



# BRANCHING OUT



**March 2020**

## **MARCH 7, 2020 MEETING**

In collaboration with the Penobscot Chapter of AAUW we are pleased to present *Supporting Diverse Women's Life Experiences*. This is a panel and discussion forum inviting conversations about the often invisible needs of women in our community and how we can support one another's life experiences.

### **Agenda**

- 10:00 - 10:05 Introductions
- 10:05 - 10:30 Paige Mitchell - UMaine Faculty in English, Director of Writing Center and Ph.D. student - *Dolls to Divas, women and self actualization*
- 10:30 - 10:55 Cheryl Golek - Co-founder of The Vicarage, Dementia Care Specialist
- 10:55 - 11:00 Break
- 11:00 - 11:25 Catalinha Piedrahita, M. D. - Preble Street Anti-Trafficking Services
- 11:25 - 11:35 Question and Answer session
- 11:40 - 11:55 Small group sharing and discussion
- 11:55 - 12:00 Wrap up and close

The meeting will be from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, March 7, 2020, at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, University of Maine, Orono. Hope you can come. Please bring your friends. For more information call Andrea Mercado at 954-461-8371 or email her at [andrea.mercado@maine.edu](mailto:andrea.mercado@maine.edu).

Up to date directions to Margaret Chase Smith Center, 715 Colburn Dr # 15, Orono, ME 04469 are found here: <https://mcspolicycenter.umaine.edu/about-us/contact-mcspc/> Scroll down. Triad: Andrea Mercado, Mary Cathcart, Susan Landry, Judi Coburn-Harris

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

**Friday-Saturday, May 1-2, 2020: AAUW State Convention will be held in Waterville.** The theme is "Women's Economic Security." (See more information at the end of this newsletter.)

### **Penobscot Valley Branch Annual Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020: Dinner, 6pm, Dirigo Pines:** We will invite the scholarship winners to speak.

## **PIZZA AND POLITICS**

Join us for a night of pizza, discussions, and fun at 5:30 at Pat's. Future dates are: Thurs.

Mar. 19

Thurs. April 16

Thurs. May 21

**AAUW-MARGE ERHARDT SCHOLSHIP WINNER 2019** Melba Wallace, scholarship committee

Katie King is attending Bowdoin to pursue a pre-law degree with a concentration in International Law. She is very appreciative and honored to have received our Scholarship.

**FUNDRAISER** Fran Haines, treasurer

Our scholarship fund so far totals \$1615 thanks to very generous contributions of members!!. As you know, the support of this fund is important part of our mission. Thank you to those have donated.

Also, don't forget to take your deposit bottles and cans to Burby and Bates in Orono. Let them know to deposit the refunds into the Penobscot Valley Branch account.

We are discussing having a garage sale in June this year. If you still have things from our last year's cancelled sale, save them and we'll let you know details later.

### **MARYANNE HARTMAN AWARD CEREMONY**

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 5:30 pm University of Maine Buchanan Alumni House

Sharon Barker, a very active past member, is receiving this well deserved award. Check your past email from Susan D'Angelo with more information and an invitation to this event.

### **2020 MAINE ELECTION INFORMATION** from League of Women Voters of Maine

Check out <https://www.vote411.org/maine> for voter information including dates of upcoming primaries and what's on the ballot in your town. Don't forget to vote!!

### **AAUW FUNDS – Andrea Mercado**

One of the tried and true ways we have generated funds in the past is through our raffles at our annual convention. Therefore, the AAUW Funds Chair encourages members and their networks to donate gently used or newly purchased books to the branch for the raffle baskets. Please contact [andrea.mercado@maine.edu](mailto:andrea.mercado@maine.edu) if you have books, or any other items, to donate for our raffle baskets. Also, consider donating gift cards for Amazon, Barnes and Noble or any other retailers you feel would be welcomed to include in our basket bundles.

Further, if you have connections or contacts at local or regional or corporate entities that you feel might be willing to donate anything to those baskets, pass on the information to our AAUW Funds Chair. If you can offer the connection, she can reach out to inquire about possible donations.

### **SAVE THE DATE: CONVENTION UPDATES** Andrea Mercado

**Friday, Saturday May, 1,2. 2020.** Save the date for our annual convention! The theme this year is Public

Policy and Education: Championing Equal Access. We will meet Friday for a reception in Waterville (location TBD). Our meeting on Saturday will be at Educare of Central Maine, in Waterville. Further updates will be determined at the next State Executive Leadership meeting in mid-March. Please consider donating items for our Penobscot Branch Funds Raffle at the end of the day.

If you have any potential candidates who might be interested in joining the branch, the convention is a great opportunity to engage them in what we do. Please reach out to Andrea Mercado so we can send them a personalized invitation to convention and any future programming events.