



North Hills Pittsburgh (PA) Branch

# Viewpoints

## President's Message



### 2018 New Year Message

**"Have a Happy New Year"** This phrase is a common expression used to wish others happiness, prosperity and success in the coming year. The term is commonly heard during the final week of December and the first weeks of January.

The first New Year's celebration was thought to have taken place in early March approximately 4,000 years ago in ancient Babylon. It wasn't until the introduction of the Julian calendar in 46 B.C. that January 1 became New Year's Day. The New Year's holiday is celebrated during the evening of December 31, and the early hours of January 1. Festivities and traditions include spending time with friends and family, watching fireworks, and making resolutions for the coming year.

**"It's hard to believe that another year has gone by."** Isn't that what everyone says at the beginning of a new year? As I've grown older, the years do seem to be flying by at a faster pace. Each year we make promises to ourselves that we will be a "better person" this next year.

***What have you promised in the past?***

### Looking ahead to the New Year

For a year that brought us world-changing events, some of you may be glad to see the end of 2017. As our Branch moves into 2018 we continue to push forward with projects and directives that have been successful for us in the past year. The Executive Branch is eager to work with all of the amazing women in this branch, whose leadership; service and dedication are unparalleled as we continue to move our Branch forward. 2018 is going to be a critically important year for our Branch as we move forward.

Following is a list of goals for this year and beyond—goals we believe will allow our Branch to continue to thrive.

- Provide events that are meaningful and impactful to our mission.
- Provide information so we can make wise choices when we advocate for our causes at the city, state or national level.
- Grow membership so we can have a greater number of diverse ideas and resources. The more perspectives we consider, the stronger our outcomes will be.

There is so much to look forward to in the coming 12 months.

May this year bring new happiness, new goals, new achievements and many new inspirations in your life. Wishing you a year fully loaded with happiness.



## **GREAT DECISIONS**

Mark your calendars! Another Great Decisions series is about to begin!

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. The program provides background information and policy options for the eight most critical issues facing America each year and serves as the focal text for discussion groups across the country.

AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh is again sponsoring the program. It will run on Saturdays from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at La Roche College. February 3 is the first session of the 2018 series—see the full schedule below.

The series is FREE and you may attend as few or as many of the sessions as you choose. **But who wouldn't want to learn more about ALL of these topics?!!** Those who choose to purchase the Briefing Book can do so for \$30 at the La Roche Library.

ONLY CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED, made out to AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh.

### **Great Decisions 2018 Schedule:**

#### **February, 2018**

- 2/3—The Waning of Pax Americana?
- 2/10—US Global Engagement and the Military
- 2/17—Media and Foreign Policy
- 2/24—South Africa's Fragile Democracy

#### **March, 2018**

- 3/10—Russia's Foreign Policy
- 3/17—Turkey: A Partner in Crisis
- 3/24—China and America: the New Geopolitical Equation

#### **April, 2018**

- 4/7—Global Health: Progress and Challenges

### **Branch General Meeting**

The AAUW general membership meeting will be Saturday, January 27, 2018.

9:00 am refreshments with the speaker at 9:30 a.m.

Our speaker will be Roxanne Julian, a practicing attorney for 20 years. She has a medical background as a registered nurse. Her practice areas include personal injury, nursing home negligence, elder law, estate planning and helping families find appropriate care settings for their aging loved ones.



### **THE LUNCH BUNCH (Anita Wurthner)**

We had a great group of 29 members attend the Christmas luncheon at the Pines Tavern on December 16, 2017 and we enjoyed the holiday decorations, special menu items, and our time together.

Thanks to Debbie Rosenfelder, Betty Knoniser, and Mary Eury for their contributions to the holiday favors and gift bags.

Our next lunch will be a local restaurant, Bistro 9101 on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 12:30p. Please let me know by January 21 if you will be joining us.

Email me at [adwurthner@verizon.net](mailto:adwurthner@verizon.net) or call 412-486-5161. Hope you can come!



**Save The Date****AAUW Pittsburgh Area Event with Anne Hedgepeth**

The Pittsburgh Branch has taken the lead to coordinate the January 30th visit from AAUW's Anne Hedgepeth. This is an opportunity to connect with local AAUW members and activists.

**Tuesday, January 30, 2018**

6-8PM

La Roche College

Anne Hedgepeth is the Interim Vice President of Public Policy & Government Relations. As AAUW's top policy advisor, Anne drives the organization's advocacy work. She connects with stakeholders and policymakers on AAUW's policy priorities and directs AAUW's field strategy. Anne will be speaking at the annual conference of the Association of College and University Housing Officers at the Wyndham Grand Hotel and would love to use this opportunity to connect with local AAUW members and activists that evening.

