

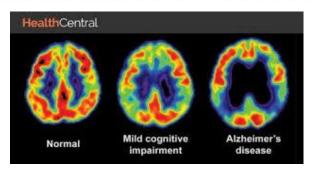
THE VIEW

FROM SAN RAMON

Volume 37, Number 7 March 2021

Understanding

Alzheimer's Disease



Thursday, March 11 7:00 PM via Zoom

Presented by Dori Sproul, MA Family Care Specialist



(See page 4 for details)

AAUW MISSION AND DIVERSITY STATEMENTS

American Association of University Women advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

2020-2021 Board

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENTS

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Julie Gin Susan Walker-Christensen Loranne Weir

VICE PRESIDENT, FINANCE

Claire Mailhiot

CO-RECORDING SECRETARIES

Judy Bracken Beth Robertson

AAUW San Ramon Information

Websites:

Branch Website: www.sanramon-ca.aauw.net

Webmaster: Isabel Lau

Association website: www.aauw.org
CA State website: www.aauw-ca.org
CCC IBC website: ccc-ibc-ca.aauw.net

Branch mailing address:

P.O. Box 336, San Ramon, CA 94583

Branch e-mail address:

aauwsr@gmail.com

Facebook: San Ramon University Women/AAUW

Appointed Officers

ART & WIND FESTIVAL

Janet Williams

COMMUNICATION

Isabel Lau

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Lois Kamoroff

HOSPITALITY/FELLOWSHIP

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NEWSLETTER

Marsha Froines Carol Lombardi

PUBLIC POLICY

Cindy Alpert

TECH TREK

Marielle Boortz Cordelia Hwang

Co President's Pen



March is **Women's History Month**, when we celebrate historic achievements women have made in the past and continue to make today. Most struggled to overcome obstacles based on their sex alone but succeeded through determination, hard work, and triumph over failures. They were aided in their vision by hard-won legislation that promoted equity in the workplace, the private sector, public service areas, education, and politics. Activists through the years challenged myriad inequities and sacrificed much to advance women's rights, beginning with the first women's rights convention held in Seneca Falls, NY 1848!

These are just a few historic achievements by American women:

- Through the efforts of thousands of women, the 19th amendment was ratified in 1920 giving women the right to vote.
- First woman to win a Pulitzer Prize was Edith Wharton in 1920 for *The Age of Innocence*.
- In 1933, FDR chose Frances Perkins as his Secretary of Labor, the first female member of a president's cabinet.
- Sandra Day O'Connor, nominated by Ronald Reagan, was confirmed as the first woman to serve in the U.S. Supreme Court in 1981.
- In 1992, Mission Specialist Mae Jemison, aboard the Space Shuttle *Endeavor*, was the first woman of color to orbit the earth.
- Following many historic moments for women astronauts in the space program, Christina Koch and Jessica Meir performed the first all-female spacewalk in 2019.

- Kizzmekia Corbett, a viral immunologist, is currently
 the scientific lead of the VRC's (Vaccine Research
 Center) Coronavirus Team at the National Institute
 of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National
 Institutes of Health. Her team partnered with
 Moderna to help develop the vaccine to combat
 COVID-19.
- In January 2021, Kamala Harris became the first female, first Black, and first South-Asian vice president in U.S. history!

The future is positive and hopeful that women will continue to achieve their potential, effect change, and contribute to solving the challenges we face.

Our thanks to the Program VPs for arranging two excellent February programs: San Ramon City Updates presented by Sabina Zafar, branch member and SR City Council member, and Understanding COVID-19 Vaccines with UCR Professor Emeritus Brad Hyman.

Thanks to excellent planning and support from Melanie Bartoletti of Gianni's Italian Bistro, Marielle Boortz and Cordelia Hwang, all our energetic member volunteers, and the generosity of everyone who ordered meals and patiently waited for your curbside delivery, our annual Tips for Change event was a success! See details on page 5.

