

# Update

Volume 49 No. 11  
June 2025

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**CHECK OUT  
OUR WEBSITES:**

**AAUW Michigan:**

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

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

**AAUW Northville-Nov:**

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

**AAUW-NN**  
P.O. Box 511  
Northville, MI 48167

## THE FOUR REASONS WE HAVE WORKED SO HARD FOR THIS YEAR - OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Left to Right, Safa Hussein, Kavni Pappuri, Lauren James, Ava Crozier



# Congratulations!



empowering women since 1881  
American Association of University Women Northville-Nov  
A non-profit 501(c)(3)

**NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI)**

<https://aaunnn.org/>

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**AAUW Mission**

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

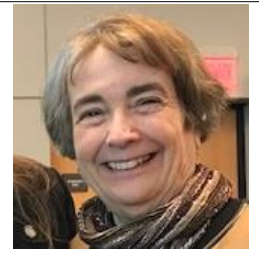
**AAUW Diversity Statement**

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](mailto:zyczynski2002@aol.com)



*President's Annual Report*

The mission of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. And, since 1888, AAUW has been one of the largest funders of women's graduate education, investing in women who go on to change the world.

So, as an affiliate of AAUW, what have we been doing to advocate for women and girls and promote gender equity? First of all, let me say that without you, our members, nothing would happen, and we would not exist as an organization.

With your help over the past year, we have continued to support a variety of community based programs.

- Remember the Ladies supports elementary school libraries in Northville and Novi with materials about the contributions of women in history. Thank you Joyce Murdock!
- Career Path Days for eighth grade girls provides an opportunity to explore Career Paths in science, technology, engineering and mathematics at Schoolcraft College or at Lawrence Tech and then meet women entrepreneurs in our local community. Thanks goes to Corinne Vincent and Judy Sherman!
- We donate to the Endowed Scholarship Programs at both Schoolcraft College and Oakland Community College. Thank you to Ruth Rickard!
- We provide two college scholarships to deserving students from both Northville and Novi High Schools. Thank you goes to Caryn Doehler and her team!
- We are working collaboratively with the Livonia AAUW Affiliate and Schoolcraft College to send six women this year to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in College Park Maryland. Thanks to Ruth Rickard and Rhonda Donovan!

So how can we afford to do all of this? We have to raise money! This year we hosted two Mah Jongg tournaments, (Thanks to Emily Doubler, Janice Wargo and Mary Ann MacLaren); we held a shoe drive, (Thanks to Mary Jane Kearns and Rhonda York and all those who collected shoes for us); we took a payout from our endowment with the Community Foundation for SE Michigan and on May 21 we will be participating in a dining opportunity at The Rusty Bucket at Five Mile and Sheldon. Fifteen percent of your bill will come back to us. (Thanks to Janice Wargo).

*(Continued on page 6)*

### Pictures from May Meeting



Scholarship winners and their parents.



Carol Murchison opening surprise present.



Jim Kearns being presented the Community Enrichment Award by Emily Doubler.



Joyce Murdock , left, and Karen Olson, recognized for 50 years of membership.



Membership  
Emily Doubler, VP Membership  
[eajw1976@gmail.com](mailto:eajw1976@gmail.com)



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

### Spotlight on Rhonda York



Rhonda York with her two sons and her award from the Novi Police and Fire Departments.

Rhonda York, an AAUWNN member since 2007, was recently recognized by Novi Michigan Police Officers and Fire Fighters with the 2024 Volunteer of the Year Award at a ceremony held on May 20, 2025, at Hub Stadium. The award was presented to Rhonda by the Novi Director of Safety, Chief Zinzer.

Rhonda has been a trained volunteer with both Novi’s Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) since 2009 and Volunteer in Public Safety (VIPS) since 2017. Her education and career in criminal justice and bank security certainly have been valuable in her volunteer role in CERT and VIPS, both of which extends the capabilities of the Novi Police and Fire Departments.

While volunteering, Rhonda is recognizable in her uniform with a navy shirt, khaki slacks and ID badge. Watch for her at upcoming NOVI events including the “Pink Car” cancer fundraiser. You may see her patrolling neighborhoods, checking on homes, writing tickets for handicap parking violations, and helping in a multitude of ways, such as directing traffic or handing out water at community events like the Novi Festival.

