



January/February 2023



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

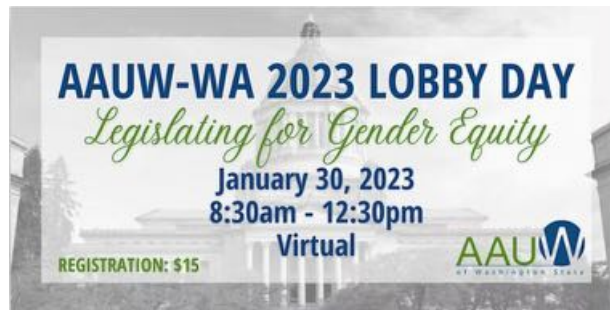
The Educational Foundation is
one of the largest sources of
funding for graduate women in
the world awarding millions
each year in scholarships.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

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

Highline AAUW theme for
2022-23 “Diversity, Equity and
Inclusion”

Hello AAUW Highline Members - It’s a Brand New Year!



*Let’s kick off 2023
with AAUW-WA
Lobby Day*

[CLICK TO REGISTER TO ATTEND -> \[Eventbrite \\$15 ticket\]](#)

Follow the LEGISLATIVE UPDATE REPORTS FOR 2023 so you are in the know! ->

Monday January 30, 2023, with Lobby Week Monday January 30 through February 3. The Public Policy Team is excited to announce the theme for Lobby Day: **Legislation and Gender Equity**.

We are also excited to announce our **Keynote Speaker for Lobby Day. Professors and Authors Denise Wilson of the University of Washington School of Engineering and Jennifer VanAntwerp of Calvin University**. They co-authored “Sex, Gender, and Engineering: Harassment at Work and in School” which will be used as a textbook in the Spring of 2023. You can read more on the UW webpage.

AAUW members will hear what undergraduates will be taught at UW and the importance of laws we pass to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion courses are taught in schools, AND that sex and gender equity is included. DEI is a required course in higher education in Washington State thanks to a recent law passed, but the law doesn’t explicitly call out sex and gender. Denise’s book and course will ensure sex and gender equity are included in at least one UW Department! Lobby Day will also feature a leading expert in broadband access. Something we all need to learn more about. Both the state and national policy teams agree that access to Internet is critical in this day and age. It’s linked to education, healthcare, economic security, voting access, and more. National approved our state adding Broadband as a Public Policy Priority (PPP). The new version of the PPP was approved by the Board and sent to the members for comments. Lobby Day is a great opportunity for us to learn more about why this is an important women’s issue.

Lobby Day will also include a panel of AAUW-WA policy advocates who will talk about the 5 Lobby Day bills we will support for 2023.

For further details please check the AAUW WA website at <https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/2022/10/17/lobby-day-2023/>

What a great way to start the New Year!

AAUW Highline Branch Meeting – Friday, January 13, 2023 at Wesley Gardens Club Room, Des Moines, WA

Emily Hitchens called the meeting to order at 10:30 with the following announcements:

She reviewed the mission of AAUW Highline: “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion”. AAUW Washington State Lobby Day to be held on January 30th from 8:30 to 12:30 will be virtual once more. Please consult the AAUW WA State newsletter “Evergreen Leader” for more details and registration.



Since the meeting was held on Friday the 13th, the theme was “Lucky 13”. The history of ‘being lucky’ was reviewed with ‘thought questions’ passed out for the members to discuss.

“Get Well” cards were signed and sent to Kerry Lohr and Elise Stratton.

Carol Thomas handed out a flyer with the latest information about Mary’s Place in Burien: 138,644 overnight stays, 415,932 meals served, 549 families moved to stable housing with 317 directly from cars/tents, 1204 children served, 125 attended safe shelter for children, and 100+ women visit the Day Center daily. Items to donate to Hospitality House, a shelter for homeless women in Burien,



were brought by the members.

Questionnaires were distributed to get a feel of the members about our group and other ideas. Judy Storey won the draw for completing the questionnaire.

