

MARCH PROGRAM**Program Title: The Women's Exhibit – A Woman's Place: How Women Shaped Pittsburgh**

From pioneering investigative journalism to leading their country to Olympic gold, Western Pennsylvania women have made an immeasurable impact in America, but too often, their stories have been overlooked.

This month's program

"A Woman's Place: How Women Shaped Pittsburgh," will discuss women who entered fields they traditionally couldn't, from journalism to film to politics. A Woman's Place will reveal how women have made Pittsburgh and the world a better place. We will hear stories of Pittsburgh's "fierce and unflappable" women, from the early 1800s to the present.

Speaker: Robert Stakeley

Robert is the Affiliates Program Manager at the Senator John Heinz History Center, in association with the Smithsonian Institute. Robert, a former librarian, archivist, and educator, provides various levels of instruction and guidance for audiences. Robert has extensive experience in collecting, preserving, and providing access to collections.

March Program

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Location: La Roche University

Ryan Room

5:45 P.M. Social

6:15 P.M. Gateway To Equity Award

6:45 P.M. Program

7:30 P.M. Business Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81844276664?pwd=8U5CH1ucegFOhrpT8tGKabw6IYFOYG.1>

Meeting ID: 818 4427 6664

Passcode: aa uw

Speaker: Robert Stakeley



March at a Glance

QUICK REFERENCE CALENDAR

Mar 4, 10:00 a.m. Board Meeting

At June Maier's

Mar 11, 9:30 a.m. Morning Book Group

Lessons in Chemistry

By Bonnie Garmus

Facilitator: Janice Peischl

Hostess: Marilyn Lanz

Mar 14, 1:00 p.m. Lunch Bunch

Sieb's Pub & Restaurant

3382 Babcock Blvd Pittsburgh PA 15237

Mar 17, 7:00 p.m. Evening Book Group

The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store

By James Mc Bride

Facilitator: June Maier

Hostess: Christine Ley

Mar 19, Branch Meeting

Please note time changes

5:45 P.M. Social

6:15 P.M. Gateway To Equity Award

6:45 P.M. Program / Business meeting to follow

"A Woman's Place: How Women Shaped Pittsburgh"

Location: La Roche University, Ryan Room

Mar 24 7:00 p.m. Zoom Call to vote on Bylaw changes

Mar 25, 6:15 p.m. Equal Pay Day Program –

Women Financial Empowerment

Speaker: Annahid Samiljan

Mar 29, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. IPODs

Hosted by the Kohr's

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



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

WEB SITE



Don't Forget Me...
I'm always here!
I'm your Branch AAUW Website:
<https://aaunorthhillspgh.org>
Stay informed!

Webmaster: Susan Banerjee

President's Message



March is the month where we start to get back into motion. We are thawing out from the winter months, days are getting longer, and we are ready to get back into the swing of things. By the end of March, the sun won't set until 7:58pm. For us that do not like driving in the dark we can start to attend evening events.

By now we have completed four Great Decision sessions. The sessions featured impartial, thought-provoking analyses on four issues of concern to U.S. policymakers today. We will complete our Great Decision Sessions in March

Also, our Nominating Committee is hard at work putting a new slate of officers together for the 25/26 Branch year. Look for more information in the Viewpoints. We will announce the slate of officers at the March branch meeting and will vote on the officers at our April Branch meeting.

We have a lot of exciting events planned for March. Check out your Viewpoints for planned events. At our Branch meeting in March, we will announce the branch Gateway to Equity Award winner (an award instituted by AAUW-PA as a way for local branches to recognize organizations and individuals who promote equity for women and girls.) Our Public Policy Chair, Peggy Schmiedecke, will present this award.

International Women's Day is celebrated every year on March 8th. This special day celebrates and honors the lives of women and the challenges they face. The month of March is also Women's History Month, which conjures images of women in wide brimmed hats marching for voting rights in the 1800—1900s. Women's History Month has its roots as far back as March 8, 1857.

Welcome new members! Our Branch is growing. It is so wonderful to see growth and so many new and friendly faces.

