

THE TWIG - AUGUST 2024

AAUW Fremont Branch Since 1961

A colorful flyer for a pool party. It features a sun, a beach hat, flip-flops, and a drink. The text is in various colors and fonts, including red, blue, and black. At the bottom, there is a logo for AAUW Fremont (CA) Branch Est. 1961, 4 Star Branch, with four yellow stars.

POOL PARTY

AUGUST 7, 2024

HOSTED BY JUDY WOLF

259 SEGOVIA PLACE, FREMONT

4-6 PM


RSVP BY MONDAY, AUGUST 5

CALL OR EMAIL JUDY AT

510-657-5589

JUDYJUDYJUDY1940@GMAIL.COM

AAUW
Fremont (CA) Branch Est. 1961
4 Star Branch
★★★★

Pool Party, 
Potluck, and
Board Meeting!

Date and Time: Wednesday
8/7

4 pm – 6 pm Pool Party and
Potluck for all members

6 pm -- 7:30 pm Board Meeting

Place: Judy Wolf's friend's
private pool and backyard
259 Segovia Place, Fremont

Bring Cold Foods for the Potluck
and your plate and eating
utensils. No glass or breakable
items please.

When you RSVP, indicate food
you can share and if you can
bring any chairs/tables.

Six cars can fit in the driveway.
Use the gate to the left of the
house to enter the yard. Do not
enter the house.

RSVP: Judy Wolf
judyjudyjudy1940@gmail.com
or 510-657-5589

Co-President's Message

By Alice Manfredi, Co-President

Hello fellow readers,

What an interesting year thus far! With the intimate groups meeting, the Tech Trek Ice Cream Social, and the Installation of new Officers, with plenty more events and get togethers as well as fundraisers soon to come! As many of you know by now, I have been volunteering with this AAUW Branch for the past 15 years. After my experiences at NCCWSL, I am more than eager to be more involved with AAUW. I was shocked to discover many of the women attendees were not a part of or involved with AAUW and were funded or sponsored by some other groups.

What inspired me to stay within the group are the awesome programs involved and the overall mission statement of supporting young women to pursue their educational aspirations. I was supported not only by my close family and friends but also by a few ladies from this branch.

The support from this group is outstanding and I want to share this with the entire community of Fremont and possibly the entire East Bay. I hope fellow members feel as strongly as I do and can be more involved with our events, outings, and meetings. Here's to a fun and successful future with Fremont Branch AAUW.



The stars come out--New board members are (from left) Phie Dai, treasurer; Remy Parmar, co-president; Alice Manfredi, co-president; Judy Wolf, program chair; Jennifer Foster, co-president and AAUW Fund Chair; Jeanne Delp, co-president and public policy chair; Jo Szeto, vice president; Carolyn Hedgecock, co-president and secretary, and Kathy Garfinkle, president of the Local Scholarship Foundation.

Public Policy

You've Come a Long Way. (Baby?)

By Jeanne Delp

Some of us might be old enough to remember the above advertising slogan popular in the 1960's. It continues to be part of our conversations to this day. But, what did it advertise? A quick internet search refreshed my memory—Virginia Slims—the slim menthol cigarette TV ads aimed at women. After viewing one of the actual ads and cringing, I can honestly say, “**Yes, we have come a long way!**”

Yes, women are now able to embrace many rights that were denied us in the past. However, our advancement has been sporadic. A case in point is women's right to abortion: having won a 1973 Constitutional right to abortion via the Fourteenth Amendment, we saw that right disappear in the SCOTUS 2022 DOBBS decision. A tally of where the different states stand on Sexual and Reproductive Health can be found at: <https://tobacco.stanford.edu/video/women/> We might have a long way to go.

AAUW supports choice in determining one's reproductive life and increased access to health care and family planning services.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/position-repro/>

True, we women are able to embrace many rights that were forbidden in the past, but if it concerns LGBTQ+ and DEI rights, it's as though some of our national and state legislators want to return to that past—the 1960s? On July 11, 2024, the US House of Representatives voted to pass AAUW-OPPOSED Congressional Review Act resolution HJ Res. 165 overturning new Title IX rules that provide strengthened protections against gender-biased discrimination in schools. “The party-line vote (210-205) would also prevent future efforts by federal agencies to reinstate a substantially similar rule. . . .The Senate plans to vote on their resolution in late July.”

