

# The Allentonian

October 2019

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

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Hello All,

The fall season is now upon us, bringing with it cooler temperatures, shorter days, and, most likely, busier schedules. We hope you add to your November calendar our next branch program on November 17 featuring Alan Jennings of the Lehigh Valley Community Action League, the 2019 recipient of our Gateway to Equity award.



This program will count as a "Shape the Future" event, which means attendees joining our branch will do so at 1/2 price the normal dues. So you are encouraged to bring along any prospective members!

On that note, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce our newest members:

*Jill Krystofinski* has earned degrees from Rush and Temple Universities (PhD), and is currently working as a nurse anesthetist at Lehigh Valley Health Network. She is interested in learning more about each of our interest groups.

*Janet Wolff* holds a M.Ed. degree from CUNY-Staten Island and a B.S. from Connecticut State University. She is retired, and would like to become involved with Get Out the Vote and the Women's Lit Book Club.

Please welcome them both!



And finally, and very importantly, remember that on Nov. 3, 2020 (in just over a year!) we will be having a very significant election. (But don't forget the upcoming Nov 5 election and next May's primary!) So I'd like to repeat Leslie Lojko's reminder to check out the

status of your own voter registration by going to [pavotersservices.pa.gov/pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx](http://pavotersservices.pa.gov/pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx). In order to help eligible 18-year olds become registered voters, our branch will be working at local college campuses in the spring as part of the "Get Out the Vote" initiative. We will provide more information about how you can help in a later newsletter.

In the meantime, I'm wishing for you some refreshing and energizing days, and a busy calendar.

Ginny Delph

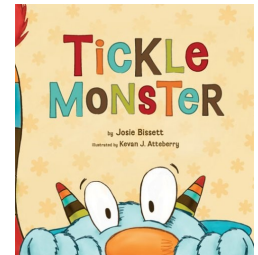
## Branch Updates

We kicked off our AAUW year with a real bang at Melt on September 14. Representative Michael Schlossberg was our speaker. He talked about many issues facing his district and the Commonwealth. There were lots of questions ranging from gerrymandering to the Allentown School District. Schlossberg noted that Governor Wolf has been using his executive order privilege on several issues including pay equity. The Representative is involved in working with local officials regarding the future of the Allentown State Hospital property.



Change for Change: It's not too late to send in your check from your coin box to Susan Nenstiel, Finance Officer, 2889 Aronimink Place, Macungie, PA 18062. As of the brunch, we have collected \$386.82.

The Book Corner is going strong. Donations of children's books are appreciated!



This fall, our branch will once again provide dictionaries to the third grade students at Central Elementary School in Allentown.

Both English and English/Spanish dictionaries are purchased by the branch from the Dictionary Project ([www.dictionaryproject.org](http://www.dictionaryproject.org)) and delivered to each classroom. We have a script that we can follow to explain how a dictionary "works" and engage the students with fun activities. The exact date is still to be determined, but our small group of volunteers is looking for a few more helpers. So whether you have helped out before or if you want "to try something for the first time," please either call or email Cathy Kane (610-776-8270) ([ckane3930@yahoo.com](mailto:ckane3930@yahoo.com)) if you would like to lend a hand with this fun and rewarding project.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Sunday, November 17, 2019

Alan Jennings, Executive Director of the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, was such a powerful speaker when receiving the Gateway to Equity award that we've invited him back to give a presentation to our membership and the public. We've reserved space in the Cedar Crest College building on Hamilton Boulevard and have a tentative time of 1:00 p.m. (we will confirm soon). This promises to be a terrific program, so please mark your calendars now and start rounding up friends and family to attend. As Ginny mentioned in her letter on page one, this is also a Shape the Future event, so it's the perfect time for new members to join.

## Pursue a Fellowship or Grant Now Open August 1–December 1

AAUW has a wide range of fellowships and grants for community projects and women pursuing research, certificates or advanced degrees.

Could someone you know be in next year's class of AAUW fellows?

Encourage her to apply now: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>



2018-19 Career Development Grantee Krystal Wright

## From AAUW Pennsylvania:

# 2020 State Convention

**April 24-26, 2020**

## **The Central Hotel and Conference Center, Harrisburg**

The keynote speaker Friday night is Elaine Weiss, author of *The Woman's Hour*. She will be signing books. Many branch book groups have included her book on their FY20 reading list.

We are asking branches to bring a display for the branch expo and a basket for the silent auction fundraiser for AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund. Indicate your intention to participate when you register.

Because there is no National AAUW Convention in 2020, there is no reason to miss the state convention. It is not too early to start planning!

Convention registration is open and the hotel is accepting reservations.

Details can be found here: <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/2020-state-convention/>

# Study/Interest Groups

## Women's Literature

Potluck supper, book & hostess selection for 2020

Date/Time: October 21, 5:30 p.m.

