

the TIDINGS

News of AAUW-Half Moon Bay

Volume 55, Issue 7

March 2022



Cynthia Leung Energizing Entrepreneur and Activist

Monday, March 21, 2022
7 p.m.

March is Women's History Month. Why is that important? The National Women's History Alliance says: "For girls, knowing women's achievements expands their sense of what is possible. For all of us, knowledge of women's strengths and contributions builds respect and nourishes self-esteem — crucial to all children and adults now, and in the years to come."

How can we celebrate? Activities to show gratitude for historic women: support female entrepreneurs, read books by female authors, listen to podcasts, get to know women in politics, brush up on current issues and take action, celebrate Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and support a women's nonprofit organization.

AAUW will celebrate with an engaging talk by **Cynthia Leung**. She is the founder and CEO of

Soluminos, a social enterprise focused on deploying battery power stations for remote power applications. Cynthia holds an M.S. in sustainability management from Columbia University and a B.A. in quantitative economics with a minor in global sustainability. She currently sits on the board for Twende Solar, a nonprofit focused on the international development of solar projects, and on the board of Climate & Capital Media.

Cynthia worked on the Clinton Foundation's Island Energy Program with the Clinton Climate Initiative and supported the development of over 1 GW of utility solar projects at SunPower. Cynthia has built a career in the sustainability space including energy efficiency, solar

Continued on page 4

Join Us

At press time, the plan is to meet via Zoom. If we are able to meet in person at the HMB Library, we will send an email blast to notify you. Please email **Barbara Cohen**, VP Programs, if you have any questions at Lv2red@gmail.com.

Time: March 21 at 7 p.m.

Where: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86182554734?pwd=ZUNuS1RvRHVzT1IScVJBUXRybXdvUT09>

Meeting ID: 861 8255 4734

Passcode: 049702

One tap mobile:

+16699006833,,86182554734 #,,,,*049702# US (San Jose)



American Association
of University Women
Half Moon Bay Branch
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Articles should be pasted into the
body of the email. Attach any photos
as .jpg or .png files. Deadline is the
15th of the month prior to
publication.

Neighborhood Groups

South Half Moon Bay, Central Half
Moon Bay, North Half Moon Bay, El
Granada/Miramar, and Moss Beach/
Montara. Look for the distribution in
your directory.

AAUW advances equity for women
and girls through advocacy,
education, philanthropy and research.

AAUW Half Moon Bay Branch is a
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Your contribution is tax-deductible.

President's Message

March Full of Days Honoring Women



Title IX Forever stamps created by Melinda Beck on sale now at USPS

Women's History Month.
International Women's Day. Title
IX 50th Anniversary. The Great
Masked Theater Bash. March is
full of opportunities to honor
women.

Back in 1978 a group of women
from Sonoma began our current
commemoration of Women's
History Day. This soon became
recognized as a national week in
1980 and then an entire month in
1987. Thank you, **National
Women's History Alliance**.

If time permits, read all about
International Women's Day,
March 8, on Wikipedia. Just
fascinating. Many countries
celebrate it as a holiday.

If you get the USPS Philatelic
Catalog, there is a new issue of
Forever Stamps — Title IX to
“commemorate the 50th
anniversary of the law that
prohibits sex-based discrimination
of any educational program or
activity receiving federal financial
assistance.” Make sure to buy a
bunch! See the article on page 4
inviting us to join a Title IX
webinar hosted by the Santa Clara
AAUW Branch.

Lastly, on Thursday, March 24,
AAUW HMB rekindles an old

favorite event, Theater Bash,
renamed The Masked Bash! Join
with fellow members and friends
for the dress rehearsal of *The
Cemetery Club*. See **page 5** for
more info on this hot ticket event.

“In March winter is holding
back and spring is pulling forward.
Something holds and something
pulls inside of us too.”

— Jean Hersey

Peggy Rozhon, President



Solidarity with Ukraine.
Freedom and Peace. The
Ukrainian National Anthem,
Shche ne vmerla Ukraina,
translates into English as *Ukraine
Has Not Yet Perished*.

