

December Program

*Holiday Social*  
*At Wildwood Country Club*  
Saturday, December 10, 2022



It is not too late to join us as we celebrate the season with a festive Holiday Party! There will be good food, friends, holiday music and a cookie table. This is a chance to wear your favorite holiday outfit or your favorite ugly sweater.

**Reservations are due by December 1<sup>st</sup> to June Maier**



Starts at 11:30 A.M

## ***INSPIRATIONAL QUOTATION***



### **December at a Glance QUICK REFERENCE CALENDAR**

**December 10, *Holiday Social***  
**Wildwood Country Club**  
 2195 Sample Rd, Allison Park, PA 15101

**December 13, 9:30 a.m. Morning Book Group**  
**"The Reporter Who Knew Too Much"**  
 by Mark Shaw  
 Reviewer: Kathy Batykefer Hostess: Fran Bogos

**December 17, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. IPODs**  
**At Ann Carlson's House**

**December 19, 7:00 p.m. Evening Book Group**  
**"Small Things Like These"**  
 by Claire Keegan  
 Facilitator: Judy Dillon Hostess: Peggy Schmiedecke

### **VIEWPOINT ARTICLES**



We encourage all of our members to submit articles to the Viewpoints. If you have something to include in our newsletter the deadline is the **25th of each Month**. Please send to Debbie Rosenfelder in word format at [rosenfelderd@verizon.net](mailto:rosenfelderd@verizon.net)

If I do not have it by 5 P.M. on the 25th of the month it does not make the viewpoints.

## President's Message

Hello, everyone!

It's hard to believe the holiday season is upon us! We have had a wonderful start to the year with fantastic programming, a successful fundraiser, and creative new ideas. I am proud that our branch continues to offer our programs and branch meetings in a hybrid format. It allows us to connect with each other even if health, distance, or scheduling conflicts prevent someone from attending in person. While it's not easy to conduct a meeting through a hybrid format, it's worth the extra prep to be inclusive.

A huge thank you to Sylvia for her work on the beautiful quilt for our fundraiser. We raised the full \$2,000 needed for next year's Sister Matilda grant! Well done, all! We are hard at work on planning our "For the Love of Books" spring fundraiser. More details coming soon...

Mark your calendars! AAUW-PA is planning a summer retreat for July 29, 2023, in Gettysburg. Like our branch programs, it will be in hybrid format. I will share more details with you as they become available.

If you haven't yet signed up for the December holiday luncheon, please do so asap. It's going to be a wonderful event!

Finally, in this season of thanks and gratitude, I would be remiss if I did not share how thankful I am for all of you. For all your hard work benefitting our branch and for voting this past election – THANK YOU!

Happy Holidays!  
Kelley



### December 2022 Financial Report - June Maier (As Of November 27)

#### CHECKING

Beginning Balance	\$6,949.33
Income	\$1,190.00
Expenses	<u>\$336.99</u>
Ending Balance	\$7,802.34

#### SAVINGS

Beginning Balance	\$4,835.41
Interest Earned	<u>\$0.04</u>
Ending Balance	\$4,835.45

**CHECKING + SAVINGS** \$12,637.79

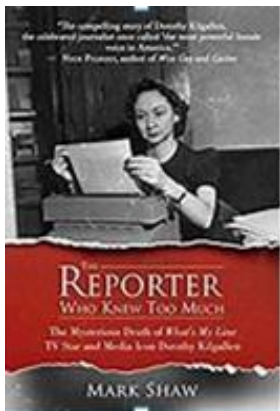
## December Happenings

### Lunch Bunch

The Lunch bunch will not be meeting in December. Instead we will be celebrating at the holiday social at Wildwood Country Club, 2195 Sample Rd, Allison Park, PA 15101. This is a great opportunity to start the holiday season. Come enjoy holiday music, good food and there will even be a holiday cookie table.



### Morning Book Group: "The Reporter Who Knew Too Much" by Mark Shaw



On November 8, 1965, millions of fans of *What's My Line?* CBS television star, Pulitzer Prize-nominated columnist and crack investigative reporter Dorothy Kilgallen were shocked when she was found dead in her NYC townhouse. The autopsy report concluded she accidentally died of an "Acute Ethanol and Barbiturate Intoxication: Circumstances Undetermined."

### Evening Book Group: "Small Things Like These" by Claire Keegan



It is 1985 in a small Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man faces his busiest season. Early one morning, while delivering an order to the local convent, Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the complicit silences of a town controlled by the church.

Already an international bestseller, *Small Things Like These* is a deeply affecting story of hope, quiet heroism, and empathy from one of our most critically lauded and iconic writers.



## Membership



Happy Holidays from AAUW membership!

It has been such a pleasure getting to see so many members in person this fall!

We realize that along with the beauty of the holidays comes some wintry weather and longer nights, but are hoping that everyone is able to enjoy some warmer moments with AAUW friends through Morning or Evening Book Group, Bridge, Lunch Bunch, or IPODS. Please consider asking a friend to join you as more guests may lead to a few more members for our wonderful North Hills Pittsburgh Branch of AAUW!

