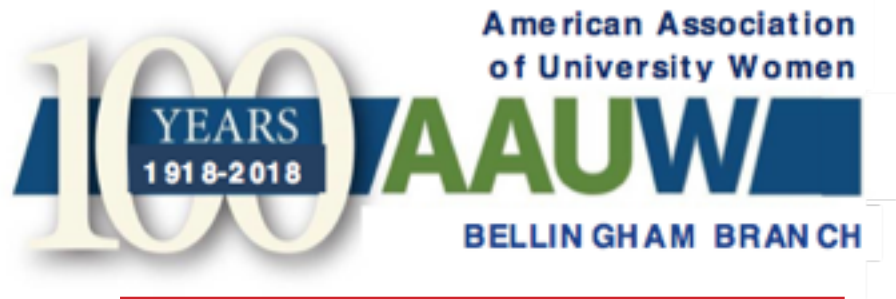


## College pantry drive collects 80 lbs. of food

The first call for donations to a college food pantry was answered at the January general meeting with 80 lbs. of goods, plus \$30 in cash for Whatcom Community College. **Thank you, members!**

**Please bring donations of non-perishable items to the February meeting for Western Washington University.** Roughly 8.6% of students on the campus, 1300 people, are classified as having very low food security. This means they substantially altered their food intake due to a lack of money or access to healthy food. Currently the Feeding Western program works to support and expand the service capacity of two on-campus food pantries.

*(Continued on Page 2)*



### February

- 9th General meeting, 10 am at YWCA
- 23rd Exec. Board meeting, 10 am to noon, Affinity on Telegraph Rd.
- 24th Human Rights Film Fest, AAUW co-presents *The Other Walla*, 1 pm at Fairhaven College Auditorium **(New time)**
- 28th Adelante! Book Group, noon at Arlis's

### March

- 2nd Human Rights Film Fest, AAUW co-presents *The Unafraid*, 2:30 pm at Fairhaven College Auditorium

*Protect yourself...*

## Safe Internet Practices will be program topic

Josephine Hollandbeck, President of the Whatcom Community College Women in Cyber Security (WiCys) Club, will expand our knowledge of internet safety at the **February 9** Bellingham Branch meeting. It will be held at **Bellingham YWCA, 1026 N. Forest St.**



At our January meeting, everyone was invited to complete a questionnaire on their password practices. At this meeting, you can see how your answers squared with recommended password practices. We will also hear strategies to help assure data safety on today's internet.

In addition to being the WiCys President at WCC, Josephine Hollandbeck is an advanced student in their Cyber Security Program. She also works as an electrician for Bellingham's Eagle Electric.

AAUW member Judi Edwards, Cyber Security Consultant and Senior Programmer/Analyst at Bellingham Cold Storage will introduce Ms. Hollandbeck.

**Members with names M thru W, it is your turn again to bring snacks! Coffee provided, and guests welcome!**

*A little change in plans, but...*

## Mark your calendars for the April 13th AAUW State Meeting

The Holiday Inn and Suites near the Bellingham Airport will be the site for the one-day State Meeting. It is not often that Bellingham Branch hosts a state-level event, and this gives members a great chance to get to know people from other branches.

An exact agenda for the day is still being planned, but there is one change to announce already: The gift basket raffle will not be a part of the events.

So...what to do with the many excellent items already gathered for the baskets? Board members will make a decision, but chances are good the raffle will be held at another event. **Stay tuned!**

## A gentle reminder: we need data!

As we mentioned last month, Bellingham Branch really needs to know when people make "in-kind" or "non-reimbursed" contributions.

With the exception of snacks brought to our meetings, it is important to know approximately what members spend on items such as stamps, envelopes, decorative items, etc., even if you have no desire or intention of turning in a bill for reimbursement. When it comes time to write a budget, we need to know the "worst case scenario" - in other words, what we might need to spend for things if they were not donated.