AAUW CEO Gloria L. Blackwell commented, “Representatives who voted for this resolution are continuing to subject students to policies that stack the deck against survivors of sexual assault and harassment.” **We STILL have a long way to go.**

The good news is: **We have come a long way.** Closer to home and the present:

Governor Newsom signed the **first-in-the-nation law** Monday, which bans districts from requiring school staff to disclose a student's gender identity or sexual orientation to any other person without the child's permission, with some exceptions. It also requires the state Department of Education to develop resources for families of LGBTQ students in grade 7 through high school. The law will take effect in January. For more on this issue: <https://www.nbcnews.com/nbc-out/out-news/school-district-sues-california-governor-newsom-transgender-law-rcna162292>

Yes, we women are able to embrace many rights that were restricted in the past. **And Yes, we have come a long way** with AAUW at the forefront in advancing equity for women and girls. The list of what we have influenced is lengthy and impressive. Just Google AAUW Accomplishments and find out how President Obama was involved in

women's equal pay or what AAUW did with \$6.25 million to help women achieve their goals or how AAUW was influential in helping pregnant women workers and why eliminating \$7.4 billion in student loan debt for hundreds of thousands of borrowers will affect more women than men.

We HAVE come a long way. As AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell writes, "Your advocacy fuels change. The future is ours to define. . . *Together*, we will continue to ensure that women's rights are protected. . . We can only accomplish this work *together*."

Fall Brunch--Help Needed

Our plans are shaping up for our annual Fall Brunch, to be held this year on October 19 at Niles Discovery Church.

We are going to need table setters, three to five cooks, beverage makers, servers, and a cleanup crew.

PLEASE CONTACT Judith Wolf, program chair, at judyjudyjudy1940@gmail.com or phone her at 510-657-5589 if you can help.

Board of Directors

Co-Presidents - **Alice Manfredi & Remy Parmar***

Vice President - **Jo Szeto**

Secretary - **Carolyn Hedgecock**

Branch Treasurer - **Phie Dai**

Program Chair - **Judy Wolf**

Membership Chair - **Jo Szeto**

Membership Treasurer & AAUW Fund Chair -

Jennifer Foster

Public Policy Chair - **Jeanne Delp**

**Other co-presidents are Jeanne Delp, Jennifer Foster, and Carolyn Hedgecock*

Changemakers

Jackie Joyner-Kersey Olympic Track Gold Medalist By Phie Dai

You may wonder what a heptathlon is. It is one of the toughest Olympic competitions. Athletes compete in seven track and field events over a two-day period. On the first day, they have the 100-meter hurdles, the high jump, shot put, and 200-meter race. On the second day, they have the long jump, javelin, and 800-meter race. I won Olympic medals in the heptathlon and set a world record which still stands today.



I was born in 1962 in East Saint Louis, IL. My grandmother said I would be the first lady of something one day, so my parents named me Jacqueline after the first lady of the United States, Jacqueline Kennedy. My family lived with my grandmother in a rough, rundown neighborhood. The only place my sisters and I were allowed to go by ourselves was the local community center. When I was 9, I signed up for the track team and never looked back. I competed in track throughout high school and excelled in the long jump.

I did so well in schoolwork and basketball that UCLA gave me a basketball scholarship. I was the starting forward on the basketball team and a track star all four years and earned my BA in history. My track coach, who later became my husband, convinced me I could compete in the heptathlon at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. I practiced from 8 in the morning until 8 at night 6 days a week. I never worked so hard!

I won a silver medal in Los Angeles and went on to win three more Olympics, winning three gold medals and two bronzes. At one of the parades the people of East Saint Louis held in my honor, I broke down in tears when we passed the community center I had enjoyed so much growing up. The front doors were chained, and the windows were broken. I vowed that day I would rebuild it.

