



# PINELINES



## The Monthly Newsletter of the AAUW - Medford Area Branch

[www.aauwmedfordnj.com](http://www.aauwmedfordnj.com)

### AAUW's Mission

*Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research*

## President's Message

It's hard to believe that spring is here, especially since the weather hasn't caught up yet! But those green shoots and yellow crocuses are solid proof.

While welcoming a number of new members this year, we bid a fond farewell to Kitty Hartshorne, who moved to Delaware recently. We thank her for all her generous help to the branch and wish her well in her lovely new community.

There's a lot happening in and around our branch right now. In addition to the regular monthly meeting and the Lit Group gathering, we also have our book and author brunch coming up soon, and the scholarship committee is gearing up to pore over this year's applications.

We've got just a few weeks now to get in those reservations for the mimosa brunch at Medford Leas on April 30. The reservation form is again attached to the newsletter, so please submit and be counted. It's shaping up to be a great time.

Lynne and Dian have also lined up plans for our May dinner. Something different: a catered dinner at Cranberry Hall! We'll have plenty of room to see and talk to one another, present our scholarship award, and enjoy a delectable menu.

On a more somber note, public budget crunching is threatening a number of areas important to women and girls. See the Public Policy piece.

I hope to see everyone at Cranberry Hall on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mary Ann Brookes

## Mark Your Calendar

**Tuesday, April 12, 7:30**

**"Green Purchasing"** Speaker: Dr. Kevin Lyons, Rutgers University  
Cranberry Hall, Medford

**Tuesday, April 19, 7:30 pm**

**Lit Group** – *The House at Riverton*, by Kate Morton  
Home of Sylvia Somers

**Saturday, April 30, 11:30 am**

**Medford Branch Book & Author Brunch**  
*Lights Out In Paradise* by Paul Salvo  
Medford Leas, Medford

**Save the Date: Scholarship Dinner, May 10, 7 PM at Cranberry Hall** (details under Programs)

## Occasions

*If you know of a member who is celebrating an event or needs words of encouragement, or a word of thanks, please let Mary Ann or Tricia know so we can send a note or card.*

Also, we'd like to include everyone on our birthday list, so please drop a note to either of us.

### Birthday greetings

Please join me this month in sending birthday wishes to Rose Mary Bland, who will be celebrating on April 23!



*Thanks to all for your kind notes and cards in remembrance of my mother. Your care and concern means a great deal to both me and my family.*

Tricia Reace

## Lit Group

We decided it was about time for a good old fashioned novel - so this month the book selection is *The House at Riverton*, by Kate Morton. Told as a flashback by 99-year old Grace Bradley, a former maid at the Riverton Manor, this modern Gothic mystery is set in the years before and after WWI. The plot revolves around the presumed suicide of a close friend of the privileged Ashbury family, a famous young poet.

Sylvia Somers has graciously offered to host the meeting on Tuesday, April 19th at 7:30 pm. Please call her to RSVP or for directions to her home.

*Bea Chawla and Rose Mary Bland*

## Programs

In keeping with honoring our earth, our April program will feature Dr. Kevin Lyons, Rutgers University professor, who will speak to us about his "green" research projects at home & abroad, the procurement process for the University, how he gets the message out to students and the greater community, and strategies we can use as green consumers and bearers of the message to others.

Kevin Lyons, Ph.D., is the director of purchasing at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and is a research professor in supply chain environmental management and archeology at Rutgers. He is responsible for all procurement and contracting for the institution and also conducts research on developing and integrating global environmental, social, economic, ethical criteria and data into supply chain/procurement systems and processes. His work includes environmentally preferable products and services research, designing and implementing local, national and international environmental economic development systems, waste-to-energy systems, and environmental and sustainable social policy and financial impact forecasting.

Please join us for a very informative presentation.

*Lynne & Dian*

## Annual Installation Dinner

**Save the Date: May 10, 7 PM at Cranberry Hall**

### Catered by Zallies Fresh Kitchen

*Stuffed Mushrooms, Mini Beef Wellington, Toasted Baguettes with a variety of spreads, Salad and Artesian rolls, Chicken Marsala, Baked Ziti, Grilled Vegetables with Balsamic glaze on the side, Dolci Italiano assorted pastries, brownie tray, and sheet cake*

Please mail \$25 per person by May 2 to June Ramondetta, Treasurer, 119 Bracken Road, Medford. NJ 08055

## Scholarship & Fundraising

*It's not too late!* There are still tickets available for our Book and Author Brunch at Medford Leas on April 30th. Send your request and \$30 check to June Ramondetta. Deadline for her to receive them is April 23rd. This event will support our scholarships.

