

# Update

Volume 50 No. 4  
November 2025

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## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES:

### AAUW Michigan:

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

### AAUW National:

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

### AAUW Northville-Nov:

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

AAUW-NN

P.O. Box 511

Northville, MI 48167

AAUWNN MEETING  
NOVEMBER 11 at 6:45 p.m.  
Northville District Library  
212 W. Cady Street, Northville  
Carlo Room

### Programs

Emily Doubler, Facilitator

[ejaw1976@gmail.com](mailto:ejaw1976@gmail.com)



## Domestic Violence Leading Cause of Injury for Women

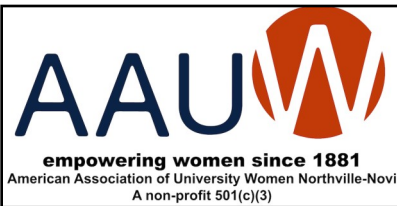
EVERY culture, age group, socioeconomic background,  
race, religion, & relationship type.

### FACTS<sup>1</sup>

1.3 million	<b>Women</b> assaulted annually by an intimate partner
25%	Of all women in the U.S. have been assaulted by an intimate partner
33%	Of all women murder victims were killed by an intimate partner
31,000	<b>Children</b> die annually from domestic violence
+ 300%	Likelihood of <b>child</b> abuse under age 5 when domestic violence present
8,000	<b>Suicides</b> annually that are domestic violence related

On the evening of November 11, **Audriana Buchanan-Cronk** will be speaking to us about domestic violence. Audriana is the Director of Operations and Engagement at **First Step**. First Step is a non-profit agency providing comprehensive services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Since 1978, First Step has been working for peaceful families and safe communities in Wayne County, Michigan.

(Continued on page 3)



**NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI)**

<https://aauwnn.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)



***Branch Activities Moving  
Right Along***

The last few months seem to have flown by, and things have been moving right along for our branch. The November 7 Mahjongg Tournament is rapidly approaching, and seats are filling up. Your fashion show committee has been hard at work securing clothing designers and accessory designers for the big event. In addition, we are working to secure sponsors and ads for our program book. If you have an idea for a potential sponsor or advertiser, please reach out to me.

For those of you who missed our October meeting, we spent a delightful session with five of our 2025 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) Scholarship Recipients. These delightful, smart, enthusiastic, inspiring young women shared some of their experiences with us and their Schoolcraft College Sponsor Rhonda Donovan shared a Power Point presentation highlighting some of their activities. A very enjoyable evening.

On October 16, I attended a Novi/Northville Chamber event, we played Networking Bingo. Great way to connect with potential fashion show advertisers and attract new members. It was a fun and enjoyable afternoon. I even met some people who were friends of people I know.

On Friday, October 17, I attended the Southeast Consortium Meeting at the Hudson Cafe in Northville Township. The group meets once a month and is comprised of representatives from area AAUW branches. Emily Doubler, Membership VP, attended with me and our guest speaker was our very own Mary Jane Kearns, who is our State Funds Director, talking about her role at the State AAUW level. It's also a great place to share and gather new ideas.

As you look ahead to the Thanksgiving Season, I hope you can find some things in your life to be thankful for. Whether it be for good health, an opportunity to spend time with family and friends or the ability to get out and about on your own, it is sometimes those small things in life that bring us the most pleasure.



*Karen*

**Domestic Violence** *(Continued from page 1)*

Audriana will share her insight into domestic violence, the needs of survivors, the services First Step offers to victims, and the challenges domestic violence shelters are currently facing.

**Prior to November 11**, you'll want to watch Nicole Beverly's story on "Inside Evil with Chris Cuomo":  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL\\_hVQXTSUCPRi20ekJM4eUNyptfo\\_ut3v](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_hVQXTSUCPRi20ekJM4eUNyptfo_ut3v).

