



The Advocate

October 2025

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“A man who takes away another man's freedom is a prisoner of hatred; he is locked behind the bars of prejudice and narrow-mindedness.”

- Nelson Mandela, activist, former South African president, Nobel laureate

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT CHECK-IN: WHAT CAN I DO?



Join us for a dynamic conversation on how to use your voice in public policy today. **Ogie Strogatz** and **Bette Felton** will lead the lively discussion as we explore local action opportunities and non-partisan protests for democracy, rooted in AAUW California's four Public Policy Priorities:

- **Economic security for all women**
- **Equal access to quality education for all students**
- **Social and racial justice for all**
- **Increased representation of women in leadership roles**

We'll share ideas and build momentum for local action to support these priorities in our challenging times. Leave inspired with a renewed sense of urgency to help heal and strengthen our democracy!

[Click here for more info and
to RSVP](#)

All are welcome and encouraged to attend. There is a \$10 fee for non-AAUW members.



Fact over Fiction: Navigating the News

presented by the League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley

Thursday, October 23 | 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

In today's fast-moving media landscape, how can you tell what's real and what's not? Join us for a timely and engaging presentation on how to navigate the news and avoid mis/disinformation. Empower yourself with tools to think critically, share responsibly, and stay informed.

No registration required - everyone is welcome!

San Ramon Library

100 Montgomery St. 94582 | 925.973.2850
Mon 10-8 • Tues 10-8 • Wed 10-8 • Thurs 10-8
Fri 9-5 • Sat 9-5 • Sun Closed



For special accommodation, please contact the Library with 72 hours notice.

Plan to attend this special event about media literacy to be held at the San Ramon Library. It is presented by the **Diablo Valley League of Women Voters** with the support of the **AAUW San Ramon Branch**. You'll learn how to spot the difference between real and "fake" news by using valuable tools to help you:

- Critically evaluate news sources
- Spot misinformation and disinformation
- Recognize AI-generated images versus real ones

Come and bring your friends and family - everyone is welcome!
No registration required.

Third Thursday Community Program - November



The Reality of Reproductive Rights and Services in Contra Costa County

Thursday, November 20, 2025, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Danville Congregational Church

With guests from Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and Planned Parenthood Northern California, we will explore how women's health care, and particularly reproductive health, has evolved. What decisions and opportunities confront women to enhance healthy childbearing and parenting? How are all Contra Costa women supported to be healthy throughout their lifespans? Visit with our guests, and each other, to learn how health education has changed and how new opportunities and challenges are met in Contra Costa County.

Save the date!

DAW Branch Fundraising

By Pat Morris, Fundraising Chair

DAW Branch Fundraiser – *Dine for a Cause*

Wednesday, November 12, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**at Virtue + Vice Restaurant,
267 Hartz Ave, Danville**

Support our DAW branch while enjoying gourmet comfort food with a global influence at Virtue + Vice Restaurant in Danville! When you dine with us on our special evening, 10% of all sales and 100% of tips will go to our branch to support Tech Trek, our scholarships for college women, and our branch programs.

Come hungry, leave inspired, and help us support women! You can dine in or take out; we get credit for both.

We need five more branch members to volunteer as “waitresses” for the event; no experience required! Your help will make this possible, so please consider this chance to give the branch a hand. Please call Pat Morris 925-876-0481 if you have questions or wish to volunteer.

For more about the restaurant and to make your dinner reservation, click virtueandvicedanville.com.



President's Message

By Deborah Wechsler, President

I hope you are enjoying the small rains we are experiencing as our fall weather continues. This calls for one of our favorite pastimes – deciphering TLAs (Three Letter Acronyms)! When the NWS* forecasts CLR*, are you happy? Sometimes, as long as we get enough rain occasionally.