We have two more interesting fund-raising opportunities coming up. We will be setting up a web portal. For those of you who are not Internet-savvy, this is a web site which should be the starting place for your Internet shopping. From it you will be able to shop at the web sites of hundreds of your favorite stores - Target, Macy's, the Gap and many, many more. Each dollar you spend shopping at those store web sites will earn a bit of cash for the Branch. And as the shopper you can earn cash back bonuses for yourselves. Much more information will be forthcoming on this, so be ready.

The second item is an opportunity for you to advertise your own business or service in our newsletter. The simplest (and least expensive) ad can be a copy of your business card at \$5. Larger ads will be more expensive. These ads will also be available to non-members but the pricing will not be discounted as for members. Chances are that many of our members are not aware of the businesses that other members have. Here is your chance to let them know!

*Mary Strickler*

## Membership

The 2010 - 2011 AAUW year has been an exceptional season for welcoming new and prospective members! Thanks to an interesting program entitled, "Assignment Havana," presented in February by our own Margaret Riccardelli, we had 5 guests! Marilyn Zonis, Lorraine Rocco, Joan Slavin, Julie Erickson, and Shirley Garth. We were also delighted to see Evelyn Goldner who we have missed these last few months.

Most of these ladies have been contacted by e-mail or letter and have been invited to attend our next general meeting and asked to consider membership in our branch. I am delighted to announce that **Lorraine Rocco**, and **Joan Slavin** have decided to join our branch! Along with our new members from Fall, 2010 -- **Fran Hahn**, **Linda Mattoon**, **Helen O'Neill**, **Ruth Schneider**, **Sylvia Teahan**, and **Cathy Wilson** -- that brings the total of new members for this season to 8!! I hope you will join me in making all these new members, and new friends feel welcome.

Sadly, I also must announce that long time member, **Kitty Harsthorn**, has moved to Delaware. Kitty was an integral part of our branch and gave so much of her time to the group. Her presence will be sorely missed, especially by those of us who worked closely with her on the Scholarship Committee.

Though it is often our AAUW mission and branch programs which are the carrot on the stick, it is ultimately our branch members themselves and the congeniality among us which entices prospective members to join. If you know of someone who is eligible to become a member, please invite them to one of our meetings or activities and introduce them to our group. More members mean more unique personalities, more talents, more ideas, more sharing of information, and more potential friendships. Let's continue to keep our membership strong and growing! Thank you for all you do for your branch!

*Sylvia Somers*

## ~ In the Spotlight ~

Soon you will all be meeting **Joan Slavin**, a recent guest who has decided to join our branch! A Medford Lakes resident, Joan has had a lengthy and fascinating career in the arts scene. After earning her degree in Communications with minors in English and Education from Marquette University in Milwaukee, and completing graduate study in Public Relations at Rowan, Joan had an impressive 25-year career and accompanying résumé from high-level posts held in well-known theater venues: Marketing & Public Relations Director for the Appel Farm Arts and Music Center in Elmer; Marketing Director of the Hollybush Festival at Rowan University; Executive Director of the Perkins Center in Moorestown; Marketing Director for Philadelphia's Arden Theater and the George St. Theater in New Brunswick.

Ever the student, Joan is currently studying art history at BCC and acting in New York. She has already performed in ("break a leg", Joan!), as well as produced, many Off Broadway plays. Though you may wonder where she finds the time, Joan is now involved in a major production project close to her heart -- a play based on letters written by her mother and father to each other during World War II. This play will be staged at the **Edinburgh Fringe Festival** in Summer, 2011. This major accomplishment is surely to be followed by another: Joan is now collaborating on a companion play with the author of "Extremities", William Mastrosimone, which she hopes will be shown at the **Spoletto Festival** in Spring, 2012. AAUW now has our own playwright!!

Joan and her husband, Professor Patrick Slavin, have 3 sons and 3 granddaughters. Her 92-year old Mother is a resident at CareOne in Evesham. While many of us just dream about visiting or revisiting Italy, Joan and her husband own a home there which they visit every Summer.

We are very lucky to have Joan as a new member. Please take a moment to join me in welcoming Joan to our branch!!