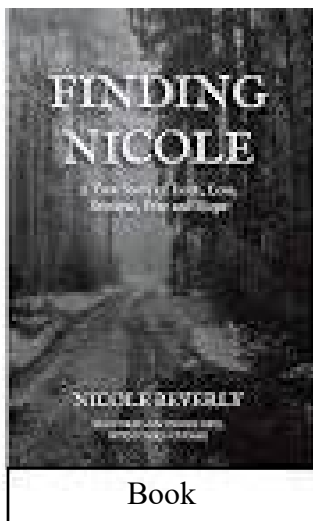
Please wear purple that evening to show your solidarity with victims of domestic violence.

First Step Wish List: <https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/3F5XWM107SGOT>

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1 = USA Statistics, May 15, 2024, CDC "Intimate Partner Violence"

**ABOUT THE NOVEMBER MEETING**

If you are hesitating about coming to the meeting on November 11 because you need a ride to the meeting or you feel you can't walk very far, send an email to [info@aauwnn.org](mailto:info@aauwnn.org) by November 6. The meeting is on the main level of the library and you can be dropped off right at the door.



Book



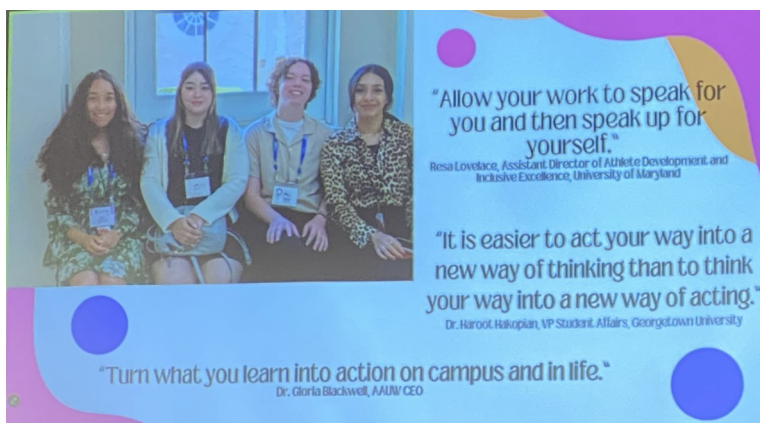
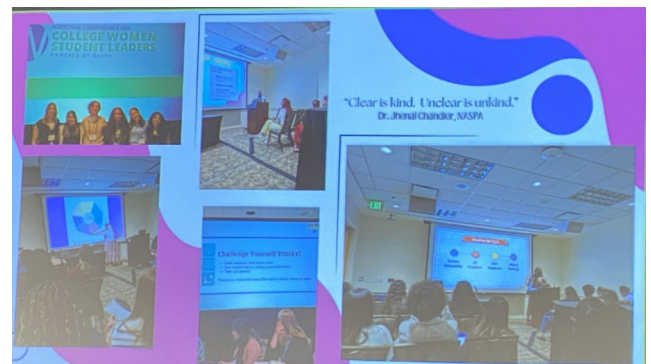
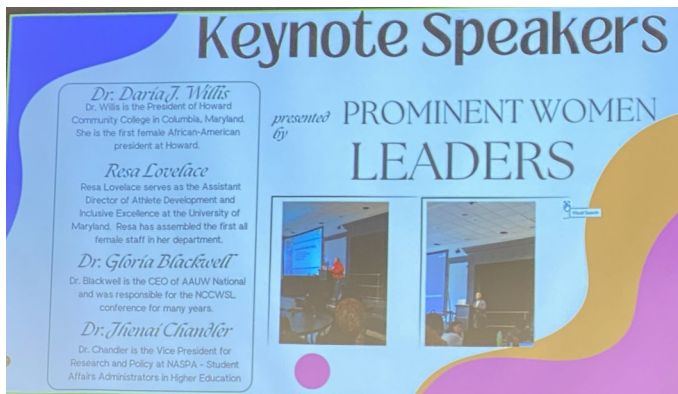
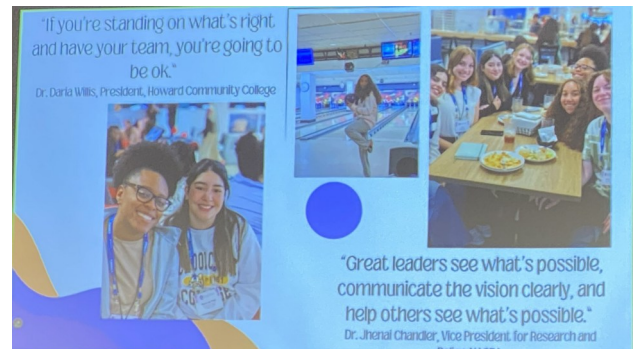
Movie