I worked hard to raise the millions of dollars needed to open the Jackie Joyner-Kersey Center in 2000. I'm so proud I can provide the children of East Saint Louis with a safe, fun, and educational community center. It means so much more to me than all the Olympic medals that I won.

Even though I no longer compete, I still work out several times a day and eat right to stay healthy and fit. I hope you watch the Olympic Games this summer – maybe you'll be inspired to try a sport!

Adapted from *AAUW Thousand Oaks Profiles of Women Past and Present, 2018.*

Discussing America's Political Future, Featuring Congressman Ro Khanna

AAUW Fremont is fortunate to have two high school interns helping us this year. Harshini Sanjay, a senior at James Logan High School, helps out with STEM events, such as Discovery Day and Tech Trek, and manages communications between our TechTrekks and AAUW. She also writes occasional articles for the *Twig*, most recently about Discovery Day. Ameya Ravi, a junior at Washington High School, is our branch intern and Speech Trek Ambassador. She has spread awareness about AAUW among students, written speech and debate blogs, performed speech research and outreach for us on social media, and helped at the Ice Cream Social and 4th of July booth.

Virtual Town Hall Offers Hope

By Harshini Sanjay, STEM Intern

As we draw closer and closer to presidential elections in November, we see greater disparity amongst us Americans. And the awaited presidential debate between former President Donald Trump and current President Joe Biden certainly did not help to promote harmony in a time where peace is costly.

On June 25, Democratic Congressman Ro Khanna, who serves the 17th Congressional District, was invited to a virtual meeting to speak about the rising issues of our country and express his own opinions regarding them. Graciously hosted by AAUW Fremont member Gene Wang, Chairman of Care Daily, and joined by members of the Fremont, San Jose, and Sunnyvale-Cupertino branches of AAUW, the meeting was a success and offered hope during times of anticipation. The meeting also helped

A Look Into Ro Khanna's Policies

By Ameya Ravi, Branch Intern

Congressman Ro Khanna—the representative of the 17th congressional district since 2017—is blazing the path towards a transformed America. From his progressive policies on affordable education for all Americans to advocating for state-based healthcare, Congressman Khanna is making essential strides to bring about change in economic justice, public health, environmental policy, and equity and justice. He's been exceptionally vocal about his views on the 2024 presidential race, and many political commentators believe that he could be the future of the democratic party. The question on many people's minds is, "What's setting Congressman Khanna apart from hundreds of other politicians across the country?"

As a student, I best understand and resonate with education policy.

pave the way for AAUW Fremont to earn a star in our quest to become a 5-star branch.

Congressman Khanna began by evaluating the political actions and political futures of the contesting candidates. For example, in the past few years since President Biden took office, numerous climate acts and bills have been passed, causing renewable energy to become the second most used source of electricity in the country. We've also seen two consistent years of job growth due to the millions of dollars being dedicated to the creation of over fifteen million jobs and a steady unemployment rate well below 4%--something that hasn't been accomplished since the 1960s.

On the other hand, Congressman Khanna mentions the immigration policies former President Trump intends to eradicate the day he steps back into office, also wanting to "fire civil service from the justice and state departments," a decision known as Project 2025 with a vision to push for a conservative, far-right agenda across the federal government.

However, in the light of recent events, many argue that the agenda of the Democratic Party remains the same regardless of who is representing it in the coming elections.

Congressman Khanna ended with a bittersweet anecdote from when he was a child, remembering the times when people like him weren't serving in Congress. He shared that the advancements seen throughout America's growth are exceptional, with five Indian Americans in Congress today, truly a record itself.

Congressman Khanna advocates for "affordable education for every American," including free public college and forgiving student loan debt for the working and middle class. This is the ideal scenario for all families in America, but it would be helpful to understand how exactly this will be made a reality. Given the present status of education in our nation, the overall goals of no tuition and forgiveness of all debts for working and middle class families seem more like a long-term goal than an overnight fix. For example, in the process of debt forgiveness, we wouldn't want a reduction of quality in education or the government drowning in debt and increasing taxes.

