



VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

June-July, 1984

(805) 654-3109

THE ART OF NETWORKING

NETWORK: An interconnected or interrelated chain, group or system.

In recent years women have come to realize the importance of networking and the offer of support to one another. Whether support is offered on a one-to-one basis or as a large group, it is an area women need to continue to build upon. It is an opportunity to reach out to one another and to expand our individual and collective growth. As a relatively new area for women, it is an area we are continually striving to improve. Communication is a valuable tool in the network arena, and requires not only our ability to speak up to one another, but also to listen to one another. Ventura County offers numerous organizations to women to provide the opportunity for the network expansion. An excellent example of networking is reflected in the recent incorporation of the Friends of the Commission. The Friends are a group of individuals working to assist the Ventura County Commission for Women through fund raising activities as well as active participation within the various committees of the Commission. This group, who were originally volunteers serving on the various committees of the Commission, felt the need to assist the women of Ventura County. Through networking they were able to define the manner in which they could best accomplish this task. The Friends are another branch of the Ventura County Commission for Women interfacing with the Women of Ventura County. (See page 4.)

THE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN IS SEEKING YOUR NOMINATIONS

The Ventura County Commission for Women is seeking nominations for the third annual "Salute To Women" Awards. The awards banquet has been scheduled for November 1, 1984. Awards in a total of eleven categories will provide well-deserved recognition to women in Ventura County for their contributions, service, achievements, accomplishments. These categories are: The Arts, Homemaking, Community Service, Political Action, Business, Education, Sports, Outstanding Senior Citizen, Science/Health, Humanitarian, Law/Law Enforcement.

Individuals, businesses and organizations are encouraged to send their nominations to the Commission office, 3161 Loma Vista Road, Ventura, California 93003. The nomination form has been inserted within this newsletter for your use, or you may put your nomination in a letter format. Additional forms may be obtained by calling the Commission office, 654-3109, between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The deadline for submitting nominations is September 30, 1984.

This summer, take the time to think about the many women within your community, volunteer or professional, who deserve recognition for their work; then complete your nomination form and send it in by September 30, 1984.

COMMISSION PREPARES FOR SURVEY
OF WOMEN'S NEEDS

Who are the women of Ventura County? What are their ages, family structures, responsibilities, levels of education and employment skills, needs and concerns? What programs are working well in servicing women and their families, and which ones are ineffective or non-existent?

These are among the questions which a joint Task Force of the Commission for Women and the Commission on Human Concerns is preparing to answer. Plans include a random telephone survey, a series of public hearings at various sites around the County, a questionnaire to public and private agencies, and an analysis of 1980 Census Data.

Volunteers are needed to work on all of these tasks, as well as on clerical and organizational jobs which support them.

Dr. Alicia Ramirez-Brewer of the Commission for Women and Ms. Lee Riggan of the Commission on Human Concerns are Co-Directors of the project. Anyone interested in volunteering their time, energy, and talents is invited to call:

654-3109 (Commission for Women)
or
656-5799 (Commission on Human Concerns)

FIRST WOMEN ON BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RE-ELECTED TO SECOND TERMS

Supervisors Maggie Erickson and Susan Lacey received wide margins of support from voters in their respective districts, successfully completing their efforts for re-election to new terms. Both were previously elected in 1980 and became the first women to serve on the Ventura County Board of Supervisors.

Also re-elected to the Board on June 5 was Supervisor John Flynn, who ran unopposed.

SHEEPFOLD - TEMPORARY SHELTER
PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS WOMEN

Several years ago in Tustin, in Orange County, Fran Lundquist found herself divorced and wondering what to do with her life. She felt herself called to do something to help other women like herself who were divorced or, for whatever reason, were without homes and had nowhere to turn. She sold her home and bought a house to be used for temporary housing for homeless women.

Ms. Lundquist's church in Tustin helped her organize her program; they contacted county agencies to let them know that Sheepfold could help with housing when county facilities were filled. Sheepfold and Ms. Lundquist are now recognized in Orange County as one of the main providers of emergency housing for desperate women.

Under the umbrella of Sheepfold in Orange County, Barbara Salgado, serving as the representative for Sheepfold Ministries, Inc., is making efforts to begin providing the same kind of service to women in Ventura County.

Efforts are being made to locate a suitable house and to raise necessary funds.

For more information or to make a contribution, contact Barbara Salgado, 487-3354, or you may write to Sheepfold Ministries, Inc., P.O. Box 5732, Oxnard, CA 93031.

