

ERIE PRESSIBLE October 2023

New Community College programs and more are subject of Branch's October meeting

AAUW Erie Branch will be holding its October program at Erie County Community College, EC3 Erie West, 2403 W. 8th St.

Dr. Christopher Gray, the Founding President of Erie County Community College of Pennsylvania, will be our presenter on Monday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. He will be providing an overview of Pennsylvania's newest community college as well as updates on its programs and offerings. He will also share a couple of student experiences and how the college's workforce training builds a stronger Erie County.

Dr. Gray is an educator, artist, and community advocate. He has taught speech and theatre in higher education for 20 years and is active in community and regional theatre. He holds a master's degree in theatre and a Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Foundations, with a research area of Theatre Assessment. He is a graduate of, and a firm believer in, the community college.



Dr. Christopher Gray

This will be an open meeting, so invite your friends, neighbors, and family. We look forward to seeing you all on Oct. 9, 7 p.m., at 2403 W. 8th Street. This building used to house Villa Maria Academy. Park in the east side parking lot. The auditorium is accessed through the front doors and following the hallway to the right.

By Sharmin Khundker and Sarah Larson
Program Co-chairs

Erie Gives nets over \$4,000 for scholarships

The results are in! On Saturday Sept. 9, after our first Branch meeting of the year, our treasurer, Barbara Hutzelman, picked up a check from Erie Gives that will help build our scholarship funds! In total we had donations of \$3,880 from 33 participants. Five of those were from non-members.

With the Erie Gives 5.83 percent match, the check came to \$4,087.49. The additional dollars came from the Bonus Bucks fund supplied by Erie Gives' corporate sponsors. AAUW Erie was one of 492 nonprofits who together received a record breaking \$8,269,362. In all, there were 10,234 donors.

Thank you for your contribution. And if you weren't available to donate through Erie Gives, contributions to the branch and the Adella B. Woods fund are always welcome.

By Loretto Bellicini

President's Message

The Sept. 9 AAUW Erie branch meeting was productive and enlightening for members who attended. It was a wonderful opportunity for members to gather and share summer experiences and to plan for involvement in AAUW Study Groups, volunteer opportunities and fund-raising efforts.

Program speakers Dr. Carla Picardo and Michelle Jones LCSW shared important health information and responded to many thought-provoking questions raised by members. I was reminded that, when AAUW members gather, we learn from and inspire one another.

Opportunities for members to gather, such as monthly meetings, various study groups and community volunteer initiatives, are essential to our strength as an organization.

If you have not attended one of our monthly meetings in a while, consider attending our Oct. 9 meeting and program. In addition to having the opportunity to mingle with AAUW members and hear about branch news, you will hear from our program speaker, Dr. Christopher Grey, President of the Erie County Community College. This will be an opportunity to hear about how the college adds to educational opportunities for Erie County residents. Please help AAUW Erie Branch to grow by inviting a friend to attend the October program with you.

If you have not yet signed up for one of our Study Groups, consider choosing a group that matches your interests. Candy Brown, Study Group Coordinator, is an excellent resource to answer any questions you may have. In addition to providing opportunities for members to enjoy each other's company, study groups promote important and informative discussion and encourage the sharing of interesting ideas and diverse perspectives.

Also consider joining with other members when volunteer opportunities are announced. AAUW Erie Branch will have the greatest impact in our community when we broaden our knowledge, share ideas and work together.

Sharing ideas, experiences and talents makes AAUW Erie Branch stronger. Everyone's input is not only welcome -it is vitally important. I look forward to welcoming you at future programs, study groups and volunteer opportunities.



Loretta Seigley

Welcome to our new branch members!

Erie Branch of AAUW would like to welcome three new members!

Mary Jane Koenig, a graduate of Gannon and Edinboro universities, was employed in the Erie City School District for over 34 years, teaching French, English, and Writing.



Mary Jane Koenig

After retirement she worked with the PDE, the Penn Literacy Network, and helped develop an interdisciplinary curriculum for the Erie Maritime Museum focused on the U.S. Brig Niagara. Mary Jane chaired Education Day for Tall Ships Erie in 2010, 2013, and 2016, helping up to 5,000 school children and their teachers visit the ships.

