





October 2021

# AAUW PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITY ISSUES

Strong system of Public Education Equality, Individual Rights and Social Justice for a Diverse Society.

Economic Self-sufficiency for Woman

#### **MISSION**

To advance equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

#### **VISION**

Equity for all.

#### **VALUES**

Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

#### **AAUW FUNDS**

The Educational Foundation is one of the largest sources of funding for graduate women in the world awarding millions each year in scholarships.

#### LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

(LAF) works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

Highline AAUW theme for 2020 "Celebrating Five Generations of Women"

# Hello Highline AAUW Members: Mark your calendars for this new event!

October Gathering - Friday, October 15th at 3:00PM!



Our Highline Branch will have a "live" gathering at the Normandy Park United Church of Christ (UCC) at 3:00 PM for a 'book exchange' with the theme "Books and sharing our

experiences and early memories of Librarians and how we got interested in reading"

Think how this topic is an AAUW issue! Come to this event to share and find some good reads!

Please bring a book to exchange, wear a mask, be fully vaccinated, and sorry, no refreshments in the church!

**Normandy Park UCC - Address: 19247 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S, Normandy Park.** Directions: Going south from Burien on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave /509 past Manhattan Village or going north from Des Moines on 509 past the Normandy Park Shopping Center.





Please RSVP to Emily Hitchens if you wish to attend! Email: <u>ameliahitchens95@gmail.com</u> or call 206-824-6816

Submitted by Emily Hitchens, Membership Committee



A Memorial Service for May Mettler was held on September 18, 2021 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Burien. To honor her legacy and in lieu of flowers, donations were made to a scholarship fund at Highline High School. May worked there as a school nurse; she was an advocate for students in need as well. The first scholarship will be given in 2022 for a future nursing student.

# Highline Branch Member News

Honoring Carol Mohler, Lifetime Member of AAUW, By Kerry Lohr



I met with Carol Mohler and asked her several questions. Since we are also good friends, we did manage a tangent or two...

Carol first joined AAUW in June of 1970. She had been placed on maternity leave. That was what they did back then! Carol didn't want to limit herself by staying home all the time and a professor she had in college had recommended the group. Carol said she saw an article in the *Highline Times* that told about the September program, and she attended and joined.

She stays involved for the same reason she likes Highline AAUW: she believes in the mission, especially for education for women and girls, and she enjoys the relationships and friendships with others in the group. Connections with the community also make Carol's list.

I asked Carol if she belonged to any of the sub-groups that Highline AAUW has. Right now, she is in the Morning book group, but has in the past been part of Bon Appétit, Evening books; the Preschoolers' group, Life skills, Seekers, and she also held most of the offices. She is also involved outside of AAUW with church and church choir, the Wesley Foundation, Silver Sounds, and a ukulele band! Her hobbies include playing mahjong, music and reading.

Before retiring or in between retiring and doing other things, before she had children, Carol taught in Germany and several of the states. After children she taught or worked at Highline College, OSPI, wrote science curriculums, and spent some time working in a bookstore. Carol has also been a volunteer in the community: -- many years of volunteering in education through PTA involvement from local to national levels. She also served on the Highline District School Board and she served on the board of Birth to Three Developmental Center in Federal Way. A busy woman!

Carol Mohler has led quite a variety of classes and used a wide range of skills. We are pleased that she has been a member of Highline AAUW for so many years and wish her continued health and membership.

### Message from Carol about Online event - "The River That Made Seattle"

"With our discussion about the Duwamish Tribe at book group on Friday, I thought you might be interested (and even if you weren't at book group) in this presentation from Humanities Washington on October 6 at 6:00 pm. Registration is not open yet. I recommend getting on Humanities Washington email list to get all the events being offered. <a href="https://www.humanities.org/events/2021-10/">https://www.humanities.org/events/2021-10/</a>?

