

AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

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November

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December

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Virginia's Family Leave Legislation

Thursday, November 21, 2019

6:30 p.m. Doors open

7 p.m. Program begins

Patrick Henry Library, Vienna



Join us to hear Briana Sewell of the Virginia Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy.

Paid family leave is an AAUW Public Policy priority for 2019-2021.

Read more on page 2.



Branch Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Noon

Ristorante Bonaroti

428 Maple Avenue East, Vienna

Enjoy good food,
 Enjoy good company,
 Do good by helping women threatened by domestic violence.
 See you December 7!

Read more on page 2.

More About Upcoming Branch Programs

We should all be able to be there for our families when they need us most. But right now, too many Virginians worry about balancing work and family responsibilities.

Working families need the opportunity to take paid leave to receive treatment for a serious illness, support a sick family member, or care for a new child.

Briana Sewell of the **Virginia Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy** will summarize current Virginia law and proposed legislation on family leave.

She will describe how this organiza-



Briana Sewell

Virginia's Family Leave Legislation

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tion is working to advance meaningful legislation this year on paid family and medical leave and how we can help.

The Virginia Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy is also concerned with additional issues:

- Living wage
- Lower cost, high-quality child care
- Affordable, reliable elder care.

Come and bring a friend to learn where our state stands on policies to support working families.

Patrick Henry Library co-sponsors this program.

Share the joy of the season at the annual Vienna Area AAUW Holiday Luncheon at Ristorante Bonaroti in its private dining room.

The meal includes a salad, choice of five entrées, choice of dessert, and soft drinks, coffee and tea. Wine and mixed drinks are extra. Vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free dishes are available also.

The total cost is \$38, which covers the meal, with tip and taxes, and the cost of lunch for our speaker, Laurie DiRocco, Mayor of the Town of Vienna, and of a special guest from Artemis House.

For 30-plus years, our branch has supported Artemis House, a program of Shelter House, Inc. This non-profit



**Saturday, December 7
Noon
Ristorante Bonaroti**

**Guest Speaker:
Mayor Laurie DiRocco,
Town of Vienna**

organization is the only Fairfax County 24-hour emergency shelter for women and children fleeing domestic and sexual violence, stalking and human trafficking.

At the luncheon, the branch will accept donations of store gift cards and standard-size personal care items for Artemis House residents. Donations are tax-deductible.

For further information on donations and to make your reservation, contact Suzanne . Bring your \$38 check payable to Suzanne to the luncheon. Friends and family are invited.

Reservation deadline is December 2.



Suzanne and Jean

From the Presidents

We have a lot of activities happening in these last two months of 2019. Check out the programs, book group meetings, Lobby Corps, Great Decisions, and other events described in this issue.

Suzanne and I hope to see you at our November 16 fundraiser for AAUW Funds, Tastes of Italy. See the article in this issue and RSVP soon. On November 21, join us for the program on Virginia's Family Leave Legislation, which is open to the public. You are encouraged to bring a friend.

Please welcome the four new members who joined our branch in September. Their contact information

will be included in the 2019-2020 membership directory. Pick up your copy at our next event or contact Suzanne at the email below.

We hope you will make plans to attend the annual Holiday Luncheon, to be held at noon on December 7 at Bonaroti Restaurant. Reservation information is in this issue. I will have a signup sheet at the luncheon for the 2020 session of Great Decisions.

If you have comments or questions, or if you need a ride to an event, please email us at ViennaAAUW@gmail.com.

Jean, Co-President

AAUW's Legacy Circle

The following article is by [Neola Waller](#), member of the Virginia Beach Branch.



The Legacy Circle is the AAUW society that recognizes a person's intention to make a planned gift to AAUW. Planned gifts such as bequests, beneficiary designations, or other deferred gifts are a wonderful way to support AAUW at no cost to you during your lifetime.

Like you, I love AAUW. I hadn't really thought of my estate, but the more I heard about the Legacy Circle the more I knew I wanted to be part of this group of visionary, dedicated supporters who are advancing AAUW's mission long into the future through planned giving. I've always been told that you should never

give from the bottom of the pile. You should always give from the top -- give the best, not the least. Those words led me to become a proud member of the Legacy Circle.

I encourage all of you to join Virginia's current 40 Legacy Circle members in making this commitment in whatever amount you feel comfortable. Your joining this year could help AAUW of Virginia reach its Five Star goal. To receive the program star, we must increase our Legacy Circle membership by four new members by next June. Won't you help us reach that goal? To learn more, [download the brochure here](#).

