

# Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW  
December 2024

<http://redlands-ca-aauw.net>  
Issue 5, 11 Issues Annually



*The Redlands Branch of AAUW is dedicated to advancing equity for women and girls through education, empowerment and advocacy.*

## President's Corner: Heather Abushanab



The election is finally over and we are moving into a transition period before the new administration takes office. No matter who you supported in the election, the work and priorities of AAUW, AAUW CA and AAUW Redlands branch remain the same. We are dedicated to advancing equity for women and girls through education, empowerment, and advocacy.

AAUW and AAUW CA work on our behalf in both Washington DC and Sacramento. Twenty-five of 29 bills that aligned with the [AAUW CA Public Policy priorities](#) were signed into law by Governor Newsom. These bills included support for rape victims, transparency requirements on Title IX for our public colleges, and protections for health care providers and their patients. You can see the bills that AAUW CA is currently tracking in their [tracking report](#). On November 19th, AAUW hosted a webinar discussing women's economic security, including key issues like pay equity, family leave, and affordable quality childcare in the light of the new administration's likely policy agenda. If you missed this presentation, you will be able to find a recording here. You can find many other interesting AAUW presentations in the webinar list on the AAUW website.

Locally, we are very proud of our public policy committee under the leadership of Cassie MacDuff. This fall, in collaboration with the University of Redlands Public Policy program we hosted two well-attended candidate forums, one for Redlands City Council and one for the RUSD School Board. All the candidates for office accepted the invitation to participate. One candidate had to withdraw due to illness. Those that participated were grateful for the opportunity to discuss our local issues and their plans for our community. They also hosted a forum for CA state representatives ahead of the primary election this past spring. These types of events are vital for the health of our local government.

In the spring, public policy committee members will participate in Lobby Days, an opportunity to meet directly with those who represent our area in state and national government.

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## December Branch Meeting "Holiday Music"

AAUW friends, we are in for a musical treat for our December Holiday Branch Meeting. Five members of the Redlands Community Orchestra will play works by Brahms, Mozart and various holiday pieces. The performers are Geoff Merrill (piano), Heather Thielen (flute), Andrea Morics (cello), Jim Wilson (viola), and our own Ellen Gruenbaum (cello). It should be a wonderful evening.



*~Erica Wilson, coordinator*

### December Branch Meeting

**When** Tuesday,  
December 3, 2024  
Social 5:15 p.m.  
Dinner 6:00 p.m.  
Program 6:45 p.m.

**Where**  
University of Redlands  
**CASA LOMA Room**

#### Menu

**Standard Entrée:**  
Honey & Brown Sugar Ham  
**Vegan Entrée\*:**  
Black Bean Rosemary Steak

**Salad:** garden salad (vegan) with balsamic vinaigrette (vegan), house made ranch (vegetarian)

**Sides:** toasted orzo with spinach and cranberries (vegan), dinner rolls, coffee/tea

**Dessert:** cranberry cheesecake (vegetarian)

#### Cost

Members and guests: \$35

#### Reservations

Please call 909-362-4955 or email [AAUWrsvp@AAUWRedlands.org](mailto:AAUWrsvp@AAUWRedlands.org) by Monday, November 18, 2024.

After November 18, reservations will be on a space-available basis.

**After registering, you will receive a confirmation via email.**

**Reminder:** A reservation made is a reservation paid

#### Transportation:

Call Susan Miller or Patricia Stubbs

**Members and guests are always welcome at all branch meetings. There is no cost to attend the program only. Chairs will be available.**

### Branch Meetings 2024-2025

Tuesday, January 7, 2025\*

\*RSVP deadline 12/18/2024

Saturday, February 1, 2025

Saturday, March 1, 2025

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Saturday, June 7, 2025

**Monday, Nov 18 RESERVATION DEADLINE for Dec 3 Dinner Meeting. After Nov 18, dinner reservations are made on a space-available basis.**