So, please remember throughout the year to email our treasurer, Helène Berg-Kolin, with:

- item(s) donated
- value
- which event or program this was for

**Thank you!**

## Food pantry donations,

*(Continued from Page 1)*

These two food pantries are in continuous need of food resources they can distribute to students. Tanner Folvag, Feeding Western coordinator, writes: "***Donation of non-perishable food items shows support to food insecure students, not only by meeting their physical and dietary needs, but also by communicating that their experience, academic success, and well-being matters.***"

**Carol McKinney** is heading a six-month AAUW drive to ask members to bring non-perishable food items and toiletries to each general meeting. A basket for donations will be at the front table. (Think tuna, peanut butter, soups, stews, pasta sauce, pasta, vegetarian packets (Thai & Indian). Each month we will donate to a different college. Jan.- WCC, Feb.-Western, March - BTC. And repeat!

Others on the AAUW pantry committee are Elaine Wilson, Nancy Lord, Catherine Chambers, Carol Simmer and Camille Brighton.

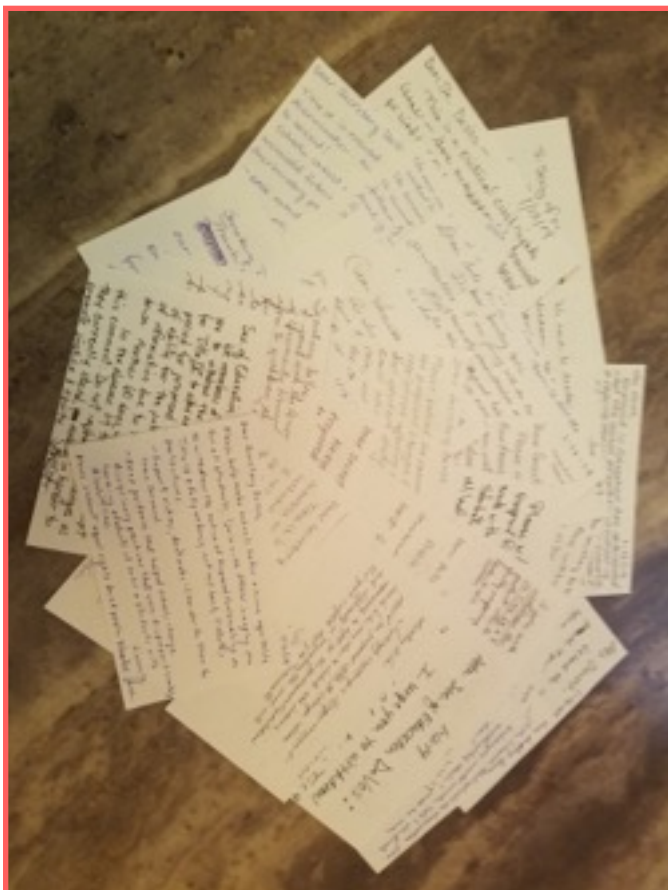
**Thanks to our committee and all our donors.**



## Bellingham Branch supports Girls Go Tech workshop at WCC

This often happens...Girls Go Tech is scheduled the same day as our April meeting, which this year is the State AAUW meeting. If someone is interested in helping out at Girls Go Tech, they could still attend the evening dinner at the state meeting. Please let Judith Entwife know if you would like to do this.

GGT is a program of Whatcom Community College, designed to interest middle school girls in STEM classes and careers. Bellingham Branch has once again donated \$500 to help fund the event.



***Our part of the 103,000 comments: This pile of postcards came from the hands of Bellingham Branch members responding to proposed changes to Title IX. The controversial proposal received 20 times more responses than what is typical for major regulatory plans, an official with the American Council on Education told the Washington Post.***

*So, tell me what you really think....*

## **Members pen comments to the U.S. Department of Education**

***Letters written by Branch members at the January meeting joined over 103,000 other comments*** received by the U.S.

Department of Education with responses about proposed changes to Title IX.

