

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

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*Jen Morrow of Bards Alley*

Join us to hear Jen Morrow, owner of Vienna's Bards Alley, describe the challenges and satisfactions of starting and running her own business in our community.

Read more on page 2.

### Women Entrepreneurs: Creating a Sense of Community

Saturday, January 11, 2020  
Patrick Henry Library, Vienna  
1:30 p.m., Doors open  
2 p.m., Program begins



### January

11	<b>Branch Program</b>
13	Nonfiction Grp
15	State Lobby Day
19	Great Decisions
21	Morning Lit Grp
28	Movie Meetup
29	Brown Bag Books
30	Capitol Hill Lobby Corps

### February

16	Great Decisions
18	Morning Lit Grp
25	<b>Branch Program</b>
25	Movie Meetup
26	Brown Bag Books



*Audrey Davis of the  
Alexandria Black  
History Museum.*

Did you know that in 1939 five black students in Alexandria staged a sit-down strike, demanding more access to educational opportunities? And that the charges against them were dismissed just this year?

Audrey Davis, Director of the Alexandria Black History Museum, will introduce us to more events in local black history.

Read more on page 2.

### Civil Rights in Alexandria

Tuesday, February 25, 2020  
Patrick Henry Library, Vienna  
7 p.m., Doors open  
7:30 p.m., Program begins

## More About Upcoming Branch Programs

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**Women Entrepreneurs: Creating a Sense of Community**  
**Saturday, January 11, 2020**  
**1:30 p.m., Doors open**  
**2:00 p.m., Program begins**  
**Patrick Henry Library**

In July 2017, Jennifer Morrow, a Vienna resident, opened “Vienna's favorite indie bookstore.” Bards Alley is a woman-owned, independent bookstore and wine bar where people gather to exchange ideas, receive personalized book recommendations, and discover new titles and writers.

But she also created a sense of community with patrons, other institutions, and the local economy. Bards Alley promotes literacy, supports local authors, and hosts multiple bookgroups. The bookstore also donates to schools and nonprofits and partners with businesses for locally sourced light fare.

Bring a friend and come hear Ms. Morrow talk about being a woman entrepreneur and her process of engaging the community.



*Ribbon cutting at Bards Alley, with Jen Morrow, right, wearing the dark dress.*

**Civil Rights in Alexandria**  
**Tuesday, February 25, 2020**  
**7 p.m., Doors open**  
**7:30 p.m., Program begins**  
**Patrick Henry Library**

Were you one of the many who enjoyed the PBS drama *Mercy Street* several years ago? Audrey Davis, our February guest speaker, certainly watched it; she was an on-set historical consultant for the show.

A past President of the Virginia Association of Museums and the Alexandria Historical Society, Ms. Davis joined the staff of the Alexandria Black History Museum in 1993. She was appointed Director of the museum in 2014. In her present role she organizes museum exhibits, public programs, and special events.

The mission of the Alexandria Black History Museum is to enrich the lives of Alexandria's residents and visitors, to foster tolerance and understanding among all cultures, and to stimulate appreciation for the diversity of the African American experience.

Join us in February to learn more about the contributions and history of Alexandria's black residents.



*Exhibition room in the Alexandria Black History Museum.*



*Suzanne and Jean*

## From the Presidents

Happy New Year! Welcome back from the holidays as we begin a full spring “semester” of events in the Vienna Area Branch.

Thanks to all of you who attended our Holiday Luncheon on December 7, and to all those who contributed gift cards and personal care items to Artemis House. Suzanne and I were touched by your generosity. See photos and more details elsewhere in this issue.

To get a head start on officer elections for the next fiscal year (which begins July 1), we have formed a Nominating Committee composed of Kristin, Nadine,

and Betty. At the March meeting, we will vote on candidates for President, Program Vice President, and Secretary. Contact Kristin if you are willing to serve in one of these positions, or just have questions. Two or more members may share a position, and your predecessors will give you the materials you need to get started. New officers also may want to attend training at the AAUW of Virginia Summer Leadership Meeting to see what’s new in branch operations.

I hope you will look through all the upcoming events in this issue and come join us! If you have comments or questions, or if you need a ride to an event, please email us at [ViennaAAUW@gmail.com](mailto:ViennaAAUW@gmail.com).

*Jean, Co-President*

## Branch Name Tag Option

A new, attractive name tag is available to us for the low price of \$5. It uses a strong magnet to attach to a garment and is made of hard plastic.

If you are interested in ordering one or have questions, please email Kate and let her know. Please include the way you want your name to appear on the tag. To the right you can see what the tag looks like; it is 2x3 inches. Payment is not needed until arrival and distribution takes place.



## Kristin Performs at Local Open Mic



Our members may enjoy a program featuring Kristin. She is the January headliner for this First Monday of the Month event at **Epicure Cafe**. Kristin will read some of her poetry plus one or two of her essays from her blog **Diary of Not A Wimpy Widow**.

Monday, January 6 at 7 p.m.

