

# AAUW VIEWPOINTS

North Hills Pittsburgh, (PA) Branch

## P resident's Message for February 2020

Although February is our shortest month, it is packed with celebrations. We say Happy Groundhog Day, Happy Valentine's Day, Happy Presidents' Days, and enjoy Fat Tuesday. The little rodent, Punxsutawney Phil, did not see his shadow. Hopefully spring is just around the corner.

We had a great turnout at our January Branch meeting. It was great to hear from three strong local women in politics; Kimberly Zachary, President of McCandless Borough Council; Jennifer Bett, President of Ben Avon Borough Council; and Melanie Holcomb, Mayor of Ben Avon Borough.

Looking ahead to this month's program on March 7th, have you thought about who you will be inviting to the Shape the Future event? This is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the women's right to vote and we have a great program lined up.

The winter months do not slow our branch down and we have a lot of exciting events that you can participate in:

- Great Decisions kicked off its eight-week series on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. Everyone is welcome to attend any of the eight sessions on Saturday mornings at La Roche University, room PSC101.
- Last fall La Roche's campus service-learning coordinator, Steve Benson, asked if our branch would like to plan an activity for the campus for "Justice for Women Week" which is March 23-28. We have reserved the date **of Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>** for this event. Cora Koller, Sylvia Lynn and Peggy Schmiedecke are working hard to put this together. Further details on this event will be available soon.
- On March 31<sup>st</sup> (Equal Pay Day) Cora Koller has arrange for us to meet with Senator Lindsey Williams in her North Hills office from 3-4pm. More to come on this event.
- We will hold an event with the AAUW students at La Roche on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Look for more information to come on this event via email and in the March viewpoints
- There are several non AAUW event that may be of interest to our members. Check out our January branch meeting minutes and this month's Viewpoints. If members are interested, we can carpool.
- All of our Interest groups continue to interact through the months
- The next Stem event will be held on Feb 29<sup>th</sup> At La Roche University.
- A Happy Hour will be held on February 21, 2020 at Emiliano's in McCandless at 4pm

In closing, please answer the call from the branch nominating committee as they work to fill the slate of officers to lead us in the next year. AAUW is a wonderful organization but it needs participation from more than just a few members to stay vital. As with anything in life, the more you put into AAUW the more you will get back. At this important juncture in our city, state and country, AAUW needs your support to continue to accomplish its important mission of empowering women through education & training, economic security and leadership.

*Debbie*

No February Branch Meeting. Save the Date for our March Meeting.

**Shape the Future Event**

**“NOTABLE WOMEN OF THE KEYSTONE STATE”**

**Guest speaker: Anne Madarasz from the Heinz History Center  
In celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Women’s Right to Vote!**

**Enjoy a historical perspective spanning these years**

**Saturday, March 7, 2020**

**The Ryan Room, the Zappala Student Center**

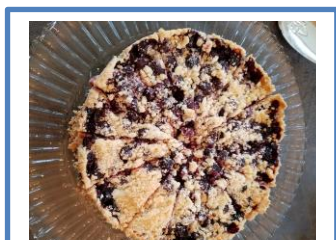
**9:30 A.M. Social Time**

**10:00 A.M. Speaker**

**10:45 A.M. Meeting**



The women’s suffrage movement was a decades-long fight to win the right to vote for women in the United States. It took activists and reformers nearly 100 years to win that right, and the campaign was not easy: Disagreements over strategy threatened to cripple the movement more than once. But on August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was finally ratified, enfranchising all American women and declaring for the first time that they, like men, deserve all the rights and responsibilities of citizens.



**Morning Book Group  
Enjoys a Yummy Dessert!**





### Five Star Update

Congratulations to our branch we have taken the first step. We have received our first star for Communications and External Relations in the Five Star Recognition Program! We have submitted documentation for additional stars and we will update the branch as we obtain each star.



### Quick Reference Calendar

**FEBRUARY 8** --9:30 a.m., Great Decisions Room 101, La Roche.

**FEBRUARY 10** - Voting ends for AAUW online Art Contest.

**FEBRUARY 11** - 9:30 a.m. Morning Book Group, "The Orphan Master's Son" at Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church.