The Tastes of Italy: Fundraiser for AAUW Funds

When Saturday, November 16, 2019
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where Home of Mary

What You are invited to enjoy an evening of Italian cuisine while raising money to support AAUW Funds.



If you attended last year's dinner, Comfort Foods – Southern Style, then you are familiar with the plan for the evening.

Attendees donate \$30 per person (tax-deductible) and volunteer to bring an item such as those suggested on the menu below. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

Menu

- **Appetizers** such as Antipasto – a platter of salamis, prosciutto, cheeses, olives, marinated artichoke hearts, crackers, etc. (two people could work together on this); Bruschetta; prosciutto-wrapped medium-cooked asparagus; Italian bread and olive oil.
- **Entrees** such as meat or vegetarian lasagna; Chicken Cacciatore or Tetrazzini; spaghetti with meatballs; Eggplant Parmesan; Shrimp Fettuccine Alfredo; baked Italian sausage and penne.
- **Sides** such as grilled vegetables; traditional Italian salad—greens, shaved Parmesan, artichoke hearts, etc.; spinach salad with bacon dressing; Caprese salad.
- **Desserts** such as tiramisu; gelato; cannoli; Panettone.
- **Beverages** such Italian white or red wine; sparkling Italian beverages; non-alcoholic beverages.

RSVP Required

Seating is limited to 30, and we expect this event to be well-attended. The deadline to RSVP is November 10 or when 30 people have signed up, even if that is before November 10.

To RSVP or if you have questions, email Nadine. Use the Sign Up Genius to indicate the Italian-themed item you will bring to contribute to the evening's enjoyment. If you would like to bring a dish that is not on the list, let Nadine know when you RSVP.

Because this is a seated dinner, we are unable to accommodate any who show up without an RSVP to Nadine before the deadline.

Can't Attend? If you are unable to attend, please donate to AAUW Funds by sending your check payable to AAUW Funds to Nadine.

Buon Appetito!

September's Open House

WELCOME
new members
.....

On Saturday, September 7, our branch held a highly enjoyable and successful Open House

and look forward to getting to know each of them in the year ahead. Our thanks go out to everyone who contributed. You pitched in and made all the difference!

at Patrick Henry Library. We welcomed four new members

Membership Committee



Laura



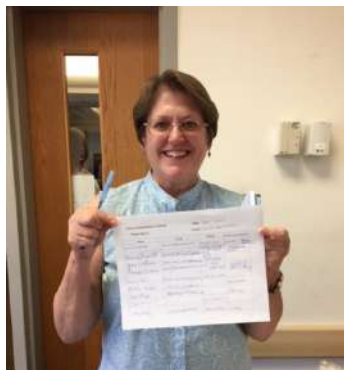
Julia

Beverly

Diane



Beverly and Diane sign up with Kathy to join the Vienna Area Branch.



Karen shows the visitor sign-in sheet.



Suzanne and Cornelia enjoy catching up.

Public Policy Matters

Promoting Voter Registration



Leslie and Susan helped voters.

Many thanks to the branch members who staffed our voter registration table at the Patrick Henry Library on Saturdays from September 7 through October 12, with a total of 38 hours of service.

Using iPads and the library's internet connection, we were able to provide citizens with an easy and secure way to register to vote. Our presence was a reminder that an election is coming up November 5, when all seats in the Virginia General Assembly are up for a vote.

A special thank-you to Betsy for storing supplies at her home during the six-week project.

Voter Registration Chair

AAUW Priorities for the 116th Congress

AAUW's 2019-2021 Public Policy states that AAUW is committed to achieving "economic security for all women;... pay equity and fairness in compensation and benefits; and equitable access and advancement in employment, free from systemic barriers and biases, including vigorous enforcement of employment and discrimination statutes."



As a result of its policy positions, AAUW will urge Congress to pass the following:

- **Paycheck Fairness Act.** The proposed law would address loopholes in the Equal Pay Act of 1963, ensuring employers give women and men equal pay for equal work.
- **Pay Equity for All Act.** This would ban employers from using salary history to determine future pay.
- **Raise Wage Act.** This would gradually increase the minimum wage to \$15 per hour.
- **FAMILY Act.** This would create a national paid family and medical leave insurance program for all workers.
- **Healthy Families Act.** This would eliminate the decision workers face between caring for their health and keeping their paycheck or job by having paid sick days.
- **BE HEARD in the Workplace Act.** This would address workplace harassment, including sexual harassment, and ensure workplaces are free from discrimination.
- **Gender Equity in Education Act.** Not only is women's economic security a top issue, but also the issue of equal access to education. This legislation would defend and strengthen Title IX.

