

December 2022

# CHIPS

*The monthly newsletter of the Westchester Branch of the American Association of University Women, Westchester County, New York*



Westchester AAUW Has Been  
Empowering Women and  
Girls Since 1933

## Westchester AAUW Holiday Luncheon

Thursday, December 1 at 12 p.m.  
(Note a new date!)

Held at Crabtree Kittle House  
Eleven Kittle Road Chappaqua, New York

### Menu

Soda, Juice, Water and cash bar

**Chefs Choice of cold & Hot Hors D'oeuvres**

Assortment of Cheeses & Crackers,

Vegetable Crudite with Dip

Vegetable Spring Rolls

Smoked Salmon Tea Sandwiches

Chicken Provencal Salad

Mini Crab Cakes w/Whole Grain Mustard

Vegetable Quiche

**Warm Provencal Vegetable Pastry Tart with Tender Baby Greens Garnish**

**Choice of Entree**

Hiddenfjord Organic Scottish Salmon hepworth farm broccoli rabe & cherry tomatoes,

wild rice pilaf, yuzu beurre blanc (gf)

Fillet of Mediterranean Branzino

shiitake mushrooms, baby bok choy, Israeli couscous, ocean broth

Goffle Farm Chicken Breast

local farm vegetables, Yukon gold potato purée, natural juices

**Chocolate Mousse Cake served with vanilla bean gelato**

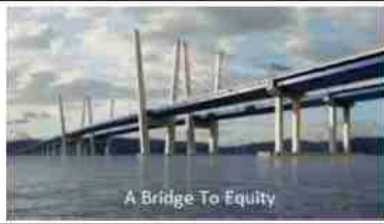
**Coffee, Hot Tea**

**\$55 per person**

(Includes lunch, gratuity, and a small donation to Hour Children for Christmas gifts)

Send check made out to Westchester AAUW to Susan Gardner, 19 Robbie Road,  
Cortlandt Manor NY 10567 (By Monday November 21st)





## The Anti-Abortion Movement Following *Roe v. Wade* Submitted by Elaine Weiss, Branch Historian



On January 22, 1973 the Roe Decision set the precedent of having the Supreme Court divide the trimesters of pregnancy giving doctors and their patients guidelines developed by the Court. However, the Justices left the decision personal.

The anti-abortion movement as we know it today, with deeply religious ties, emerged around this time.

- “It was a very small movement, largely made up of white Catholics and a smattering of other religious people in the 1970s,” Holland says. “At this time, they’re really developing these arguments that would carry the movement forward. They argue not only that the fetus is a life, but this is also a rights campaign, comparing legal abortion to genocide akin to the Holocaust.”
- In the late 1970s and early 1980s, evangelical Christians joined the anti-abortion movement in great numbers, increasing its size and clout.
- That’s when abortion became a partisan issue. Realizing the immense voting power of the movement, the Republican Party added an anti-abortion stance to their platform in 1976.
- “That was a huge victory, even though the Republican Party would often be tepid allies in the 20th century,” Holland says. “But it was still vital because having a party is the pathway to real political power.”
- Over the next couple of decades, Republican leaders like Ronald Reagan won elections in large part to votes from the anti-abortion movement.

In 1992, the Supreme Court, while reaffirming the Constitutional right to abortion, also made it easier for states to pass more restrictive abortion laws with the ruling on *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*.

Soon after, the movement began to gain a real political foothold. This was tied to advances in checking the fetus during the fourth month of pregnancy.

“By the mid-1990s to the early 2000s, the pressure really escalates from socially conservative leaders on the Republican party,” Holland says. “And in the 21st century, you can see the outcome of all of this and see how the movement, not ever a majority, but this incredibly important minority, had changed hearts and minds to be completely on board with its ideology. And now not only do they have access to politicians, but they’re being elected to state legislatures and federal office.”

Former President Donald Trump garnered much support from the anti-abortion movement by campaigning to appoint Supreme Court justices who would overturn *Roe v. Wade*. He fulfilled that promise, resulting in the conservative supermajority on the Supreme Court today.

Sincerely: Elaine Weiss: I am hoping for movement in policies to improve the outcome of *Dobbs V Jackson Women’ Health Organization*.

**MISSION:** To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

**VISION:** Equity for All

**OUR VALUES:** Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering. Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.

