



Empowering Women
since 1881

The Beacon

Santa Cruz County Branch, American Association of University Women

August 2014

AAUW Santa Cruz County Annual Membership Luncheon, September 13th Seascape Resort Featuring: Author, Producer Sherry Halperin



Sherry Halperin was born and raised in Beacon, New York. As a teen, she studied at the Dramatic Workshop in New York City and spent five summers at Cecilwood Theatre in Fishkill, New York as a summer stock apprentice, eventually becoming their resident Equity Stage Manager. She went west for College and received her degree from the Pasadena Playhouse Theatre of Fine Arts with a major in directing.

Over the next forty years, Ms. Halperin has consistently worked on projects in the arts from distributing feature films, agenting actors, directing stage productions and working on hundreds of hours of television as a writer, producer and director. She recently produced world music concerts and ballets all over the United States in venues such as Lincoln Center and UCLA's Royce Hall.

Sherry continues to be active in film and television. She lives in Southern California with her new puppy, Clouseau, has two adult sons, a daughter-in-law and two young grandsons.

Rescue Me,
He's Wearing a Moose Hat



And 40 Other
Dates after 50

Sherry Halperin

Mail this form or a sheet of paper with the relevant information to reserve your lunch for this exciting event!

Deadline is September 6th

\$20 per person

Make your check payable to AAUW Santa Cruz
and send to Linda Owens, 440 26th Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95062
Late RSVPs contact Andrea Losee 831.462.3010

Your choice of Classic Cobb Salad w/chicken _____

Or Vegetarian Salad _____

Coffee or tea included.

Member name: _____

Guest names: _____

- Enjoy a Great Program & Lunch
- Reconnect
- Sign up for interest groups
- Pick up your membership directories

AAUW: Empowering Women Since 1881

EXCITING NEWS...IT'S OFFICIAL!

As of July, the Santa Cruz & Watsonville
Branches merged to form the

Santa Cruz County Branch!



Members of the former Watsonville branch will be joining the Board in September.

We look forward to celebrating the history of both branches in the coming year and to furthering the goals of AAUW with our expanded membership.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) empowers women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Our nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States, as well as 1,000 local branches and 800 college and university partners. Since AAUW's founding in 1881, our members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held at 10 a.m., at the Goodwill Conference Room, 350 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, on the first Monday of each month. If you wish to be on the agenda, please contact the Secretary in advance. All members are welcome to attend!

Officers and Committees: 2014-2015

President

Judy Cavin Brown 423-2439

jwcavinbrown@comcast.net

President-Elect

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graceger@sbcglobal.net

Vice Presidents

Program *Vacant*

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Vacant

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mkschraft@gmail.com

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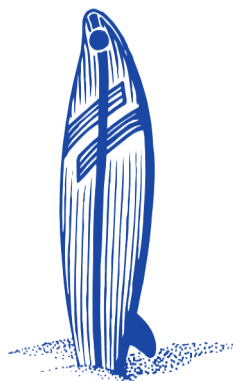
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Board News

President's Message

Welcome to the start of a new year for the Santa Cruz County Branch of AAUW!

There will be changes this year; and all because of the branch merger.

As you are aware we still have a few vacant positions, both voted on and appointed. Some of the job descriptions look daunting. However, if you look more closely you will see that nearly all of them include the work of a committee. The load is always more manageable when shared with a group. We haven't been functioning with actual committees for a while. That will be changing this year.

If you see a vacant position and would like to volunteer to head up the committee for that area, please step forward by contacting Grace Gerbrandt. If you are interested in working on a committee in a given area, please contact the lead person listed in the Beacon and volunteer. If no person is listed, contact Grace.

There will also be a new committee this year for communications. Debra Wallace will be continuing to lead out in this area. The work of this committee will be diverse and interesting. If you would like to participate in an area that is extremely important to our work as a branch, please contact Debra.

For the Santa Cruz and Watsonville branch ladies, there is no longer any "us" or "them." There is now only "us" and "we." And as they say, there is strength in numbers.

It's going to be great year ladies! Don't miss a second of it.