### \$\$\$ 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.

Public Policy  
Mary Jane Kearns, Chair  
[mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com)



## Public Policy News You Can Use

The federal bill passed by the House May 22, 2025—referred to as President Trump’s “big, beautiful bill”—has significant implications for women, families, and education.

### Impact on Women

The bill includes deep cuts to Medicaid and other social service programs, which disproportionately affect women. Over 13 million women of reproductive age, including large numbers of Black, Latina, and Asian Pacific Islander women, rely on Medicaid for essential healthcare. The new work requirements and restrictions are expected to remove several million people from the program, reducing access to healthcare and other critical services for women.

Cuts to nutrition assistance and other federal support programs also threaten services that women, especially those in low-income households or single-parent families, depend on.

### Impact on Families

Many families will see reduced support from federal safety-net programs. The bill slashes funding for Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), both of which are vital for low-income families and children.

While the bill extends certain tax cuts and eliminates taxes on tips and overtime wages, analyses show that the wealthiest households benefit most. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) found that the lowest 10% of households will see a decrease in income, while the top 10% will see an increase.

The bill raises the cap on state and local tax (SALT) deductions to \$40,000, which primarily benefits higher-income families in high-tax states.

### Impact on Education

The education provisions aim to reform federal student loans by simplifying repayment, streamlining loan options, and increasing accountability for colleges. The bill repeals the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program and ends federal PLUS Loans, which could make higher education less accessible for some students.

It blocks Biden-era student loan forgiveness initiatives and introduces stricter performance requirements for institutions, linking federal support to student outcomes.

The bill expands Workforce Pell Grants for workforce-aligned students and seeks to reduce federal intervention in higher education, but critics argue these changes may limit opportunities for low-income students and families.

### Conclusion

The bill delivers substantial tax cuts and fulfills several conservative policy goals, but it does so by reducing federal support for healthcare, nutrition, and education programs that are especially important to women and families with lower incomes. The effects are expected to widen income inequality and make access to essential services and higher education more difficult for vulnerable populations.

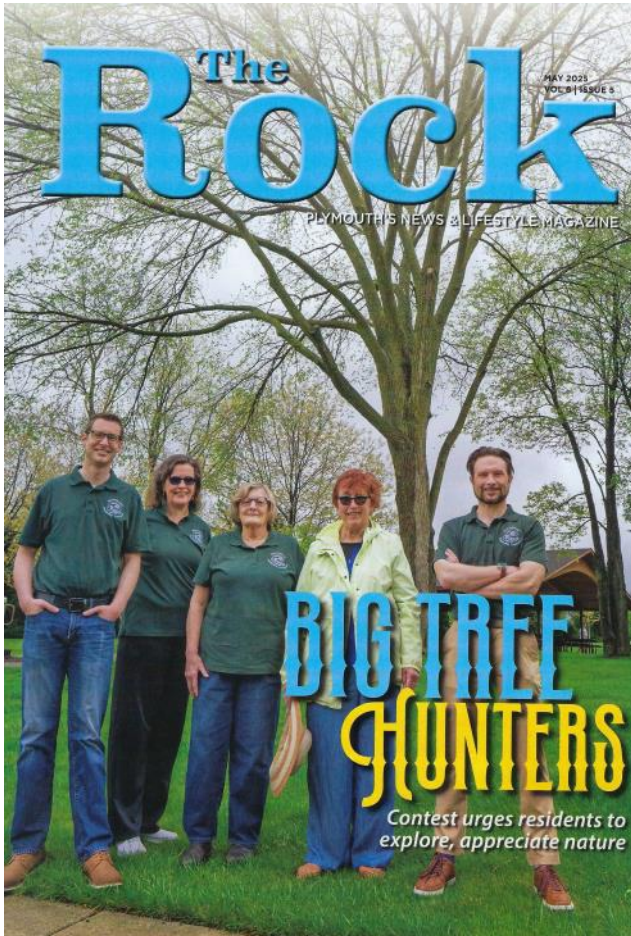
We are a non-partisan organization, but we have values and a mission. As an organization, we can advocate both for and against legislation that concerns women’s equity, health, financial security, voting rights, and more. National is keeping a pulse on issues in DC and I encourage all members who might feel like they are struggling with where to start to sign up for [Two Minute Activist](https://www.aauw.org/act/two-E) at <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-E>. It couldn’t be easier! The prompts are there to guide you.