**A SUCCESSFUL GREENS SALE** (By Sina Murphy and Joan Killinger)

The Greens Sale this year with a profit of \$1,569.95 tops all previous years' sales.

All of the money raised will go to our La Roche College Grant.

Thank you to all those who purchased greens and also to those who made a donation to the Fund Raiser. A special thank you to our usual top sales person, Sr. Rita Yeasted.

**N.O.R.T.H. is Seeking Volunteers**

For the Friendship Dinner on January 18, we have decided to model the dialogue/discussion format that Donald Rolins uses. He acts as teacher and facilitator to help participants understand what to do. We'd like to have a diverse group of 6-8 people do a discussion from 7-7:45 pm about racism using this new format.

After watching the modeled discussion, we will ask participants at the dinner if anyone is interested in becoming a trained facilitator. They will come to training on February 5 and March 5 at the UU Church on West Ingomar Road. We are hoping to get several folks to do it and then we'd run groups at the next Friendship Dinner on April 19, 2018, using the model. We hope that it will spread through the community so people will learn to talk about those tough subjects!

Here's where you come in...**We need help with several things:**

1. We'd like to have 2-4 additional people to be on the model dialogue team. We need a diverse group to do this the best way we can! Please suggest someone, or volunteer yourself, to come and learn how to do this. Don will be sending us some possible training dates between now and January 18. At least one time will be in the evening for those who cannot come during the day!
2. We also hope that you can get mails out to your groups so that we can have a great variety of folks at our January Anniversary Dinner! I've attached the poster so you can send it to your friends and members of your groups.
3. We hope you can come to the January 18 dinner...it's at 6-8 pm at St. Paul's.
4. Please ask for help to prepare the food on January 18. We will meet at 2:00-4 pm to cook and get the meal ready. Our chef is not available that day, so we will be doing this ourselves...I've got the notes and hope we can get most of it right!! If we can have 3-4 come to prep food, that would be great!
5. We will need a set up crew ready to go at 4:30 pm.
6. We will need 12-15 table monitors ready to meet at 5:25 pm for training on the modified schedule. Complete directions will be provided.
7. We will need servers for food ( can be the preparers...but they may want a break! ) they need to be here at 5:00 pm to help get things ready and out on the serving lines.
8. It would be great to have 4-5 designated clean-up folks willing to do dishes and store away the tables and chairs.

Please let Maripat Kwaczala know if you are interested!

We are better together...

## **Friendship Dinner**

### **First Anniversary Celebration Our Fears and Hopes\***

Thursday, January 18, 2018  
6-8 pm

Sponsored by N.O.R.T.H.

Neighboring Organizations Responding Together for Hope

\*AAUW-North Hills Pittsburgh \*Church of the Latter Days Saints; the Mormons,  
Ebony Women, \*Muslim Association of Pittsburgh \*North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition  
\*North Hills Unitarian Universalist \*St. Brendan's Episcopal \*St. Paul's United Methodist  
\*Salem United Methodist

Please RSVP by January 16

[www.stpaulsumc.com/events-2/registrations-2/](http://www.stpaulsumc.com/events-2/registrations-2/)

salad bar, rice pilaf, halal chicken, gluten free options;

Kosher meals available upon request by 1/16

at St. Paul's Fellowship Hall

1965 Ferguson Road

Allison Park, PA 15101

\*For anyone 12 years or older who is interested  
in joining the conversations!



**Finance Report**

October beginning checking balance: \$2,024.62

Income: \$6,595.00

Expenses: \$4,628.15

Ending balance: \$3,991.47

*Submitted by Katherine Keith*

Please note this new address and phone # for:

Janice Meade  
540 N. Neville St.  
Unit 801  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Remove (H) phone number  
Use only (C) 412-848-8976

**North Hills Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast****North Hills Unity Breakfast Committee announces****18th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast**

**Pittsburgh, PA (December 27, 2017)** - The Eighteenth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast is scheduled for Monday, January 15, 2018, at the Zappala Student Center of La Roche College. It is sponsored by the North Hills Unity Breakfast Committee. Breakfast begins promptly at 8:30 am.

**Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church will be the keynote speaker.**

Candace Okello, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, La Roche College, will act as Master of Ceremonies.