Our first luncheon meeting for the year will be held on 13 September. I look forward to seeing you there.

Judy Cavin Brown

President, AAUW Santa Cruz County Branch

Membership News

Board Positions



2014-2015

The Board is still in need of officers for some positions for 2014-15.

These positions are not demanding in time and are an excellent way to get involved. Our local AAUW provides service opportunities, book groups, bridge groups, foreign policy discussions, walking groups, speakers on important women's issues.

Current openings include Program VP, AAUW Funds (formerly EF), Tech Trek & Historian.

Please help us continue our valuable work. It's interesting, it's fun, it's important. Contact Grace Gerbrandt graceger@sbcglobal.net for more info or to volunteer.

Hospitality

Sad news: Carol Toney and her husband Jim have passed away. Jim from complications during surgery and Carol this past week. There will be a service for Carol and Jim on Sunday August 24th at 1:00 pm. It will be at Peace United Church of Christ, 900 High Street, Santa Cruz. It used to be called First Congregational Church.

Well wishes to Jean Smith's husband who has been ill and is recovering.

Thinking of Margaret Schraft—soon to be a Grandmother of triplets!

Let [Anne McCallum](#) know if you hear of anyone who needs a kind thought or some cheering up. Tel. 465-1840.

Membership Directory Reminder

Twenty-eight Watsonville members have been asked to update their degree and interest information for the membership files. Thanks to those who have already sent their forms to Margaret Schraft, 1225 Whispering Pines Drive, Scotts Valley, CA 95066. To be sure you are included in the new directory being issued this month, please complete your form by August 22.



Follow up re State dues increase vote:

Thanks to all who voted in the State election! The \$4 increase passed and will be implemented next year (2015-2016.)

Our Vision is Simple

We bring people together for the common goal of breaking through educational and economic barriers for women and girls.

Our Mission is Sound

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Public Policy News



AAUW staff and supporters protested Hobby Lobby's case at the Supreme Court.

What Does the Hobby Lobby Decision Mean?

-by Liza Maatz

July 03, 2014

According to the Supreme Court, an employee's contraception *is* her boss's business after all.

In a disappointing 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court [sided](#) with two for-profit companies that had challenged the Affordable Care Act's contraceptive coverage requirement, which says [that certain preventive health care services](#) like contraception must be covered without copay or cost-sharing. Both Hobby Lobby, a family-owned chain of arts and crafts stores, and Conestoga Wood, a family-owned cabinetry business, [claimed](#) that providing certain services in their insurance plans violates their religious freedoms and that they shouldn't have to provide this kind of health coverage for their employees. In return, health advocates [argued](#) that corporations don't have religious freedom — and that bosses have no business controlling their employees' access to any contraception.

The court sided with the businesses, [saying](#) that "closely held" corporations cannot be required to provide contraceptive coverage of any kind for their employees. Not only did the Supreme Court [get it wrong again](#), but they also singled out a huge portion of the population — women — for discrimination.

[Tell Congress to Reverse the Decision](#)

[Take Action Now](#)

Although the majority in the *Hobby Lobby* case [claims](#) that its decision is narrow, the truth is we won't know the full reach of the decision for some time. Hobby Lobby challenged four forms of contraception, but Justice Samuel Alito did *not* limit the court's ruling to those forms of contraception only. Thus, companies can refuse to cover ALL forms of birth control if they choose to do so — we'll see how it plays out. Already [82 companies](#) have stepped forward to say they will embrace the decision, but they have not confirmed how far they will take it.

In addition, the reasoning behind the court's decision creates a slippery slope by which corporations can challenge other medical procedures or medicines in the future. As the *New York Times* [noted](#), the *Hobby Lobby* ruling may extend beyond health care, "open[ing] the door to many challenges from corporations over laws that they claim violate their religious liberty." Imagine if an owner of a closely held corporation is against equal pay for women because he believes that disrupts men's superiority in their homes?