And PLEASE do ask a friend or neighbor to join you in attending a session or two of Great Decisions in February or March. This program is free, and a wonderful educational outreach program for all of the adults in our community. More information will be in our January Viewpoints, but save a few Saturday mornings to join us – and feel just a little bit smarter before noon!

Francie Cech and Jenny Schwoebel

## Outstanding Woman and Member Making a Difference



It is time to start thinking about who has made a difference this year to the branch and who has served the branch and the community. The committee solicits recommendations from branch members 60 days prior to the PA state deadline which typically is mid-February. If you know of someone you would like to nominate, please include a brief statement explaining the reason for the nomination. This can be emailed to Betty Kroniser at

[Bjk15237@comcast.net](mailto:Bjk15237@comcast.net).

## Branch Service Project Feminine Hygiene Products

### What items are we collecting for the Feminine Hygiene Products Service Project?

Tampons, pads, deodorant, bar soap, shower gel, shampoo and conditioner.

**How do I donate?** Donated items can be optionally brought to branch meetings, board meetings or special interest groups. If there is a collection, please contact Peggy Schmiedecke at [pschmiedece@comcast.net](mailto:pschmiedece@comcast.net) to make an arrangement to get the items from you. Or you may drop items off to Julie Makuta, Monday-Friday during business hours. Julie's email is [Julie.Makuta@laroche.edu](mailto:Julie.Makuta@laroche.edu)

**Who uses the pantry?** The pantry is utilized by La Roche students. It does not matter if a recipient is full time or part time, as long as they have a La Roche ID.



## The Fall Fundraiser Quilt Raffle Winner The winner was Betty Kroniser. Enjoy!!!



A Big Thanks for those of you that Participated in the raffle for the quilt and gift basket (wine, gift card, chocolate and a candle). We were able to raise \$2000.00 for the Sister Matilda Kelly Incentive Grant. This is amazing, you are awesome.



## Great Decisions

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

AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh is again sponsoring the program for the North Hills community.

Our Great Decisions leadership team, Frances Cech, Fran Bogos and Sr. Rita, are planning for the 2023 program to be held on Saturday mornings in February and March. Plans are currently underway for the 2023 season to be a hybrid model. For each session registrants will be able to choose whether to participate on Zoom or in-person by coming to the Palumbo Center at La Roche University. (Yes, Zoom can be thought of as one part of the past two years that we can continue to use as it provides an option to many people who might not otherwise be able to attend Great Decisions!)

**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.

**Books and the complete schedule of dates will be available in January.**

### Great Decisions Topics for 2023

- *Energy Geopolitics*
  - *War Crimes*
- *China and the US*
- *Economic Warfare*
- *Politics in Latin America*
  - *Global Famine*
- *Iran at the Crossroads*
  - *Climate Migration*





## **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

### **May 20, 2023: Author's lunch "For The Love of Books" Fundraiser**

The AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch is pleased to announce we are bringing back the Authors Event, "For the Love of Books" Fundraiser. Three talented local female authors will discuss their stories, their books and answer questions during a panel presentation. The cost of \$45 includes entrance to the event, light refreshments when you arrive, authors' presentations, and lunch. You will have the opportunity to interact with the Authors prior to their presentation. There will be vendors. More information concerning this event will be forthcoming in upcoming Viewpoints.

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## **Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Unity Breakfast**

The Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Unity Breakfast will be held on January 16, 2023, the third Monday of January.

More information will be in the January Viewpoints and a flyer with the information about keynote speaker and other participants will be emailed to our members as soon as details are confirmed. A registration form will be included.





## Public Policy

### Tracking proposed changes to the Pa. Constitution

Voters could be flooded with proposed changes to the Pa Constitution in 2023.

Amending the constitution, though cumbersome, does not involve the governor. Instead, proposed constitutional amendments, after passing both chambers of the General Assembly two sessions in a row, become referendum that voters can approve or reject in the following election. If a majority of voters approve an amendment — and it [survives any legal challenges](#) — it goes into effect and becomes part of the constitution.

The link below lets you look at the proposed changes, who proposed the change and were the proposed change, are in the process. This is a great opportunity to let your legislators know where you stand on one or many of these proposed changes

[A complete guide and amendment tracker for proposed changes to Pennsylvania's Constitution · Spotlight PA](#)



## Diversity Update

Barbara Matthews and Jan Peischl attended the AAUW National Diversity Officer Training Seminar on Oct. 29. They heard a discussion of Emotional Intelligence including these 5 aspects: social skills, decision making, self-awareness, self-reputation and empathy. Recruitment is definitely a membership issue. We all need to reach out to younger women and women of color: ie. Latino, Black, Asian, and indigenous, etc. Stay tuned for more information.



## AAUW Funds

Thank you to everyone who continues to donate to AAUW FUNDS. Any donations received on Giving Day will be matched by the National Board and some Legacy Circle members through December 31st. Member dues cover only 10 percent of AAUW's costs. You can donate as little as \$5 to the Area of Greatest Need or to one of AAUW's Areas of Focus: EDUCATION AND TRAINING, ECONOMIC SECURITY, LEADERSHIP and GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY. Mail your check to AAUW at 1320 L Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC or charge online at [AAUW.org/YearEnd2022](https://www.aauw.org/YearEnd2022).