"The River That Made Seattle" -Event Description: Once teeming with bountiful salmon and fertile plains, Seattle's Duwamish River drew both Native peoples and settlers to its shores over centuries for trading, transport, and sustenance. Unfortunately, the very utility of the river was its undoing, as decades of dumping led to the river being declared a Superfund cleanup site.

Much of Washington's history has been told through the perspective of its colonizers, obscuring and mythologizing the changes to these lands that have long been occupied by Native peoples. Through the story of the river, author BJ Cummings explores previously unrecorded Native and immigrant histories, and exposes settler falsehoods about the founding of the state. The river's story is a call to action to align future decisions with values of collaboration, respect, and justice.

BJ Cummings (she/her) founded the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition and manages community engagement for the University of Washington's Superfund Research Program. She is the author of *The River That Made Seattle: A Natural and Human History of the Duwamish*, and she was awarded the River Network's national River Hero award for her work leading community-based clean up and restoration of the Duwamish River. Cummings lives in Seattle.

#### Virtual Nature Walk to Learn About Our Local Culture,

Submitted by Emily Hitchens



View of the Puget Sound from the Saltwater State Park Nature Trail. There is also a 1.5-mile loop that goes through the ravine as well as on the beach.



Saltwater State Park Entrance

## Examples of Native American Salish usage of plants



Photos taken by Emily







Happy Halloween!

Well, it's that special time of the year again.
Halloween is coming up! My daughter Elaine's dog,
Gidget, is enjoying the company of her goulish friends.
It's also Elaine's birthday! Anneliese

To our members for contributing to this newsletter

Please let us know if you have any news of other members, or about your family and trips you would like to share in future newsletters. We always love to hear from you!



# **Highline Branch of AAUW Zoom Board Meeting September 10, 2021**

In attendance: Anneliese Ellerton, Wendy Wenger, Kay Crane, Emily Hitchens, Mary Kay Ault, Jean Munro and Kerry Lohr

The meeting opened at 10:05 A.M. Agenda Items

- Webinars: The board discussed the state sponsored webinars and how to get this information out to the members. If 10% of our members sign up, the rest of the enrollees are free. The phone tree was set up as follows: Jean (pg7); Kay (pg3); Emily (pg4); Kerry (pg5); Mary Kay (pg6). A paragraph to what to say will be sent out and a count will be taken regarding to how many will be attending this zoom meeting.
- Membership and Highline Website: The need for a membership chair was discussed. Jean reported that she might know of three prospective new members. Anneliese reviewed the membership list as it stands. Emily volunteered to take membership in a "pro-temporary" situation with dues of \$10 just for the branch, not including State or National dues. Anneliese volunteered to help with revising cards and bookmarks for new member packets. Kay volunteered to make edits. Wendy was to check if she had any more packets in storage. It was suggested that some new packets be given to Jean to hand out to staff and students at the college. A meeting was planned to update the AAUW Highline web site on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30PM with Anneliese, Emily, and Jean. The updates will be based on training received on the state level from Judy Peasley from Walla Walla branch.
- **EYH (Expanding Your Horizons):** EYH concerns were discussed. There will be a meeting where Highline Community College (HCC) staff and others will be talking about updates and organization. It was stressed that HCC does not want to drop this EYH program. The WA State Board will be discussing this issue on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. Mary Williams is president and Emily will be joining the meeting.
- October Branch Meeting: Mary Kay explained that the school district site is not available. Emily mentioned that she would check with her daughter's church to see if a room would be available. The meeting could be a brown bag lunch theme with a book exchange between members. The date is tentatively set for 10/15/21 around 11:00.
- Kerry Lohr volunteered to write an article honoring Carol Mohler, Life member, in time for the newsletter deadline date of the 24<sup>th</sup> of September.
- Wendy brought up the storage problem at her office concerning promotional and historical materials belonging to the Highline branch. Emily mentioned that she had emailed someone and never heard back. Kay volunteered to do further research as to the whereabouts and availability of our older materials. Wendy mentioned that the Burien Highline Museum might be interested in taking the scholars' boards, since they have been in the community for so many years. The board agreed to look into this. A deadline of September 30 was set, as Wendy will be clearing up the storage area to make space for a new program.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Wendy Wenger, Secretary

