

# AAUW VIEWPOINTS

North Hills Pittsburgh, (PA) Branch

## June President's Message



All Good things come to an end. It has been an honor to serve as your president these last four years. We have accomplished a great deal as a branch during these past four years: Draw the Line Gerrymandering, Author Series Fundraiser, Recognition from the town of McCandless, Up-dated website, and Five-star recognition from National just to name a few. I would like to express my gratitude to each and every member of our branch for your participation and support in our many varied activities.

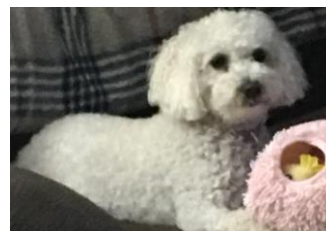
During my tenure as President, I thought about the unsung heroes in our own branch who faithfully do what it takes to keep us going. The minutes of the board meetings come out every month. Our reports to National and funds transfers get done on schedule. The financial affairs of the branch are handled so smoothly that nobody would guess the time required. Our Membership Chair never stops recruiting. A professional looking newsletter comes out each and every month and gets mailed to those needing a printed copy. Public policy has kept us active and engaged in issues of importance. Our many successful interest groups that enhance our minds and bodies. Our excellent array of speakers for our programs. These events are all captured by our fantastic photographer. Thank you for your time and effort.

The June 9<sup>th</sup> 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration/ Annual Dinner was a huge success 43 members enjoyed delicious food and fun conversations as we reminisced over our fifty years as a branch. Cora Koller was honored as the 2021 Outstanding Woman and June Maier was honored as the Member Making a Difference. Frances Cech won the dues drawing. Janis Kapadia recognized the eighteen members who reached Membership Milestones this year.

As we move forward with a new President, I know that our branch will continue to grow and promote the AAUW mission. Have a wonderful summer.

Thank You so much for the gift card. More importantly Abbie thanks you for her pink toy. She will miss sitting beside me at all the Zoom calls.

### *Debbie*





**IN PERSON  
June Meetings**

**June 5**

6:00-8:00 p.m.; IPODS  
Home of Clare and Jim Hoke

**June 8**

9:30 a.m.  
Morning Book Group  
McCandless Shelter, by North Park  
swimming pool playground  
“The Vanishing Half”

**June 9**

5:00 p.m.; 50th Anniversary Dinner  
Wildwood Country Club

**June 14**

11:00 a.m.; Old Board/New Board  
Meeting  
Walnut Grill, Cranberry

**June 21**

7:00 p.m.; Bookers of the Evening  
Home (porch) of Ann Carlson  
“The Splendid and the Vile”



**Congratulations!**

**2021 AAUW  
Student  
Leadership  
Award Winner**

**Bethany  
Tonarelle**

Bethany Tonarelle graduated from La Roche University in May 2021. She is the recipient of the 2021 AAUW Student Leadership Award.

The AAUW Student Leadership Award is given to a student who lives out our mission. While at La Roche, Bethany was very active in the Student AAUW organization on campus.

**June 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT  
(May Financials)**

**CHECKING:**

Beg Balance	\$9,291.61
Deposits	\$1,701.00
Expenses	<u>(\$1,063.78)</u>
Ending Balance	\$9,928.83

**SAVINGS:**

Beg Balance	\$4,834.69
Interest Earned	<u>\$0.04</u>
Ending Balance	\$4,834.73

*Submitted by Betty Kroniser*

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ALERT!!**

By now, **ALL** AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch members should have received an email from National, subject – **AAUW Membership Renewal Notice** that will instruct you on how to renew your membership and pay your dues online. Again, we ask you to **please utilize this feature** as so many of you have done in the past. It is easy and safe.

As a thank you for doing this promptly, if you pay your dues online, you will be entered in a drawing to receive a \$62 rebate, which is the amount of AAUW National Dues. **The drawing will take place at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/ Awards Dinner on Wednesday, June 9, 2021.**

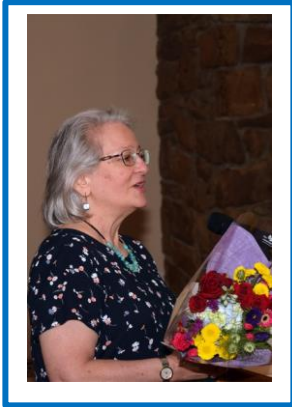
If you pay dues by June 1<sup>st</sup>, you will receive two chances; by June 15<sup>th</sup>, one chance!

