



## December Newsletter Empowering Women Since 1881...



### President's Message

In the aftermath of the November election, it is crucial for us to embrace unity and foster a spirit of collaboration within our communities. This is a time for healing and reflection, where we set aside our political differences to engage in open dialogue and constructive discussions.

By working together, we can create a more inclusive environment that respects diverse perspectives and nurtures mutual respect. Let us come together to build a brighter future, where every voice is heard and valued, and our collective strength paves the way for innovative solutions and shared progress. Now is the moment to unite and move forward as one resilient community.

It has taken me a long time to get to the point where I could even begin to write a message. Half the country is overjoyed about the election results. Almost as many people are not. Nevertheless, we must continue to work to preserve our democracy and freedom. Or, as they say, life goes on.

ANN HUBER



### COMING UP QUICKLY!





## WINNERS

**Mahjong Tournament Winners:  
(Left to Right)**

**1st Place - Randy Scheriner**  
**2/3rd Place Tie - Terrie Neuman and  
Rosemary Sica**  
**Door Prize - Catherine Costa**  
**50/50 Prize - Bernadette Sisto**  
**Congratulations!**



## AAUW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP -MAHJONG TWICE MONTHLY GAME

*Next game is December 30, 2024  
from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 pm +/- at the  
Mutchler Home. Bring a bag lunch.  
Game starts at 12:00. Please RSVP  
to Shirley  
fishpond@optonline.net11:30*

## AAUW MADISON 5TH MAHJONGG TOURNAMENT

The 5th Mahjong Tournament has come and gone and a great time was had by all. We had our largest turnout yet for a day filled with fun, food, and raffles at the Madison Community Arts Center. Players joined us from many communities including Berkeley Heights, Edison, Chatham, Clark, Morris Plains, New Providence.

We acknowledge the ongoing support of our corporate supporters and individual donors who helped make this fundraising effort a big success:  
Madison Community Arts Center  
Shop Rite of Chatham, Chatham  
The Adult School of the Chathams,  
Madison and Florham Park in Madison

Marianne Belock,  
Donna Conley  
Marsha Gepford\*  
Mary K. Joyce  
Beth Krawczuk\*  
Susan Mennella  
Becky Moody\*  
Meyra Green  
Judy Vernon  
Ruth Zowader\*  
(in alphabetical order and bakers\* too)

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of Susan and Meyra who manned our registration table and tabulated the scores; and Judy's equally mammoth effort taking care of all our refreshment needs including a light breakfast, a buffet lunch and afternoon snacks.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

ANN HUBER

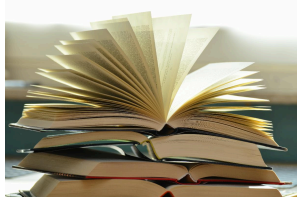
## January Joint Program with Summit College Club

Honor the life of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. on Sunday, January 19, 2025 as we join members of the Summit College Club (an AAUW Branch) at the New Providence Library, [377 Elkwood Ave., New Providence](https://www.summitnj.org/) at 2PM (doors open at 1:30PM)

We will view the 2007 documentary film, *Little Rock Central Fifty Years Later*. This film tells the story of Little Rock, Kansas fifty years after US Army paratroopers escorted nine black students to class at its Central High School in 1957. This was one of the early enforcements of the US Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education (1954) decision. On May 17, 1954, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren delivered a unanimous ruling in the landmark civil rights case Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas. The ruling held that State-sanctioned segregation of public schools was a violation of the 14th amendment and was therefore unconstitutional.

Following the viewing of the documentary, Summit College Club member, Maureen Grant will lead a discussion.

No prior reservation required.



## POST SCRIPT ON THE BOOK SALE

"For the past several years the AAUW Madison has given the Friends the opportunity to collect used children's books that don't sell at your sales. The Friends is in partnership with Josephine's Place, a women's shelter in Elizabeth. Volunteers from our Outreach group visit the shelter and read to the children, who have little or no access to books, while their mothers learn English, computer skills and take exercise classes. If a child likes a book, it is given to them. I am told that the smile on the face of a child that has been given a book to keep as his/her very own is priceless.

The children speak English but many of the mothers do not. The children take the books home and read to their mothers so it is a win-win situation.

Thanks AAUW Madison for making the lives of these mothers and children a little happier."

Barry Bowman  
Volunteer, Friends of Great Swamp

FYI-We also send boxes and boxes of English Text Books, mostly children's books, to Taiwan after each sale.

## INVITATION FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Dear AAUW members,

We'd like you to help us celebrate a record-breaking year for Voter Outreach, Local Debates, Civics teaching and so much more. Please join us at the Morris Area League's Holiday Open House.

When: Monday 12/9

Time: starting at 6 pm

Where: Morristown Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, [21 Normandy Heights Rd, Morristown](#)

Please RSVP

[lwmorrisarea@gmail.com](mailto:lwmorrisarea@gmail.com)  
with the number of attendees.

Thank you so much for your support, partnership and help.

Yours in League,

**Kathy Abbott, Patra Brown, and  
Barbara Koppersmith**  
LWV Morris Area co-presidents



## AAUW Special Interest Grp. Madison Book Club

We had an interesting discussion of *The Last Animal*. Thank you to Marianne for hosting and Jodi for bringing homemade goodies.

Here are the upcoming dates, meeting locations and books:

Wed Dec 11th at 1PM - Susan Mennella, *Killers of a Certain Age* by Deanna Raybourn.

Wed, Jan 8 at 1PM, Barbara Koppersmith, *Miss Morgan's Book Brigade* by Janet Skeslien Charles

Wed Feb 12 at 1PM Kathleen Magill Book TBA

Email Susan Mennella at [smennella@verizon.net](mailto:smennella@verizon.net) for the Zoom link or for more information.

## FYI

It's that time of year when Mayor Conley needs to make appointments to Madison Borough boards and committees for next year. Taking part on a board or commission is a meaningful way to be involved in town. For a list of [boards and commissions in Madison](#), go to: <https://www.rosenet.org/362/Boards-Commissions>

If you are interested in being considered for a board or committee, please fill out the [Citizen Leadership Form](#) and send it to [mayor@rosenet.org](mailto:mayor@rosenet.org)



**EXCERPT From:** The Optimist Daily Nov. 21, 2024.

**Subject: Change-makers of the week**

LOCAL CHANGEMAKERS SERIES

"SparkNJ: empowering local changemakers through trust and equity

Sometimes, the most transformative solutions come from reimagining the way we give. That's exactly what SparkNJ is doing in northern New Jersey, where their trust-based philanthropic model is reshaping how support reaches Black-led organizations. By offering unrestricted funding and amplifying the work of local changemakers, SparkNJ is building bridges across communities and sparking real change.

[Our] Ruth, who nominated SparkNJ as a local changemaker, says it best: 'SparkNJ is making a real difference in our local area by highlighting the work that small, local, Black-led organizations are doing for our entire community, Black and white. SparkNJ is promoting racial equity by supporting these organizations and also by making what they do visible to all.'

For more information:

<https://www.optimistdaily.com/2024/11/changemakers-of-the-week-grub-and-sparknj/>

