



Sierra Outpost

AAUW Mariposa growing by leaps and bounds!

--Carolyn Baker

We recently had an extremely successful AAUW Home Tour, which not only brought in the Big Bucks but two more brand new members. Please join me in welcoming Linda Cameron and Deb Wiebe!

Then, this past Sunday at the Annual Meeting at the River Rock Inn we had a fantastic turnout of very supportive and enthusiastic members! Many thanks to our Project Leaders and Special Interest Group Leaders who provided a beautiful display of foam boards that expertly showed many of the ways that AAUW is enriching our membership as well as the Mariposa community. Sandi and Dawn shared some of our branch's truly amazing suc-

cesses this year and presented flowers of thanks to members who had helped our AAUW in a wide variety of ways. Food, drink, and companionship was enjoyed by all, and some tried out their word puzzle skills. For those of you who missed the meeting or were just too busy greeting friends, a copy of the game is included on [page 17](#), and the answers will be in next month's newsletter.

However, the most exciting news of the day was that we gained two returning members and six new members. Let's give a warm welcome to **Linda Cameron, Lizz Darcy, Trish Darcy, Elaine Keeley, Ellen Jones, Sue**

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June, 2016

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Co-Presidents' Corner

Our presidential message for this final month of our term is to share a summary of our branch's accomplishments for 2015-16. If you had to miss the Annual Meeting, you didn't get a chance to celebrate the amazing things that we pulled off together. So please take a minute to check out the [next two pages](#) and reflect on what we did and what a difference we made. Thank you for being a part of AAUW and for sharing this year with us.



Backpack Project gets boost from Soroptimist International.



At the Annual Meeting, Sandi and Dawn accepted a donation from Anita Bryant (center) on behalf of the Soroptimist International of Mariposa in support of the AAUW Backpack Project. This year we supplied 34 fully stocked, quality backpacks to Mariposa Elementary, Wood-

land, and Sierra Foothill Charter School middle school students. The backpacks were carefully selected from various manufacturers in different colors and styles so that the students receiving the backpacks blend in with their classmates.

Dues 2016-17



Have you sent
in your dues
for this year?
It's easier than
ever on line!

If you prefer, send an \$84 check payable to AAUW to Dina Lambert, our finance officer. See your branch directory for her address.



2015-2016

Accomplishments

Simplified and streamlined branch operations



- ✓ Refined Board positions by replacing Public Policy and AAUW Funds positions with two Director-at-Large positions
- ✓ Created standardized project plan and publicity template
- ✓ Created a succession plan
- ✓ Supported board participation in state convention and leadership development opportunities
- ✓ Encouraged job sharing
- ✓ Implemented online membership renewal

Partnered with

Community Organizations



- ✓ Co-sponsored "Half the Sky" documentary with Mountain Crisis
- ✓ Extended tutoring opportunities through One Mariposa/Mariposa Safe Families
- ✓ Supported CASA fundraising dinner



- ✓ Developed new member packets
- ✓ Held new member orientations and member mixers
- ✓ Engaged Special Interest Group chairs in branch leadership and fundraiser support
- ✓ Initiated Branch Buzz to engage interest group participants
- ✓ Engaged nine new members



Fundraising

- ✓ Raised \$11,000 through three fundraisers (Yard Sale, Fashion Show, Home Tour)

Held four public educational programs



- ✓ "Firefighting in the Sierra Nevada"
- ✓ "Operation Babylift"
- ✓ "Silk Road"
- ✓ "Plight of the Condor"



- ✓ Six girls are scheduled to participate at Fresno State University in June
- ✓ Tech Trek participated in TEDx event



- ✓ Jill Harry became project chair
- ✓ Held contest with five final participants
- ✓ Engaged ten coaches
- ✓ Our 1st place winner went to the AAUW CA convention and placed 3rd

Backpack

Project



- ✓ Anita Bryant and Cathy Owens became project co-chairs
- ✓ Filled and distributed 34 backpacks to middle school students

Dinner with a

Scientist



- ✓ Engaged 75 students and 10 scientists at UC Merced event
- ✓ Added lab tour for Juniors



