



November 2022



Mid-term Elections on November 8, 2022

Below is the Voter Guide, which was drawn up by the State Public Policy Committee and may be shared. There are also a couple of questions that parallel this information. Here are the two questions that the committee sent. There may be others that people want to ask.

Here are a few suggestions but I am sure you can come up with your own! This question attempts to get at all three issues!

Question: Sex discrimination in the workplace, and sexual harassment and sexual assault in the workplace and college campuses is an ongoing and major concern for girls, women and LBGTQ employees and students in this country. What will you do as Senator for WA State to enact legislation to ensure federal protections against sex discrimination in the workplace, and sexual harassment and sexual assault in and schools?

Question: When you are wearing your Senate hat you will need to vote on bills that define sex as "biological sex" and bills that define sex "to include pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex characteristics." What is your definition of sex when applied to sex discrimination?

Shared by Kerry Lohr, Public Policy



Candidates for WA Senate Election

Tiffany Smiley R Challenger	Where the candidates stand on:	Patty Murray D Incumbent
Economic Security		
Unknown	Passing the Paycheck Fairness Act to strengthen existing employment discrimination laws aimed at closing the gender pay gap	Support
Oppose	Passing the FAMILY Act to create a national paid family and medical leave insurance program	Support
Education		
Unknown	Defending and strengthening Title IX protections	Support
Oppose	Increasing funding for college affordability programs like Pell Grants and student loan cancelation programs	Support
Unknown	Investing in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education for women and girls	Support
Civil Rights		
Oppose	Ensuring access to reproductive healthcare— including contraception and abortion	Support
Oppose	Supporting the John R. Lewis: Voting Rights Advancement Act to restore and expand voting access	Support

This guide is a public service and is not intended to be an endorsement of any candidate or political party.

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

Advancing Gender Equity 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 2022-23 "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion"



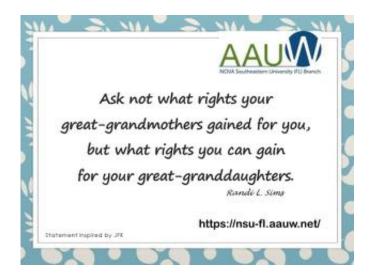
Public Policy

The WA State Public Policy AAUW committee is considering the Pregnant and Parenting Policy and Procedure Act, which would clarify and extend Title IX protections for students against harassment and discrimination. I thought that the following sections were most interesting especially in light of the Roe V. Wade decision.

(c) A notice of privacy must be included to remind everyone of the need to protect student privacy related to school records, including school health records, which cannot be used to support abortion-related prosecutions through documentation that students have been pregnant in the past but are not currently pregnant, and to instruct and remind [recipients] that it is a violation of Title IX to discipline or refer students to law enforcement based on termination of pregnancy, contraceptive use, or other reproductive health decisions. (iii) The policies and procedures must address the need to protect student privacy related to new abortion laws in states where abortion is criminalized, such that school records, including school health records, are not used to support abortion-related prosecutions through documentation that students have been pregnant in the past but are not currently pregnant, and to instruct and remind [recipients] that it is a violation of Title IX to discipline or refer students to law enforcement based on termination of pregnancy, contraceptive use, or other reproductive health decisions.

So, as we prepare for the Legislative Lobby Day (usually the last Monday in January) this may be one of the bills that we want to build a coalition and support. Sandra Ripley Distelhorst, <u>piblicpolicy@aauw-wa.org</u> was our guest speaker at our October 21^{st} meeting. Her presentation really oriented us to Title IX and some of the current issues and needs for legislation. This bill is one outcome of that discussion.

Submitted by Emily Hitchens, WA State Board



Member News & Contributions



October 31st was Georgette Valle's 98th birthday! She has been a member of the Highline Branch and very active in the community for many years! Long-time friends Emily Hitchens and Joanna Brunso, as well as myself celebrated the occasion on Sunday, October 30th. Her son, Peter and wife

Junko, hosted a splendid party. Georgette was so enchanting and in spite of her health issues, enjoyed every moment.

Submitted by Anneliese Ellerton







Gimme Both Pumpkin Pecan Pie Recipe from Mary Kay Ault

Ingredients: 1 9-inch uncooked pie shell

Pumpkin layer: 3/4 cup canned pumpkin 1/4 cup granulated sugar 1 egg 3 tablespoons sour cream 1/4-teaspoon ground ginger 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg 1/4-teaspoon salt Pecan layer: 1/2-cup dark brown sugar 3/4-cup dark corn syrup 2 eggs 1 tablespoon butter, melted 1 teaspoon vanilla 1-cup pecans, halves or pieces

Bourbon Whipped Cream: 1 cup whipping cream 3 tablespoons sour cream 3 tablespoons light brown sugar 1-tablespoon bourbon

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.

In medium bowl whisk together the pumpkin, sugar, egg, sour cream, ginger, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and salt. Set aside.