**Julia Lagnese, a Senior at North Allegheny Senior High School, will receive the 2018 Spirit of Unity Award**, a one-time \$1,000 scholarship that recognizes community youth in educational programs that promote unity and diversity. Julia has served as a valued member and the President of the Interact Club which develops leadership and promotes service and an involved member of the Grandview Mentors/BRASH Tutors Club working directly with inner city youth where she serves as a "Big Sister" to several children from Pittsburgh Grandview Pre-K. In recommending Julia for the award, her teacher said, "I believe that Julia's involvement with both groups has helped her to see some of the problems in our world related to poverty; her involvement has inspired her to be an advocate for children living in poverty."

The cost of the breakfast is \$18 for adults and \$9 for students. Seating is limited, and early registration is encouraged. To make reservations please send a check, made payable to North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition, to: MLK Breakfast, c/o J. Peischl, 8244 Coach Court, Allison Park, PA 15101.. Please mail reservations, including payment, by January 8, 2018. Seating cannot be guaranteed without reservation.

The North Hills Unity Breakfast Committee consists of members from the following organizations: AARP; American Association of University Women, North Hills McKnight Branch; League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh; North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition; North Hills Community Outreach; North Hills Ebony Women, Inc.; Pittsburgh North People for Peace; and the Sisters of Divine Providence.

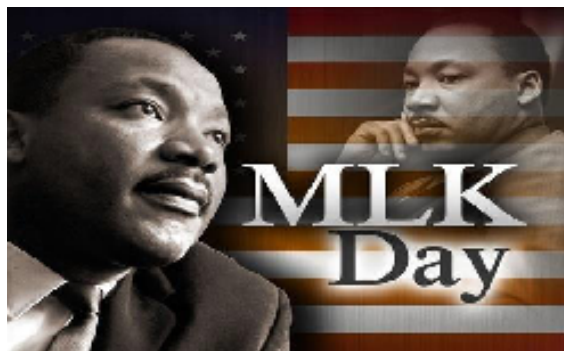
**Spirit of Unity Scholarship Award:**

The criteria for the Spirit of Unity Scholarship Award:

The student lives or attends school in the North Hills area;

The student assumes a leadership role as an agent of change for racial justice;

The student embodies the ideals of Martin Luther King Jr.



**Martin Luther King  
Breakfast  
Monday, January 15th 2018**

**La ROCHE COLLEGE \* Zappala Student Center  
9000 Babcock Boulevard, McCandless Township**

**Registration at 8:00 AM | Breakfast promptly at 8:30AM**

**Keynote Speaker**

**Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikol  
Bishop of W PA Conference of the  
United Methodist Church**

**Spirit of Unity Award**

**Julia Lagnese  
North Allegheny High School**

**Limited seating - make reservations now!**

**Seating cannot be guaranteed without reservations.**



For reservations to the 18th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast, please return this portion of the form along with your check, made payable to the North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition, in the amount of \$18.00 for adults and \$9.00 for students. Questions? 412-655-2843

Please mail reservations including payment by January 8, 2017 to:

MLK Breakfast  
% of J. Peischl  
8244 Coach Court  
Allison Park, PA 15101

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students \_\_\_\_\_

*Please list names on reverse side.*

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email\_Organization \_\_\_\_\_

**OPEN SEATING**

I am unable to attend. Enclosed please find my donation to support this worthwhile function. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



North Hills Pittsburgh (PA) Branch

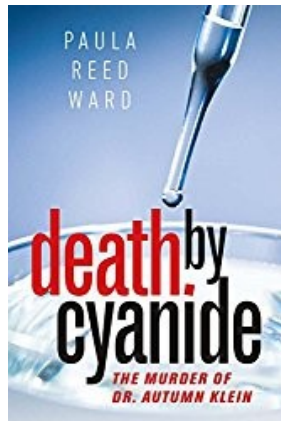
## SHAPE THE FUTURE

**Date:** Saturday, March 3, 2018

**Location:** Magdalen Chapel, La Roche College Campus

**Guest Speaker:** Paula Reed Ward, Reporter for the Pittsburgh Post- Gazette, Author of the book,

*Death by Cyanide: The Murder of Dr. Autumn Klein*



**Schedule of events:**

9:30am-10:00: Refreshments

10:00am-10:30: Presentation of *Gateway to Equity Award* to:

Amanda J. Laichak, Vice President of Education,  
Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania

10:30am-11:30: Guest Speaker, Paula Reed Ward

11:30am-Noon: Wrap up/Announcements

***RSVP:*** northhillsAAUW@gmail.com

**AAUW**-American Association of University Women-*Empowering Women since 1881*



Undressed Exhibit at The Frick



Ringling bells for Salvation Army



Debbie with Jon Delano



## AAUW Obituary tribute

It's never easy announcing the death of a member of our branch. Recently we lost 3 long time members of our branch, Bunny, Lenora and Joanne. Each played an important role in laying the foundation of our Branch and each was unique in their own way and will be missed.