- ✓ Developed and submitted grant request to AAUW National – not funded



- ✓ Jetty Uebner became High School Birthday Card Project Coordinator
- ✓ Kris Casto and Judy Van Winkle conducted two Candidates' Forums for District Supervisor

Membership

--Carolyn Baker & Bonnie Little

Warm welcome to our new members! (Continued from page 1)

Overstreet, Margaret Williams, Monica Ritter, and Gail Talmadge! I'd also like to recognize Barbara Silva who brought in five of these new members even though she was unable to attend the meeting. In addition, this merry month of May also blessed us with three more wonderful new members **Jill Ballinger, Audrey Davis, and Kim Monson** which brings our grand total to thirteen new members this month!



Linda Cameron



Lizz Darcy



Trish Darcy



Ellen Jones



Elaine Keeley



Sue Overstreet



Monica Ritter



Gail Talmadge



Deb Wiebe



Margaret Williams



Kim Monson

Photos unavailable this month:

Jill Ballinger

Audrey Davis

Tech Trek

--Naoko Kada & Debbie Peters



This year's Tech Trek campers, their families, and the Tech Trek Committee got a chance to meet and visit at the annual Ice Cream Social. Tech Trek Committee Members (back row, L - R): Dawn Johnson, Naoko Kada (Co-Chair), Maddie Brown. Not pictured: Debbie Peters, Co-Chair.

Candidates' Forums

--Maddie Brown

The 2016 Candidates' Forums held in Mariposa and Greeley Hill were inspired! Dozens of community members turned out for each event.



To ensure a fluid format and capitalize on the time available, attendees were able to submit questions to be answered by each candidate one at a time. Similar questions submitted by multiple people were collated. In all, seven questions were asked of the candidates, accompanied by their own opening and closing statements. Topics that resonated at both events included funding

for the fair grounds, funding and support for law enforcement, property rights, public transportation, and the Transient Occupation Tax (TOT). The forums were very

well received by the communities as well as the candidates, and many attendees expressed their appreciation for the events. Thank you to Kris Casto for coordinating the events and the Forum volunteers who helped set up, welcomed attendees, moderated the event, kept time, cleaned up, and represented AAUW in a positive, non-partisan light.



Fundraising: Home Tour

--Sandi Gabe



A Room with a View.....

The word got out! Cindy Harp's publicity release went far and wide – from Sonora to Modesto and Fresno. The yellow brick road was paved with signs. The kitchens were stocked with yummy appetizers and desserts. The windows were cleaned and the views were spectacular. Docents stood ready for visitors to arrive. And arrive they did!!! With more than 130 tickets sold, our home tour was a success again this year, netting more than \$2,900 dollars.

Before the event we sold tickets at Pioneer Market. Cars zipped around with Home Tour signs on them, and the Special Interest Groups assembled basket with themes ranging from a 1920s Jazz Basket, assembled by the Art Appreciation Group, to a wine basket that took a fork lift to carry!

The River Rock Inn was also

alive with activity as people stopped by to purchase raffle tickets and have lunch. The seven baskets created by our Special Interest Groups brought in \$900. Thanks to everyone who contributed items and to the SIG coordinators for making them happen! Here's where they ended up!

- ♦ 1920 Jazz Basket – Carolyn Baker
- ♦ Book Basket – Dawn Johnson
- ♦ Hiking Basket – Sara Robison

- ♦ Wine Basket – Brenda, Joan Lee's friend
- ♦ International Flavors Basket – Lee Ann Allen
- ♦ Kids Craft Basket – Jon Turner
- ♦ Gardening Basket – Becky Matlock

Our Docents were key to working with the homeowners and making sure that they were ready for the onslaught of visitors. They spent the entire day of the tour at the homes sharing house stories and guiding



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(Continued from page 7)

The Team

participants through the houses and outside to the views. Since they were unable to join the tour, we held a pre-tour Friday where we worked out a few details and dropped off supplies. Gary Colliver and I tried to hurry ahead of the group and place signs so folks didn't get lost.