A “chat time” for members followed the meeting, which adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted, Wendy Wenger, recording Secretary

Anneliese Ellerton posted some of the following information and photos on Facebook

Our AAUW Highline Branch celebrated a "Lucky Friday 13th" meeting at Wesley Gardens. Twelve branch members attended, as well as guests (two from our sister SE King County Branch). There was a lucky draw for a special Winchester Mystery House mug. Items for homeless women and their families were donated to the Hospitality House in Burien.



The group discussed "Good Luck! Bad Luck!" questions regarding Friday the 13th.

Emily Hitchens supplied the questionnaire. For example: “Do you believe that there is such a thing as luck? If so, what is your definition of luck? Can you share an experience of luck, good or bad? Do you have stories about women who overcame ‘bad luck’?”



Friday the 13th trivia was also handed out: *"Friday the 13th: The cultural origins, and everything you need to know: Friday the 13th is usually associated with bad luck and various superstitions. But, what exactly are these superstitions? From where have they originated? A name has been given to describe the irrational dread of the date: paraskevidekatriaphobia. It means a specialized form of triskaidekaphobia, a fear of the number 13.*

As per the Gregorian calendar, the 13th of any month is slightly more likely to fall on a Friday than any other day of the week. It is not a universal superstition. In Greece and Spanish-speaking countries, it is Tuesday the 13th that is considered a day of bad luck, while in Italy, it is Friday the 17th that is usually associated with bad luck."

Wikipedia

Please like and join us on our newly created AAUW -WA Highline Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083148625851>



Survey Responses from AAUW Highline Branch Members At the January 13th Branch Meeting

1. When did you join the AAUW and do you have a story about what motivated you to join at the time?
Friend invited me in 1983
1976 - I had the evening book group and not yet graduated from college. My book group friends motivated me to finish my degree!
1996 - I had just retired and had good friends that told me about AAUW
2015 - Book group motivated me
1998 - Georgette Valle was so welcoming! I was new to community and needed to get involved.
1980's- Laskimi recruited me to become Activities Director. Husband encouraged me to be around other women
Early 1960's - Neighbors and good friends motivated me
Two months ago – moved to Des Moines, Joint member with SE King County

2. What do you enjoy or value the most about being a member of AAUW Highline? ***Perseverance for not merging with Seattle***
 - a. Have you been able to attend any monthly Branch Meetings? ***Mostly “yes”***
 - b. Have you been able to attend any Interest Groups (Book Group, Cuisine Group)? Do you have any suggestions for other interest groups? ***Book Group, Cuisine Group, Tech Trek Committee, Membership.***
 - c. Have you been able to be involved in any of the activities of the branch (such as Scholar Recognition, Tech Trek)? ***Helped with girls' career day. Yes, both. Not recently. STEM with Highline College. Scholar Recognition.***

3. Is there anything that “bugs” you about Highline Branch? *If so*, What could we do differently to address that? ***We need to get more members. Needs new blood. Need more and younger new members. Not at this time.***

4. Do you feel that Highline Branch is welcoming? *After ‘yes’ or ‘no’*, Please explain. What suggestions do you have that would make our Branch more inclusive in terms of age, ethnicity, etc.? ***Try to make it friendly. Very welcoming! Members very friendly...bring and introduce guests. We seem invisible sometimes. Expand exposure to other groups and public. A very friendly group! More welcoming than Seattle group.***

5. Is there anything more that you think Highline Branch could do to substantially energize and grow our membership? Is there anything that your previous AAUW Branch(s) did that we should consider? ***Maybe a project to interest new folks. We all hope for younger members, but very difficult to recruit them. All members bring a guest! Reach out more to Highline College. More community involvement – publicity.***

6. What other organizations do you know about where you think we might collaborate with on programs, events and idea sharing? ***Other branches. PEO? Other book clubs? Grandmothers Against Gun Violence. College and business groups.***

7. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us? ***Somehow work with RTC and HC students and maybe develop groups to meet them. I'm just glad to continue supporting Highline Branch of the AAUW mission. Thanks for being here – old friends. Great to have the chance to stay connected, even if for brief amount of time. A wonderful organization with good projects. My life would not have been as interesting without AAUW!***

Highline Member News & Announcements




Burien Hospitality House would like to thank Highline members who donated clothing, backpack, toiletries, paper and cleaning products.