Mark your calendars for two important programs in March: on March 11, Dori Sproul will present Understanding Alzheimer's Disease, and on March 24, Peggy Cabaniss will discuss what you need to know about the upcoming AAUW vote regarding the elimination of the degree requirement. Details are on page 9. Don't forget the Mountain Mike's Pizza fundraiser on March 11 for Local Scholarship!

At our March board meeting, the nominating committee will present the proposed slate of officers for the 2021–2022 branch Board of Directors. The branch will vote on the slate at our April 8 general meeting and program.

Wishing you all a Happy St. Patrick's Day and lots of sunshine on the first day of Spring!

Chris Burchik Co-President with Lucy Weed

Program

Thursday, March 11 7:00 PM via Zoom

Understanding Alzheimer's Disease Presented by Dori Sproul, MA Family Care Specialist



Please join us to learn key information about this horrible disease. Dori will differentiate it from other dementias and discuss risk factors, impacts on the brain, current treatments, and ongoing research.

This program will be presented by Zoom.

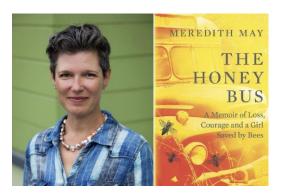
Members will receive an e-mail with the Zoom link. Non-members wishing to attend should e-mail aauwsr@gmail.com to request the link.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at aauwsr@gmail.com

Kathy Senti Co-Vice President, Program with Leslie Adams and Mary Jane Keogh

Coming in April!

Meet local author Meredith May on the evening of April 8 at 7:00 PM via Zoom! According to her website (https://meredithamay.net/bio/), she is "an award-winning journalist and fifth-generation beekeeper" who has written a fascinating memoir, *The Honey Bus*, which "reveals the life lessons she learned in her grandfather's Big Sur bee yard that rescued her from a difficult childhood."



Meredith, who currently lives in Carmel Valley, was a journalist for the *San Francisco Chronicle* and a former professor of journalism and podcasting at Mills College in Oakland. Prior to authoring *The Honey Bus*, she wrote *I*, *Who Did Not Die*, "the true story of an Iranian child soldier who risked his life to save an enemy during the Iran-Iraq War."

Please join us on the evening of April 8 to see Meredith's presentation about her fascinating life and work.

The quotations above are taken from Meredith May's biography on her website .

Leslie Adams Co-Vice President, Program with Mary Jane Keogh and Kathy Senti



Tech Trek



Thank you to all who supported our Tips for Change fundraiser at Gianni's Italian Bistro held on February 15! It was another successful Tech Trek fundraiser for us, and Gianni's really appreciated the business we provided them. The event raised \$1,788 for Tech Trek that night—\$808 in tips collected in our tip jar and \$980 in credit card tips and percentage of sales. In addition to those amounts, more than \$200 in donation checks were mailed to us separately.

A big thanks to our volunteer curbside greeters and order deliverers: Leslie Adams, Cindy Alpert, Judy Bracken, Chris Burchik, and Lucy Weed. And apologies to those of you who had to wait a while at the curb for your order. The restaurant told us to expect some customers having to wait longer than others since they can't have all the orders ready at the same time (for example, there were 18 orders for one of the pickup time slots!), and they can't predict the order in which customers will arrive to pick up their orders. But I do hope everyone enjoyed their meal. Mine was delicious!

Our Tech Trek camper nomination process is complete and camper selection process has begun. In no surprise to me, we have far fewer nominations from teachers this year. I think teachers are quite busy with the virtual learning and likely don't know their students as well as they would with in-person instruction. We received a total of six nominations from just two of the four San Ramon middle schools by the February 12 nomination deadline; last year we had a total of 17 nominations from all four schools.

We may sponsor every San Ramon applicant for Tech Trek camp this year if our reader and interviewer subcommittees decide that each girl merits selection as one of our campers. With Tech Trek camper fees being only \$400 per camper this year (versus \$1,000 per camper last year), we requested 10 camper slots for the 2021 camp. If we sponsor fewer than 10 campers, we will have more of our Tech Trek funds available for future Tech Trek camper sponsorships.