On Saturday, Micki Finney, Carolyn Baker, and Anne Dolchanczyk were on hand at the River Rock Inn, snagging passersby and enticing them to purchase raffle tickets.

I think it might have been possible to gain five pounds along the way if you sampled all the food options! It was

hard to just have one! We had savory choices such as quiche, cheese and tomatoes and olives and, my favorite, desserts. What was your favorite food treat along the way? I was partial to the chocolate bombs that Karen made for the Davis home.

Sharon and Larry Enrico did double duty having their house on tour as well as hosting the after-party where everyone shared their favorite stories and universally said that participants had a good time. One of the tour goers commented, "I've been on many, many home tours. Let me just say that not all tours

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Docents

Peggy Shainberg
Karen Smith
Kathy Chappell
Cindy Harp
Marilyn Saunders
Dawn Johnson
Wendy Carman
Bonnie Little
Rebecca Swisher

Sustenance Coordinators

Margaret Brandenburg
Dawn Johnson
Leslie Bernacchi
Reva Colliver
Saralynn Nussbaum
Karen Smith
Barbara Silva
Joan Lee
Maddie Brown

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are created equally. Yours is the best I've ever seen." Hard to beat that observation!

If that wasn't enough, several tour goers [joined the organization!](#)

So what's next? Put your thinking caps on as we switch gears to the fall Fashion Show. We haven't confirmed a date, but we do have a new twist for our auction. Our theme will be "It's time to..." (or

something along that line). In the spirit of the recent birdhouse auction, we'll be asking you and local artists to get creative and create some masterpiece clocks that we can auction off. More to come on that later this summer.

None of this would have been possible if it were not for the generous dedication and cooperation of a large group of members! Almost everyone participated by selling tickets, putting up signs, flyers or car magnets. Thank you for making our second annual home tour a success.



Dinner with a Scientist

--Marilyn Saunders



L-R: Marilyn Saunders and Jill Harry

Donation helps to fund annual event.

Academic Boosters Club's (ABC's) incoming Board Chair, Jill Harry, gives coordinator, Marilyn Saunders, a check for \$600 in support of next year's Dinner with a Scientist at UC Merced. This is the fourth year that ABC is supporting Dinner with a Scientist, as it fits perfectly with ABC's mission of supplementing and enriching academic experiences for MCHS students. This current school year, AAUW was able to send 75 young women from Mariposa County High School to UC Merced for lab visits and dinner with female professionals in science-related fields, encouraging female students to continue pursuing their studies in what historically have been male-dominated fields. AAUW hopes to send even more MCHS female students to next school year's event.

Interest Groups- International Study

Contact [Peggy Shainberg](#)

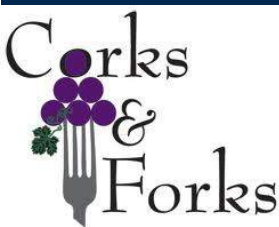
The International Study Group had a very interesting year. We looked at Brazil, covering among other subjects, history, geography, music, art and we all won gold medals during the Olympic evening; and of course followed the political situation. We plan to go for lunch at the Brazilian restaurant in Clovis next month, anyone is welcome to join us and the annual planning/

pool party/ potluck will be in August at Carolyn Baker's home. If you are interested in joining the group and having a say in choosing next year's country, please get in touch with Carolyn or myself.



Interest Groups- Wine

Contact [Kathy Sutherland](#)



Corks & Forks took a new fork in the road in May. Contrasting with the tradition of com-

paring a single varietal from several wineries, we attempted to identify red varietals in a blind taste test. We had a couple of aides available including a list of the 6 wines to be tasted: 2 pinot noir; 2 malbec; a sangiovese and a single cabernet sauvignon. Also at hand was a list of suggested flavors and aromas to be found in individual red varietals ranging from "raspberry" to "bacon fat" and "leather." Sharon Moore identified the

variety of each of the six wines presented with her husband David coming in at a close second. Others didn't do so well; one taster was heard to say, "Hey, I got one out of six!" We had a lot of fun with this variation on our process and look forward to our next tasting. Take a look at Corks & Forks when you consider participating in a Special Interest Group this coming year. Since we get to know each other in a social setting, this special interest group provides a good opportunity to involve spouses, significant others and guests with Mariposa AAUW .