*December 2024*

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 6 pm California Cuisine 1	2	3 8:45 am <u>Fundraising Mtg</u> 5:15pm Branch Meeting	4 1pm Bridge	5	6	7
8 YMCA Home Tour	9 *1pm Sew What! **5:30 pm CHAT ***6:30pm AAUW Board Mtg.	10 9 am STEM Planning & Packet for Jan 9 @ MSJC	11 1pm Bunko	12 6pm DEI/ Racial Justice	13	14 9 am STEM Committee Mtg
15 5:30 pm California Cuisine 2	16 1pm Bridge	17 8:45 am Fundraising Mtg	18	19	20	21
22	23 1pm Sew What!	24	25	26	27	28 9am Hiking
29	30	31				

**Save the Dates**

January Branch Meeting  
 STEM Conference @ MSJC  
 Speech Trek  
 STEM packet assembly  
 STEM Conference @ U of R  
 Redlands Community Day of Service  
 Great Decisions: March & April—8 weeks  
 FilmFest:

Tuesday January 7, 2025  
 Thursday, January 9, 2025  
 Thursday, January 16, 2025  
 Saturday, February 15, 2025  
 Tuesday, March 4, 2025  
 Saturday, March 15, 2025  
 Monday afternoons or  
 Wednesday evenings  
 Friday, April 25, 2025

**AAUW Redlands Board Meeting**

12/9 6:30 pm Redlands United Church of Christ, and remotely on teams.

~Heather Abushanab

**Bridge Groups**

3rd Monday @ 1pm, 1st Wednesday @ 1pm

~Contact Susan Satzger

**Bunko**

12/11 1pm

~Patty Ahearn & Lori Powell

**California Cuisine and Conversation I**

12/1 6pm

~Kathy Toister

**California Cuisine and Conversation 2**

12/15 5:30pm

~Patty Ahearn

**CHAT**

12/9 5:30pm Holiday potluck @ Burrage Mansion

~Katherine Gifford 909-798-7565, ext. 4138 [literacy@akspl.org](mailto:literacy@akspl.org)

**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion / Racial Justice**

12/12 DEI / Racial 6pm Ellen Gruenbaum's home

~Ellen Gruenbaum & Erica Wilson & Donita Remington

**Fundraising Committee**

12/3, 12/17 (every other Tuesday) 8:45am on Teams

~Heather Abushanab

**Hiking Our Hills & Mountains**

12/28 9am Contact Alison or Donita to be added to email list.

~Alison Rodriguez & Donita Remington

**Sew What!**

12/9 & 12/23 1pm

~Lisa McCarty

**STEM Initiatives**

**STEM Conference @ Mt San Jacinto College:**

January 9, 2025

**STEM Conference Univ of Redlands: March 4, 2025**

**STEM Committee planning meeting**

12/14 9am at 216 E. South Ave, Redlands

~Kathryn Brown & Pam Ford

**STEM Conference @ Mt. San Jacinto College**

**planning meeting & packet assembly**

12/10 9am Lugonia Fountains Club House, 1251 E. Lugonia Ave

~Pam Ford & Betsy Grimes

**Tech Trek Committee**

~Denise Westcott & Donica Remington

## President's Corner: Heather Abushanab

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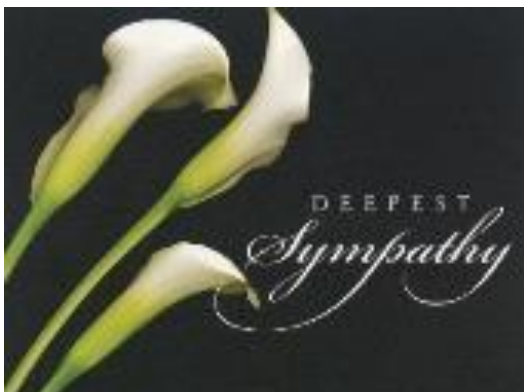
If you would like to participate in Lobby Days or get more involved in the public policy focus of AAUW, please consider joining our branch public policy committee. You can also tune in to the AAUW CA peer group meeting about public policy on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. using this [Zoom link](#).

