

Update

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February 2024

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES:

AAUW Michigan:

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

AAUW National:

[https://www.aauw.org/
connect@aauw.org](https://www.aauw.org/connect@aauw.org)

AAUW Northville-Nov:

[https://aauwnn.org/
info@aauwnn.org](https://aauwnn.org/info@aauwnn.org)

AAUW-NN

AAUWNN Meeting
Tuesday, February 13, 11:30 a.m.
Northville Sports Den
133 W. Main Street, Northville

VP Programs

Lee Doyle

leedoyle@umich.edu

CARRIE COOK
YOGA INSTRUCTOR
EXTRAORDINAIRE



Carrie Cook

It has been three years since **Carrie Cook** first led us through a delightful chair yoga class at a branch meeting. That one session led to us forming a ZOOM class with her on Monday mornings, and then a second one on Thursdays. These classes very quickly grew to include others.

Yoga is great – fun and beneficial, and Carrie, as a fabulous instructor, has a loyal following! She not only leads us via ZOOM, but she also teaches at various other studios in our area.

To celebrate this three-year milestone, and in the interest of promoting better health for us all, we have invited her back to lead us through more chair yoga, an activity suitable for everyone. Please wear something stretchy and comfortable for this program.

We ask that you arrive promptly at 11:30 a.m., so that we can order our lunches right away, and then have our business meeting. Carrie’s class will follow at approximately 12:45 p.m. – 1 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you at what we know will be an enjoyable and worthwhile class.





empowering women since 1881
American Association of University Women Northville-Nov
A non-profit 501(c)(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.

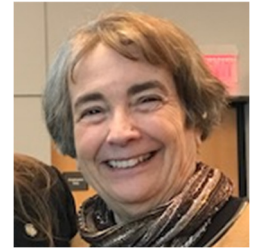
AAUW Diversity Statement

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-Nov (MI)

President's Message

Karen Zyczynski
zyczynski2002@aol.com



VALENTINE'S DAY HISTORY

As I sat down to write my article this month I decided it would be fun to share a little history behind Valentine's Day. I happen to have some old valentines sent to my grandmother in the late 1800s. Oh, and in case you didn't know; February 14 this year is also Ash Wednesday, National Organ Donor Day, National Cream-filled Chocolates Day and National Ferris Wheel Day.

Some History Behind Valentine's Day

"During the Middle Ages, it was commonly believed in France and England that February 14 was the beginning of birds' mating season, which added to the idea that Valentine's Day should be a day for romance. The English poet Geoffrey Chaucer was the first to record St. Valentine's Day as a day of romantic celebration in his 1375 poem "Parliament of Foules," writing, "For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne's day / Whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate."

Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, though written Valentine's didn't begin to appear until after 1400. The oldest known valentine still in existence today was a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt.

In addition to the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia. In Great Britain, Valentine's Day began to be popularly celebrated around the 17th century. By the middle of the 18th, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900 printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one's feelings was discouraged. Cheaper postage rates also contributed to an increase in the popularity of sending Valentine's Day greetings.

Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began selling the first mass-produced valentines in America. Howland, known as the "Mother of the Valentine," made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap." Today, according to Hallmark, an estimated 145 million Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year (more cards are sent at Christmas)." Taken from an article on *History.comeditors*

I would be remiss if I didn't also mention that tickets to our 'Peek at the Unique II' Fashion Show go on sale February 1 and our February 13 lunch meeting will be a gentle chair yoga session with Carrie Cook. Hope to see you there!

Karen



Michigan Fashion Showcase Brunch
Mary Ann MacLaren, Chair
info@aauwnn.org

MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE BRUNCH 2024

PEEK AT THE UNIQUE II

Tickets are on sale NOW online at <https://aauwnn.org/>



You may purchase ticket/s or a table of eight or ten with payment via PayPal or mailed check. Details are on the website.

The Michigan Fashion Designers Showcase Brunch is Saturday, April 13, 2024 9:15 A.M.– 1 P.M. at Schoolcraft VisTaTech Center DiPonio Room.

Brief updates for this event:

- Volunteers are needed the day of the event for setup starting at 7:30 AM to assist with arrival of accessory designers and runway designers.
- The deadline for Sponsors has passed.
 - We are now focusing on quarter and eighth page *ads*. 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. You will receive an email with the appropriate form and information February 1
 - *“Friends of AAUWNN”* – for \$20 the name of your friends/family members will be listed as supporting our mission. You will receive an email with the appropriate form and information February 1.
- Door prizes – ask any place you do business. What a great way for them to get their name out by a basket of their items and/or a gift certificate.
- Check our website for details about our Mistress of Ceremony, runway and accessory designers and sponsors.

Contact Mary Ann MacLaren for additional information.