If, for any reason, you are unable to complete the dues renewal online, you June send your check for \$103.00 to **Betty Kroniser, Finance Officer, 920 Camelot Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.**

Thanks so much for your cooperation!

Betty Kroniser, Finance Officer and Janis Kapadia, VP of Membership

## AAUW Pennsylvania Honors North Hills Pittsburgh Branch 2021



Branch awards were presented during the Annual Dinner and 50th Anniversary Celebration program at Wildwood Golf Club on June 9th.

**Cora Koller** was awarded **Outstanding Woman** for her work as our Public Policy chair connecting us with Crisis Center North, encouraging voting, tracking and sharing members' public activities and educating members through Viewpoints articles.

**June Maier** was awarded **Member Making a Difference** for chairing the 50th Anniversary Committee through such a challenging year and for her efforts in making our memory book so inclusive and meaningful.



Thank you Cora and June!

### Recognition of Milestone Members 2021



Nell Sutherland	45 years
Barbara Matthews	40 years
Audrey Parobeck	40 years
Janice Peischl	40 years
Marcia Coleman	35 years
Joan Killinger	35 years
Pauline Edison	30 years
Anita Wurthner	30 years
Susan Banerjee	10 years
Cheryl Kirchner	10 years
Maripat Kwaczala	10 years
Georgiana Likar	10 years
Janine Bayer	5 years
Francie Cech	5 years
Judy Dillon	5 years
Janis Kapadia	5 years
June Maier	5 years
Michaela Noakes	5 years

**Photos from AAUW 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/ Awards Dinner.  
Wildwood Golf Club. June 9, 2021**



Video messages from Linda Tozier, Kelley Clouser. Awards announced by Maripat Kwaczala, Katherine Keith. Nell Sutherland honored for 45 years. Debbie Rosenfelder honored as outgoing president.



L. Joy, M. Coleman, N. Sutherland, J. Killinger



M. Betush, J. Depee, J. Ruzanic



C. Hoke, S. Murphy, B. Kroniser



B. Matthews, D. Hackney, S. Schmutz



N Sutherland, J. Meade, J. Matheny



K. Keith, M. Kwaczala, J. Maier, C. Koller, J. Kapadia



A Carlson, L. Joy, F. Bogos, J. Matheny, D Hackney



A. Wurthner, J. Maier



The AAUW Singers:  
L. Joy, S. Lynn, D. Hackney, S. Murphy



**AAUW North Hills  
Pittsburgh  
50th Anniversary  
Celebration/ 2021  
Awards Dinner**

**Thanks EVERYONE for coming!**

## **Facts on Gun Violence/ Proposed Legislation.**

*Submitted by Cora Koller*

In Pennsylvania, 1,541 people (including 100 children and adolescents) died from gun related causes in 2019. That is an average of 4 people per day. 36% of these deaths were homicides. Young black men ages 15-34 were at greatest risk of gun-related homicide. 63% of gun-related deaths were suicides. Guns were used in half of all suicides; and white men over age 75 years were at highest risk of gun related suicide. 13.09% of Pennsylvania's gun-related deaths occurred in Allegheny County. These deaths profoundly impact women; even when they do not die physically. Gun related deaths of loved ones shape the health and well-being of parents and grandparents, significant others, life partners and spouses, children and grandchildren, other family members, co-workers and friends for many years thereafter. (Source: [Pennsylvania | The Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence \(efsgv.org\)](https://www.efsgv.org))

On March 4, 2021, State Representative Ed Gainey (D-Allegheny) re-introduced legislation to ban the possession, purchase, transfer, use and manufacture of high capacity, semi-automatic assault weapons in Pennsylvania (H.B. 770). Such guns were used in the mass shootings at a nightclub and high school in Florida, an elementary school in Connecticut, a church in Texas and a synagogue in Pennsylvania. Even though one of those shootings happened here, Pennsylvania lawmakers have failed to pass legislation banning these weapons. The proposed legislation would make exceptions for members of the US Armed Forces, Reserve, National Guard, and law enforcement while performing and traveling to and from their duties. It would not impact a person's lawful ownership of these weapons before the date of the new policy enforcement. As of 06/03/2021, the Bill is now being reviewed in the Judiciary committee. (Source: Gainey pushes legislation to ban assault weapons in Pennsylvania <https://pahouse.com/InTheNews/NewsRelease/>.)