She also chaired the Erie County World War I Centennial Committee that created the Memorial dedicated to those from Erie County who made the ultimate sacrifice in that war. This is located across from Erie Veterans Stadium. Research from that project led to the book, ***Answering The Call, Erie County, Pennsylvania In World War One***. She helped edit the book, contributing several articles.

She belongs to many local historical societies, DAR, Mayflower, and supports area museums, as well as Hooked on Books for Kids. In the past five years, she has been dedicated to cleaning gravestones, especially those at the PA Soldiers' and Sailors' Veterans Memorial Cemetery. She is married to an understanding husband and loves spending time with her two sons and their families, as well as traveling.

Mary Wiesen Yonkers, a former Erie Branch member, earned a BA in Education at Mercyhurst University and served as branch president in 1991-92.

Mary is looking forward to the October program meeting. She has been doing caregiving for three members of her family and says she's looking forward to some brain stimulation with AAUW.

She taught middle school for 16 years, then changed careers, entering real estate, first working as an agent, then in office management and then as a real estate instructor for 30+ years. She notes that teaching adults was her favorite.

Mary is married to David Yonkers and resides at 1801 Lohrer Road, Fairview. She can be reached by phone at 814-881-7548, email at ask-mary.yonkers@gmail.com



Mary Yonkers

Continued on P. 4

Welcome to our new branch members!

Continued from P. 3

Ed Tonkin earned a BA in history from Hillsdale College.

He has worked for the Bank of New York, in Westchester County, New York, and was a branch manager by the time he moved on. He held positions as a business manager with two private schools and as a fiduciary trust accountant with the Putnam Trust Company. He was also in sales and worked as the Museum Volunteer Manager at the Erie Maritime Museum.



Ed Tonkin

He has run for political office twice as a Libertarian.

He is married to Erie Branch member Deborah Ann Tonkin and the couple has three children: Ted, Ginny, and Collier, who are involved in various businesses from Massachusetts to Virginia.

Ed's interests include reading, comic books, walking, various types of music, including the philharmonic, political discussion, and good police procedurals from anywhere.

The Tonkins like to travel and enjoy sampling new and interesting foods. He is very involved in his church, First Church of Christ, Scientist, Millcreek.

Changes and additions for your yearbook

Please clip and add this information to your yearbooks.

EMAIL CORRECTIONS:

Lisa Baumgardner: LKayBaum10405@outlook.com
 Sharmin Khundker: sehersharmine@yahoo.com
 Marilyn Livosky: mlivosky866@gmail.com Sarah Speir: sarahspeir1@gmail.com
 Linda Staszewski: strongamazingwomen@gmail.com
 Heidi Steffy: heidisteffy67@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Karen Willey's phone number and secondary address
 (814) 397-3883
 1039 Michigan Avenue
 South Haven, MI 49090

NEW MEMBER:

YONKERS, MARY C 814-881-7548
 1801 Lohrer Road
 Fairview, PA 16415-1846
 BA Mercyhurst University, Education
 email askmary.yonkers@gmail.com



Members help welcome Harding students

A number of Erie Branch members are helping to support students attending Harding School through the United Way's Community Schools program. Their involvement grew from a branch meeting presented by United Way last year.

Trunk or Treat planned at Harding School

Several branch members are participating in United Way Community Schools activities at Harding School. There are two ways the membership can help in October.

Bagged candy is being sought for the school's Trunk or Treat Halloween event, set for Friday, Oct. 20, and we will be accepting donations at our Oct. 9 branch meeting at the community college.

Those unable to attend, but who would like to contribute candy, should contact Edie Cultu at edie_cultu@yahoo.com or 814-397-2975. Anyone who would like to help pass out candy Oct. 20 between 5:30 and 7 p.m., should also contact Edie.

Want to get involved?

Stay engaged this year with national's Two-Minute Activist tool!

You can also check out letters, comments, testimony and legal briefs on national's website to learn more about AAUW's positions and advocacy efforts.