Debbie

March 2025 Financial Report – June Maier

(as of February 22, 2025)

CHECKING		SAVINGS		9-MONTH CD	
Beginning Balance	\$7,551.14	Beginning Balance	\$3,836.59	Beginning Balance	\$3,120.73
Deposits		Transactions	\$0.00		
	\$340.00				
Expenses		Interest	TBD	Interest	TBD
	\$480.00	Earned		Earned	
Ending Balances	\$7,411.14	Ending Balances	\$3,836.59	Ending Balance	\$3,120.73
CHECKING + SAVINGS + CD = \$14,368.46					

Membership

Let's Keep Growing Together!

**"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."
Eleanor Roosevelt, First Lady, diplomat, columnist**

Sadly, as of this writing the United States finds itself in a time of drastic change with the abrupt closing of many institutions with more on the horizon. Many of the changes will directly affect women. Donald Trump's first administration as U.S. President attacked women's rights across a broad range of issues including eroding efforts to end the pay gap between men and women, weakening Title IX –the law banning sex discrimination in public education, undermining access to birth control and starting the process to greatly hinder access to healthcare. There is much more to lose, specifically inclusivity and financial advancement, and many women are wondering how best to address these concerns post-election.

It is quite understandable to be overwhelmed and anxious about the future of women's rights with the many changes that have taken place in the past few weeks, not to mention the question of legality in regard of these changes. We cannot, however, give up the 143 year focus and commitment of AAUW. Our organization is committed to gender equity in all forms: education, economic, and inclusivity. AAUW is a community of more than 170,000 members standing strong for gender equity and please know **your voice and your membership matters!** We need to continue to raise our collective voices to address some of the most crucial issues of our time. While there will be challenges ahead, AAUW remains steadfast in our fight to ensure full equity of equality that cannot be undermined on account of sex and as always, work together to support women.

You can help! PLEASE ask a friend if they would like to know more about AAUW. Guests are welcome to attend our next program on Wednesday, March 19th, when our guest will be Robert Stakely. Robert is the Affiliates Program Manager at the Heinz History Center in association with the Smithsonian Institute. He will be addressing the "A Women's Place: How Women Shaped Pittsburgh" and guests are most welcome to join us for coffee, cookies, conversation, and the presentation of our Gateway to Equity award at 6:15 pm as well as learning more about our role in Pittsburgh history –or "her-story"!

We look forward to seeing you in March,
Francie Cech and Jennifer Schwoebel, Membership V.P.'s, NHP AAUW



March Happenings

Lunch Bunch

Sieb's Pub & Restaurant 3382 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237

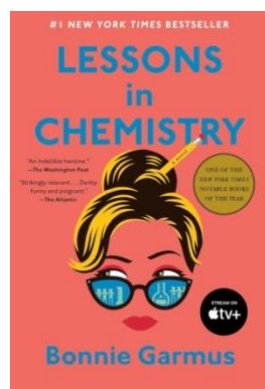
Sieb's Pub is a family-owned and operated Irish pub, restaurant, and banquet facility. Owners Ken (Sonny) and his wife Judy Siebert opened their doors in November 2004 and have made so many great friends along the way.

Wear your favorite green and help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day



Morning Book Group

Lessons in Chemistry by [Bonnie Garmus](#).

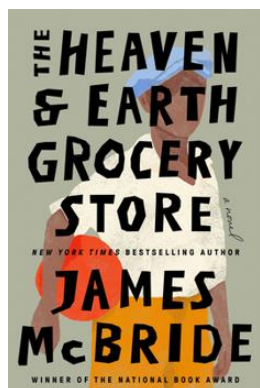


It tells the story of Elizabeth Zott, who becomes a beloved cooking show host in 1960s Southern California after being fired as a chemist four years earlier. Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*? Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Evening Book Group

The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride



This is a novel by American writer James McBride. It was released in 2023 to critical success. The novel tells the story of Black and Jewish residents of the Chicken Hill neighborhood of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, in the 1920s and '30s. It's a story about people who are struggling and their ambitions, successes and disappointments. In this compassionate, life-affirming and often funny novel, McBride explores what it means to be in a community and to live at the margins of "white" America".

