

Update

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November 2023

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES:

AAUW Michigan:

<https://www.aauwmi.org/>

AAUW National:

<https://www.aauw.org/connect@aauw.org>

AAUW Northville-Nov:

<https://aauwnn.org/>
info@aauwnn.org

AAUW-NN
P.O. Box 511

AAUWNN Meeting
Tuesday, November 14, 6:45 p.m.
Northville Art House
215 W. Cady St., Northville

VP Programs

Lee Doyle

leedoyle@umich.edu



Senator Rosemary Bayer



Lieutenant Adam Elsen

FIREARM SAFETY AND VIOLENCE LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT

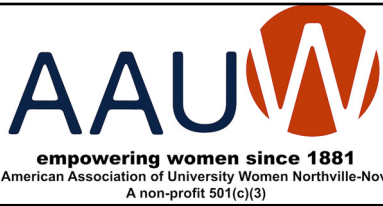
Speakers: Senator Rosemary Bayer
and
Lieutenant Adam Elsen

State Senator Rosemary Bayer is serving her second term in the Michigan Senate representing District 13, stretching from Commerce Township, Sylvan Lake, Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake, and Walled Lake; through West Bloomfield Township and Novi; down to Northville and Plymouth, and their townships.

During the 102nd Legislature she is serving as Chair of the MDE Appropriations Subcommittee as well as being a member of the following committees: Appropriations, Housing and Human Services, Energy and Environment, Local Government, Insurance, Finance and Consumer Protection and several appropriations subcommittees. She is also the Chair of the Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention Legislative Caucus.

Before pursuing public office, Senator Bayer had a successful career in information technology, first as a computer engineer and later as a business leader. She co-founded the Michigan Council of Women in Technology, a nonprofit which provides STEM support for girls and

(continued on page 3)



NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI)

<https://aauwnn.org/>

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AAUW Mission

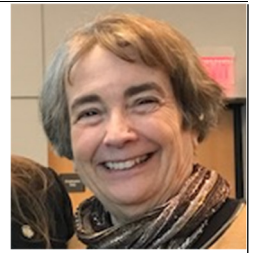
The AAUW MISSION is to advance gender equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

AAUW Diversity Statement

AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership teams and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic basis.

Update is published monthly, August through June, for the members and friends of the American Association of University Women Northville-Novri (MI)

President's Message
Karen Zyczynski
zyczynski2002@aol.com



MOVING RIGHT ALONG

We hosted the 2023 NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders) women participants from Schoolcraft College at our October Meeting. All I can say is WOW! They were so impressive. We should be proud of the fact that our branch is able to support this program. It gives one hope for the future. Thanks to our Membership Committee for planning and hosting this meeting.

Our Membership Committee has also been hard at work recruiting new members by attending a Northville Chamber Event on October 11 and following up with those who indicated an interest at the Northville Library Volunteer Event in late September.

Plans are moving along for the Mah Jong tournament scheduled for November 10. As I write this article thirty-nine people have already signed up for an afternoon of food, fun and prizes. Great job by the planning committee!

Plans for our major fundraiser, the Michigan Fashion Designers Showcase (MFDS) Brunch scheduled for April 13, 2024, are well underway. Mary Ann MacLaren and her committee are working to make sure everything will be ready when the big day arrives for 'Peek at the Unique II'. The money we raise from this event goes toward financing our various community projects, including, but not limited to, NCCWSL and high school scholarships.

If you didn't make it to our October Meeting, I hope you can join us at our November Meeting focusing on guns and how to talk with other people about the issue. Our speakers are State Senator Rosemary Bayer, co-chair of the Senate Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention Committee, and Lieutenant Adam Elsen, Novi Police Department Special Response Team member. This is a very explosive issue for some and learning the facts may help allay some of those concerns. In addition, we will be holding a silent auction at the November Meeting to raise money for *Remember the Ladies*.

Looking forward to some holiday fun at our December Meeting. Watch this newsletter for more details.

It is a privilege to be working with such an energetic, vibrant group of women. Thank you for all you do to make our branch what it is today.

Karen



Firearm (continued from page 1)

women around Michigan. Senator Bayer eventually chose to leave the private sector and launch ardentCause L3C — a small business dedicated to helping nonprofits with information technology needs.

Lieutenant Adam Elsen has worked for the Novi Police Department since 2005. He has served in many roles including being an instructor for firearms, response to resistance, pepper spray, and Taser. He served on the Special Response Team for over five years. Lieutenant Elsen was a patrol officer for seven years, before being promoted to sergeant in 2012. He was promoted to lieutenant in June of this year.