Nevertheless, Congressman Khanna is taking steps to work towards improving education, being a cosponsor of The Pay Teachers Act, which will mandate teacher salaries to be a minimum of \$60,000 per year. He also has secured funding for various schools and educational facilities to improve their infrastructure.

Public safety has become another extremely relevant topic today. It's important that Americans feel safe in their communities. Congressman Khanna supports the integration of technology into law enforcement and support for mental health responders. On his website, he asserts that, "To help reestablish trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve, there should be better training available for police officers to prevent racial profiling and excessive use of force," and supports his belief by cosponsoring the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act to ban chokeholds and no-knock warrants.

Great Success at 4th of July Event 🌈

By Jeanne Delp

The email arrived in my in-box on June 20th. Would AAUW like a booth in the Tri-City Non Profit Coalition's (TCNPC) July 4th Parade After-Party held at Fremont's Downtown Event Center? A quick check with the Board yielded a resounding ABSOLUTELY!

Requirements: Arrive by 10 a.m. to set up and stay through 2 p.m. cleanup, provide two people at your information table to answer questions about your group, provide attractive materials, and, oh yes, provide an activity for children. ABSOLUTELY!

HMMM, 13 days to gather marketing materials, volunteers, decorations, and decide on a feasible activity for children of various ages that can be successfully completed in a fairly short time on a card table under the city-sponsored canopy. ABSOLUTELY we can do it!

We did it! We were successful! Leave it to members of AAUW to pull together!

Phie Dai, Remy Parmar, Alice Manfredi, and Kathy Garfinkle provided several newly created informational flyers, and business cards. They practiced the Elevator Speech and when asked what AAUW was, meant, and who belonged, they were prepared and included personal experiences to reinforce AAUW's message. Thanks to Remy Parmar, Alice Manfredi, Maria Elena Gomez, Kathy Garfinkle, and Jennifer Foster for being our AAUW



ambassadors! ABSOLUTELY excellent!

The children's activity was a hit—Create your own Pinwheel and receive a new Pencil! Knowing our time with each child would be limited, the paper cutting was completed beforehand by Carolyn Hedgecock, Jennifer Foster, and Mary Fuchs.

The actual hands on-help was provided by Sharva Parmar (Remy's son), Ameya Ravi (our branch intern), Jacob (American High volunteer), Carolyn Hedgecock, and Jeanne Delp. The pencil--It became the handle for the pinwheel.

ABSOLUTELY great fun! And it was ABSOLUTELY HOT! And we should ABSOLUTELY plan to participate again next year!

New Member*Bonnie Kellogg*

When Bonnie Kellogg first heard about AAUW, she heard a rumor that our book clubs actually discussed their books. "It was very tempting," she said. So tempting that she and her husband attended the Book Talk group in July. She likes "well-written stories with characters I wish I knew, expressed in English I wish I could command."



Bonnie leaped right into volunteering with AAUW--she's just been elected treasurer of the Local Scholarship Foundation,

Not that Bonnie has a lot of free time these days. She and her husband own KELLCO Services and have been the State of California HazMat Consultant since 1997. Since her husband's stroke last November, Bonnie has been running the business as well as attending to the myriad of medical details and tending to

the house.

Currently known as the Radon Lady, for her efforts with KELLCO Services, where she is president and chief executive officer, she's also known as the "Fix A Stitch" Lady for the treatment she invented that corrects knitting errors. She received a patent for that in 2004.

Bonnie was born near Boston and raised in Florida and New York, and she received her degree from North Kentucky University in The Languages of English, Science and Computers, a process that took 21 years of night school. She became a "native" Californian in 1984.

Among other activities, Bonnie enjoys motorcycling--she'll be back riding as soon as her newest hip heals--exercising, photography, quilting, machine embroidery, and, of course, knitting. She also enjoys flyfishing, but says she doesn't have much time for it.

