



AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Website: <http://marquette-mi.aauw.net> Facebook: [AAUW Marquette Branch](#)

Happy Thanksgiving!



We assume you have finished the leftover Halloween candy and have turned your attention to Thanksgiving. AAUW-MQT Membership Co-Vice President Les Bek asked our AAUW members to bake fruit pies to help *Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly* staff deliver a traditional Thanksgiving meal to 200 isolated elders on Thanksgiving Day.

♪♪ Yes, we can bake a cherry pie! ♪♪

Our exciting November program on *Women in Community Leadership* is a “must see” (again). Click [here](#). Seventeen people participated in a lively discussion of challenges facing our Marquette community and our Marquette City Manager Karen Kovacs as a female leader in a traditional male role. Karen is a dynamic leader in search of sustainable jobs, affordable housing, and collaborative networks. Several AAUW members volunteered ideas. One key point of several was the importance of a strong bond between Marquette City and the university. AAUW members were in enthusiastic agreement with Karen’s realistic approach to facing common fears of female leaders. We predict Karen Kovacs is an emerging female leader to watch in community, regional, and national conversations about sustainability and sensible community planning.

AAUW-Marquette members will *not* have holiday dinner this December because of lingering COVID uncertainties. However, we are planning a rousing New Year Celebration on Thursday, January 13, 2022.

Until then, enjoy happy holidays, safe travels, and good health!

Judy Puncochar
AAUW-Marquette President

NEXT MEETING:

HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Save the date: **Thursday, January 13**

Our AAUW Branch is establishing an evolving reputation. It is a good one.

Not only are we determined do-gooders and voices for our causes – we like to have fun.

Yes, even Super Woman needs to take a break.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, January 13th at 7:00 p.m. Our New Year Celebration 2022 is sure to be talked about for years to come.

Can we top 2021 New Year Around the World? Only time will tell! We do know that according to extensive scientific study, data is mounting about the positive things laughter can do.

From the Mayo Clinic: Laughter may improve your immune system, relieve pain, increase personal satisfaction, and improve your mood.

On to better health in 2022,
let's begin with some laughs!



Les Bek,
Program Committee



Member Accomplishments

Email your AAUW-Marquette Member accomplishments to newsletter editor, Marge Forslin.

Congratulations to...

AAUW member and Dean of Library and Instructional Support **Leslie A. Warren** accepted the position of **Interim Associate Provost for Academic Affairs** at Northern Michigan University. Dean Warren's tenure in her new role started on November 17, 2021. The previous Associate Provost for Academic Affairs assumed duties as Interim Provost. The interim positions are intended to run until a new NMU President and Provost are named.



(photo credit) <https://lib.nmu.edu/staff/leslie-warren>

Leslie is a higher education advocate. She began her educational journey as a first-generation college student in journalism. After obtaining a law degree and practicing law, Leslie returned to college to study librarianship. Currently, she is active in the Upper Peninsula's community libraries and she is a mentor in the NMU Student Leader Fellowship Program and co-chair for the NMU Strategic Planning and Budget Advisory Committee. Leslie serves as AAUW-Marquette's Program Vice President.

Congratulations, Leslie Warren!



Leslie as Hannah, Susan B. Anthony's sister, in AAUW's February 2020 production of the play, *The Remarkable Susan*.

Econo Receipts Success!

THANK YOU for collecting receipts *before* you did your shopping for Thanksgiving meals. You turned in enough receipts for us to earn \$260 from our receipts in December! This will help our treasury.

As you are probably aware, the store is changing ownership in December. I wanted to be sure that we were able to be paid for all the receipts we turned in since late June. PLEASE KEEP SAVING RECEIPTS! The store's program of paying for receipts may or may not be continued. I like to be optimistic and hope that we will continue to save receipts and earn money for AAUW from them. I expect to learn within the next month or two what will happen. When I learn, I'll let you know.

In the meantime, enjoy the holidays. I hope you will all be able to visit with families or friends!

*Meredith Kulisheck, 906-226-2372
617 W Hampton St, Marquette*

NMU SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Just Ask ... And We Did!



When we began our annual **Just Ask NMU Scholarship Campaign** in September, it was a time of hope. Each letter prepared and envelope sealed held our hope for the future. We could picture in our minds the young women full of hope that they could advance their academic journey to destinations still unknown. They just needed someone to ask on their behalf.

Our hopes were bolstered each month throughout the fall as we reported our progress in this newsletter and continued with messages that echoed our appeal in that first letter. **The Just Ask Campaign** was also broadened with fresh ideas and new hopes with Ruth Ziel's handcrafted bags sold at the Book Sale.

Was our goal of nearly \$5,000 beyond our reach?

The collective response to date has been exceptional. As of this writing, we have surpassed our goal with **gifts totaling over \$6,000.**

As we begin to wrap up our formal campaign period of Sept.-Dec., we thank you for your generous support. Hopes are what dreams are made of and every contribution took us one step closer to our shared vision of success through access to higher education.

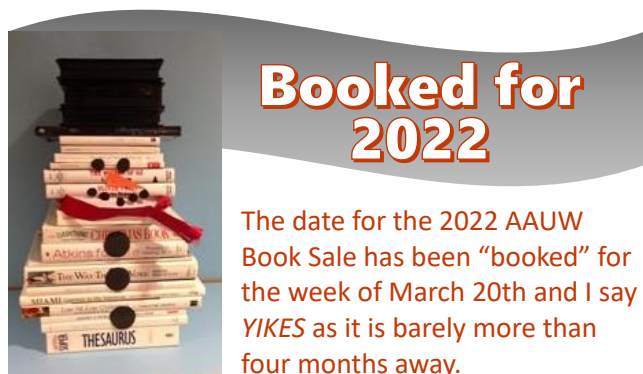
I am not sure where or when the phrase “Pay it forward” began, but it is every bit applicable to our **Just Ask NMU Scholarship Campaign.**

Thank you!