#### Highline Branch Leadership Team

#### **Co-Presidents**

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#### Finance/Newsletter

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#### **State Board**

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#### **Secretary**

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### Member at Large

Mary Kay Ault 206-772-4156 <u>marykayault@msn.com</u>

#### Website

Jean Munro, Anneliese Ellerton, Kay Crane, Emily Hitchens and Kerry Lohr Highline Branch / AAUW Elected officers and board members for 2021-2022

**Co-Presidents:** 

Jean Munro 206-824-9112 Kay Crane 206-242-0605

Secretary:

Wendy Wenger 206-242-0245 (work - no text please)

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Emily Hitchens 206-824-6816 **Liaison with HCC Women's Program:**Jean Munro 206-824-9112

Member at Large:

Mary Kay Ault 206-772-4156

**Website Committee:** 

Jean Munro, Kay Crane, Anneliese Ellerton, Emily Hitchens and Kerry Lohr

# Our AAUW Highline (WA) website is being updated!

It has been a couple of years since our website was updated. Some of our members have volunteered to work on updating the web pages.

This is a public site, but there will be password protection to access certain materials, such as newsletters, minutes, photos, etc. We will offer members an "opt out" option if they prefer not to have their photo on the website, by contacting the board members to let them know. Since our newsletters will be password protected, those pictures will not appear on the public site. The password is accessible to all current branch members and will be shown in the new Member Directory.

The website is now available to anyone who is looking for an AAUW branch they might be interested in joining. Just click on the link in your browser: https://highline-wa.aauw.net
Website Committee



I apologize that some of the links in the newsletter are not working. I have tried to correct this glitch with no luck... In the meantime, to open a link, highlight the link, copy and paste in your browser. This should open up the link to the site. I'm still working on this... Anneliese



## **Highline Members Joining the Seattle Branch for On-line Monthly Meetings.**

Several of our Highline members have joined some of the Seattle interest groups, such as the West Seattle & Points South on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 am. The current theme is "Writing triggers". Seattle invites all Highline members to the monthly Zoom programs, generally on the third Saturday. Next meeting is on Tuesday, October 12th at 10 am. If you are interested in joining this virtual coffee club, email Barbara Sando at barbarasando@yahoo.com

**Highline Branch Membership Book Exchange – October 15<sup>th</sup> at 3PM** at Normandy Park UCC (see front page for details)

Future Branch meetings will be held on a quarterly basis through 2022

Highline Board Meeting – Friday, October 8th at 10 am via Zoom

**Health Matters Webinar Series** – The following AAUW Washington webinars will be held monthly:

- Oct. 12 Tuesday 7pm Sexual Health Education, Reproductive Justice, and the Empowerment of Girls and
   Women Becky Reitzes, Sexual Health Educator
- Nov. 9 Tuesday 7pm Improving Access to Care in Washington State Mary Selecky, Former Washington State
   Secretary of Health, and Leslie Waters, MD
- Dec. 14 Tuesday 7pm Preventing Violence and Serving the Needs of Survivors Leah Griffin, Activist

Online: Zoom – To register contact: <u>www.aauw-wa.org</u>. This link is on the AAUW of Washington State website <a href="https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/2021/08/11/health-webinars-2021/">https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/2021/08/11/health-webinars-2021/</a>

Join the Seattle Branch Meeting – Saturday, October 16, 2021 - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (in person)

A Memoir of China's Reawakening with Author Dori Jones Yang

**Location:** 1400 E. Prospect St, Seattle, WA 98112 (Volunteer Park)

Stimson Auditorium in the Seattle Asian Art Museum.

Free parking is available. Carpooling encouraged.

