



AAUW Somerset Hills- DECEMBER NEWS

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	CONTACT/HOST
		DECEMBER 2024 🌲	
Mon 12/2	6:00 PM	Evening Book Group Panera, Basking Ridge <u>The Women</u> by Kristen Hannah	Pat Emanuele
Sat** 12/14	12:00 PM	Holiday Potluck Luncheon Food, games, music!!! Long Hill Township Library	Brigid Coakley and the Hospitality Committee Sign up below to bring a food item**
Mon 12/9	9:00 AM	Morning Book Group ZOOM <u>Remarkably Bright Creatures</u> By Shelby VanPelt	Jackie D'Allessio
		JANUARY 2025 Happy New Year!! 🎆	
Mon 1/6	6:00 PM	Evening Book Group ZOOM <u>Ireana's Children</u> By Tilar Mazzo	Pat Emanuele
Sat** 1/11	10:00 AM	<i>The Balkans: Crossroads of Conquest</i> Speaker: Robin Marion	
Mon 1/20	9:00 AM	Morning Book Group ZOOM <u>The Covenant of Water</u> By Abraham Vergese	Jackie D'Allessio


**Click here to sign up for the Pot Luck!!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TZ_L242uZG9YfRpS_vIEre1jyyFIDf_6xORKhuwM1mE/viewform?edit_request=true

For your information!!! The December, January and February Branch meetings will be on SATURDAYS, at the Long Hill Township Library.

2024 Holiday Charity

Our branch has chosen to support the airdrop to the Asheville, NC area that was devastated by Hurricane Helene-information is available at our December meeting. Bring a check if you would like to contribute.

 **Carpool coordination:** Sharon Hayden (sharon.hayden323@gmail.com).
(908-229-6915) If you need a ride, or can provide a ride!


 **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT & SOCIAL COMMITTEE** - Please notify the committee if you know of a member whose life circumstances are such that they could use a little SUNSHINE. The committee will extend a supportive connection on behalf of the Branch!
Please contact **Jean Aurnhammer** (908-227-3861, jaa39@aol.com) or **Lee Delitzscher** (908-647-4497) ladybearlee@aol.com



BUYING BOOKS as gifts or for yourself?

At this time of year we are all looking forward to seeing what's available at the Book Sale. If you want to be sure of getting just the specific title or topic you have in mind, search on the **ThriftBooks.com** website. This company continues to be a valuable partner helping us to reap the benefit of books donated for our annual sale and not sold immediately. They can be a great source for YOUR book purchases!

AAUW BOOK GROUPS: Please contact Jackie D'Allessio (3rd Monday- mornings) or Pat Emanuele (1st Monday- evenings), the coordinators, to be put on the list to receive information for whichever Book Group meetings best fit your schedule and your interest in titles. **For a full list of dates and titles, go to our website:** <https://somersethills-nj.aauw.net/> Look under "Interests."

 **FUN FACT:** There are many cultural and religious holidays in December. How many? Here are just a few:

St. Nicholas Day (Dec. 5 or 6)

Immaculate Conception Day (Dec. 8)

Bodhi Day (Dec. 8)

Feast Day of Our Lady Guadalupe (Dec. 12)

Hanukkah (Dec. 18-26)

Yule (Dec. 21-Jan.1)

Christmas (Dec. 25)

Boxing Day (Dec. 26)

Kwanzaa (Dec. 26-Jan. 1)

Zarathosht Diso (Dec. 26)

New Year's Eve (Dec. 31)

(Source:<https://time.com/6242283/december-global-holidays-christmas-hanukkah-yule/>)

 **We value the PARTICIPATION of all members. We cannot be a strong group without your support. Find out how you can make us stronger at our next monthly meeting! WE can all do a little!!** 



TAKE ACTION

Two-Minute Activist

Join AAUW advocates in the fight for equal pay, equity in education, paid leave, protections against sexual harassment and more. Sign up to get regular alerts on when and how to engage, including sending letters to your legislators, writing letters to the editor and other timely calls to action.

SIGN UP

an uncertain future

Observers predict another round of Title IX changes to begin after Donald Trump takes office in January, causing further disruption and uncertainty. Hear from our experts what we can expect in 2025 and beyond.

**THURSDAY
JANUARY 23
7 PM**

register at bit.ly/aaunwj-titleix



<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

AAUW's Huge IMPACT! Helping mothers and children!!

For the past several years AAUW Somerset Hills has given the Friends of the Great Swamp the opportunity to collect used children's books that don't sell at the annual book sales. The Friends is in partnership with Josephine's Place, a women's shelter in Elizabeth, NJ. Volunteers from our Outreach group visit the shelter and read to the children, who have little access to books, while their mothers learn English, computer skills and take exercise classes. If a child likes a book, it is given to them. I am told that the smile on the face of a child that has been given a book to keep as his/her very own is priceless. The children speak English, but many of the mothers do not. The children take the books home and read to their mothers. So it is a win-win situation.

Thank you AAUW Somerset Hills for making the lives of these mothers and children a little happier.

Again, many thanks,

Barry Bowman

Volunteer, Friends of Great Swamp



(54 mothers and children attending the Great Swamp's Fall Festival in September)

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