

### North Shore Area Branch, Massachusetts

American Association of University Women

# "North Shore Area News

#### Volume 3, Issue 5

March-April, 2011

## Gender Equity and Women in Iran, Cuba and Israel

## By Patricia Ho

How are women doing in three diverse cultures? What rights do they have?

What can they do to create more equitable conditions for themselves?

Join our second public policy conversation on **Saturday, March 5, 10:00am, Topsfield Library**, as we recount recent AAUW member trips to Cuba and Israel. Linda Britt and Pat Gorton will describe their encounters with women in Cuba, while Liz Fragola and Patricia Ho will report on their findings in Israel.

To begin our consideration of gender equity in other countries, Sanaz Raoufi will summarize her January 29<sup>th</sup> presentation on the conflicting pressures facing women in Iran. Following these short reports, everyone is invited to engage in our informal conversation on questions such as:

• What inequities do these women face in their countries?

• What cultural, historical or political factors might promote these conditions?

• Are there different perceptions regarding the status of these women?

• Do western media reinforce stereotypes and misconceptions?

• How can women in any culture help bridge misunderstandings or conflicting expectations among groups?

How can women help bring about change for equity for

each other?

The Topsfield Library is at One South Common Street, Topsfield.

**Directions:** From Route 95, take exit 52, Topsfield Road toward Topsfield. At the end of Topsfield Road, the Proctor School will be on the right, and the library is across the street.

From the Beverly area, take Route 97 to Topsfield center. After crossing over Route 1, the library is at the next intersection, on the left.

There is limited parking in front of the library and more across the street at the Proctor School, a red brick building. There is a crosswalk between the school and the library.

We look forward to seeing you! Join us for discussion on a most relevant global issue and enjoy some refreshments.

#### Join us for discussions on a most relevant global issue on the global status of

Special points of in-

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women and gender equity.

Newsletter Deadline: April 15, 2011 Email articles and comments to: nwadsworth@ salemstate.edu

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## International Women's Day celebration

In celebration of the global centenary of International Women's Day, the American Association of University Women-North Shore Branch, Salem State University's International Student Association, Center for International Education and Florence Luscomb Women's Center are cosponsoring a panel discussion to talk about the global status of women on **Thursday**, **March 3, 6 pm at Veteran's Hall of George Ellison Campus Center.** This event will consist of female panelists from various backgrounds and various parts of the world discussing the role and perceptions of women in their countries, their challenges and opportunities. The keynote speaker, Provost Kristin Esterberg will address the issue of "21st-Century Women: Struggles, challenges, opportunities, and future prospects" and will include information about American women.

## Every Member's Voice Does Count: "One Member One Vote"

#### By Patricia Ho

sea change for AAUW, approved by 2009 convention delegates, each member is entitled to vote regarding adoption of proposed bylaws amendments, resolutions, the Public Policy Program for 2011 – 2013, and board officers and directors-at-large. There are three ways in which a member can vote. All require your member ID and a separate Personal Identification Number, which will be provided.

Paper ballot which will be mailed to you in mid-April, along with complete information on items to be decided and biographies of board candidates. Ballots must be returned between May 1 – 31 online at www.aauw.org between May 1 - June 17 or electronically at national convention by June 17.

Easy as 1-2-3? Yes! But be informed on the issues and the candidates by reading information in the *Spring Outlook* or on our website. Proposed bylaws, resolutions and the Public Policy Program were posted online for comment and input in the fall. Members are urged to discuss these through any forum – branch meetings, informal groups, through e-mail or conversation. There will be no debate on these items or a Meet the Candidate event at national convention, as many members will have voted by then. Be sure to assert your power and VOTE!

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Fragola

ekf226@comcast.net or Patricia Ho PatriciaHoAAUWMA@aol.com



From left: Linda Britt, Pat Gorton, Sanaz Roufi, speaker, Liz Fragola and Patricia Ho at the recent AAUW event on the Status of Women in Iran, Beverly Public Library.

## **Title IX Compliance: Know the Score**

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#### By Barbara Burgo

(Excerpt from BayStater) Please join AAUW-MA for our 2011 Annual Meeting and Conference on Saturday, April 2, 2011 at UMASS-Boston's Healey Library, 11th floor from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. As we begin celebrations for Women's History month, we realize that this year it is imperative to re-visit a Public Policy issue that is still a barrier – inequitable treatment of female athletes in our country. The following has been t a k e n f rom t h e *www.aauw.org* web site and will explain why we are counting on you to learn more about this pervasive form of discrimination and help us Break through this Barrier for women and girls: Title IX: Ensuring Equity in Education for Women and Girls: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is the federal statute prohibiting sex discrimination in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. The American Association of University Women strongly supports Title IX and opposes any efforts that would weaken its effectiveness or undermine its enforcement. AAUW's 2009-2011 Public Policy Program "... advocates vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education.

## Human Trafficking

Please join the Boston Branch, American Association of University Women (AAUW) For dinner and discussion around Human Trafficking Tuesday, March 8, 2011 6:00 p.m. Legal Seafoods, Copley Place, Huntington Ave., Boston ("T" Accessible) (Attendees will be responsible for their dinner charges.)

Space is limited -- RSVP to Helen Schwickrath, (617) 625-3066 or <u>Schwicky@hotmail.com</u>

What is human trafficking in 2011? Who is affected? What can we do, as individuals and an organization, to help people move from modern bondage to freedom? We will have Barbara Anderson, founder of "All Hands In", speak with us about her organization and how we can be involved.