In another bowl combine the brown sugar, corn syrup, eggs, melted butter and vanilla. Mix until smooth, and then stir in pecans.

Place the pumpkin mixture into the unbaked pie shell, then very carefully spoon the pecan layer over the top, being careful to keep the layers separate. Bake in a preheated 425-degree oven for 15 minutes, then reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake pie for another 25 to 30 minutes, or until the filling is slightly puffy and pecan layer is just set. Cool on a wire rack.

Two make whipped cream: In a large bowl whip cream, sour cream and sugar until set. Stir in bourbon. Enjoy!

Jean Munro invites you to join her at the Annual Culinary Arts Holiday buffet lunch On Friday, December 2nd at Renton Technical College Cafeteria



All members of AAUW Highline and SE King County branches are invited. It's always fun to get together for the holiday season, so please come!

FYI- you can reserve a table, make reservations (not required-but helpful in determining the anticipated number of guests) and prepay by calling Lindsay Tanzi at 425-235-5730.

If you have any questions, please contact Jean at <u>imunro@rtc.edu</u> or call 206-824-9112

Welcome to AAUW Highline Branch! Linda Hagen, member of the SE King County Branch has joined us as a dual member.



To our members for their contributions to the newsletter!



AAUW Highline Branch Board Meeting Minutes Friday, October 14, 2022 - 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Present: Emily Hitchens, Kerry Lohr, Wendy Wenger, Anneliese Ellerton, Mary Kay Ault, and Kay Crane

Agenda

Friday, October 21 branch luncheon meeting

Plans for the October 21 membership meeting were finalized. Being the 50th anniversary of Title IX, Emily will introduce this as the main topic at the meeting. Sandra Distelhorst, Public Policy Director of AAUW-Washington, will be the guest and available to answer questions. Mary Kay reported she had not received any more responses to attend the luncheon at Puget Sound Skills Center (PSSC). Anneliese reported she had sent a reminder email to both SE King County and Federal Way presidents. Follow-up contact by phone will be made to the members who have not responded, reminding them of this meeting. The pages assigned for our phone tree calls will remain the same as last time.

December plans

The annual Christmas card signing and mailing was set for Tuesday December 6 at 10:30 AM at Kay's house. Emily will buy the holiday tea bags and board members will provide the cards and stamps. Kay shared that postage might be less expensive if bought on the Etsy site. It was suggested that future possible speakers might be discussed while signing the cards.

Future meetings

The next board meeting will be devoted to developing a plan, theme and possible meeting dates. Wendy suggested sending out "save the day" reminders to gain more participation. It was agreed that phone messages or texting could help if members were not reached directly. Future guest speakers were discussed. Mary Kay suggested a member of the "Friends of the Library" group, to discuss STEM projects. Anneliese recommended Blythe Sather, an immunologist, whose focus is on generation cell therapies to treat cancer.

Kerry mentioned that getting out the vote was important, especially reaching out to the younger generation. Wendy said that it was important to educate certain members of the public on how to get help voting legally.

Member Directory changes

Carol Mohler's new address and phone number will be noted in the directory.

The next zoom board meeting will be on Friday, November 11 at 9:00 AM. Respectfully submitted, Wendy Wenger – Recording Secretary

Board Position of Treasurer Still Open!

Please contact Jean Munro at <u>jmunro@rtc.edu</u> or Kay Crane at <u>gandkcrane@msn.com</u> if you are interested in applying for this position. **Current Treasurer, Anneliese Ellerton will work with you to ensure a smooth transition to this position.** Believe us, it's not rocket science!

Highline Branch Leadership Team

Co-Presidents

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<u>Mailer</u>

Carol Erickson 206-246-5767 <u>Ron58Carol61@hotmail.com</u>

Member at Large Mary Kay Ault 206-772-4156 marykayault@msn.com

<u>Website</u> Jean Munro, Anneliese Ellerton, Kay Crane, Emily Hitchens and Kerry Lohr



October 21st Luncheon Buffet at Puget Sounds Skills Center celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

Over 20 members and guests attended a great luncheon meeting. The food was excellent and the presentations were very informative.

Emily Hitchens and guest speaker, Sandra Distelhorst gave overviews on



developments over the last 50 years since the passage of Title IX. Some of these have been the expanded opportunities for women and girls in sports and in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and improved protections for pregnant and parenting students.





Sandra Distelhorst

Guests from SE King County and Federal Way branches



Mary Kay, Sandra and Emily

Submitted by Anneliese Ellerton

Thanks to Emily and Mary Kay for all their support in presenting and coordinating this event!





Please mark your calendars for the remaining series of webinars; they will take place on the following dates:

Tuesday, November 15 - 7:00 p.m. Kelly Jones, American University. The economic consequences for women of restricted access to reproductive services.

 Tuesday, December 13 – 7:00 p.m. State Senator Claire Wilson. Childcare policies in Washington State.