The 2021 virtual Tech Trek camp is still seeking adult coaches for the robotics core course (held in the mornings) and the afternoon workshops. There will be three camp sessions (June 21–25, July 12–16, and July 26–30); coaches can volunteer for one or more sessions. Contact Cordelia or Marielle if you're interested, and we will email you the link with the coach application and position description, or you can visit the virtual camp's internal website at https://www.aauw-ca.org/2021-virtual-techtrek-internal/.

Marielle Boortz Tech Trek Co-Coordinator with Cordelia Hwang



Membership



Membership Matters

New Member Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome new member **Nancye Harder!** We thank Nancy Powers for introducing Nancye to our branch and mission. We look forward to Nancye getting involved with the many programs and activities that our branch offers.

New Member Recruitment

Spring is coming soon! March is a great time to bring new life to our branch with new members! Our March 11 Zoom program, Understanding Alzheimer's Disease, is a great time to introduce prospective new members to our AAUW branch. Our "Shape the Future" campaign rates will be available for new members who join within the week after the program. That means for the first year of membership, they would receive a 50% discount on the national dues.

Also, for new members joining after March 15, there is a special deal! New members will receive a membership through June 2022. That means April, May, and June 2021 will be free!

Consider recruiting a new member this year and serving as a buddy in order to help the new member make a connection with our organization. Including the new member in Interest Groups or special projects often helps our new members become active.

If you have suggestions for how we can assist with member participation, please contact us.

Membership Renewal and Dues Increase

Renewal season will be here soon. AAUW membership follows the fiscal calendar and runs from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. Branch membership dues collection begins March 16. E-mailed online renewal notifications will be sent late spring. Beginning March 16, 2021, the AAUW national dues will have increased \$3.00, as explained in February's newsletter.

- AAUW national membership dues are \$62, of which \$59 is tax-deductible as a charitable contribution. The remaining \$3 is not tax deductible because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's section 501(c)(4) Capitol Hill Lobby Corps and getout-the-vote activities.
- Our San Ramon Branch dues remain at \$20 and California state dues remain at \$20; neither is taxdeductible.
- AAUW national life membership is \$1,240 and is fully tax-deductible. Individuals considering life membership who qualify for national membership may pay 20 times the national rate one time (\$1,240) and become exempt from further national dues.

A chart of the revised AAUW national dues, fees, and taxdeductibility is found at:

https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2018/02/dues-fees-schedule.pdf/

Thank you for your continued AAUW support and active participation!

Alice Miller Co-Vice President, Membership with Betsy Hoffmann and Margo James

Happy March Birthdays

Julie Gin Renu Kulkarni Teresa Kalashian Faye Isaacson Linda Henika Leslie Adams Beverly Kleyn Cindy Wong Joy Perkins



Local Scholarship



Save Thursday, March 11!

Local Scholarship is having another pizza fundraiser at Mountain Mike's Pizza on Thursday, March 11 **all day** to raise scholarship funds for local high school students and Renaissance Scholars for 2021. We heard positive comments about their pizza and thought we would have another fundraiser there since our last fundraiser in November 2020 was a big success. Thirty percent (30%) of your order will be donated to our San Ramon Branch. You will need to bring in the flyer attached with this newsletter or show the flyer on your phone when you place your order.

Mountain Mike's is in San Ramon at 2205 San Ramon Valley Blvd. It is located in the shopping center in front of Café Attila and Three Brothers from China. Their phone number is (925) 314-9600.

Please let your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors know about our fundraiser. It's a good day not to have to cook! You might want to order an extra pizza for another day.

Thank you in advance for supporting this fundraiser for Local Scholarship.

Julie Gin

Co-Vice President, Local Scholarship with Susan Walker-Christensen and Loranne Weir

High School Scholarships Update

The application for the local scholarship award has been posted on the San Ramon AAUW website. Counseling and Career Center staff have been contacted at California High, Dougherty Valley, and Venture schools. They will be accessing the application directly through our website this year rather than receiving an in-person copy for distribution. As of this date, I have already received inquiries from several students.

Renaissance Scholars Update

On January 29 and 30, members of our Scholarship Committee met with our two CSUEB Renaissance Scholars scholarship recipients (Michelle May and Dian Rodriguez) to present them with their second \$500 check and to update their personal and academic goals.