Great Decisions 2025 is off to a great start!
Please join us for our next four sessions!

Our North Hills Pittsburgh Branch of AAUW is so pleased to once again be sponsoring the Great Decisions discussion program in 2025! We are so hoping that you will be able to join us, and here are the answers to the top four questions you may have at this time.

1- When will this program take place?

Saturday mornings in February and March:

Session 3 - Saturday, February 15th, 2025 – “American Foreign Policy in the Middle East: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead”

Featured speaker Professor Ross Harrison, University of Pittsburgh

Session 4 - Saturday, February 22nd, 2025 – “The Future of NATO and European Security” featured speaker Dr. Soren Fanning, Robert Morris University

Session 5 – Saturday, March 8th, 2025 – “AI and American National Security” featured speaker is Professor Sarwar Sohel, La Roche University

Session 6 – Saturday, March 15th, 2025 – “American Policy at a Crossroads” featured speaker is Dr. Soren Fanning, Robert Morris University

2- Where will this program take place? Our Great Decisions programs will take place both in-person at La Roche University, Room 101 in the Palumbo Science Center and on Zoom. Our website will be updated every week with the information to access the Zoom link for the upcoming session. Covid threw us many curve balls, but one of the better things it left in its wake was the ability, and value, of connecting through Zoom! We are offering our speakers the option of joining us on Zoom as well.

3- What is the cost of attending this amazing program? Once again, our North Hills Pittsburgh Branch is pleased and proud to be offering this valuable educational outreach program to the community at no cost to the attendees. We will, however, be most appreciative of donations to the cause. We will have a donation box available at each of the Great Decisions sessions.

4- Wondering about the availability of books for the 2025 season of Great Decisions? If you wish to purchase a book for the 2025 season, (optional) they are once again available to purchase at the La Roche University Library.

The books are \$30.00 and payable by check only. Checks should be made payable to:
AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh:

As of last week there was one book still available

Please check the AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh website for additional or updated information and to register if you will be Zooming in for a session.

We look forward to having you join us, with or without a book, in person or via Zoom, for Great Decisions 2025!

Great Decisions team: Francie Cech, Fran Bogos, Sister Rita Yeasted.

2025 Branch Slate of officers

Voting will occur at the April 16th Branch meeting, please plan to attend.

Additional Nominations can be made from the floor prior to voting.

The Nominating committee consisted of June Maier (Chair) and member Francie Cech

The slate of officers for 2025:

President: Deborah Rosenfelder, 2-year term

Program Co-Vice Presidents: Fran Bogos and Kathleen Batykefer, 1-year term

Branch Secretary: Christine Ley, 2-year term

Board Secretary: Susan McAuliffe, 2-year term



Newly elected officers will be installed at the Annual Dinner on April 30, 2025

Bylaws Update

The branch will hold a special Zoom Meeting on March 24, 2025 at 7pm

This call will be to review changes to the Bylaws

And vote to approve changes.

Copies of the Bylaws with changes have been emailed to all members

If you have questions please reach out to Katherine Keith 724-612-4197

Please note changes to the first 7 Articles are mandated by AAUW National. Also AAUW National refers to branches as "affiliates".

A Zoom link and a reminder will be sent out about a week before the call

A special thanks to Katherine Keith and her committee (Janice Peischl and Sylvia Lynn)



Save The Dates!**ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER**

Please join us at Wildwood Golf Club
for our annual celebration dinner

April 30, 2025 Wildwood Golf club; 6:00- 8:00 PM

Flyer will be sent

**“For the Love of Books”
Branch Fundraiser**

Saturday, May 31, 2025, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

\$45 includes

- Help support AAUW's mission
- Meet local authors, presentations, & panel discussion
- Morning refreshments
- Light lunch gluten free, nut free
- Raffle baskets
- Shop with vendors
- Book signings

AAUW
NORTH HILLS PITTSBURGH (PA) BRANCH

**FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS
FUNDRAISER**

 Liz Milliron	 JoAnne Klimovich Harrop	 Jocelyn Kraemer
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MAY 31 2025

10 AM - 2 PM
La Roche University
Zappala Center Campus Square
9000 Babcock Blvd. Pgh, PA 15237
Website: <https://shorturl.at/eQdUm>
Reserve your spot by May 23!