**FEBRUARY 12** - 12:30 p.m., Lunch Bunch at Rico's Restaurant, One Rico Lane, Pittsburgh PA 15237.

**FEBRUARY 15** --9:30 a.m., Great Decisions Room 101, La Roche.

**FEBRUARY 17** - 7:00 p.m. Bookers of the Evening Book Group "Warlight" at Linda Loewer's home.

**FEBRUARY 21** -4:00-5:00+ p.m. Happy Hour, Emiliano's.

**FEBRUARY 22** --9:30 a.m., Great Decisions Room 101, La Roche.

**FEBRUARY 24** - 9:30 a.m. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Meeting at the home of June Maier.

**FEBRUARY 29** --9:30 a.m., Great Decisions Room 101, La Roche.

**MARCH 4** - 9:30 a.m., Board Meeting, Fisher Room, La Roche library.

### Non AAUW Events

**Friday, February 7, 2020, 3 pm -6 pm.** Coffee with Rep. Sara Innamorato at the Shiny Bean Coffee & Tea in Etna. Reservations are not required; seating is on a first come basis.

**Saturday February 15, 2020, 1:00-3:00 pm.** You Are Invited to Celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Suffrage and the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the League of Women Voters. Senator John Heinz History Center.

**Saturday February 22, 2020, 4 pm-6 pm.** Muslin Association Open House at 5725 N Montour Road Gibsonia PA 15044. Space is limited. RSVP by Feb 18<sup>th</sup> to Sadaf Mansoor: [SADAFM27@gmail.com](mailto:SADAFM27@gmail.com).

**Sunday February 09, 2020, 3 pm** at La Roche. Forum for Sharing thoughts on Peace & Justice. Currently the movie "Just Mercy" is showing at Cinemark, North Hills and on Monday March 30, 2020 2pm at UPMC Legacy Lineup.

### January 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### CHECKING:

Beg Balance	\$12,038.40
Deposits	\$2,766.50
Expenses	<u>(\$1,049.95)</u>
Ending Balance	\$13,754.95

#### SAVINGS:

Beg Balance	\$4,833.48
Interest Earned	\$0.20
Ending Balance	\$4,833.68



### Community Action Initiative



January 17, 2020: As a community action initiative four of our members along with other community groups participate in presenting a signed petition to Speaker Mike Turzai's Office regarding support for the Extreme Risk Protection Order bill. We were able to express why this bill is significant to AAUW members. Members from our branch who were in attendance were, Cora Koller, Debbie Rosenfelder, Cindy Stewart and Linda Tozier.

### January 20, 2020 Martin Luther King Breakfast

Our 20th annual breakfast was held on January 20, 2020 at La Roche University. Two speakers were very inspiring. Stephen Cohen, Co-President a Tree of Life synagogue congregation, gave the Reflection.



Keynote speaker Wasi Mohamed spoke about MLK's legacy and challenged each one to do something in the coming year which would be their legacy. "Do something: can be big or small." Our Spirit of Unity Award of \$500 was given to the North Allegheny Multicultural Student Union. Congressman Lamb was in attendance. Over 25 students and 7 teachers from NA attended. Also 12 La Roche students and 9 members of AAUW attended. Total attendance was 155 persons.