Julie Gin and I met with Dian Rodriguez outside at CSUEB; Chris Burchik, Loranne Weir, and I met with Michelle May outside at Hacienda Crossings in Dublin. Both young women reported that they are doing well and very much appreciate the support from our organization. A brief summary of their current status follows.

Michelle May



Michelle is continuing in her senior year as a Human Development major. Following is a partially edited version of a letter that Michelle has written to our branch.

Hello fellow AAUW members,

I must start out by saying 2020 was one of the toughest years to date. In so many ways I am very thankful that I am still here and able! I am sure many can relate to what I am about to say, so soon as I had my ducks in a row and chickens clucking, the storm set in aka Covid-19. I did not know how things would get as tough as it had gotten, not just for me, but for my daughter as well. Schooling during the pandemic for me began to be impossible. I couldn't fathom making my daughter's academic needs become subordinate to my own. As a result, I decided that I would give my studies up in exchange to closely support my daughter in 1st grade while distance learning. In the past, if things felt too much for me, I'd make slight adjustments, but the pandemic caused me to make drastic adjustments. No matter what dropping my studies meant for my presumed graduation date, the pandemic caused barely manageable times for me as a single parent. I went from working well over 52 hours a week to averaging 24 hours per week between two jobs.

Now that I feel like I can manage my life through this pandemic a little better, for this spring I signed back up for three courses: Intro to Human Development, Adolescent Development & Emerging Adult, and lastly, Theories of Human Development. All together, I am enrolled in nine units and my new anticipated graduation date will be fall of 2022.

(Local Scholarship is continued on the next page)

Local Scholarship, continued

My plan after graduation is to work as a social worker in the hospital with elders who have to be released to long term care facilities or temporary care facilities, if possible, I would also like to play a role in the placement of children who have to be sent to foster care. My first priority is elder care. My goal outside of working for an establishment is to open up my own assisted living home, where I can plan trips, and spend time with aging adults, supporting them in living life as they would want to.

I am looking forward to completing this term by any means necessary and also our teachers getting all of what they want and deserve out of a system that has never valued their worth in my opinion. I strongly feel that this pandemic has shed much light on many systems and the flaws they've entailed, so I hope this action will provide more equality and transparency for all, not the minority (the wealthy), but the majority (us). I am always hopeful and optimistic!

The work you and the AAUW members are doing is very much needed and I also appreciate this. Being a recipient of a grant/scholarship let's me know that my work is noticed, and somebody has my back. I can't wait to be in a position to give back on a level like this. It's a warm feeling to have.

Many Blessings, Michelle M.

Dian Rodriguez



Dian is completing her senior year as a Human Development major and is on track to graduate in May 2021! She has completed all of her requirements for her major and is currently taking three classes to complete her minor in Sociology.

She reports that last semester went well; it was a bit stressful, but she was able to finish strong. Dian continues to live in Belmont and work for the San Mateo County Housing Authority. Her goal after graduation was to get a higher position at her job at SMC, but she was able to do this over winter break. She has been in her new position

since January and is no longer considered extra help, but a full-time Office Assistant. Dian feels challenged with this new position and with a different supervisor, but very positive and proud of herself.

Dian shared that she is very excited to finish college and to be the first generation of her family to graduate. After graduation, she plans to take a year off from school and decide if she wants to continue her education. In the meantime, she will continue working at SMC Housing Authority and hopes to grow there with the variety of opportunities that are available to her. Dian also expressed that personally, she is "very happy with where I am now." Our branch has been able to support Dian since her sophomore year at CSUEB and we are very proud of her many accomplishments and the academic and personal skills that she has developed.

Susan Walker-Christensen Co-Vice President, Local Scholarship with Julie Gin and Loranne Weir

Spring Equinox

March 20



STEM

Kimberly Susan Budil



Women are making strides in all areas, including STEM fields! In January 2021, Kimberly Budil, with more than 30 years of experience in management and leadership, became the first woman to become the director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She has been an early advocate for women in science. She participated in the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Women's Association and organized numerous technical women's conferences, and she later contributed to international panels such as the American Physical Society's Committee on the Status of Women in Physics.