As we wrap up Thanksgiving and move into the rest of the Holiday Season, I am especially grateful for the AAUW Redlands board who works to make AAUW Redlands branch such a successful endeavor. Our Holiday Boutique raised about \$2000 for the Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarships. The first weekend in December, members will serve at the YMCA Holiday Home Tour which benefits YMCA Legal Aid. STEM is working on both Conferences for 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls, January 9<sup>th</sup> and March 4<sup>th</sup>. Our Fundraising committee is preparing FilmFest on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Speech Trek is planning its final competition. The Archive Group is finding lots of interesting stories about our branch. All of these groups are ready to welcome new members. If you are having trouble finding a way to contribute to AAUW, give me a call and I can help you find your fit!

Happy Holidays!

Heather Abushanab, President  
AAUW Redlands Branch

### Member News



In sympathy and friendship, we send our condolences to both Jo Cavadon and Joyce Katkov on the loss of their brothers.

### Helen Webb

1936-2024



Helen was a 25 year member of AAUW (1997-2022), She was chair of the Reading and the Rainbow for 4 years, participated in I Am, therefore I Think, and was an ardent supporter of the ERA. She passed away in Redlands on October 15, 2024.

<https://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/obituaries/helen-l-webb-redlands-ca/>

### Hospitality Birthday Club

A special Happy Birthday to our December ladies:



Loree Argabright  
Jenna Guzman-Lowery  
Deborah Lewin  
Nerni Miller  
Marie Mitchell  
Julie Mueller  
Dorothy Nordquist  
Eileen Sanborn  
Erin Sanborn

Louise Schumann  
Simone St. Pierre Nelson  
Cathy Van Berkem  
Sarah VanTassel  
Kipi Wilson-Lee  
Jocelyn Yow

~Joyce Katkov & Keller Iuppenlatz  
Co-Hospitality VP



If there is someone in our AAUW Redlands branch who would benefit from a sympathy, get well, or similar type greeting card, please contact me at the email below and I will send a card on behalf of all of us at AAUW.

~Joyce Katkov, Hospitality VP



## AAUW Community Engagement

### YMCA Holiday Pantry Bakeshop - Call for Bakers

Another way AAUW can support the YMCA's Legal Aid Program is by baking homemade treats for their Holiday Pantry. The Y is seeking volunteers who can donate 4 dozen or more baked goods (or an equivalent amount). For more information on drop-off times and how to register, please visit <https://ymcahometour.org/pantry>.



### Membership – Jan Negron

VP Membership is a lot of work! But do you know what it also is? It is pure joy! Each month, we have had a group of fantastic women join our branch and I have the privilege of reading their applications. They are an incredibly accomplished group of women! I am a bit awestruck.



Please make an effort to get to know our new members, you will not be disappointed! Also, I want to thank Carol Kennedy for taking care of our membership renewals and Marion Golson for managing of our branch member database. It is greatly appreciated.

### New Member Hospitality Table

We welcome you and look forward to getting to know you! If you plan on attending a branch meeting and don't already have an acquaintance or friend to sit with, we would love for you to join us at the Hospitality table which will be labeled for your convenience.

Our greeters will also be able to direct you to the table location. We look forward to seeing you!  
~Joyce Katkov & Jan Negron  
Hospitality VP Membership VP

## AAUW Community Engagement



### YMCA Holiday Home Tour 2024 Volunteers

Once again, AAUW will be hosting a home for the annual YMCA Holiday Home Tour on Sunday, December 8th. If you'd like to volunteer or learn more about the event, please contact us via email or text.

~YMCA Home Tour Chairs:  
Ann Leonard & Linda Browning



### for 2025 – 2026 AAUW Redlands Offices

New officers will be needed for the Redlands Branch AAUW starting in July 2025. The following positions will need to be filled: **President Elect, Treasurer, Communications Vice President, Hospitality Vice President, Program Vice President, 3 Board Members At Large and 3 persons for the Nominating Committee.**

Being an active participant in our dynamic organization is very rewarding. If you are interested in any of these positions or know of someone who you think may be suited for one of them, please contact any of the following Nominating Committee: Ginny Evans-Perry, Dorothy Nordquist, Martha Lehman, Margee Fuller, Barbara Simmons, Sally Trost or Marilyn Shankar.