**President's Annual Report** *(Continued from page 2)*

Our various interest groups continue to meet, and we have enjoyed some excellent monthly meeting guest speakers on a variety of topics over the past year, thanks to our program committee with the help of Corinne Vincent who kept us on track. These programs are designed to educate and enrich the lives of our members. And to keep us all informed about what is happening within the organization we can thank our Newsletter Editor Joyce Murdock and Communications Director Mary Ann MacLaren.

Finally, fifty years ago on September 24, 1975, AAUW Northville officially became part of the American Association of University Women. Although we had Novi members, Novi was not added to the official title until 1991. Thanks to Karen Visger, at your place setting this evening you found a Save the Date Card inviting you to our 50 Year Anniversary Celebration scheduled for Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at Genettis' in Northville. I hope you will be able to join us for dinner and have some fun reminiscing about where we have been and where we are going.

As with any anniversary event, presents are often appropriate, and tonight is no exception. To help kick off our 50-year Anniversary I am going to ask Carol Murchison, 50th Anniversary Co-chair and our branch Archivist, to do the honors.



AAUWNN Program Vice President Mary Ann MacLaren is in the center of this cover of The Rock.

**Hunt for a Big Tree in Plymouth Township**

As chair of the Environment Leadership Commission in Plymouth Township, AAUWNN Program Vice President Mary Ann MacLaren is involved in the activity of finding the biggest trees in Plymouth Township where she lives.

The contest is open to residents and non-residents and is separated into three age groups: 10 and younger, 11 to 15 and 16 and older. The trees must be located within Plymouth Township - trees in Miller Woods are not eligible for the contest - they must be living and accessible. The size of the tree is based on its circumference: that measurement should be taken 4.5 feet from the ground.

There is an official entry form and more details on the township website. The contest runs through July 25. There are first and second prizes of \$125 and \$75 respectively. The goal is to get people more interested in the environment around them.

Mary Ann says that when she was a child, one of her favorite things to do was to sit with her back against a large tree and look out into the forest and meadows in front of her. She says she has always liked nature and trees and feels strongly about the environment.

# the AAUWNN REVIEW

Special Edition II  
2025

June 1, 2025

## 40 YEARS AGO IN 1985

### AAUWNN in 1985

Jay Ward was our President from 1980 - 85, followed by Jean Hansen. In the late 1970s and throughout the 1980s AAUWNN raised money with used book sales. The first one took place at 12 Oaks Mall and thereafter at the Northville Garage Sale Days until 1989.

We awarded our first scholarship in 1980 for \$300, to a student registered at Schoolcraft College. In future years scholarships were awarded to high school seniors and in 1984 we awarded a scholarship to a male student.

In 1982 our Make It, Bake It, Sew It, Grow It and Do It Auction made \$1240, with \$500 going to scholarships at the national level and \$500 to a Northville High School Student.

### In Government

President - Ronald Reagan  
Vice-President - George H. W. Bush

There were 23 women in the U.S. House  
Two women in the U.S. Senate

### What Things Cost

Average Home	\$82,500
Gallon of Gas	\$1.12
Loaf of Bread	\$0.99
Gallon of Milk	\$2.20
One Dozen Eggs	\$0.80
Postage Stamp	\$0.22

Average Annual Income \$23,620

### On the National Scene

U.S. Population	239,231,000
Unemployment Rate	7.2%
Women in Workforce	70%

(women in workforce or looking for work)

### Entertainment News

#### Movies

Back to the Future  
Out of Africa  
Cocoon  
The Breakfast Club  
The Color Purple

#### TV Shows

The Cosby Show  
Family Ties  
Murder She Wrote  
The Golden Girls  
MacGyver

### Fashion Trends

*big sleeves*  
*shoulder pads*  
*athletic wear*  
*jean jackets*  
*leather pants*  
*leggings*  
*leg warmers*

### In Sports

NBA Championship - Los Angeles Lakers  
Baseball World Series - Kansas City Royals  
NFL Champions - Chicago Bears  
Stanley Cup - Edmonton Oilers

### Music

We Are the World  
Crazy For You  
The Power of Love  
Don't You Forget About Me  
Real Love

### In Memoriam



Sadly, another one of our members, Corinne Vincent, passed away on May 15, 2025. She was a charter member of our branch and then dropped her membership for a few years but returned in 2005. Corinne held many positions in the group including President from 2007-2009 and more recently Membership Vice

President.