--Marilyn Saunders

Interest Groups- Hiking

Contact [Mary Ripma](#)



Third Saturday remains the trekking date

Unless someone else would like to take the helm, Mary Ripma has volunteered to continue to lead the way (every third Saturday) and share other hiking groups' activities.

We Sponsor Community Forums



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Interest Groups- CraftContact [Joan Lee](#)**Tin cans morph into yard art.**

The craft group met at Annie Mahle's home to construct some adorable Tin Man pieces. It was a lot of fun. Annie's husband Bill was our fearless and brave leader.

Interest Groups- GardenContact [Micki Finney](#)**Garden Group looking for new leader.**

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."--Audrey Hepburn

Hope you are enjoying your gardens! Here are a few items for you.

First, Becky Matlock won the garden basket on the Home Tour raffle and she was delighted!

Next, Saturday May 21st was the Mariposa Master Gardener Spring Tour from 9:30-4:30 featuring the garden of Dawn Johnson.

Finally, It is time for someone else to take over as leader of the garden group. Please consider this and hopefully someone will step forward and take us down a new path.

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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Interest Groups- Reading

Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)



Our next meeting will be

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

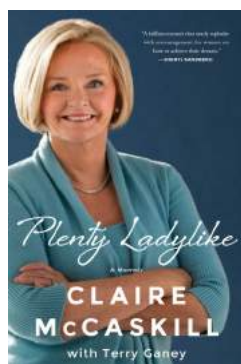
at 4:30 pm

at [Helene Fiske's](#) home.

Andria Matala will lead the discussion on:

Plenty Ladylike

By Claire McCaskill

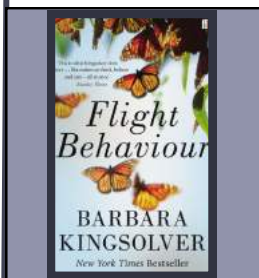


Discussion Review

Flight Behaviour

By Barbara Kingsolver

--Saralynn Nusbaum



Barbara Kingsolver's *Flight Behavior* was the group's choice for our April read. In 2004 Barbara Kingsolver moved from Tucson, where she had lived since 1978, to southern Appalachia. The flight of the title refers not only to the arrival of hordes of butterflies, but flights of various sorts undertaken by her characters. The major underlying natural issue addressed here is global warming, how changes to the global environment can result in significant changes in peoples' lives. Monarch butterflies are gathering in rural Tennessee. When

The following are titles from which we will consider in selecting our reading choices for the year:

Big Magic By Elizabeth Gilbert

Blue Jasmine By Kashmira Sheth

Bobbed Hair and Bathtub Gin

By Marion Meade

The Goddess Pose By Michelle Goldberg

The Senator Next Door By Amy Klobuchar

The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet

By David Mitchell

The Children's Crusade By Ann Packer

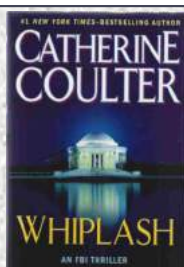
Between You & Me By Mary Norris

Wild By Cheryl Strayed

word of the wondrous visitation gets out, interests of all sorts try to interpret its significance and some try bending the event to their own purposes. This visitation brings scientists and media to this rural Appalachian town and some interesting interactions ensue. Though climate change is Kingsolver's message, issues of class and education also play a role.

Next up, just in time for the California primary, is *Plenty Ladylike* by Senator Claire McCaskill. We'll meet at Helene Fiske's home on Tuesday June 7th at 4:30PM. Hope to see you there!

Whiplash by Catherine Coulter is the title selected for the July 5 discussion.