Unfortunately, the planned speakers for our January meeting were unable to attend, but member Roni Lenore ably filled in with information on Title IX changes proposed by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. Roni distributed postcards so members could send their own comments before the Jan. 28 deadline.

The Title IX proposal was officially unveiled in November, and DeVos will determine whether the changes will be adopted. However, Congress has the ability to overturn her decision. Failure to follow Title IX regulations can cost schools and universities federal funding.

DeVos has proposed narrowing schools' obligations in responding to sexual misconduct. Her proposal is a change from Obama-era guidance for Title IX, the federal civil-rights law that prohibits gender discrimination in schools that receive public funding.

The proposal has been denounced by many who believe it will allow schools to avoid dealing

## **Nominations are now open...**

In March we must elect a new president, vice-presidents for programs and membership and **a new-to-us position of traditional vice-president** to apprentice for future presidency. All positions may be shared by two people.

Tasked with finding nominees are Jean Cox-Treverton, Judith Entwife, Susan Moen and Carol Simmer.

If you are interested in finding out more about these jobs, and perhaps filling a position, please talk to any of the nominating committee members.

## AAUW to co-present two films at the 2019 Bellingham Human Rights Film Festival

### Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

1. **The Other Walla**, set in Walla Walla, WA is about the lives of undocumented high school students, their fear and concern for themselves and their families; and the discrepancies between their lives and those who are US citizens or otherwise documented. **The Other Walla** is playing at 1 pm Sunday, February 24 at WWU's Fairhaven College Auditorium.

2. **The Unafraid** is set in Georgia and follows three high school seniors brought to the US illegally as children, shielded under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Watch the Dreamers jump through hoops, trying to go to college, finding they are ineligible for in-state tuition and cannot afford the full cost. This motivates them to take up activism and demand a change, but mounting obstacles get in their way. Their tenacity is inspiring; their struggles disheartening. **The Unafraid** is playing at 2:30 pm Saturday, March 2 at WWU's Fairhaven College Auditorium.

*(This film selection was suggested by AAUW Bellingham and will be introduced by a Bellingham Branch member.)*

### Welcome

Bellingham AAUW offers scholarships and supports numerous programs which help women and girls gain equity in all areas of life.

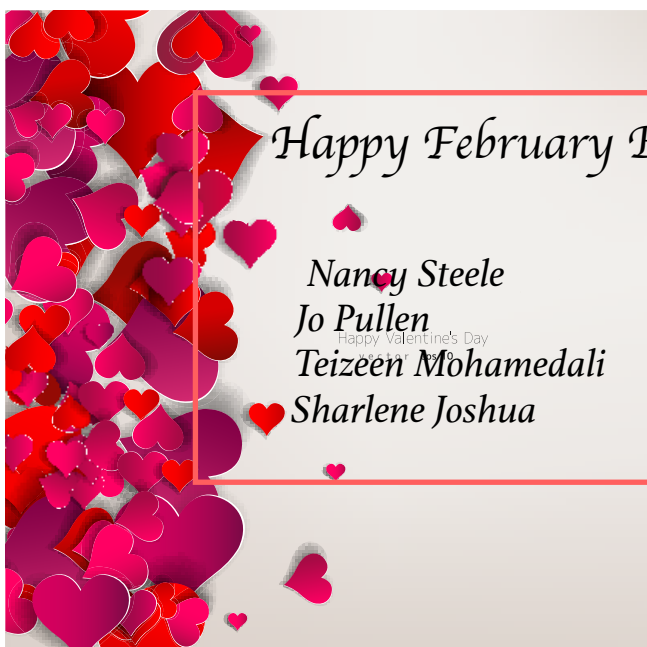
Anyone possessing a four-year bachelor's degree or a two-year associate's degree is welcome to become a member.



