



## Middletown Newsletter

October 2018

On Saturday, October 6 at 11am the Middletown Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will be hosting a joint meeting with Miami University student affiliate branch. The meeting will be held at the White Garden Inn, 6194 Brown Road, Oxford.

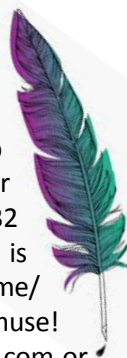
Miami University Women's Basketball coach, Megan Duffy, will be speaking about girls in sports and the impact of the federal law Title IX. This is a national advocacy issue for AAUW. There will be opportunity for sharing about AAUW with a light lunch to follow.

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. On campuses, AAUW helps foster the next generation of women in leadership and in the workplace. Beyond graduation, members mentor, fund, and support educational and professional development. From college through career and beyond, AAUW is working to change the future.

For more information about the meeting and if you would like to attend; contact Katie McNeil ([Kmcneil@whitegardeninn.com](mailto:Kmcneil@whitegardeninn.com))

## PENS Creative Writing Group

In October we continue our creative writing group. Our "PENS" group will meet on the second and fourth Thursday, 10/11 and 10/25. Our meeting time is 9:30-11:00. We will meet at Maurita Stueck's home, 132 Northwestern Avenue, Monroe (Mount Pleasant campus). Our format is to bring a piece of writing to share with the group (5 minute time frame/each writer). All writers are welcome to come pursue your creative muse! Please email or call Becky Ward with any questions: [beckward@gmail.com](mailto:beckward@gmail.com) or 513/424-8409.



## Middletown AAUW

### Saturday Cultural Outings Regional Exploration

This month's SCORE outing is to Fort Ancient Native American works in Oregonia. We will meet for carpooling at 10am in the Meijer NE parking lot; return time depends on the interest of attendees. Details including admission costs, etc. will be made available to those attending. Lunch before or afterwards is optional and up to individuals attending.

Remaining events for 2018 are:

October 27: Pyramid Hill in Hamilton  
November 24: Cincinnati Art Museum  
December 29: Basilica in Covington, KY

Make reservations with Katie McNeil, 513-470-9031 or [kmcneil@whitegardeninn.com](mailto:kmcneil@whitegardeninn.com).

## Calendar of Events

**Saturday, October 6, 11 am-1 pm**

Issues in Title IX  
White Garden Inn (light lunch provided)  
6194 Brown Road, Oxford

**Thursdays, October 11 and 25, 9:30 am-11 am**

PENS Writing Group  
Maurita Stueck's home, usually:  
see article

**Monday, October 15**

Schwan's Cares AAUW Fundraising  
Deadline for 20% donation to Middletown AAUW

**Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 pm**

Joy Luck Book Club  
*Station Eleven* – Emily St. John Mandel  
Pam Pearson's home

**Drop Off Saturdays for Holiday Bazaar**

October 20—10:00-2:00  
October 27—10:00-2:00  
November 3—10:00-2:00

**Saturday, October 27**

SCORE Outing (RSVP by 10/15)  
Pyramid Hill in Hamilton, see article

**Holiday Bazaar**

Friday, November 9, 9 am-3 pm  
Saturday, November 10, 9 am-3 pm

**Monday, November 12, 7 pm**

Raul Ramos, Cuban-born American citizen, noted Hispanic author  
Gardner Harvey Library

**Thursday, November 15 at 7:00 pm**

Joy Luck Book Club  
*The Skinny Years* – Raul Ramos y Sanchez  
Host to be confirmed

**stay connected**

**[aauw.org](http://aauw.org)**

**[aauwoh.org](http://aauwoh.org)**

**[middletown-oh.aauw.net](http://middletown-oh.aauw.net)**

## "Joy Luck" Book Club

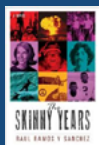
**October 18 at 7:00 pm**  
**Station Eleven – Emily St. John Mandel**  
**Pam Pearson's Home**

Station Eleven, recommended by Ginny Palmer and the choice for this year's Hamilton "One City One Read" event, is a science fiction novel that takes place around the Great Lakes after a fictional swine flu pandemic that kills most of the world's population. Winner of the Arthur C. Clarke Award in 2015, it chronicles a nomadic group of actors and musicians known as the Travelling Symphony. It's appealing to sci-fi and artsy readers alike.