Speaking of acronyms, here is one that is more than three letters: CCIBC - Contra Costa Inter-Branch Council, sometimes simply IBC. What is this? The IBC meets four times each year to share our AAUW branch activities and issues. Current branches are Benicia-Vallejo (BV), Concord, Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (DAW), Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette (OML), Pleasant Hill-Martinez (PHM), San Ramon (SR), and West Contra Costa (WCC). Our branch has often shared programs with the OML and SR branches, and most of the branches send girls to the same Tech Trek (TT) camps. The most recent IBC meeting was September

23, and we decided that we could become more active, visible, and powerful as a larger group. Our first idea is to jointly publicize the opportunity to participate in the No Kings demonstration in Walnut Creek. We believe this opportunity is aligned with AAUW priorities to advocate for equity for women and girls. We feel the need to “meet the moment”, but frankly this time may be more than a moment, and we need to collaborate with as many organizations as possible to gain traction on issues affecting our rights. I hope you will join me at 11:30 am on October 18, and don't forget to wear your DAW t-shirt (last year's version “Equity for All”, or this year's “Stand Up for Equity”).

If that is not enough acronyms for you, I suggest you might need some TLC*!

*NWS – National Weather Service, CLR - Clear sky, with no clouds below 12,000 feet, TLC – Tender Loving Care



October Checklist



October To Do's

- **October 4, 10:00 am – Quest Science Center's Science@Stockmen's Park**
Attend the free event, [click here](#) to volunteer
- **October 7, 7:00 pm - AAUW CA Public Policy webinar "Project 2025 Impacts on AAUW Values - One Year Later"**
[Click here](#) to register
- **October 14, 5:30 pm – San Ramon Valley Unified School District Meeting**
[Click here](#) for more information
- **October 16, 6:00 pm – Third Thursday Community Program - Civic Engagement Check-in**
[Click here](#) for more information and to RSVP

- **October 18, 11:30 am – No Kings Demonstration in Walnut Creek**
[Click here](#) for more information and to register
- **October 23, 6:00 pm – League of Women Voters and AAUW San Ramon Program – Navigating the News**
[Click here](#) for more information, no RSVP needed
- **October 25, 10:00 am – Quest Science Center’s Science@Stockmen's Park: Halloween Hijinks**
[Click here](#) to volunteer with Quest Science Center’s team
- **October 25, 11:00 am - Bay Area Science Festival at UCSF Mission Bay Campus**
[Click here](#) for more information
- **November 4 – Vote in California’s Special Election about Proposition 50**
- **November 12, 5:00 pm – DAW Branch Fundraiser – *Dine for a Cause at Virtue + Vice***
[Click here](#) for dinner reservations; see article in this newsletter for more information
- **November 18, 5:30 pm – San Ramon Valley Unified School District Meeting**
[Click here](#) for more information
- **November 20, 6:00 pm – Third Thursday Community Program – Reproductive Rights and Services in Contra Costa**
Save the date!
- **Volunteer!** We have open positions for FY 25-26 on our branch board and committees.
[Click here](#) to learn more
- [Donate here](#) to support DAW branch programs

Public Policy and Advocacy

Stand up for Democracy on October 18

Join with AAUW members from DAW and other branches in our area to stand up for democracy and women’s rights on October 18! This peaceful event is organized by Indivisible ReSisters Contra Costa in partnership with Commit to Democracy, as part of a nation-wide movement to protest against the chaos, corruption, and cruelty of the current administration.

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors, wear your DAW T-shirt, and be part of the effort to make this the biggest day of action yet!

DAW’s participation on Oct 18 will mark the start of increasing our collaboration with other Contra Costa AAUW branches and raising our visibility together at various local demonstrations. We will build more power together! Plans are in the works for how to show our presence at this event.

[Click here](#) to register for the October 18 event.



California Proposition 50 at a Glance

By Ogie Strogatz, DEI Coordinator and AAUW California Public Policy Team member

You may have seen or heard recently about California Proposition 50, a crucial measure on the November 4, 2025, Special Election ballot. Here's a quick rundown.

What is Proposition 50?

Prop 50 asks California voters whether the state should adopt temporary congressional district maps if other states redraw their maps mid-decade for partisan advantage. These temporary maps would apply only if other states redraw their maps, would be used only through the 2026–2030 elections, and would then expire after the next census-driven redistricting.

Why does Prop 50 matter?

