diabetes were available. Cancer Society guidelines, Nutrition guidelines, Alzheimer services, Maternal Health screening, Podiatry, Chiropractic, and Acupuncture services, Mental Health services for Depression and Suicide Prevention, three Community Shelters for the Homeless and Victims of Domestic Violence and the League of Women's Voter Registration table were all represented.

The four speakers on Heart Health/ Strokes, Depression, Sexual Health As We Age, and Tai Chi Chuan for Health were well received and engendered enough questions for a separate meeting on each topic.

Many thanks go to the committee which worked on this project for over 6 months and for the many branch members who helped keep the healthy food trays full, and who took care of the many small details that made the day a success. Special thanks go to the Iris Alliance Fund for their generous grant, and to Colette Lee and the Eden Hospital staff who provided the space, printed the flyers, contacted the vendors, set up the vendor space and provided great partnership throughout the planning process.

Ursula Batz,