Lieutenant Elsen has been married to his wife Cristina for twenty-two years. They have four children, Jake 20, Sophia 19, Michael 15, and Amelia 14. He remains forever grateful for the support and love of his family.

BONUS ATTRACTION: SILENT AUCTION

The silent auction fundraising activity features items from member travels. This is an ideal time to do your holiday shopping. The money raised will benefit one of our initiatives, "Remember The Ladies."

Please bring cash or check for your purchases.



For more information see page 11.

BOARD BRIEFS October 24, 2023

Auction items for November branch meeting are to be tagged with descriptions.

Members will be asked to contribute snacks for the December branch meeting.

We have 88 members, 11 of these are new. New member orientation is scheduled for November 11.

Fashion Show plans are proceeding as scheduled. Committee is looking at new and returning designers.

Forty-one have registered for the Mah Jongg Tournament, the highest participation to date.

Public Policy Chair met by Zoom with Mary Pollick and Ruth Brown.

Your branch needs you:

Social media is in need of a chair.

Financial development needs a chair.

Contact Karen Zyczynski, Mary Ann MacLaren or info@aauwnn.org.



Next Board meeting: Wednesday, November 29, at 7 p.m. by Zoom. All members are welcome to listen in. Contact Mary Ann MacLaren the morning of the 29th for the Zoom link.



THE AAUW NORTHVILLE NOVI BRANCH
Cordially invites you and your guest/s to a

FESTIVE GATHERING

Tuesday, December 12, 2023
6:45 p.m.

At the

Novi Civic Center

45175 Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375

There will be refreshments

We will be joined by Rebel Nell founder, Amy Peterson, who will inspire us with her story of founding this powerful group that provides a path for women who have faced difficulty and have lacked the resources to find their way. This group makes exceptional jewelry, often from graffiti or found objects -- as well as other items. We will have a chance to do some holiday shopping from their offerings.



Membership
Corinne Vincent, VP
vincorinn@yahoo.com

Membership Matters

AAUWNN MEMBERSHIP TEAM VISION 2023-24

Your Membership Team has met and established its **VISION** for this fiscal year:
Recruit, Engage, Inspire, Retain

Your Team enlists your support to take on your role to make AAUWNN its very best.

Membership is Everyone's Business

You will hear more ways everyone can easily help. We are all invested and we can make this a fun journey together to Empower Women and Girls!

Immediately – New Member Orientation Coffee,
Saturday, November 11, 2023, 11 a.m.
584 Reed Street, Northville

11 new members since Spring 2023 are invited to be warmly welcomed, learn about AAUWNN and become actively engaged to the degree they wish.

Do you know a potential member.... don't delay...connect now to be included.

Next month's newsletter, look for an introduction to each of our newest members.

In the meantime, get your *AAUWNN Member Elevator Speech* ready.

What is AAUWNN? –

We are a membership organization that works to Empower Women and Girls.

Next line: name a few concrete measurable things that we do here in our service area, right now.

It is pretty impressive.

There is soooo much more, but the elevator ride will be over.

Follow up on interest!!



AAUWNN RECRUIT, ENGAGE, INSPIRE, RETAIN ...

Grow, Stand strong, Empower women and girls. Enjoy personal enrichment, have Fun.



Mary Ann MacLaren
info@aauwnn.org



MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE BRUNCH 2024

PEEK AT THE UNIQUE II

The 3rd Michigan Fashion Designers Showcase Brunch is Saturday, April 13, 2024, 9:15 a.m.– 1 p.m. at Schoolcraft VisTaTech Center DiPonio Room. Tickets go on sale February 1 for \$75 each. Tables of 8 and a few tables of 10 are available.

Volunteers are needed for setup starting at 7:30 a.m. to assist with arrival of accessory designers and runway designers. Your immediate assistance in this major, biannual fundraiser are as follows:

- Sponsors – since we are compiling a booklet like the Home Tour, sponsors and advertising are needed. You can do your part by acquiring just a business card size ad from your favorite service person. Such as the person that mows your lawn, removes your snow, cleans your home, styles your hair, does your home repairs, etc. Contact Mary Jane Kearns for a packet with all the forms and information.
- Donations and/or door prizes – in addition to sponsors and advertisers, we need donations for door prizes at the event. A potential donor may refer to give in this way. Again, contact Mary Jane Kearns for the forms.
- Accessory designers – the search is on for accessory designers that create anything wearable or to carry. Some designers from the 2022 show will attend. All items are available for purchase the day of the event. If you know of an accessory designer contact Janice Wargo for agreement form and information.
- Runway designers – we are inviting previous fashion designers to return and are securing new designers. If you have someone in mind, contact Karen Zyczynski.
- Save the Date postcards – we will have postcards at our December meeting for you to give to family/friends and leave at businesses. Contact Mary Ann MacLaren if you don't get yours at the meeting.