*Ukraine is not yet dead, nor its
glory and freedom,*

*Luck will still smile on us
brother-Ukrainians*

*Our enemies will die, as the
dew does in the sunshine,*

*And we, too, brothers, we'll
live happily in our land.*

*We'll not spare either our
souls or bodies to get freedom*

*And we'll prove that we
brothers are of Kozak kin.*

Scholarship Season Is upon Us

This is the season to get the word out about our local scholarship.

If you know a female graduate of Half Moon Bay High School or Pescadero High School who will be a junior or senior at a four-year college or university program during the

summer or fall of 2022, let them know!

To request an application, email sheilamspieller@gmail.com. The applications are due by March 28.

*Sheila Spieller and Sue Hatfield,
Local Scholarship Co-Chairs*

AAUW Fund Update

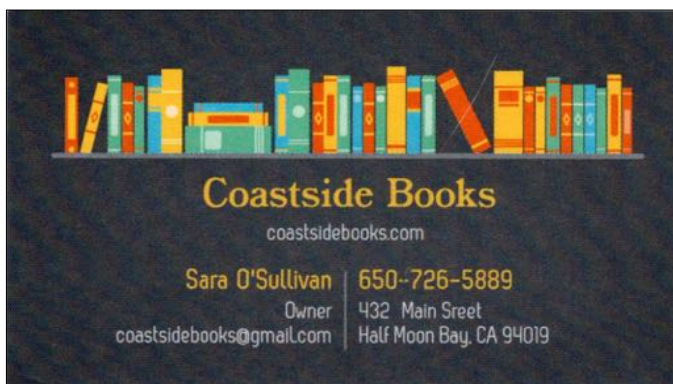
California members contributed nearly half a million dollars to the annual campaign to raise money for AAUW Fund and its mission of supporting research by women in higher education through the Fellowships and Grants Program. You're wondering how much we donated? \$494,020. Let me repeat that — \$494,020.

During 2021, our branch donated \$7,638 to AAUW Fund. This total includes our branch contribution of \$5,700 and an additional \$1,938 from individual members and supporters. A preliminary audit of donations

from all California branches shows only five branches donated more than \$2,000 to AAUW Fund in 2021. So AAUW-HMB is in the top 4% of all California branches. Well done!

We were able to achieve this recognition because of your support of the branch fundraisers. Please keep up the great work in 2022 by supporting the Great Masked Theater Bash on March 24 and Coastside Gives on May 5. Wouldn't it be great if we could increase our annual contribution to AAUW Fund?

Mary Sheridan, AAUW Fund VP



Big Lift Collaborative

The important news shared at the Big Lift Cohorts meeting was that the state of California has adopted and will fund universal transitional kindergarten. Four years of implementation begin in public schools during the 2022-23 academic year with full implementation by 2025-26. The first group of children will be those 4-year-olds who will turn 5 between Sept. 2 and Feb. 2, 2023. The program will include expanded after-school learning in public and private after-school daycare programs.

On the Coastside, the Big Lift Program is reaching out to all public and private programs to develop a standardized curriculum to prepare children for kindergarten. Professional development programs will be offered to instructors. Big Lift will also continue to develop parent engagement opportunities. Cabrillo Unified School District is considering classes with 1:12 ratio with a credentialed teacher who also has early childhood education certification or 1:1:20 classes with a fully credentialed teacher, a paraprofessional with early childhood education certification, and 20 students. Staffing is a concern, so if you know of anyone who may qualify for these positions, let them know that positions will soon be open.

Education begins at birth. The most crucial basic skills for successful learning are developed in the earliest years. As your representative to Big Lift, I celebrate this decision by California and am happy to share its implementation here on the Coastside with my fellow AAUW-HMB members.

Sue Hatfield, Representative

Welcome New Tech Trek Branch Coordinator Juliet Bolding

We are thrilled to announce that **Juliet Bolding** is our new Tech Trek branch coordinator. A biologist/zoologist and co-chair of our Curiosity Club, Juliet will work with **Julie Gerth** to carry on this popular and important AAUW project. Julie served on our branch Tech Trek Committee in its inaugural years starting in 1998 and has been the TT branch coordinator since 2009. Juliet now steps into the role of TT Coordinator Emeritus. While working with Juliet to ensure a seamless hand-

off of duties and information, Julie will continue as liaison to our Tech Trek alumnae.