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

Initiatives, RTL
Rhonda York
rlyork03@gmail.com

REMEMBER THE LADIES READING PROJECT

Women's History Month



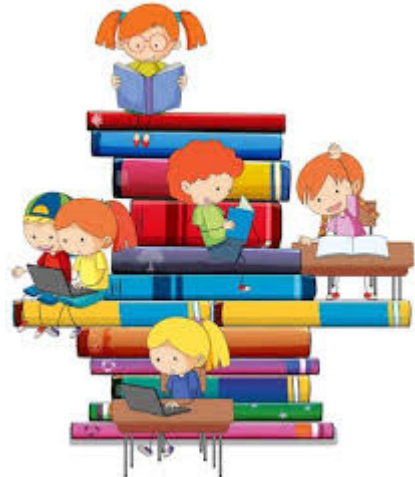
March is National Women in History Month as well as National Reading Month. We use this as the second part of our Remember the Ladies Project. Pre-pandemic, we read books about women and girls to elementary students in their classrooms during March and we are asking the schools if they would like us to continue that program. Assuming that they will, we need volunteers to do the reading. We have a number of books that have been used in the past or you can read one that you have. Each reader would coordinate with a teacher,

in the school of your choice, for a convenient time.

The students always enjoyed the change in their routine and both they and their teachers welcomed us warmly. Talking a little about yourself, or your career, or your education, is not required, but can be encouraging to the young children. It takes about half an hour of your time.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to read. This is a rewarding experience and can be especially so if you have a child or grandchild in a particular school

Rhonda York
248-444-9982



Public Policy
Mary Jane Kearns, Chair
mjkearns1@outlook.com

PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS



If you have not already read this book – **YOU MUST**. Great Decisions was so impressed with **Heather Cox Richardson** and **Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America**, that we are taking the unprecedented step of discussing it for a second time in February. **We invite all of you to join us**. For details, please see the **Great Decisions** information elsewhere in this newsletter.

Heather Cox Richardson has the impressive and rare ability to assimilate and then explain with powerful prose the events that have led to the complex political position the US is in today. With three Harvard degrees and a teaching position at Boston College, she has obviously always been an impressive thinker and communicator. Among many other things, she explains how democracy is a process, not an end.

You may also be familiar with her daily newsletter, called **Letters from an American**. If you don't already receive this in your e-mail, please sign up now.

On another level, **AAUW MI** has updated its **Public Policy priorities**. You can have a look at them at: <https://www.aauwmi.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/AAUW-of-Michigan-Public-Policy-Priorities-2023-2025.pdf>

At the **national level** they are available at:
<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/aauw-public-policy-priorities/>

From our monthly Michigan AAUW Lobby corps meeting... Here in **Michigan**, we are not expecting too much legislative activity while the house sits evenly split.

This, as you are aware, is an **election year**. Voters should remember that issues are important. But what are they?

- Economy**
- Equality**
- Immigration**
- Abortion**
- Foreign policy**
- Democracy**
- Climate**

Please pay attention to reputable news sources and remember there will be a lot of misinformation swirling around. Don't be misled.



BOARD BRIEFS JANUARY 23, 2024

- Nominating Committee is in need of members
- Carol Ann Beier, member for 50 years, will be honored at AAUWMI in May
- Plans to resume reading in the schools
- “Peek at the Unique” plans are on schedule
- Zoom capabilities will be updated to provide clearer and easier viewing and hearing
- High school scholarships are increased from \$1000 to \$1500 for this academic year



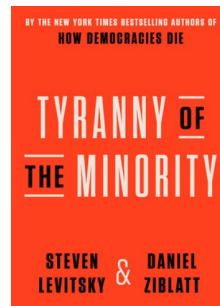
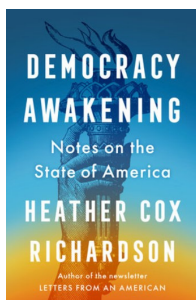
Great Decisions
Diana Chirillo, Chair
chirillodic@gmail.com

GREAT DECISIONS

The **Great Decisions Interest Group** has decided to do an encore discussion of the book “Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America” by Heather Cox Richardson, on Tuesday, February 20, at 1:30 p.m. via zoom.

The group will read the “Tyranny of the Minority by Steve Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt in **March**.

The Great Decisions booklet series discussion will begin in **April**.



Tickets on Sale Now



Plymouth-Canton AAUW Presents:

Cinderella

Thurs Feb 1 @ 7pm

Fri Feb 2 @ 7pm

Sat Feb 3 @ 11am and 2pm

Garden City High School

6500 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI

\$7 online

\$10 at door

<https://plymouthcanton-mi.aauw.net/play/>

Profits given to local women for college scholarships

\$\$\$ 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 AAUWNN 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

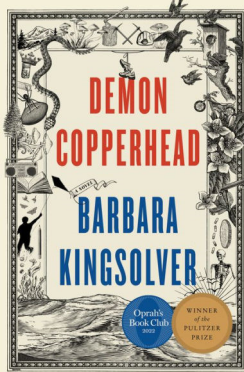
NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE

Daytime Book Group

Marian Brockie, Contact

Our Friday, February 9 (Note date change) book discussion will take place at the Northville Library Carlo Room (Note room change) from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The book discussion is “**Demon Copperhead**” by **Barbara Kingsolver** and led by Marcia Horngren. 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.

