

For Immediate Release
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**The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and
The Commission on the Status of Women proudly announce
the 2010 Honorees of the 26th Annual Women's Hall of Fame**

[Redwood City, CA] An advocate who has developed a hub of resources in Pescadero for agricultural workers, a healthcare leader who has vastly expanded the medical services available for uninsured residents of East Palo Alto and Menlo Park, and a tireless supporter of public education who has served nearly four decades on local school boards, are among the inductees into the 2010 San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame, the county's premier showcase for women who make a difference every day in our community.

This year, the Commission on the Status of Women is proud to announce that five women and one young woman will be inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame on March 18th at the South San Francisco Conference Center.

"It is the great privilege of the Commission on the Status of Women to recognize the contributions and achievements of these exceptional women and young women," said Jei Africa, President of the Commission. "The Women's Hall of Fame is a reminder of the wealth of talent and generosity women bring to our county communities every day of the year."

For information about this the Hall of Fame banquet, please call the Commission on the Status of Women at 650-363-4463, or visit the Commission's web page at www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/hr/csw. A list of past inductees is also available on the website. Tickets can be purchased online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/95677.

This year's event is proud to recognize our Gold & Silver Sponsors. Our Gold Sponsor is ABC7/KGO-TV. Silver Sponsors include Georgette's of Westlake, Seton Medical Center and Wells Fargo Bank.

About the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame

In 1984, the Commission on the Status of Women established a permanent Women's Hall of Fame to recognize outstanding women for their contributions to the well being of San Mateo County. Impartial judges selected from outside our county read the numerous nominations with names redacted to ensure a fair and unbiased process, before selecting the finalists. The women are honored for their outstanding contributions to their profession, their generous work as volunteers, or both.

In 1992, a second category, "Young Women of Excellence" was added to the Women's Hall of Fame. To be nominated, "young women" must be high school juniors or seniors or the equivalent. The award aims to give visibility to young women's accomplishments in community service, academic achievement, and acts of courage in their daily lives.

About the 2010 Women's Hall of Fame Inductees

The information below briefly summarizes highlights of their achievements; additional information about their many contributions is readily available, as are photographs. The honorees are listed alphabetically.

Denise Aquila of Half Moon Bay, a realtor who has a passion for helping where there is a need, is nicknamed the "Coastal Soccer Queen" for bringing professional-level soccer to high school students on the Coast by founding a chapter of the American Youth Soccer Organization; she serves as a Commissioner for the

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Regional Housing Endowment and Trust to help create local affordable housing options, seeks to impact family violence as an Advisory Council Member of Communities Overcoming Relationship Abuse and is a cancer survivor who raises substantial funds for cancer research by running marathons.

Luisa Buada, CEO of Ravenswood Family Health Center is a visionary leader who has led the development of a comprehensive health care program that has expanded healthcare access and strengthened the safety net for uninsured and underinsured residents of East Palo Alto and Menlo Park.

Kerry Lobel of Pescadero, current Executive Director of Puente de la Costa Sur Resource Center in Pescadero, is a nationally recognized leader who is honored for her work developing programs for South Coast immigrant agricultural workers and their families; offering opportunities for empowerment, education, youth summer employment, mental health services, drug & alcohol prevention, legal services, tax preparation and access to dental care.

Julia McKay McKeon of Moss Beach, who has been a catalyst for improving healthcare and quality of life on the San Mateo Coastside through more than two decades of volunteer and professional leadership resulting in the development of the Sonrisas Community Dental Center and two other health related non-profits serving the health needs of thousands of low-income Coastside residents.

Sally Stewart, of Portola Valley is a tireless advocate for students and public education who has served for 38 years as an elected school board official, first on the Portola Valley Elementary School Board and then on the Sequoia Union High School District along with numerous roles in education leadership on the County and State level.

2010 Young Woman of Excellence

Fiona Kathleen Murphy of Foster City is a senior at Hillsdale High School and a multi-talented youth leader with a passion for community service who is a distinguished scholar/athlete, award winning Irish Dancer, vocalist, youth leader at St Bartholomew Church and the youngest participant to ride the Cinderella Classic 100K Bike Ride raising funds for battered women.

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