



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



The Advocate, March 2019

(Online at <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/newsletter/>)

From the Editor

Over the next months, in consultation with our leadership, changes are coming to *The Advocate*. The PDF format should improve access through more browsers. In response to requests to issue *The Advocate* by the first of the month, the submission deadline is now the **20th of the month**. **Please email your newsletter items to soulesa@yahoo.com**

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Cards of Condolence, Health Wishes, or Congratulations for our members

When you know of an AAUW-DAW member who might appreciate a "Get Well" card, need a condolence card upon the death of a loved one, or a congratulations card, **please let our Corresponding Secretary, Pat Gross know (pbgross@aol.com)** Pat will send cards on behalf of our Branch.

From the President



Image credit: <https://webstockreview.net/explore/ground-clipart-land-ownership/>

Spring flowers are blooming! I read that the manzanita on Mount Diablo is having a record year of white and pink flowers. Time for a hike, walk, or even a drive to appreciate this beauty in our backyards. Like many others I feel energized at the

smallest hint of warmer spring weather – ready to jump on new projects or do some major cleaning and reorganizing. Here below are some more DAW activities to inspire you.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming special events:

On Saturday, March 9, 10 am at the Veterans Memorial Community Hall, Andrea Morgan will speak on “Addressing Hot Spots of Air Pollution”. Andrea is an AAUW Career Development Grant recipient in her final semester at UC Berkeley where she is pursuing concurrent master’s degrees in public policy and environmental engineering.

Thursday, April 18, 5:30 pm will be a special evening at Tena Gallagher’s home. You have three reasons to want to be there: (1) Elections! Look for your ballot coming in a few weeks and vote on the DAW Board for 2019-2020; (2) Creativity Night! We will celebrate and view works of art done by some of our talented membership; (3) Equal Pay Advocacy – learn what meaningful actions we can take to help eliminate gender and minority pay gaps.

There is always another reason to attend our DAW-AAUW programs and events – you have the opportunity to hang out with other interesting women! Let’s spring into that action!

Deborah Wechsler
President, DAW Branch

March Program: Addressing Hot Spots of Air Pollution



[Andrea Morgan,](#)

[AAUW](#) Career Development Grantee

Ms. Morgan is pursuing concurrent master's degrees in public policy and environmental engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. Her work focuses on air quality and addressing hot spots of air pollution. Prior to attending graduate school, she was an environmental engineer at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for five years, where she worked on air quality and environmental justice issues in the Midwest.

Date/Time [Saturday, March 9, 10 am](#)
Place [Veterans Memorial Community Hall](#)
400 Hartz Avenue, Danville

Cost [\\$10](#) (donated to AAUW funds)

[Coffee, Tea, and Pastries will be served](#)

Creativity at our Annual Meeting



Image credit:

<https://jeffdegraff.com/blog/2014/03/mastering-the-five-levels-of-creativity-part-4/>

We are looking for artists/artisans who would be willing to display their work at our annual meeting. If you paint, make crafts such as quilts or jewelry, take photographs, or experiment with creative materials, please contact Martha "Gus" Slavin at marthaslavin@gmail.com. We would love to have your work on display while members mark their ballots for the coming year.

When: Thursday, April 18, 5:30 p.m.
Where: Tena Gallagher, 400 Cliffside Drive, Danville



Image credit: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/tech-trek/>

Tech Trek Update

Tech Trek is a summer camp hosted by the AAUW to identify and encourage students with interest and potential in technical areas. Our DAW Branch members have been extraordinarily generous with donations to support girls attending Tech Trek this year, contributing more than \$9,000, with contributions spanning the range of \$25 to \$1,000.

Thank you to all of our donors!

Also, sixteen members are generously giving time to interview and select the girls that our Branch will support, plus organize a gathering so that the girls can meet one another. We'd like to thank

Susan Beyerle	Barbara Blalock	Sue Brandy	Bette Felton
Diane Fornasier	Carol Gerich	Dianne Giacobelli	Julie Grisham
Laura Johnson	Judy Lauper	Joan Mataraci	Kathy McKnight
Laurie Miller	Beverly Nidick	Susan Sambuceti	Liz Williams

Camp Details

Where: Sonoma State University

When: June 23-29, 2019

If you would like to be involved, we still need **dorm moms** to spend the week at the camp, and **workshop monitors** to attend for a part or all of a day. Please send an email indicating your interest to Monika Witte, aauwmonikawitte@gmail.com, or call her at 925-683-8513 with questions.

Tri-Valley Expanding Your Horizons conference for girls



While on the subject of girls and tech, Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek and Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin continue their support of the **Tri-Valley Expanding Your Horizons (TVEYH)** conference sponsored by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories.

The most recent conference was held on Sat., Feb. 23, at Diablo Valley College San Ramon Campus. First started in 1979, this annual conference engages more than 300 6th-9th grade girls from local schools in a fun-filled educational day of hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) workshops and activities that spark girls' interest in and encourage their pursuit of STEM-related education and career choices.