Please congratulate Juliet and thank her for her willingness to become immersed in all things Tech Trek. She shared with me that the reason she joined AAUW-HMB was because of our successful Tech Trek program. And congratulate Julie Gerth for her many years shepherding more than 100 Coastside girls into this life-changing experience. Staying connected with them, Julie has had

former Trekkers work in myriad volunteer roles at branch functions. Former TT students have served at our holiday teas, marched in our July 4th parades, participated at our anniversary gala, and continue to be helpers at our summer STEM camp. Juliet has enjoyed reporting to our branch on the successes of these bright young women as they pursue careers and families. And now Juliet will empower our future Tech Trek students. All the best, Juliet!

Peggy Rozhon, President

Title IX

What You Don't Know Can Hurt You!

American Association of University Women of Santa Clara County will host a virtual event on Saturday, March 19, from noon to 1 p.m. The program will be moderated by **Danielle Slaton**, U.S. Women's Soccer Olympic medalist and soccer television analyst with the San Jose Earthquakes.

Celebrate 50 years of Title IX of the Education Amendments Act, enacted June 23, 1972. The event will explain how the Act gave all people equal rights to access educational programs, activities, and financial assistance where federal aid is

accepted.

Learn how Title IX has evolved over the past five decades, including its impact on LGBTQ students, and what is still a work in progress. The event will include discussions of sexual harassment, violence, and coercion as well as equality in athletics.

Resources and strategies to recognize sex-based discrimination in educational centers, especially in STEM-based programs, will be presented, as well as the best resources to consult for help.

Cynthia Leung

Continued from page 1

project development, equity, and entrepreneurship. In this session, she will share her story about her passion and vision, and how, by staying true to our values and interests, we can shape our own journeys to achieve the change we wish to see in this world.

Just by coming to this session you will be doing two of the activities listed above. You will be supporting a female entrepreneur and supporting a women's nonprofit organization — AAUW.

We hope you will join us.

Barbara Cohen, VP Programs



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We Need Your Help!

Get Ready for the 2022 Great Masked Theater Bash!



The Great Masked Theater Bash is on! Don your fun masks, invite your friends, and join us on Thursday, March 24, at a fundraising event for AAUW preceding the final dress rehearsal for Coastal Rep's *The Cemetery Club*!

When: Thursday, March 24, at Coastal Rep Theatre, 1167 S. Main St., HMB. Silent auction, drinks, and food from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and during the play's intermission. The play begins at 8 p.m.

Cost: Tickets are \$25, of which \$20 is tax-deductible. Advance purchase is preferred. Please write checks to AAUW HMB and send to **Chris Ortega**, 1 Sea Breeze Dr., HMB, CA 94019, by March 10 to pick up your tickets at will call. Tickets also will be available for cash or credit card purchase at the door.

A ticket entitles you to complimentary wine and beverages, tasty hors d'oeuvres, coffee and sweets; a chance at an amazing door prize (you must be present to win);

and entry to the final dress rehearsal of this "funny, wise, and gloriously witty" play.

The Theatre and the Bash require proof of full vaccination, including boosters. We encourage nose and mouth covers except while eating and drinking. Stay tuned for any updates.

Come ready to bid on a slew of wonderful donated amenities in the silent auction, including dinners at top Coastside restaurants, spa treatments, local services, and other treats and essentials.

We need your help! Please help us make this event a raving success by:

- Asking your favorite business to donate a gift certificate or valued item for the silent auction (e.g., dinner or overnight for two, spa or beauty services, fine art, books, floral or plant displays, gourmet or beauty item gift baskets, jewelry, wine, or other services. Or purchase the item yourself and donate it to AAUW. All bid proceeds go entirely to AAUW.

Auction donors will receive two free Masked Bash tickets in the mail.

Please email the name(s) of the business(es) you intend to ask to **Nina Nelson** at nencgn@yahoo.com and **Wendy Lama** at wendylama@coastside.net. This will help us avoid double-asking. Chris Ortega will send all members an email blast with donation request letters and forms to give to donors.