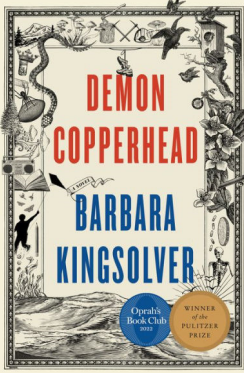


Evening Book Group

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Evening Book Group will again meet via Zoom on February 26, 2024, at 7 p.m.

We will discuss **Demon Copperhead** by **Barbara Kingsolver**. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, Winner of the Women’s Prize for Fiction, A New York Times “Ten Best Books of 2022”, Instant *New York Times* Bestseller, Instant *Wall Street Journal* Bestseller, #1 *Washington Post* Bestseller, Oprah’s Book Club pick. Inspired by Charles Dickens’s David Copperfield, Demon Copperhead is a character-driven novel that transports the reader to modern-day Appalachia, where Damon Fields is born to a drug-addicted single mother living in poverty in one very shocking and violent scene that foreshadows his future. Since he was born in the amniotic sac, it is symbolically said that he will not die by drowning.



Marcia Horngren will lead our discussion.

Interested in joining? We’d love to have you. Contact Mary Jane at mjkearns1@outlook.com or (248) 449-8693.

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.



Restaurant Rovers

Joyce Murdock, Contact

The Restaurant Rovers will be meeting Wednesday, February 21, at 11:30 a.m. at Karl’s Cabin, 6200 Gotfredson Road, Plymouth.



Please contact Joyce Murdock at jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com or (313) 381-2350 by February 18 at 6 p.m. if joining.

Note: We are going to our lunch time meetings.

Movie Goers

Rhonda York, Contact

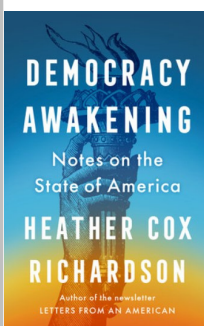
Movie Goers are now meeting the first Tuesday of the month. Rhonda will send an email to those on the list.



To be added to the list or for information, contact Rhonda York at rlYork03@gmail.com.

Great Decisions

Diana Chirillo, Contact



Great Decisions will meet on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. to discuss “**Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America**” by **Heather Cox Richardson**. **This will be an encore meeting of this book.**

This will be a Zoom meeting. Diana Chirillo 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.

Become a Friend
Mary Jane Kearns, Chair
mjkearns1@outlook.com

**Become a Friend of
'Peek at the Unique II'**

Become a 'Friend.' As a Friend you will see your name in the booklet. Get your friends, neighbors, and family to join you. For those of you who we have not seen at meetings, I have attached a portion of the sign-up sheet. You can send that along with your check for \$20 (or more, if you'd like) to AAUWNN, 'Peek at the Unique', Friends, P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167. For those who will be joining us in February, you can bring it with you then. We will list the names of all contributors in the program booklet on the day of the event. The deadline for contributions is March 29.

**Friends of
Michigan Fashion Designer Showcase Brunch - \$20
Peek at the Unique II**

Paid

1. _____
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10. _____

Plymouth Historical Museum Presents *"Remembering the Ladies" Tea*



The Plymouth Historical Museum's "Remember the Ladies" Tea will take place on **Sunday, February 11, 2024, 2-4 p.m.** Rita Nalodka will portray Dolley Madison the wife of our 4th president. Hear about Dolley's life experiences before during and after her presidential adventure.

- Enjoy tea delicacies catered by Diann's Catering
- Sip the Museum's own special tea "Mary's Blend"—a tantalizing cherry and almond black tea blend in honor of Mary Todd Lincoln

Tickets are \$30 for Plymouth Historical Museum members (on sale **December 18**); \$35 for non-members (on sale **January 2**). Add \$5 to ticket prices after **January 31**.

Doors to the Museum open at 1 p.m. to allow ticket holders the opportunity to explore the Museum's new exhibit "Rotary Club of Plymouth: A Century of Service." Doors to the tea room open at 1:50 p.m.

Sponsored by Lunatech 3D

To purchase tickets:

<https://plymouthhistory.org/events/upcoming-events/>





empowering women since 1881

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

Articles for the March 2024 issue
due **February 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.
Day Book Group.....Second Thursday, 10 a.m.
Evening Book Group..... Fourth Monday, 7 p.m.
Great DecisionsThird Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
Mah Jongg..... ..Fridays, 1 p.m.
Restaurant Rovers.....Third Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.