*Sylvia Somers*

## Public Policy

### The Impact of House Republicans' Budget Proposal on Women and Families

The National Women's Law Center recently released state-by-state reports detailing the impact House Republicans' budget proposal, if passed, would have on women and families. Among the statistics provided for each state, the report indicated the number of children who could lose essential Head Start and child care programs, the number of students who may not have the ability to continue funding their education, and the number of men and women who will lose access to indispensable health services. The report emphasized the impact of these cuts on girls, women, and families. The factsheets also made an apt comparison between the cost of saving these vital services and the cost of tax breaks for corporations and wealthy Americans provided for in H.R.1.

Here are the statistics that House of Representative bill #1 (H.R.1) would have on residents in NJ:

### GOP Spending Plan Slashes Services for Thousands of New Jersey Women and Families, Handouts for Millionaires and Corporate Special Interests Untouched

H.R. 1, the House Republicans' spending plan for the rest of fiscal year 2011, slashes funding for services vital to women and girls at every stage of their lives, while more costly tax breaks for millionaires and corporate special interests are untouched. For example, under H.R. 1:

- More than 7,710 New Jersey children could lose Head Start and child care, depriving them of early learning support and their parents of the child care assistance they need to work.<sup>1</sup>
- 183,000 New Jersey students, mostly women, could find college less affordable, because Pell grants would be cut by up to \$845 (\$631 on average).<sup>2</sup>
- 126,900 New Jersey women and 9,460 New Jersey men could lose comprehensive family planning and related preventive health services provided by the Title X Family Planning program, which H.R. 1 would completely eliminate.<sup>3</sup> In addition, H.R. 1 would eliminate all federal funding for Planned Parenthood health centers.

- 16,600 New Jersey workers – women, men, and young people – could lose job training opportunities provided by Title I of the Workforce Investment Act, which H.R. 1 would completely eliminate, along with cuts to other job training programs.<sup>4</sup> Job training is especially important to women because they are concentrated in low-wage, low-security jobs with little opportunity for growth
- 12,670 New Jersey applicants for Social Security benefits – retired and disabled workers, widows, and children – could face delays because inadequate funding for Social Security operations will force layoffs or furloughs for workers needed to process new applications.<sup>5</sup> Nationally, a majority of new adult beneficiaries are women.<sup>6</sup>

### In addition, H.R. 1:

- Halts funding to implement the Affordable Care Act;
- Cuts funding for maternal and child health programs, which serve 500,070 people in New Jersey<sup>7</sup> and nutrition assistance for pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children, affecting 171,060 people in New Jersey<sup>8</sup>;
- Cuts funding for community health centers, housing and energy assistance, and other services for poor and vulnerable people;
- Cuts funding for elementary and secondary education; and
- Cuts funding for food safety inspections, clean water, medical research, tracking and preventing epidemics, and public safety.

While GOP leaders are insisting – under the guise of deficit reduction – on extreme and reckless cuts that will make women's lives more difficult and dangerous, they are protecting tax giveaways to millionaires and corporations.

- **Extend tax breaks for millionaires – or protect services for millions of Americans?** The extension of Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans and additional tax breaks for multimillion dollar estates demanded by GOP leaders will cost \$69.5 billion this year, more than the total \$61 billion in spending cuts in H.R. 1.9
- **Keep the loophole for private investment fund managers – or restore job training?** Eliminating the tax loophole that allows multimillionaire private investment fund managers to pay lower tax rates than ordinary workers

would raise an average \$1.48 billion annually, 10 more than the \$1.4 billion cut from key Workforce Investment Act programs.

• **Give handouts to big oil, gas and coal – or protect Head Start, child care, and Social Security services?** Eliminating tax subsidies for the oil, gas and coal industries would raise an average \$4.6 billion annually, 11 more than the \$2.8 billion needed to protect current Head Start and child care services plus \$1.7 billion to fully fund Social Security offices.

• **Give tax incentives to corporations to shift jobs and profits offshore – or restore funding for education and health care?** International tax reform proposals would raise an average \$12.9 billion annually, 12 more than the combined cuts to Pell grants (\$5.7 billion), schools serving disadvantaged children (\$0.7 billion), Title X family planning (\$0.3 billion), Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (\$0.05 billion), nutrition assistance for Women, Infants and Children (\$0.7 billion), and community health centers (\$1.3 billion).