If anyone would like to contribute more items to this wonderful shelter for homeless women, please see list below:

If you would like further information, please contact Anneliese Ellerton at ellerton13@gmail.com

JANUARY 2023 DONATIONS NEEDED
*Indicates an urgent need

HOSPITALITY HOUSE
 Home, Health, and Hope for Women
 Experiencing Homelessness



RESIDENT NEEDS
To help our residents feel at home

- ***Bras (D, DD, DDD)** Winter/rain
- ***Shower loofahs** boots (sizes 9, 10)
- ***Tylenol** Acne patches
- ***Hair conditioner** Eye shadow
- Fidget toys Face wash
- Heating pads Eyeliner (waterproof)
- Soap saver bags Hair ties

YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Thanks to your generosity, heartfelt kindness, and hard work, you've helped me move forward with grace and confidence.

EVERY ONE of you helped me and made me feel like I could do it, things will work out, good people do exist, and that I'm gonna be okay--thanks to you.

-Recent former client

206-242-1860

<https://hospitalityhousesouthking.org/>

1419 SW 150th St, Burien WA, 98166

HOUSE NEEDS
to help us maintain a clean and organized environment

- ***Shower cleaner** Dish sponges
- ***Bedbug-proof pillow covers** Washable Swiffer duster heads
- ***Box cutters** Lysol wipes
- ***Paper towels** Small tupperware
- ***Toilet paper** Toilet bowl cleaner
- Carabiners
- Microfiber cleaning cloths

Donations may be dropped off directly at Hospitality House. Your volunteer coordinator may also collect directly at your church.

Shop at your favorite retailer or visit our Amazon Wishlist:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1BMTT8YXQ8TJ?ref_=wl_share

Shop through smile.amazon.com and 0.5% of your eligible purchase amount will be donated to Hospitality House at no extra cost to you.

Questions?
Contact Sheenah Randolph at (206) 242-1860 or sheenahr.hospitalityhouse@gmail.com

Hospitality House is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

CHURCHES COLLECTING THIS MONTH:

St. Elizabeth Episcopal and St. Bernadette Catholic

FOOD NEEDS
to ensure our residents have everything they need to stay healthy

***Coffee, *Butter, *Jam, *Cream cheese, *Fruit cups,** Lunch meat, Cheese, Eggs

SPECIAL REQUESTS
to be handed out in our weekly resident raffle

\$5 Starbucks or McDonald's gift cards

Summary of Board Meeting, Thursday, January 12, 2023

Since Emily, May Kay and I were the only board members able to attend the meeting on January 12 (my apologies for the mixed up dates!), so no official minutes were recorded. However, in a brief summary, we did discuss plans for a Red Dress Project program for a March 8th or 21st branch meeting. Since Kay was not present, we didn't have her latest update on getting a speaker from the Muckleshoot Tribe. Plans to meet at Puget Sounds Skills Center (PSSC) in May will be determined by availability of lunch. Mary Kay is in contact with Tony Poplin to arrange a date and time.

Anneliese Ellerton

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Website

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

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Statewide Summit Meetings 2022-23

Sustainability Summit meetings to discuss the Survival of AAUW in Washington State.

Next meeting – Sunday, Feb. 12 – approx. 2 pm

[Click for ZOOM meeting ->>](#)

We are invited to join our AAUW-WA leadership to take action to strengthen our statewide membership. Every AAUW-WA member is encouraged to attend. We are experiencing the dissolution of branches. This is happening for a variety of reasons, but primarily because of a lack of new leadership, resulting in burnout for those willing to assume leadership roles. Our most impactful programs are in danger, which threatens our ability to attract and retain new members. We need to find solutions and we need your help.