Public Policy

National

AAUW Empowering Women Through Innovative Programs

Our award-winning programs are specifically designed to address these challenges. Through our initiative, we offer:

- **AAUW Work Smart: Know Your Value and Get Paid** – Training for early and mid-career professionals on negotiating for fair salaries, better benefits, and advancement opportunities.
- **AAUW Start Smart** – AAUW Start Smart is specifically designed for college women entering the job market, teaching effective salary negotiation techniques to boost your confidence and negotiation skills.
- **AAUW Money Smart** – The AAUW Money Smart program is aimed at providing all women with the personal finance information they need to ensure their own financial security.

These programs have already impacted over 190,000 women across the U.S., empowering them with confidence, knowledge, and skills.

2025 Webinar Schedule

These webinars are designed to provide you with the tools and knowledge needed to negotiate better salaries, enhance your career, and achieve financial independence. Whether you're a student stepping into the professional world or a seasoned professional aiming to advance, our webinars offer valuable insights for every stage of your career. **Check out our schedule and secure your spot** to start transforming your future today. Register for webinars in this series at this link,

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/womens-economic-empowerment-initiative/>

State

AAUW PA 2025 Summer Retreat

The AAUW Pennsylvania Summer Retreat will be held on June 28, 2025 at the Wyndham Garden State College.

There will be a reception Friday evening at the hotel for those who wish to spend Friday night getting to know their PA AAUW colleagues. The meeting will be held Saturday from 10 a.m – 3 p.m. for members who prefer to drive in for the day.

This will be an interactive day focused on topics that members have registered as priorities for branches.

Mark your calendar now. Information on the hotel block and conference will be sent to all members shortly.

Local**Equal Pay Day Program – March 25, 2025**

Women Financial Empowerment Presentation

Presenter: Annahid Samiljan, Equitable Advisor and a member of AAUW North Hills Branch

When: 6:15pm - 7:30pm, lite refreshments provided

Where: La Roche University, Ryan Room

Who: La Roche University, Undergrad & Graduate Students, Staff, Faculty, and AAUW Members

Please join this conversation with Equitable Advisor Annahid Samiljan as she seeks to empower women in every stage of life. Also to inspire and equips us with tools to overcome challenges, attain success, and progress in both personal and professional spheres.

**Gateway to Equity Award – North Hills Pittsburgh**

Sam strives to create a more equitable and inclusive world through professional and volunteer efforts. Her military experience serving in the Air Force cemented her commitment to gender equity and led her to work as a Communication Specialist at PA Women Work. She continues her advocacy efforts, actively serving on the leadership team for Pittsburgh for CEDAW, a local branch of Cities for CEDAW, which recently advocated for the re-establishment of the Pittsburgh Gender Equity Commission. Pittsburgh for CEDAW is currently working to promote gender equity policies across Allegheny County.

Samantha Salopek

Sam is a member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee for the Rachel Carson Trails Conservancy. She is a member and has served as Chair of the St. Paul's Social Justice and Anti-Racism Commission. Locally, Sam has contributed to her community as a member of the Green Tree Board of Recreation. Additionally, she played an integral part in organizing her fellow neighbors to advocate for open and transparent communication and accountability from borough government.

Sam holds a B.A. in Digital Journalism and Media, along with a Diversity Certificate from Penn State, and is a graduate of the Defense Information School's Photojournalism Course.

In her free time, Sam is an avid runner and hiker. She enjoys exploring the outdoors with her spouse, two young daughters, and their Boston Terrier, Nellie Bly.