All funding will be through group or individual donations and is tax deductible. All services provided to women and children will be free of charge and no federal or county funds will be sought by the Sheepfold.

The Commission hopes this newsletter will be self-supporting by and for the women of the County. Please send your contributions to the Commission Office if you want to be a sponsor.

COUNTY PROGRAM ON
FIRE SERVICE CAREERS

The County of Ventura Personnel Department, in conjunction with the County Fire Services Agency, is currently conducting informational sessions on careers in Fire Services. These sessions are designed to acquaint persons with the basic criteria for entry into positions in the Fire Department. It is also intended that these sessions will provide persons with the data needed to prepare themselves for the various selection processes they will be experiencing.

The primary goal is to direct outreach efforts to minority, community, and women's groups within the Ventura County area.

Although the actual testing and application filing procedure will not be conducted until January, 1985, it is vital that persons know in advance how to prepare, especially for the physical agility test.

In addition, a test will be conducted for the Reserve Firefighter program in early June. This program presents an opportunity for persons to gain valuable experience and insight into the actual duties of Firefighters. Although direct fire service experience is not a requirement, it can very definitely be a desirable qualification.

The County Personnel Department is offering to make presentations to groups and organizations. The presentation runs approximately one hour and includes a 15-minute slide program. Contact Maria Diaz at (805) 654-2698 to schedule a date and time.

Women's Marathon Celebration

The first Olympic Marathon for women will be run in Los Angeles during the Summer Games. The Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women has asked women's organizations in Los Angeles to join in the planning and coordinating of the lining of the route of this first-time Olympic event. Twenty-seven

organizations have joined in this attempt to honor the athletes participating in the marathon, as well as focusing attention on women's sports in general.

The event is free and requires no tickets.

Contact the Commission for Women office for information, 654-3109.

NEW COMMISSIONER IN DISTRICT I

The Ventura County Commission for Women welcomes a new commissioner: Maggie Mireles, appointed by Supervisor Susan Lacey. Maggie's involvement with community groups has included the National Hispanic Women's Conference, Los Angeles; the Women's Conference and Dia De La Mujer, Oxnard; the Ventura Community College District Advisory Council on the Status of Women; the Employer's Advisory Council, State Employment Development Department, and the sponsoring committee for the Ventura County Urban League. She is a resident of the City of Ventura and currently is employed at the Sawyer College at Ventura as a Programs Analyst. A Ventura County native, Maggie replaces Commissioner Lupe Gonsalves who resigned this spring.

FRIENDS OF THE COMMISSION

The Friends of the Ventura County Commission for Women invites you to join us in promoting and supporting the goals and objectives of the Commission:

"WOMEN:

TRUSTING, NETWORKING, MENTORING"

June, 28, 1984 Oxnard Hilton Hotel
5:30 p.m. Networking
6:30 p.m. Dinner
Networking Panel facilitated by Margarita Corral, Oxnard College. Reservations by June 22 are \$15. Late reservations are \$20. Contact: Diane Koranda, Car Connection, 1700 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura, 93001. 496-8470 or 581-0780.

(From page 1.)

The Ventura County Commission for Women offers the opportunity to communicate with women countywide. The Commission was established for the women of Ventura County and acts as a liaison in areas of concern to the women of this county. We welcome individuals and organizations to voice their concerns and to share their endeavors. Only through open communication can we as women hope to accomplish our goals.

NETWORK: An opportunity to grow and to achieve.

CALENDAR

- June 16 League of Women Voters
Decision Makers Luncheon
- June 23 Commission for Women
Meeting, 9:00 a.m.,
Fillmore City Hall,
524 Sespe Ave., Fillmore
- June 28 Friends of the Commission
Kickoff Celebration, Networking
at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at
6:30 p.m., Oxnard Hilton.
- July 4 Happy Independence Day!
- July 16 Ventura County Women's Equity
Coalition (Women's Vote Project)
7:30 p.m., Santa Barbara
Savings & Loan, Camarillo

Call the Commission for Women, 654-3109,
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., for information on
the above events.

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
3161 Loma Vista Road
Ventura, CA 93003

To help us update our mailing list, please
complete the form below and return to:
Commission for Women
3161 Loma Vista Road
Ventura, CA 93003

Name _____
Organization/office held _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Month in which annual change of officers
occurs _____.
Include names and addresses of others
who wish to receive the Newsletter.

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