Next Steps

- Resolving Relationships – AAUW-WA, Tech Trek, SPF
- Thinking Outside the Box
- Developing a Game Plan
- Developing a Presentation with Action Items for AAUW-WA Annual Meeting in April 2023

Upcoming Sunday Afternoon Meetings

Sunday February 12 (time adjusted to accommodate Superbowl viewing) – [CLICK FOR ZOOM...](#)

Sunday March 12 – [CLICK FOR ZOOM...](#)

For further information check online at <https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/2022/11/07/statewide-summits-2022/>

Topics of Interest for 2023

International Women’s Day 2023: “DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality”

The theme for International Women’s Day, 8 March 2023 (IWD 2023) is, “**DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality**”. This theme is aligned with the priority theme for the



upcoming 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW-67), “**Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls**”.

Under the theme "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality", the United Nations Observance of International Women's Day 2023 will highlight the need for inclusive and transformative technology and digital education.

Photo: UN Trust Fund/Phil Borges

The United Nations Observance of IWD recognizes and celebrates the women and girls who are championing the advancement of transformative technology and digital education. IWD 2023 will explore the impact of the digital gender gap on widening economic and social inequalities. The event will also spotlight the importance of protecting the rights of women and girls in digital spaces and addressing online and ICT-facilitated gender-based violence.

Bringing women and other marginalized groups into technology results in more creative solutions and has greater potential for innovations that meet women’s needs and promote gender equality. Their lack of inclusion, by contrast, comes with massive costs: as per UN Women’s Gender Snapshot 2022 report, women’s exclusion from the digital world has shaved \$1 trillion from the gross domestic product of low- and middle-income countries in the last decade—a loss that will grow to \$1.5 trillion by 2025 without action. Reversing this trend will require tackling the problem of online violence, which a study of 51 countries revealed 38 per cent of women had personally experienced.

A gender-responsive approach to innovation, technology and digital education can increase the awareness of women and girls regarding their rights and civic engagement. Advancements in digital technology offer immense opportunities to address development and humanitarian challenges, and to achieve the 2030 Agenda’s Sustainable Development Goals. Unfortunately, the opportunities of the digital revolution also present a risk of perpetuating existing patterns of gender inequality. Growing inequalities are becoming increasingly evident in the context of digital skills and access to

technologies, with women being left behind as the result of this digital gender divide. The need for inclusive and transformative technology and digital education is therefore crucial for a sustainable future.

The United Nations Observance of International Women's Day under the theme, "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality", will be marked by a high-level event on Wednesday, 8 March 2023, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. EST. The event will bring together technologists, innovators, entrepreneurs, and gender equality activists to provide an opportunity to highlight the role of all stakeholders in improving access to digital tools and be followed by a high-level panel discussion and musical performances. (Google)



Why do we observe American Heart Month every February? Well, every year more than 600,000 Americans die from heart disease. The number one cause of deaths for most groups, heart disease affects all ages, genders, and ethnicities. Risk factors include high cholesterol, high blood pressure, smoking, diabetes, and excessive alcohol use. Do you know how to keep your heart healthy? You can take an active role in reducing your risk for heart disease by eating a healthy diet, engaging in physical activity, and managing your cholesterol and blood pressure. This is a great chance to start some heart-healthy

habits! (Google)

The Month of February 2023: Holidays, Fun Facts, Folklore

February comes from the Latin word *februa*, which means, "to cleanse." The month was named after the Roman *Februalia*, which was a month-long festival of purification and atonement that took place this time of year.

Did you know?

- February is the only month to have a length of fewer than 30 days! Though it's usually 28 days, February is 29 days long in [leap years](#) such as 2020 and 2024.
- January and February were the last two months to be added to the Roman calendar (c. 713 BC); originally, winter was considered a month-less period.
- Originally, February was made the last month of the calendar year. Eventually (c. 450 BC), February was moved to its place as the second month.

