



GREEN BAY (WI)  
BRANCH

2026

February

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## BAYNOTES

**Empowering Women since 1881 – Through Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research**

**Branch Website: <https://greenbayarea-wi.aauw.net>**

**Face Book:<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWGreenBay/>**

### **Branch Meeting**

**Monday, February 16, 2026**

**Village Grille 891 Hoffman Road Allouez**

**Dinner on your own 5:00 pm Program: 6:00 pm**

**Speaker: Vicki Bayer**

**Green Bay Area School District Superintendent**

**Program: Funding for Special Education and the impact of Private School  
Vouchers on the Public School System**

Bayer explains that the Department of Public Instruction notified school districts that the special education reimbursement would be 7% less than what was included in the state budget. The result is that the Green Bay Area Public Schools will be about \$5 million short with an even larger deficit projected for next school year. The District has had to turn to the community for support through referendums. GBAPS will hold two Community Conversation sessions in February to address the budget shortfall and to discuss an operational referendum in November 2026.

Vicki and staff will join us at 5:30 pm at the Village Grille on February 16.

Superintendent Bayer will be retiring on June 30, 2026. She has been Superintendent after holding the interim superintendent position from April 2022 to June 2023 and from February 2024 until December 2024. She joined the district in 2013 as Associate Principal at Lombardi Middle School.

Please invite friends and guests to this very important and informative meeting. We must be able to fund our community schools.

## INTEREST GROUPS

### ART STUDY GROUP

Carolyn Reedy and Mary Woodbridge

Thursday, February 12

Neville Public Museum 10:00am

View the 111<sup>th</sup> annual Green Bay Art Colony exhibit. The Green Bay Art Colony is a growing and thriving group of female artists. For more than a century they continue to inspire each other, educate the public, encourage new artists and give scholarships to art students.

Lunch afterwards to be determined when the group gathers.

RSVP Mary Woodbridge [miwiw@new.rr.com](mailto:miwiw@new.rr.com) or Carolyn Reedy [ccreedy03@yahoo.com](mailto:ccreedy03@yahoo.com)

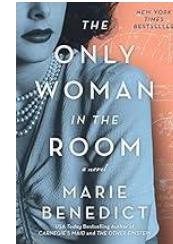
### AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Wendy Schroeder

Monday, February 23

Joann Rathburn's home 1274 Roscoe St Green Bay

3:00 pm



Book: Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedict

Her beauty almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi party and led to marriage with an Austrian arms dealer. Underestimated in everything else, she overheard the Third Reich's plans while at her husband's side and understood more than anyone would guess. She devised a plan to flee in disguise from their castle, and the whirlwind escape landed her in Hollywood. She became Hedy Lamarr, screen star.

But she kept a secret more shocking than her heritage or her marriage: she was a scientist. And she had an idea that might help the country fight the Nazis and revolutionize modern communication...if anyone would listen to her.

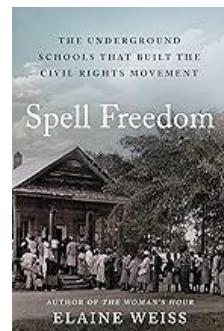
A powerful book based on the incredible true story of the glamour icon and scientist, The Only Woman in the Room is a masterpiece that celebrates the many women in science that history has overlooked.

## **ADELENTE BOOK GROUP**

Wednesday, February 25

Cheesecake Heaven 2075 S. Oneida St Green Bay

3:00 pm



Book: **Spell Freedom: the Underground Schools that Built**

**the Civil Rights Movement** by Elaine Weiss

In the summer of 1954, educator Septima Clark and small businessman Esau Jenkins travelled to rural Tennessee's Highlander Folk School, an interracial training center for social change founded by Myles Horton, a white southerner with roots in the labor movement. There, the trio united behind a shared mission: preparing Black southerners to pass the daunting Jim Crow era voter registration literacy tests that were designed to disenfranchise them.

