



November 2024 Empowering Women since 1881



President's Message

It has been a super busy month with lots of successful programs and events. To start with, our Branch was represented at Madison's annual Bottle Hill Day, led by Beth Krawczuk and Susan Mennella. We had posters of upcoming events, two book drawings, and lots of folks stopping by our table. Thank you to all our volunteers who came to help greet passersby. We were received very warmly and we even attracted a couple of new members!

Just a few days later we celebrated our winners at a Meet & Greet with pizza, salad and sweets, at the Madison Community House. Four of our STEM campers came with their families, including a sibling who herself had been a camper a few years earlier. Also, two of our Mature Women's Grants' grantees came. One adult student brought her husband and two young children, one of whom cried out delightedly "there's mommy!" Thanks to all our members who generously sponsored our guests and to our generous contributors: Ruth, Becky, Mary Anne & Jeanne for baking delicious brownies & carrot cake, Donna & Marsha for the beautiful fruit, Meyra for her fresh flower centerpieces, and Peggy for the posh look of linen tablecloths.

Lastly, we pulled off another profitable AAUW Book Sale in support of our grant programs with the help of many in our wonderful



SAVE THE DATE: HOLIDAY TEA

WHEN: Dec. 9, 2024, 1 - 3 pm



Madison Area AAUW Book Group,

We had an excellent turnout at our October meeting. Reviews on the book were mixed but it did prompt a lively discussion. Thank you to Ruth for hosting and to Jodi for bringing delicious homemade pumpkin bars.

Our next hybrid meeting is Wed Nov 13th at 1PM when we will be discussing *The Last Animal* by Ramona Ausubel. The in-person location is Marianne Belock's home. Her address and the Zoom link will be sent closer to the meeting.

Dec 11, 2024 at 1PM– **Book Change!**
– *Killers of a Certain Age* by Deanna Raybourn, Host Susan

community. After we collected donations at the Madison Area YMCA, we sold more than 1500 books at Kirby, donated a few hundred to a couple of other charities and still had 2000+ left over which we dropped off to a re-seller. Together, we carried away from the Y, sorted, carried back to Kirby, set up, sold, and transported books to a thrift store in Union. It was really a job well done and community success. A special thank you goes out to our non-member volunteers: Drew students Emma, Lila, and Violet; truck drivers Rusty King, Peter Toshima and Jim Burnet; and of course, Y employees Fran Kare (with husband, Michael.) We could not have done it without you.

Phew! We've been busy!

Ann Huber



PHOTO OF OUR FUTURE STEM FORCE

Photo taken Oct. 7, 2024 at the Meet & Greet Image by Donna Conley

***BECOMING A WRITER
WITH
ANDREA J. STEIN,
NOVELIST***

Friday, Nov. 01, 2024,

2:00pm - 3:30pm at the New Providence Memorial Library,

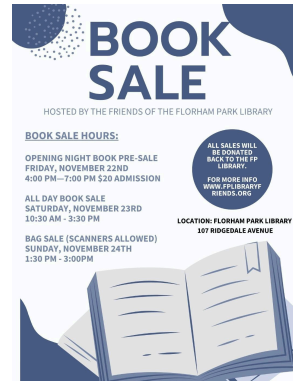
377 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence, NJ

Andrea J. Stein, the award-winning author of **Typecast** and **Dear Eliza**, will join us to share her writing and publishing journey. She will also offer words of encouragement to aspiring writers as well as advice on developing a sense of self. A book publicist as well as a writer of women's fiction, Stein lives in Summit, NJ with her family.

We have been invited to join the AAUW Summit College Club which is which is co-sponsored by them and the New Providence Memorial Library.

Email Susan Mennella at smennella@verizon.net for the Zoom link or for more information.

SUPPORT THE FLORHAM PARK LIBRARY



FROM AAUW NJ

TAKING ACTION

Banning Book Bans

New Jersey lawmakers are moving to place limits on who can request books be removed from libraries. Dozens of people testified, including students who said protections are needed in school libraries. The Freedom To Read Act (S2421) introduced by State Senator Andrew Zwicker (D-Princeton) and State Senate Majority Leader Teresa Ruiz (D-Essex) establishes requirements for library material in public school libraries and public libraries and protects school library media specialists and librarians from harassment. The bill cleared the Senate Education Committee on Monday after passing the full Assembly in June.

CONTACT your Senator to vote YES on Bill S2421!

OTHER ACTIONS TO TAKE



Pumpkin Power: Reducing Halloween Waste

For more information,
go to: <http://www.andreajstein.com>



NOW-NJ's President, Jill Lazare, is the keynote speaker at a rally for women at the Westfield, NJ train station, on Saturday, November 2, 2024 at 11:00 AM. Flyer above.

Hope to see you there!!!



Nov. 5th is election day!
Please vote!!

As Halloween approaches, pumpkins become the star of the season, but did you know that millions of pumpkins go to waste each year? In the U.S. alone, nearly 1.3 billion pounds of pumpkins are discarded after Jack and his friends have dissolved into a mushy mess. But before getting to this point, think of all you can do with little Jack from making pumpkin soup to roasting his seeds. And when it's all said and done, his life can continue as compost! Now, in order for Jack to be ready for his return to Earth make sure he is clean of paint, glitter, goggly eyes, stickers and any other non-compostable item. If you choose to carve Jack and his friends, why not save his "guts" and make some fun pumpkin inspired recipes, like pumpkin bread, pumpkin pie, or pumpkin soup!
BY: JAVA COMPOST



NEW MEMBERS!

Karen Weise is a dual member of the Summit Club, an AAUW Branch and now Madison Branch. Karen lives in S. Orange and has worked with our Program Chair on this year's programs.

Barbara Christjohn is from Morristown. We met Barbara at Bottle Hill Day and are delighted to welcome another mahjong player to our Tournament & Game!!

FYI - The AAUW Mahjong Tournament is on Nov. 20, 2024. We have filled our tables and have a waiting list. Way to go, Players!

Nov. 5th is election day!
Please vote!