November is National American Indian Heritage Month



Carol Mohler, Highline Branch life member, recently finished a training on *"Wrestling with Truth of Colonization"* sponsored by Sound Alliance (an affiliation of churches, NGOs, and civic groups dedicated to social justice). The training was led by a Canadian indigenous woman for nonindigenous people. The first sessions were focused on the history of Canadian and U.S. Indians. November is National American Indian Heritage Month in the U.S. and in November we think about how and

why we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. In the U.S. we have been taught the story of the pilgrims and the Indians peacefully coming together for a feast after a difficult year for the colonizers in the "New World." But do you really know what is true and what is myth?

To hear "the rest of the story" (to quote Paul Harvey) watch the YouTube video "Honor the Truth about Thanksgiving":

*** (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QoxNyM9M1K4) and the YouTube video "Thanksgiving from Wampanoag Youth"

*** (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOCISNKFNEY).

We all can agree on the spirit of the holiday - the bounty of the harvest, gathering with friends and family, gratitude for what we have. And to paraphrase one of the Wampanoag women in the video "it's great for people to have a thanksgiving, but what people lose sight of is that we should be thankful every day". SPEAKERS BUREAU (Humanities Washington) |SEATTLE ONLINE: The River That Made Seattle - BJ Cummings

- WHEN November 21, 2022 7:00 pm
- HOST Magnolia United Church of Christ

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.

***If you have difficulty opening the above links, just copy and paste them into your browser.

Suggested Reading – "Ahead of the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving, a new look at the Plymouth colony's founding events, told for the first time with Wampanoag people at the heart of the story.



In March 1621, when Plymouth's survival was hanging in the balance, the Wampanoag sachem (or chief), Ousamequin (Massasoit), and Plymouth's governor, John Carver, declared their people's friendship for each other and a commitment to mutual defense. Later that autumn, the English gathered their first successful harvest and lifted the specter of starvation. Ousamequin and 90 of his men then visited Plymouth for the "First Thanksgiving." The treaty remained operative until King Philip's War in 1675, when 50 years of uneasy peace between the two parties would come to an end.

400 years after that famous meal, historian David J. Silverman sheds profound new light on the events that led to the creation, and bloody dissolution, of this alliance. Focusing on the Wampanoag Indians, Silverman deepens the narrative to consider tensions that developed well before 1620 and lasted long after the devastating war-tracing the Wampanoags' ongoing struggle for self-determination up to this very day.

This unsettling history reveals why some modern Native people hold a Day of Mourning on Thanksgiving, a holiday which celebrates a myth of colonialism and white proprietorship of the United States. This Land is Their Land shows that it is time to rethink how we, as a pluralistic nation, tell the history of Thanksgiving." *Amazon*



Highline Board Meeting – Friday, November 11, at 9:00 am via Zoom

2022 AAUW-WA Webinar Series – November to December (see details in Evergreen Leader)

West Seattle & Points South online interest group

Several of our Highline members have joined the above group, which meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 am. The current theme is "Writing triggers". Next meeting is on **Tuesday, November 8 at 10:00 am**. If you are interested in joining this virtual coffee club, email Barbara Sando at <u>barbarasando@yahoo.com</u>

Seattle Branch – Join us - November meeting with Marilyn Morgan, author of *Trailblazing Black Women in Washington State*. This FREE meeting will be held via Zoom on Saturday, November 12 from 10 a.m. to noon. <u>Register today</u>.

Seattle Branch – Join us!

December 17 SaturdayIn person at the Seattle Yacht December Holiday Meeting, with Ray Club.9:30 amRSVP@aauw-seattle.org. Skjelbred, Jazz Pianist

If you would like to keep up with AAUW Washington news, we suggest that you add the Seattle Catalyst and the Evergreen Reader to your list of resources:

https://aauw-seattle.org

https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/



Happy November and December Birthdays to:

Pat Scott 11/17 Linda Wade 11/26 Carol Mohler 12/29 Carol Thomas 12/31

Don't forget!





4th Friday – Mornings at 9:30 am

* December 2 – *the Midnight Library*, by Matt Haig – host Mary Kay Ault and leader Eva Parks New schedule for 2023 coming up!

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

November 7 – *The Midnight Library,* by Matt Haig – host Chris Kopet December 5 – *Winter Solstice,* by Rosamunde Pilcher – host Lynn Smith



Between life and death there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. To see how things would be if you had made other choices . . . Would you have done anything different, if you had the chance to undo your regrets? A novel about all the choices that go into a life well lived.

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. While we all wonder how our lives might have been, what if you had the chance to go to the library and see for yourself? Would any of these other lives truly be better? Nora Seed finds herself faced with this decision. Faced with the possibility of changing her life for a new one, following a different career, undoing old breakups, realizing her dreams of becoming a glaciologist; she must search within herself as she travels through the Midnight Library to decide what is truly fulfilling in life, and what makes it worth living in the first place. (Goodreads)



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AAUW Highline Branch Newsletter 2121SW 152^{ad} Street, #203 Burien, WA 98166

