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Press Release

AAUW Tech Savvy promotes STEM learning

Gaylord – Confidence. This key ingredient to success is the theme of the 6th Tech Savvy event being offered by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Gaylord Area Branch on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at the University Center in Gaylord. Registration opened March 1 for this full day of workshops for girls in grades 6 – 9 featuring Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) topics. Parents and mentors are encouraged to attend a separate program track designed to raise awareness of opportunities and barriers in STEM in order to support girls' success in these fields. Girls are taught by women working in a variety of exciting and lucrative STEM careers, providing positive role models during early goal setting years.

Registration is free for Otsego County girls and adults, thanks to a generous donation from the Otsego Community Foundation. The cost for those from other areas is \$8 per student and \$5 per adult, which includes breakfast, lunch, the event program, hands-on workshops, speakers and prizes. Early registration is encouraged, as some workshop choices fill quickly; persons should register no later than April 13 to be sure to receive a Tech Savvy T-shirt.

Information has been posted online at <http://gaylord-mi.aauw.net/tech-savvy/> including the link for on-line registration. Updates are also posted regularly on the AAUW Gaylord Branch Facebook page.

In an era when women are increasingly prominent in medicine, law, and business, their numbers still lag in STEM related occupations. A 2010 research report titled "*Why So Few?*"

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presented eight key findings that point to environmental and social barriers that continue to block women's progress in STEM. AAUW branches have taken the lead in organizing impactful, one-day conferences to encourage girls in sixth through ninth grades to consider to consider these fields as they begin their track toward higher education.

The Tech Savvy Conference is funded in part by a grant from the Otsego Community Foundation and a number of individual sponsors.

AAUW is a nationwide organization that advances equity and education for women and girls. The Gaylord Area Branch empowers through education awards, educational programs and honoring the achievements of local women. For more program or membership information, visit gaylord-mi.aauw.net or email aauwgaylord@gmail.com.

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Tech Savvy

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