2015-2016 CALENDAR

- 04** Independence Day
26 Board Planning Mtg

JULY 2015						
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- 04** Board Meeting
14 Program – Miner's Inn
18 M.L. King Day

- 04** Birthday Card Project (HS Voter Registration)
11 Back Pack Fill
13 Half the Sky Movie
17 Board Meeting

AUGUST 2015						
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- 01** Board Meeting
17 Program – Miner's Inn 4:30
24 Speech Trek
23 AAUW Regional Mtg
29 Board Meeting

- 07** Labor Day
10 Member Mixer
18/19 Yard Sale
22 AAUW Regional Mtg
28 Board Mtg
30 Dinner with a Scientist

SEPTEMBER 2015						
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- 10** Program – Miner's Inn
27 Easter Sunday

- 07** Program – Miner's Inn 7pm
12 Columbus Day
31 Halloween

OCTOBER 2015						
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- 04** Board Meeting
15-17 AAUW State Convention

- 11** Veterans Day
14 TEDx Event
21 Fashion Show
26 Thanksgiving Day

NOVEMBER 2015						
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MAY 2016						
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- 02** Board Meeting
08 Mother's Day
14 Home Tour
22 Annual Meeting 2-4 pm
30 Memorial Day

- 13** Holiday Party
25 Christmas Day

DECEMBER 2015						
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JUNE 2016						
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Update 4/29/16

Meeting Minutes
AAUW Mariposa Board of Directors
May 2, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: at 4:05 by Co-President Sandi Gabe

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Johnson, Sandi Gabe, Cindy Harp, Maddie Brown, Rebecca Swisher, Karen Smith, Carolyn Baker, Leslie Bernacchi, Marilyn Saunders, Dina Lambert, Saralynn Nusbaum

Approval of Minutes from April 4, 2016 board meeting: Minutes were previously submitted, approved by email, & published in April newsletter.

REPORTS:

Membership: Carolyn Baker

The minutes from the April board meeting stated that only one member who joined through the Shape the Future program has renewed in past years. Carolyn Baker clarified that it is honorary members, not Shape the Future members, who tend not to renew their memberships.

Of those offered honorary memberships, Kim Monson and Audrey Davis have accepted. A response has not yet been received from Carole Reiter or The Honorable Michael Fagalde. Cindy Harp will follow up with Carole and Carolyn will contact Judge Fagalde.

One year membership dues discounts are available to past AAUW members who would now like to rejoin. Previous members Debbie Joseph and Libby Merrill have been contacted.

A member mixer was held at Creekside Nursery on April 19. Ten members attended; Jill Rowney and Tom Ritter guided the group through the nursery.

The annual meeting is scheduled for May 22 and will be held at The River Rock Inn. Special interest group coordinators have been asked to create story boards for display at the annual meeting. Sandi is sending out post card invitations to those members who don't typically communicate by email.

It was mentioned that our National has requested that we update our branch membership form to include questions about diversity.

On-line membership renewal requests have been sent and our new membership brochures are done.

Publicity: Cindy Harp

All home tour publicity is out.

The Speech Trek competition received coverage, with contrasting background, on page three of the Mariposa Gazette.

Candidates' forum publicity has been sent.

Cindy has developed a publicity template for the Mariposa Gazette, Goldrushcam.com, and the

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(Continued from page 14)

Sierra Star.

Programs: Karen Smith

The March 10th program on raptors given by John McCamman, was the best attended program of the year. The evening program on fighting fire in the Sierra was the most poorly attended. Possibly evenings don't work or the topic wasn't of interest. Programs on animals and travel seem to draw the most participation. Partnering with other organizations worked well, i.e. the "Half the Sky" screening. Leslie Bernacchi will serve as VP of Programs for the coming year.

Treasurer's Report

Income:

Tech Trek checks have been received - \$50/participant, \$300 in total.

Expenses:

Checks have been sent to reimburse expenses for state convention participation for some participants.

A replacement check of \$25 was sent to MCHS Grizzly Band Boosters replacing the lost check sent to commemorate the passing of Ti Shackelton.

Ending balance as of 4/30/16 - \$7,973.65

PROJECT UPDATES:

Tech Trek: Dawn Johnson

An ice cream social orientation meeting will be held on May 15 at Marilyn Saunders' home; Debbie Peters has been involved in organizing this meet & greet. We discussed whether we want to suggest a move of Tech Trek from Fresno State to Merced; it would probably take 2-3 years to transition and we would need to make it a branch goal. Sandi Gabe is the treasurer for Tech Trek Fresno. Tracking has been completed for Tech Trek students who have participated over the past 5 years.

