

Judge LaDoris Cordell signs copies of her book *Her Honor* and (on the right) holds up the bookmark she created to celebrate the decision to place a portrait of Harriet Tubman on the U.S. \$20 bill.

Judge Cordell urges members to research judicial candidates

By Gail Langkusch

The Mid-Peninsula and San Mateo Branches welcomed the Honorable LaDoris Cordell as guest speaker at the joint Program Meeting on Saturday, May 13, at Redwood Shores Library.

Cordell spoke to a sizable gathering about her background and the progression of her career which brought her to the position of Superior Court Judge in California. She referred to her book *Her Honor: My Life on the Bench* as she commented on the judicial system — what works, what doesn't work, and what needs to be done to bring about change.

Cordell went into depth in regard to how judges are elected to office and what we as voters should do in order to have an educated voice in elections.

She explained how to research current judges and attorneys who are running for the bench for the first time. She suggested that voters Google the names of those on the ballot and go to the website of the California Bar Association for information about the candidates during their years as attorneys.

She further suggested that voters go onto the San Mateo County website to find trials over which current judges are presiding.

See CORDELL, Page 9

Come meet your Mid-Peninsula Branch sisters and the new officers for the coming year at a play date June 28 at Burton Park in San Carlos.

We will be at the new picnic tables near the bocce ball courts from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Bring a bag lunch and plan to socialize. Look for the AAUW banner!

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

President's Message

Chris offers special thanks to Co-President Carole Farina

By Chris Panero

As our branch year comes to a close, I would like to thank two people who have helped me and our branch this year.

Carole Farina welcomed me as branch Co-President and served as my counselor, advisor, teacher, and consigliere as I learned the many aspects of how to do the job.

Carole came to the branch presidency with a wealth of experience. She's been co-president for the last four years, served as membership vice president for two years, and was neighborhood coordinator in the mid 1970s.



Chris Panero

I first met Carole when I was a new member and participated in what was then known as the Hiking Group. She's served as a section chair for All About Food, Book Bunch, and, in the '70s, what she says was "something to do with finances."

Carole is an engaged visionary, ready to help, explain, smooth over, and is a master at the tactful turn of phrase. As president with Cathy Chowenhill, Carole and Cathy led our branch to Five-Star status, the AAUW National Recognition Program for branches that have well-rounded programs and events to support local, state, and national goals for AAUW



Carole Farina

I also want to thank Cathy Chowenhill, Mid-Pen treasurer, for her help and friendship this year, and for her endless patience, approachability, and availability. For any question, no matter how lame, Cathy has a useful answer. After a long time at the helm, Cathy is passing the treasurer's job to the able hands of Amy Armstrong.

Thanks also to this year's board for your service, and thank you to the many board members and chairs who are staying on. I'm meeting with board members and chairs as needed.

And, of course, to all you Mid-Peninsula branch members: Your participation and support is key to our success.

See you soon!

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, June 6, at 10 a.m. in Room 1 of the Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Avenue, Redwood City.

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

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

CalSTRS (California State Teachers' Retirement System) and some local School Districts made costly errors in computing teacher retirement compensation.

The effects are life-changing, in some cases causing retirees to owe more money than they can possibly "repay" in their lifetimes. See the San Jose Mercury News article [here](#).

My opinion is that California state funds should pay the disputed funds, not the teachers.

Please contact your local state legislators with your opinion, and ask them to write a bill.

Thank you, Holly Millar

Installation luncheon set for June 10 at SC restaurant

By Nancy Oliver

Help shine the lights on our newly elected officers and lend them our support.

The Lights of Leadership Installation Luncheon will be at noon on June 10 at King Chuan Restaurant, 1188 San Carlos Ave. (corner of Laurel) in San Carlos.

The menu will include:

- Beef with asparagus and black bean sauce;
- Chicken with broccoli and bell peppers;
- Steamed fillet of sole with ginger and scallions;
- Fresh vegetables with tofu;
- Vegetable fried rice, as well as

vegan, and gluten-free items.

Reservations are due by Friday, June 2. Send a check for \$26, made payable to AAUW Mid-Peninsula Branch to Nancy Oliver and indicate your preferred entree.