Les Bek, Chairperson

P.S. We are accepting contributions through December and throughout the year!

Mail to: Ruth Ziel, 734 Lakewood Lane, Marquette, MI 49855; memo NMU Scholarship



Booked for 2022

The date for the 2022 AAUW Book Sale has been “booked” for the week of March 20th and I say **YIKES** as it is barely more than four months away.

See <https://www.instructables.com/Snowman-Book-Sculpture/> to learn how to make your own snowman.

By now you all know your help is vital to the success of this event and I absolutely cannot do this without each and every single one of you wonderful ladies. So, I ask you all to please keep the week of March 20th, 2022 open to lend a hand at the sale and of course bring your good cheer to the actual sale on March 24th – 26th, 2022. In addition, I now encourage you to write the dates of the sale on your calendars and to invite your friends and families to save their gently read books, CDs, DVDs, puzzles and games to ensure we have a large and interesting library of items available for the earlier than normal spring sale.

In the meantime, don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or if you know of a kind AAUW Book Sale donor that needs some personal assistance for a pickup.

As always, I do appreciate your friendship and your generous spirits. Have a cheery and magical holiday season.

Renee Leow AAUW Book Sale Chairperson

Public Policy News

Secure MI Vote ???

In April 2021, the AAUW Michigan Board issued a strong statement regarding the proposed changes to Michigan's election laws...”

We oppose measures that would restrict convenient in-person or absentee voting. We oppose measures that would make it more difficult for American citizens and Michigan residents to register to vote, obtain a ballot or cast a ballot. We oppose measures that would weaken the ability to fairly count and certify election results. We urge lawmakers to cast aside their party affiliation and support only those election law changes that would enhance the prospect of wide voter participation in secure and fair elections.”

Make no mistake. The purpose of the Secure MI Vote petition drive is to go around the governor's veto and the will of the people who voted in 2018 to make it easier to vote absentee. This petition will allow a mere 4% of Michigan's voters to send this to the legislature and pass it into law.

Michigan Municipal clerks are worried.

The initiative requires clerks to pay churches that serve as polling stations. Many of these locations were donated as polling places. It would ban AAUW, League of Women Voters and other non-governmental groups from doing voter registration drives.

The voter ID rules force officials to remove online access to absentee ballot applications. This initiative requires voters to disclose driver's license, personal ID and partial social security numbers when you apply for an absentee ballot. The option of signing an affidavit to verify your identity at the polls would be eliminated.

Mary Pollock, AAUW Michigan's Government Relations Coordinator spoke with Mary Clark President of the Michigan Association of Township Clerks (MATC) and Merissa Kovach ACLU of Michigan's Protect MI Vote leader following our Virtual Lobby Corps meeting. MATC will be urging state legislators to vote no, if and when the misnamed Secure MI Vote is submitted to them. That would send the measure to the ballot for voters to decide.

Please decline to sign this petition. Refer people to wevotemi.com for more information. Click on the anti - vote ballot proposal. Remind those who think the misnamed Secure MI Vote is needed that a 2020 election during a pandemic had record turnout. It was fairly conducted as demonstrated by 200 audits, and a Michigan Senate Report that chased down every cockamamie allegation and found no evidence of fraud.

As if this isn't enough to make you tear your hair out, it is predicted that the John R Lewis bill and the Voter Rights bills that could counteract the numerous voter suppression bills across the country, will not be acted on until next year. Where is Kamala Harris when we need her? Wasn't she assigned to spear head this effort to protect voter access? Call the White House and tell them we want to see Kamala Harris at the forefront protecting our democracy pushing for enactment of these important pieces of legislation. Phone 202-456-1111.

I leave you with good news. The House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better Bill 220 yes-213 no. This bill contains so much dear to the heart of AAUW's mission: paid family leave, universal pre-school, help with childcare costs, increased money for PELL grants. Representative Jack Bergman voted Nay on this bill. Will it pass the Senate?

**We need more than thoughts and prayers.
Sign up to be a [Two-Minute Activist](#) and make
your voice matter.**

*Karlyn Rapport
Public Policy Representative*



On the passing of Helen Carlin



What a warrior Helen was. She endured multiple chemotherapy trials

as payment for an additional 6 ½ years. She filled that time between treatments with family visits and adventures, entertaining friends with her fabulous cooking, reading good books, and travel. Helen and

Scott went to Norway, Sweden and to France so many times. Helen was so happy she was able to take a granddaughter to Paris.

Prior to Karen Rudisill, Helen Carlin was the convener of our AAUW book group. If Helen recommended a book, we could be sure it would be a challenging read, beautifully written. If Helen enjoyed a book you recommended, or complimented a discussion you led, you knew you had met a high bar. Scott Carlin called Helen a critical thinker. Helen Carlin will be remembered for her caring support of friends, her intellect, her warmth and hospitality, her sense of humor and fun, her forthrightness, her courage, her love of France and the U.P. and her generous sharing of the places she and Scott have traveled. Her passing is such a sadness. She will be sorely missed. We can be grateful for the time we had the privilege of knowing her. It is a comfort to remember Helen's life was well lived.

Karlyn Rapport