

**A publication of the American Association of University Women
Allentown (PA) Branch
Breaking through barriers!**

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From the President.....

I just can't believe that it is mid-April. Soon we will close another AAUW year. It's been a good year. As I complete my term as president, I wish to say thank you to our branch board and officers for all they do for AAUW and for their support during this past year.

I hope you will join us on May 4th at Melt for our annual May luncheon as we celebrate AAUW. We are honored to have Elisabeth Cohen as our speaker. Thank you to her mom, Bonnie, for arranging her to be with us to talk about her book, "The Glitch."

During the luncheon we will honor our Outstanding Woman and Member Making A Difference Awardee and the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, this year's Gateway to Equity Award.

Elections/Annual Meeting

Normally, we hold our annual meeting and elections in April. Since we have not given you enough notice about the nominees and other business, we ask that you vote by May 1st.

The nominating committee has placed in nomination the following:

Finance Officer – Susan Nenstiel

Corresponding Secretary – Peggy Tyson

Recording Secretary – Beverly Tisdale

You will notice that we do not have nominees for president, vice-president program or vice-president membership. Prior to our March branch meeting, we held an open board meeting to discuss the future governance of our branch.

Those present moved to propose to the membership that we establish an administrative team of at least five and no more than 10 to work as a committee to direct the branch.

By consensus it was agreed that the administrative team would:

Work as a committee to plan strategies for recruitment and retention of members.

Be responsible for planning topics and logistics for programs, with help and input from the membership.

The board hopes that you will agree that for now this is the best way to govern our branch. I am pleased to report that current members of the board agreed to serve on the team. Certainly, any member of the branch is welcome to join us. I am pleased to report that Kathy Osmond will continue as newsletter editor – thank you Kathy.

On Thursday, May 9 we will host a workshop on the online Work Smart program at Lower Macungie Library, 3450 Brookside Road. The program will start at 6 and end at 7:30pm. Please bring your own device and encourage friends and neighbors to join us. If you want further information, visit www.lowermaclib.org or contact me at nenstiel@ptd.net or 610-965-0663.

See you soon! Don't forget to pay your dues and make your reservation for the luncheon.

Susan

Allentown AAUW Annual Spring Luncheon



Saturday, May 4, 2019 at Melt – 2nd floor
Promenade Shops, Center Valley, PA
(Take elevator or stairs)



Elisabeth Cohen will speak about her life as a writer, and her book, *The Glitch: A Novel*, coming out in paperback this April.

Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Doors open at 11:00 am.

Food served family style

Cost \$25.00

Send your check payable to **AAUW Allentown** to:

Linda Robbins

414 Kenilworth Court

Bethlehem, PA 18018-6360

by April 30th

Public Policy

Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair

From Deborah J. Vagins

AAUW Senior Vice President of Public Policy & Research.....

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, making it an important time to focus on making workplaces safer for all workers. Yesterday, I spoke at the House Democrats' 2019 Issues Conference on the work Congress needs to take on to ensure the economic security and safety of women.

Two vital bills in this effort saw movement this week:

The Be HEARD Act, introduced on Tuesday, would provide new protections against all forms of workplace harassment, including sexual harassment.

The Equality Act, which has now received hearings in the House Judiciary and Education and Labor Committees, would, among other things, ensure workers cannot be harassed or discriminated against based on their gender identity and sexual orientation.

Both bills aim to strengthen existing civil rights laws and expand these laws' coverage and enforcement, with the goal of ensuring all people can work in a workplace free from discrimination, including harassment of any kind.

AAUW will continue to advocate for the full range of legislation needed to make equality in the workplace a reality for women.

Onward!

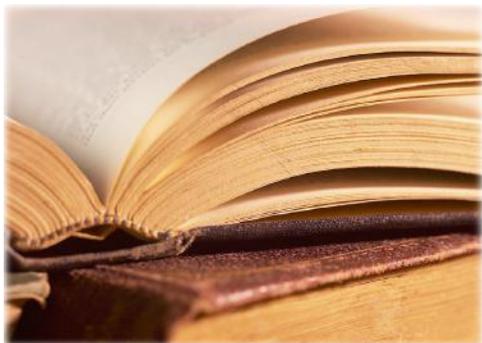
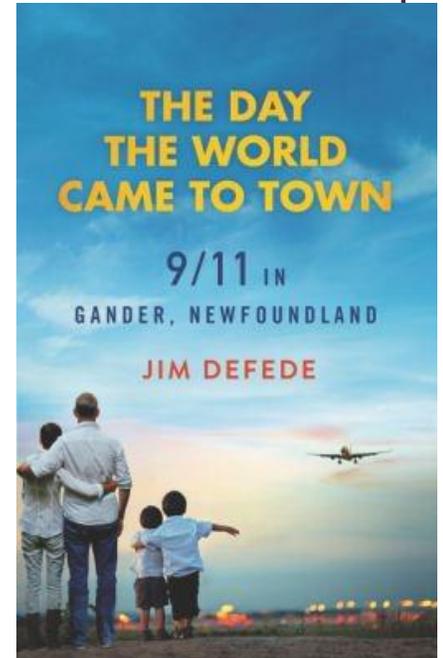
Five years ago this week, the Senate failed to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. We can't let history repeat itself! Put the pressure on your senators to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act by sending an email — or better yet, take advantage of the upcoming recess to schedule a meeting while your senators are at home. Our new Paycheck Fairness Act Quick Facts are a great tool to use for talking points or as a leave-behind at a meeting with your legislators.