For more information, contact Nancy Oliver.

Say 'Hello' to longtime member Etty Korengold

By Phyllis Hesik

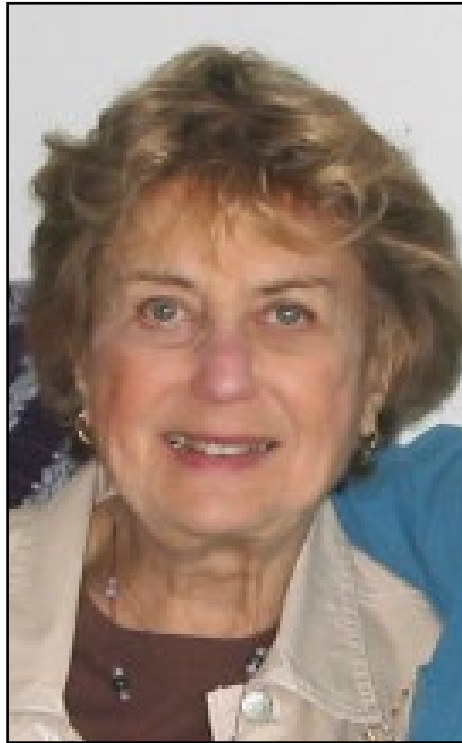
Etty Korengold is a longtime member of our branch and has served us well in many positions.

She worked on the Fellowship Dinner Committee (remember when it was called that?). Over the years, she has been:

- Neighborhood chair — She was chair of our neighborhood for many years and hosted many of our lunches;
- September Event Chair;
- Housing Chair;
- Sections Chair;
- French Conversation Chair;
- Gourmet Chair (another one to remember from the past);

Etty was Tech Trek chair for a number of years and was instrumental in keeping it going. She also served on the Nominating Committee.

Etty was born in the Bronx and moved to Los Angeles with her mom and sister when she was about 6 years old. She grew up in LA, skipped two grades and was the first in her family to go to university, UCLA, where she graduated and met her husband.



Etty Korengold

She taught for many years in the Redwood City School District. After she retired, she became head of the union representing teachers. When her daughter Jill was teaching in the same district, Etty became a popular assistant, planning and conducting special activities to commemorate special holidays and traditions. The students fondly remember her introducing them to potato pancakes, dreidels and other Hanukkah activities.

As a longtime schoolteacher, she found her calling in our branch when the Tech Trek program was first introduced. She was instrumental in contacting teachers to nominate students for the camp and getting members together to select the girls who were to participate. She hosted them at her home before the camp so the girls could meet and learn about the camp they were about to attend.

She also played bridge in several groups in the branch.

She is a fan of theater, ballet and the symphony, attending many productions through the years.



Celebration of Life for Joanne Payne

Thursday, June 15, 2023
at 2:00 pm
Channing House
11th Floor
850 Webster St
Palo Alto, CA

For additional information, please
contact Christine Whiteside at
chubasket@comcast.net

Tour of SM Jail offers insight for Mid-Pen group

By Gail Langkusch

Twelve members of Mid-Peninsula AAUW enjoyed an informative tour of the San Mateo County Correctional Facility on Monday morning, May 15.

Sgt. James Gilletti led the group through all the areas of the women's side of the facility and into some of the programs that are provided for the inmates. The group visited the kitchen where the male inmates were preparing the food for more than 1,000 fellow inmates.

The tour also took the group into one of the areas where the women are held. One of the inmates spoke to the group about what is provided for them and what the needs are that are not fully met due to a lack of sufficient personnel. The number of those

applying for positions in law enforcement is sharply down, so there is a great need for more personnel.

The group visited and observed from the outside the area where the inmates who have serious mental health issues receive the assistance they need to move eventually into the general population and prepare for life outside of jail.

The last area the group visited is where a group of ten male inmates were learning culinary skills and were preparing a restaurant-worthy meal. Ten male inmates spend Mondays and Wednesdays in the culinary school, and 10 female inmates spend Tuesdays and Thursdays in the culinary school. On the alternating days, each group attends classes to learn important life skills. This 10-week

program is designed to prepare the inmates to live outside the walls of the correctional facility with highly employable skills.

