Thank you to Mary Dykeman for an interesting talk about Diversity.

This month Dr. Stuart Gillim will join us and discuss new trends in **Womens’ Health** and preventative measures in health care.

The menu for the Nov. 4 meal includes: roast turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, glazed carrots, spinach salad, rolls, pumpkin pie and ice cream.

Please contact Linda Bonavia at hbonavia@twcny.rr.com or (607) 898-3069 no later than Friday, November 1 with your RSVP.
BRIDGES FOR KIDS  HOLIDAY GIFTS

At the November meeting, Sara will bring photos and information on children in the YWCA mentoring program. The parents have indicated that they really could use some assistance in providing a holiday gift for their child. Bridges for Kids is an individual mentoring program that has been at the YWCA for 33 years. It matches adult volunteers (yes that could be YOU!) with a child between the age of 5 and 12 who lives in a stressed family situation. Stress can be the result of economic hardship (almost all of the 95 families live on less than $10,000 a year), past domestic abuse, foster care placement, health issues, or a single mom with many children to care for.

If you would like to participate, please take a child’s wish list sheet at the meeting. Buy a toy, a book, or an outfit for the child and bring it to the December meeting. You may wrap it or not—whatever you would like. Somehow attach the sheet with the present so we know which family it is going to. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

AAUW CORTLAND FOOD DRIVE

Bring a non-perishable food item to the November meeting and we will deliver the goods to a local food pantry. The pantries in the area are well organized and each has specific days they are open. Families can utilize them a certain number of times. The pantries are in dire need of our assistance as the need in our community is great.

Suggested items include:
Peanut butter, tuna, real fruit juice, healthy cereals, canned soups that are hearty (have meat/beans), black beans, taco shells, macaroni and cheese, whole-wheat pasta, canned chili.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

Mark your calendars
We are signed up for:
Friday, December 6 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. inside at TOPS.
There will be a sign up sheet at the November meeting.
AAUW beyond Cortland....

There are 5 AAUW groups in District 3: Cortland, Ithaca, Mohawk Valley, Oswego and Southern.

The District conference was a good opportunity to learn about what other AAUW groups are doing. We are now on Ithaca email list. They have interest groups such as a book club, a cultural interest group and a food group. This is something we might want to consider as a way to increase membership.

Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi spoke about issues in the State Assembly including an update on the Women’s Equality Act (see page 4 for a list of the 10 point agenda).

A call went out to all groups to make sure that we have a designated historian who is keeping records in a safe public space - thank you Grace and Sandra for doing this and keeping them at the Cortland Historical Society.

The key speaker, Judy Winfield, educated us on the Utica refugee center which is the largest center east of the Mississippi.

The District 3 Conference was Oct. 5 in Utica. Sara Earl and Karen Hempson attended.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

The legal Advocacy fund works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. The resources range from community outreach to legal referrals and backing of major cases. Sex discrimination today takes a variety of forms: unfair pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment and sexual assault, and violation of title IX. LAF addresses these barriers by informing people of their rights and using the legal system to seek justice and change (from the AAUW website).

Now there is a new way to make a donation to this effort. Make a donation to the LAF Fund through the use of cards. These cards can be used to acknowledge the passing of a loved one, to honor family and friends on their achievements, or for birthdays and special occasions. Members can make a donation and then give the recipient’s name & address and purpose of card to Mary Ann Gambitta. She can send it, or the member can fill out and send the card on their own.

THE AAUW NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION will be April 25-27, 2014 at Honors Haven Resort in Ellenville, NY (the Catskills).
Dr. Akosua Adomako-Ampofo, Director and Professor of African Studies at the University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana, will deliver a major lecture:

“To Smash the Ceiling or To Build Open Houses:
Gender Politics and the Glass Ceiling”
Wednesday November 20th, 7PM, Sperry 205

AAUW Member MONA FORNEY has had a children’s book published! According to Mona, the book is about a cat that lives in the Groton library and gets bored when the kids go back to school. She goes on an adventure around Groton. She gets “paw-printed” at the police station, participates in a wedding at the Benn Conger Inn and eats ice cream at the Red Caboose. The money to publish this came from a grant she wrote for District 7170 Rotary. All profits go to technology for teens at the library and $1 for each book sold goes to the Polio Eradication Project. (Bill Gates Foundation matches it). The name of the book is Izzy’s Groton Adventure. Available at Brittany Station, Groton Hobby Shop..$10 each. Izzy stuffed cat available for $10 also.

Women Working Together

Friday, November 1, 2013
11:45-1:00
Lunch is $12 payable at the door Please RSVP by 10/30 to the YWCA 753-9651 or amy@cortlandywca.org

The Manor at Briggs’ Hall, Homer

Speaker: JANICE JAMES,
interim President and Chief Executive Officer of the Cortland Regional Medical Center

According to a report from Rock Health, women make up 73% of medical and health services managers, but only 18% of hospital CEOs are women. Janice will share her story.
Open to all.

NEW YORK STATE

In his state of the state address in January of 2013, Governor Cuomo introduced the Women’s Equality Agenda

1. Achieve pay equity
2. Stop sexual harassment in ALL workplaces
3. Stop pregnancy discrimination
4. Strengthen Order of Protection laws
5. Stop housing discrimination for victims of domestic violence
6. Stop source of income discrimination
7. End family status discrimination
8. Allow for recovery of attorney’s fees in employment and credit lending cases
9. Strengthen human trafficking laws
10. Protect a woman’s freedom of choice by ensuring the NY’s laws concur with current federal laws

This is legislation that affects thousands of women in NY each year and so we are watching closely.