



**A San Carlos magnolia tree in full spring blossom provided the backdrop for the Walk/Talk & Gawk group of Mid-Pen hikers.**

**To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.**

## **Newly elected SM County Sheriff to speak to Mid-Pen meeting March 11**

Christina Corpus, the newly elected Sheriff of San Mateo County, will talk about women in law enforcement and the changes she has seen during her career at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 11, at the Redwood Shores Library.

Corpus, the daughter of immigrants from Nicaragua and Mexico, was born and raised in the Bay Area where she has lived her entire life.

After being a victim of a carjacking, she was drawn to work in public safety. She started her career as a caseworker with the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office in 1995.

Corpus moved to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office in 2002 and has held many positions in that organization. Most recently, she served as Chief of Police for Millbrae.

She holds a bachelor's degree in law enforcement leadership from Union Institute and University and a master of science degree in law enforcement and public safety leadership from the University of San Diego.

If members and guests would like to socialize before the talk, they should plan arrive between 1:30 and 1:45 p.m., as we would like to respect the presenter's time by starting the presentation on time at 2 p.m.

The public is invited.



**Christina Corpus**

## President's Message

# Reviewing all that goes into maintaining Mid-Pen branch

By Chris Panero

It's a sunny day! I've been enjoying the bright weather, a cheery morning in San Carlos with the Walk, Talk, & Gawk group, the daffodils from my yard (too ambitious to call it a garden) — all things that help the spirit as we get close to the time of renewal that is spring.



Chris Panero

I'm also looking forward to the French conversation group, which will be meeting this week at the home of Leslie Pasahow.

Our board's big task this month is to consolidate and update information about the various

jobs and tasks that go into making the Mid-Peninsula Branch a success.

Carole Farina and I, as well as members of the board, are refreshing our ideas of what is required to keep our branch healthy and how best to promote the mission of AAUW. One big project to this end is to update the job descriptions for all the tasks that make our branch successful. Thank you to the board members who have updated their job descriptions, and to Nancy Oliver, who maintains our archives and records.

These updated documents will be used as references for new and continuing officers as we carry on with our efforts to advocate for women and maintain social supports for our branch.

It's been an interesting project. Hand-written reports going back to 2006 and earlier provide a view into past projects and initiatives, such as participating in the docent program at Ralston Hall (started in 1978), an effort to endorse the establishment of a four-year public college in San Mateo County (1955), and a study of the poor conditions for women in the county jail (early '70s).



### Two more things:

• Carolyn Hoskins, the creator of the Black History Museum & Learning Center, spoke to our branch a few years back. The impressive displays from the museum will be at 890 Jefferson Ave. (at Middlefield, the old Cost Plus site) from Friday, Feb. 3 through Tuesday, Feb. 28. The mobile museum is huge and highlights the contributions of African Americans throughout history.

• Say "Yes!" When someone from the Nominating Committee calls you, say "Yes!" If the position you are offered does not appeal to you, might there be another that you can do? Like all human enterprises, our branch requires continual support and upkeep. We need you!



Leslie Pasahow set a beautiful table for the French conversation group this month, using her grandmother's antique French plates.

## Who? What? When?

**Co-Presidents:** Carole Farina and Chris Panero

**Membership:** Wilma Hoffmann and Barb Finnegan

**Electronic distribution:** Cathy Chowenhill

**Triad editor:** Micki Carter

**Sunshine Lady:** Marge Haruff. Please contact Marge if you know anyone who would appreciate a card from Mid-Pen Branch.

**Know of a prospective member?** Please contact Wilma Hoffmann or Barb Finnegan

**Board Meeting:** Tuesday, March 7, at 10 a.m. via Zoom.

**Triad Deadline for April** will be March 15. Please send articles in Word, Pages or Google.doc and photos (separately, not embedded) as large-format JPEGs to Micki Carter.

## If you're submitting to The Triad, consider this

By Micki Carter  
Triad Editor

Here are some things that may make it easier to submit articles to the The Triad:

- The Triad needs large-format, high-resolution photos (JPEG or PNG preferred) of any Mid-Pen event or to accompany any article.

If you acquired the photo (rather than took it yourself), please make sure that The Triad has the right to publish the photo without a copyright violation.