What we *do* know is this: In today's status quo, where health care coverage is overwhelmingly tied to employment status, allowing an employer to refuse to cover certain forms of contraception will reduce women's access to these health services. With nine out of 10 corporations classified as [closely held](#), this decision has the potential to affect millions of women employees.

Women already have less disposable income to spend on health care services because of the gender pay gap, and college-educated women are [especially burdened](#) by high levels of student loan debt. Moreover, the impact of the *Hobby Lobby* decision is expected to fall more heavily on low-income women — whose access to health care is typically limited to begin with — and [black women](#), who make up almost 16 percent of minimum-wage women workers. As Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg [observed](#) in her dissent, "The cost of an IUD is nearly equivalent to a month's full-time pay for workers earning the minimum wage" (two of the forms of contraception Hobby Lobby objected to are intrauterine devices). There are many reasons why some women cannot use hormonal forms of birth control, and their doctors may recommend IUDs as the safest option. For many workers, not covering the cost of that contraception can amount to not allowing employees to use this basic health care service as they and their doctors see fit.

Regardless of whether you agree or disagree with the Supreme Court's ruling, we can all agree that this decision and other Supreme Court decisions issued throughout our nation's history can have a great effect on our lives. Nominating and confirming Supreme Court justices is just one important example of the responsibilities that our elected officials have, and we urge everyone to cast an informed vote. [Make sure you're registered to vote at \[www.aauwaction.org\]\(http://www.aauwaction.org\) and that you get to the polls in November.](#)



Legal Advocacy Fund News -Rosemary Anderson

AAUW Members Hear What the Latest Supreme Court Decisions Mean in Recent LAF Call

On July 15, AAUW members from across the country joined LAF staff to discuss the U.S. Supreme Court's most important cases from this past term. Members heard a breakdown of the *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby decision*, which will allow some corporations to restrict their employees' contraceptive insurance coverage. The call also reviewed Congress' attempts to ensure women's access to affordable contraception. LAF staff and callers also discussed the court's rulings on abortion clinic buffer zone laws, prayer in local government meetings, and affirmative action restrictions.

If you weren't able to attend the call, you can listen to a recording (<http://www.aauw.org/event/2014/07/scotus-wrap-up-call/>). LAF will host a preview call this fall to highlight the cases the Supreme Court will take up in 2015. Stay tuned for more information.

Title VII Turns 50

July 2, 2014, marked the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act makes it illegal for employers to discriminate on the basis of gender or race, among other protected classes. In the last half-century, we have made tremendous progress toward gender equity in the workplace. But this anniversary also provides an opportunity to take stock of places we still lack progress. Find out more about Title VII (<http://www.aauw.org/2014/06/30/untold-civil-rights-act-story/>) and learn what you can do to help fulfill Title VII's promise.



AAUW Newsnote -Kathy Donovan

AAUW around the country and the world!

As our logo says, "empowering women since 1881." I would urge you to take a look at your issue of "Outlook", Spring-Summer 2014 for a few amazing articles, tucked well inside.

The Newseum in Arlington, VA is a fairly recent endeavor, established by all the media suppliers in the Washington metro area- newspapers, TV and radio station, social media and many peripheral outlets. This place has unbelievable outlets and outreach and a website! "One of the largest collections of historical documents about of the women's suffrage movement ." A learning tool has been developed , including items from AAUW history - the suffragists' pioneering use of the 1st amendment. [AAUW Newseum Exhibit](#); Newseum website newseum.com/education.

Next a mention must be made of a very recent White House meeting which was held to discuss and possibly suggest action and the thorny issues of women's work, child care solutions, equal pay. Website: workingfamiliesummit.org.