# SAVE THE DATE! AAUW ANNUAL DINNER

**Where:** Treesdale Golf & Country Club

**When:** Wednesday, May 20, 2020

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$42.00

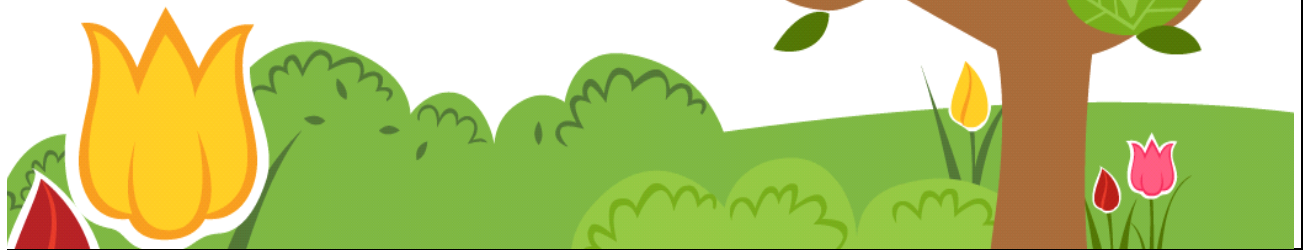
**Deadline for Payment: May 9**

**Checks made payable to:**

**AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch**

*Please give checks to Janis Kapadia. Directions and menu choices to follow.*

**NOTE: Please reserve through Janis by May 9, 2020. We will not accept any WALK-INS!**



## AAUW Funds Report for 2019

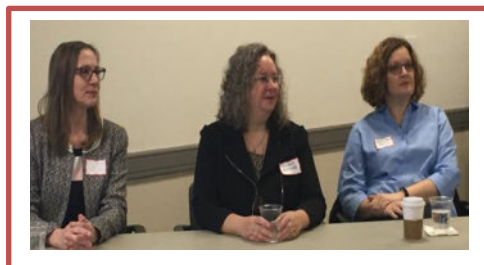
AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh contributed \$925 to AAUW Funds for the year 2019. Of this total, \$805 went to the Greatest Needs Fund.

Thanks to our fifteen members who participated as individual member donors. And a big thank you goes to our branch fundraising committee.

Linda Tozier. AAUW Funds Chair

## January 25<sup>th</sup> Branch Meeting

Three strong local women in politics; Kimberly Zachary, President of McCandless Borough Council; Jennifer Bett, President of Ben Avon Borough Council; and Melanie Holcomb, Mayor of Ben Avon Borough.



## Child and Parent Place at Anchorpoint

Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry recently announced plans for the Child and Parent Place at Anchorpoint (C.A.P.P.), a community mental wellness and education center specialized in serving children, teens and parents. The purpose of C.A.P.P. is to address and prevent increasing rates of childhood anxiety and depression in our communities and in our schools. Led by licensed and experienced child and family counselors and certified educators, C.A.P.P. will feature outpatient counseling (including play therapy, parent counseling and family therapy), K-12 tutoring/mentoring and parent/youth seminars and workshops. These services will be available to local youth and families of all faiths and backgrounds, regardless of insurance or ability to pay.

### How You Can Help

1. To support facility renovations for C.A.P.P. in Fall 2020, Anchorpoint needs volunteers to assist with basic organizing and moving tasks during daytime hours on weekdays in mid-August and late-September.
2. Anchorpoint needs various treatment materials and resources to equip C.A.P.P. for expanded services to children, teens, and parents. One of the needs is interactive play materials that the counselors can use when working with children. If it is one your heart to help, consider stopping and picking up one of the items listed below and **bring to our March 7 branch meeting. We can and do make a difference.**

#### Found at Five Below

Kinetic Sand \$5  
Wiggle Worms \$5  
Wiggle balls \$4  
Cars \$5 for 3 in a pack

#### Found at Michaels

Crayola Modeling Dough \$10.49 - \$5.39  
Model Magic by the bag \$5  
PlayDoh \$4  
Crayons 24 pack \$1.99  
Sketch Pads \$9.99 to \$29  
Playfoam \$10.49  
DohVinci by Playdoh \$10.49  
Bracelet Makers \$16  
Canvas 10 in a package \$19



## Public Policy Activities

Here are several ways you can be involved in public policy activities regarding family leave, human trafficking, dating violence and pay equity this quarter. These issues affect us or people we know and care about. Learn, stand up, speak out and make a difference! Encourage others to do likewise!

### Support proposed Pennsylvania Family Care Act SB580

AAUW supports this bipartisan bill. Please contact Senator Lindsey Williams (38<sup>th</sup> district) who serves on the Labor and Industry Committee to support the bill. To do so: call her local office at 412-364-0469 or her Harrisburg office at 717-787-8625 or email her through her website at [senatorlindseywilliams.com](http://senatorlindseywilliams.com). Per the Senator's website, if you do not live in her district, she will share any message she receives with your senator.

