
October Branch Meeting

Thursday, October 15th at 6:30 p.m.

BeckRidge Productions Suite - Koppernick Tech Center in Canton

Lisa Todd will be our guest speaker. Lisa works with homeless veterans in the Wayne County area. She will talk about the services and programs available for these men and women, who have served our country. She will also let us what we can do as individuals or as a group to offer assistance through donations or volunteer efforts. I hope you will be able to attend and welcome Lisa. She is truly a woman making a difference in our world by helping others.



PLAN ON HAVING SUPPER WITH US!

Supper will be provided by Mickey Edell. The price of the meal is \$8.00 with all proceeds being sent to AAUW Funds to support equity for all women and their families.



Ooh La La! French Gastronomical Goodies

Brie en Croute

Butter Lettuce with Poppy Seed and Tarragon Crème Fraiche Dressing
French Bread and Butter

Chicken Gruyere with Sautéed Mushrooms

Rice with Herbes de Provence

Ratatouille Bake

Apple Galette

Chocolate Mousse Cake



President's "Post"

Another glorious fall is pervading all of our senses. Fiery colored leaves, radiant with burnished hues, will soon be crunching under our feet. Pumpkin fields, bursting with vibrant orange, will soon grace our porches with grotesque or amusing visages. Melodious strains from marching bands and raucous cheers from football fields will reverberate through our neighborhoods. I still continue to think of autumn as the beginning of a new year. Although life tends to get busier with the inception of fall, it is also a time of renewal and commitment to our causes. I would like to encourage all of you to add AAUW to your list of activities.

AAUW members are eager to educate citizens and lawmakers about the results of our research and priorities needed to advance our mission. From informing voters about the issues, to registering new voters, to advocating for or against proposed legislation, AAUW is there. AAUW plus advocacy=Real Change!

Listed below are just a few ways national AAUW has made an impact in Michigan:

- AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps made 32 visits to members of Congress from Michigan
- AAUW public policy staff provided materials for 10 events in Michigan, including nine for Equal Pay Day events.
- Michiganders sent 8,935 messages to Congress and the president through the Tw-Minute Activist tool.
- Provided free access to the state Salsa platform to Michigan and training to Michigan leaders
- Volunteers earned an AAUW Impact Grant, including an award of \$1,000 to focus on equal pay and human trafficking.
- AAUW of Michigan branches and the national association sponsored almost 80 students from Michigan to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our October branch meeting. Bring a friend, as well.

Lisa M. Todd, MA/LLPC (Bio)



I started my professional career as a High School Youth Minister working with jr. high and high school teens. I taught religious education, developed and ran Jr. High and High School Youth Groups for 6 different area churches over 16 years. It was when I was working with youth that I discovered I needed more education in the counseling field, so many of my youth had problems and I felt that I needed to help them more than I was so I entered the Counseling Program at Wayne State University where I received a Master of Arts in Agency and School Counseling. I have always had a passion for working with youth and thought I would become a High School Counselor, but that never happened. Instead I accepted a position as a Housing Specialist at Southwest Solutions in 2004. I housed homeless and mentally ill consumers and worked with them to ensure they remained housed, paid their rent and receive the mental health services they needed to remain stable. In 2008 Southwest Solutions broke ground on a 23 million dollar project; it is called Piquette Square for Veterans. The building is a permanent housing facility with 150 one-bedroom apartments for formally homeless Veteran. It has been open since June 2010 and I oversee the support services and the case management staff ensure that each Veteran receive the resources they need to remain housed and to END their homelessness!

Also, my father was a WWII and Korean War Navy Veterans and in his honor I am now an American Legion Auxiliary Member with the Garden City Unit 396.

Thanks! Lisa

Ladies: On November 14, 2015, a group of AAUW Plymouth Canton gals will be attending the play "Casting Session" at the Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea, Michigan. We will be going to the afternoon performance which is at 2:00 p.m. The cost for the performance is 38.00 If you are interested in going to the show, let me know by email. I will have to collect your monies for the performance beforehand so that I can go and buy the tickets. They won't allow us to turn in unused tickets like they did years ago. If we don't use the ticket we still pay for it.



