

Save the Date: December 5, 2020 - 10 a.m.



**Boulder AAUW ZOOM Meeting with
Member KC Becker**

Colorado General Assembly

Speaker of the House

**Hear KC's thoughts on the focus the Colorado legislative
agendas as a result of the election.**

Wednesdays, Wine, and Women's Issues

Boulder AAUW's

ZOOM Happy Hour

November 18, 2020 – 5 p.m.

Contact Marcia Sprague,

aphoenix2@comcast.net

if you need ZOOM instructions



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

A big thank you to our Public Policy Co-chairs, Barbara O'Connor and Betty Flaten, for organizing the Boulder AAUW's Get Out the Vote effort. Thank you, too, to all of our members who contacted family members and friends and encouraged them to vote.



Our votes counted in the targeted AAUW issues. The voters of Colorado defeated Proposition 115, Ban Abortions After 22 Weeks Gestation, and passed Proposition 118, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program.

A Message from Kathy by Boulder AAUW President Kathy Olivier

Happy Fall or Happy Snow Day.

I hope you are staying warm and safe. AAUW stood staunchly against selecting Judge Amy Coney Barrett to fill the Supreme Court vacancy created by the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg until after the next president is inaugurated in January. However, that did not happen and Justice Barrett was confirmed by the U.S. Senate and sworn in as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court on October 27, 2020.



While AAUW agreed that it is essential to choose a woman for this powerful and distinguished role, women are not interchangeable. AAUW's overall priority is advancing gender equity. This includes reproductive freedoms and access to health care, upholding Title IX's enabling of female students to battle sex discrimination in schools, and strengthening protections for workers. These are not the demonstrated priorities of Justice Barrett. Now that Justice Barrett is confirmed, we will adjust to the changes that she will bring to the highest court. AAUW members will have to stay vigilant in our support of the issues AAUW supports.

We understand that this is an uncertain time and we thank you for your flexibility. Please reach out with questions, suggestions, and concerns. Most importantly, please stay safe and healthy, and take care of yourselves, your family and your friends.

Wishing you good health,

Kathy Olivier

Sixty Students Attended Start Smart Workshop



On Wednesday, October 14, 2020, Boulder AAUW Start Smart facilitators taught salary negotiation skills for new jobs to sixty undergraduate women at the University of Colorado Leed's School of Business.

In every two-hour workshop, students gain confidence in their negotiation style through facilitated discussion and role-play.

AAUW Boulder thanks the facilitators who give their time and expertise to university students, enabling them to start their careers with equitable salaries.

AAUW: Mission, Vision, and Values



Mission: To advance equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. **Vision:** Equity for all. **Values:** Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

Colorado's Clear Message on Abortion (The Denver Post Editorial)

In a strikingly clear message to those who would erode abortion rights in this nation, nearly 59% of Colorado voters struck down a proposed ban on abortions after 22 weeks of gestation.

Women and doctors should be making these medical decisions, not politicians. More voters cast their ballots against the ban than voted for Joe Biden, a testament to Colorado's strong libertarian streak. Biden won by 13 points. Proposition 115 was rejected by 18 points.

Anyone who knows the history of abortion in Colorado is not surprised. We were among the first states (many say the very first) to decriminalize abortion in certain cases in 1967. For years, conservatives who believe that a fertilized egg is considered a life tried to get voters to pass a personhood law, declaring a zygote a person under Colorado law. Colorado voters rejected these personhood proposals repeatedly. We worried that Proposition 115, sold as a reasonable ban prohibiting abortions during the second half of pregnancy, would have a chance in a purple state like Colorado. We are relieved that it did not pass. Women from across the nation come to Colorado seeking abortion care when their home state denies them the medical care they need. Bravely, some of the women who have had late-term abortions came forward to share their heartbreaking stories of love and loss. These women reclaimed the narrative surrounding abortion, helping to remove stigma and shame and replace it with human faces.

Opponents of abortion should take this loss for what it is and refocus their efforts on supporting pregnant women, especially teens, promoting access to birth control and comprehensive sexual education, and boosting adoption programs and foster care services. There is so much need.

And U.S. Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett should reconsider her position about abortion and stare decisis. Roe v. Wade is now a decades-old decision that laid the foundation for women's rights in a country that at the time was ruled by men. Women for generations have relied upon the guarantee that the government (local, state or federal) will not and can not interfere with their personal medical choices. To rip that foundation out from under women now, would erode this nation's commitment to freedom and our faith in time-honored institutions like the Supreme Court. Yes, Justice Coney Barrett, Roe v. Wade is a super precedent that should remain in place. When states bring ill-conceived restrictions on abortion, our justices should follow the lead of Colorado voters and strike them down.

That's what three Republican nominated justices did in 1992 with Planned Parenthood v. Casey. The court weighed in on abortion restrictions, not a ban, and declared that abandoning the liberties afforded in Roe would come "at the cost of both profound and unnecessary damage to the court's legitimacy." Laws surrounding abortions performed before the point of viability, the court ruled, must not pose an "undue burden" to women seeking abortion care.

