

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

January Program a Big Success No Branch General Meeting in February

Mark Your Calendar!

Thursday, March 19 - The Branch Annual Meeting will be held at 10:30 am at the Grace A. Dow Library Community Room. Keynote speaker will be Kristi Kline, Director of Student Reading Programs at the Legacy Center for Community Success. In 2019, over 200 children and adults were helped to overcome obstacles to academic success. Learn how community volunteers make it all happen.

Saturday, May 16 – We are proud to be showing off Midland and our branch as we host the AAUW State Convention at The H Hotel. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet our state leaders and to network with women from other branches around the state. Details are being finalized with plans for outstanding speakers, workshops and camaraderie. On Friday, May 15th, tours are being offered at Dow Gardens and the Canopy Walk to our guests and Midland members. On Saturday, May 16th, the day will be filled with a panel, workshops and gifted speakers, a book sale (to help cover our expenses) and delicious meals (a light breakfast and lunch) prepared by The H Hotel. Please watch for registration information in the March Twig.



The January program was well attended. Kate Hessling, editor of the Midland Daily News, spoke to a large audience about the newspaper's role in the community.

President's Message *Jane Wirth, Co-President*

News from AAUW National

- **A Chance to Brag:** National gave bragging rights to 17 branches in 11 states which contributed \$5K or more in 2019 to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund. **Our branch** was **the only** Michigan branch to make the list.
- **Kim Churches**, AAUW CEO, is hosting webinars to keep branch leaders and members up-to-date on issues. Go to aauw.org to see them. Latest one—January 28, 2020. Also see: Leader Essentials.
- **Next webinar in April** will include strategies to attract younger members.
- **AAUW Board** has assessed its resources and determined that **gender and pay equity** are primary organization foci; other issues important to women, e.g., reproductive choice, gun safety, equal rights, are secondary because they are supported significantly by other organizations.
- **The next research report** from AAUW to be published later in 2020 will focus on **“women in manufacturing”**.
- **AAUW has made major presentations** at conferences of the Society for Women Engineers and female leaders in agriculture and farming—outreaches in the STEM arena.

Branch Officers to be Elected at the Annual Meeting

Barb Galloway, Nominations Officer

The Nominations Committee extends their appreciation to the following candidates for the slate of officers for 2020-2022. The election of officers will be held at the Annual Meeting on March 19, 2020.

President: open

Membership Vice President: Judith Cox

Finance Vice President: Liz Kapla .

Nominations Officer: Barb Galloway

Delegate-at-Large: Marie Johansen

Membership – Lu Deline, 2nd VP Membership



Membership with AAUW means you're part of a community dedicated to changing the climate for women and girls. It also means you have access to some great discounts and special services exclusively offered to members. AAUW's member benefits can enhance your professional and personal life and will save you money along the way! Most important, every time you use one of your benefits, you are also supporting AAUW's vital work, which is what makes AAUW one of the nation's most powerful voices on women's issues.

Details at www.AAUW.org/Membership/Benefits for AAUW Members.

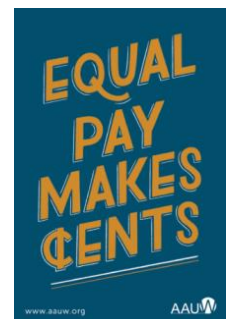
Equal Pay Day USA & Equal Pay Day Michigan

Judy Donahue, Public Policy Chair

Equal Pay Day symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned the previous year. USA Equal Pay Day is 3/31/2020. The Michigan Equal Pay Day Coalition (EPDMI) has chosen 4/29/2020 to observe Equal Pay Day in Michigan. The difference in the dates is due to Michigan legislators not being in session for 2 weeks near 3/31 and other date conflicts. Time during EPDMI is used to lobby Michigan legislators on Equal Pay.

This year's EPDMI activities in Lansing will feature a morning educational session with speakers from federal agencies speaking about pay issues, and MI legislators speaking about bills that they continually try to get the Michigan Legislature to bring up for discussion.

The afternoon is a rally with speakers including Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and hopefully a well-known national woman. Michigan legislators who support Equal Pay and could not speak at the morning session will participate in the rally. At some point during the day, attendees will lobby their legislators to support the Equal Pay bills waiting to be heard.



League of Women Voters Sponsors Program on New Voting Rights

New Voting Rights will be the topic of a Town Hall meeting on Monday, February 3, at 7:00 pm, in the Council Chambers at Midland City Hall, 333 Ellsworth Street. The program is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Midland Area. Speaker Ann Manary, Midland County Clerk, will present information on the new voting rights for Michigan citizens. She will discuss expanded opportunities for voter registration including online options, early voting by absentee ballot with no reason needed, and other aspects of the voting process. The Town Hall is free and open to the public.

Help More Students Get Their Post-Secondary Education by Sharing the Word about Scholarships That Are Hard to Grant



The Midland Area Community Foundation (MACF) needs your help in publicizing scholarships that get few or no applicants each year. Do you know people who work with or engage in the areas of: trades, adult learners, history, social studies, art, interior design, single mothers, violin camp, optometry, the 4-H horse program, Alma College, Hiram College, Lawrence Tech, aviation, literature, pharmacy, media broadcasting, dentistry or agriculture?

If you answered yes and are interested in learning more about the opportunities that exist for post-secondary students in Midland County, please reach out to at MACF at 989-839-9661. Deadline is March 1, 2020. Applicants are encouraged to start the process soon as letters of recommendation and transcripts are needed prior to submitting their application. Be sure to check "non-traditional student" on application if appropriate.

Mark Your Calendar

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| March 1 | Deadline for Branch scholarships; request recommendations & transcripts by 2/15. |
| March 19 | Thursday, 10:30 am, Annual Meeting Grace A. Dow Library Community Room |
| April 24-26 | Spring Used Book Sale |
| May 16 | AAUW MI State Convention at The H Hotel |
| June 4 | Thursday, 11:30 am, Spring Luncheon |

Co-Presidents: Jane Wirth & Pauline Pittsley ~ 1st VP Program: Chris Ferrando
2nd VP Membership: Lu Ellen DeLine ~ The Twig Editor: Pauline Pittsley

Web sites: <https://midland-mi.aauw.net> <https://aauwmi.org/> **E-mail:** aauwmidland@gmail.com