Mary Ann MacLaren, Chair
April 13, 2024 AAUWNN Fashion Show
maryann@maclareninc.com
734-306-3991

This is our major fundraising event for the 2023-2024 year. The involvement of all members is necessary for reaching our financial goal.



Public Policy
Mary Jane Kearns, Chair

PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS

Whew! What to direct your attention to this month?

I certainly hope that by the time this is published we have a **Speaker of the House** in place in Washington. The seriousness and far-reaching implications of this situation cannot be overstated as no official business can be conducted until a speaker is elected. This not only impacts us here within our country but will affect history in various locations around the world, most immediately in Ukraine and the Middle East.

Michigan, on the other hand, is very busy discussing important issues before the upcoming break. This newsletter is not large enough to accommodate discussion of all bills. Kudos once again go to Mary Pollock for her important work on behalf of AAUWMI. If you don't already follow the Facebook group **AAUWMI Lobby Corps**, where Mary posts current information of interest to all AAUW members, sign up as soon as you can. She posts at least daily. For more detailed reports have a look at:

[https://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(d1ro2vjjb001poqyqunyu2xi\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=home](https://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(d1ro2vjjb001poqyqunyu2xi))/mileg.aspx?page=home).

On Thursday, October 19, several AAUWMI members had the distinct pleasure of 'meeting' with the impressive **Elissa Slotkin**, Democratic Representative from the MI 7th Congressional District, via ZOOM. While she had much of interest to say, I was struck most by her involvement with the Problem Solvers Caucus, a group which is made up of equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans, whose goal is fostering bipartisan cooperation on key policy issues.

Read more about her at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elissa_Slotkin. Read more about the Problem solvers Caucus at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Problem_Solvers_Caucus.

Here is more information of interest. 'The League of Women Voters (LWV) of Michigan Firearm Safety Network is offering a Zoom presentation featuring **Michael Waldman**, President and CEO of The Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law discussing his book, **The Second Amendment: A Biography**, on **Tuesday, November 14, at 7 p.m.** The Brennan Center is a nonpartisan law and policy institute that focuses on improving systems of democracy and justice. It is a leading national voice on voting rights, money in politics, criminal justice reform, and constitutional law. Waldman, a constitutional lawyer, and writer who is an expert on the presidency and American democracy, has led the Center since 2005. He was a member of the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States in 2021. Register for free at the link.' <https://my.lwv.org/michigan/dearborn-dearborn-heights/event/lwvmi-firearm-safety-network-hosts-public-forum-discussing-second-amendment>



CARRIE COOK—SUPPORTING AAUW NORTHVILLE –NOVI

You may remember Carrie. She offered us a great Chair Yoga session a couple of years ago at one of our meetings. Well, she is still leading us in wonderful sessions on Mondays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. over ZOOM. You are welcome to join us at any time, at the still low price of \$10/session. You can reach her at carriecookyoga@gmail.com.

She will be hosting Yoga Nidra Sound Baths now every month!

The next one is at the Northville Community Center on Thursday, November 16, at 7 p.m. \$15
Here is the link for Northville:

<https://registration.northvilleparksandrec.org/ViewCourseActivityDetails.aspx?id=C4624>

Then she will be at Ayerst Choi Kwang Do in Novi (24404 Catherine Industrial Dr. Suite 306, Novi, Michigan 48375) on Sunday, December 17, at 4 p.m. \$15

Here is the link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4DA9A822A02-44499467-yoga>

Understanding the Sound Bath* schedule going forward:

- She will be at Ayerst Choi Kwang Do every other month (even-numbered months) on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 4 p.m. You should be able to access the same sign-up genius page for future dates.

- She will be at the Northville Community Center on odd-numbered months on a Thursday night at 7 p.m. (we do not have a set week, yet, but she's working on it). They send her the links for these a month or two in advance. You are also able to search on the Northville Parks and Recs page to find these classes.

*Sound Baths are a wonderful way to relax and rejuvenate both the mind and the body. Using various instruments, such as singing bowls and chimes, soothing and harmonious sounds help calm the nervous system.



College University Relations
Corinne Vincent, Chair
vincorinn@yahoo.com

WAS AAUWNN’S EMPOWERING WOMEN STRATEGY OF INVESTING IN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORTH IT?

We, the “investors” answered “yes.”

