



NEWSLETTER

Hagerstown Branch

November 2025

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Charlotte Trout

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Sharon Chirgott



**American
Association of
University
Women**

Annual Holiday Tea
Sunday, December 7
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Judy Thompson's Residence



Members are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert to share.
No RSVP required.



AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

"Advancing equity for women and girls, through advocacy, education and research".

Visit our website: <http://hagerstown-md.aauw.net>

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AAUW Newsletter

The President's Message

And just like that it seems to be winter ... cold and dark. However, the grass is still green, there are blooms on the roses as well as the pineapple sage, a surprise return plant this year. Every day in late fall is a surprise.

The first week of November saw the city celebrating Jonathan Hager week. I had an opportunity to attend two events, a genealogy presentation Tuesday evening and the "Celebration of Life" service at Zion Reformed UCC on Thursday evening. (Pop quiz: What two members of our branch sang as part of a choir at this service?) The service featured presentations by many speakers who told us about Hager's life, the development of the city at that time, the people who were here, the archeological finds and much more. It was a fascinating and informative evening. You can find the whole service on the Zion Reformed YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYslqaHexcg&t=3744s>.

I finished reading The Lost Bookshop by Evie Woods this past weekend. A good fiction read with some sad reminders of how hard life was and can be for women. The ending was positive. Similarly, As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow was sad and hard to read as it deals with conditions in Syria after the Arab Spring. Again, the ending is positive. So, yes, in between everything else I am busy doing, I am reading.

I attended (virtually) the recent State AAUW meeting which focused on Indigenous Peoples. The first session discussed some of the archeological finds in the state. Then we heard about the historical and current issues with missing indigenous women and girls. Finally, we learned about the growth in colleges that serve Indigenous peoples and why it is so important for these institutions to exist. A great morning.

In a few weeks, we will have our Holiday Tea. I hope to see many of you there. I promise to read a few books to share before then and I look forward to hearing what you have been reading and doing this fall.

Meanwhile, take care.

Charlotte



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Afternoon Literature Schedule 2025-2026

Afternoon Lit meets the third Monday at 1:30 at members' homes. This year the hostess is also the presenter, reviewing a book of her choice. Light refreshments are served. Call Judy Thompson if you have questions. All members are welcome!	
November 17	Judy Chaney & Carole Myers
There will not be a December meeting.	
January 19	Meet for lunch and share a book, TBD
February 16	Georgi Kauffman
March 16	Susie Latimer
April 20	Judy Thompson
May 18	Vivian Michael

Evening Literature Schedule 2025-2026

Evening Lit meets on the fourth Tuesday at 7:00 at members' homes.				
Date	Host	Book	Author	Reviewer
Nov. 25	Judy Chaney	Empires of Light	Jill Jonnes	Judy Chaney
No meeting in December				
Jan. 27	Restaurant TBD	Share a book and plan for the remainder of the year		

Second Friday Lunch

The next lunch will be on Friday, December 12, The Brick Tavern of Hagerstown, 28 S. Potomac St., Hagerstown, at 12:30 p.m. Please let Sharon Chirgott know if you are interested in attending by Wednesday, November 5 so a reservation can be made.



Mark your calendars for future lunch dates:

January 9, Schmankerl Stube, 58 S. Potomac St., Hagerstown
February 13, Baile Cask & Kettle, 53 W. Washington St., Hagerstown
March 13, Colonial Bar & Grill, 14130 Pennsylvania Ave., Hagerstown
April 10, Kitz's of Spring Mills, 5623 Williamsport Pike, Martinsburg
May 8, Chili's Grill & Bar, 245 Railway Lane, Hagerstown
June 12, The Dog House Bar & Grill, 20-22 Public Square, Hagerstown

Ideas for future lunch sites always welcome!

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Recipe of the Month

Pecan Pie Brownies

Contributed by Marilyn Young

1 box brownie mix, with ingredients listed on the package

Pecan Pie Filling:

1 C sugar	¼ C unsalted butter
1 ½ C light corn syrup	1 ½ t vanilla
4 eggs	2 C pecans, roughly chopped

Preheat oven following the brownie mix instructions.

Cook sugar, corn syrup, eggs, butter, and vanilla until thickened.

Prepare and bake brownies in a 13x9" pan for 20 minutes.

Stir pecans into the filling and pour over pre-baked brownies.

Bake for 25-30 minutes until slightly jiggly. Cool before serving.

Why Is It Called Black Friday?

What is Black Friday? Black Friday is a shopping "holiday" in the United States. It is characterized by widespread discounts and sales offered by a wide range of retailers, many of whom operated for extended hours and offer limited-time deals to attract customers.

Why is it called "Black Friday"? The term "Black Friday", in reference to this shopping day, can be traced to the city of Philadelphia in the 1950s. The city's police officers called the day Black Friday because of the chaos created by the descent of enormous crowds of shoppers in the downtown area. The Black Friday nickname derived from the idea that it was a dark day for those charged with maintaining order on a day of overcrowding, traffic jams, accidents, and other problems.

Cranberry Facts

The cranberry, *Vaccinium macrocarpon*, is a native American plant.

Cranberries are a "superfood". They're packed with health benefits, including anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, and antioxidant properties.

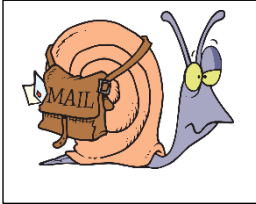
The Pequot people of Cape Cod call the berry *ibimi*, meaning "bitter berry", and traditionally combined crushed cranberries with dried venison and fat to make a winter superfood called pemmican.

The Pilgrims and those who followed appreciated the wild berries but did not start cultivating them until 1816, when a bog was planted and tended in the coastal town of Dennis, Massachusetts. By then, American and Canadian sailors on long voyages knew they could eat cranberries to protect themselves from scurvy—making them a cranberry counterpart to British "limeys".

Contrary to belief, cranberries don't grow underwater. When you see pictures of cranberries floating on the surface, they've been released from the vine and are ready to be harvested.

Source: The Old Farmer's Almanac, Boys Town 2025

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Member Helping Member

The newsletter does not always arrive in a timely manner to those receiving print copies. If you receive the electronic delivery, please share the information with your friends who you know get the newsletter via the mail, so they don't miss events.

Proposed Calendar of Activities

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location / Hostess</u>	<u>Time</u>
Mon. Nov. 17	Afternoon Lit.	Judy Chaney	1:30 p.m.
Tues. Nov. 25	Evening Lit.	Judy Chaney	7:00 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 7	Holiday Tea	Judy Thompson	2:00 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 12	2nd Friday Lunch	Brick Tavern	12:30 p.m.
Thurs. Dec. 25	Merry Christmas		
Thurs. Jan. 1	Happy New Year		
Mon. Jan. 5	Board Meeting	Zoom	7:00 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 9	2nd Friday Lunch	Schmankerl Stube	12:30 p.m.
Mon. Jan. 19	Afternoon Lit.	TBD	1:30 p.m.
Tues. Jan. 27	Evening Lit.	TBD	7:00 p.m.