Submitted by Linda Tozier

## Bell Ringers: Do you have 2 hours?

The North Hills Community Outreach (NHCO) Salvation Army Kettle Campaign begins on Friday, November 25 and runs through December 24, excluding Sundays.

**Our branch has participated in past years and we are hoping we have members who will volunteer in this endeavor this year.**

This year our branch will be standing with the kettles at McCandless Crossing and Walmart in Gibsonia.

Volunteers will ring the bells and accept financial donations in NHCO's kettles. Volunteers will sign up for 2-hour shifts from 10 am to 8 pm. We will be stationed at McCandless Crossing Mondays through Saturdays. The Walmart dates have not yet been determined.

McCandless Crossing bell ringers will be stationed outside on the sidewalk of Providence Blvd. between **Massage Envy** and **Style Encore** and facing **Convive Coffee**.

Walmart bell ringers will stand outside at the yellow spork (logo) at either entrance.

We'd like a minimum of 2 to 4 volunteers for each shift at each location.

**Please register to volunteer.** The money NHCO raises through this effort is used to directly assist people who come to NHCO for help. But we can only raise the money when a volunteer covers the shift.

Currently, NHCO is registering volunteers for McCandless Crossing. Once they have the dates and shifts scheduled for Walmart they will register volunteers at Walmart.

NHCO is using [SignUp.com](https://signup.com) for scheduling the bell ringers. **Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:**

1. **For McCandless Crossing** click **this link** to go to our sign-up page on [SignUp.com](https://signup.com/go/KWviHZR): <https://signup.com/go/KWviHZR>
2. **For Walmart - TBD**
3. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on [SignUp.com](https://signup.com)) **Sign up!** Choose your spots - [SignUp.com](https://signup.com) will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

*Note: [SignUp.com](https://signup.com) does not share your email address with anyone.*

If you prefer not to use your email, please contact Janice Peischl at [peischl@comcast.net](mailto:peischl@comcast.net)



## November in Pictures

### November Branch Meeting

If you were not able to attend you missed a very stimulating program. Janine Bayer discussed the challenges she encountered in writing a literary biography that departs from the standard expectations. Member got a firsthand look at the life and works of Samuel Hazo. There were 15 members in person and 9 members joined via Zoom



### November Lunch Bunch at Bravo





### November IPods

The theme of the November IPOD was Cranberry. Each participant brought a cranberry food product (e.g. sauce, juice, berries) or other similar item. These food products were then donated to the North Hills Food Bank so their recipients could enjoy a cranberry-related food for Thanksgiving.





## Fun Fact

### When should you take down the Christmas Tree?

We all know that one person who keeps their Christmas tree up for what feels like forever. While many of us are ready to pack away the decorations almost as quickly as the presents are unwrapped, others like to hold on to the magic a little longer. But what does Christmas tradition say for how long we should leave our tree up? Well, it's a lot longer than you may think.



The holidays and how each family celebrates tend to vary. We all have our own traditions and those drive how we move about the holiday. And that's why there's so much variation in how long someone's Christmas tree stays up. But, if you wanted to go by actual Christmas tradition, our decorated trees should stay up until January 6.

There are actually 12 days of Christmas, like the song. But this time period begins on December 25 and doesn't end when Santa has come and gone. Instead, the 12 days of Christmas go from December 25 through January 5.

According to Christian tradition, January 6 marks the day the three kings actually arrived in Bethlehem and signals the end of the Christmas celebrations," the publication reports.

Tradition says that January 6, also called The Feast of Epiphany, Three Kings Day, or The Twelfth Night, is the earliest a tree should be taken down because that's the date that signals the end of the traditional celebrations.



## From Your Board



### 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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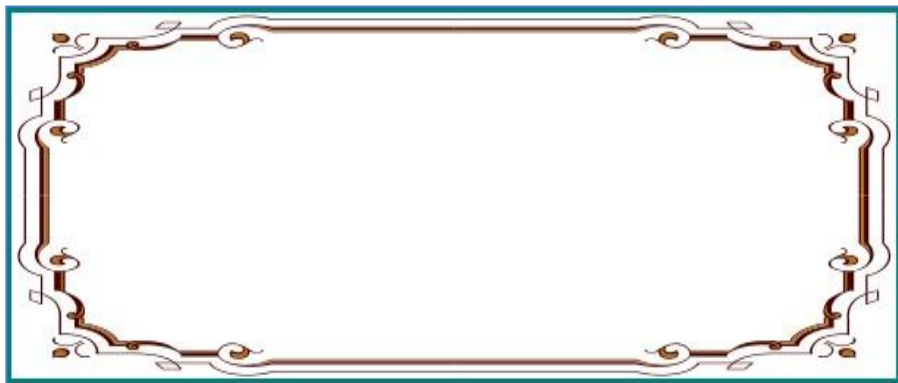
## Viewpoints

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AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch

Linda Tozier, Distribution Manager

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**Because Equity is still an issue**