### National and Branch dues are FULLY tax deductible

- National dues (\$72) + Branch dues (\$31) for a **total of \$103**
- New members who joined with the Shape the Future discount, national dues (\$36) + Branch dues (\$31) for a **total of \$67**



## Holiday Boutique

Thank you to all who donated items for the November 4th Holiday Boutique and to those who shopped and made monetary donations. And a huge thank you to Patricia Stubbs and the entire Holiday Boutique support team: coordinators, table set-up/break-down folks, payment handlers, and the *Sew What!* committee. You really outdid yourselves this year, with a well-run event that raised enough money to support several Nancy Yowell Scholarships in Spring.

*~Keita Wangari, NYMS Committee Chair*

Special thanks to the following women for contributing to the sale and helping run and organize it: Ann Leonard, Linda Browning, Susan Shodahl, Marilyn Shankar, Patricia Stubbs, Judy Adams, Lisa McCarty, Margee Fuller, Pat Belk, Susan Miller, Erica Wilson, Monica Harwood, Sheron Bealer, Patty Ahearn, Keita Wangari, Marion Golson, Pam Ford, Carolyn Kennedy, Lori Powell, and Dorothy Nordquist.

I hope I haven't missed anyone. It's a wonderful group effort.

*~Tricia Stubbs*

## Boutique Items for Sale

*Sew What!* has a few special edition and Christmas pillows left over from the boutique that may be purchased by contacting Lisa McCarty at lamccarty@verizon.net. Remember that all purchases go towards the Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarship, so it's for a great cause!



## Welcome New members

**Korine Bronson** CSU San Bernardino, MA  
Korine has been in Hemet since 1960. She enjoys reading and currently belongs to a book club. She also plays bridge and likes to entertain. Korine states that she likes AAUW because they help women feel important.

**Julie Byers** Humboldt State University, BA  
Julie has been married for 37 years and her two daughters, ages 30 and 37, were born and raised in Redlands. Julie recently retired from the University of Redlands' Office of Community Service Learning.

She enjoys reading, hiking, E-biking, wine tasting, traveling and going to the beach. Julie has been involved in a number of community service organizations including Kimberly Juniors, The Associates of the Redlands Bowl, Board member of Town and Gown, and currently a board member of Kimberly Crest. Julie joined AAUW to meet other women and continue learning, growing and serving her community.

**Maria Carrillo Colato** UC Riverside, MA, PhD  
Maria is a Special Collections Manager in the Division of Special Collections of A. K. Smiley Public Library. She is a life-long history enthusiast and has been fortunate to work in the field of public history for nearly 20 years.

Maria's hobbies include cycling, hiking, and watching movies, but most of all she enjoys traveling. Maria holds a Master of Arts in History with an emphasis on Public History, and she is on the cusp of earning a doctorate in history focusing on Southern California during the Civil War. Maria has had the privilege of speaking to the Redlands branch of AAUW in the past, and has been interested in becoming a member ever since.

**Marilee Rendulich** Pennsylvania State BS  
CSU San Bernardino MBA  
Marilee was raised in Western Pennsylvania. After graduating from Penn State, she traveled west to Colorado then to various parts of California. Marilee has been living locally here for more than 45 years. Her career was in commercial appraising and she retired from the County of San Bernardino in March 2020 having worked there for nearly 25 years. As a

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## Giving Tuesday is December 3<sup>rd</sup>: Please Donate to AAUW Redlands

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. And at AAUW Redlands that's exactly what we do; we transform our local community.

We give over 900 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls the dream to attend college. Over a dozen 7<sup>th</sup> grade scientists are created when they attend Tech Trek. Women who never thought they could finish college again believe. And we create women leaders who will keep chipping away for equity. All these moments of magic are fueled by the engine that runs our Redlands branch. Your Giving Tuesday donation is a core catalyst for our branch activism.



To further our cause, simply [click here](#) to donate. Or go to our AAUW Redlands website at <https://redlands-ca.aauw.net/> and on the right side of the page, you'll find our Giving

Tuesday [Donate](#) button. Checks can be mailed to AAUW Redlands, P.O. Box 7678, Redlands, CA 92375-0678 by indicating Giving Tuesday on the memo line. All donations are tax deductible.