Prop 50 preserves the state's ability to serve all Californians in the face of federal encroachment. Federal encroachment in California in 2025 has included many problematic federal actions, such as:

- Unwanted deployment of federal police and troops into our public parks and schools
- Unilateral defunding of valued research and educational institutions, based on their commitment to sound scientific inquiry, civil rights protections, and pluralism

These actions and the Project 2025 agenda (on which they are based) are highly unpopular in



California, across the United States, and among members of AAUW California. They present a significant threat to many of the things we care about, including AAUW CA's central mission and focus: advancing equity for women and girls.

We do not acquiesce to the prospect of our state operating in a federal system in which democracy is no longer functional, listing instead toward an authoritarian system that puts troops in our streets, that censors our speech, that erases historical facts, that does not rely on sound science in decision-making, that directly endangers the wellbeing of women and girls, and that dehumanizes

important and valued members of our communities.

Supporting Prop 50 is a nonpartisan move to preserve wider democratic norms in California, oppose Project 2025 implementation in California, and continue to advance AAUW California's mission and public policy priorities.

What is AAUW CA's position on Prop 50?

AAUW National has advised that, as an organization, AAUW CA is not able to make a formal recommendation about Proposition 50.

AAUW California has committed to present strong education-focused, nonpartisan messaging that emphasizes the potential benefits of Prop 50 for all Californians.

What do I need to do?

- **Come up to speed on Prop 50 basics:** It's easy! Check out the **Proposition 50 and Get Out the Vote (GOTV) 2025 Guide** prepared by the AAUW CA Public Policy team. The guide is clear,

succinct, and very user-friendly, with lots of hot links so you can jump to the content of greatest interest to you. To access the guide, [click here](#).

- **Join the AAUW CA Public Policy webinar** "Project 2025 Impacts on AAUW Values - One Year Later: How to Stop Ongoing Implementation" - Tuesday, October 7, at 7:00 pm. To register, [click here](#).
- **Come to our DAW Third Thursday Community Program meeting**, on Thursday, October 16, at 6:00 pm, at the Danville Congregational Church to learn more about Prop 50 and many more opportunities to build and broaden civic engagement.
- **Contact Ogie Strogatz** with any questions about Prop 50 or other AAUW public policy topics at ogstrogatz@gmail.com.

AAUW Fund

By Jana Multhaup, Funds VP

Hey there! Just a heads up that I will be sending out a solicitation letter this month for donations to AAUW, and I hope you will consider contributing to AAUW Funds. In the past five years, AAUW National has given away a whopping \$29.6 million to 1,538 women for fellowships and grants. This means we're helping more women shape the future in politics, company leadership, medicine, and beyond. And guess what? While we do appreciate those in our DAW branch who have given \$100 and more, even a small donation of just \$10 can make a big difference.

If you're interested in participating more directly in our AAUW National Funds process, we're looking for panelists to review applications for our various programs including Career Development Grants, Community Action Grants, International Fellowships, and Selected Professions Fellowships. Each panelist reviews approximately 10-20 applications and works with a partner to recommend awardees to AAUW. The reviews are done between December and February, and panel meetings are held in February and March.

To become a panelist, you need to complete an application form this fall to be considered for the upcoming cycle's application period. For more information about serving on a review panel and about applying to participate, [click here](#).

Roseann Krane, Past Funds VP, has been doing this for about five years now and says it's incredibly rewarding. If you're interested, I highly recommend reaching out to her for more information and applying. She's sure to be happy to chat with you!

Membership Brunch - Recap

By Joanne Quijano, Advocate Editor

We had a beautiful day for the 2025 Membership Brunch on September 20. Roughly 60 members, guests, and Tech Trek students and parents enjoyed a tasty breakfast buffet in the bright and sunny venue at Oak Hill Park. To start the day's program, Kate Waters, Tech Trek Chair, and Lee Garverick, past Tech Trek Chair introduced the students who each spoke a bit about their camp experience. As always, it was inspiring to hear from these young people and gratifying to know that our branch was able to support them in attending the camp.