If you are interested in joining a Seattle meeting, please register on the Seattle AAUW website <a href="https://aauw-seattle.org/events/branch-events">https://cdn.aauw-seattle.org/events/branch-events</a> or in The AAUW Seattle Catalyst <a href="https://cdn.aauw-seattle.org/docs/catalyst\_current/2021-09-catalyst.pdf">https://cdn.aauw-seattle.org/docs/catalyst\_current/2021-09-catalyst.pdf</a>

## Morning and Afternoon Book Discussion Groups are back in person!

4<sup>th</sup> Friday – Mornings at 9:30 am

October 22 – *The Doctors Blackwell*, by Janice P. Nimura, leader, Kathie Walker, hosted by Judy Storey December 3 – *The House of Unexpected Sisters*, by Alexander McCall Smith, leader/host, Eva Parks/Kathie W.

1st Monday - Afternoons at 3:00pm \*unless otherwise specified

\*October 11 – Across the Winding River by Amy Runyan – hosted by Kathy Fitch November 1 – The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman – hosted by Kay Crane

#### Hello Highline Members:

If you are interested in joining our book discussion groups, please let us know. We would love to see more of you join our smaller afternoon book discussion group, which is held at 3pm on the first Monday of the month. We are a bit more informal, and invite you to join us in our homes again, if we are fully vaccinated.

# Our Books for the October Discussion Groups



# Across the Winding River

Aimie K. Runyan (Goodreads Author)

4.11 Rating details 15,984 ratings 788 reviews

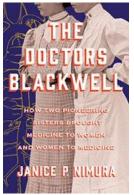
A woman unlocks the mystery of her father's wartime past in a moving novel about secrets, sacrifice, and the power of love by the bestselling author of Daughters of the Night Sky.

Beth Cohen wants to make the most of the months she has left with her elderly father, Max. His only request of his daughter is to go through the long-forgotten box of memorabilia from his days

as a medic on the western front. Then, among his wartime souvenirs, Beth finds a photograph of her father with an adoring and beautiful stranger—a photograph worth a thousand questions.

It was 1944 when Max was drawn into the underground resistance by the fearless German wife of a Nazi officer. Together, she and Max were willing to risk everything for what they believed was right. Ahead of them lay a dangerous romance, a dream of escape, and a destiny over which neither had control.

But Max isn't alone in his haunting remembrances of war. In a nearby private care home is a fragile German-born woman with her own past to share. Only when the two women meet does Beth realize how much more to her father there is to know, all the ways in which his heart still breaks, and the closure he needs to heal it. *GoodReads* 



# The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women and Women to Medicine

Janice P. Nimura (Goodreads Author)

3.66 Rating details 2,097 ratings 397 reviews

Elizabeth Blackwell believed from an early age that she was destined for a mission beyond the scope of "ordinary" womanhood. Though the world at first recoiled at the notion of a woman studying medicine, her intelligence and intensity ultimately won her the acceptance of the male medical establishment. In 1849, she became the first woman in America to receive an M.D. She

was soon joined in her iconic achievement by her younger sister, Emily, who was actually the more brilliant physician.

Exploring the sisters' allies, enemies, and enduring partnership, Janice P. Nimura presents a story of trial and triumph. Together, the Blackwells founded the New York Infirmary for Indigent Women and Children, the first hospital staffed entirely by women. Both sisters were tenacious and visionary, but their convictions did not always align with the emergence of women's rights—or with each other. From Bristol, Paris, and Edinburgh to the rising cities of antebellum America, this richly researched new biography celebrates two complicated pioneers who exploded the limits of possibility for women in medicine. As Elizabeth herself predicted, "a hundred years hence, women will not be what they are now." *GoodReads* 

# Report from Seattle Branch meeting September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 By Emily Hitchens



Lisa Maatz, former VP for Government Relations with AAUW spoke to the Seattle Branch via zoom on "Gender Equity and US Politics." She addressed the American Rescue Plan, the Infrastructure Bill, The Family Leave Act, and answered questions.