Meet the Author: Emily St. John Mandel will be speaking in Hamilton on Monday, October 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilks Conference Center of the Miami Hamilton campus as part of the Lane Libraries Roesel Lecture Series. (see full page)

**November 15 at 7:00 pm**  
**The Skinny Years – Raul Ramos y Sanchez**  
**Gardner Harvey Library**



Book club this month will follow along with the topic of our main speaker for AAUW's November meeting, noted Hispanic author Raul Ramos. Raul was born in Cuba and fled Castro with his mother, becoming a U.S. citizen and long-time resident of Dayton. His most recent book, The Skinny Years, is the story of a young Cuban immigrant, Victor "Skinny" Delgado, growing up in Miami in the turbulent 1960s. It started out as a memoir, but Raul told me his real life wasn't dramatic enough, so he turned it into a novel!

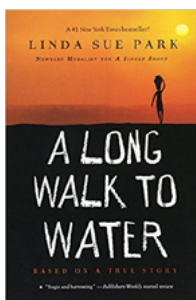
The book is available on Amazon, but here is a link if you'd like to order a signed copy for \$16 (which includes shipping): <http://raulramos.com/eventspecial>

Meet the Author: Be sure to attend the main AAUW meeting at MidPointe Library on November 12 to meet Raul in person. He will be speaking on "Cuba Then & Now: Returning after 50 Years in America."



## Carolyn Smith, Middletown Branch President

Middletown Water Treatment Plant manager, Scott Belcher, and program co-chair Michelle Piepgrass presented information about local water treatment and water issues across the globe at our opening branch meeting and potluck dinner on September 10. (Pictured below) Thanks to Michelle and a dedicated program committee for starting our year with such a thought-provoking topic. We learned that our own tap water is a safer source of water than much of the bottled water we buy. We learned that safe drinking water is clearly a women's issue in many third world countries where women and girls might spend hours each day walking long distances to wells and returning with water. The chore keeps girls out of school, and the heavy labor exacerbates physiological issues as women age.



Newbery medalist, Linda Sue Parks, wrote a children's novel in 2011, based on a true story, that shows the reality of the problems for girls in Sudan, Africa. *A Long Walk to Water* would make a quick read for you or a wonderful Christmas gift for middle school children.

Our board was busy this past summer working for a strong program and series of activities meant to promote Learn. Share. Do. I especially applaud Katie McNeil for fostering sharing time with members by creating SCORE outings.

Katie admits up front that she chose venues and events that she would like to attend. These fun programs on the last Saturday of the month offer opportunities for our members to spend social time together unimpeded by the duties of meetings. The October 27 SCORE outing offers members opportunity to share together during a tour Pyramid Hill in Hamilton.

I represented our branch September 29 in Worthington at the Ohio AAUW Fall Summit where we learned about our state association's new two-year advocacy plan to support women's economic security. I will share more of this plan later and details of our work in committees at that summit.



I hope you agree with me, that it is interesting and invigorating to be part of this organization at this time in history, following the #MeToo Movement, the Women's March, and the confirmation hearings related to Judge Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court. Let us all stay tuned and stay focused on our methods to improve

the lives of women  
as together we  
Learn.Share.Do.



# **ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

## **FRIDAY & SATURDAY**

### **NOVEMBER 9 & 10**

#### **9:00AM-3:00PM**

#### **4312 WALTON COURT – MIDDLETOWN**

#### **DONATIONS NEEDED**

Invite family, friends and neighbors to contribute.  
We are looking for new / gently used holiday items.

Check list for your convenience.

\_\_\_ decorations – trees, wreaths, centerpieces

\_\_\_ holiday dishes

\_\_\_ linens – placemats, tablecloths, napkins, towels,  
pillows, winter bed linens

\_\_\_ holiday books, games, puzzles, toys

\_\_\_ items that can be regifted, new candles, lotions,  
socks, scarves, gloves, hats, purses, jewelry

\_\_\_ handcrafted items – whatever your specialty

\_\_\_ homemade items for the SWEET SHOP

**AAUW**  
empowering women since 1881

#### **DROP OFF SATURDAYS:**

**October 20 – 10:00-2:00**

**October 27 – 10:00-2:00**

**November 3 – 10:00-2:00**

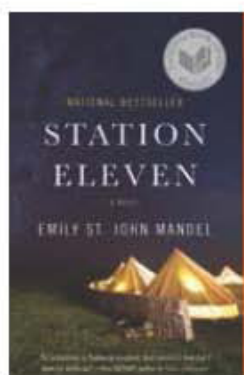
For alternate drop off times, please call Rose  
to set up. 513-424-1969 or edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com