Diane Coventry, Kate Waters, TT students, Lee Garverick

President Deborah Wechsler, who served as emcee for the event, informed us about the branch's 2025-2026 theme "Standing Up for Equity" – as seen on the newly available DAW T-shirts. We'll strive to enhance our branch's partnerships with local and state organizations to help support this direction and we'll expand the focus of our Third Thursday Member Meetings to be Community Programs, not just aimed at members. She also noted proudly that our branch achieved all five stars in AAUW National's 5-Star for the past fiscal year which is awarded to branches that meet goals in specific focus areas defined by National.

The keynote speaker, Martha "Gus" Slavin was introduced by Judy Lauper, Membership Co-Chair and Brunch event organizer. Martha's presentation about *Unleashing Your Creativity* was entertaining, upbeat, and motivational; a bit different from some of the weightier talks about issues that we've had in the past. She explained that creativity can take many forms beyond traditional arts; we're creative every day as we deal with life's problems and learn new things. To help us try out new ideas and stretch our imaginations, she gave each attendee an envelope full of materials to start practicing through some fun exercises. The activities she led us in definitely got everyone thinking and engaged!



Martha Slavin and Dot Healy

After having our creativity inspired, Deborah filled us in on DAW branch business for 2025-2026. The goal for fundraising is \$35,500 so we will have \$31,000 available for Local Scholarships and Tech Trek. For more details about **the budget** – [click here](#).

For **Local Scholarships**, Co-Chairs Ann Willoughby and Debbie Koos informed us about the new Single Parent Scholarship that will be managed by Los Medanos College with our funding. We will also have a new add-on award for a student majoring in a STEM field, similar to the existing Creative Endeavors Scholarship. These new awards will be available when the LS application period opens on October 31.

Key initiatives for our **Public Policy** efforts in the coming year will be continuing our presence at San Ramon Valley Unified School District board meetings, building our participation in AAUW California Lobby Days, and encouraging members to engage with the "Two Minute Activist" program.

Finally, the calendar for branch activities including proposed topics for the Third Thursday Community Programs was distributed to attendees. There's a great range of topics to inform and motivate us and our friends in the community in our mission to advance equity for women and girls. To see the calendar and access a version you can print – [click here](#).

Many thanks to Judy Lauper, Membership Co-chair, for organizing a wonderful event along with Monika Witte, Membership Co-chair.

[Click here to enjoy a slide show of photos from the Brunch](#)

A special reminder for Brunch attendees

As homework for the attendees to keep our creative energy flowing, Martha encourages us to follow through with the projects she distributed in the envelopes:

- Hang the weathergram – the brown paper tag with your inspirational words - outside.
- Mail (or display) the postcard with squares that you made.
- Read one of the suggested books for inspiration and use the provided bookmark to keep your place.
- Frame, hang, or send the card with Martha's artwork.
- Cut up cards, magazines, or your unfinished artwork and glue to the templates for paper cubes. Or just draw directly on each square. Cut out the cubes, assemble, and place in your home to remind you to think creatively.
- Try following one of the daily practices that she suggested such as keeping a journal, a sketchbook, or a gratitude book. Or read Martha's blog - <https://marthaslavin.blogspot.com>
- **Most important:** Fill out one square a day on the blank calendar. When you're done with the 30 days, take a photo, and send it to Martha at marthaslavin@gmail.com so she knows you followed through!

Fill each square on the calendar with some notation of your choice: a name, a slow drawing of tiny circles, doodles, anything that appeals to you that day. The intent is to encourage daily practice and to focus, letting go of distractions.

Let's all do it!

DAW T-Shirts – Available Now!

DAW Equity T-shirts - A new edition premiered at the Brunch!

Now is your chance to purchase an AAUW DAW T-Shirt; we'll have them at the Third Thursday Community Meetings while supplies last. Show your commitment to equity; **plan to wear your shirt for the No-Kings March on October 18!** These are the same high quality shirts as those we sold two years ago, updated with a new slogan on the back.

To purchase your new T-shirt, either come to a meeting or contact Monika Witte at auwmonikawitte@gmail.com.