### **2022-2023 BRANCH OFFICERS**

#### **Co-Presidents**

Marcia Keizs & Rene Parmar

#### **Program Co-Vice Presidents**

Diana Lennon & Teresa N. Neal

#### **Membership Co-Vice Presidents**

Thea Jacobs & Mary Schenck

#### **Recording Co-Secretaries**

Susan Appel & Elaine Weiss

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

Abby Hirsch

#### **Treasurer**

Barbara Sarver

#### **CHIPS Editor**

Sue Lambert [slamb47@aol.com](mailto:slamb47@aol.com)

#### **Branch Web Site**

[westchester-ny.aauw.net](http://westchester-ny.aauw.net)

#### **State Web Site**

[www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org)

#### **National Web Site**

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

#### **Facebook**

AAUW Westchester NY

Bridge Photo from NY  
State Thruway Authority





**New Members!**  
 Patricia Coyne  
 Shelley Mayer  
 Barbara Stevenson

There are times when one of our members is dealing with an illness, a loss, or another personal crisis.

If you know of a member who should receive our well wishes or support, please send the information to our corresponding secretary, Abby Hirsch, at [ahirsch03@gmail.com](mailto:ahirsch03@gmail.com).



Have You Seen Our Web Site?

**westchester-ny.aauw.net**

Board minutes are posted on the Web Page.

**CURRENT ISSUES GROUP**  
 The current issues group will meet on Friday, December 2 at 10 a.m. To sign up for these Zoom Current Issues meetings, contact Ellen Leuner or Adelaide DiGiorgi and the Zoom link and topics will be sent to you. Join us for some very informative and lively discussions.

**BOOK GROUPS**

**TUESDAY MORNING LIT GROUP**  
 The Tuesday Morning Lit Group will meet on December 13 at 10 a.m. via Zoom. We'll discuss Fiona Davis's historical fiction, The Magnolia Palace. Barbara McNear will lead our conversation. Please contact Wilma Gitchel if you're interested in joining our group.

**EVENING LITERATURE GROUP**  
 The Evening Literature Group will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7 at Stone Fire Restaurant in Mt. Kisco. Jean Havens will lead the discussion of The Sentence by Louise Erdrich. Contact Marsha Savino by phone, email or text to let her know if you plan to attend.

If you have questions about this group phone Ellen Eschmann, the group leader. New members are welcome.

**JOIN AAUW WESTCHESTER BRANCH**

Membership is open to anyone with an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from an accredited college or university. To join, please complete this form and send a check payable to AAUW Westchester Branch to the address below. Dues for a new member are \$93 for the first year of membership, a \$10 reduction from regular membership dues, which are \$103/year. When you join the Westchester Branch of AAUW, you also become a member of the AAUW New York State and National organizations.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City:State:Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 College/University, Degree, Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

To join send a check to: Westchester AAUW, 455 Tarrytown Rd. #1354, White Plains, NY 10607 or to get more information go the Westchester AAUW Website ([westchester-ny.aauw.net](http://westchester-ny.aauw.net)).

## **GOOD NEWS! ACTIVISTS, BROOKE AND BREANNA BENNETT**

**-by Selena Barron**

In a recent article in the magazine Learning for Justice, Brooke and Breanna Bennett relate the amazing story of how they became successful activists.

The twins were stunned when their mother, who taught at an all-girls magnet school in Miami, told them that girls were using socks and toilet paper to absorb their menstrual blood. They learned that 25% of American mothers sometimes have to choose between buying food and providing their daughters with menstrual supplies. In order to help end period poverty, the twins went into action mode. They started Women in Training, Inc. on their 12th birthday in July 2019. WIT provides menstrual education programs and donates monthly WITKITS of menstrual, dental and hygiene supplies to young girls. Volunteers give the kits out to public schools, after school programs, homeless shelters, orphanages, foster care facilities and programs for imprisoned women and their children. So far they have distributed more than 15,000 kits. The twins soon realized that the core problem is the cycle of generational poverty. In their words; "In a world overflowing with resources, every human being can have plenty of nutritious and delicious food, housing, excellent health care, global education, ... and a bounty of menstrual products, and reproductive freedom!" To widen their mission to spread the message to end period poverty and poverty PERIOD they now collaborate with the Always brand of Procter and Gamble. They are also collaborating with Walmart.



Women In Training, Inc.

