

FEMINIST NEWS & VIEWS

Morris County NOW

May-June 2018



NEW DIRECTIONS FOR WOMEN TV SHOW CELEBRATION

By Nancy Critchley

ALMOST 25 YEARS...A TIME TO CELEBRATE!

Morris County NOW has been producing our very own public access TV show for over 24 years, and is the only chapter in the nation to do so! This calls for a celebration!

Join us on Wednesday June 20, 2018
6:30-9:30 pm

La Strada Restaurant
1105 Route 10 East
Randolph, NJ 07869

Elaine Silver will be entertaining us!

A buffet dinner will be served, with alcoholic drinks available for purchase.
The cost to attend is \$40 per person.

To RSVP by June 13th please mail a check for \$40 a person addressed to Morris County NOW to:

Morris County NOW
P.O. Box 394
Morristown, NJ 07960

Please include "TV Party" in the memo, and indicate the names of all attendees with your payment.

Contact morriscountynow@gmail.com with any questions. We hope to see you there!

MAY BOOK CLUB MEETING

By Debbie Patsel

Our next book club meeting will be:

May 16th at 4pm

Hosted at Nancy Critchley's House

We will be reading:

"The Hello Girls: America's First Women Soldiers"

by Elizabeth Cobbs

"The Hello Girls" is the story of how America's first women soldiers were sent to France to operate telephone switchboards and helped win World War I.

For more information, directions, and to RSVP contact Debbie Patsel at debdevon@yahoo.com.

IN THIS ISSUE

- ♦ TV Show Party (Page 1)
- ♦ Book Club (Page 1)
- ♦ A Feminist Voice (Page 2)
- ♦ National Conference (Page 2)
- ♦ Human Trafficking Update (Pages 3-4)
- ♦ Garage Sale (Page 5)
- ♦ Baseball Tickets (Page 5)
- ♦ Chapter Calendar (Page 5)

A FEMINIST VOICE: THIS IS WHY WE CAN'T HAVE NICE THINGS

By Karen Lontka

There is a desire to believe that “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice”, however, this bend is both bumpy and knotted. While the curve, on average, may be positive; it clearly can loop back on itself. Often the result of tyranny and great strife, in our un-presidented [sic] time it is due to our own foolishness.

Today, what passes for journalism and news is a broiling balkanized mess of ratings hungry infotainment mongers. Subjecting us to a twenty-four seven retelling of the current salacious “breaking” news, these outlets are guilty of obscuring the scurrilous actions of Trump’s minions in favor of glaring Chyron lower thirds. We are deceived and manipulated 280 characters at a time in an endlessly moronic stream of gibberish that, in a better world, is simply ignored. Progressives and Liberals write large reflexively group television news organizations such as CNN and MSNBC as “us” and FOX as “them”. On closer examination, however, they all gave Trump unfettered and undisputed airtime, worth hundreds of millions of dollars, during the presidential campaign. In contrast, these same companies did not meet a Hillary email story that they failed to headline. This same pattern of sensationalism persists where, for every story about the unraveling of women’s rights, environmental protection and human rights; we are flooded with tens or hundreds of articles about presidential dalliances, expensive dining room furniture and bullet proof desks. We must take it as our call to action to write to our news outlets of choice and demand equal or more attention be focused on the actions that are poised to wreck the social and environmental progress of the past 50 years. Stop filling airtime with Stormy’s lawyer and start featuring in depth analysis of the actions of the perfidious people now heading critical government agencies.

“Justice will not fail, though wickedness appears strong, and has on its side the armies and thrones of power, the riches and the glory of the world, and though poor men crouch down in despair.”

¹ 853, Ten Sermons of Religion by Theodore Parker, Of Justice and the Conscience, Start Page 66, Quote Page 84-85, Crosby, Nichols and Company, Boston.

² 1918, Readings from Great Authors by John Haynes Holmes, Harvey Dee Brown, Helen Edmunds Redding, and Theodora Goldsmith, Section: Justice: Theodore Parker, Start Page 17, Quote Page 18,

2018 NATIONAL NOW CONFERENCE

Join the National Organization for Women for our 2018 annual Conference!

The **Forward Feminism Conference** will be held Saturday July 6, 2018 through Sunday July 8, 2018 in San Jose, California. The conference will take place at the Double Tree by Hilton, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA. The 2018-2020 National NOW Board will be elected at the conference. To register and for more information visit www.now.org/conference.