According to *Pleasanton Weekly*, "in addition to setting the Lab's 'strategic vision,' Budil will oversee its development and implementation. She will also provide President Joe Biden with 'an annual technical assessment of the state of the nuclear weapons stockpile including its safety, security and effectiveness."

Per Wikipedia, Kimberly Susan Budil is an American physicist and the director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She earned her bachelor's degree in physics in 1987 from the University of Illinois at Chicago and her Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis in 1994. University of California (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Los Alamos National Laboratory. In 2019, she was Principal Associate Director for Weapons & Complex Integration at LLNL. Also in 2019, she was made a fellow of the American Physical Society. In 2021, she was named the Director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, becoming the first woman to hold the position.

AAUW National Videoconference Via Zoom

March 24 at 7:00 PM PST

In April and May, members will have an opportunity to vote on whether or not to remove the requirement to have a university degree in order to belong to AAUW. Finance Chair Peggy Cabannis, who is on the national board, will speak about this upcoming vote March 24 at 7:00 PM via Zoom to our members.

RSVPs are not required; an e-mail will be sent 1–2 days before with the Zoom link.

For more information, please see this website, which is the source of the message below:

https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/open-membership-toolkit/

From the AAUW Board of Directors

The AAUW National Board of Directors strongly supports elimination of the degree requirement for membership and will put the requirement up for a membership vote this spring. This important change is a critical step in bringing AAUW's bylaws and membership requirement in line with our mission of advancing equity for women and girls. While AAUW is fiercely committed to the educational attainment of all women, given our commitment to inclusion, this is simply the right thing to do.

Proposals to eliminate the degree requirement for membership have come before the membership for vote a number of times. The Board feels very strongly that, while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

Voting will open on April 7, 2021 and close May 17, 2021 5:00 PM ET.

—AAUW Board of Directors

Contributed by Lucy Weed, Co-President, San Ramon

Interest Groups

Interest Groups

videoconferencing and using BridgeBase for our bridge

LUNCH BUNCH First Tuesday

Tuesday, March 2; 12:30 PM Via Zoom videoconference

This will be another virtual Lunch Bunch meeting as we continue to battle COVID. Your Zoom link will be sent to you via e-mail. To join the e-mail reminder list, contact Marsha Froines

GAME NIGHT First Saturday

Saturday, March 6; 7:30 PM Via Zoom videoconference

More information about the Zoom call will be sent prior to the date.

Questions? Contact Lucy Weed

DAYTIME READERS Second Monday

Monday, March 8; 1:00–3:00 PM Via Zoom videoconference

We are reading *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. Diane Griffiths will lead the discussion via Zoom.

For questions, or to be put on the e-mail distribution list to receive a Zoom invitation, please contact Margo James



THE NIGHT BOOK GROUP Third Monday

Monday, March 15; 7:00 PM Via Zoom videoconference

Terry Kalashian will review *The Darkness, A Thriller* by Ragnar Jonasson.

Questions? Contact Cheri Ng

BRIDGE

Third Tuesday

Tuesday, March 16; 7:00–10:00 PM

Via BridgeBase Hostess: Chris White

RSVP <u>required</u>: Contact hostess <u>as soon as possible</u> to let hostess know if you are playing <u>or not</u>. We will be

game online.

Questions? Contact Chris White

FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS (FFF)

Friday, March 26; 7:30 PM

Diane Griffiths will be our Organizer. She will select the movie, which we watch separately on our own schedules. We'll meet to discuss it via Zoom on March 26.

If you would like to be included in our Zoom discussion, please let Chris White know. I hope you can join us! If you have questions or wish to volunteer to be an Organizer during 2021, please contact Chris White



Interest Groups

TRAVEL GROUP

Travel Group is on hiatus until the fall, when we hope to resume our normal in-person group gatherings. By that time, hopefully everyone will have received their vaccinations and be comfortable meeting in person. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Anne Hayden Renae Buckser





Support Our Donors

More than just restaurants!