The conference also includes a career fair for the girls and an adult program to educate parents on admissions to California's public colleges. DAW and LPD members serve as volunteers. The Tri-Valley conference is one of nearly 100 EYH conferences nationwide that serve more than 25,000 girls annually. Since launched in the early 1970s, more than one million girls have participated in an EYH conference.

For more information about the TVEYH conference, please refer to the conference webpage at: <https://www.tveyh.org/>

Public Policy update March 2019

As drama unfolds in Congress, California continues to legislate.

Police use of force guidelines

AB 392 attempts to update California's standard on the use of deadly force. Written in 1872, and the oldest standard in the nation yet to

be updated, this bill is co-authored by Assembly members Shirley Weber, D-San Diego, and Kevin McCarty, D-Sacramento. If passed, the bill would allow police to kill only when necessary to prevent imminent and serious injury or death and only when no other alternatives are available. “The law will promote de-escalation tactics among law enforcement, improve public safety in all of our communities and save taxpayer dollars in the long run,” McCarty said.

Gun laws

More than a dozen new gun laws passed by the state legislature went into effect on Jan. 1. Assembly Bill 1968 implements a life-time ban on people possessing a firearm if they’ve been admitted to a mental health facility multiple times because they’re deemed a danger to themselves or others.

Assembly Bill 3129 implements a lifetime ban on gun possession for people convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence, an increase over the previous ten-year ban.

Senate Bill 1110 raises the minimum age for purchasing long guns, e.g., shot guns and rifles, from 18 to 21, bringing it into line with the state’s law on purchasing handguns.

Senate Bill 61, rejected by former Gov. Jerry Brown, has been reintroduced in the legislature and would restrict the number of long guns people can buy to one per month, comparable to the law for handguns. Wilcox said that, if enacted, the bill would help crack down on people who buy multiple guns in a month to sell on the black market, which later enables them to fall into the hands of criminals.

Student loans financial aid: UC and CSU pilot program

If AB 154 becomes law, the University of California and California State University would each designate a campus to test out a pilot program to start in the 2021-22 school year. Students in their sophomore, junior, or senior years could apply and have their school costs covered. Six months after graduating, as long as that student earns at least \$20,000 a year, the graduate would pay a portion of their income back to the school each month for ten years.

Cannabis convictions: Resentencing

AB 1793, approved by former Gov. Jerry Brown on Sept. 30, 2018 calls for old marijuana convictions to be cleared or reduced in the wake of the legalization of its recreational use through Proposition 64 in 2016. Specifically, it requires the Department of Justice to review all cases – estimated to total more than 200,000 – to determine whether to challenge their resentencing before July 1, 2019. Prosecutors would have one year to conduct their own reviews.

According to the judicial section of the state of California’s website, more than 6,000 residents have petitioned the court to have their convictions readdressed since Proposition 64 passed. Bay Area state senators Nancy Skinner (9th District) and Scott Wiener (11th District) co-authored the bill. Assemblyman Marc Berman (24th District) and State Sen. Jerry Hill (13th District) – who represent Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View – voted in favor of the bill.

Stay involved and stay informed by signing up for the **Two Minute Activist** on the AAUW website at <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/> Scroll down to find the sign-up box.

Asha Bajaj, Public Policy Chair, ashakiran@gmail.com, 925-736-7969

Legal Advocacy in Action

AAUW Joins Over Sixty Organizations Fighting to Keep Students Safe

Much has been written and discussed regarding Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos’ changes to Title IX. A few issues of concern:

- Weakening Title IX’s definition of sexual harassment and limiting when schools must respond to reports of abuse.
- Reducing which employees are required to respond to formal reports, creating confusion about proper reporting procedures and absolving the school of responsibility when they are not followed.
- Requiring schools to ignore harassment that occurs outside of a school activity, including most off-campus and online harassment.
- Redefining sexual harassment to apply only to repeated complaints and egregious allegations.

These are only a few of the serious concerns that will give perpetrators more options than victims. The DOE is currently reviewing the 96,000 comments reportedly submitted over the 60-day public comment period.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to AAUW Fund to help balance the scales of justice. Make your check out to AAUW Fund and mail it to DAW-AAUW PO Box 996 Alamo, CA 94507

Tena Gallagher, mstena@gmail.com, 925-878-5161

DAW INTEREST GROUPS

Art and Garden

Contact: Jacque Schubert, jacqueschubert@comcast.net, 925-855-7002
Varies

Friday, March 29: We'll BART to Macy's in San Francisco to view this year's **Macy's Flower Show**. The show is free, and after our tour we'll lunch in San Francisco. We'll meet at 9:30 am at Osage Park in Danville or Alamo Safeway Plaza to carpool to the 10:05 am Walnut Creek BART.

Get ready to explore the heavenly flora and beautiful blooms in Macy's welcome to spring show "**Journey to Paradisios**". Visitors will embark on a space odyssey to a colorful paradise beyond this world, from sci-fi inspired floral scenes to the out-there alien creatures. Macy's Flower Show, at its three marquee stores in New York City, Chicago, and San Francisco, has delighted generations of floral aficionados with spectacular gardens filled with millions of live flowers, plants and trees from around the world. For more than 70 years, this show has featured floral materials native to many different landscapes, all blooming in unison despite their unique climatic DNA.