Cost: Cash or check \$32, credit card \$32.99



Monika Witte and Isabel Lau display the new DAW T-shirts



DAW members wearing the first edition of the T-Shirts at a school board meeting in January 2024

Quest Science Center News

By Ann Willoughby, Quest Advisory Board member

Volunteers Needed for Halloween Hijinks on October 25

Come join Quest Science Center and help illuminate the science behind Halloween! Volunteer for **Science@Stockmen's Park: Halloween Hijinks** on Saturday, October 25 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. This free fun-filled family event is being held at Stockmen's Park in Livermore in partnership with Livermore Downtown Inc's [Kidz Town Halloween Hay Day](#).

Quest is looking for volunteers to facilitate spooky science activities! No STEM experience required. To register as a volunteer, [click here](#)

To learn more about Science@Stockmen's Park, [click here](#).

DAW Volunteered at Rancho Romero Science Night

Thanks to DAW volunteers Manju Jindal, Judy Lauper, Kate Waters, and Ann Willoughby, Quest Science Center participated in Rancho Romero Elementary School's first ever Family Science Night on September 25. The fun, family-oriented event was organized by the school and featured 24 local STEM exhibitors, including Quest, attracting some 500 attendees including both parents and students. The hands-on Quest exhibit was entirely staffed by DAW volunteers and featured battery-operated electrical circuits that students assembled and tested. It was one of the really popular exhibits at the event.



Since starting our collaboration with Quest, DAW volunteers have helped to expand Quest's STEM educational programs into the San Ramon Valley. If you are interested in Quest volunteer opportunities, contact Ann Willoughby at akwilloughby@att.net. No STEM experience is required, just an

inquiring mind and a desire to help inspire interest in science.

Bay Area Science Festival – Celebrate Bay Area Scientific Wonders

The Bay Area Science Festival returns on Saturday, October 25, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the UCSF Mission Bay campus, Koret Quad. It is Northern California's largest education event and brings together STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) role models, families, youth, and adults to experience the wonder of science and how it affects our everyday lives. The festival will feature 100+ hands-on experiments, astounding games, behind the scenes lab tours, film screenings, and science talks. The event is free and fun for all ages. Quest Science Center, a DAW affiliate, will be participating in the event. For more information: [click here](#).



Women's Political Leadership Conference at St Mary's - Highlights

by Ann Willoughby

The Women's and Gender Studies Program at Saint Mary's College hosted a well-attended, powerful one-day conference on "Women's Leadership in the Current Political Moment" on September 4. The conference was presented in collaboration with the Saint Mary's DEI Office and the AAUW Orinda Moraga-Lafayette Branch.

The program agenda included a lively, impactful, ethnically diverse panel with Berkeley Mayor Adena Ishii, El Cerrito Mayor Carolyn Wysinger, and Richmond City Council Member Claudia Jimenez, keynote speaker Gilda Gonzales, Outgoing President and CEO of Planned Parenthood Northern California, and concluding remarks by Barbara Lee, Mayor of Oakland.

A common theme expressed by the speakers was the need to be educated, engaged, and to work toward building community. They stressed the importance of women's political engagement and leadership – women need to be at the table where they can change the conversation to focus on the needs of everyone, not just a select few. It is also important for younger people to engage in politics and take positions of power. And, by the way, sexism in politics is alive and well.

As one speaker indicated, "Be awake, active, and unapologetic." Community-level engagement is impactful, where local communities and organizations need to push back on the federal government. People also need to be aware and educated to be able to engage in organizations, commissions, campaigns, hosting parties, fundraising to advocate for women's rights which are human rights.

The conference was organized as part of Saint Mary's NEW (New Education for Women's) Leadership Institute, an academic summer program that teaches undergraduate women from across the Bay Area how to engage in politics, advocacy, and public service. Plans for a summer 2026 New Leadership Institute at Saint Mary's are in the works.

To learn more about the NEW Leadership Program at St Mary's, [click here](#).



From left- Adena Ishii, Claudia Jimenez, Carolyn Wysinger

AAUW California – Public Policy Updates

The Fight for Public Education Is the Fight for Democracy

By Amy Hom and Melissa Maceyko, Public Policy Committee Co-chairs

The Public Policy Team is looking forward to another year of working with you to advocate for gender equity and social justice. As we kick off the new year, we are faced with many new challenges. Although this may feel daunting, we are using this moment to find new ways to work together impactfully. Our commitment to preserving democracy is unwavering, and we are grateful to have you as a partner in this fight. Because it may feel like you need to fight on all fronts, which can be

overwhelming, each month we will provide a list of targeted action items focused on a topic area that we care about.