The following is an updated list of Tri-Valley businesses who generously donated gift certificates and cards as well as items or services to our last Gala Fundraiser in 2019. In the spirit of mutual support, we encourage our members to patronize the following businesses AND let them know you are from the San Ramon Branch of AAUW. These businesses need our support now more than ever!

Alamo Ace Hardware–Blackhawk, Amici's East Coast Pizzeria and Pasta, Bankhead Theater, Basque Boulangerie Bakery, Beau & Bella A Modern Day Spa, Bent Creek Winery in Livermore, Big Five, Black Angus, Blackhawk Auto Museum, BR Nails, Brass Door Restaurant, Bridges Golf Course, Bridges Restaurant, Buckhorn Grill, Burma Experience Restaurant-Pleasanton, Café Attila, Cambiati Wellness, Canyon Lakes Golf and Brewery, Chamois Carwash-Blackhawk, Cheesecake Factory, Chili's, Christine's Beauty Salon, Cinemark-Blackhawk, Club Sport, Concannon Winery, Costco, Crow Canyon Country Club, Dairy Queen, Dana's Restaurant, Danville Chocolates, Danville Bowl, Danville Olde Town Bakery, Dublin Iceland, Dublin Ranch Golf Course, Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl (temporarily closed), Edible Arrangements-Blackhawk, El Charro Restaurant, Elements Massage, Esin Restaurant, Frankie, Johnny & Luigi Too, Gianni's, Golden Sand Harbor Restaurant, Habit Burger Grill, Heller Jewelers, Home Depot, Hop Yard American Alehouse & Grill, Joy Perkins (Omnibus Organizing), Katy's Korner, Law Offices of Patricia Leong, Linda Hamilton (LuLaRoe Clothing), Lindsay Wildlife Experience, Locanda Ravello, Luna Loca, Lunardi's Market, Ma Jolie Salon, Main Street Kitchen-Walnut Creek, Marine Mammal Center, Mark Stephenson-Photographer, Martial Arts America, McDonald's, Mod Pizza, Mountain Mike's Pizza, New Moon Restaurant, Nob Hill Foods, Noland's Cake Shop, Nothing Bundt Cakes-Dublin, Oakland Zoo, Oksana Elegant Grooming, Pacific Catch, Panda Express, Patxi's Pizza, Peet's Coffee & Tea, Pete's Brass Rail & Car Wash, Quarry Hill Botanical-Glen Ellen, Rakestraw Books, Rigatoni's, Rolls Deli (temporarily closed), San Ramon Marriott, Shabu Shabu, Shampooches, Sky Terrace Vineyard, Sports Basement-San Ramon, Sprouts, Starbucks (any), Strizzi's, Subway, Target-San Ramon, Terra Cotta Outdoor Living, The Lot, Three Brothers from China, Trader Joe's, True Food Kitchen-WC, UPS Store-Marketplace, Walmart, Worth Group (Peasant and Pear), Yersen's Gelato Cakes, Zachary's Pizza-San Ramon

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fríday	Saturday
	1	2 12:30 PM Lunch Bunch Marsha Froines	3	4	5	6 7:30 PM Game Night Lucy Weed
7	8 1:00 PM Daytime Readers Margo James 6:00 PM Board Meeting Lucy Weed	9	10	11 7:00 PM Program Alzheimer's Kathy Senti All-day Mountain Mike's Fundraiser Julie Gin	12	13
14	15 7:00 PM Night Book Group Cheri Ng Newsletter Deadline	16 7:00 PM Bridge Chris White	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 7:00 PM Zoom Program Re AAUW Vote Lucy Weed	25	26 7:30 PM Fourth Friday Flicks Chris White	27
28	29	30	31			

Snippets

We NEED Snippets to help keep our lives interesting during COVID!

Whatever else you celebrate this month, don't forget National Pi Day on March 14.

If you have a Snippet item (family events, career changes, etc.) that you would like to share with branch members, please contact Marsha Froines. **This column depends on member contributions**.

Save the Dates

April 8: Program with Meredith May, author of The Honey Bus