



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

## Equal Pay Day April 10, 2018

Equal Pay Day this year is Tuesday, April 10. It is a day that recognizes the unequal pay that women receive in the United States. It is observed in April because that symbolizes how long it takes women's salaries to catch up to men's salaries from the previous year. Michigan Equal Pay Day Coalition holds a rally in Lansing at the State Capitol on Equal Pay Day.

MI EPD Coalition consists of AAUW of MI, MI League of Women Voters, Zonta Club International, MI Business Professional Women Federation, ACLU of MI, Planned Parenthood Advocates of MI, Service Employees International Union and many more. The Coalition will meet at the [United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing](#) before the Rally to listen to speakers and to receive lobby training to help them when meeting legislators to lobby for Equal Pay. The day begins with breakfast at 8:30. Then from 9:30 – 10:15, there is a speaker and brief lobby training before an 11:30 meeting with the House Commerce and Trade Commission. After lunch, there is a rally on the steps of the Capitol with speakers and then more lobbying.

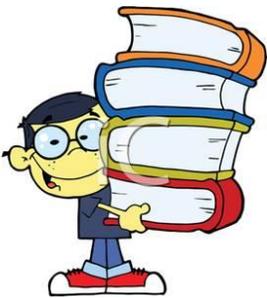
Midland Branch members will participate. To join them, contact [auwmidland@gmail.com](mailto:auwmidland@gmail.com).



*Watch for this billboard on US 10 near the Freeland exit from mid-March to mid-April. This billboard is Sponsored by Zonta Club of Midland, AAUW Midland Branch and League of Women Voters of the Midland Area. Published with permission.*

## Used Book Sale April 27 -29

Midland Mall ~ Friday & Saturday 9-9, Sunday 10-4



Books are coming in! I hope you have signed up to help in some way. We need people to pick up books, price them, box them by category, set them out and sell them. Call Marge Haskell, to volunteer for these needs: (1) stack books on sale tables Thursday evening, April 26; (2) take a 2-hour shift at the sale, selling or keeping tables straightened; (3) help box remaining books to be donated to nonprofit organizations.

The Mall is allowing us to use a vacant store to process the thousands of books that are donated. We have a large space located next to the Hallmark store. If you come in by Ruby Tuesday, turn right, go a short way and we are on the left. AAUW members will be there every day Monday – Saturday from 11-2. You can help put price stickers on books, sort them into category boxes, and help mark prices on children's books. Stop in anytime during sort hours to give us a hand. You will be most welcome.

*Trudy Dutot, Book Sale Chair*

### Proceeds fund:

- College scholarships for local high school girls and women who are returning to college after an absence in their education. We will award four \$2000 scholarships this year.
- Scholarships for local college women to attend a leadership conference. We will send a young woman to the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in Washington, D.C.

*We welcome help from spouses and friends.*

## What You Should Know about Equal Pay Policy and the Gender Pay Gap

June Turley, Public Policy Chair

“The gender pay gap is a primary issue for AAUW and one that we have been working on for years [....] In 1955, AAUW supported a bill [...] requiring “equal pay for work of comparable value requiring comparable skills.” Congress finally enacted the Equal Pay Act, a version of the 1955 bill, in 1963.

Despite the Equal Pay Act, the gender pay gap persists; women are typically paid just 80 cents for every dollar paid to men doing the same work — and that number has barely budged in a decade. Enforcement of the Equal Pay Act and other civil rights laws has helped to narrow the gender pay gap, but these actions only cover segments of the American working population, and many important protections are not yet codified in law. There are numerous other reasons for discrimination and pay disparity that must be addressed.

AAUW continues to advocate for strong pay equity legislation, regulation, and enforcement to protect employees and assist employers. Equal Pay Day, [April 10<sup>th</sup> this year] is an opportunity to draw attention to the gender pay gap and to call for legislative action and other solutions, including AAUW’s salary negotiation workshops, to curb this pervasive problem. Think 80 cents is bad? The pay gap is even worse for some women of color. AAUW also observes equal pay days throughout the year focusing on Asian American, African American, Native American, and Latina women.”

Taken from <https://www.aauw.org/resource/how-to-equal-pay-day/>, posted by AAUW ([www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)), March 2018

## AAUW’s Legal Advocacy Fund

Jane Wirth, AAUW Funds

As a branch, we have made yearly \$1,000 contributions to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) which was established in 1981. This program supports women seeking justice for gender discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

“We support brave plaintiffs seeking legal redress for Title VII, Title IX, equal pay, sexual harassment, and tenure denial violations and allocate \$100,000 annually to help fund landmark cases . . . as well as cases with the potential to set future precedents . . . .”

LAF’s impact includes:

- Financial support
- Organizational support: amicus signatory, statement of support
- Emotional support: a family of AAUW members present at significant legal proceedings

AAUW does not provide legal advice or legal representation. However, our contributions help level the playing field for women experiencing discrimination. To learn more about LAF, visit [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

## Branch Officers and Convention Delegates Elected at Annual Meeting

The following slate of officers was elected unanimously: President-elect Mary Crane-Franek, 2nd VP Membership Lu Ellen DeLine, Finance VP Liz Kapla, Secretary Ruth Copp, Delegate-at-Large Sandra Collinson, and Nominations Officer Chris Ferrando. Delegates to the April 29 State Convention were elected unanimously: Kim Steinke, Judy Donahue, and Anne Wolfe.



Cookies with a “bite” taken out representing women’s pay checks will be delivered by Branch members to Midland City Council, MDN, Chamber of Commerce and other locations.

You can help by baking a batch of cookies. Call Pauline for the recipe.

## AAUW Done in a Day Activity

Kerry Buell, Chair

Three Branch members, Terry Townley, Donna Fischer and Judy Donahue, volunteered to facilitate lunch time activities for Floyd School students during their Kindness Week on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Comments from our representatives include:

- ◆ "It was a treat to meet with the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders at Floyd School over lunch on Kindness Week."
- ◆ "Kristie Clark the counselor carefully organized the conversation opportunities for each grade."
- ◆ "When I asked the 4th graders is this a friendly school, one of the boys emphatically answered, 'It is the best school I have been to.' "
- ◆ "I found the students to be very respectful and attentive. I was impressed when a second grade girl gave a clear explanation of empathy which is a powerful concept for young kids."
- ◆ "I enjoyed my time at Floyd Elementary!"

*AAUW can make a difference when we reach out to students.*

*Thanks for supporting our children by helping to promote kindness.*

## Gardening for Fun

Kerry Buell & Gina Pederson, Co -Chairs

Spring has officially arrived in Midland and elsewhere, but our adventures in the garden will begin on April 17 at 1:30 pm at Kerry Buell's home. Gina Pederson, Master Gardener, will be opening our eyes to wildflowers in our area and specifically along the rail trail.



Other program plans include a trip to the Saginaw Art Museum to see the gardens done in a Victorian motif. We will have a tour after the fence and flowers are in place probably in June. Your ideas on other topics or trips will widen our scope. Please join us at Kerry's! RSVP to Kerry.

### Mark Your Calendar

April 10	Equal Pay Day Rally, Lansing
April 27-29	Used Book Sale, Midland Mall
May 17	Lunch at the Country Club

President: Kim Steinke, President-Elect: Carol Arnosky, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Programs: Mary Crane-Franek  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP Membership: Judith Donahue, The Twig Editor: Pauline Pittsley

Web sites: <http://midland-mi.aauw.net> <http://aauwmi.org/> E-mail: [aauwmidland@gmail.com](mailto:aauwmidland@gmail.com)