Suzanne Shenfil to Retire From Fremont Position

Longtime AAUW Fremont member Suzanne Shenfil is retiring at the end of August from the city of Fremont's Human Services Department after 46 years of service. The City of Fremont's newsletter had a nice writeup about her.

What the newsletter didn't know was that Suzanne is also an AAUW member, one who was instrumental in our 2019 Step in the Right Direction campaign for shoes for the homeless population, said Randy Fewel. Suzanne and her staff were able to identify the shoe sizes needed and provided a drop-off location for the shoes.

"Under her leadership," the newsletter commented, "the department has received many awards for its innovation and



ability to build community partnerships, including the Community Partnership for Older Adults grant and Grantmakers in Aging, Diversity Award.

"As part of her advocacy, Suzanne developed a long-term plan for Fremont's aging population, which included the opening of the City's first Age Well Center 40+ years ago and in 2021, the second Age Well Center, in South Fremont. Twenty-five years ago, she created Fremont's Family Resource Center, which has provided quality services to thousands of community members. More recently, Suzanne has led efforts to develop compassionate programs, such as the Housing Navigation Center, to assist Fremont's unhoused population."

The newsletter concluded, "The programs and services developed under Suzanne's tenure as our Human Services Director leave a legacy that will have a lasting impact on the Fremont community for years to come."

Suzanne's retirement party will be held August 15 at Fremont Event Center from 3 pm to 5 pm.



Exploring the Arts section chair Karen McCready (left) meets AAUW members Remy Parmar (center), Kathy Garfinkle (front), and Jennifer Foster at the Bay Philharmonic's season finale, *Tchaikovsky Gold*, at the Chabot College Performing Arts Center in June. AAUW member Mary Lynn Pelican was the photographer. Our own Judy Wolf was one of the key sponsors of *Tchaikovsky Gold*.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

OBOCR to Launch "Demon Copperhead" 🌈

By Marge Leonard

Demon Copperhead is the One Book, One Community Read (OBOCR) selection for 2024-25. The book launch is to take place September 16, at 7 p.m., at Washington West, 2500 Mowry Avenue, Fremont. Doors open at 6:30. The evening's program will center around opioid abuse and treatment, featuring Senator Aisha Wahab and local authorities in the treatment of drug abuse.

Barbara Kingsolver sets her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *Demon Copperhead* in Appalachia, an area she knows well and where she lives. Inspired by the social commentary of Charles Dickens' *David Copperfield*, Kingsolver parallels themes of poverty and foster care with contemporary issues of drug abuse.

In the 15-year history of OBOCR, Kingsolver's works have been showcased three times. This reflects not only Kingsolver's skill as a writer, but also her prescience in capturing topical interests—sustainable, organic foods (*Animal, Vegetable and Miracle*), the sandwich generation (*Unsheltered*), and, with *Demon Copperhead*, the troubled life of an adolescent you can't help but love.

Copies of *Demon Copperhead* can be purchased at Banter Books with a 15% discount if you mention One Book, One Community Read. Paperback copies are coming out in print in mid-September.

What is AI?

Joyce Ruiz wanted to start a new group about demystifying artificial intelligence. However, in the few months between publicizing her idea and implementing the group, she came to a realization: it was too big a topic, advancing and growing exponentially this year.



"I feel it is important for us all to learn and understand about this coming wave in technology," said Joyce, "so, hopefully, someone will take on the project."

If you would be interested in leading this special interest group, talk to Joyce to understand the problems she faced, then publicize your new group in the *Twig*.

Gifts to Give

By Shelley Bartley

For the past forty-five years I have been donating Christmas gifts to Abode Homeless Shelter. What started out with my car loaded with gifts for the shelter quickly grew into a huge project. Many of my friends realized the joy of helping those in need and joined the team. Last year Gifts To Give donated over 1,000 gifts to Abode Homeless Shelter and to the Homeless Camps! Thanks to many energetic members, our gifts last year filled two vans and seven cars! We donated crocheted/knitted hats, scarves, blankets, toys, books, backpacks, dental products, toiletry items, socks, washcloths, games, school supplies, clothing. This year we will deliver our gifts to Abode Homeless Shelter at 588 Brown Road in Fremont on November 7. We will meet at my home at 12:15 p.m. and caravan to the shelter. RSVP to me if you plan to help deliver our gifts.