In formulating your comments about the bill, consider:

Unlike most developed countries, the United States does not guarantee paid parental leave or paid time off from employment to care for family members. Women are especially affected by this policy, and face continuing economic disadvantage from it in terms of lost wages, being forced into premature return to work. An AAUW survey showed that paid family leave is the benefit workers most need or want. Therefore, AAUW supports the Family Care Act (SB580), a bipartisan bill that is currently before the Pennsylvania Legislature.

The bill is important because most Pennsylvanians do not have access to paid family and medical leave insurance. The Family Care Act would remedy this situation by establishing a state-wide fund administered by the Department of Labor and Industry and would give workers the ability to invest small payroll deductions – only about 50 cents for every \$100 – so that they could take advantage of benefits at times of family health emergencies instead of losing their jobs. Paid family leave makes sense for women, men, children and families. It means that employed adults can be at home to care for and bond with new babies or adopted children and share caregiving responsibilities for seriously ill or disabled family members. Employers will benefit through increased employee retention and lower costs associated with employee turnover.

### Attend (and bring family or friends) "The Big Bad Wolf: Human Trafficking in Our Communities"

Date: Wednesday 02/19/2020

Time: 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Place: Heritage Valley Ohio Valley Hospital Auditorium (25 Heckel Road McKees Rocks PA 15136)

Sponsors: Crisis Center North and Heritage Valley Ohio Valley Hospital

To Register: email Cora Koller at [photowriter56@verizon.net](mailto:photowriter56@verizon.net) by 02/14/2020

Learn to define and recognize human trafficking, a modern form of slavery that affects millions of people around the world and in Allegheny County PA. Know how to safely respond to possible trafficking situations. Become aware of local resources that support victims. Watch an engaging trafficking prevention video "I am Little Red" that helps middle school, high school and college students, families and helping professionals identify risky situations and potential traffickers. Hear from trafficking victim advocates from Living in Liberty and the Salvation Army. The free event is open to all.

### Attend (and bring family or friends) the Dating and Dating Violence Community Awareness Event

Date: Thursday 02/20/2020

Time: 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Place: UPMC Magee Women's Hospital O level auditorium (300 Halket Street Pittsburgh PA 15213)

Sponsors: UPMC Magee Women's Hospital Domestic Violence Task Force

To Register: email Cora Koller at [photowriter56@verizon.net](mailto:photowriter56@verizon.net) by 02/14/20

Dating violence is an epidemic that can affect individuals of any generation or gender identity. Injuries can be mental or emotional, financial, physical, sexual or social. Many injuries result from bad breakups. We all need to know the warning signs, recognize unsafe relationships, support victims, refer them to resources and follow up with them. Keynote speaker Dr. Gary Cuccia's teenage daughter was killed by her ex-boyfriend. He and the Demi Brae Foundation educate teens, families, schools, health care providers and others about dating violence. The event is free and open to the public. Continuing education credits are available for nurses at no cost and for social workers/counselors for \$10.

**Participate in the AAUW North Hills Branch Women's Justice Event at LaRoche College**

Date: Wednesday March 25, 2020

Time: 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Place: LaRoche University Ryan Room

To registration: email Cora Koller at [photowriter56@verizon.net](mailto:photowriter56@verizon.net)

We will explore the effects of sexual harassment and domestic violence on women's careers and relationships; describe how to recognize, respond to and refer victims for help, identify community organizations that offer support, services and other resources.

**Participate in the AAUW North Hills Branch Pay Equity Legislative Advocacy Event**

Date: Tuesday, 03/31/2020

Time: 3:00pm-4:00 pm

Place: State Senator Lindsey M. Williams' Office (Suite 405 5000 McKnight Road Pittsburgh PA 15237)

To Register: email Cora Koller at [photowriter56@verizon.net](mailto:photowriter56@verizon.net) by 03/26/20

The next Pay Equity Day is 03/31/20. We will mark the day by visiting Senator William's local office to provide education about the effects of pay inequity on women, children and families in Pennsylvania. We will share information about the AAUW, our position on issues related to pay equity and related bills before the legislature.