Throughout the tour, Sgt. Gilletti answered all our questions. The group also heard from and asked questions of the psychologist who is in charge of the mental health unit.

According to Gilletti, what is most important is to provide the inmates with what they need to live fulfilling lives on the outside. The goal is to reduce recidivism as much as possible.

All those who joined the almost three-hour tour were impressed with the facility and the treatment the inmates are receiving. We learned a great deal and believe our time was well spent.



Pride Month honors the '69 Stonewall Uprising

By Kim Talbert,
AAUW California Public Policy
Committee

Happy June and Happy Pride Month!

Every June since 1970, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer or Questioning (LGBTQ+) Pride Month is celebrated to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan.

At the time, the Stonewall Inn was the most popular gay bar in Manhattan. Until 1966 it was illegal to serve alcohol to a gay person, and until 1969, homosexuality was a criminal offense.

On the morning of June 28, 1969, police raided the bar for the sale of illegal alcohol.

As word got out about the raid, thousands of protestors came out, and the protests lasted for six days. These protests sparked the beginning of the Gay Liberation Movement.

The Stonewall Inn is now a National Monument. In 2016, President Obama established the first LGBTQ+ National Park in the 7.7 acres surrounding the Stonewall Inn, and, in 2019, the city of New York honored LGBTQ+ activists Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera, with a statue for their activism.

They were prominent in the Stonewall Uprising, and, according to the city of New York, this was the "first permanent, public artwork recognizing transgender women in

the world."

Since the Stonewall Uprising, there have been many significant advances for the LGBTQ+ community, like same-sex marriage and the passage of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009.

There is still a long way to go for equitable treatment for all, but that's why it's exciting to work with an organization like AAUW on its mission of achieving a more equitable society.

For further information, the Library of Congress has compiled a wonderful resource guide:

[LGBTQ+ Studies: A Resource Guide](#)



Support Hope House, Grateful Garment Project

Hope House

By Yvonne Bergero

AAUW Mid-Peninsula Branch supports Hope House which, for the past 30 years, has been offering comprehensive treatment for those women who are pregnant or with an infant and in need of services for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and/or support for Mental Health issues.

This assistance is given in a residential setting that is sensitive to differing backgrounds, cultures and gender orientation. Hope House is a part of the family services offered by the Service League of San Mateo County.

We support Hope House by reaching out to our membership to gather needed items for their clients and residential homes. The following is a list of items that are needed:

- New socks, bras, briefs and pajamas (women’s sizes; medium, large, x-large)
- Journals
- General items such as new or gently used towels, twin sheets, bathroom rugs and silverware

Please call and deliver items to Yvonne Bergero.

Grateful Garment Project

By Yvonne Bergero

We all dislike hospital gowns, don’t we? Most of us are unaware of the need for clothes after a person goes through a forensic examination after a sexual assault. Their clothes are confiscated for forensic processing, and they are left with only a hospital gown to wear.

The Grateful Garment Project is the only organization in California that provides victims of sexual violence the clothing and other resources they need to reclaim their dignity and begin the healing process.

These are some of the items GGP needs for the women it helps:

- Sweatshirts (adult and youth – all sizes)
- Sweat pants/pajama bottoms (adult and youth – all sizes)
- Sport bras (all sizes)
- Underwear (for women, men and children) (all sizes)
- Socks/booties/flip-flops/slippers or slip-on Sandals (all sizes)
- Individually wrapped nuts

- * Protein bars
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Lip balm
- Hand Sanitizer
- Hair brushes/combs/hair ties

- Mouthwash

For more information on ways to support Grateful Garment, go [here](#) and choose “Ways to Help” from the menu.