Members enjoy September meeting

Speakers at Erie Branch AAUW's September meeting, Dr. Carla Picardo (seated, left) and Michelle Jones LCSW, shared important health information and responded to many thought-provoking questions raised by members.

Attendees requested referral options for pelvic floor physical therapy in Erie and book recommendations, so they are listed below. Please feel free to reach out with any questions/needs!



Pelvic Floor Physical Therapy:

Shannon Will:

<https://www.scoliosis-rehabilitation.com/isst-personnel/shannon-will-dpt-clt-lana/>

Anna Daughenbaugh:

<https://www.altperformancetherapy.com/about>

Rise Up Physical Therapy:

<https://www.riseupphysicaltherapy.com/our-team>

Cheryl Curtis:

<https://www.obgynoferie.com/services/pelvic-floor-physical-therapy/>

Book Recommendations for further reading:

Joan Price: "Naked At Our Age"

Joan Price: "Sex After Grief"

Emily Nagoski: "Come As You Are"

Barry McCarthy: "Couple Sexuality After 60"

Laurie Mintz: "Becoming Cliterate"

Bernie Zilbergeld: "Sex and Love at Midlife"

Boscov's discount fundraiser continues

The Boscov's 25% off coupon cards for Oct. 18th are still available!

Buy one for yourself, give or sell some to your friends and family. It's win-win!

Passes will be available for purchase, for \$5 each, at the October branch meeting or contact Barbara Hutzelman 814-881-7339 or Claudia Mosso 814-520-4076.

Branch Study Groups

Book Discussion

Linda Lorah will be reviewing "Maus," a graphic novel, by Art Spiegelman.

If you have been considering joining a book group, join us on Oct. 5 (Thursday) at 1 p.m. at the Millcreek Branch of the Erie County Public Library! Contact Sarah Larson at 585-403-1366 or sarahellenlarson@gmail.com with any questions.

Games for your Brain!

Games for your Brain! will meet on its new day, Wednesday Oct. 11, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Susan Roehrl's home, 626 Mohawk Dr.

Please RSVP by PHONE ONLY, 814-452-6158, to secure your space. New members are welcome!

Global Friends

Global Friends will meet on Monday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m. at Edie's home, 638 Vermont Ave.

The program on Belarus will be presented by Lana Locanto.

Questions? Contact Edie at edie_cultu@yahoo.com or 814-456-5406.

Gourmet

TBA

Politalk

Politalk will meet on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2 - 4 p.m., at Asuman's house, 3838 State St.

October 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Board mtg. 6:30 p.m. Zoom	3	4	5 Book Millcreek Library 1 p.m.	6	7
9 Branch Mtg. EC3 West 7 p.m.	10	11 Games 2 p.m. at Susan Roehrl's	12	13	14
16	17	18	19 Politalk 2 p.m. at Asuman's	20	21
23 Global Friends 7 p.m. at Edie's	24	25	26	27 Gourmet TBA	28



Erie Branch ♦ Founded in 1902

P.O. Box 9264 Erie PA 16505

AAUW's Mission

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through education, philanthropy, and research. By joining AAUW you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

Published by: American Association of University Women — Erie Branch, Inc.
Branch email: eriebranchaauw@gmail.com
Editor email: eriepressible@gmail.com
Facebook: @AAUWEriePA
Web page: <http://www.aauwerie.org>

JEFFERSON

EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

Erie's Think Tank for Community Progress
 Examine the Past. Study the Present. Explore the Future.
 Visit us at www.JESerie.org. 3207 State Street, Erie, PA 16508



Compliments of
Dusckas
Funeral Home, Inc.

2607 Buffalo Road
 899-7656
 Nancy E. Dusckas, FD
 Supervisor

536 West Tenth Street
 452-2456
 Gary J. Cumming, FD
 Supervisor

www.dusckasfuneralhome.com

Chris Spoto
 image master

2827 West 26th St.
 Erie, PA 16506

☎ 814.838.6255

☎ 814.838.6676

✉ copyrightprinting@verizon.net

copyrightprintingerie.com



COPYRIGHT
 PRINTING | GRAPHICS | SIGN SOLUTIONS