We are fortunate to have AAUW members Mary Fuchs, Sharon Yool, Linda Pearson, and Karen McCready as section leaders for Gifts To Give. We are still in need of section leaders for High School Students, Adult Men, and Adult Women. Please let me know if you are interested in helping collect and pack gifts for one of these sections. In addition, we have several opportunities for our AAUW members to attend Fleece Scarf Making Parties and a Sorting/Packing Party. We would love to have you join the fun!

Editor's Note: Due to security concerns, members' home addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses are not printed in the Twig. Check your roster for member contact information.

Fleece Scarf Project

By Mary Fuchs

HELP MAKE THE SCARVES: Join us at my home on Tuesday, August 20, from 10 a.m. to noon, and Wednesday, September 25, from 10 a.m. to noon, as we cut and knot the scarves. No experience is needed. Just bring a pair of sharp scissors. The scarves can also be done at home. RSVP if you are able to help on one of these days.

DONATE: We need one gallon Ziploc bags and men's black crew socks. We are also accepting skeins of yarn and knitted or crocheted men's hats and scarves. Please note that the yarn and knitted/crocheted items need to be appropriate for men, as that is the greatest need. These items can be dropped off at my home anytime.

Kindergarten Through Third Grade

By Sharon Yool

The months have quickly rushed by. I can't believe that it's already the beginning of August.

Glue sticks and colored pencils (12-pack) are still needed to complete the project this year. If you'd like to donate a small toy, bubbles, or a game appropriate for kindergarten

through third grade, that would be wonderful; however, no toy guns or items with glitter. I am taking donations through September 30. If you have something to donate, you can call me, leave a text, or send me an email.

The Backpacks Project

By Linda Pearson

Yes, it's gathering time now. We are on a roll to collect items for our Backpacks Project for people in the Homeless Camps. We so look forward to accepting toiletry items, dental products, washcloths, black men's socks, men's hats, and men's scarves to complete the filling of 100 backpacks to start. We've been averaging about 135 bags of supplies over the past many years. Here's to a new year!

We'll sort and fill bags in October. Our sorting date and time is Saturday, October 19, from 1-3 p.m. at the Pearsons'. Please join us with an RSVP to Linda.

The Backpacks Project, Part 2

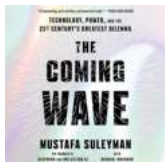
By Karen McCready

I will be ordering the drawstring backpacks for the Homeless Camps from the Dollar Tree. I am also checking on the best sources for toiletries for the camps that Abode serves. If you are interested in making a donation toward the backpacks and toiletries, you can make a check out to me and mail it to my home. Call me because my address has changed.

Thank you for helping me fund this worthwhile project.

Interest Group News

Afternoon Lit



Afternoon Lit will meet August 20 at 2 p.m. at the home of Cora Assali. She will review *The Coming Wave* by Mustafa Suleyman. Please let her know if you plan to attend.

Book Talk--Note Time Change



Holly Walter will lead a discussion of *Demon Copperhead* at her home on August 12 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. In preparation, Holly suggests reading Barbara Kingsolver's autobiography (online). Since this book is based on Charles Dickens' *David Copperfield*, you may want to review that classic, also. Please let Holly know if you are coming.

Cultural Cuisine



August is the All-American month.

On Tuesday, August 20, at 6:30 pm, the group will try Billy Roy's Burgers at 3909 Thornton Avenue. This restaurant is across the street from Dale Hardware--the north side of the street.

RSVP to Judy Wolf, judyjudyjudy1940@gmail.com, or phone 510-657-5589 by August 18.

ARTS Exploring the Arts

By Karen L. McCreedy

... Will Return in September



Tuesday Chat With ESL Students

Tuesday Chat meets every Tuesday afternoon from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library, 4200 Stevenson, Fukaya Room A, to chat with ESL speakers about everyday topics. The program is to help people from foreign countries improve their English conversational skills.