Speech Trek: Dawn Johnson

Mariposa High School student, Claire Gorham, earned third place and \$500 in the Speech Trek contest at the state convention in San Mateo on Saturday, April 16.

Backpack Project: Dawn Johnson

Anita Starchman Bryant and Cathy Owens will be meeting the week of May 9. The purpose of the meeting is to identify students before the break. Karen Rust will assist in identifying students.

Dinner with a Scientist has been scheduled for Thursday October 6.

(Continued on page 16)

Home Tour: Sandi Gabe

Publicity is complete.

SIG gift baskets have been completed and photos are on line.

The pre-tour has been scheduled for Friday 5/13 and participants will be meeting at the Fairgrounds.

Gary and Reva Colliver will be placing signs.

Docents & bakers finalized.

Home and basket photos are being posted on Facebook as publicity.

Voter Education

Candidates' Forums have been scheduled for Thursday May 5th at the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors' Chambers and on Wednesday May 18th in Greeley Hill. Only District 2 candidates will participate in the Greeley Hill forum.

NEW BUSINESS:

Our amended bylaws are now certified.

Public Health Preparedness

The Mariposa Public Health Department held a meeting in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in April to discuss local impacts of climate change. Most of the attendees were from the health department along with two doctors from Yosemite and a forester. Jane MacLean attended on behalf of AAUW and submitted a written report to the board; contact the board secretary for a copy. Several AAUW members were in attendance including Gary Colliver, Karen Smith, and Margarita King. Karen Smith summarized the meeting for the board. Among the topics discussed were the zika virus, food, and air quality. A survey conducted by the CDC indicated that 3.5% of Mariposa County residents do not have running water.

Transition Meeting

Dawn, Sandi, Rebecca, and Maddie will be meeting within the next few weeks to develop a transition plan for the President role.

State Convention

Sandi, Dawn, Cindy, Maddie, and Rebecca attended the AAUW state convention over the April 15 – 17 weekend. Dawn and Sandi led 5 sessions on leadership development. A documentary "The Hunting Ground" concerning campus sexual abuse was screened. We are considering this film for a future program, possibly a high school program. Other programs focused on fair pay, specifically not using prior salary history as a basis for determining salary, seduction of our youth –sexual predators on the internet, and financial literacy. It was mentioned that AAUW has a legal advocacy fund, purpose being to challenge sexual discrimination in higher education and in the workplace.

Review Goals status

The 2015-16 Goals and Actions document which was developed at the annual



planning meeting, was circulated, discussed, and updated. To review, contact the board secretary for a copy.

Board positions remaining open:






- VP of Membership
- Two Directors at Large

It was discussed that we need to highlight what AAUW does at our annual fashion show – such as invite Tech Trek participants to demonstrate their experiments and organize presentations by Dinner with a Scientist participants.

Assignment of June Branch Buzz – Sandi Gabe.

The June board meeting has been cancelled.

Word Game to activate brain cells.

1 	2 <u>MAN</u> BOARD	3 <u>STAND</u> I	4 READING	5 <u>WEAR</u> LONG
6 ROADS	7 TOWN	8 CYCLE CYCLE CYCLE	9 LEVEL	10 <u>O</u> M.D. PH.D. B.S.
11 KNEE LIGHTS	12 	13 FRIENDS <u>STANDING</u> MISS FRIENDS	14 DICE DICE	15 TOUCH
16 GROUND 	17 <u>MIND</u> MATTER	18 He's/HIMSELF	19 ECNALG	20 
21 <u>G.I.</u> CCC CC C	22 	23 Joes	24 YOU JUST ME	Answers will appear next month.



MALINA BONDISHU
Jazzercise Fitness Studio
Class Owner

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Enrolled Agent



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Bonnie Newman
Imaging Supervisor & Mammographer



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bonnie.newman@jcf-hospital.com
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**WINE TASTING
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AAUW- Mariposa

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