This month our action items, and the articles in our newsletter, Public Policy News, are dedicated to the fight for public education as central in the fight to preserve our pluralistic democracy. Read more about action items, the history of public education in U.S. democracy, the importance of the School Board Project in the ongoing fight to preserve democracy, and the recent legal wins and losses that will impact equity and access in public education in the September 2025 issue of Public Policy News.

And if you're looking for MORE action, check out our Action Alerts via our [Resistbot](#) and [BlueSky](#) accounts. The 2025 legislative session is closing in California, so we will be posting opportunities for you to reach out to the Governor's office in support of our 2025 legislative agenda in early-to-mid September. Many of our bills, including our top three bills AB 1098, SB 771 and SB 418, are expected to reach the Governor's desk around September 10, 2025. We have also recently sent out content around getting out the vote (GOTV) in this year's special election in California, including providing information about Proposition 50 and a tool kit for taking action – check it out on our website at [Public Policy - AAUW California](#).

Editor's Note: The following are synopses of articles in the September AAUW California Public Policy News. To read the full version of the newsletter, [click here](#).

Understanding the Urgency of Branch Participation in the Public Policy School Board Project

By Seena Trigas, Member AAUW California Public Policy School Board Project

The constant noises that surround us today have had the effect on many of us wanting to “shut the door” and withdraw behind a protective shield. This is not an option if we want to protect our democracy and the rights declared in our Constitution. We must continue to protest against national policies that threaten our basic core principles, and take a stand at the state and local levels where we can have even greater impact. AAUW California's mission and public policies are being threatened, and we will not stand by and allow this to happen. Articles in our monthly AAUW California reports will present the specific violations of protected rights implemented by federal policies and local school boards throughout our state. Our advocacy and commitment to our public schools is critical, with a great deal at stake. Jefferson will end this discussion: “...Only educated citizens could make the American experiment in self-government succeed.”

Read the full article to learn more about its history, why our free public school system plays an important role in preserving our democracy, and what current threats it is facing – [click here](#).

Anti-LGBTQ+ Supreme Court Decision Will Likely Impact K-12 Education in California

By Missy Maceyko, Co-chair AAUW California Public Policy Committee

This June a decision was issued in *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, a case involving the LGBTQ+ community that was heard by the Supreme Court of the United States. Since it is a federal ruling, the outcome of this case may have an impact on the important legislative and on-the-ground work that AAUW California has been doing (via the School Board Project (SBP)) to protect historically accurate, diverse, and inclusive curricula in K-12 education and schools given the likely increase in legal opt-out requests by some parents.

This important case arose after the Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) Board, in Maryland, updated their curriculum in 2022 with more diverse and inclusive storybooks. They initially attempted to accommodate opt-out requests from parents from a coalition of religious groups who didn't want their children to read storybooks that included a normative portrayal of LGBTQ+ families.

The school board received such an influx of requests that course administration became unmanageable; the policy was costly for students, schools, and taxpayers. In addition, the influx of requests fundamentally "undermined the schools' educational obligations toward inclusion, equity, and respect" particularly relating to LGBTQ+ families' experiences. When the school board decided to end the opt-out option, parents filed this lawsuit.

To read the full article and learn more about the lawsuit and its implications, [click here](#).

Member Tool Kit about Proposition 50 and Get Out the Vote (GOTV)

The Public Policy Committee's **Proposition 50 and Get Out the Vote (GOTV) 2025 Guide** is a comprehensive toolkit comprising over 25 resources to support GOTV efforts, including a Pro 50 Messaging Guide, Overview, FAQ, Flyer, Election Timeline, and more. AAUW California members are encouraged to conduct GOTV outreach for the special election on November 4, 2025, to educate voters on the positive impacts of [Proposition 50](#) with reliable, nonpartisan information.

Normally, AAUW California publishes official recommendations to support or oppose propositions. However, AAUW National has advised that the organization not make a formal recommendation about Prop 50. Instead, the organization asks members to disseminate information-centered messages to increase awareness of the potential impacts of Prop 50 for all Californians and to encourage people to vote on November 4.