Giving Tuesday is December 3, but you can donate any day toward this year's efforts. Every donation powers our efforts to advance equity through education, empowerment and advocacy. Thank you for giving.



## Speech Trek Contest

Our Redlands AAUW Speech Trek for 2024-2025 will be on January 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. It will take place in the Weeks Hall at the First United Methodist Church. The address is 1 E. Olive Ave. in Redlands. A flyer is attached to the newsletter.

The topic this year is "Explore one aspect of the effect that climate change is having on women in the USA and around the world."

~Patty Ahearn, Speech Trek Chair

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*Welcome* New members

### Marilee Rendulich ~continued

retiree, Marilee spends time golfing doing activities with friends, traveling internationally, reading, and volunteering at a couple local non-profits.

**Joan Roberts** University of Redlands BA, MS  
UC Riverside Ph.D

Joan was born and raised in Riverside. She has owned and operated Visiting Angels of Riverside County since 2004. Prior to this, Joan was a public-school administrator, an assistant professor at the U of R and a speech pathologist.

She has served long term on several non-profit boards in her community including the American Heart Association and was honored as a Woman of the Heart. In 2012, Joan graduated from the Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce Leadership Riverside Program and was honored by the Riverside YWCA as a Woman of Achievement and the 61<sup>st</sup> Assembly District as a Woman of Distinction. She is a long-time member of the Victoria Club in Riverside and an avid golfer.

### Tracy Wise

Washington University, St. Louis, MO BA  
University of East London, UK, MA

After an international childhood lived throughout Asia because of her father's non-profit aid work, Tracy has spent her career in theater, opera, and then higher education administration. She currently writes university presidential speeches, campus communications, and news stories for Cal State San Bernardino as a retired annuitant. She also does freelance writing, specializing in higher education and non-profits.

Tracy holds a BA in Theater and Spanish from Washington University in St. Louis, which includes a year at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, UK. She also holds an MA in Cultural Studies, a historiography degree, from the University of East London in the UK.

Tracy's first novel, *Madame Sorel's Novel*, will be published by Type Eighteen Books in February 2025. A life-long enthusiastic reader, Tracy designs social media for the Friends of her local Redlands A.K. Smiley Public Library in her free time, and is also active in the local community regarding social justice issues.



## Named Gift Honoree

Every year the AAUW Redlands branch honors members who have done outstanding work in supporting the programs and goals of AAUW Redlands. Being selected as a Named Gift Honoree is a special way to pay tribute to a branch member who has given extraordinary service to AAUW. The Branch contributes \$750 to the AAUW Fund in the name of each Named Gift Honoree.

*Past AAUW Redlands Named Gift Honorees are listed in our yearbook on pages 20-23.*



## Calling All Past Named Gift Honorees

It is time again to select women who have worked diligently for our branch and been a member for at least five years.

Previous winners of this award can offer suggestions about who might be eligible. This can be done at an in-person meeting on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at Marilyn Shankar's home at 734 Serpentine Dr. in Redlands. Or you can text your suggestions to email your choices to Marilyn Shankar.

*~Mary Lou Guerrero  
AAUW Fund Co-Chair*



## A SUCCESSFUL 2024 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Thanks to the many AAUW members who participated in Lobby Days, to those who called or wrote to their legislators and the Governor through our Action Alert Network, and thanks in no small part to the tireless efforts of Kathy Van Osten, our Legislative Advocate, 29 of the 41 bills on our Legislative Agenda made it to the Governor's desk, and 25 of them have been signed into law! This represents an 86.2% success rate!

*To read the November 2024 issue of the AAUW California Public Policy Newsletter please click [View in browser.](#)*

## Calling all STEMInists!

The STEM Conferences and Tech Trek will be here before you know it, and we need your help. Each year, funds are raised in two ways:

Private donations – If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in supporting our students, please visit our website (<https://redlands-ca.aauw.net/online-payments/>) and look for the Adopt a STEM Girl Today donation button. All donations are tax deductible.

Grants and Business Support – We also receive grant support from local foundations and businesses. If you know of an organization or employer who might be interested in supporting out STEM Initiatives, please reach out to one of us. Thank you!