The Grateful Garment Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Tax ID# 80-0725390

2023-2025
AAUW
 of CALIFORNIA
PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

The AAUW California Public Policy Program establishes policy directives that will guide our members, inform our legislative priorities, serve our mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, and are consistent with our values of achieving fair and equitable opportunities for our diverse society. Toward that end, AAUW California advocates policies that promote, enhance and ensure:

- Economic Security for All Women, including:**
 - Equity in the workplace
 - Enforcement of workplace anti-discrimination statutes
 - Security in retirement
 - Access to job training for career development
 - Work-life balance, including access to quality affordable childcare and paid sick and caregiving leave
- Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students, including:**
 - Vigorous enforcement of Title IX
 - Adequate and equitable funding at all educational levels, including pre-school and post-secondary
 - Removal of barriers for girls to access instruction in STEM fields
 - Civics instruction in all CA high schools
 - Access to diverse staff and curriculum that represents historically accurate information
 - Funding adequate to support a strong infrastructure, and equitable access to resources, including technology
 - Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic and charter schools that do not meet public school civil rights and accountability standards
- Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society, including:**
 - Self-determination in reproductive health
 - Equal access to quality affordable health care, housing and a healthy environment
 - Freedom from violence in all its forms and wherever it occurs, including violence against historically marginalized groups, and support for policies that reduce or prevent gun violence.
 - Guarantee of civil and constitutional rights for all, including all forms of gender identity and expression, and all family structures
 - Protection and expansion of voting rights
 - Support for United Nations sustainable development goals which address human rights and women’s and girls’ concerns
- Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles, including:**
 - Proportional appointment to publicly held corporate boards
 - Access to leadership skills training
 - Access to programs that promote participation in public service careers

Interest Sections

Carol Orton takes over the reins of Book Bunch

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 cost 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 May, Movie Day is May 16. 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 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

The Climate Change section meets once a month on the fourth Monday from 3:30 -5 p.m. Contact Victoria Kline for meeting details and to RSVP.

Book Bunch

Carol Orton will host on June 16 at 10 a.m. and has chosen *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Please RSVP to Carol and let her know if you need a Zoom option.

Book Bunch will also meet in July and August. Gail Langkusch will host on Friday



Team Mah-Jongg meets on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon at the San Carlos Senior Center. Contact Kathy Morrow for further information.

July 21 and Carolyn Miller will host on Friday August 18. Books to be discussed at the July and August meetings will be chosen soon.

Hilly Hikers

Wilma Hoffmann will lead a hilly hike on the usual fourth Friday slot, May 26. The destination is dependent on weather, location of any flowers (hard to predict given our crazy weather) and trail conditions. Contact Wilma either to join the Hilly Hikers' email list or RSVP for carpool planning.

All About Food

We meet in the afternoon of the second

Thursday to discuss or try foods. Contact Carole Farina for meeting information.

French Conversation

On June 13, we'll meet at the home of Leslie Pasahow at 1:30 p.m. We'll make plans for summer activities then. Check with Laverne Rabinowitz for details!

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.

Some sections will continue to meet throughout the summer months. Contact the group's coordinator to learn about specific schedules.

Climate Change

So why should you investigate buying an EV?

M.A.D.

Make a difference

“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

Why own EVs?

Before buying a new car, check the real information about electric vehicles.

- Cost — It’s not just Tesla anymore. It’s Ford, Toyota, Hyundai, General Motors, BMW and many more in various styles. Compare prices.
- Environmental impact is almost zero versus gasoline cars.
- Availability is increasing rapidly. More and more companies have committed to manufacturing electric vehicles.
- More vehicle diversity as electric SUVs and trucks are set to be manufactured.
- Convenient charging is increasing as the number of charging stations is escalating.
- Savings:
Imagine not spending money for gasoline, tune-ups, smog tests or oil changes. Environmental rebates continue to be generous
- EVs are:
Quieter, a more economical ride and can use commuter lanes
Have a huge impact on helping to save our planet.



Planting for the planet

- Garden for wildlife
- Grow native plants
What difference does it make?
Help imperiled Monarch butterflies and thousands of other at risk species — birds,



bees, butterflies and insects. These are essential to sustaining all life on Earth.

Grow such native plants as manzanita, buckwheat, lupin, elderberry, gooseberry, aster and native strawberry.

Climate Change’s ever growing vocabulary

We’ve heard of solar panels. Yet, we are continually bombarded by many new climate change terms. Which of these is new to you?