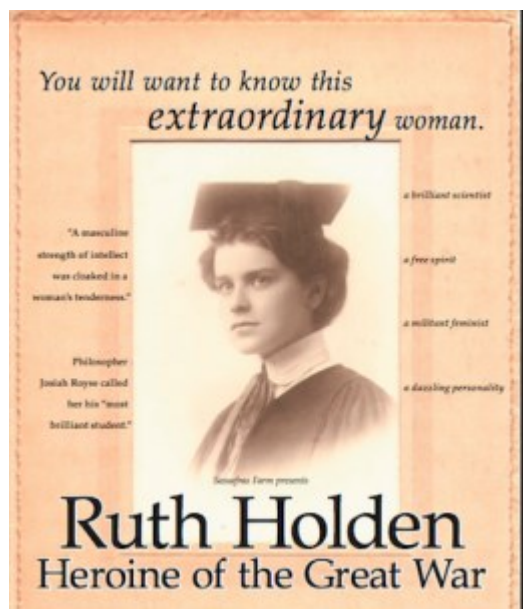
Who could envision a collaboration between Alcoa and AAUW ? Read about this joint effort to be held in Barberton, Ohio and Szekesfehervar, Poland - to address the gender gap in the STEM workforce: [AAUW Alcoa Grant for STEM Programming](#).



Who We Are

American Association of University Women

Our history is full of heroes in unexpected places. <http://bit.ly/Ut7D35> [#wmnhist](#)



Ruth Holden was featured in the documentary "Heroine of the Great War."

Not All Patriots Are Fighters

July 23, 2014

AAUW history is full of heroes in unexpected places.

Case in point: Ruth Holden was a young American paleo botanist studying fossilized plant life who later found herself helping to establish war hospitals in Russia.

Holden received an AAUW European Fellowship to study at Newnham College at the University of Cambridge in 1913. She was amazing in a number of ways beyond her extraordinary academic abilities. According to an [article](#) in her hometown newspaper, she had played on her high school's baseball team at a time when girls' participation in such sports was highly unusual, and she was active in the women's suffrage movement. She possessed a strong social conscience that manifested early in her life.

In 1916, Holden put her Cambridge education on hold to serve as a nurse in Russia. The United States did not enter World War I until April 1917 but, as the article goes on to note, Holden could not idly sit by while her fellow students at Cambridge gave everything to support the cause and those suffering from the war's effects.

In their book *Into the Breach: American Women Overseas in World War I*, Dorothy and Carl J. Schneider quote Holden from a letter to her parents: "If I were to sit tight at Newnham, continuing my research on fossil botany, of all things, getting the benefit of their sacrifices, don't you think it would look like the height of selfishness?"

Although she had no prewar nursing experience, Holden quickly became a major asset in Russia. Her work, according to the Schneiders, included "acting as an interpreter ... chivvying workmen to complete the new hospitals which the unit was opening, [and] traveling around Russia to procure equipment and supplies," a far cry from spending her days comfortably in the historic halls of Cambridge. The general administrator of one of the hospitals where Holden worked, quoted in Margaret Maltby's *History of the Fellowships Awarded by the AAUW*, praised her by saying, "If there was any business that needed to be looked after anywhere she used to go off at an hour's notice, traveling alone. ... Half the unit were not aware that they had a brilliant scientist among them. She was willing to do anything that was asked, and she was asked to do the unpleasant things."

Tragically, Holden contracted typhoid fever and died of meningitis at the age of 27 in April 1917, the same month that the United States finally declared war on Germany. Holden was every bit as brave as [other AAUW fellows](#) who risked their lives in [military hospitals](#), [guerrilla regiments](#), and [anti-Nazi](#) resistance movements. Although her life was cut short by the war, her memory serves as a reminder of the many ways that AAUW fellows and their often unsung women peers helped shape the modern world.

This post was written by AAUW archives intern Elizabeth Beckman.



News from Tech Trek

Our girls have returned from a wonderful week at Stanford. Watsonville sent Laura McBride (Aptos Jr. High), Sonia Byington (Aptos Jr. Hi) & Jocelyn Ortiz (Lakeview Middle School.) Santa Cruz sent Barbara Sanford (New Brighton) and Lupita Enriquez (Shoreline Middle School.) The girls sent back thank you notes showing their enthusiasm for the program. "It's been an amazing experience" "I have met a lot of new friends" "I learned a lot about how some of my favorite movies came together (Pixar class)" "...opened my eyes and mind to careers and experiences I have never imagined" "Each day there was something that shocked, intrigued, and inspired me" "...especially enjoyed the chemistry and Pixar workshops."