*~Meena Spangrud  
~Kate Pretorius*



## STEM Conference for 8th Grade Girls at Mt San Jacinto College

The January 9th STEM Conference for 8th grade girls will be here before you know it! This year the conference at Mt San Jacinto College in San Jacinto (MSJC) will host girls from Banning and Hemet public schools.

The workshops will be held in the brand new 3-story STEM building on campus. We need happy volunteers to guide the girls through their day and hosts to assist in each workshop.

Volunteers benefit from the full day of middle school Energy, as well as a lunch in the college's Cafe. Come help us out. Carpooling expected!

*Contact Patty Ahearn, Linda Browning, Pam Ford or Betsy Grimes.*



*~Patty Ahearn, Linda Browning, Pam Ford,  
Betsy Grimes*

## Nancy Yowell Memorial



### Application Window is Now Open

The new 2024-2025 NYMS application is available for download from our website. <https://redlands-ca.aauw.net/projects/scholarships-2/> This scholarship is really a hidden gem of an opportunity for local college women, of any age, who are returning to school after an interruption and could use the financial support. Applicants should reside in the Redlands branch area and be currently enrolled in an Associate's, Bachelor's, or post-graduate degree program. The application can be filled in online, saved, and submitted by email along with the short essay, recommendation letters, and transcripts. **Help us spread the word so we can reach more local women who might qualify!** If you're able to take some flyers to the financial aid office of a local college or would like a flyer to post at your place of employment, please print the flyer enclosed with this newsletter or contact me. Also, please follow our AAUW-Redlands branch page on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn and when you see us posting about the scholarship, please re-share with your followers. And, of course, we can always use help evaluating applications in the Spring.

*Keita Wangari, NYMS Chair*



### From the Archives Committee...

The annual yearbook (that invaluable little member directory we receive each year) is a treasure trove of information for those of us working on organizing our Branch's history. While we'd like to have a complete set, that's unlikely. Our Branch is, after all, 77 years old. If you happen to have a yearbook from one of the following years and are willing to donate it to the Branch archives, please reach out to Kate Pretorius or Sheron Bealer.

Thank you!

**Yearbooks: 1971-72, 1978-84, 1987-93, 1995-98**

## Living Well Opportunity Basket: January Branch Meeting

We're excited for our January branch meeting speaker! Peggy Lanum is the



owner of Better Working Together, a business consulting and executive coaching practice that provides organizations with research and training to facilitate teamwork, creativity, and leadership. Peggy will speak to "Living Well - The Science Behind a Well-Lived Life."

To support this event, we're pulling together items for inclusion in a Wellness opportunity basket that we'll raffle off at the January branch meeting. A gift certificate you've received, but you'll not use? Spa items? A health-related cookbook? If you have unused wellness-related items to contribute to this basket, please contact Amy Bisek.

## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Racial Justice

We are ditching Zoom!

Our Racial Justice discussion group started in response to events like the killing of George Floyd and massive Black Lives Matter protests. We sought to deepen our understanding of racism by studying books and videos, etc., on the history of enslavement and struggles against racism and hate, the social psychology of prejudice, and the experience of race and ethnic prejudice. Later, we expanded to playing a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion ("DEI") role in AAUW.

But the pandemic meant we relied on Zoom for discussions of the readings and videos we studied.

But in November we met in person and decided to say good-bye to Zoom. Perhaps we'll try hybrid sometimes, but for now, our meetings will be in person at a home. With food. The meetings will start 6 p.m. Next one is Dec. 12.

If you'd like to join us, contact Erica Wilson to get on the mailing list, for information on location, any changes to times or dates, and what we are planning to discuss.





# AAUW Community Engagement

## Largest Audience Yet for AAUW Candidate Forums



On October 10, AAUW Redlands' city council candidate forum drew the largest audience yet, more than 125 people, of the five forums it has offered to the public over the past six years. It was held in the Casa Loma Room at the University of Redlands.