This Spring, State Representatives Ben Sanchez and Mike Zabel re-introduced legislation that would require a 72-hour waiting period for all firearm sales or transfers in Pennsylvania. (H.B.1306) They believe this is a smart, practical way to reduce gun violence that is often the impulsive, unplanned outcome of an individual's real-time inability to manage their anger and impulsivity related to unhealthy relationships and other life challenges. The proposed legislation would provide a 72-hour "cooling off" period before a newly acquired gun could be obtained and used to "address the problem" by "violently lashing out" at family members, co-workers, or others who disappoint, frustrate, hurt, anger, or enrage them. The waiting period would also reduce the risk of suicide by gun since those actions are often impulsive and unplanned. In addition, the waiting period allows more time for intervention by family members or co-workers, law enforcement officers, mental health workers, domestic violence advocates and courts before tragic loss of life occurs. (Source: [A 72-hour waiting period could reduce gun violence in Pa. \(goerie.com\)](https://www.goerie.com)) As of 06/03/2021, this Bill is also before the Judiciary Committee.

State Representatives Todd Stephens and Jennifer O'Mara wrote a co-sponsorship memorandum regarding Extreme Risk Prevention Orders- Using Data Driven, Evidence Base Practices to Reduce Suicides. They were seeking co-sponsors to re-introduce this bill. 19 other states have authorized these orders. ERPOs provide a mechanism by which family members or law enforcement officers can petition a court to temporarily disarm someone who is in crisis. The proposed legislation would provide due process protections for gun owners that are not available regarding mental health commitments; while providing family members and law enforcement officers with a much-needed tool to prevent gun owners in crisis from finding a long term, often deadly solution to a short-term crisis. Civil and criminal penalties can be imposed on anyone

who falsely or fraudulently petitions for an ERPO. (Source: Rep Todd Stephens and Rep Jennifer O’Meara House CO-Sponsorship Memorandum 03/22/2021 at <http://www.legis.state.pa>.) As of 06/03/2021 no other information about proposed ERPO legislation was available.

**What Can AAUW- NHB Members Do:**

Research gun violence – causes, effects, prevention strategies etc.

Research the pros and cons of the proposed legislation described above.

Telephone, email or text your state legislators to tell them what action you want them to take.

Complete and email documentation of this AAUW NHB public policy activity. **Please use the following chart format in your email to Cora Koller, Public Policy Chair at [photowriter56@verion.net](mailto:photowriter56@verion.net).**

DATE	AAUW NHB MEMBER NAME	ACTIVITY	PURPOSE	RESULT

**June 2021 IPODS! We’re Back!**

*Hosts for the evening were Jim and Clare Hoke.*



**Happy Birthday Joyce!**



### 2021 Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association (PHIMA)

The Distinguished Member Award of the Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association is an honor whereby one outstanding member of the Association is recognized for loyal services to the Association and contributions to the profession.

**PHIMA is proud to honor AAUW branch member Maryann Anderson, MPH, RHIA as its Distinguished Member for 2021.**

## Summer Retreat 2021

### Let's Come Together to Support the Mission

Join us via Zoom on Saturday, July 24, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Keynote Speakers will be:



**Chrissy Houlahan** - U.S. Representative from Pennsylvania's 6th Congressional District. She will be speaking on "Initiatives to Improve STEM and STEAM Education for Students in PA."

**Leah P. Hollis, Ed.D.** - Associate Professor at Morgan State University, Wilmington, DE She will be speaking on "Workplace and On-Campus Bullying"



#### There's more!

- We will be celebrating our PA Star Branches and Award Recipients.
- There will be small group sessions for Districts, Counterparts, and just Meeting-and-Greeting to share ideas with each other.
- There will also be Public Policy and National updates.

Please plan to eat your lunch from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. while enjoying the Counterparts meeting and one of the keynote addresses. There will also be breaks built into the schedule. Cost to participate is \$10. You will also have an opportunity to donate an additional \$5.00 or more to support the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

**Registration closes July 17th. To Register:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAUWSummerRetreat2021>



#### Virtual Baskets (at Summer Retreat)

Because our summer retreat will be done virtually this year, we have switched to a virtual fundraiser for the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. Our branch will design a basket of goodies worth \$50- \$100 that the branch can ship to the winner, share electronically, or have shipped by the commercial seller(s)





## Linda Haigh Tozier AAUW-Pennsylvania Special Honoree

April 10, 2021

It is not often that AAUW Pennsylvania bestows the Special Honoree award. This year we are very pleased to name Linda Tozier as an AAUW Pennsylvania Special Honoree. The surprise presentation took place at the annual meeting. Go to <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/awards/> to read the tribute, and enjoy photos. As she concludes her last elected position on the Board, we thought it only fitting to honor her work with this Special Honoree Award. It is hard to express our appreciation to Linda for her many, many years of service on the AAUW-Pennsylvania Board. Her historical knowledge provided context to our discussions. Her passion for AAUW reminded us to remain committed. Her humor and sense of joy brightened the room.