Please also request donations of (or donate yourself) quality wines, charcuterie plates, or sweets to be served at the event. Please email **Vivian Costello** at vbcost@gmail.com by March 12 and tell her which donations you have confirmed.

Volunteers are needed to help set up and clean up on March 24. Email **Irene Baume** at irenebaume@gmail.com to sign up.

Thank you very much!

*Wendy Lama and Nina Nelson,
Theater Bash Coordinators*

Did You Know?

Women's History Month Started as Women's History Week

Every year, March is designated Women's History Month by presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history.

Women's History Month began as a local celebration in Santa Rosa. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women planned and executed a "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978. The organizers selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. The movement spread across the country as other communities initiated their own

Women's History Week celebrations the following year.

In 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians — led by the National Women's History Project (now the National Women's History Alliance) — successfully lobbied for national recognition. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980, as National Women's History Week.

Subsequent presidents continued to proclaim a National Women's History Week in March until 1987, when Congress passed Public Law 100-9, designating March as

"Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the president to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, each president has issued an annual proclamation designating the month of March as "Women's History Month."

To learn more about the history of Women's History Month, visit the [Library of Congress](#).

— *National Women's History Museum*

Important Dates

Tuesday, March 7
Board Meeting
7 p.m.

Monday, March 21
Branch Meeting
7 p.m.

Saturday, March 19
Title IX event
Noon

Thursday, March 24
Great Masked
Theater Bash
6:30 p.m.

Please check calendars on the [AAUW-HMB](#), [AAUW-CA](#), and [AAUW](#) websites for updates, additional events and announcements.

Out for a Walk



The Walk & Talk Group on a recent outing. From left: Lee Ellis, Paulette Eisen, Barbara Von Glahn, Marilyn Garrison, Pat McNutt, and Cyndi Chin-Lee.

Get Ready! It's Coming!

COASTSIDE GIVES A COASTSIDE DAY OF GIVING MAY 5th 2022



Our **first** chance to touch the future is just days away!

Remember, if you want to participate in AAUW HMB Coastside Gives fundraising ahead of the rest, *Early Giving Day is March 7*. Go to coastsidegives.org and click on AAUW-HMB. Together we can touch the future!

Any donation to AAUW-HMB through Coastside Gives, which opens on March 7 and closes at midnight on May 5, will support this easy, accessible fundraising effort for our branch.

As in years past, we have the opportunity to double our contributions through generous matching funds from several of our members. If you would like to be a Matching Fund member, please contact Jan Grierson at hmbgrieco@aol.com.

Remember, Coastside Gives also presents opportunities to win prizes and add value to our member donations. Watch for more info about prizes coming soon!

Here is our focus: In line with our mission of advocacy and education, funds raised will help women of all ages seeking further education in myriad ways:

- Young people in our community stretch their horizons attending programs we help fund: Our branch STEM Camp, Tech Trek, and Speech Trek.
- Local college scholarship recipients will be able to pursue their goals with some of their financial burdens eased.
- At the national level, our donations support AAUW's vision of equal opportunity for all.

Generous contributions from our members, along with prize money from Coastside Gives, allowed us to raise more than \$11,000 last year. As we reach to touch the future, let's aim even higher in 2022!

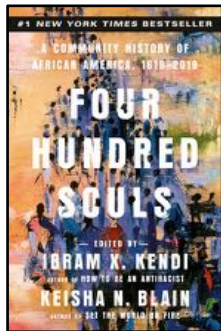
Remember: Any time from March 7 until midnight on May 5, you can go online to coastsidegives.org and click on AAUW-HMB to make your contribution. Let's touch the future together!

Jan Grierson
Coastside Gives Lead

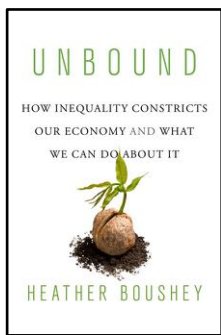
Recent Books by AAUW Fellows and Grantees

Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019

Editors **Ibram X. Kendi** and **Keisha N. Blain** have assembled 90 brilliant writers, each of whom takes on a five-year period within the 400-year span from 1619 to the present. The Washington Post calls *Four Hundred Souls*, “a vital addition to [the] curriculum on race in America.”