Adaptation – adjusting the way we live in response to our changing climates; e.g. building better drainage for increased rainstorms.

Atmospheric river – the atmosphere’s long narrow regions that transport lots of water vapor often resulting in flooding from sustained torrential rains.

ArkStorm – an infrequent megastorm that is expected to occur more frequently with climate change than every 1000 years. AR stands for atmospheric river. k stands for 1,000.

Biofuel – liquid fuels made from renewable biological sources, including plants and algae.

Blue carbon – carbon dioxide captured by the ocean and ocean ecosystems.

Bomb cyclone – very high winds caused by a rapid drop in air pressure.

Carbon farming – agricultural practices which keep the carbon in the soil, as opposed to carbon dioxide being released into the air.

Carbon sequestration – capturing carbon dioxide before it goes into the air.

Circular manufacturing – making new products from recycled or reused products.

Ecotourism – tourism directed toward natural environments that support conservation efforts and wildlife.

Feedback loop – something that can speed up or slow down global warming and climate change. An example of a positive feedback loop is the melting of polar ice which makes the Earth absorb more heat.

Green washing – when a company tries to promote its activity as a positive environmental impact that is not true.

Landscape restoration – returning an area to nature with healthy biodiversity.

Legacy pollutants – contaminants left in the environment by sources no longer creating them, such as a closed factory whose byproducts produced carbon dioxide.

Polar vortex – low pressure and cold air that is always blowing around the north and south poles.

Rain bomb – a huge rain and wind event often causing floods

Rewilding – restoring an area to its natural state, e.g. by protecting land, planting native plants, and encouraging the return of dislocated wild animals.

Sleeping dragons aka zombie fires – fires that appear to be out with the arrival of rain or snow, but actually continue to smolder through winter and reignite in the spring.

Solastalgia – mental distress caused by observing the negative impacts to our environment.

Stranded assets – resources such as coal, oil, and gas in the ground, which cannot be used or sold because government regulations prevent its use and/or because the cost of retrieving is more expensive than using alternative energy.

Sustainable development – the building of infrastructure, factories, and other projects from resources that are renewable.

Tidal energy – creating electricity using the rise and fall of ocean tides.

This is everyone’s column.

Please continue to share your ideas and photos. E-mail either of us with your input.

Elvira Monroe and Theoni Pappas



Mid-Pen shares the love at SC Hometown Days Parade



Canine flag-bearer takes up his position.



Diamond Crest Girl Scouts prepping their parade signs.

Remember AAUW Greatest Needs Fund in your will

Through the dedication of volunteers and staff, from branch to state to national levels, AAUW is building a strong organization with the core values of justice and equity for women.

We listen to the needs of all, especially to those who are disadvantaged, and we take action accordingly. To succeed we must deepen our understanding of the types of oppression and causes of bias and endeavor to dismantle these harms.

AAUW is well-positioned to effect change on local and national stages. We are well-respected for our moral integrity and our professional standards.

Through the AAUW Fund, we are able to assist and promote equity in education and work, to level the playing ground.

Those who receive our 260 fellowships and grants constantly amaze, inspire and fill us with hope. Those whom we defend or help advance leave us confident of achieving a better world.

To attain equity for our sisters and our daughters, we must continue to listen and learn and support organizations that are successfully attacking the problem.

AAUW Fund is distributed over several avenues to help women and girls. Please maintain our ability to exert positive progress by giving to Greatest Needs or leaving a legacy for future generations.

Greatest Needs: This fund allows AAUW to respond rapidly, in our communications and advocacy, to critical issues affecting women as they emerge. Go here: <https://www.aauw.org> and click on the big red Donate button.

Legacy: Planned giving that you designate in your will, estate or trust. Donate here: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/support-aauw/leave-a-legacy/>

For those of you who have donated, we thank you for contributing to the \$506,133 that California has donated this year to AAUW Fund.



Cordell

Continued from Page One

ing and attend the court hearings. Cordell acknowledged that “systems resist change,” but voters can make change happen.

The members present for the presentation asked some questions that Cordell answered with direct openness. Several of the members had purchased *Her Honor*; and Cordell signed each one with a personal response.