At our October branch meeting, our featured, diverse young women delegates were a delightful and amazing collection of talented young women achievers. Unsolicited immediate feedback from attendee investors included word like “excellent,” “Informative,” and “I had no idea!”

Staff delegate Rhonda played an extremely valuable role in making sure that key college department heads had conference information, who in turn encouraged young women to apply.

On the fun side of our College and University celebration, Michigan State had the most grads present, followed by U-M and Wayne State. Two grads from schools outside of the US and furthest miles away within US- Arizona.

There

was not a



Left to right: Rhonda Donovan, Staff Coordinator, Hinkle Student Resource Center; Kathryn (Kat) Wenske; Jessica Luarasi, International Student; Jennifer (Jen) LaPorte, mom of a teen daughter, December 2023 graduation; Melia Conners, graduated Schoolcraft, enrolled U-M Dearborn; Corinne Vincent, AAUWNN College University Relations.

Great Decisions
Contact, Diana Chirillo
chirillodlc@gmail.com

GREAT DECISIONS

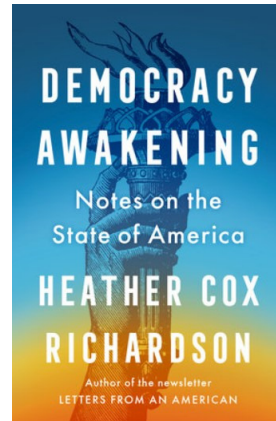
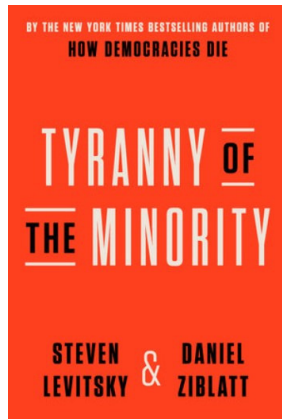
Our Great Decisions topical discussions from the Foreign Policy Association will begin in March 2024. To kick off our season, we have once again selected two books for discussion in January and February. These books give us a chance to explore our self-selected topics of interest. Both books were published in September 2023.

January's selection is "**Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America**" by Heather Cox Richardson. She is a professor of history at Boston College and the author of several books. In 2019, she launched a daily Facebook essay providing an historical background for the turbulent politics in DC at the time. This turned into a newsletter, "Letters from an American," with over 2 million dedicated readers who rely on her plainspoken and educated take on the present and past in America. In this book, Richardson describes how to use our nation's history as a roadmap to guide us through the future.

In February, we will discuss "**Tyranny of the Minority**" by Steven Levitsky & Daniel Ziblatt. In 2022, our group read another book by these authors, "How Democracies Die" and look forward to this new book which is a call to examine and reform our politics, and how to thrive as a multicultural democracy.

We invite you to join us in what promises to be two interesting book discussions, on January 16 and February 20.

Great Decisions meetings take place via Zoom the third Tuesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. Contact Diana Chirillo at chirillodlc@gmail.com for details.



Great Decisions
Contact, Diana Chirillo
chirillodlc@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENT – LEADERSHIP CHANGE

Jean Hansen has stepped down from the administrative responsibilities in her role as leader of Great Decisions. We want to thank Jean for creating a welcoming and engaging environment for all members. We are glad she will continue as a participating member and share her insights in group discussions. Diana Chirillo will step into the role of contact for Great Decisions.

\$\$\$ PASSIVE FUNDRAISING \$\$\$

Shopping, it's what we all do well, several times a week. We visit Kroger for food and gasoline and browse AAUWNN spirit clothing from Big Frog. You can EASILY add to the coffers of AUWNN by signing up with these two companies. A portion of your purchase will go directly into our account. You do not have to do a thing but shop! **You know how to do that, don't you???** Sign up now!



KROGER

Sign up for the Kroger Community Rewards Program to help AAUWNN achieve its financial goals! Go online to <https://www.kroger.com/o/store-services/community-rewards>. Sign in using your email address and designate American Association of University Women Northville/Novi as the recipient of your rewards. If you do not already have a Kroger Plus Card, you will be issued one.

BIG FROG

Sign up from the homepage of our website: <https://aauwnn.org/> . Scroll down to Spirit Wear and click to be linked to Big Frog, Novi.



SILENT AUCTION

At our **November 14** meeting we will hold a silent auction fundraising activity featuring items from your travels.



Either drop your items off or arrange for pickup with Janice Wargo (248-719-2900) by November 10. Please include your name, a short note about where the item is from, and its value. The value will be used to determine the starting bid.