## Pictures from October Meeting



L. to R., Ruth Rickard, Sara Meeks, Sanika Tailor, Sinclair Hansen, Maria del Pilar Estevez, Caitlin Cherry, Rhonda Donovan



Goodies you received if you attended the meeting

## Board Briefs



Your board met on October 28.

Thank you to Jane Hecker and Harriet Sawyer for their hours of hard work in revising our Policies and Procedures to create consistency and patterns across the document. The board approved the final document, which will soon be available on the website.

So far 52 participants have registered for the Mah Jongg tournament on November 7.

We are recruiting advertisers and sponsors for the fashion show. If there is someone you can contact, let Karen Z know.

Readers are needed for the scholarship [applications](#). Most of the reading will take place during January, February and March. Caryn Doehler at (248) 982-1029.

Respectfully submitted, Caryn Doehler

*Great Decisions*

*Mary Jane Kearns Contact*

[mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com)

## Great Decisions Update

Great Decisions will not meet in December. We will be reading **Tyranny and Minority: Why American Democracy Reached the Breaking Point** by Stephen Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt for January 20, 2026.

The topics for 2026 have now been published, and they look to be excellent. You can have a look at them at <https://fpa.org/great-decisions-2026-topic-announcement/>. Books are now available and are \$40. This is the perfect time to join us for the new year beginning in January.

## \$\$\$ 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-Novu 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.



The new **Michigan budget** has notable impacts on women's issues, including both positive investments and concerning cuts depending on which version or elements are considered. Key areas affected include healthcare, victim services, workforce participation, maternal care, and economic empowerment programs.

The budget protects and maintains full funding for Medicaid and the Healthy Michigan Plan, which ensures continued access to healthcare for women, particularly in rural and underserved areas. Funding for maternal care programs, like the Maternal Levels of Care and the Michigan Clinical Consultation and Care (MC3) program, has been preserved. This supports risk-appropriate maternal care and behavioral health services for women and children, maintaining critical support for women's reproductive and general health.

Proposed cuts to statewide victim services programs total \$4 million, which could result in an immediate 30% reduction in programming. These reductions would impact shelters, legal aid, and advocacy for survivors of abuse and assault. Many nonprofits that cater to women's safety and well-being are at risk of losing critical funding, raising concerns about diminished protections for vulnerable women statewide.

The Michigan Women's Commission and related budget recommendations emphasize investments to improve access to high-wage careers for women by expanding tuition-free community college, skills training, and the MI Tri-Share Child Care Program. These initiatives aim to boost economic opportunity, support small business ownership, and open more pathways for women to succeed professionally. The budget continues this focus, highlighting the importance of both direct economic aid and systemic reforms to support women's long-term economic security.

Additional acknowledgments such as WiHERed Day illustrate a state-level emphasis on celebrating and empowering women in leadership and entrepreneurship, emphasizing ongoing community and governmental support for women's advancement.

**Overall, while the new Michigan budget contains robust protections and investments in women's healthcare and economic opportunity, it also proposes significant cuts that could adversely affect services for survivors of violence and organizations supporting vulnerable women. The true impact will depend on final legislative negotiations and implementation of these provisions.**

WiHERed Day is a day declared in Michigan to recognize and support women entrepreneurs who play a significant role in the state's economy. Governor Gretchen Whitmer proclaimed October 4, 2025, as WiHERed Day to celebrate the resilience, leadership, and innovation of women entrepreneurs and leaders who

(Continued on page 7)



**Public Policy** *(Continued from page 6)*

are transforming lives, building wealth, and advancing communities across Michigan and beyond. The mission of WiHERed is to empower women globally, starting in Michigan, by providing community support, personal development, and entrepreneurial resources to activate their potential and strengthen their impact. WiHERed Day serves as a reminder of the power of women to rise above limitations, use their voice, and boldly lead in the marketplace and society.