February Calendar

- **February 2** is **Groundhog Day**—the day we find out whether winter will last six more weeks or call it quits early. How did this quirky tradition get started? Find out [the meaning of Groundhog Day](#).
- **February 12** is **Abraham Lincoln's Birthday**. The 16th president of the United States was born in a one-room, 16x18-foot, log cabin with a dirt floor.
- **February 14** is always **Valentine's Day**. Heads up, lovebirds! Today, the holiday is celebrated with love, flowers, and chocolate, but how did this holiday get its start? [Learn all about Valentine's Day](#).
- **February 15** is **Susan B. Anthony's Birthday**. How much do you know about this women's right leader?
- **February 15** is also **National Flag of Canada Day!**
- **February 20** brings **Presidents' Day**, a federal holiday also known as Washington's Birthday that is celebrated on the third Monday in February. (George Washington's actual birthday is February 22!)
- **February 21** is **Mardi Gras**, (aka "Fat Tuesday" or Shrove Tuesday), which is the final feasting day before the Christian tradition of Lent begins on the following day, Ash Wednesday.
- **February 22** is **Ash Wednesday**, which marks the start of Lent.
- **February 27** is **Clean Monday**. Also called Pure Monday, this day marks the beginning of Great Lent for followers of the Eastern Orthodox Christian Church. This day is similar to Ash Wednesday of the Western Church.

February is **African-American History Month**. The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society. (Google)



Future Branch meetings will be held on a quarterly basis in 2023 (tentatively for January/March/May)

Highline Board Meeting – Friday, February 10th 2023 at 9:30 am via Zoom

AAUW Washington Webinar Series – to be announced in future issue of The Evergreen Leader

Join the Seattle Branch Meeting – Saturday, February 11, 2023, 10:00AM - 12:00PM

The Environment and Politics with Deb Callahan - Online: Free on Zoom. [Registration Required](#) (this link opens in a new window).

Seattle Branch 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, February 14, 2023 at 10 am. If you are interested in joining this virtual coffee club, email Barbara Sando at barbarasando@yahoo.com

Monday, January 30, 2023 - Lobby Day, sponsored by AAUW-WA State. A full day of statewide and local advocacy for AAUW legislative priorities. Online sessions will be available.

Highline Branch Meeting – March 8th or 21st - with guest speaker Jaime Black from The Red Dress Project. Here is a short video which you can watch on YouTube:



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IH7FuxzrFvs&t=9s&ab_channel=SmithsonianNMAI

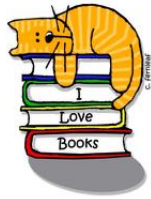
AAUW-WA 2023 Annual Meeting -The date and location for the 2023 Annual Meeting has been chosen. Please block April 14th through 16th on your calendar. We will be convening in Walla Walla, so plan on most of a day for travel on the 14th. We will also be planning some strictly optional events for Friday night. More information to follow in the next few weeks. (From The Evergreen Leader – January 2023)

May Highline Branch Meeting – Time and day to be decided. Tentative arrangements have been made to hold a special luncheon meeting at Puget Sounds Skills Center (PSSC)

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/>



Morning and Afternoon Book Group Discussion Meetings

4th Friday – Mornings at 9:30 am unless otherwise specified *

February 24 – *Nature's Best Hope*, by Douglas W Tallamy – host: Judy Storey at 16039 12th Ave SW, Burien - discussion leader: Kerry Lohr

March 24 – *The Many Daughters of Afong Moy*, by Jamie Ford – hosts: Anita Veltman & Penny Tetter, at Wesley Gardens Club Room

April 28 – *The Day the World Came To Town*, by Jim DeFede – host: Anneliese Ellerton, discussion leader: Jane Emerson at Wesley Gardens Club Room

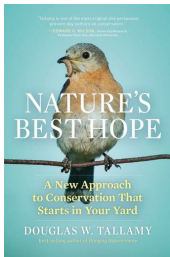
1st Monday - Afternoons at 3:00 pm unless otherwise specified *