**Valerie "Bunny" Roessing** died November 6, 2017. Bunny was born December 25, 1933, in Dunbar, WV, the only child of Peggy and William Garrett. She was the beloved wife of the late Keith William Roessing for over 60 years.

Bunny graduated with a BS in Home Economics from the University of West Virginia and with an MEd. from the University of Pittsburgh. She taught Home Economics at Gateway High School and at Westinghouse High School. Later she worked for Ketchum.

Bunny was involved in her community wherever she lived. She was a member of the American Association of University Women both in Monroeville and the North Hills. She participated in many activities through AAUW including Book groups, Bridge groups and International Dinners. She was also a member of the Greybrooke Garden Club since 1987 and served as Publicity Chair for several years.

Bunny was a spiritual person and was involved in a course in miracles. She and Keith enjoyed spending winters in Hilton Head and were especially interested in the customs and culture of the Gullah people who lived on the SC Sea Island and low country groups.

Bunny was fun to be with and her wonderful sense of humor brought smiles to the faces of the friends. Halloween was her favorite holiday. She hosted Halloween events for a few of her friends just a week before her death.

She and Keith collected Bunnies of every shape and dress and their home was filled with long eared friends. Bunny will be missed by her many dear friends but will also be remembered with a smile.



**Lenora Osso:** At the end of November, we said goodbye to a dear friend and long-time member, Lenora Osso. Lenora first belonged to the Sewickley-Coraopolis Branch, later joining the North Hills McKnight (North Hills-Pittsburgh) Branch, where she was a loyal member of the Bridge Group, continuing to play (and play well!!) into her nineties. She was a wonderful hostess, and her biscotti were fantastic. Lenora had also belonged to the Ambridge Business and Professional Women's Club, serving as its President for a time.

A sweet and quiet person, Lenora taught 4th grade in the Ambridge School District for 36 years, where she helped shape the lives of many youngsters and made many friends. She was very devoted to her daughter, Susan, and her four grandchildren, never missing one of their plays or ball games. While living in McCandless, Lenora once won a Christmas decorating contest in her neighborhood, with talents no doubt honed in the classroom during her years of teaching. Though quiet and unassuming, Lenora may have had a secret wild side, because her last car was the color red! Lenora always enjoyed the

company of people, and she was grateful for the cards and notes she received in recent years. She will be very much missed.



**Joanne Kurtz Ahlstrom:** Our AAUW branch member Joanne Ahlstrom died at the age 87 on Wednesday, December 6, 2017. Joanne graduated from Bethany College with a BA in Spanish and earned an MS in Library Science at Columbia University.

Joanne worked as a librarian and Spanish teacher for the North Hills School District for 23 years. A worldwide traveler, Jo also enjoyed reading, attending plays and concerts. She joined AAUW in 1995 and was also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma.

As an active member of the morning book group, she gave wonderful reviews. She served as our Treasurer for four years from 2000 through 2004 and then as Community/Diversity Chair for the next six years as our representative to the Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast committee.

Her Daughter Karin Jackson is also a member of AAUW. Joanne was quite proud of all of her grandchildren and talked about them frequently: Brandon, Geneva, Robert, Eboney, and Bobby. Her kind and generous spirit will be sorely missed by all who knew her.



**MISSION STATEMENT OF AAUW ASSOCIATION AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

*AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.*

**MISSION STATEMENT OF AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND**

*LAF provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.*

**AAUW MEMBERSHIP**

*AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.*

**AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

*In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.*

**BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

Branch Co- Presidents: Betty Kroniser	412-367-4897	BJK15237@comcast.net
Debbie Rosenfelder	412-367-4751	rosenfelderd@verizon.net
Branch Program VP: Linda Clautti	412-335-0550	clautti@yahoo.com
Branch Membership VP: Maripat Kwaczala	412-366-0194	kwaczala1@verizon.net
Viewpoints Editor: Bobbie Hall	724-816-5980	rmhall611@gmail.com

Branch Website: <http://northhills-pa.aauw.net>

Branch Email: [northhillsAAUW@gmail.com](mailto:northhillsAAUW@gmail.com)

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CONNECT2AAUW: 800-326-2289 or [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

National Website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

State Website: [www.aauwpa.org](http://www.aauwpa.org)

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## VIEWPOINTS

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**AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch**  
**Linda Tozier, Distribution Manager**  
**31 Oxford Court, Pittsburgh, PA 15237**

**Because equity is still an issue**