



# Catalyst

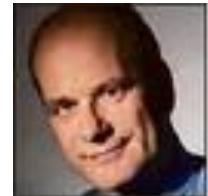
Plymouth-Canton Branch  
November & December 2025

## Branch Meetings

### November

Thursday, November 20, 6:30 pm-  
Plymouth Community Arts Council

Nolan Finley, Editor at the Detroit News is back from Washington DC and will be able to join us for our November branch meeting. Finley has recently co-authored "The Civility Book-a guide to building bridges across the political divide." It is an interesting read. He will discuss the book and other relevant topics when he meets with us.



### MANGIA! MANGIA! ENJOY OUR ANNUAL ITALIAN REPAST

PREPARED BY CHEF MICHAEL



ANTIPASTO SALAD	\$10 PER PERSON
GARLIC BREAD	PROCEEDS TO
LASAGNA BOLONGESE	BENEFIT OUR
CHICKEN MARSALA PASTA CASSEROLE	GREATEST NEEDS
ITALIAN GREEN BEANS	FUND
CHOCOLATE ITALIAN CREAM	
CAKELIMONCELLO CAKE	

Thursday, December 11,  
5:30 pm- **EARLY START TIME**  
Plymouth Community Arts Council



**Pot Luck** – Bring an Hors d'oeuvres/appetizer to pass. Beverages provided. We always have plenty. So, if you can't bring something that night - please come anyway.

*We can't have a party without you!!!*

**DRAWING for GIFTS:** Support the Branch. ★ Some members are donating gift items/baskets – maybe something to eat or drink, something handmade, something decorative. ★ Buy tickets and put them in the container by the gift basket you would like to win.

Email/text Shirley Zaetta if you have questions about items to donate. 734-455-6366 or [szaetta@wowway.com](mailto:szaetta@wowway.com) Money raised will stay in our Branch to fund our expenses.

# *From the Presidents ...*

Dear AAUW Friends,

It's hard to believe that the 2025 year is soon coming to an end. The cooler weather (and snow!) is here, and we are now in the midst of Thanksgiving preparations, and the store shelves are filled with gifts to purchase.

We are all so busy this time of year, but we need to remember to slow down, take some deep breaths and reflect on the past year. It's a time to honor our continued promise of caring for others and treating people with dignity and respect.



November and December are filled with giving, helping, sharing and getting together with our AAUW friends for the remaining two branch meetings of the year. We'll meet on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 PM. We'll enjoy dinner together, listen to our dynamic speaker, Nolan Findley and end the evening with a business meeting.

We'll also meet on Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> for our Holiday get-together, beginning at 5:30 PM. Bring an appetizer to share, purchase tickets to win a gift and bring a friend (or more!) to join us for the food, friendship and fun! The more the merrier!



We are thankful to belong to this important women's organization. We appreciate your talents, skills, generosity, commitment and friendship.

Happy Holidays!

*Dawn and Mickey*



## **BOOK GROUP**

We will meet on Tuesday, November 25th at Mickey's due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Our read is Nothing Can Bring Back the Hour by our very own Pam Dean. Helene will be interviewing Pam about her authorship experience and the book itself. If you would like a copy of the book, please contact Pam at [pgdean1@gmail.com](mailto:pgdean1@gmail.com).



We do not meet in December due to the holidays. Our next meeting is January 22, 2026. The book for that evening is The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar. Cyndi Naumoff is ordering for us, but my suspicion is the order is already placed as I am way behind. It also should be available at Barnes and Noble or Amazon. I think we need a host for January.

Best to all – Helene and Mick

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Michelle Churchill was sent a "get-well" card as she is home recovering from her knee surgery.

Sue Sayers was sent a "feel better" card after her surgery.

Shirley Zaetta was sent a "thinking of you" card because she was dealing with Bob's knee replacement surgery and subsequent hospital visits.

Kathy Kish was sent a "thinking of you" card as we waited to hear that her scans were clear (I think Laurie announced this at the last AAUW meeting).

Gail Conte was sent a "thinking of you" card as we all continue to grieve with her after the loss of Meredith.

Former member, Diana Wilcox was sent a "with sympathy" card after the loss of her husband Joe.

## DIRECTORY:

Some directories were handed out at meetings. The rest are on the way.

Please note – I was quite distracted in August and September when I finalized the directory. There are many, many corrections. Some are new members, some are members who were accidentally left out of last year's edition, and some are updating or adding info.

This is a list of additions and corrections. Please go through your copy and make these updates.

## DIRECTORY ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS:

There are a couple of blank pages at the end of the booklet to add new members. Please add these names.