This is a great opportunity for members to do your holiday shopping. The money raised will go toward one of our initiatives, "Remember the Ladies". *Please bring cash or check for your purchases.*

NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE

Daytime Book Group

Marian Brockie, Contact



Our November 9 book discussion will take place at the Northville Library Friendship Community room from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The book discussion is “Agatha Christie: An Elusive Woman” by Lucy Worsley and led by Mary Atchison. For more information on joining this group please contact

Marian Brockie at mbrockie@umich.edu.

Bridge Group

Marian Brockie, Contact



The Bridge Group currently is meeting at Laurel Park Food Court area every Wednesday at 1 p.m. For more information on joining contact Marian Brockie at mbrockie@umich.edu.

Restaurant Rovers

Joyce Murdock, Contact



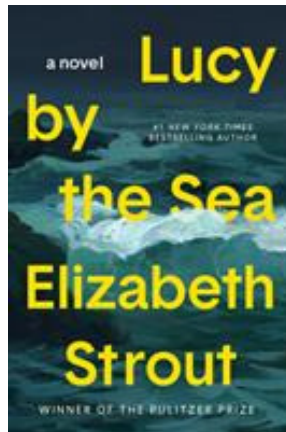
The Restaurant Rovers is meeting Wednesday, November 15. at **noon** at Rocky’s, 41122 W. Seven Mile, Northville.

Please contact Joyce Murdock at jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com or (313)381-2350 by November 13 if joining. **Note: We are going to our lunch time meetings.**

Evening Book Group

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Evening Book Group will be returning to our ZOOM format for our November 27 meeting. We will be discussing “Lucy by the Sea,” the latest book by the popular and prolific Elizabeth Strout.



This meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and Rhonda York will be leading our discussion. Interested in joining? We’d love to have you. Contact Mary Jane at mjkearns1@outlook.com or (248) 449-8693.

Movie Goers

Rhonda York, Contact



Movie Goers are now meeting the first Tuesday of the month. Rhonda will send an email to those on the list.

To be added or for information contact Rhonda York at ryork03@gmail.com.

Mah Jongg

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The group meets every Friday 1 to 4 p.m. in a player’s home.

To join the group please contact Mary Jane at mjkearns1@outlook.com.



Great Decisions

Diana Chirillo, Contact

Great Decisions will meet on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. to discuss “War Crimes: What are they? How can they be prosecuted?” This is the 2nd topic in the Great Decisions 2023 booklet.

This will be a Zoom meeting. Marcia will be the discussion leader. We encourage guests and welcome new members. For more information or a Zoom invite contact Diana Chirillo at chirillodlc@gmail.com.

"Lunch and Mah Jongg" (American)



What: AAUW-NN Fundraiser

When: Friday, November 10, 2023 Noon-5pm

Where: *Fins Kitchen and Bar; Detroit Marriott Livonia*
17100 Laurel Park North, Livonia, MI 48152

(East of I-275 off Six Mile Rd; Parking in front of hotel at Lobby Entrance)

A great lunch! Play Mah Jongg!

Door Prizes for getting Mah Jongg on certain hands! Special treats!

Support scholarships and local programs for women and girls

12:00-2:15 pm Check-in, table assignment, etc.

12:15-1:00 pm Lunch - Tomato Bisque Cup, Salad Bar, Rolls, Beverages

1:00-4:30 pm Three 65 minute rounds; two 10 minute breaks

4:30-5:00pm Prizes awarded; Wrap-up

****WE WILL FOLLOW THE CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES for COVID**

**** We will use the same modified scoring and we will use the 2023 card!**

****We will not be arranging any tables of 3! Prizes awarded for top 3 scores.**

How: \$37 (\$20 is tax deductible) Register below:



Deadline to register is Monday, November 7, 2023

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

****Return form with your check payable to AAUW-NN:**

AAUW-NN c/o Janice Wargo

P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167 (or in person!)

For more information contact: info@aauwnn.org 734-306-3991

Sponsored by American Association of University Women Northville-Novl Branch

www.aauwnn.org Look under Branch Programs or Community Events

Hope to see you November 10, 2023!



empowering women since 1881

American Association of University Women Northville-Nov
A non-profit 501(c)(3)

Articles for the December 2023 issue
due **November 20** to:

Mary Ann MacLaren
info@aauwnn.org

AAUW Northville-Nov (MI) Calendar of Events
visit the website for more information at

<https://aauwnn.org/>

Board MeetingFourth Tuesday, 6:45 p.m.
Bridge Group.....Wednesdays, 1 p.m.
Mah Jong.....Fridays, 1 p.m.
Restaurant Rovers.....Third Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.
Day Book Group.....Second Thursday 10 a.m.
Evening Book Group..... Fourth Monday, 7 p.m.
Great DecisionsThird Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.