Unbound: How Inequality Constricts Our Economy and What We Can Do about It

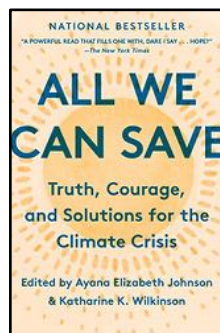


In this book, 1997-98 AAUW American Fellow **Heather Boushey** provides meticulous evidence that inequality hurts economic growth as she lays out a path forward for our country based on equity. Boushey is co-founder of the Washington Center for Equitable Growth and currently serves as a member of the Council of Economic Advisers in the Biden administration.

All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis

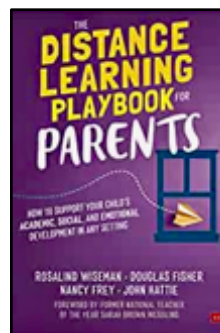
This volume of illuminating essays was co-edited by **Ayana Johnson**, a 2010–11 American Fellow and marine biologist and

policy expert. It harnesses the voices of women at the forefront of the climate change movement. The New York Times calls it “a powerful read that fills one with, dare I say . . . hope?”

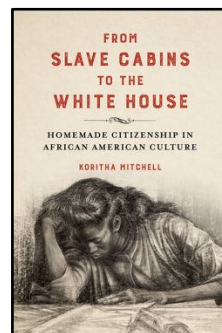


The Distance Learning Playbook for Parents: How to Support Your Child's Academic, Social, and Emotional Development in Any Setting

For her new book, 1997-98 AAUW Community Action Grantee **Rosalind Wiseman** teamed up with three education experts to help parents navigate the tricky world of remote instruction. The book provides a wealth of advice that will help children thrive in any learning environment.



From Slave Cabins to the White House: Homemade Citizenship in African American Culture

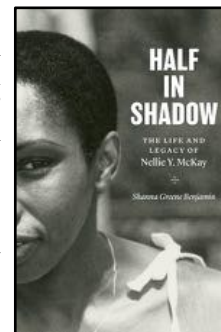


Named a “Best Book of 2020” by Ms. Magazine, this tome by 2009-10 AAUW American Fellow **Koritha Mitchell** lays bare the hostility African

American women faced as they invested in traditional domesticity throughout history. While white homemakers were conferred respectability and safety, Black women endured pejorative labels, racist government policies, and attacks on their citizenship.

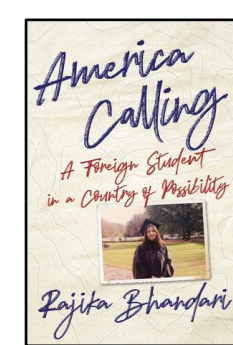
Half in Shadow: The Life and Legacy of Nellie Y. McKay

Shanna Greene Benjamin, a 2011-12 AAUW American Fellow, has long been interested in exploring how the scholar and critic **Nellie Y. McKay** helped to carve out a place for Black women in the literary canon. Her new book brings together McKay’s private life and public work to expand how we think about Black literary history and the place of Black women in American culture.



America Calling: A Foreign Student in a Country of Possibility

This book by 1995-96 AAUW International Fellow **Rajika Bhandari** is both



a deeply personal story of one immigrant’s search for her place and voice, and an incisive analysis of America’s relationship with the rest of the world through a powerful tool of diplomacy: education.



**SAVE THE
DATE!**

AAUW SANTA CLARA COUNTY PRESENTS:

TITLE IX
*What You Don't Know CAN Hurt
You*

19 March 2022 | Noon- 1 p.m.
Free Virtual Event

**MODERATED BY DANIELLE SLATON:
US WOMEN'S SOCCER OLYMPIC MEDALIST AND
SOCCER TELEVISION ANALYST WITH THE
SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES**