# NEWS@THE LANE

## An Evening with *Station Eleven* Author Emily St. John Mandel

Part of the Lane Libraries Roesel Lecture Series  
Monday, October 22, 7:00 p.m.  
Wilks Conference Center, Miami Hamilton



The Lane Libraries welcome author Emily St. John Mandel as our featured speaker for this fall's One City One Book project, a community reading initiative with book discussions and other events planned to explore the themes

within the title *Station Eleven*.

Mandel's critically acclaimed novel was a finalist for the 2014 National Book Award. She is the author of three previous novels – *Last Night in Montreal*, *The Singer's Gun*, and *The Lola Quartet* – all of which were Indie Next picks.

In her lectures, Mandel captivates audiences with stories about her early writing career and her thoughtful reflections on writing literary fiction with the strongest possible narrative drive.

*Station Eleven* is set in an eerie post-apocalyptic North America, twenty years after the initial collapse of civilization when culture was reshaping itself and defining a new normal. Sometimes terrifying, sometimes tender, *Station Eleven* tells a story about the relationships that sustain us, the ephemeral nature of fame, and the beauty of the world as we know it.

Emily St. John Mandel was born in British Columbia, Canada. She is a staff writer for *The Millions*, and her work has appeared in numerous anthologies, including *The Best American Mystery Stories 2013* and *Venice Noir*. She lives in New York City with her husband and daughter.

This event is free and open to the public. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.



### What is One City One Book?

One City One Book is a community reading initiative. The project centers around the community-wide reading of a single book and is committed to creating shared conversations among all our neighborhoods – coinciding with a range of related events and activities for Hamilton residents of all ages.

For more information and a calendar of this year's events, visit [www.facebook.com/OneCityOneBookHamilton](http://www.facebook.com/OneCityOneBookHamilton).

## There's Still Time!

There's still time to place your order. When you order from Schwan's between now and the end of October, a percentage of your order total will be contributed from Schwan's Cares Charitable Program to the AAUW Scholarship Fund.

I had never ordered from Schwan's before and just did. I must say that the pricing was competitive with the grocery and they even have ice cream!

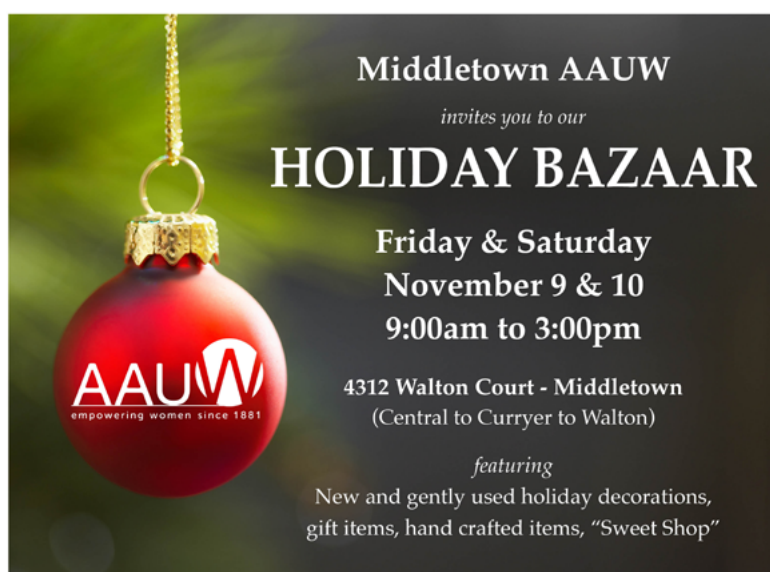
Not interested in ordering? The holidays are just around the corner, so why not order a gift card for someone on your gift list? AAUW-Middletown will get a percentage of the cost of the gift card as well. Schwan's delivers everywhere in the United States so it's the perfect gift. (See full page ad)

### Online

1. Visit <http://schwans-cares.com/c/41837>
2. Click "Shop Now"
3. Select team member Karen Kirsch
4. Start Shopping

### Phone

Call 1-855-870-7208 and provide Campaign ID 41837.



## AAUW Middletown Branch Officers

### Branch President

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