Redlands City Council District 2 candidates Jennifer Maravillas and Eddie Tejada, and District 4 candidates Jenna Guzman-Lowery and Marc Shaw, answered questions from a panel of moderators and the audience. (District 4 candidate Jesus Cisneros emailed shortly before the event that he would not attend because his family was recovering from Covid.)

Questions included what the city should do to address the homelessness crisis, how to address the need for more affordable housing and whether or not more warehouses should be built in Redlands.

The panel of moderators included U of R Public Policy Program director Dr. Renee Van Vechten, and U of R professor emerita of economics, Dr. Dorene Isenberg, and AAUW Redlands Public Policy Committee chair Cassie MacDuff.

Past president Sheron Bealer served as emcee; past president Patty Ahearn served as timer, assisted by Toastmasters expert Suzanne Leonard; and Kathryn Brown staffed the Q&A table to collect audience questions on 3x5 cards, assisted by Kay Dobbertin.

Kay also printed the nameplates to identify the candidates on the dais, and Sheron gathered the AAUW logo banner, table cloth and signs to post to display identifying our branch as the sponsor of the debate, along with the university.

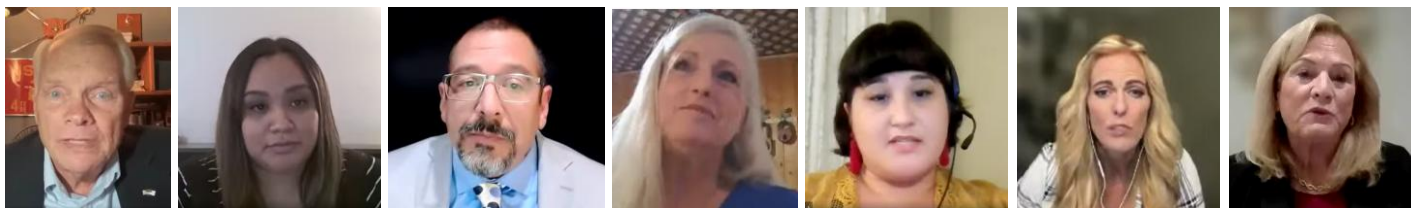
A special thank you this evening to Keita Wangari, who handled social media. Without her work, we would not have attracted as many members of the Redlands community as we did.

Many thanks to Dr. Van Vechten and the university for securing the room and providing it for free, so the public could attend without charge.

*~Cassie MacDuff, Public Policy Chair*



On October 23, the Public Policy Committee's forum for school board candidates was held on Zoom with over 140 viewing the forum. The Area 3 candidates were Lawrence Paul Hebron and Melissa Ayala-Quintero, Area 4 candidates were Alex Vara and Jeannette Wilson and Area 5 candidates were Valerie Taber, Candy Olson and Carolyn Williams.



***The AAUW Redlands branch thanks Cassie MacDuff (AAUW Redlands Public Policy Chair) and University of Redlands faculty members Rene VanVechten and Dorie Isenburg for spearheading the event planning and posing questions to the candidates.***



## BRIDGE SCRAMBLE NEWS

On Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 36 bridge-savvy AAUW Redlands members, friends and partners joined with member volunteers for a Bridge Scramble event benefiting our Mission Fund. Players enjoyed five (25-30 minute) rounds of card play (taking breaks to snack and shop at the bake sale), followed by lunch and the Prize Awards. The two top awards for skill were won by Cindy Perkins and Mary Hylkama, who scored over 7000 points. Their prizes were sets of cards in hand-carved cases along with Trader Joe's gift certificates. Other lucky winners were drawn from entries by all players for the 10 raffle prizes. Lunch was festive and delicious: chicken salad sandwiches, along with a cheese and tomato brochette, carrot and orange Jello salad, brie/cranberry tartlets and cookies. The menu, created and prepared by Mary Lou Guerrero and Kathryn Brown, was served by Susan Bentley, Krista Moreno, and Susan Shodahl. Mary Lou also headed up the bake sale (featuring goodies donated by many), assisted by Marilyn Shankar.

Louise Schumann very skillfully coordinated all the bridge activities. Louise also, along with Kathryn, donated and attractively arranged many of the prizes and decor. Heather Abushanab, Linda Rowland and Amy Bisek rounded out the event team, pitching in with the rest of the committee to help with planning, décor, set up and cleanup.

