

American Association of University Women



Bulletin 130 of the Cedar Rapids AAUW Branch

March 2019

Tour the Newly Renovated

Linn County History Museum

800 2nd Avenue SE

Saturday, March 2, 2019 10:00 a.m.

Mark Hunter will take us on a tour of the beautifully renovated mansion which is the new home of the Linn County Historical Society. The mansion was built in 1895 for the George B. Douglas family. It was also formerly the John B. Turner Funeral Home. The building is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

General Membership Meeting

Saturday, March 9th 9:30am to 11:30am

Meth-wick's Greenwood Terrace, 1300 13th St. NW, 52405

The meeting will be in the Greenwood Dining Room

Everyone is encouraged to participate in planning for the future!

*Driving and parking instructions: Come in the "F" Avenue entrance only on 13th St. Parking: All cars are to be parked in the parking lot, not in the half circle. People can be dropped off at the main entrance, then park the cars in the lot.

AAUW and LWV Co-Host the Legislative Forum

10:00 a.m. March 16th

Kirkwood Regional Center, 1770 Boyson Rd, Hiawatha

Thank you to everyone who donated cash for the beverages or volunteered to bake muffins. Also, thanks to volunteers who set up and host the AAUW table.

International Women's Day: On Friday, March 8, from 12:00-1:30 Vildana Tinjic, a war survivor from Bosnia, will speak about differences between that culture and the U.S. culture at Hills Bank, 3204 7th Ave, Marion. There will be time for Q & A. All information is on the Women's Equality Coalition website and you will receive a separate email with the flier. Box lunch is \$15. Reservations by March 5th to Sue Jorgensen 319-360-8757.

Report from Membership Director, Linda Amitage Just a quick update on the Meet and Greet for AAUW on February 21. Eleven showed up at Napoli's and 7 of those were potential new member guests!! A big thank you to Renee Penalver and Carletta Knox-Seymour for inviting the delightful guests. In the last 3 years our branch has added 25 new members! It was a time to socialize and to learn about reasons to belong to AAUW

Book Group: Monday, Feb. 25 at 6:30pm at La Cantina, 5400 Edgewood Rd (weather permitting) Watch for email from Barb Goings if it is questionable. We'll be reviewing two books (remember we got snowed out in January). The Invention of Nature by Andrea Wulf and Spring Chicken; Stay Young Forever or Die Trying *Trying* by Bill Gifford

Public Policy, Linda Topinka

More women are running for public offices than ever before! Linda Topinka notes that in Cedar Rapids Sofia Mehaffey is running for the city council for the District 2 seat. Sofia, a young, black woman, describes herself as a nonprofit professional and an activist.

At the Capital: On January 30, the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate introduced the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) with support from every Democrat in Congress and bipartisan backing in the House. The Act is essential to eradicating practices that have perpetuated the pay gap for far too long. The team at AAUW was instrumental in prioritizing the bill by sending letters to Congress and engaging grassroots advocates.

Lobby Day in Iowa: AAUW members from across the state lobbied for equal pay on February 13th. It was a small group because of the snow and ice covered highways. Maureen White provided each legislator with a copy of THE SIMPLE TRUTH, AAUW's research on gender pay inequities. Several legislators were asked where they guessed Iowa would rank on paycheck fairness. The guesses were "somewhere in the middle". Here is the truth: Iowa is 46th to 31st depending on 2 different reports.

AAUW Capitol Corp Our Weekly Link to Lawmakers: There is an AAUW group (Corp) who go to the State Capitol each week to speak directly with Legislators. Currently there are several bills in committees regarding female genital mutilation. Iowa is one of 22 states that have no laws criminalizing the practice.