An Invitation To Attend, AAUW PA Western District In Our Back Yard

The Fox Chapel and North Hills Pittsburgh AAUW branches have kindly scheduled a **regional meeting date and location for branches located in Western PA.**

Several members of the state board will be attending the meeting. This is an opportunity to get together in-person and provide input as we move forward into the new year. Some of you will have new officers at the helm and this would be a nice time for them to meet others.

The meeting is June 14 at the Cooper-Siegel Library in Fox Chapel, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

This is the first regional meeting that has been held in a good number of years.

The meeting will be informal, providing an opportunity to cover a wide range of topics including any burning issues.

This is a great opportunity to meet PA state official and members from other branches

This is your chance to be in a room where it is happening!!!!

Additional information will be forth coming



Diversity Rethinking DEI Debunking the Misconception

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives are often misunderstood.

Ask Yourself, What does DEI really mean?

A common misconception is that DEI exists solely to benefit minority groups, but this couldn't be further from the truth. DEI is about creating environments where **everyone**, regardless of background, has an equal opportunity to thrive. It's not exclusive; it's inclusive by design.



What Does Diversity Really Mean?

When people hear "diversity," they often think of race or ethnicity. While those are critical components, diversity is much broader. It encompasses: Everyone brings a unique perspective shaped by their experiences and DEI is about valuing all of those perspectives. The belief that DEI disadvantages certain groups, particularly white individuals, stems from misunderstanding. DEI doesn't mean giving preferential treatment—it means **removing barriers** so everyone competes on a level playing field. Privilege isn't an insult; it's an acknowledgment that certain factors (like race, gender, or socioeconomic background) haven't been barriers. Recognizing privilege helps us understand how to create spaces where **everyone** has equal opportunities.

The Bottom Line: DEI is for All of Us DEI isn't about taking opportunities away from one group to give to another. It's about **expanding opportunities for everyone**.

Here Are Just A Couple Example

D.E.I Includes	What D.E.I does not include
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramps and sidewalks • Subtitles & caption (TV& phones) • Changing tables in men's bathroom • Family restroom • Floating holidays • Belt extenders on planes • Pay equity & transparency • Not having to accept workplace harassment • Employee recognition programs • Work accommodations for a variety of disabilities • Flexible work arrangements • Material in different languages • Larger print • These are just a few there are many more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring an under qualified person for a job based on many reasons • Hiring based on race just to meet diversity goals. • Tokenism

PACK-A-PURSE 2025

We will once again be doing the Pack a Purse for our branch April Service Project. For several years now the evening book group, and last year the branch, has been collecting in April for The Pack-A-Purse project.

Once again AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch is happy to be helping with this initiative that supports women in need.

The actual collection will take place in April as our community project. In case you are getting a jump on some early spring cleaning and have a gently used purse or two to donate, or just would like to start tucking a few items aside each week that will be used to pack those purses, here is a list of items that the Pack-A-Purse team "packs" in all purses before they are distributed:

- shampoo, conditioner, brushes/combs
- hand lotion, hand wipes, tissues
- body wash, deodorant, wash cloth/shower puffs/loofahs
- toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss
- tampons, pads, hand sanitizer
- breath mints, fragrance, small umbrella



Thank you, in advance, for your support. The purses will be distributed to numerous organizations that support women including Angel's Place, Crisis Center North, Dress for Success, Genesis House, North Hills Community Outreach, Sojourner House and Veterans' Leadership Program of Western PA.

AAUW FIVE-STAR PROGRAM-PENNSYLVANIA BRANCHES SHINE!

An impressive seventeen Pennsylvania branches were awarded stars in AAUW's FY24 Five-Star program. Those stars represent serious commitment to the AAUW mission and to the local communities in which they were earned.

North Hills Pittsburgh Branch has earned 3 Stars: Communications & External Relations, Governance & Sustainability, and Programs.