February 6 – *All The Devils Are Here*, by Louise Penny – host: Mary Kay Ault at Wesley Gardens Club Room

March 6 – *Undocumented Americans*, by Karla Cornejo Vallavicencio – host: Carol Erickson at home

April 3 – *Museum of Extraordinary Things*, by Alice Hoffman – host: Emily Hitchens at home

Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard, by Douglas W Tallamy



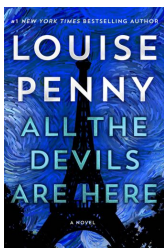
"Tallamy lays out all you need to know to participate in one of the great conservation projects of our time. Read it and get started!" —Elizabeth Kolbert, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sixth Extinction*

Douglas W. Tallamy's first book, *Bringing Nature Home*, awakened thousands of readers to an urgent situation: wildlife populations are in decline because the native plants they depend on are fast disappearing. His solution? Plant more natives. In this new book, Tallamy takes the next step and outlines his vision for a grassroots approach to conservation. *Nature's Best Hope* shows how homeowners everywhere can turn their yards into conservation corridors that provide wildlife habitats.

Because this approach relies on the initiatives of private individuals, it is immune from the whims of government policy. Even more important, it's practical, effective, and easy—you will walk away with specific suggestions you can incorporate into your own yard.

If you're concerned about doing something good for the environment, *Nature's Best Hope* is the blueprint you need. By acting now, you can help preserve our precious wildlife—and the planet—for future generations. (Amazon)

All the Devils Are Here, by Louise Penny



The 16th novel by #1 bestselling author Louise Penny finds Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec investigating a sinister plot in the City of Light

On their first night in Paris, the Gamaches gather as a family for a bistro dinner with Armand's godfather, the billionaire Stephen Horowitz. Walking home together after the meal, they watch in horror as Stephen is knocked down and critically injured in what Gamache knows is no accident, but a deliberate attempt on the elderly man's life.

When a strange key is found in Stephen's possession it sends Armand, his wife Reine-Marie, and his former second-in-command at the Sûreté, Jean-Guy Beauvoir, from the top of the Tour d'Eiffel, to the bowels of the Paris Archives, from luxury hotels to odd, coded, works of art. It sends them deep into the secrets Armand's godfather has kept for decades.

A gruesome discovery in Stephen's Paris apartment makes it clear the secrets are more rancid, the danger far greater and more imminent, than they realized.

Soon the whole family is caught up in a web of lies and deceit. In order to find the truth, Gamache will have to decide whether he can trust his friends, his colleagues, his instincts, and his own past. His own family. For even the City of Light casts long shadows. And in that darkness devils hide.

February 2023  *Black History & American Heart Month*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1/18 <i>Happy Birthday Linda Hagen</i>	1/30 <i>Lobby Day Happy Birthday Kay Crane</i>		1 <i>First Day of Black History Month</i>	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3 <i>National Wear Red</i>	4 <i>World Cancer Day</i>
5 <i>Grammy Awards</i>	6 <i>PM Book Group 3:00 pm</i>	7 <i>Safer Internet Day</i>	8	9 <i>National Pizza Day</i>	10 <i>Highline Board Zoom Meeting 9:30am</i>	11 <i>Seattle Branch Meeting 10 am to Noon</i>
12 <i>Darwin Day Super Bowl</i>	13 <i>Galantine's Day</i>	14 <i>Seattle Coffee Group 10 am Valentine's Day Happy Birthday Anneliese</i>	15 <i>Happy Birthday Kathie Walker</i>	16	17 <i>Random Act of Kindness</i>	18 <i>Nat'l Drink Wine Day</i>
19	20 <i>President's Day World Day of Social Justice</i>	21 <i>Mardi Gras Happy Birthday Bonnie Verhunce</i>	22 <i>Ash Wednesday Nat'l Margarita Day</i>	23	24 <i>AM Book Group 9:30</i>	25 <i>NAACP Awards</i>
26	27	28				

AAUW Highline Branch Newsletter
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