Hostess: Mary Jane Risch, 610-791-2920

New members are welcome.

Please call hostess if attending.



## Literature of the Past and Present

Leader: Annette Bonstedt 610-395-5974

Thursday, October 17, 12:30pm

Muhlenberg College Trexler Library Rare Books Room (level B)

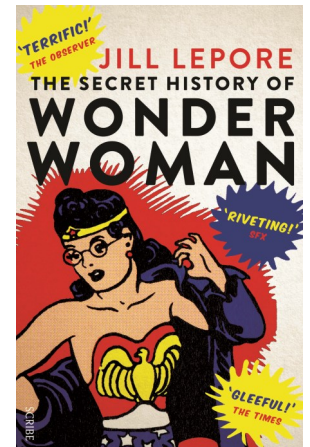
Hostess: Maria Welsh ph. 610-432-4917

Book: *The Secret History of Wonder Woman* by Jill Lepore

Reviewer: Beverly Knoebel

New members are welcome.

Please call hostess if attending.



## Career Group

Date: October 10

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Annelie Shultz, author of *Seven Secrets to Enjoy Your Life Again*

Topic: "Less Stress and More Fun"

Hostess: Mary Ann Anthony

610-432-9994

Please call hostess if attending



## AAUW Work Smart Workshops in Pennsylvania

*Please Help Spread the Word*

### News from AAUW-PA:

Governor Wolf recently announced that, in cooperation with AAUW PA and the PA Commission for Women, WorkSmart Workshops will be held throughout the state in coming months. If anyone is interested in becoming a workshop facilitator, visit [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) for more information.

It is a mistake to think the workshop is only for women in or contemplating a job transition. The course also discusses how and when to ask for a raise or promotion. So, help us spread the word. Even if your branch is not located near a workshop site, please promote because you never know how the word will spread.

Beginning September 24 through January 13th, two workshops will be presented in Harrisburg, York, and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton, and one in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

Go to <https://salary.aauw.org/PA/> for dates, location, and to register.

Twitter handle is @AAUWPA <https://twitter.com/aauwpa>

Hashtag #AAUWWorkSmart

This collaborative project of AAUW Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Commission for Women just launched with a press release from Governor Wolf. <https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/commission-for-women-to-host-free-salary-negotiation-workshops-to-help-close-gender-pay-gap-in-pennsylvania/>

Below are materials for you to use.

Facebook post to share to your page <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWPennsylvania/photos/a.10150342158287201/10156679501832201/?type=3&theater>

Facebook event links for each workshop to share to your page:

October 3 <https://www.facebook.com/events/671768179990515/>

October 16 <https://www.facebook.com/events/2519103048181828/>

The following events will be published three (3) weeks prior to workshop date

October 28 <https://www.facebook.com/events/493087861484980/>

November 6 <https://www.facebook.com/events/1076689475860716/>

November 19 <https://www.facebook.com/events/1076689475860716/>

December 2 <https://www.facebook.com/events/781837905566487/>

January 13 <https://www.facebook.com/events/458448914752083/>

# Public Policy

*Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair*



The national AAUW Public Policy Priorities were adopted this past May for the next two years. AAUW's Public Policy Priorities, adopted every two years by every-member vote, establish the federal action issues on which AAUW members across the country focus their advocacy efforts and guide the work of the national staff. States and branches should also use the Public Policy Priorities to inform their advocacy efforts on state and local issues. The strength of the AAUW Public Policy Priorities is that they originate and end with the membership. In the fall of even-numbered years the AAUW Public Policy Committee (APPC) solicits feedback from members and staff to develop proposed Public Policy Priorities based on viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive contribution. Once the draft is developed, it is posted online for a comment period and submission of additional proposed revisions. The APPC then finalizes the proposed Public Policy Priorities, and the AAUW Board of Directors reviews, amends as necessary, and approves them before they go to the membership for a vote in the spring of odd-numbered years.

If you wish to learn the specifics of the policy issues go to AAUW Public Policy Priorities 2019-2021, for the entire listing. If you cannot locate them you can contact the national organization or me, and I will send them to you.

Reminder that last day to register to vote is October 7th.

Reminder that Election Day is November 5th.





# Legal Advocacy Fund

*Nancy Moffett, Legal Advocacy Chair*



## Victories in the Courts

### **LAF Supported Case, Portz v. St. Cloud State University, Decided in Favor of Female Student Athletes**

In early August, a judge in the U.S. District Court in the District of Minnesota found in favor of a class of female student athletes at St. Cloud State University (SCSU) who alleged gender discrimination in violation of Title IX.