We will either go to the Common Grill for lunch before the play or after for dinner. We can vote on that when we know how many people are going. The article about the play describes it thus: "Frank and Ron are two middle aged actors who have been competing for the same roles in New York City for 30 years. Join us to see the lengths to which actors go to get a part." The play was penned by Jeff Daniels and sounds hilarious.



If you are at all interested, please let me know by phone 453-5009 or by email. If you say you are going I will expect you to either give me cash or a check that I can cash before the performance. Thanks so much and I hope to see many of you going.

Sharon Belobraidich

PUBLIC POLICY

CAN YOU PASS OUR SOCIAL SECURITY QUIZ?

For 80 years Social Security has been our nation's most successful anti-poverty program. Yet few people realize the crucial role that the program plays for women. Test your knowledge! Guess whether each statement below is true or false, and then learn the facts.

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Nearly 60 percent of people receiving Social Security benefits are women.
2. Social Security provides a vital source of income for both divorced and unmarried women.
3. Social Security is especially critical to women because of the gender pay gap.
4. Social Security is exclusively a retirement program.
5. Social Security protects more than 9 out of ten American workers and their families in the event of a life-changing disability or illness.
6. Although Social Security needs reform, the program isn't broken beyond repair.

Answers and information are below:

1. True. Women face greater retirement insecurity than men do for a number of reasons. Women do not spend as much time in the workforce, have less access to private savings, and need more resources to support a longer lifespan.
2. True. Divorced women, who historically face the highest poverty rates among all elderly U.S. women, receive Social Security benefits either as retired workers themselves, divorced spouses, or as surviving divorced spouses.
3. True. Because women are typically paid less than men, women tend to have lower savings and lower participation rates in 401(k) plans. Women benefit from Social Security's formula, which replaces a large proportion of past wages for lower-earning workers.
4. False. Only half of all Social Security recipients get benefits solely as retired workers. In addition to divorced spouses, and spouses, widows, children, and people with disabilities receive vital assistance from Social Security. In fact the program provides more income to families than welfare does.
5. True.
About 8.8 million workers with disabilities receive Social Security Disability insurance, including almost two million children. SSDI is the main or only source of income for the vast majority of beneficiaries.
6. True. The most recent Social Security trustee's report shows that Social Security can pay all scheduled benefits through 2034, and the reality is that Social Security is the strongest of the three legs of retirement for women.

Since AAUW's founding, our members and supporters have spoken out about policies that are important to women and girls. We're grateful for the eight decades of work that Social Security has done to strengthen economic security for women and their families, and AAUW will continue to push for improvements for the next eight decades and counting.

Mickey

ALICE IN WONDERLAND



Tryouts are over and the cast has been chosen. They are busy now learning lines and working on sets and costumes. How can you help? There are so many jobs to be done.....and we don't want to run out of time. Contact Lisa Noel to see what is still needed to make the play a success.

734-223-4444 or
Ln3187@yahoo.com



Purpose/Mission

The purpose of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS



Leadership for Today and Tomorrow

Student Leader Conference Opportunity

The Plymouth-Canton branch of AAUW is looking for candidates interested in attending a Leadership Conference in spring 2016. Our Plymouth branch has awarded scholarships to young women to attend the conference for seven consecutive years. The NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) conference is a fast-paced, two –and- a-half day conference

that addresses the needs of current and aspiring women student leaders. Do you know a college student who may be interested in this opportunity? Please contact Diana Wilcox for an application. Diana_Wilcox@att.net

MEETING LOCATION

BeckRidge Productions Suite at the Koppernick Tech Center in Canton. The address is 40525 Koppernick Road, which is 2 blocks east of Haggerty Road. When you see the bike path sign with the arrow, turn right and go to the back. Turn left at the back on the second building and go to the last suite on the left (southeast corner of the southern-most building). Look for the entrance to BeckRidge Productions. We'll also post an AAUW sign. This meeting location is accessible to all members.