



# Valley View

JANUARY 2022

Volume 7

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Ukiah • California  
[ukiah-ca.aauw.net](http://ukiah-ca.aauw.net)

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Ones,

And now we begin again hoping and planning for a renewal of good fortune, personally, nationally and globally – even galactically!

It appears that for our chapter of AAUW things are going in a good direction. Our relationship with the college is progressing and by the Spring Semester we will have an AAUW Student Club on campus, student members and a staff liaison. We will probably be offering five Accolade high school scholarships, and thanks to Kyle for recruiting her friend Jessica, who teaches at the high school, to assist us in the selection process. Our scholarships being granted are covered for 2022 with four women returning to college., and 4-5 Tech Trek scholarships as well.

I am thankful that we will be continuing to enjoy the great programs that Janet and Camille have created and we will again look forward to a successful Spring Dinner at the Rivino Winery. Much gratitude to our hardworking devoted Board of Directors. You can anticipate a few creative surprises from them with respect to fundraising efforts in 2022 for the year of 2023.

Val Muchowski will oversee the Women's History Gala in March as Katie Gibbs, who has done a fabulous job taking the helm for this event, will be out of the state. As a result, the AAUW Ukiah will be working more closely with MWPC (Mendocino Women's Political Coalition) and the Cloud Forest Institute to put together another fabulous gala with the theme being *Women Providing Care, Promoting Hope*. You will be hearing more about this in the next couple of months—please plan on offering your help to make this inspirational event possible.

Wishing for all a healthy happy 2022.

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## Women's Reproductive Rights – Where Are We Now?

By January 22, 2022, the 49th anniversary of the Roe v Wade decision, SCOTUS (the Supreme Court of the United States) will have heard arguments on Texas SB 8 legislation banning pregnancy termination after six (6) weeks and Mississippi's legislation (Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization) to ban abortion after fifteen (15) weeks.

What are the issues? For Texas, it isn't about the constitutionality of the legislation, i.e., the fundamental right decided by Roe v Wade. Instead, a decision will be made on the tactics used by the Texas legislature – delegating their enforcement duties to citizens – to preclude lawsuits against the State.

The decision on the Mississippi legislation will be straightforward. One, SCOTUS could overturn Roe v Wade. Two, the court could limit legal standing to challenges on state law, e.g., doctors wouldn't be able to challenge on behalf of patients. Three, new legal standards for the evaluation of abortion regulations may be created so states aren't required to show that the benefits of an abortion ban outweigh the undue burden to patients – reversing Planned Parenthood v Casey. (Women's Health Policy, 11/21/2021)

One hundred six (106) state laws have been passed to restrict abortion in 2021. Activists, like AAUW, are bringing lawsuits before the Supreme Court. AAUW has submitted an amicus brief for Whole Women's Health v Dobbs as to the constitutionality of the Mississippi law.

In addition, the ACLU and others have brought lawsuits against other Mississippi abortion-related legislation like regulations for informed consent, a waiting period before the procedure, and ban on telemedicine visits.

Surveys show that 60-70% of Americans approve of abortion in all or most circumstances. Only 20% think abortion should be illegal in all circumstances. (*New York Times*, Upshot (5/19/2021)). AAUW and AAUW California stand with the majority, and the time to act is now. We must pressure the Senate to pass the Women's Health Protection Act. The legislation must become law in this session. Unfair changes in representation have occurred with redistricting. Votes in the 2022 mid-term elections that would elect representatives who would vote for this bill could be suppressed.

Val Muchowski  
Public Policy Chair

## Women Finding Solutions: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

When: January 13, 2022 @ 7:00 pm  
Where: Zoom Webinar - Register via Event Website  
Contact: AAUW Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek  
Event Website: BRANCH EVENT

Join Danville/Alamo/Walnut Creek AAUW as we learn from local women sharing their journeys and activism for social justice.

Thursday, January 13, 2022 7:00 p.m. online on Zoom. Click [HERE](#) to RSVP for the event.

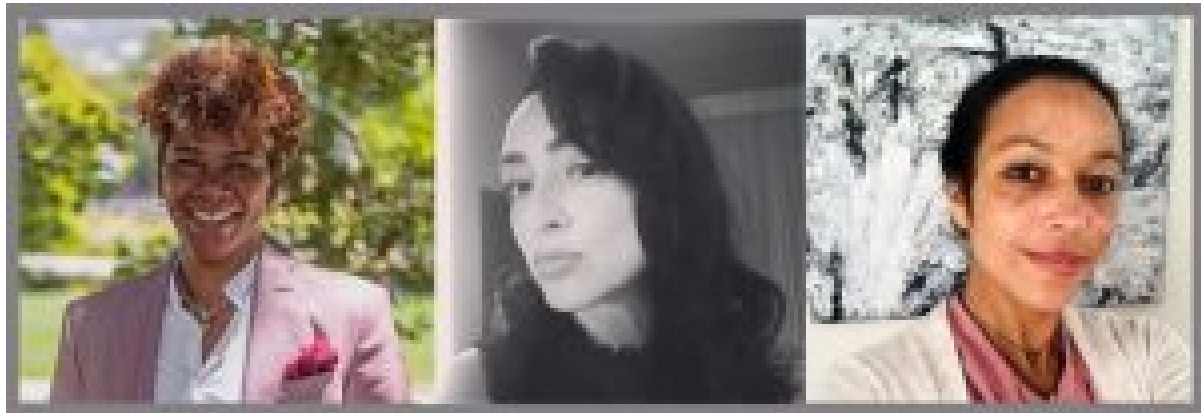
### Our Speakers:

Lori A. Watson – Learn more about Dr. Watson and her work at <https://www.race-work.com/>

Tanya Earls – Integrated Manager Cardiovascular Services, John Muir Health

Veronica Benjamin – Co-Founder of Conscious Contra Costa

To learn more, go to: <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/dei/>



Lori Watson

Tanya Earls

Veronica Benjamin

**2022 AAUW ADVENTURES**

By Janet Chaniot

A couple of wonderful programs and a new venture for AAUW are on the calendar for the coming year.

Norma Marks and I will meet in early January with Dr. Tim Karas to plan the details of forming a club or an auxiliary of our Ukiah AAUW. Students will be invited to join, without cost, a student AAUW Club. Those who do will be able to take advantage of the many benefits of belonging to the national service organization listed in the last newsletter: scholarships, grant opportunities, webinars, and more.

We will also welcome student members into our local AAUW. On February 22 our expanded membership will hear from Camille Schrader and her guests about the many services provided to children and families in Mendocino County. This community seeks to create, invite families to take advantage of and access a “level playing field” for building healthy homes and satisfying careers.

On April 19 the West Business Development Center will share stories of their work in Mendocino County to encourage and assist women to be a part of a thriving economy.

Over the course of the semester we hope to talk with many students, both in person and virtually and invite them to join the AAUW Student Club of Mendocino College. This collaboration with Mendocino College will require the involvement of many of our members. Any who would like to help out may call either Norma or me beginning in January. Check your yearbook for contact and other information.

Please note that *Valley View* advertising is available to local businesses for \$25/year starting this month. Just scan or send a business card and a check to Kyle Mayers at P. O. Box 1626, Ukiah, CA 9482



**Wil Gonzalez, AIFD**



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