She stressed that a major part of the **Rescue Plan** was the Child Tax **credit**. All except the wealthiest families get \$300/month per child, which has reduced child poverty by 40%. This is not a new idea, and she coined the phrase 'preparation meeting opportunity.' The program expires as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, so the question is

'why' make it so short term? It is a strategy to get it started with the hope that the American people will recognize its value.

The **Infrastructure Bill** for the traditional roads/bridges, etc. is renewed every 5 years, but this time it has been broadened. The pandemic highlighted structural weaknesses such as childcare when schools became virtual, Paid Time Off, paid sick days and the Family Medical Leave Act. She gave herself as an example; she is single, has no children and her siblings would not qualify to take care of her if she needed care. The pandemic is also related to numbers of women staying home to care for children and quitting their jobs.

She also commented on the enforcement issue regarding abortion and the new law in Texas. Before 1973 each state had its own law on reproductive rights; depending upon the Supreme Court decision, it might return to that status. She also commented on redistricting related to the 2020 census and that Florida's increase in population might mean that the House of Representatives would change parties on that fact alone

She did not see anything happening on the Paycheck Fairness Act. However, a movie is soon to come out about Lilly Ledbetter and her story of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act, the first legislation signed by President Obama January 29, 2009. When answering a question about the ERA, it seems that there are now 38 states that have ratified the amendment. However, in the preamble there is a statement that has a timeline for adoption. The preamble is not part of the law, so there is still ambiguity about passage. She also discussed the use of the filibuster and 'technical corrections' in the Budget Bill reconciliation process by which passage is 50+1. In summary, it is all about strategizing and maneuvering. Still, her ultimate faith in the process is inspiring.

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 7, 2021, at 2:00 A.M.



On Saturday night, set your clocks back one hour (i.e., gaining one hour) to "fall back."

Why do we still bother?

<u>Pets may notice the time change</u>, as well. Since humans set the routines for their fluffy loved ones, dogs and cats living indoors and even cows are disrupted when, say, you bring their food an hour late or come to milk them later than usual, according to Alison Holdhus-Small, a research assistant at CSIRO Livestock Industries, an Australia-based research and development organization.

# October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					World Smile Day	Int'l Day of Non-Violence
3	4	5	6	8	10	9
Mean Girls' Day	World Habitat Day	World Teacher's Day	Walk to School Day	World Egg Day	Highline Board Zoom Meeting 10:00 am	Leif Erikson Day
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
World Mental Health	PM Book Group 3pm Indigenous Peoples Day	Seattle Coffee Group 10 am Health Matters Webinar 7PM	Int'l Day for Disaster Reduction	Nat'l Dessert Day	Int'l Day of Rural Women	Seattle Branch Meeting 9:30 am World Food Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Happy Birthday Molly Cone	Persons Day (Canada)		Pronouns Day		AM Book Group 9:30 am	Mole Day
					National Nut Day	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30/31
United Nations Day		Int'l Pumpkin Day	Black Cat Day	Nat'l Chocolate Day	World Stroke Day	Happy Birthday, Elsie Taniguchi and Georgette Valle

AAUW Highline Branch Newsletter 21215W 152\*\* Street, #203 Burien, WA 98166



AAUW-WA is sponsoring a series of webinars on women's health called Health Matters. These webinars are follow-up to the June kick-off meeting. The webinars will be held monthly on the second Tuesday of the month in the evening. Here is a list of the upcoming events.

Check the Evergreen Leader for registration information.

## HEALTH MATTERS – ALL ABOUT ADVOCACY

Nancy Sapiro, LLC, AAUW Lobbyist

September 14<sup>tu</sup>

### HEALTH MATTERS - ALL ABOUT EDUCATION

Becky Reitzes, Sexual Health Educator

October 12<sup>th</sup>

#### HEALTH MATTERS – ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS

Mary Selecky, Former Washington State Secretary of Health, and Leslie Waters, MD

November 9<sup>th</sup>

HEALTH MATTERS - ALL ABOUT VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Leah Griffin, Activist

December 14<sup>th</sup>