- Please do NOT embed photos in the body of the text. Send separately.
- Articles can be submitted as Word, Pages or Google documents or in the body of an email. Do NOT send as a PDF or any other text format.
- Anyone who isn't comfortable writing a formal article can just send me a list of facts; I will write the article.
- All articles will be edited for grammar and for Associated Press style.
- It would be extremely helpful if I received just one article on a topic or event rather than bits and pieces (often duplicated) from many.



## EQUAL PAY WITHOUT DELAY

Tell Congress: Take action  
to close the pay gap

### Equal Pay Day!

Most women in the U.S. had to work all last year and right up to March 15, 2023, to be paid as much as the typical man took home by Dec. 31, 2022.

When compared to all workers, women were paid just 77 cents for every dollar paid to men.

What can you do? Urge your elected officials to support the Paycheck Fairness Act before Congress now. And learn how to advocate for your own fair wage at <https://salary.aauw.org>.



Women working full time, year-round were paid 83 cents per dollar compared to men working full time, year-round. Equal Pay Day, March 15 for this year, symbolizes the average extra days of work required for women to match the year's earnings of men. Help draw attention to the unjust difference in men's and women's pay by giving out 5-10 bookmarks in your community. Collect yours at the March 11 meeting and hand out at your grocery store, café, library or to your neighbors.

# Longtime Mid-Pen activist Joanne Payne has died at 94

By Wilma Hoffmann

Joanne Payne, who joined AAUW in 1961, died in January. She was 94.

In 2000, she was our Named Gift Honoree to the Golden Jubilee Endowment.

Born Oct. 14, 1928, Joanne grew up in Oregon and earned a bachelor of science degree in 1950 from Oregon State.

She was very active in our branch: Neighborhood chair for four years, treasurer for two years, Triad editor for two years, directory editor for two years, membership treasurer for a year and responsible for Triad labels for three years.

She played bridge, was an original member of the Jane Austen Book Group and joined the French Conversation Group.

Laverne Rabinowitz recalls, "About Joanne and French: She always said she'd wanted to join the French Conversation



Joanne Payne

group but couldn't speak French well enough.

"But, she was so motivated: She taught herself via courses on CDs and her pronunciation was really good! She always apologized that she didn't know anything. It was hard, but she kept coming.

"October was our last meeting that she attended."

Note that she was then 94! Joanne had hosted the group in her home, and at Channing House in Palo Alto after she moved, just as she had hosted her Neighborhood group.

Joanne was a world traveler and bird watcher who loved symphony, opera and ballet as well as gardening. Members recall volunteering with her at Filoli and the orchids in her sunny home, as well as later at Channing House.

She will be missed. At this point, no memorial is planned.

## In honor of Women's History Month

By Jane Niemeier,  
AAUW-CA Co-President Elect

Where I went to high school in north-eastern Indiana in the 1960s, there were no school-sponsored sports for girls, not one. Girls all had to take physical education for two years, and there was a nine-week quarter of basketball required.

But the basketball we played was only half-court basketball. Somewhere along the way, someone decided that women were too fragile to run more than a few steps.

In 1967, Kathrine Switzer decided she would enter the Boston Marathon, because she loved to run long distances. Since women were not allowed to register, she used her initials, K.V. Switzer.

Fortunately for her, she had some men

friends running with her including her ex-football player boyfriend, Tom Miller.

After she had run only a few miles, the race director, Jock Semple, was told that there was a woman running the race. Semple found Kathrine and came charging from the sidelines and grabbed her saying, "Get the hell out of my race!"

In spite of this upsetting scene and blisters, Kathrine finished the race, thus breaking through a barrier for the rest of us.

In 1978, I ran my first marathon in Denver, Colo. Nothing horrible happened to my reproductive organs either!

## Recording of Zoom talk by Laura Jones is ready

The recording of the Heritage Controversies presentation by Dr. Laura Jones on Feb. 11 is ready. Those of you who might have missed it can email Cathy Chowenhill and request a copy of the recording.

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

# Focusing on ‘transmisogyny’ and how it works

By Melissa Maceyko

AAUW CA Public Policy Committee

March is Women’s History Month, a fitting time to observe Transgender Day of Visibility.

Each year on March 31, the world observes Transgender Day of Visibility to raise awareness about transgender people. It is a day to celebrate the lives and contributions of trans people, while also drawing attention to the poverty, discrimination, and violence the community faces.