Renata Arsenault  
45570 Moonlight Dr.  
Plymouth MI 48170  
313-805-5133  
Rarsena4@fordlcom

Pam Dean  
50021 Ogden Rd.  
Canton MI 48188  
734-748-9379  
Pgdean1@gmail.com

Erica Goff  
32311 Parkwood St.  
Westland, MI 48185  
[Graphic.soiree@gmail.com](mailto:Graphic.soiree@gmail.com)

Carrie James  
42180 Brampton Ct.  
Northville MI 48168  
313-727-0014  
[cjamesglobal@gmail.com](mailto:cjamesglobal@gmail.com)

Shay Leonard  
17047 Brookland Blvd.  
Northville MI 48168  
[daveandshay@att.net](mailto:daveandshay@att.net)

Donna Lesz  
7040 7 Mile Rd  
South Lyon, MI 48178  
734-765-9717  
[Donnalesz1954@gmail.com](mailto:Donnalesz1954@gmail.com)  
Birthday: January 5

Erica Marcos  
28997 Grandon St  
Livonia MI 48150  
elmarco91@gmail.com

Anna Rogers  
28035 Hopkins Dr.  
Novi MI 48377  
Annarogers2002@gmail.com

### ADDITIONAL INFO:

Add email and phone to:

Angela Cassity  
[cassitydesign.repair@gmail.com](mailto:cassitydesign.repair@gmail.com)  
(262) 734-691-6782

Ariana Finn  
[finnaria@msu.edu](mailto:finnaria@msu.edu)



## **PUBLIC POLICY POST**

### **AAUW IT'S MY VOTE!**

Although many of our members just participated in elections on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, it is never too early to start preparing for our next round of elections. As you know, AAUW has always encouraged voter registration and getting out the vote. Now AAUW is proud to be a Power Partner with the League of Women Voters on Unite and Rise 8.5, alongside the National Council of Jewish Women.

Unite and Rise 8.5 is the League of Women Voters' non-partisan, movement-building campaign to engage 8.5 million people in civic education, community activation, and turnout support with partners working together to lift local voices and make participation easier. Working together on this does not change AAUW'S strategic focus or our policy priorities. This partnership demonstrates overlapping goals around engaging people in elections—not an adoption of another organization's areas of priorities.

It's My Vote! Is AAUW's nonpartisan voter engagement effort to help branches lead meaningful, community-rooted civic education, public mobilization, and coalition building. The focus is practical: give leaders clear information, simple tools, and doable actions that strengthen participation and keep the conversation centered on women's equity.

### **OUR RIGHTS! OUR VOICES! OUR VOTE!**

On a related note: Kudos to AAUW of Michigan President, Amy Shamroe, who just won her bid for reelection as mayor of Traverse City. We are proud of her long-term dedication to local politics and always making her voice heard.

In Solidarity, Mickey

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

December 6 & 7 – **Shop for a Cause**. Vitrine will give our branch a percentage of purchases made during that time.

Monday, December 8, 7:00 p.m. at PCAC – Plymouth Community Chorus Christmas Concert. Our very own Becky, Mickey, Sharon, Dianne, and Marie will be performing. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 7575 N. Hix, Westland.

Thursday, December 11 – Branch Meeting at 5:30 (early)

Thursday, Feb. 5, Friday, Feb 6, & Saturday, Feb. 7 – Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

# Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs - 2026 - Cast

CHARACTER	PLAYED BY
Tree 1	Mary Uhl
Tree 2	Kristen Bros
Tree 3	Kaytee Bellows
Bear	Dianne Hartman
Rabbit	India Edwards
Skunk	Kay Paupore
Lady Diana	Jenn Balinski
Snow White	Ari Finn
Lady Amy	Carrie James
Lady Beatrice	MaryBeth Chmielewski
Lady Christina	Dawn Parker
Lady Elizabeth	Angela Cassity
Sir Dandiprat	Melissa Uhl
Prince Michael	Abby Finn
Queen Bragamore	Renata Arsenault
Witch Hex	Pam Dean
Long Tail	Gail Conte

Short Tail	Sarah Jasso
Lack Tail	Donna Lesz
Mirror	Becky Copenhaver
Henry the Huntsman	Anna Rogers
Doc	Michelle Churchill
Happy	Mickey Edell
Sneezy	Sue Bellows
Grumpy	Sandy Iannucci
Bashful	Laurie Kempisty
Sleepy	Erica Marcos
Dopey	Lisa Gapa
Peddler Woman	Helene Lusa



## ADDITIONAL INFO – PLAY RELATED

PUMPKIN PALOOZA went well, in spite of the weather trying to drown us and blow us away! We had about a third of our anticipated participants show up for the event, but we still had some great times.

Also, thank you to all that volunteered to show up and volunteered their “stuff” to make it a success. Just so you so know, for the event, I had put an APB out for anyone who had a pop-up canopy to use and no one responded. So, we used donation money to pay for the tent and now, the branch has a brand-new tent that can also be used for other events. Ex. Garage Sale, book sale, concerts in the park, etc. It will be stored in my garage and not the shed, so it'll be easily accessible whenever it's needed by branch members.

We also bought 3,000 postcards to publicize the play, and we still have a bunch to be distributed. I will start giving to cast members at the next read through, on Wednesday, November 12 at 6pm.

We'll have our last read through on Wednesday Dec 10 at 6 as well!!!