**In Memoriam**



Darlene Ursel

Another one of our members passed away this week. Darlene Ursel was a fifty year member. She was known in the branch for making the best sugar cookies we ever tasted. For the Mah Jongg Tournaments she would make them in the form of Mah Jongg tiles and decorate them like the tiles.

In addition Darlene was a member of a group our branch once had called The Foodies. They made lunch for each other and, according to Joan Cotton, the lunches Darlene made were always fabulous because she took a lot of cooking classes. She had a whole wall of shelves of just cook-books.

Darlene also was always the chair whenever we had a Tipping Point Event. Mexico was where she loved to go on her vacations. She worked as a librarian at the Plymouth District Library for many years.

A funeral service will be held Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 11 a.m. with visitation beginning at 10 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville. Reverend Sarah Wheatley will officiate the service. Mrs. Ursel will be laid to rest next to her husband at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to [AAUWNN](#), P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167 (please make checks payable to Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan and include AAUWNN in the memo line of the check) or [Northville Civic Concern](#), 43275 W. 7 Mile Rd., Northville, MI 48167.

**Thinking of You**

Maureen Miller is going through chemo treatments for breast cancer. If you have gone through this, she might appreciate a note from you.

Her address is:

Maureen Miller  
1536 Dover Hill South  
Walled Lake, MI 48390-3123

Janet Beaber is in the hospital recovering from heart surgery.

Her address is:

Janet Beaber  
470 Morgan Circle  
Northville, MI 48167-2719



If you know of one of our members that we should be thinking of, please send me the information at [jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com](mailto:jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com).



# the AAUWNN REVIEW

Special Edition V  
2025

November 1, 2025

## 10 YEARS AGO IN 2015

### AAUWNN in 2015

During the 2010 - 2019 period of AAUWNN Rhonda York, Ruth Rickard, Susan Schanne and Mary Jane Kearns all served as our president.

During these years we worked with the Mercy Education Project in Detroit. As part of our Mercy Ed partnership, we held a Career Path Day for thirty Detroit Corktown middle school girls. Some of our members also tutored girls from Mercy Ed.

We launched the 'Let's Read Math Program' a program designed to combine children's literature with fun math activities. The goal being to create positive attitudes about math and how we incorporate math into everyday life.

We ended our Home Tour fundraisers in 2017 after hosting them for 21 years, due to the difficulty of finding homes to include on the tour. Thanks to Corinne, who brought the idea to the Board for consideration, we launched our first Michigan Fashion Designer Showcase Luncheon.

#### In Government

President - Barack Obama  
Vice-President - Joe Biden  
Eighty-four women in the U.S. House  
Twenty women in the U.S. Senate

### What Things Cost

Average Home	\$218,500
Gallon of Gas	\$2.68
Loaf of Bread	\$1.43
Gallon of Milk	\$3.37
One Dozen Eggs	\$2.94
Postage Stamp	\$0.49

Average Annual Income \$69,627

### On the National Scene

U.S. Population	321,773,631
Unemployment Rate	5.4%
Women in Workforce	56.7%

### Entertainment News

#### Movies

Jurassic World  
Star Wars: Episode VII  
Avengers  
Inside Out

#### TV Shows

The Sopranos  
The Wire  
Breaking Bad  
NCIS: New Orleans

### Fashion Trends

Athleisure  
Culottes  
Gladiator Sandals  
Flares  
Denim  
Skinny Jeans  
Round Sunglasses

### In Sports

NBA Championship - Golden State Warriors  
Baseball World Series - Kansas City Royals  
NFL Champions - New England Patriots  
Stanley Cup - Chicago Blackhawks

### Music

Can't Feel My Face  
The Hills  
Love Me Like You Do  
Hello  
See You Again  
Lean On



## NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE

### Daytime Book Group

Marian Brockie, Contact



Due to the cancellation of our October meeting, we will be discussing two books at our extended November 13 ZOOM meeting from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We will be discussing **The First Ladies** by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray and **Too Soon** by Betty Shamieh. It will be a group lead.