To access the Guide and Tool Kit, [click here](#).

See the Public Policy Section in this newsletter to learn about DAW's response to Prop 50 and what you can do to help.

AAUW National

Free Salary Negotiation and Financial Literacy Webinars at AAUW

AAUW continues its commitment to economic empowerment with a series of enriching webinars - **Work Smart, Start Smart, and Money Smart**. These webinars are more than just learning sessions; they are a journey towards self-empowerment. Attending gives participants valuable insights and tools to navigate their careers and financial lives confidently. For the fall webinar schedule, [click here](#).

Stay Connected: Re-Subscribe to AAUW Emails

Do you think you may be missing out on vital updates and important announcements from AAUW National? Don't let valuable information slip through the cracks! Ensure you stay connected with us by re-subscribing to AAUW emails. Simply [click here](#) to re-subscribe or update your contact information and guarantee that you'll receive all the latest news, webinars, and opportunities from AAUW National.

“Stay Home” Policy Statement

While we understand that people want to participate in person at our branch events, we also want to foster consideration for all members in creating a safe environment for everyone. Please consider this direction when you plan to attend a branch meeting.

If you are feeling ill in any way, or have been in close contact with someone known to have tested positive for COVID in the last 10 days, please do not attend any meeting!

Remember that COVID exposure remains a serious issue and that we need to be constantly vigilant. If you plan to attend a branch event, please stay home if you feel ill or if you have been exposed to COVID or any other significant communicable disease. We encourage you to be considerate of everyone attending a function, some of whom might be more susceptible than others. If you have any doubts, test, wear a mask, and err on the side of caution.

While there are inherent risks in attending an in-person event, with your help we will do our best to keep everyone safe at our meetings.

From the Editor - Joanne Quijano

Contribute to the Advocate - Send ideas, articles, and pictures by the 23rd of the month to appear in the next issue. Please use the [Submittal Form](#) on our website to direct your contribution to the Advocate, or other DAW social media, to our communications team.

Submissions are preferred in the following format:

- Articles in a .doc or .docx file, or in the body of an email
- Calibri font, size 12
- Pictures in .jpg format
- Permissions set to enable editing

Find contact information about people mentioned in the Advocate on our [branch website](#) and in your directory. If you do not have a directory, [click here](#) to send us a request.

Comments about the Advocate? – I’m always interested in making improvements to the newsletter to better meet our members’ needs. Please let me know your comments and suggestions at jtq@sbcglobal.net.

From the Treasurer – Chris Ritter

Handle money matters here - Please send expense vouchers or deposits to our AAUW mailbox at: P.O. Box 996, Alamo, CA 94507 for expedited processing. Refer to our branch website for specific forms and instructions – Click on [Members Page](#)

From the Corresponding Secretary - Julie Grisham

Know someone who needs a note? - Julie Grisham, our Corresponding Secretary, sends cards on behalf of our branch. If you know of an AAUW-DAW member in need of a get well, condolence or congratulations card, contact Julie via email at juliegrisham@sbcglobal.net.

Our Branch Sponsors

We are proud to acknowledge our loyal branch sponsors. We appreciate their support, which goes directly to fund DAW projects that include scholarships for local college students, Tech Trek camperships, and community education programs. For more information about becoming a sponsor, please visit our website at <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/sponsorships-2024/>



Needs based landscape design for dynamic site and local conditions.

Monica Perrone

<https://monicaperrone.com/>



Negotiate today's residential real estate market with confidence.

Marsha Anderson *

marsha888@comcast.net



Estate, trust, and probate specialist serving individuals in the Danville area.

Sarah Nix, Attorney at Law *

snix@gagenmccoy.com



Eliminating barriers and enhancing capabilities to improve the safety, health and wellness of every CC County resident.

Bette Felton, CCRHF Board Chair *

<https://www.ccrhf.org/>



Take advantage of advanced technologies to communicate more effectively.

Louis Leveriza

<http://www.diabloprinting.com/>

* AAUW DAW members are marked with an asterisk

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

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

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.

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.



The Advocate

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

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