Thanks for all who continue to make this wonderful camp available to our local girls. Tax deductible contributions can be sent to: Jeanne Jorgensen, 270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz 95062.

Tech Trek Corporate Donation Program

A subcommittee [of Tech Trek] has been formed to develop a corporate donation program. We are beginning with a pilot outreach project in the Pajaro Valley. We intend to use feedback from the initial contacts to help us refine our approach when we expand into the rest of Santa Cruz County. Members who want to participate, or who can suggest contacts to businesses, should call Bettye Pina, 247-7023.



Local Scholarship News

I want to share parts of a thank you letter from Jeanette Burke, one of our Cabrillo scholarship recipients. "...I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity. I am a young mother working to support my family while going to school and it feels so great (that) I have made it so far from where I once was and it warms my heart to know there are people out there that encourage those trying to better themselves. I have recently been elected the Honor Society President at Cabrillo College and I am more confident than I have ever been.I am so happy that there are people as yourself who are dedicated to women's success and I aspire to be like you, a woman who wants to help others to reach their full potential."

Thanks to all who have responded to our recent campaign for funds to continue to help people like Jeanette. I know many of you will continue to do so and look forward to our big fund raiser at the holiday time. SAVE THE DATE DECEMBER 6TH!

Continue to support this fine program by sending checks, made out to AAUW-Santa Cruz Branch-Local Scholarships, to 270 19th Ave., Santa Cruz, 95062.



August 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
17	18	19	20	21 2pm Mahjong*	22	23
24 1pm Memorial Service for Carol & Jim Toney; 900 High St.	25	26	27	28 12pm Thurs. afternoon books Sec. 1	29	30
31						

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2 7pm Tues. pm Books*	3	4 2pm Mahjong*	5 9:30am Walking Group*	6
7	8 10am Board Mtg	9	10 Lunch Bunch, Johnny's Harborside*	11	12	13 11am Membership Luncheon
14	15	16	17	18 2pm Mahjong*	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 12pm Thurs. books Sec. 1*	26 9:30am Walking Group*	27
28	29	30			Thurs. books Sec. 1, field trip—Thor House* (Fri. 9/26)	

*= Interest Group; see next page for contact information and details.



AAUW Santa Cruz Branch Interest Groups

All work and no play will make you dull--and to counteract that we have a variety of interest groups enjoyed by many of our members. Some have gone on for years!

Some of these groups are close to capacity (limited by how much room people have in their homes) but it's always possible to start a new section. If you're interested in starting a new group, check with Linda Owens, she will be able to give you some pointers.

Membership in these interest groups is a privilege of AAUW membership; you may bring a non-member guest three times but then we ask that they join AAUW if they wish to continue to attend. In order to attract new members and make AAUW's aims and goals more visible to the public, our luncheons/meetings are open to the public as is the Evening Great Decisions group. Spouses, partners and guests are welcome to attend the Dining Out and Evening Gourmet groups. Check your new Directory for phone numbers and email addresses.

Book Groups

Our book groups have become extremely popular. Numbers in the groups fluctuate, and if you're interested contact the leaders to see if there's an opening at your preferred time. A new group is not difficult to establish, that's how we ended up with three!

Tuesday Evening Books, leader Dorothy Foglia, dorothyfoglia@yahoo.com. The September book is *The Tortilla Curtain*, by T.C. Boyle. Please contact Dorothy for location and additional information.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section One, The Afternoon Book Group will meet on August 28 at noon. Bring a favorite dish and a poem to share. Plates and flatware and drinks will be supplied. Please contact Carole Beckett at cabeckett@sbcglobal.net if you wish to attend and she will send you a map and directions.

For September we are reading *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

Thursday Afternoon Books, Section Two, leader Dottie Smith, beechbyte@sbcglobal.net. This group reads one book each month. The next meeting, will be a field trip on Friday, September 26 to Thor House in Carmel after having read the poetry of Robinson Jeffers. Contact Dottie for more info.