Public Policy Chair

Branch Announcements

Great Decisions Group for 2020

Great Decisions will start new sessions in January. The Great Decisions series, sponsored by the **Foreign Policy Association**, empowers participants to discuss global issues shaping U.S. foreign policy and the world. The briefing book provides historical background, current U.S. policy and alternative policy options, informative maps and detailed graphs, suggested readings and resources, as well as opinion ballots for each topic.

We meet monthly on the third Sunday from January - May and September - November. I will take orders for briefing books on the new **2020 topics** in the first two weeks of December and at the Holiday Luncheon. Please contact me if you would like to join this group.

Great Decisions Chair



Curious about an Interest Group?

The Vienna Area Branch offers a variety of interest groups:

- Morning and afternoon literature groups as well as one that reads only nonfiction
- A Great Decisions discussion group
- A movie meetup group, followed by lunch together for those whose schedules permit.

Details about each of these, including book titles where appropriate, begin on page 8.

If a group piques your interest, please know you are welcome to join it without obligation or a commitment to attend every meeting. As a newcomer to the group, simply contact the group's chair and the host beforehand to let them know you will be there.

These groups are an excellent way to get to know other branch members and to stretch your mind at the same time.

From the Editor



Please send articles and photos for the next newsletter by **December 10, 2019**.

The Connection Editor

Interest Groups



Please let your host know whether or not you will attend.

Earn money for AAUW's Greatest Need Fund by using our Amazon link for all purchases: <https://vienna-va.aauw.net/>

Morning Literature

November 19, 9:30 a.m.

Danny will lead the discussion on *Educated* by Tara Westover.

Please let Gail know if you plan to attend.

December 10, 9:30 a.m.

Kate will lead the discussion on *The Bookshop* by Penelope Fitzgerald.

Please let Bert know if you plan to attend.

Chair

Brown Bag Books

November 20, 1 p.m.

Susan will lead the discussion of *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro. This short novel is told in the first person by a dedicated butler on a great English estate. Stevens, who has spent 30 years in the service of Lord Darlington, ruminates on the past and inadvertently slackens his rigid grip on his emotions to confront the central issues of his life.

Next date: January 29, 2020

Chair

Interest Groups (continued)

Great Decisions

November 17, 2 p.m.

State of the State Department and Diplomacy

During the Trump administration, the usual ways of conducting diplomacy have been upended. Many positions in the State Department have never been filled, and meetings with foreign leaders such as Kim Jong-un and Vladimir Putin have been undertaken with little advance planning. What effect are these changes having now, and how will they affect ongoing relationships between the United States and its allies and adversaries? Kathy will lead the discussion.

Next date: January 19, 2020

Chair

Nonfiction Book Group

November 13, 7 p.m.

Aimee will lead the discussion of *Blue Latitudes: Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before* by Tony Horwitz.

Captain James Cook's three epic journeys in the 18th century were the last great voyages of discovery. His ships sailed 150,000 miles, filling in the blank third of the world map. Horwitz shows the daring and skill of Cook, but also the consequences of European contact with Pacific cultures.

Next date: January 13, 2020

Movie Meetup

The group meets the fourth Tuesday of the month for a morning movie and lunch afterwards. Movie choice, time, and place will be provided by email a week to ten days in advance. Please email the chair to be included on the distribution list.

**Next dates: November 26, 2019
January 28, 2020**

Chair

Branch Program Schedule, 2019-2020



September 7	10:00 a.m.	Open House
October 19	2:00 p.m.	Fearless Women: An Afternoon of Storytelling, with Kristin
★ November 21	7:00 p.m.	Family Friendly Legislation, with Briana Sewell
★ December 7	Noon	Holiday Luncheon with Mayor Laurie DiRicco
January 11	2:00 p.m.	Women Entrepreneurs: Creating a Sense of Community, with Jen Morrow
February 25	TBD	Civil Rights in Alexandria, with Audrey Davis

Schedule is subject to change; future newsletters will include any updates.



Vienna

Area Branch Leaders, 2019-2020

AAUW Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.