## GREAT DECISIONS FEBRUARY 2020



Great Decisions is now underway. Our first session, February 1st, on the U.S. and the Philippines was excellent. The speaker, Dr. Noah Theriault, Professor of Anthropology, CMU, gave a wonderful history of the Philippines as well as leading an interesting discussion on some of the business and political events happening in the Philippines.

Don't miss out on the February sessions coming up. For the remainder of February, we will be learning about Indian & Pakistan, Red Sea Security, U.S. Relations in the Northern Triangle, and China's Road into Latin America.

Remember you are welcome to come to as many or as few sessions as you would like. The sessions are free and are held at La Roche University on Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30. Also, if you would like to purchase the accompanying book, you find it at the La Roche University Wright Library at a cost of only \$30. (checks only, no cash)



## The 2020 AAUW-PA Convention April 24-26, 2020 Central Hotel & Conference Center in Harrisburg, PA.

The Convention theme is "Purple Sashes and Persistent Women" in honor of the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment.



The keynote speaker is Rebecca Boggs Roberts, daughter of the late Cokie Roberts and author of "Suffragists in Washington DC," which provides an interesting historical snapshot into the lives of the women who fought for the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

### Thank You!

**The Greens Sale this year made a profit of \$1,002.25.** All of the money raised will go to our LaRoche University grant. Thank you to all those who purchased greens and also to those who made a donation to this fundraiser.

Submitted by Sina Murphy

### Fun Facts About Leap Year

A leap year is any year with 366 days instead of the usual 365 days. Therefore, *leap day* in 2020 will fall on Saturday, February 29th.

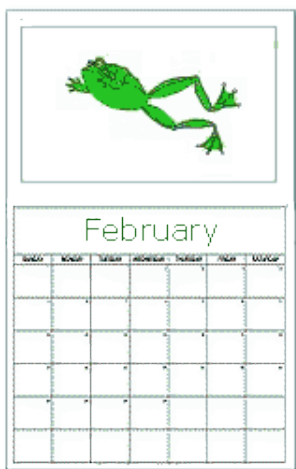
So... why the extra day?

It was the ancient Egyptians who first figured out that [the solar year and the calendar year didn't always match up](#).

That's because it actually takes the Earth a little longer than a year to travel around the Sun – 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds, to be exact.

The Romans first designated February 29 as leap day, but a more precise formula (still in use today) was adopted in the 16th century when the Gregorian calendar fine-tuned the calculations to include a leap day in years only divisible by four - 2012, 2016, 2020, 2024, etc.

**Leap Day 2020:** In 2020, leap year lines happen to perfectly line up the major holidays so that Valentine's Day lands on date night Friday and Cinco de Mayo lands on (Taco) Tuesday. Christmas 2020 and New Year's Day 2021 are also on a Friday, meaning a leisurely 3-day weekend to kick off both.



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**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, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.*

**BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

Facebook Page: AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh branch

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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)

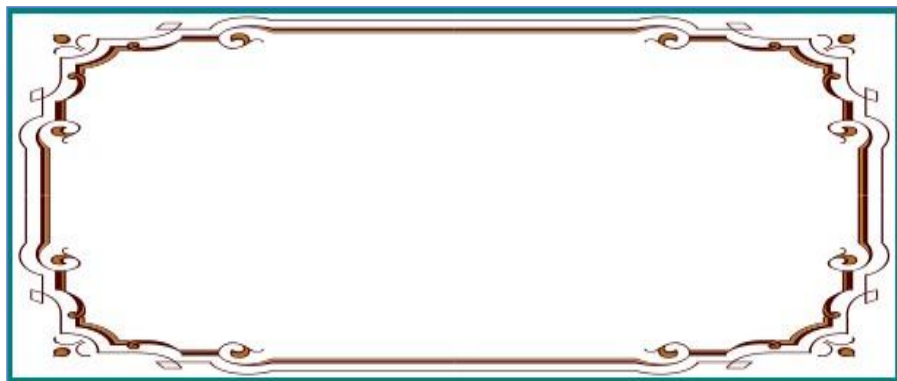
State Website: [www.aauw-pa.org](http://www.aauw-pa.org)

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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