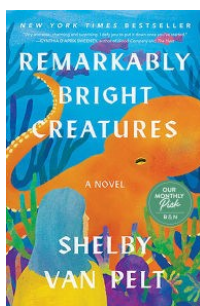


For more information on joining this group please contact Marian Brockie at [mbrockie@umich.edu](mailto:mbrockie@umich.edu).

### Evening Book Group

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

In November the Evening Book Group will return to our winter practice of meeting over ZOOM. Meetings continue to be held on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. This month we will discuss **Remarkably Bright Creatures** by Shelby Van Pelt. Mary Jane will lead our discussion. A complete list of what we are reading is published on our web site <https://aaunnn.org/>



Members will receive an automatic reminder for the Zoom meetings. Please RSVP to accept or decline that invitation.

Interested in joining? We'd love to have you. Contact Mary Jane at (248)449-8693 or [mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com) to be added.

### Mah Jongg

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Mah Jongg group plays Friday afternoons at members' homes. The November schedule is as follows:

Nov 7	Tournament Play at Finn's
Nov. 14	Carol
Nov. 21	Karen
Nov 28	Ruth



We enthusiastically welcome our recent new members. Interested in joining us? Contact Mary Jane Kearns to join us. [mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com) (248) 449-8693.

### Bridge Group

Marian Brockie, Contact

The Bridge Group currently is meeting at the Laurel Park Food Court area every Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 4 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 dine at Tiramisu, 146 Maincentre, Northville, at 6 p.m. on November 19.

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



### 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).

### Great Decisions

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact (Temporary)

We meet via ZOOM on the third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. On November 18, we will be discussing Chapter 8 in the 2025 Great Decisions Handbook: **American Policy in the Middle East: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead.**



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.

*VP Programs*  
*Mary Ann MacLaren*  
[info@aaauwnn.org](mailto:info@aaauwnn.org)

## **Info on Future Programs**

**November 11** Meeting is facilitated by Emily Doubler at the Northville Library at 6:45. Guest speaker is Audrianna Buchanan-Cronk of First Step. Details are on the front page of this newsletter.

**December 9** Meeting is facilitated by the Program committee at the Northville Sports Den at 6:30. Details of refreshments and entertainment will be in the December newsletter.

**January 13** Meeting is our first of three lunchtime meetings at the Northville Sports Den at 11:30. This meeting is facilitated by Mary Jane Kearns. Guest speaker is Ravi Yalamanchi of Rank Choice Voting.

**February 10** Meeting is facilitated by Rhonda York at the Northville Sports Den at 11:30. Autism discussion.

**March 10** Meeting is facilitated by Jackie Duggan at the Northville Sports Den at 11:30. Charitable Gifting Options discussed.



Emily Doubler, Rose Dankis, U. S. Representative Debbie Dingell, and Mary Ann MacLaren at the 'No Kings' demonstration at Schoolcraft College on October 18.

Karen Zyczynski (second from left) with friends at a protest in Novi.





## "Lunch and Mah Jongg" (American)



What: AAUW-NN Fundraiser

When: Friday, November 7, 2025 11:45 am-5:00 pm

Where: Fins Kitchen and Bar; Detroit Marriott Livonia  
17100 Laurel Park North, Livonia, MI 48152

(East of I-275 off Six Mile Rd; Parking in front of hotel at Lobby Entrance)

*A great lunch! Play Mah Jongg!*

*Door Prizes for getting Mah Jongg on certain hands! Special treats!*

*Support scholarships and local programs for women and girls*

11:45 am-12:00 pm Check-in, table assignment, etc.

12:00-1:00 pm Lunch - Tomato Bisque Cup, Salad Bar, Rolls, Beverages

1:00-4:30 pm Three 65 minute rounds; two 10 minute breaks

4:30-5:00pm Prizes awarded; Wrap-up

\*\* We will use the same modified scoring and we will use the 2025 card!