Beads2Jewelry

Contact: Maureen Mapes, maureentheresamapes@gmail.com, 925-933-4484; or Dianne Giacovelli, dianneg@pacbell.net, 925-838-6444
1st Thursday, 1:00 pm

Bridge: Daytime Party (waitlisted)

Contact: Angela Domer, angelaCV@earthlink.net, 925-838-8320
3rd Monday, 10:00 am

Bridge: Duplicate

Contact: Lola Rohrs, lolarohrs@msn.com, 925-680-8345
4th Monday, 10:00 am

Bridge: Evening

Contact: Arlene Barnett, arbar3933@gmail.com, 925-947-6122
2nd Wednesday, 7:30 pm

Golf

Contact: Karen Valladao, kkval@comcast.net, 925-462-9727
2nd Saturday or Sunday, Mornings

Gourmet: Adventurous Chefs (waitlisted)

Contact: Sherry Wilcoxson
1st Friday, 11:30 am

Gourmet: Epicureans (waitlisted)

Contact: Ann Shelton
3rd Saturday, 6:30 pm

Gourmet: International

Contact: Roseann Krane
1st Saturday, every 3rd month, 6:30 pm

Great Decisions

Contact: Mary Ellen Blake, Mary Granzotto
Weekly for 8 weeks; 2 sections

Hiking

Contact: Joanne Quijano
Varies, Monthly

Literature: Contemporary Books

Contact: Mary Twist, maryetwist@gmail.com, 925-938-4978
4th Wednesday, 9:30 am

Literature: Daytime

Contact: Laurie Ehrlich, plate@pacbell.net, 925-820-1938
4th Thursday, 9:30 am

Literature: Evening (waitlisted)

Contact: Bev Nidick, Bev2Em@comcast.net, 925-828-6993
4th Tuesday, 7:30 pm

Literature: Hooked on Books (waitlisted)

Contact: Norma Spencer, Normatspencer@gmail.com, 925-937-0935
Varies

Literature: Novel Ideas (waitlisted) Contact: Kathy Harkins,

dharkins@pacbell.net, 925-736-9022
3rd Tuesday

Mah Jongg

Contact: Paula Weintraub, pauladuck@yahoo.com, 925-820-7308
Weekly, Monday 9:30 am or Tuesday 10:00 am. Tuesday group is waitlisted. Paula will teach those who don't know how to play.

Movies: Cinema 1 (waitlisted)

Contact: Pat McElderry, mcelderrypatricia@att.net, 925-837-9035
2nd Friday, 7:30 pm

Movies: First Friday Film (waitlisted)

Contact: Kathy Harkins, dharkins@pacbell.net, 925-736-9022
1st Friday, 7:00 pm

Movies & Lunch

Contact: Mary Twist
2nd Tuesday, 11:30 am

Movies: Oscars (waitlisted)

Contact: Sylvia Benzler, skbenz@mac.com, 925-820-0296
2nd Friday, 7:30 pm

Needle Arts (waitlisted)

Contact: Sandy Killoran, Holly Sauer, sandykrose@sbcglobal.net, 925-735-0154; holly.gr8f8@gmail.com, 925-323-5184
Varies, Monthly

Writers

Contact: Beth Clark, bclark143@comcast.net, 925-484-3282
2nd Tuesday, 1:00 pm

Please Support Our Sponsors - They Support Us!

 <p>Tel: 925.743.9090 Fax: 925.743.9059</p>	 <p>East Bay Flower Company 206 Sycamore Valley Rd W Danville, CA 94526 (925) 837-3418 (800) 213-5693</p>
<p>KNOWLES & MURPHY LANDSCAPE DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION MARY BEALE KNOWLES LANDSCAPE & PLANTING DESIGNER</p>	 <p>https://www.moveWISE.co</p>
 <p>Marsha J. Anderson Broker Associate Cell: 925-351-8188 Office: 925-362-1620 marsha888@comcast.net CalBRE# 00964670</p> <p>RE/MAX ACCORD 517 Sycamore Valley Road West, Danville, CA 94526</p> <p>Each Office Independently Owned and Operated</p>	 <p>Sarah S. Nix Attorney at Law Gagen, McCoy, McMahon, Koss, Markowitz & Raines A Professional Corporation snix@gagenmccoy.com</p> <p>Danville Office 279 Front Street P.O. Box 218 Danville, CA 94526 Tele: (925) 837-0585 Fax: (925) 838-5985</p> <p>Napa Valley Office 1030 Main Street, Suite 212 St. Helena, CA 94574 Tele: (707) 963-0909 Fax: (707) 963-5527</p>

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation’s leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls.

Our **Mission**: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Our **Value Promise**: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

Our **Vision**: AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential. The Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek branch promotes and supports our AAUW mission through local scholarships, AAUW program support, panel discussions, Tech Trek, AAUW Fund, and topical guest speakers.

Aline Soules, Editor
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