She was our “idea” person. She always had an idea for a new fundraiser or for anything else for which we needed ideas to accomplish. Corinne was always very practical though. She would point out the negatives as well as the positives. She was very instrumental in the group that set up our endowment with the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.



The other positions Corinne held were Chair of our first Tipping Point event in 2008 and Public Policy Chair from 2006 to 2007. She was also our Named Honoree in both 2010 and in 2018. In addition, she was instrumental in getting our branch designated as a 501(c)(3).

Corinne loved going to Maine every summer.

She is survived by her son Todd, his wife, and their two children. A memorial service is going to be held in Maine.



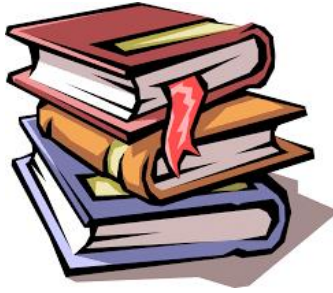
### Updated Address for Karel Whitaker

For those of you who wish to send a sympathy card to Karel on the death of her husband Doug, her address is: 1200 Earhart #449, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

**NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE**

Daytime Book Group  
Marian Brockie, Contact

The daytime book group is not meeting over the summer. They will resume meeting in September possibly on a different day. The September through December books are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.



For more information on joining this group please contact Marian Brockie at [mbrockie@umich.edu](mailto:mbrockie@umich.edu).

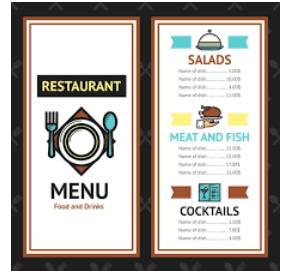
Bridge Group  
Marian Brockie, Contact

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](mailto:mbrockie@umich.edu).



Restaurant Rovers  
Joyce Murdock, Contact

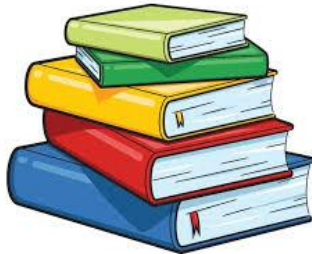
The Restaurant Rovers will not meet in June, July, or August. We will begin again in September.



If you would like to join this group, please contact Joyce Murdock at (313) 381-2350 or [jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com](mailto:jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com).

Evening Book Group  
Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Evening Book Group is not meeting over the summer. We will resume in September on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m..



A complete list of what we will be reading is published elsewhere in this newsletter and on our web site. Interested in joining? We'd love to have you. Contact Mary Jane at [mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto: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 to the list or for information, contact Rhonda York at [ryork03@gmail.com](mailto:ryork03@gmail.com).

Mah Jongg  
Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Mah Jongg group plays Friday afternoons at members' homes. The June and July schedules follow:

- June 6 Rhonda (\* We will keep score and time our games)
- June 13
- June 20 Ruth
- June 27 Carol
- July 4 Mary Jane
- July 11 Emily (\*)
- July 18 Rhonda
- July 25 Ruth



New members are welcome. Need lessons? We can direct you, or you can come along and learn as we play. Contact Mary Jane Kearns to join us. [mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com) (248) 449-8693.

Great Decisions  
Mary Jane Kearns, Contact (Temporary)

We meet via ZOOM on the third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. On June 17, we will be discussing Chapter 5 in the Great Decisions Handbook: **International Climate Cooperation in an Era of Geopolitical Turmoil.**

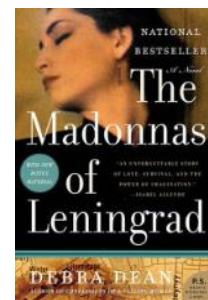
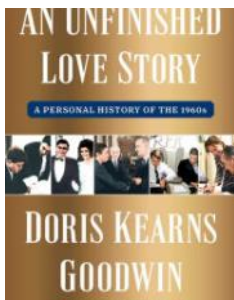


We encourage new members and guests. For more information and a ZOOM invitation contact Mary Jane Kearns at [mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com) or (248) 449-8693.

**NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE**

**AAUW Northville Novi  
Daytime Book Group 2025-26**

Date	Title	Author	Leader	Location
Sept., 2025	An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 1960's	Doris Kearns Goodwin	TBD	TBD
Oct., 2025	The First Ladies	Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray	TBD	TBD
Nov., 2025	Too Soon	Betty Shamieh	TBD	TBD
Dec., 2025	The Madonnas of Leningrad	Debra Dean	TBD	TBD
Jan., 2026	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Feb., 2026	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Mar., 2026	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
April, 2026	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD



**AAUW Northville Novi  
Book Group 2025-26**

Date	Title	Author	Leader	Location
Sept. 22, 2025	Becoming Madam Secretary	Stephanie Dray	Ruth	Joyce
Oct. 27, 2025	The Confidante	Christopher C. Gorham	Jane	Jane
Nov. 24, 2025	Remarkably Bright Creatures	Shelby Van Pelt	Mary Jane	Zoom
Jan. 26, 2026	Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant	Curtis Chin	Marcia	Zoom
Feb. 23, 2026	The Glassmaker	Tracy Chevalier	Barb	Zoom
Mar. 23, 2026	Gellhorn: A Twentieth-Century Life	Carolyn Moorhead	Rhonda	Zoom
Apr. 27, 2026	Secret Lives of Sunflowers: a Gripping...	Marta Molnar	Judy	Rhonda
May 18, 2026	Decisions for 2026-7			TBD (pot luck at Ruth's if a restaurant can't be found)

**NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE**

**American Association of University Women Northville – Novi – a 501(c)(3)**

An Affiliate of National AAUW, one of many local groups across the nation.  
We are an association of dynamic local women committed to our Community with Action.  
AAUW-NN works to break education and economic barriers so that women and girls have fair and equal opportunity, while taking time to network and enjoy personal enrichment.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2025-26**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Provide graduate associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from a qualified educational institution:

College/University/Equivalent \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Degree \_\_\_\_\_

College/University/Equivalent \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Grad Year/s \_\_\_\_\_ Major/s \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity (optional): Hispanic (Y or N) \_ White \_ American Indian/Alaska Native \_ Black/African American \_  
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander \_ Asian \_ Other \_

**ELIGIBILITY**

I am a graduate holding an associate or equivalent (RN), baccalaureate or higher degree from a qualified educational institution ( ). I am an undergraduate student ( )

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER RECRUITER if applicable Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Individual Annual Membership**

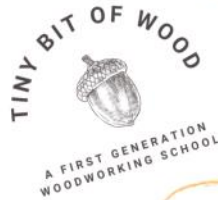
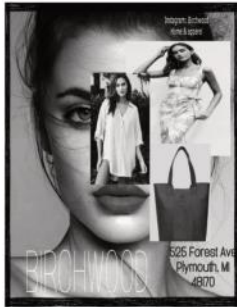
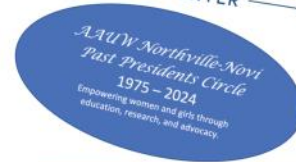
AAUW National membership fee	\$74
\$74 tax deductible	
State of Michigan fee – not tax deductible	15
AAUW-NN fee - \$10 tax deductible	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$99</b>

**Shape the Future-New Member**

\$37
15
10
<b>\$62</b>

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO AAUWNN – mail to AAUWNN Membership, P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167** AAUW fiscal year extends from July 1 through June 30. AAUW membership extends for 12 months from enrollment

MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE LUNCHEON 2024 SPONSORS  
PLEASE FREQUENT THEIR BUSINESSES



billbrownford.com#32222Plymouth Rd., Livonia, MI





**empowering women since 1881**

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

Articles for the August 2025 issue  
due **July 20** to:

Mary Ann MacLaren  
[info@aauwnn.org](mailto:info@aauwnn.org)

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

<https://aauwnn.org/>

- Board Meeting .....Fourth Tuesday, 6:45 p.m.
- Bridge Group.....Wednesdays, 1 p.m.
- Day Book Group.....Second Friday, 10 a.m.
- Evening Book Group..... Fourth Monday, 7 p.m.
- Great Decisions .....Third Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
- Mah Jongg..... ..Fridays, 1 p.m.
- Restaurant Rovers.....Third Wednesday, 6 p.m.