Women's History Month

We know the phrase 'knowledge is power.' Women's History Month is an empowering, knowledge-sharing commemoration of the female experience. The month recognizes the specific achievements and contributions of all women throughout history. The theme for Women's History Month in 2025 is **"Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations"**. It celebrates the powerful influence of women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship, and leadership



The month of March is also special for women's celebration for another reason. **International Women's Day happens on March 8th.** It is a day that was first celebrated in 1911 and was part of the reason Women's History Month was chosen to be held in March. International Women's Day both celebrates women's achievements and reflects on the work that still needs to be done for gender equality around the world.

Women's History Month: Facts:

- International Women's day was first celebrated in 1911.
- Women's History Month began in 1987.
- Women's History Month has an annual theme. The first theme was 'Generations of Courage, Compassion, and Conviction' in 1987.
- New Zealand was the first self-governing country that allowed women the right to vote in 1893.
- Ada Lovelace is considered the first computer programmer.
- *The Tale of Genji* (early 11th century) by Murasaki Shikibu is often considered to be the world's first novel written by a woman.
- The first woman to achieve a medical degree in the United States was Elizabeth Blackwell in 1849.
- Katherine Johnson was a pioneering mathematician whose calculations led to the success of the first US spaceflights.
- The first woman to run and finish the Boston Marathon in 1966 was Roberta Gibb.

On the Lighter Side

Pi Day

The first eclipses of the year will be a total Lunar Eclipse on March 14, the pi-day. Blood Moon Eclipse is one of the most captivating celestial events. This phenomenon occurs during a total Lunar Eclipse, when the Earth aligns perfectly between the Sun and the Moon casting its shadow over the lunar surface. This total Lunar Eclipse will last a little over three hours starting at 1:09 AM EDT with the blood moon phase occurring about 2:36 AM. It will be visible from the Americas and other countries

Happy skygazing!



St. Patrick's Day



Feast day (March 17) of St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland. Born in Roman Britain in the late 4th century, he was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but returned about 432 CE to convert the Irish to Christianity. By the time of his death on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches, and schools. Many legends grew up around him—for example, that he drove the snakes out of Ireland and used the shamrock to explain the Trinity. Ireland came to celebrate his day with religious services and feasts.

**When things feel too overwhelming,
remember:
One day at a time,
One thought at a time,
One moment at a time, and
One task at a time.**



February in Pictures Lunch Bunch



IPODS





Great Decisions



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 rosenfelderd@verizon.net
Membership: Frances Cech	412-448-1182 or fmcech@gmail.com
Membership: Jennifer Schwoebel	412-559-1053 or jenniferbmcelroy@gmail.com
Viewpoints Editor: Debbie Rosenfelder	412-916-9073 or rosenfelderd@verizon.net

Branch Website: aaunorthhillspgh.org

Branch Email: aauwfam@gmail.com

Facebook Page: AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh branch

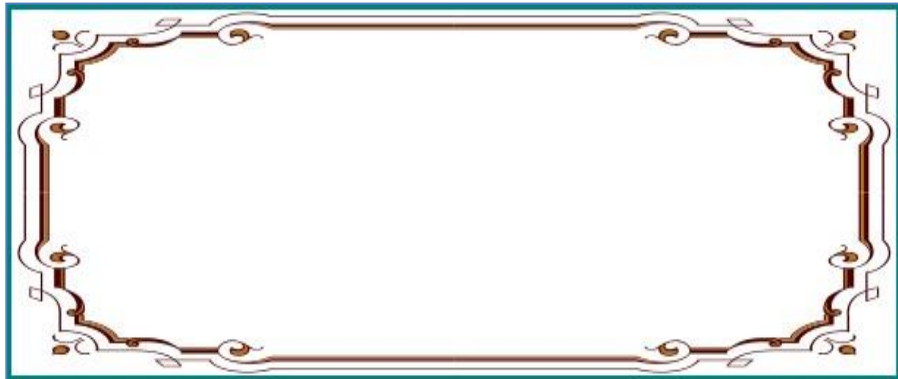
CONNECT2AAUW: 800-326-2289 or connect@aauw.org

National Website: www.aauw.org

State Website: www.aauw-pa.org

Viewpoints

AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch
Deborah Rosenfelder, Distribution Manager
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Because Equity is still an issue