In March 2016, the SCSU athletic department announced plans to cut six teams from its athletic program, including both the women's tennis and Nordic skiing teams. At the same time, the school also unveiled a roster management plan — a way to cap participation on men's teams and pad participation on women's teams — designed to achieve Title IX compliance. Plaintiffs who are, or recently were, members of SCSU's women's tennis and Nordic ski teams, allege that SCSU violated Title IX. They represent a class of all present, prospective, and future female students at SCSU harmed by sex discrimination in the allocation of athletic opportunities and benefits.

The case went to trial in December 2018. In August, the judge issued an opinion agreeing with the plaintiffs and finding that SCSU did not meet any of the three prongs of the test to determine compliance with Title IX's anti-discrimination provisions, meaning SCSU must maintain the women's tennis and Nordic skiing teams, improve the facilities of women's sports teams to create equity with the men's teams, and take other relevant steps to provide female students with equitable athletic opportunities. He stated that, while mindful of financial difficulties faced by public universities, the school can implement a cost-savings plan that does not result in discrimination against women.

AAUW is proud to support the students in their lawsuit. We will continue to monitor this case if SCSU decides to appeal. AAUW hopes that this judgment will reaffirm that equal access in all areas of education must be protected and respected both on and off the field.

### **Transgender Student Rights Upheld in Virginia Case**

On August 9, U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Virginia sided with transgender student Gavin Grimm, ruling that his former high school's refusal to let him use the bathroom that aligned with his gender identity constituted discrimination under Title IX and violated his rights under the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Originally filed in 2015, Grimm's case made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. However, the case was sent back to the lower courts to be reconsidered after the Trump administration rescinded previous guidance pertaining to the rights of transgender students under Title IX. AAUW signed onto an amicus brief supporting Grimm at an earlier stage in the case.

### **Update: New Briefs Ordered in Aileen Rizo's Pay Equity Case**

On August 9, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ordered the parties in *Rizo v. Yovino* to file additional briefs for the court to address the issues raised in the U.S. Supreme Court's February opinion. Long-time readers of LAF Express will recall that the Supreme Court's opinion vacated the Ninth Circuit's earlier decision, remanding it back down the court to address a procedural issue. In other words, the Supreme Court did not review the merits of the Equal Pay Act case, but rather focused solely on the issue of whether a federal court can count the vote of a judge who dies before the decision is issued. This was relevant because Judge Reinhardt, who authored the Ninth Circuit's positive decision, died on March 29, 2018, although he had voted and issued his opinion prior to his death. In the Ninth Circuit's August order, the court also asked for information on any other developments since the case was previously considered by the full court in April 2018. AAUW will continue to support Aileen Rizo through our legal case support program and to advocate for pay equity and fairness in compensation and benefits as a means to achieve economic self-sufficiency for women.

**NEW DAN SCHANTZ FUNDRAISER!** For a mere \$20 you can purchase a Monthly Maddness Card. With this card you go to Dan Schantz and each month you will receive the FREE item as shown on the flier. For example, in February a FREE dozen roses, in October a FREE pumpkin, etc. **Our branch earns \$10 for each card that is purchased.** Contact Cathy Kane, 610-428-1833 or email at ckane3930@yahoo.com, and she will get your card(s) to you. The cards will also be available at our Brunch on September 14. Buy one for yourself and more for friends or relatives. This will begin in September and run through next August. While at Dan Schantz you can still use the Benefit Ticket coupon for other items purchased and we receive \$2 for every \$10 spent. All proceeds will go towards LAF.

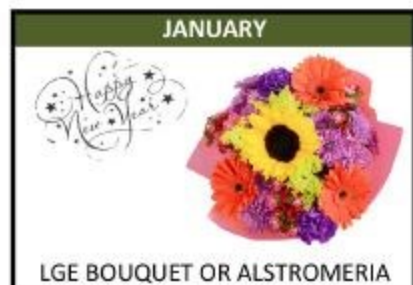


## \$75.00 VALUE FOR \$20.00 + COUPONS

The MOST POPULAR FUNDRAISER in the Lehigh Valley!!!  
Dan Schantz Greenhouse "Monthly Maddness Card"  
has become a must have item!!

**Your organization makes \$10.00 profit on every card sold.**

**Run this fundraiser year round with NO EXPIRATION DATE**







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



No paper necessary! Download the app on the Google Play store or the Apple app store.

It's free and will make it hassle free when shopping at Dan Schantz Greenhouse.

## *The Allentonian*



Please submit news and announcements to the editor, Kathy Osmond, at [kosmond@fastmail.com](mailto:kosmond@fastmail.com)  
 Deadline is October 15 for the November 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](mailto:aauwallentown@yahoo.com)

National Website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) State Website: [aauw-pa.aauw.net/](http://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/](http://aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/)  
*provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sexual discrimination.*



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