Study/Interest Groups

Women's Literature

Date/Time: **Potluck Lunch**
May 20, noon
Hostess: Margie Weiss
610-398-2135
Book: ***The Day the World Came to Town***
by Jim DeFede
Facilitator: Peggy Tyson
New members are welcome.
Please call hostess if attending.



Literature of the Past and Present

Leader: Annette Bonstedt (610-395-5974)

Planning/Luncheon for the 2019-2020 book group meetings

Thursday, May 16, 12:30 pm

Hostess: Lesley Lojko, 932 Donald Drive, Emmaus, (610-965-6337)

Members are asked to bring a sweet or savory dish to share.

New members are welcome. Please call Annette if attending.



Legal Advocacy Fund

Nancy Moffett, Legal Advocacy Chair

The Supreme Court Finally Addresses the Rizo Case ... in Part.

Aileen Rizo's Fight for Fair Pay Continues.

On August 30, 2018, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools filed a petition for appeal with the Supreme Court of the United States to challenge the decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which had found in favor of Aileen Rizo's Equal Pay Act case. The Ninth Circuit had held that using prior salary alone, as a "factor other than sex" or in combination with other factors, cannot justify a wage differential under the Equal Pay Act.

On February 25, 2019, the Supreme Court vacated and remanded the Ninth Circuit's decision, which means that they determined that the Ninth Circuit's decision was flawed. It was sent back to the appellate court for additional review. The Court arrived at this conclusion without reviewing the merits of the equal pay case, focusing solely on the second issue before the Court, which was whether a federal court can count the vote of a judge who dies before the decision is issued. This was relevant because the judge who authored the Ninth Circuit decision died on March 29, 2018, although he had voted and issued his opinion prior to his death.

AAUW has been fighting for Rizo and others by advocating for pay equity and fairness in compensation and benefits as a means to achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women. We will continue to support her case through our legal case support program.

Why Rizo Matters

Basing pay on salary history can perpetuate the pay gap because women are typically paid less than men. If an employer bases the salary of a new employee on past wages, any prior discrimination in those wages is carried forward. This domino effect perpetuates pay inequity and has an impact on a woman's economic security. Rizo's case sheds light on this important yet often unrecognized factor contributing to the pay gap.

Please Help the Editor!

I would hate to miss a submission to *The Allentonian*. To reduce that possibility, please put "Allentonian" (without quotation marks) in the subject line of your email.

Thank you VERY much,

Kathy





AAUW MINUTE

Spotlighting AAUW's mission, work, and success

LEADERSHIP

Closing the gender gap in leadership opportunities

AAUW is building a comprehensive set of tools and trainings that will help member leaders be better advocates in their AAUW roles and beyond.



AAUW supports members by offering formal training and opportunities to help volunteers lead at the branch, state, and national levels.

- Leader Essentials
- In-person Trainings
- Member Trainers Program
- Webinars

GOAL A: Bolster the participation of girls and women in leadership roles throughout their lives.

- 1 Empower early and midcareer women to seek and succeed in leadership opportunities.
- 2 Expand leadership opportunities for women over 55 years of age or retired.

GOAL B: Advance the number of women in leadership, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.

- 1 Become a national resource on the impact of leadership development activities for the advancement of women into leadership roles.
- 2 Increase the inclusion and numbers of women serving on governing and advisory boards.





Don't forget to support AAUW when you shop at Dan Schantz!

<p>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE & CUT FLOWER OUTLET www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774</p> <p>2019</p> <p>AAUW Allentown Branch will receive a \$2.00 donation, when this coupon is presented via the APP or paper. Minimum purchase is \$10.00</p> <p>TICKETS MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE PROPERTY OF DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE exp 12/25/19</p>	<p>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE & CUT FLOWER OUTLET www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774</p> <p>2019</p> <p>AAUW Allentown Branch will receive a \$2.00 donation, when this coupon is presented via the APP or paper. Minimum purchase is \$10.00</p> <p>TICKETS MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE PROPERTY OF DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE exp 12/25/19</p>
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NO PAPER NECESSARY!!! PLEASE DOWNLOAD OUR APP ON THE GOOGLE PLAY STORE OR THE APPLE APP STORE. IT IS FREE AND WILL MAKE IT HASSLE FREE WHEN SHOPPING AT DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE AND DONATING TO YOUR FAVORITE ORGANIZATION!

The Allentonian

Please submit news and announcements to the editor, Kathy Osmond, at kosmond@fastmail.com
 Deadline is May 15 for the April issue Check the website for updated information and to read *The Allentonian* online.
 Allentown Branch Website: <http://allentown-pa.aauw.net>

Allentown Branch email address is: aauwallentown@yahoo.com
 National Website: www.aauw.org State Website: aauw-pa.aauw.net/

AAUW Member helpline: 800-326-AAUW

AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

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

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and in 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.

AAUW LAF/EF

AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/
 provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sexual discrimination.



Kathy Osmond
AAUW - Allentown Branch
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