Reader's Theater

The Readers Theater group will be meeting this fall. Contact interest group chairperson, Barbara Lewis, at 335-7816, if interested in joining Readers Theater and for further information.

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will now meet on the second Wednesday of the month. On Wednesday, Sept. 10 we have lunch at Johnny's Harborside. All AAUW members are welcome. For more information contact Andrea Losee at alosee@cruzio.com or 502-554 7572.

Bridge

Bridge is coordinated by Marline Bushey. Contact her for details mbushey1@yahoo.com, 425-1491. We are looking for NEW MEMBERS!

Mahjong!

Originating in China, mahjong is a game of skill and strategy, calculation and luck. Janet Bostrom coordinates this delightful game. bozobostrom@gmail.com on the first and third Thursdays at 2pm.

Dining Out—NEW COORDINATOR NEEDED

This is a lot like Lunch Bunch except it's in the evening and spouses/partners are included. Dining Out recommences in September, however a **new coordinator is needed!** If you are interested, please contact outgoing chair Janet Bostrom: bozobostrom@gmail.com.

Walking Group

The walking/hiking group meets on the first and third Fridays of the month. The walks planned for September are the Watsonville Wetlands on Friday, September 5th, and Nisene Park on Friday, September 19. Please join us if you like to walk/hike. Call Andrea Losee 502-554-7572 or email alosee@cruzio.com for information.

Great Decisions

Beginning in October, The Evening Great Decisions will meet on the 1st Mon. eve. of each month from 7-8:30 pm. at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Aptos. Dr. Laina Farhat-Holzman is the lecturer. The public is welcome. For more information all Lois Holcomb at 688-0541.

The Morning Great Decisions - This foreign policy discussion group will recommence in January and runs for 8 weeks; We're a lively, diverse group.

Contact Vickie Birsall vickiebirdsall@yahoo.com or Grace Gerbrandt graceger@sbcglobal.net for further details.





Branch Schedule

2014-2015



August	4	Board Meeting	CFSCC
.....			
September	8	Board Meeting	Judy Cavin Brown's home
	13	Luncheon Meeting (Membership)	135 McCornick Street, 95062 Seascape Resort
.....			
October	6	Board Meeting	TBD
	25	Luncheon Meeting (Funds)	TBD
.....			
November	2	Nor Cal Funds Luncheon	Danville
	3	Board Meeting	CFSCC
.....			
December	1	Board Meeting	CFSCC
	6	Luncheon Meeting (Holiday)	Seascape Golf Course
.....			
January	5	Board Meeting	TBD
.....			
February	2	Board Meeting	TBD
	21	Luncheon Meeting (IBC)	TBD
.....			
March	2	Board Meeting	TBD
	15	Gala Celebration	TBD
	21	Nor Cal Leadership Development	TBD
.....			
April	6	Board Meeting	TBD
	11	Annual Business (LAF)	TBD
	18	State Meeting	So Cal
.....			
May	4	Board Meeting	TBD
	16	Luncheon Meeting (Local Scholarships)	Seascape Resort
.....			
June	1	Board Brunch Meeting	TBD
	18-21	National Convention	San Diego



Help Us to Help Others
Our philanthropic projects benefit women of all ages,
both here at home and across the nation.

Make a donation to remember a family member, friend or colleague, or to honor a birthday, anniversary, graduation or other special occasion.

A card or letter announcing your gift will be sent to the person you name.

Educational Foundation / AAUW Funds

Make checks payable to
AAUW FUNDS and send to
Dottie Fry
387 Belle Monti Ave.
Aptos, CA 95003

Legal Advocacy Fund / AAUW Funds

Make checks payable to
AAUW FUNDS and send to
Rosemary Anderson
14 Parkwood Drive
Watsonville, CA 95076

Local Scholarships

Make checks payable to
AAUW-LS and send to
Jeanne Jorgensen
270 19th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

**Tech Trek
(Girls Science Scholarships)**

Make checks payable to
AAUW-CA SPF and send to
Jeanne Jorgensen
270 19th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062



In Memory of/In Honor of _____
Send announcement to _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____