We understand how women’s history tells the story of misogyny, which is the systemic mistreatment of women, girls, and feminine peoples through forms of physical and structural violence.

But we rarely consider how it is linked to transmisogyny, which focuses on the complex intersections between transphobia and misogyny that are faced by trans women and girls, as well as transfeminine and gender non-conforming peoples.

It is a term that attempts to capture multiple layers of gender-based marginalization and systemic mistreatment. If misogyny and transmisogyny are not combatted together, then the root of the problem will never truly be eradicated.

Although the past decade has seen a more vocal public push for diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives around gender, the



current sociopolitical climate in the United States is not supportive of, and is often openly hostile to, transgender and gender non-conforming individuals.

Under this sphere of increased hostility is the explicit targeting of trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples with words, actions and legislation. It is particularly important for women’s organizations which seek to combat gender-based forms of oppression to build coalitions and take a stand against misogyny and transmisogyny in all its forms, because misogyny and transmisogyny come from the same place.

They both describe gender-based oppression that results from the prioritization of masculinity alongside the degradation of femininity.

Targeted hostility against trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples can be seen not only in the alarming uptick in

physical violence against this community, but also in the increasing persistence and intensity of public debates over whether or not trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples are “real women” that belong in “women’s spaces,” including gender-specific bathrooms, women’s sports teams, and locker rooms.

These debates prioritize misplaced and misunderstood claims of biological authenticity. They are dehumanizing and cannot be disconnected from other forms of violence as they normalize widespread and explicit marginalization and exclusion.

As a women’s organization, the increasingly hostile environment for trans women and girls and transfeminine people should be at the forefront of our collective education and activism.

Let’s help ensure that history doesn’t continue to repeat itself.

## Dates to remember

**Sunday, March 5, 4 p.m., ZOOM** — Women Who Shook the World with Preethi Fernando

**Wednesday, March 8** — International Women’s Day

**Saturday, March 11, 2 p.m., Redwood Shores Library** — Women on the Police Force: How Things are Changing, with San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus

**Wednesday, March 15** — Equal Pay Day for US women

**Tuesday/Wednesday, March 21-22** — Lobby Days

**Wednesday, March 31** — Transgender Day of Visibility

**Saturday, April 15, 2 p.m., ZOOM** — Annual Meeting: election of officers, AAUW Fund recipient speaker and announcement of Named Gift Honoree(s)

**Saturday, April 22, ZOOM** — CA State Annual Virtual Event

**May TBA** — Park Day

**Saturday, May 13, 2 p.m., Redwood Shores Library** — LaDoris Cordell, first African American judge of the California Superior Court, now retired.



### Healthy Cities Benefit!

Join us March 5 from 5-7 p.m. at the Skyway Center in San Carlos for delicious hors d’oeuvres, perfectly paired wine and inspiring stories sharing the positive impact of more than 25 years of supporting students in San Carlos and Redwood City. Tickets are selling fast! Get your tickets now and donate to support local students. Visit [Healthy-CitiesTutoring.org](https://Healthy-CitiesTutoring.org) to learn more.

## Climate Change

# Just what do those sell-by dates really mean?

### M.A.D.

Make a Difference

“We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.”  
—Native American Proverb

### Women speak out

“The scientists are very clear: We have to cut our fossil fuel emissions in half by 2030. They say we have the technology to do it, we have the money to do it, we have everything we need to do it except enough people to force the government to actually do it.”  
— Jane Fonda

“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

—Jane Goodall

“I want you to act as if the house is on fire, because it is.”  
— Greta Thunberg

“The environment is where we all meet; where all of us have a mutual interest; it is the one thing all of us share.”

— Lady Bird Johnson

“We don’t have time to sit on our hands as our planet burns. For young people, climate change is bigger than election or re-election. It’s life or death.”

— Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

“Climate change knows no borders... the whole of the international community here has to shoulder a responsibility to bring about sustainable development.... We must now agree on a binding review mechanism, so that this century can be called a century of decarbonization.”  
— Angela Merkel

“Wind and other clean, renewable energy will help end our reliance on fossil fuels and combat the severe threat that climate change poses to humans and wildlife alike... I have long understood that climate change is not only an environmental issue – it is a humanitarian, economic, health, and justice issue as well.”  
— Frances Beinecke

“Climate change isn’t an ‘issue’ to add to the list of things to worry about, next to health care and taxes. It is a civilizational wake-up call. A powerful message — spoken in the language of fires, floods, droughts, and extinctions — telling us that we need an entirely new economic model and a new way of sharing this planet. Telling us we need to evolve.”  
— Naomi Klein

### How long will these last?

Excerpted from the *New York Times*

Which foods to worry about and not worry about? Healthy food means a healthy you and healthy planet. Expiration dates are not really expiration dates. They have nothing to do with safety. They are the manufacturer’s guess when a product will be at peak quality. They are voluntary.

• Do not worry about **vinegars, honey, vanilla, sugar, salt, corn syrup, molasses, and instant oats**. They will last for years. Refined or steel cut oats will last one year.

• **Flours:** White flour is okay at any age. Whole wheat flour and other fine grain flours get metallic or develop a soapy odor after a few months.

• **Rice:** Refined rice is okay at any age. Brown rice will last just a few months

• **Bread:** Supermarket breads stay soft for weeks. Bakery and homemade breads will be stale the next day and mold within a week.

• **Beans:** Dried beans are safe for years but will become tough and take longer to cook.

• **Spices:** Will last for years but may lose potency with time.

• **Canned and jarred products:** Metal is good for years and lasts longer than glass. Both last longer than plastic. Watch for visible spoilage, bulging, rust, cloudiness or rotten odor when opening.

• **Condiments:** Mustard lasts for years Ketchup is good up to one year. Mayonnaise can last 4+ months after expiration date.

• **Eggs:** The date on the carton shows when packed. This can be up to 30 days after eggs are laid. Sell by date is 30 days beyond that. Eggs are still good weeks after sell by date.

• **Baby food:** Mandated to use sell-by

date on container.

### Tax credits for going electric

• Explore and consider: electric heat pumps, energy efficient refrigerators, solar panels, energy efficient windows, electric stoves, EV cars made in USA

• An energy audit could get you a \$150 tax credit.

• Watch for info and tax credits from the federal and state governments in March 2023.

### Good Climate Change reads Nonfiction

• *What Can I Do? My Path from Climate Despair to Action* by Jane Fonda

• *Hot, Flat & Crowded* by Thomas Friedman

• *All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis* by A. E. Johnson, K.K. Wilkinson editors

• *The Future We Choose: The Stubborn Optimist’s Guide to the Climate Change* by Christina Figueres and Tom Rivett-Carnac

• *The Sixth Extinction* by Elizabeth Kolbert

• *This Changed Everything* by Naomi Klein

• *How to Avoid Climate Disaster* by Bill Gates

• *Water: A Biography* by Guido Boccaletti

• *Our House is on Fire* by Greta Thunberg

### Fiction

• *The Gathering* by Ann Enright

• *Ministry for the Future* by Kim Stanley Robinson

• *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro

• *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr

• *State of Winter* by Ann Patchett

• *The Overstory* by Richard Powers

• *Less* by Andrew Sean Greer

• *State of Fear* by Michael Crichton

• *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver  
\* \* \*

Please continue to share your ideas. This is everyone’s column. E-mail either of us with your input.

**Elvira Monroe and Theoni Pappas**

## Interest Sections

# How about a film and dinner with Movie Group?

## Movie Group

The Movie Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month in the mid- or late afternoon, depending upon the selected film. This is the bargain day in local theaters. We attend a movie, usually in Redwood City, occasionally in San Mateo, and then go to a nearby restaurant for dinner. In March, Movie Day is March 21. If you would like to be added to our group list, please either call or email Susanne Burrill.

## Tea Time Fiction Group

If you're working or have other commitments during the morning hours and haven't been able to attend other book groups, then join us for a late afternoon fiction book group. We plan to meet between 4 and 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

Since the hours are close to tea time, it was thought that it would be fun to meet at the Hillsdale Nordstrom's third-floor Café where one can purchase tea or coffee and a sweet or even a dinner meal and enjoy yourself while discussing a book.

Kathy Rafael and Mikki Coffino have selected books. Please contact Mikki (Marlene) Coffino for more information.

## Team Mah-Jongg

A lively group of members play and continue to learn American Mah-Jongg. We meet Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon at the San Carlos Senior Center.