Together with beautician-turned-teacher Bernice Robinson, they launched the underground Citizenship Schools project, which began with a single makeshift classroom hidden in the back of a rural grocery store. By the time the Voting Rights Act was signed into law in 1965, the secretive undertaking had established more than nine hundred citizenship schools across the South, preparing tens of thousands of Black citizens to read and write, demand their rights—and vote. Simultaneously, it nurtured a generation of activists—many of them women—trained in community organizing, political citizenship, and tactics of resistance and struggle who became the grassroots foundation of the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. King called Septima Clark, "Mother of the Movement."



**FORWARD**  
Save the date!  
**April 17 -18 2026**  
**105th State Convention**  
**DoubleTree by Hilton**  
**Madison East**

Registration information will be out soon. Hope to have a good showing from our branch.

## **A follow up from our January Movie program on Lilly Ledbetter.**

Lisa Ubbelohde

AAUW honors the recent passing of Lilly Ledbetter and her outstanding legacy, which will impact women well into the future. She was the pioneer of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 to ensure all women receive fair pay for their work.

Ms. Ledbetter and AAUW had a long-lasting, strong, and productive relationship, and we held her in high esteem as an unwavering icon and trailblazer in the fight for equal pay. In her memory and in her honor, AAUW vows to continue the fight. Read our full statement here: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/press-releases/aauw-honors-the-legacy-of-lilly-ledbetter/>

#LillyLedbetter #EqualPay #GenderPayGap

### **How did you find out you weren't being adequately compensated?**

After working for 19 years as a manager for Goodyear, I learned through an anonymous note that I was being paid about 40% less than my male counterparts. If that hadn't happened, I would never have known because I worked for a corporation that prohibited employees from talking about their pay. When I saw how much less I had been compensated, I was devastated. I thought about all those overtime hours, all that money, and all the things my family had done without — not to mention the impact on my 401K and future Social Security. I was two years from retirement. When the ball bounced to Congress, I went with it — and so did AAUW. It was unbelievable to see the marches, the letters, the emails and the outcry. We all worked to get the Ledbetter bill passed. It was sponsored and co-sponsored by Republicans and Democrats, and it became law in 18 months

### **What advice would you give the next generation?**

Young women must, in the very beginning of their careers, make sure they negotiate. Because if you start out making less than men, you can't easily catch up.

Be sure to research salaries for your prospective employer and industry. Take AAUW's negotiating skills course to help negotiate your rightful pay. Because if you don't, if you miss it, even a little bit, you can never get it back. Why Paycheck Fairness Matters

Lilly Ledbetter explains why the law that bears her name is necessary but not sufficient for achieving gender pay equity.

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## **FROM STATE PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

I am Barbara Peterson, the Co-Chair of the AAUW State Public Policy Committee. My AAUW branch in River Falls has an announcement of an upcoming Zoom event that I ask you to forward to all your AAUW members as soon as possible.

We always want our votes to count equally with other voters. AAUW also wants re-districting to be fair and impartial. You have an important voice in that challenge. On February 10th the River Falls branch will have a Zoom meeting with a speaker on the steps we must encourage to have re-districting done outside of partisan politics. Luscely Flores of Fair Maps Wisconsin is an excellent speaker who will show us the steps that will achieve fair mapping in 2030 and why we need to act NOW!!

We will be joined on the Zoom by members across the State of Wisconsin who can help drive this measure through the legislature. PLEASE JOIN US!! There is a brochure attached that will help you follow the speaker during this Zoom. This presentation will also be recorded for viewing and sharing at your meetings later.

**Attached is the link to the Fair Maps Brochure:** Click HERE:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1InHMgqvIP5MpvRy9DTFYXj-dK6O9ykQp/view>

**Here is the link to the Zoom meeting on February 10th at 7:00pm**

AAUW Wisconsin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: AAUW River Falls Branch Meeting & Fair Maps Program

Time: Feb 10, 2026 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87973789238?pwd=TKeUVczbEohBWZ5ZDVEdX0ZRgPLi22.1>

Meeting ID: 879 7378 9238

Passcode: 645235

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,87973789238# US

+19294362866,,87973789238# US (New York)

Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/87973789238/invitations?signature=ssLBWvbdLvB94JOflHNhNuR9UePHiGg-vrtM1ZJKk7Y>