The court must consider the constitutional crisis that would occur in a state like Colorado, in which a healthy majority of voters have definitively said abortion care is an unbridgeable right, were the court to open the door to a national abortion ban at any point of gestation.

Colorado has spoken and our justices should listen.

Our Condolences to the Family of Long-Time Active Boulder AAUW Member Mary Humke

“When I die, Hallelujah by and by, I’ll fly away...”



Dear friends,

Our sweet, dear, gentle mom flew away last night (Saturday, October 31, 2020). Her passing was quiet and peaceful. We knew her time was near and she was so ready to leave her body behind, but our hearts are broken with missing her.

Mom lived life to the fullest, and kept on living with ALS for over six years. As many of you know, she and my dad visited all seven continents, traveling to Antarctica in 2015 just before my dad passed away. It was such a joy that she then decided to join us here in Austin, and we’ve been even closer these past nine months that she’s lived in my home.

We are so thankful that Matt was finally able to travel from Guatemala and we all spent mom’s final days together, looking at family photos, listening to music, reminiscing, and holding her hand.

We don’t have plans for a formal memorial but feel as if we’ve been having an ongoing, living memorial service during these past weeks and months, wrapping mom in a blanket of love with all the memories, photos, and tender thoughts that so many have shared. In the longer term, we plan to scatter mom’s ashes in meaningful places for her like Boulder and Wisconsin. We also promised her that we will continue to travel the globe in her honor, and so there will be many private remembrances around the world in years to come.

Mom and I have been listening to her favorite music throughout our time together, and one song in particular always really spoke to us. Feel free to have a listen, and wish her god speed as she flies away.

I’ll Fly Away - Chris Thile with The War & Treaty - Live from Here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S3iLqcAO8-E>

Love,

Erika (Humke)

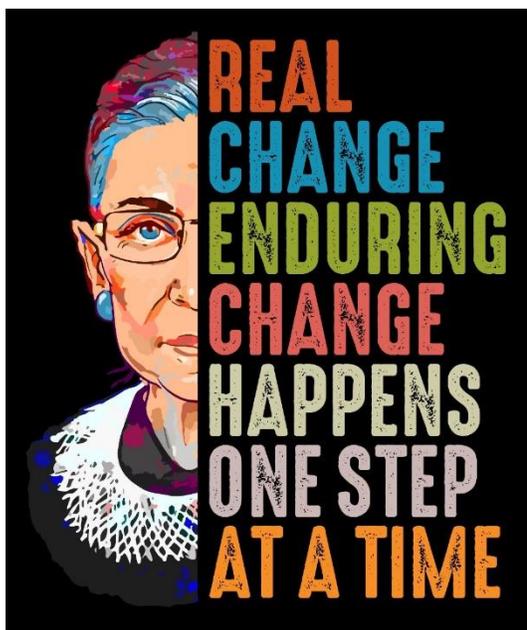
ehumke@gmail.com

Check out Boulder AAUW’s Website: <https://boulder-co.aauw.net/>

Boulder AAUW Interest Groups & Contact Persons 2020-21

To belong to an interest group, except *Great Decisions*, individuals need to be a member of AAUW Boulder

<p>Great Decisions Linda Groth lkg.reads@comcast.net, 303-449-0713 Arlene Blewitt arleneblewitt@hotmail.com, 303-570-8804</p>	<p>Will meet January-April, 2021, at the George Reynolds Library, 3595 Table Mesa Dr, Boulder 80305, every other Tuesday at 10 a.m.</p>
<p>La Cuisine Joyce Spencer jjandbobs@msn.com, 303-325-5394</p>	<p>Usually meets the third Saturday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in members' homes. Getting together on Zoom.</p>
<p>Mahjong Eileen Koch es.koch@comcast.net, 720-238-0006</p>	<p>Meets in members' homes at 7 p.m. on dates chosen by members. Contact Eileen for the schedule. Getting together on Zoom.</p>
<p>Playgoers Jennie Grisham jennig43@q.com, 303-443-6194</p>	<p>Attend the operas at CU and other local plays on Sunday afternoons during the year. Dinners following at local restaurants are optional.</p>
<p>Wednesday "Bookies" Group Mary McKeever mckeever7868@gmail.com, 303-823-6604</p>	<p>Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. by Zoom (normally in members' homes.) Upcoming book selections are: 11/18/20-<i>The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek</i> by Kim Michelle Richardson 12/16/20-<i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> by JD Salinger</p>
<p>Daytime Non-Fiction & Conversation Helen Holden heleninco@comcast.net, 303-828-3016</p>	<p>Meets the first Thursday of the month by Zoom (normally in members' homes.)</p>



IN THE STEPS OF RBG by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

So let me take one step right now,
one step toward respect.
And give me strength to take another
toward clarity. And though
my feet might feel like stones, let
me take another step toward justice.
And another toward equity. And another
toward truth. And though my legs
may feel leaden and slow, though someone
else may step on my toes, may I inch toward
forgiveness. May every step
be toward a bridge. Enough divisiveness.
And as I go, may I find joy in the stepping,
grace in the edging toward great change.
But if there's little joy, let me step anyway.
Then take another step. And another. And another.