On the federal government level, during the summer they traveled to Washington, D.C., and met with the Democratic Women's Caucus. The twins said "they would also love to work with Republican and Independent elected officials to end poverty and create a society that celebrates menstrual equity." In the U.S. Capitol, they met with Rep. Meng, and Rep Lois Frankel of Florida. Alabama's Rep. Terri Sewell introduced them to Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, Chairman of the Democratic Caucus. The Southern Black Girls and Women's Consortium led by Ms. Latosha Brown of Black Voters Matter sponsored their trip to D.C. and made it possible for Brooke and Breanna to bring twelve high school WIT Young Leaders with them to D.C.

Brooke and Breanna have also had legislative success. A major victory occurred when Alabama Governor Kay Ivey signed House Bill 50 into law on April 14, 2022 making it the seventh state in the U.S. to have a mandate to provide free menstrual hygiene products to menstruating students in Title I schools where poverty is the highest. Alabama State Rep. Rolanda Hollis introduced bills three times before successfully getting the Bill passed unanimously. Other states with laws to end period poverty are California, Illinois, New Hampshire, New York, and Virginia. Rep. Grace Meng of New York City introduced the Menstrual Equity for All Act of 2021 to provide federal support to menstruators.

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Brooke and Breanna have a three year plan to continue to build on the success they have already achieved. First they are working to seek funding to put vending machines with free period products in college campuses. Next they are trying to raise funding to organize mission trips to Africa and the Caribbean to provide menstrual education and supplies. Their third goal is to present the President's Volunteer Service Award to corporate volunteers, students and adult mentors who work to end period poverty and end poverty PERIOD.

In three and one half years the twins have accomplished more than what many others do not achieve in a lifetime. WITKITS has expanded and is now one of the programs within Women in Training, Inc. which provides empowerment programs for young women. Megan Allison, WIT Mentor Program Coordinator states, "Research has shown that leadership and mentor programs for young women can increase their self confidence, broaden career options and mitigate the power of gendered messages. For more information visit their website at [womenintraining.org](http://womenintraining.org).

### **WE INVITE MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHIPS**

The deadline for each month's submissions is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

Send articles by email to the editor, Sue Lambert at [slamb47@gmail.com](mailto:slamb47@gmail.com).

The submitted articles may be reviewed by the AAUW-Westchester Board if necessary.



## Holiday Gifts for Children

Every year the Westchester AAUW branch collects gifts and monetary donations for the children of mothers in the Bedford Hills and Taconic Correctional Facilities. We will continue that tradition this year and bring joy to about 450 children.

Here are the ways you can donate:

1. Send a check donation (make checks out to Hour Children Parenting Center), gift cards or amazon gifts to:

**Hour Children/Deb Rigano**  
**180 E. Prospect Avenue / PO Box #229**  
**Mamaroneck, NY 10543**

**If you make a donation, please send an email to [Laurie.austin@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:Laurie.austin@lehman.cuny.edu). The subject line should read: AAUW Toy Drive and include your name and the amount of the donation in the email..**

2. Use the list below to purchase a gift either in person or through Amazon.

**You may bring your gift to the AAUW Holiday Party on December 1.**

**Please – Only NEW and UNWRAPPED Items)**

**Ages 0-2:** V-Tech (6-36 months – we need 26 of the same type); Clothing: for Newborns to 2T ; Baby Blankets (Toddler Size ); Rattles; Teething Rings (NUBY Brand); Muslin Swaddles; Winter Hats (Newborn – 1 year); Stacking Cups/Rings; Baby Einstein or Fisher Price Toys; Shape Sorters: Hooded Fleece Bunting (up to 18 months)

**Ages 3-5:** Large Trucks; Baby Alive Dolls; Disney Character Items; Crafts Sets; Baby Dolls; Disney Princess Dolls

**Ages 6-10:** Legos; K'Nex/Playmobile; Barbie/Bratz/Monster High Dolls; Trucks; Transformers; Actions Figures - Captain America, Stars Wars, Superman, etc.; Matchbook Tracks and Car Sets; Plastic Knitting and Crocheting Kits; Cranium, Brain Quest; Painting and Art Sets; 3D Glasses and Books; Train Sets; Card Games such as: Skip Bo, Uno and Monopoly