Usually four to six players are able to attend, and we look forward to more joining the group. For further information, contact Kathy Morrow.

## Climate Change

Climate Change section will meet on Monday, March 27. Wilma Hoffmann will present her research on the topic of Wind and Solar-Powered Hydro-Electricity. Contact Victoria Kline to learn more about the section. Time and location to TBD.

## Book Bunch

Book Bunch continues to meet on the third Friday at 10 a.m. New members are always welcome; contact Wilma Hoffmann for details. On March 17, *We Run With the Tides: A Novel*, by Vendela Vida, set in the



**The Climate Change Section spent Valentine's Day at Fort Mason in San Francisco where they feasted on delicious plant-based food at Greens Restaurant. They then heard a For-Sites Foundation docent describe the work of artist/photographer Kija Lucas. The purpose of the artwork was to call attention to the importance for humankind and nature to collaborate.**

Sea Cliff neighborhood of San Francisco, will be discussed at Wilma's home. RSVP to Wilma please. If you are unable to come in person, let Wilma know that you will attend via the Zoom link instead.

## Hilly Hikers

Wilma Hoffmann will lead a hike on the Half Moon Bay side of Purisima Creek Redwoods State Park on March 24. The beginning of the trail has gentle up hills for the first couple of miles. After that it is steep. However, as of mid-February, only the first mile is open. If it is not open further, we will try for Sam McDonald Park which seems open. RSVP to Wilma for the March 24 hike. Note that Wilma is unavailable to lead the hike on Feb. 24 but if Purisima Creek trails are open, it would be a good hike for someone else to lead..

## All About Food

We will meet virtually on Thursday, March 9, at 3:30 p.m. to discuss foods we are trying for the first time, how we prepared them and our impressions. Contact Carole Farina for details.

## Current Issues

This interesting current events discussion group will meet Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 3 p.m. at Gail Langkusch's home. Please RSVP to Marilyn Zack.

## French Conversation

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14, at 1:30 p.m. We're starting to talk about our plans for future meetings, so check with Laverne Rabinowitz for the location and come to take part!

## Walk, Talk & Gawk

The group continues to meet on Thursday mornings. Members of the group suggest walks, hikes, routes and the time and place to meet, and then someone leads and does the emails for that week. Stephanie Katz is the contact.

## Calling all visual artists

Do you paint, draw or photograph? Let's start a section to talk, see and practice art. We can share techniques, visit galleries and find places to inspire us. If this intrigues you, contact Carole Farina.



## All About Food group shares their favorites

The Mid-Pen Food Group gathered Feb. 9 at the home of Cynthia Ford to sample dishes that members prepared from cuisines they love. The dishes included Korean soup, blinis with caviar, Soba noodles with eggplant and mango, tiropites, pizza, cashew cookies, Pavlova and much more.





The Hilly Hikers set out to tackle San Bruno Mountain and found themselves witnessing helicopter activity on top the mountain. No one's sure if it was a rescue or an exercise but it was a highly entertaining diversion.



Writer Preethi Fernando will discuss *Amazing Women of Our Time* at 4 p.m. March 5 via Zoom for the San Francisco/San Mateo County branches. She is the author of *17 Women Who Shook the World*. She noted that three days before International Women's Day March 8 will be the perfect time for her to talk about "Amazing Women." The Zoom link will be sent out a few days before the event.



  
**#EmbraceEquity**  
International Women's Day  
**March 8**



Find out if YOU have  
what it takes  
to run the world.

## 5 SATURDAYS OF EMPOWERMENT

- Engage on issues that matter to YOU! Gun control? Climate change? Voting equality?
- Interact in two-hour virtual sessions.
- Hear from women changemakers in politics.
- Work in teams to create a campaign simulation. You could be a candidate, campaign manager, speechwriter or communications director, field and volunteer manager.

Session Dates (2023): 10 am - 12 pm  
January 28, February 11 & 25, March 11 & 25

**Register today!**  
**Space is limited**



[govtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:govtrek@aauw-ca.org)



[aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)



**GOV TREK**  
AAUW California

*Online*

Join other high school junior and senior girls in a free virtual program to learn about careers in public service and elected office.

**BE A LEADER**  
**CHANGE THE WORLD**