### Update from AAUW PA

On May 18 -- The PA School Funding Lawsuit webinar was held. Right now, 86% of Pennsylvania students attend schools that don't receive adequate resources for education, according to state law.

Use the [Find Your District](#) interactive tool on the website to learn more about the underfunding in your community. Our leaders in Harrisburg have failed to pay their fair share for public education, leaving local taxpayers to pick up the slack. This creates a system where underfunding is widespread, and the students who need the most get the least, because of where they live.

The Find Your District tool (<https://www.fundourschoolspa.org/findyourdistrict>) enables you to see how underfunded your school district is under our current system. You are able to download a customized graphic for your district and share with your school board, community leaders, legislators. This tool provides data for your advocacy. To stay current on the lawsuit and explore the issue, register with [FundOurSchoolsPA.org](#). Other trusted sources of information about education matters and the current state budget are [PASchoolsWork.org](#) and [EducationVotersPA.org](#).

This is budget season in Harrisburg and we have learned from past years that developments occur quickly. Get your news accurately and quickly by signing up for alerts from these organizations. While focusing on certain pieces of the education puzzle, all three of these organizations are working together to improve public education for Pennsylvania students.

***It has been a real pleasure serving as editor  
of the Viewpoints for the past several years.***

***Have a great summer! Enjoy getting  
together! Always be a part of AAUW North  
Hills Pittsburgh!***

~ June



**AAUW NORTH HILLS SEPTEMBER KICKOFF  
140th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION/BRANCH  
MEETING**



**Celebrate our first in-person meeting of 2021-22!  
Greet New Members & Guests and meet the  
Sr. Matilda Kelly Grant Recipient!**

***Where: TREESDALE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB  
"The Apple Blossom Room"***

***When: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2021***

***6:30 PM: SOCIAL***

***7:00 PM: GRANT PRESENTATION/BRANCH MEETING***

***8:00 PM: VERA BRADLEY GIFT BASKET DRAWING***

***In addition to food and beverages, your \$25.00 enters your name  
into a drawing for a \$200.00 Vera Bradley Gift Basket,  
Compliments of the Vera Bradley Store, Ross Park Mall!***

**Enjoy Hot Appetizers & Appetizer Stations  
Beverage station: Iced tea, Lemonade, Coffee, Hot tea!**

**COST PER MEMBER: \$25**

**WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES/MORE INFO**

**Please make checks payable to: AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh**

**Return to: Betty Kroniser, 920 Camelot Drive, PGH, PA 15237**

***RSVP BY: Monday, September 13, 2021***



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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**

President: Deborah Rosenfelder	412-916-9073 or <a href="mailto:rosenfelderd@verizon.net">rosenfelderd@verizon.net</a>
Program VP: Kelley Clouser	717-283-6344 or <a href="mailto:kelleyclouseraaauw@gmail.com">kelleyclouseraaauw@gmail.com</a>
Membership: Janis Kapadia	724-935-7507 or <a href="mailto:jkapadia@consolidated.net">jkapadia@consolidated.net</a>
Viewpoints Editor: June Maier	412-445-5135 or <a href="mailto:junemaier@gmail.com">junemaier@gmail.com</a>

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

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)

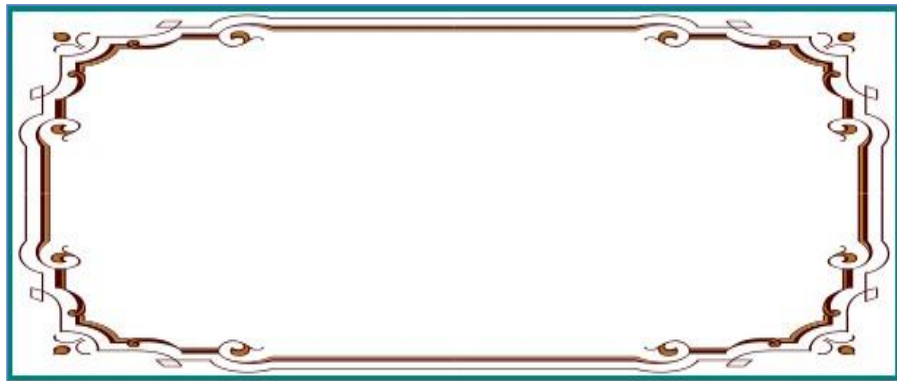
State Website: [www.aauw-pa.org](http://www.aauw-pa.org)

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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**