SAVE THE DATE: 2018 NOW-NJ STATE CONFERENCE

Hear Our Roar: Maximizing the Power of Feminist Voices

Saturday September 22, 2018

Robert Wood Johnson Conference Center, Hamilton NJ

State Elections, Panel & Keynote Speakers

NEW JERSEY COALITION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING UPDATE

By Susan J. Waldman

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: SURVIVING AND THRIVING (Reader discretion is advised)

On Monday, April 16th I attended the above event at Villa Walsh Academy. The evening was hosted by Sister Mary Beth Lloyd with whom I had bonded when we tabled at a Coalition fundraiser in April of 2017. We make a sort of odd couple.

At the beginning of the program, Sister Mary Beth showed us a film made at the rescue mission in Brazil run by the Religious Teachers Filippini that rescues girls from Human Trafficking. She told us that most of the girls are ages 6 to 9 (that's not a typo). These girls are sold into sex trafficking by their parents to help the family survive the severe poverty conditions in which they live. When questioned whether or not they have boys at the mission, Sister said that there are a few. The boys are usually found dead because they are purchased so their organs can be harvested (also not a typo). Some of the rescued girls have been bought back from the men who originally purchased them. The girls are sent to school, and some are even able to graduate from college. Others learn a trade so they can live independently.

We also heard from a Human Trafficking survivor whose home life as a young girl included beatings, bullying and sexual abuse. After leaving home at a young age, she was working two part-time jobs when she was tricked by someone she thought was a friend into going to his home where she was trapped into sex trafficking. She was moved from state to state, sometimes not even knowing where she was. Beaten and forced into drug and alcohol abuse, she suffered for a period of years. She escaped several times only to be found and brought back to the trafficker. Her final escape came when she had a chance encounter with someone who was able to help her. She is now a successful woman whose courage and desire to help others empowered her to come and speak to us.

Everyone who attended was asked to sign a petition to the NJ State Attorney General to use the newly passed FOSTA (see Federal Legislation below) to use that new power to enforce New Jersey's anti-trafficking laws to their fullest to prosecute websites which knowingly promote sex trafficking. The petition was only available at the event.

All in all it was an inspiring evening that reignited my resolve to continue working in the fight against Human Trafficking.

STATE LEGISLATION

Good news. Assembly Bill A1428, is a bill that "Establishes a Child Trafficking Awareness Pilot Program in the Department of Education to train school district staff about warning signs and how to prevent child trafficking," passed the Assembly on March 26, 2018. At this time there is no companion Senate bill.

RELATED NEWS

California is the first state in the nation to adopt human trafficking and sexual abuse prevention education and training for students and teachers. The California Healthy Youth Act, passed in 2016, requires districts to provide comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education, including lessons on sex trafficking. In 2017, the governor amended the act to include information on human trafficking as a whole, and training for educators to recognize abuse.

(Continued on Page 4)

NEW JERSEY COALITION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING UPDATE

By Susan J. Waldman

(Continued from Page 3)

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

More good news. House Bill HR1865-- "Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Trafficking Act of 2017" (FOSTA) passed the House on February 27, 2018 and passed the Senate on March 21, 2018. This bill is meant to allow survivors their day in court and stop Backpage and others from selling children on the Internet for sex. The bill was passed with the original wording that was supported by the Coalition. President Trump signed the bill into law on April 11, 2018.

Here is the bill statement: "To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify that section 230 of such Act does not prohibit the enforcement against providers and users of interactive computer services of Federal and State criminal and civil law relating to sexual exploitation of children or sex trafficking, and for other purposes."

FEDERAL ACTION

Even more good news. According to a New York Times article on April 7, 2018, *U.S. Seizes Backpage.com, a Site Accused of Enabling Prostitution*, "Federal authorities have taken down Backpage.com, a major classified advertising website that has been repeatedly accused of enabling prostitution and sex trafficking of minors. 'Backpage.com and affiliated websites have been seized,' a notice on the website says.

Backpage has been under increasing pressure in recent years, in part because it featured ads that included what child advocates said were code words for underage girls, including "Amber Alert."

In January 2017, the site shuttered its 'adult services listings' section under mounting criticism from law enforcement groups and senators. But many of the adult listings were simply rerouted to sections of the site dedicated to dating.

The federal seizure notice appeared on the website Friday afternoon."

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Coalition's Annual Meeting will take place on June 14, 2018, 10:30 AM at Kean University. For more information on this event and on the Coalition, please visit the Coalition's website:

www.njhumantrafficking.org.

We would like to extend a big "Thank You" to everyone who helped make our hosting of NOW-NJ State Board meeting on March 17, 2018 a success!