### National AAUW Update

What a week it's been! Lilly Ledbetter joined us on Capitol Hill to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, as well as the introduction of the Paycheck Fairness Act. AAUW's advocacy the last few weeks and months (and years) ensured that this bill was a top priority for the House of Representatives, earning it a coveted spot in the first ten bills introduced. We spent several days accompanying Lilly to a variety of lobby visits with members of Congress, allowing them to hear directly from Lilly why the Paycheck Fairness Act is so important. Lilly and I both spoke in the press conference for the bill's bicameral introduction on Wednesday, along with members of Congress and other equal pay advocates. At the press conference, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi committed to passing the bill out of the House by Equal Pay Day this year on April 2! This expedited timeline is in direct response to our advocacy.

Onward! *Deborah J. Vagins*



*Happy February Birthday!*

<i>Nancy Steele</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Jo Pullen</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Teizeen Mohamedali</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Sharlene Joshua</i>	<i>23</i>

## Getting to know you....

In a continuing effort to let members put names and faces together, here are images of four of our newer members.



**Sharon Mattioli**



**Camille Brighton**



**Carol Dukes**



**Sheila Jenkisian**

## Welcome, newest members!

Our two newest Bellingham AAUW members are **Lynne Lohr**, a chaplain with degrees from Northern Illinois University and Garrett College, and **Catherine Webb**, with degrees in psychology and mathematics from Bryn Mawr and University of Chicago.

## Let's get together!

Remember, men are welcome to join AAUW, your guests are welcome at our events, and all members are welcome to attend monthly executive board meetings.



## INTEREST GROUP NEWS

### REEL MOVIE LOVERS

Reel Movie Lovers meets randomly, when there's a good movie to watch. Let host Roni know if you have ideas, questions or suggestions, or if you plan to join the group for a movie (text to 510-435-4747, or email [roni.lenore@gmail.com](mailto:roni.lenore@gmail.com)). If she gets a head count soon enough, she can direct people to where we will be sitting.

You are encouraged to purchase your ticket in advance.

### ADELANTE! BOOK CLUB

Adelante! meets (usually) monthly at Arlis's Restaurant, 1525 Cornwall Ave. in Bellingham, at noon. Next meeting is Feb. 28, and we will discuss *Dear Ijeawele, or A Feminist Manifesto*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Newcomers are welcome. Contact: Gwen Parker, 360-933-4314.

### *Should you add it to your reading list?*

Last month's read was *Educated*, by Tara Westover: the memoir of a young woman raised by survivalist parents in rural Idaho, and her struggle to get an education. This was thumbs up, with the caveat that it is a little hair-raising at times.



### YA GOTTA HAVE ART!

Any member can propose a date and meeting place for **Ya Gotta Have Art!** to take advantage of local art shows, museums, special art projects and the incredible sculptures of our city and campus. Please contact Susan Moen if you are interested in joining other members to view shows and possibly have lunch to complete the outing: [susanmoen@comcast.net](mailto:susanmoen@comcast.net), or 206-399-4909

## Bellingham Branch AAUW

P.O. Box 29862 Bellingham, WA  
98228

[www.aauw-wa.org](http://www.aauw-wa.org)

### Executive Board 2017-2018

President

Judith Entwife

360-734-0444

[jentwife@frontier.com](mailto:jentwife@frontier.com)

Treasurer

Helène Berg-Kolin

360-392-8856

[hbergkolin@gmail.com](mailto:hbergkolin@gmail.com)

Program Chair

Catherine Chambers

360-738-4713

[chamberscatherine318@gmail.com](mailto:chamberscatherine318@gmail.com)

Membership Co-Chairs

Susan Moen

360-778-2510

[susanmoen@comcast.net](mailto:susanmoen@comcast.net)

Robin Kagan

360-676-5205

[rlkforltc@comcast.net](mailto:rlkforltc@comcast.net)

Secretary

Jean Cox-Treverton

360-392-0043

[jeancoxtreverton@ymail.com](mailto:jeancoxtreverton@ymail.com)

Newsletter/Web Editor

Gwen Parker 360-933-4314

[parker.gwen@comcast.net](mailto:parker.gwen@comcast.net)