Registration information on Eventbrite
Coming Soon



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

March 2022

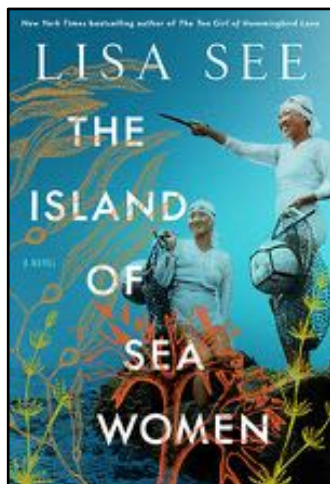
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Walk & Talk 10 a.m.	Board Meeting 7 p.m.	Days for Girls 1 p.m.			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Walk & Talk 10 a.m.	Great Decisions 5:30 p.m.				Title IX Event Noon
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Walk & Talk 10 a.m. Branch Meeting 7 p.m.			Theater Bash 6:30 p.m.		
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	Walk & Talk 10 a.m.	Evening Book Club 7 p.m.				

Interest Groups Getting Busier

Days for Girls: The next “Come When You Can, Give an Hour to DFG” workshop will be Wednesday, March 9, from 1 to 5 p.m. at **Gladys Picht’s** house. Contact **Vivian Costello** or **Karen Hume** to coordinate.



Evening Book Club: All meetings are the last Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Our Zoom meetings begin at 7 p.m. Members will be included in all discussions and decisions to change to in-person gatherings.



Upcoming meetings include:
 March 29: *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. Facilitator: **Linda Lowens**.

April 26: *Spirits of San Francisco: Voyages through the Unknown City* by Barry Kamiya.

Facilitator: **Antoinette Wrubel**.
 May 31: *The Soul of an Octopus* by Sy Montgomery. Facilitator: **Judy Buckland**.



For more information, please contact **Nancy Evans** at egnancy@comcast.net.

Great Decisions: After a very interesting discussion last month on aspects of outer space, we will be discussing the very timely topic of “Putin’s Russia.” This is chapter 3 in the Great Decisions book. For members, please note this is skipping over chapter 2, which we’ll study the following month. I felt with the looming issues of



Ukraine, it would be good to be updated on background information. Of course, Ukraine will enter the discussion. Our goal

is to participate in the foreign policy process with an informed and non-partisan view.

As an introduction to those who are not familiar with our group, we purchase booklets called *Great Decisions* annually from the **Foreign Policy Association**. This is not an AAUW organization, but many branches participate in this. Their goal is to develop awareness, understanding, and informed opinions on U.S. policy and global issues.

Because of the importance of this topic, I invite any of you to join us at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, to listen in. Contact **Barbara Von Glahn** for the Zoom link.



Janus: Because of indoor COVID restrictions and inclement weather, we will not meet in March. If you would like to be on the group list, please send an email to **Mary Alice Pearce** at maalice_hmb@comcast.net.



Walk & Talk: Join us Monday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon for a walk on our beautiful Coastsides. Send your name and email to **Marilyn Garrison** at marilyngarr@hotmail.com and she’ll add you to the weekly email list.

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Another Installment of Armchair Entertainment

Thanks to Jan Grierson for kicking off this idea in last month's *Tidings*. Many of us are restricted to armchair entertainment — books, audiobooks, movies, podcasts, television programs. There's so



much from which to choose. As Jan said, it's often easier to settle into something recommended by a friend or acquaintance.

Mary Alice Pearce:

We've been watching a lot of Netflix lately.

Don't Look Up is a must see.

Others I would recommend are *My Father's Violin*, *Our Souls at Night*, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, and *Tall Girl*.

We also watched *Te Ata* for Native American Heritage Month. Excellent.

Janet Rae-Dupree/Sara Hayden:

Our household has been enamored with *Resident Alien*, a dark



comedy on the SyFy channel. It's not what you think it is. Give it a try.

Amazon's *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* is a smart, fast-paced period dramedy and we absolutely love it.

While recuperating from knee-



replacement surgery, Janet rewatched all of *Downton Abbey* and *Madam Secretary*, who (spoiler alert) becomes Madam President by the end of the series.

Janet also caught up on *Outlander* books 8 and 9: *Written in My Own Heart's Blood* and *Go Tell the Bees that I Am Gone*.

Now, chime in with your own ideas or list! Send suggestions to aauw.hmb.newsletter@gmail.com by the 15th of the month for the following month's *Tidings*.



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In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barrier to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.