Episodes of our TV Show "New Directions for Women" are available to watch on Youtube at www.youtube.com/mcnownj. Subscribe to our channel to receive an alert for new content!

SAVE THE DATE: GARAGE SALE

By Susan J. Waldman

It's official!! We have a date!! The chapter garage sale will be held on Saturday, June 16, 2018 at the home of Susan and Ned Waldman in Randolph, NJ.

Now is the time to check around the house/condo/apartment/trailer/you name it and gather up those unused and unwanted items.

You can drop them off or we can pick them up. Give me a call for information, directions, etc. at 973 895 2218. Your castaways can make our sale a success. We will begin accepting items in May. So thank you in advance, and think beautiful weather for June 16th.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

By Susan J. Waldman

Morris County NOW is selling vouchers to the Somerset Patriots' home games again this year. All home games are played in Bridgewater at the TD Bank Ballpark, just off Route 287 at Exit 13 (north or south).

A GENUINE BARGAIN!! The vouchers are selling at the box office for \$11.50, but we are selling them for **ONLY** \$8.00. They can be redeemed for Upper Box Seats at any Somerset Patriots home game. You don't have to go far to have a fun, family experience!!

Please contact Susan J. Waldman, 973-895-2218, for vouchers and game schedules. If you want to learn more about the team, visit their website, www.somersetpatriots.com.

Follow us to stay up to date on chapter actions and news!

INSTAGRAM [@MorrisCountyNOW](https://www.instagram.com/MorrisCountyNOW)

TWITTER: [@MCNOWNJ](https://twitter.com/MCNOWNJ)

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/mcnownj

CHAPTER CALENDAR

Tuesday May 1, 2018

Morris County NOW Chapter Meeting
Morris Plains Community Center
7:30 PM

Wednesday May 16, 2018

May Book Club Meeting
Hosted by Nancy Critchley
4:00 PM
(See Article on Page 1)

Saturday May 19, 2018

NOW-NJ State Board Meeting
128 Hooton Road, Mt. Laurel NJ
9:30 am

Tuesday June 5, 2018

Morris County NOW Chapter Meeting
Morris Plains Community Center
7:30 PM

Thursday June 14, 2018

NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Annual Meeting
Kean University
10:30 AM
(See Article Page 4)

Saturday June 16, 2018

Morris County NOW Garage Sale
Hosted by Sue & Ned Waldman

Wednesday June 20, 2018

New Directions for Women Celebration
La Strada Restaurant
Randolph, NJ
6:30 PM
(See Article on Page 1)

Saturday July 6—Sunday July 8, 2018

National NOW Conference
San Jose, CA

**REMINDER: THERE WILL BE NO
CHAPTER MEETING IN JULY**

Membership Application

Morris County NOW (NJ0200)

P.O. Box 394

Morristown, New Jersey 07960

I wish to join NOW and commit myself to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

National, State, and Local Dues:

- \$35. Regular Dues
- \$15-\$34. Reduced Dues
- Additional support
- \$5. Newsletter Only

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please return form with your check to the address above.

We meet on the first Tuesday of every month, except July, at the Morris Plains Community Center, Morris Plains NJ at 7:30 pm.

Morris County NOW TV Coverage

Mondays

Comcast: Channel 21, 6:30 p.m. (Morris Hunterdon)
Channel 208, 6:30 p.m. (Somerset)

Wednesdays

Morris Cablevision, Channel 21, 7:30 p.m.
Oakland Cablevision System, Channel 76, 7:30 p.m.
Bergen Cablevision, Channel 77, 7:30 p.m.

Throughout Philadelphia

DUTV, Channel 54, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. and Fridays, 10:00 a.m.

Morris County NOW
P.O. Box 394
Morristown, NJ 07960

Feminist News and Views

Feminist News and Views is published six times a year by Morris County NOW to inform members of current activities and issues.

Chapter Officers

Karen Lontka, President - 973.584.0612
Brandy Stowe, Executive VP
Shirley Henderson, Treasurer
Lauren Gmitter, Secretary
Susan J. Waldman, Fundraising VP - 973.895.2218
Tori Hartnett, Membership VP
Rosemary Lontka, Shirley Henderson, Susan J. Waldman - State Board Representatives
Winifred Bunch, TV Task Force - 973.895.5595
Tori Hartnett, Newsletter Editor

Advertising Rates (business card size)
Members: \$15/issue; Non-members: \$25/issue
Tiered pricing available for larger advertisements

For Information:

Chapter Phone - 973.285.1200
morriscountynow@gmail.com
www.morriscountynow.org