\*\*We will not be arranging any tables of 3! Prizes awarded for top 3 scores.

How: \$43 (\$20 is tax deductible) Register below:



Deadline to register is Monday, November 3, 2025

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_Email\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Return form with your check payable to AAUW-NN:**

AAUW-NN c/o Janice Wargo

P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167 (or in person!)

For more information contact: [info@aauwnn.org](mailto:info@aauwnn.org) 734-306-3991

Sponsored by American Association of University Women Northville-Nov Branch

[www.aauwnn.org](http://www.aauwnn.org) Look on the home page or under Community Events

*Hope to see you November 7, 2025!*





## Dushee' International, LLC – Model Call Sign-Up Sheet

### Call for Models: December 2025 – February 2026

Dushee' International, LLC is seeking diverse models for upcoming fashion and art projects, including photo shoots, product showcases, and promotional campaigns featuring our signature scarves and accessories. If you're passionate about fashion, art, and creative expression - we'd love to collaborate with you!

---

### Model Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Contact Method: ☐ Email ☐ Text ☐ Call

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### Availability (Check All That Apply)

☐ December 2025

☐ January 2026

☐ February 2026



...empowering women since 1922

## Support AAUW of Michigan while you Shop for Fall and Winter Holidays

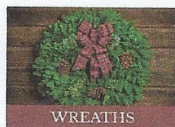
Shop from **Lynch Creek Farm** between now and December 10, and AAUW of Michigan will receive 10% cash back from your purchase. Lynch Creek Farm has decorating and gift ideas for your fall and winter occasions. The company handcrafts traditional and uniquely decorated Christmas wreaths, fresh centerpieces, and other beautiful holiday gifts. Their fresh evergreen products are created onsite ensuring freshness and high quality. The company's practice of trimming branches for their boughs without cutting down trees helps protect and sustain local forests and fragile ecosystems. Other gift items include gourmet foods featuring Pacific smoked salmon.



Shop the  
Holiday  
Fundraiser

You can pre-order items now and select an approximate shipping date. Standard shipping is \$4.95 per item. If you prefer to place your order by phone, call **1-888-426-0781** and mention campaign **#9323617** to make sure AAUWMI receives 10% cash back from your purchase. Proceeds will fund AAUWMI programs in support of AAUW's mission to promote equity for all.

### AAUW of Michigan Holiday Fundraiser



WE EARN 10%

Supporting our fundraiser is easy...  
Simply decorate your home or send  
an elegant evergreen gift!



SUPPORT OUR CAUSE

And so  
much  
more!!

- 1 Visit <https://lynchcreekfundraising.com/campaigns/953312>
- 2 Click the green Shop button next to a teammate
- 3 We earn 10% of your purchase!

ENTIRE PRODUCT AVAILABILITY ONLINE  
PREFER TO ORDER BY PHONE? CALL 1-888-426-0781 AND REFERENCE CAMPAIGN # **9323617**



AAUW of Michigan | [stateservices@aauwmi.org](mailto:stateservices@aauwmi.org)

AAUW of Michigan | <https://www.aauwmi.org/> | Big Rapids, MI 49307 US

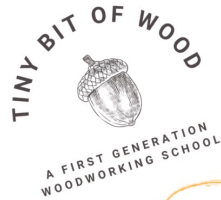
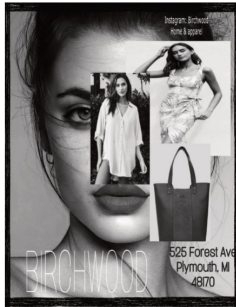
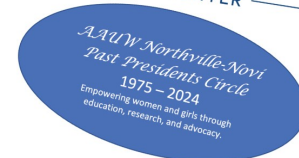
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**empowering women since 1881**

American Association of University Women Northville-Nov

A non-profit 501(c)(3)



Articles for the December 2025 issue  
due **November 20** to:

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

**AAUW Northville-Nov**  
**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 Thursday, 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.

