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# Board to begin year of change

## Wormhoudt replaces Patton as supervisor

*Board of Supervisors*  
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The gavel will fall at 9 a.m. today, opening Santa Cruz County's first board of supervisors meeting in two decades without Gary Patton as a member.

Taking the place of the veteran liberal who decided last year not to seek re-election to a sixth term is former Santa Cruz Mayor Mardi Wormhoudt, who was narrowly elected in a November runoff with Annette Hopkins.



**Patton**

Expectations that Wormhoudt will continue in Patton's progressive-environmentalist tradition were at least partially confirmed with the new board member's choice as her representative on the county planning commission. Wormhoudt has asked her colleagues to reappoint Denise Holbert, Patton's planning commissioner.

As well, Wormhoudt is keeping Holbert and Andy Schiffrin in the same posts they held as Patton's office aides.

As one of their first acts today, supervisors are expected to appoint Fred Keeley chairman and Walt Symons vice chairman. The nominations have been made in a letter to the board from Supervisor Jan Beautz.

In another housekeeping matter, Supervisor Ray Belgard is asking his colleagues to approve the appointment of one of his former political opponents to the county commission on disabilities. He has nominated Peggy Hall, who came in last in the three-way race in which Belgard won re-election last June to the commission on disabilities.