It was not only a fun event for both the players and participants, but lucrative--so much so that we have scheduled it again for next year on Wednesday October 22, 2025. It will be held once again in the First Methodist Church of Redlands' beautiful Dike Chapel. Save the date to play or volunteer!

THANK YOU  
♥ FOR YOUR ♥  
SUPPORT

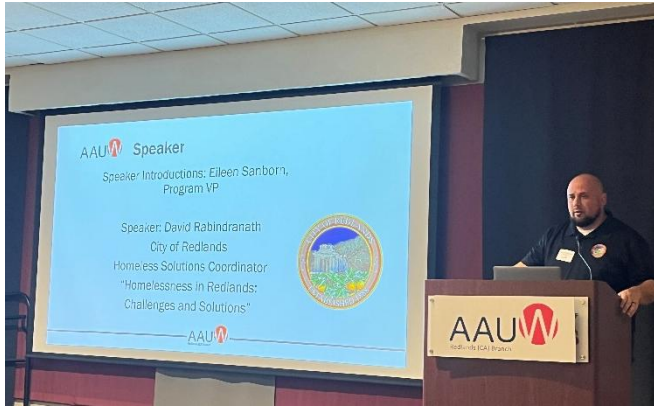




David Rabindranath, City of Redlands homeless solutions coordinator. David and Tess Bertani, Homelessness Outreach Coordinator, ran out of the resource books. The link for the resource app is [Homeless Resources v.1](#)

## November Branch Meeting

November birthdays:  
Meena Sprangrud, Jane Hooper, Shelley Bodnar, Marilyn Shankar, Donita Remington, Allison Rodriguez, Heidi Taber



### November 2, 2024 Branch Meeting Recap

What a great meeting we had! I hope you didn't miss it, but if you did, here's what happened. The holiday boutique was full of creations for sale from baked goods to sewn items, and jewelry. Raffle tickets for Nelda Stuck's quilt, which was on display, were for sale. Keita Wangari encouraged members to buy items to support scholarships so girls could receive the Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarships (NYMS).

An "Archive Moment" is a new addition to the branch meeting which tells about AAUW Redlands' history. Today's was about the name of the NYMS came about.

Our speaker, David Rabindranath informed the members about "Homelessness in Redlands". He presented interesting information and facts and answered audience questions.

(For details of the meeting, please see the attached minutes that accompany this email).

*~Nan Neighbours*









## Hiking Our Hills and Mountains

In October, our Hiking Group walked in Prospect Park. We meet on the 4th Saturday of every month, September through June (weather permitting). We will alternate exploring Redlands with beginner friendly walks with more challenging trail hikes in our local area. Friends, family and dogs on leash are welcome. Contact Donita Remington to be added to our email list. We look forward to hiking with you. Alison & Donita



*Lori Powell, Maria Rossi, Laurie Smith, Stephanie Harlan, Susan Shodahl, Ellen Weiss, Sheron Bealor, Chris Clautice, Pam Ford, Susan Bangasser, Veronica Dixon, Carol Sousa, Ginny Evans-Perry, Mercedes Gifford, Patty(guest), Jane Weldon, Chris Smith, Tricia Rogers, Alison Rodriguez (sitting) and Donita Remington (photographer)*



Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful Holiday and a Happy New Year.

### Branch Officers:

**President:** Heather Abushanab, **Co-Vice Presidents-Elect:** Amy Bisek & Kathryn Brown, **Communication Vice President:** Keita Wangari, **Co-Hospitality Vice Presidents:** Joyce Katkov & Keller Iuppenlatz, **Program Vice President:** Eileen Sanborn, **Membership Vice President:** Jan Negron, **Secretary:** Nan Neighbours, **Treasurer:** Sue Ferguson, **At-Large Board Members:** Twillea Evans-Carthen, Lisa McCarty, Ellen Timothy

### B&T Submission:

The deadline for the **January newsletter** is **December 10th**. Send your articles to the editor via email to [news@AAUWRedlands.org](mailto:news@AAUWRedlands.org)