**Ages 11-17:** Craft Kits; Sports Balls - Basketball, Soccer, Football; Baseballs, Mitts (**No Bats**); Chess and Checker Games; Friendship Bracelet Kits; How to Knit/Crochet Books; Make-Up Kits Only (**No Mirror or Glass**); Burt's Bees Lip Gloss; Burt's Bees Shower Gel And Body Wash (**No Alcohol in Ingredient List**); Wallets (boys and girls), Burt's Bees Face Wash; Sunglasses (**No Bling**); Headphones/Ear Buds; Watches (**Analog only and No Bling**); Board Games for Ages 10 and Up such as: Apples to Apples, Life, Trivial Pursuit (Adult and Children Versions) etc.; Leather Bracelets; Musical Instruments (No Recorders); Lip Smackers; Bath Bombs; Nail Polish

**ITEMS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR HOUR NURSERY MOMS (New or Gently Used)** Strollers; Pack 'N Plays; Baby Swings; Bouncing Chairs; Medela Breast Pumps and Accessories; "Boppy" Pillows and New Car Seats

**NONE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE ALLOWED:** Glass, scissors, sharp objects, pencil sharpeners, mirrors, clay, Play-Doh, items that promote violence, teen/adult clothing, electronics, DVDs, no rhinestones on watches or toys, metal or items in tins; wooden toys, soft dolls or stuffed animals.





At the Nov. 9th Branch Meeting: Theresa Neal (Program Co-VP), Rene Parmer (Co-President), Mary Westmoreland (Speaker at the meeting), Diana Lennon (Program Co-VP) and Marcia Keizs (Co-President)

## In Memoriam

Former Westchester AAUW members Phyllis Hirth and Mary Shackle recently passed away.

**Thanks to members who have already sent in donations for the Annual Fund campaign. If you haven't given yet, please consider doing so. Even small amounts help to sponsor AAUW's many worthwhile programs.**

**Yes, I would like to contribute to the AAUW Greatest Needs Funds in the amount of:**

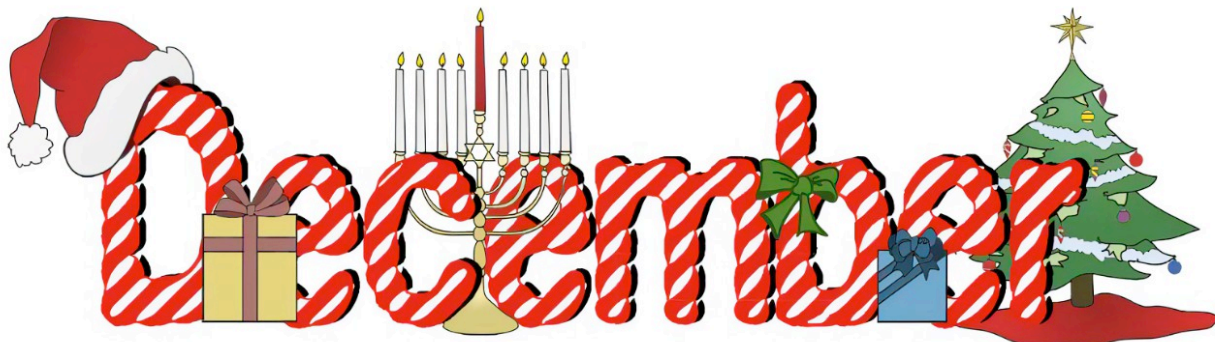
**\$1000   \$500   \$100   \$50   \$25   Other \_\_\_\_\_**

If you do not designate a specific fund in your check memo line, your contribution will be applied to the AAUW Funds, # 9110.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please make your check out to AAUW Funds and specify in the memo line AAUW Funds or any particular fund to which you would like your contributions applied, and how much to each fund. Checks should be mailed to Mary Logan, 1204 Hall Ave, White Plains, NY 10604. Thanks for your support!



### DECEMBER 2022

12/1	Holiday Luncheon	Crabtree Kittle House	12 p.m.
12/2	Current Issues Discussion Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
12/7	Evening Literature Group	Stone Fire Restaurant, Mt. Kisco	5:30 p.m.
12/10	Deadline for submitting for CHIPS		
12/13	Tuesday Morning Literature Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
12/20	Poetry Interest Group	Zoom	1:30 p.m.

*Bridge - every Monday at 11 a.m. in person and/or 1 p.m. online*