*1* For Head Start estimates see *Ctr. for Law and Social Policy*, “Projected Reduction in Children Served in Head Start Based on H.R. 1- Fiscal Year 2011 Continuing Resolution” (Feb. 17, 2011), available at [http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/hr1\\_headst\\_art.pdf](http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/hr1_headst_art.pdf), reflecting cuts in H.R. 1 and loss of ARRA funds. For child care estimates see *Ctr. for Law and Social Policy*, “Making the Case for Child Care and Head Start Investments” (Jan. 20, 2011), available at [http://www.clasp.org/resources\\_and\\_publications/publication?id=0856&list=publications](http://www.clasp.org/resources_and_publications/publication?id=0856&list=publications). Child care estimates include only number of children served by ARRA.

*2* James R. Horney, Danilo Trisi & Arloc Sherman, *Ctr. on Budget and Policy Priorities*, “House Bill Means Fewer Children in Head Start, Less Help for Students to Attend College, Less Job Training, and Less Funding for Clean Water” (Mar. 1, 2011), available at <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3405>. This analysis assumes that cuts would be made to every grant, rather than entirely eliminating students from the program.

*3* C.I. Fowler, J. Gable, J. Wang & S.W. Lloyd. *RTI International, Family Planning Annual Report: 2009 National Summary* (November 2010), available at [http://www.hhs.gov/opa/familyplanning/toolsdocs/fpar\\_2009\\_national\\_summary.pdf](http://www.hhs.gov/opa/familyplanning/toolsdocs/fpar_2009_national_summary.pdf).

*4* Horney et al., *supra* note 2. This analysis assumes that states reduce the number of program participants.

*5* *Dem. Staff of the Cmte. on Ways and Means*, “How the GOP CR Would Affect Social Security” (Feb. 17, 2011), available at [http://strengthensocialsecurity.org/sites/default/files/W%26M\\_52STATESAnalysisofCuts.pdf](http://strengthensocialsecurity.org/sites/default/files/W%26M_52STATESAnalysisofCuts.pdf). Estimate does not include cases processed in central processing centers, rather than

local field offices, and some kinds of technical denials. Those cases would also be delayed.

*6* U.S. Social Security Admin., *Annual Statistical Supplement to the Social Security Bulletin, 2010*, Table 6.A3, available at <http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/2010/6a.html#table6.a3>.

*7* Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Dep’t of Health and Human Services, “Title V: A Snapshot of Maternal and Child Health” available at <https://perfddata.hrsa.gov/MCHB/TVISReports/Snapshot/SnapShotMenu.aspx>.

*8* U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, “WIC Program: Total Participation” (Mar. 2, 2011) available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/26wifypart.htm>.

*9* Gillian Brunet & Chuck Marr, *Ctr. on Budget and Policy Priorities*, “Unpacking the Tax Cut-Unemployment Compromise” (Mar. 1, 2011), available at <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3342>.

*10* U.S. Dep’t of the Treasury, *General Explanations of the Administration’s Fiscal Year 2012 Revenue Proposals (“Greenbook”)*, available at <http://www.treas.gov/offices-tax-policy/library/greenbk12.pdf>. Annual averages for the ten year period between 2012 and 2021.

*11* *Ibid.*

*12* *Ibid.*

Lynne Poag

## 2010/11 Executive Board

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Sylvia Somers

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American Association of University Women



AAUW Medford Area Branch presents:

**2011 Book & Author Brunch**  
***Lights Out in Paradise* by Paul Salvo**

**\*\* All ticket proceeds go to college scholarships \*\***

*Lights Out in Paradise* is a coming-of-age novel that is a blend of autobiography and fiction following a young boy moving from Sicily to Bushwick, one of Brooklyn's working-class neighborhoods. The author delivers insightful views into the cultural and ethnic influences and changes experienced by two friends through the 1950's and 60's.

**When:** Saturday, April 30, 2011, 11:30 AM

**Where:** Medford Leas, Route 70, Medford, New Jersey

**Tickets:** \$30 per person (\$15 tax deductible)



[www.aauwmedfordnj.com](http://www.aauwmedfordnj.com)

**\*\*\*\*\* RSVP \*\*\*\*\***

***Yes, I will attend the brunch and meet Paul Salvo.***

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of attendees:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_ (\$30 per person)

*Please make checks payable to: AAUW Medford Area Branch*

**Send with RSVP & check to:** June Ramondetta, 119 Bracken Rd. Medford, NJ 08055

**AAUW-Medford Area Branch  
Membership Roster  
March 2011**

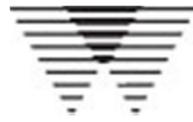


*The **American Association of University Women** promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.*

*The **AAUW Educational Foundation** provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.*

*The **AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund** provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.*



 AAUW



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