People new to the USA living in the Tri-City area come to the library and meet with native English speakers and work on conversation. Several of the tutors have been AAUW members. During the covid pandemic, the group met on Zoom. Now the ESL chat is back at the library.

If you enjoy talking and meeting people of other cultures, this is a way to expand your world-wide experiences. Please consider joining the group.

For more information, call Jui-Lan Liu at the Fremont Main Library at 510-745-1444, or email her at jlui@aclibrary.org.

Special Interest Chairs

Afternoon Lit - **Joyce Ruiz**
 Book Talk - **Margery Leonard**
 Cultural Cuisine - **Judy Wolf**
 Exploring the Arts - **Karen McCreedy**
 Gifts to Give - **Shelley Bartley**
 One Book, One Community Read -
Margery Leonard, Jeanne Delp, Jo Szeto, Carolyn Hedgecock, Carolyn Zeljak
 Tuesday ESL Chat - **Jui-Lan Liu**
 Yoga for Body and Spirit - **Jo Szeto**



Yoga for Body and Spirit

This group meets every Thursday at 11:15 at Jo Szeto's house. Lunch is included. For more information, call Jo.

Money, Money, Money

Borrowing From Your 403(B) 🌈

By Judy Wolf

A new IRS regulation regarding 403(b) was announced the week of July 13.

Individuals with this plan can borrow up to \$1000.00 per year for personal necessity.

Borrowers will have three years to pay this money back into their 403(b) account. Until it is paid back, they may not borrow another \$1000.00. The borrowed money would not incur any tax penalties if paid back within the three-year period.

Employers must opt into this rule.

What 403(b) holders should check out is whether they can continue funding their plan while this loan is outstanding.

Foundation for Local Scholarships

President - Kathy Garfinkle

Secretary - Randy Fewel

Chief Financial Officer - Bonnie Kellogg

Programs Officer - Sowjanya Vutukur

Development Officer - Open

Important Dates 🌈

Deadlines for articles: 25th of the month before publication
Send items for The TWIG to Jennifer Foster at jejenfo@yahoo.com

- It's a potluck pool party! And a board of directors meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend, but please RSVP to aaufremontbranch@gmail.com so we know to expect you on **August 7** around 4 p.m. See the story [here](#).

If you would like to attend a board meeting, but can't meet at 5 p.m. on a Wednesday, email us at the above email address and let us know your availability.

- The One Book One Community Read Project will be holding their annual launch of their featured book, *Demon Copperhead*, **September 16** at Washington Hospital. State Senator **Aisha Wahab** will be the featured speaker. Click [here](#) to see the story.

- Mary Lynn Pelican is hosting a get-together in **September** at her house. Invite your non-AAUW friends to attend the talk about AAUW and all the events and fundraising we do in the community. *Look for Email blast for more details.*
- The roster is being updated in **September**. You have a chance to change your roster entry information entry if you'd like to. If your photo represents you from many years ago, now is the time to improve your looks. You simply take a selfie, making sure your face is at least the size of your face in a passport photo. Text the photo, along with any other contact changes, to Linda Pearson, our long-time roster producer. She needs this information by **September 15**, but will gladly receive it sooner.
- Our annual fall brunch will be Saturday, **October 19**. More details in future issues of the *Twig*.

Support Our Members 🌈



Enjoy new and bestselling titles for all ages personally curated by Amy and her staff at Banter Bookshop in downtown Fremont! **AAUW Fremont book club titles receive a 15% discount.** Click on the photo to browse Banter's in-store events.



Katryn Bury is the author of the 'tween detective series *Drew Leclair Gets a Clue* (nominated for 3 book awards), and *Drew Leclair Crushes the Case*. Katryn's third title, *We Are Not Alone*, will hit shelves October 29th, 2024.

Alice's Photoland, your Twig Curator Alice Manfredi's professional portrait studio, covers all types of photoshoots. Reach out to her either by email or text to book a session.