Epicure Cafe, 11104 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA

### Latest AAUW Report: *Limiting our Livelihoods*

AAUW focuses on eliminating barriers to women's economic security by ending workplace harassment. In its **recent report** *Limiting our Livelihoods: The Cumulative Impact of Sexual Harassment on Women's Careers*, AAUW states that workplace sexual harassment is a serious problem for women of all ages. It can have long-term repercussions on their health, economic security and access to leadership positions.

These negative effects compound over time, reducing women's lifetime earnings and contributing to both the gender and retirement wage gaps, the report concludes.



*Mary, Public Policy Chair*

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### AAUW Capitol Hill Lobby Corps



*AAUW CEO Kim Churches, standing on the right in a blue jacket, briefed in the Longworth House Office Building on December 5, 2019.*

Capitol Hill Lobby Corps members visited the House of Representatives on December 5, 2019. After a briefing by AAUW staff, the Corps used the briefing materials to urge selected Representatives to support anti-harassment legislation.

Legislation addressed included the following:

- BE HEARD in the Workplace Act, which strengthens and expands anti-discrimination laws,
- EMPOWER Act, which increases workplace training about what constitutes harassment and how to prevent and report the behavior.

Our branch was represented by Mary and Leslie.

The next Lobby Corps' visit to the House is January 30, when they will distribute copies of the report described in the article above.

*Mary, Public Policy Chair*

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### AAUW of Virginia State Lobby Day: January 15, 2020

AAUW members from throughout the state will convene in Richmond on January 15 to lobby in support of Virginia's ratification of the ERA. They will also focus on pay equity. A meeting is confirmed with Governor Northam at 9 a.m.

Also, AAUW of Virginia will host its third annual reception in honor of the state's women legislators.

This event will be January 14, the evening before Lobby Day.

Please contact Suzanne if you will be attending. She will coordinate room and ride-sharing for our members. RSVP as well by January 8 to a state Public Policy VP: **Susan Burk** or **Sylvia Rogers**.

## Fall Photo Gallery



The October 19 branch program featured Kristin, who dramatically narrated Scots-Irish folk tales of Appalachia. She also accompanied some songs of the era on her mountain dulcimer.



On November 21, guest speaker Briana Sewell described the work of the Virginia Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy. In particular she addressed Virginia's legislation relating to paid family leave.



Program VP presented Ms. Sewell with local chocolates as a thank-you.



AAUW Funds Chair Nadine planned and organized our November 16 fundraiser, Taste of Italy.



Susan and Susan shared a laugh while sipping Italian wine.



Mary, Dick, Connie, and Corinne were among those at the dinner.



Marian, Mary, and Mary enjoyed the Italian hors d'oeuvres. Mary once again offered her home and hospitality for this fundraiser.

## Our Generous Members

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### Successful Fundraiser for AAUW Funds

A Taste of Italy was the theme for the festive evening which 25 members and guests enjoyed last November while raising money for AAUW Funds.

We greatly appreciate the hospitality of our host, Mary, who offered her lovely home for the event. Also putting in many hours was Nadine, AAUW Funds Chair,

who planned and organized the dinner. Those attending prepared classic Italian dishes for all to enjoy.

Many thanks to our members for their generosity! When a few women put their heads together, big things are accomplished.

The donations went to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund, which uses our contributions when and where most needed. As of December 21, 2019, our branch raised \$2709 this year from these sources:

**Fundraising dinner: \$1130      Amazon Associate: \$453      Individual member online donations: \$1126**

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### Gifts for Artemis House Residents

For almost 30 years, our branch has annually supported Artemis House as our local project to benefit women in need in our community. This facility is the only Fairfax County emergency shelter for women and children fleeing domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking.

At the December 7 luncheon, we collected a total of \$1030 in gift cards. Artemis House staff distributes

these directly to residents based on their needs. In addition, members donated a large number of personal care items such as shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, bath soap, and shower gel.

Jasmine Barnes, a supervisor at Artemis House, expressed her deep appreciation for our contributions.

*Suzanne, Artemis House Chair*

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### Holiday Luncheon, December 7



Donnie, left, and Mary chat before the lunch at Bonaroti's.



Among those attending were, left to right, Mary, Candace, and Connie



Suzanne, left, thanked our speaker, Vienna Mayor Laurie DiRocco.

## Interest Groups

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

### **Morning Literature**

**January 21, 9:30 a.m.**

Leslie will lead the discussion on *The Member of the Wedding* by Carson McCullers

Please let Laurie know if you plan to attend.

**February 18, 9:30 a.m.**

Gail will lead the discussion on *A Handful of Dust* by Evelyn Waugh.

Please let Candace know if you plan to attend.

### **Brown Bag Books**

**January 29, 1 p.m.**

Marian will lead the discussion of *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. This memoir by the former First Lady describes her roots and how she found her voice, as well as covering her time in the White House.

**February 26, 1 p.m.**

*Where The Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens has been called an exquisite ode to the natural world, a coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder.

## Interest Groups (continued)

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### Great Decisions

January 19, 2 p.m.

#### Climate Change and the Global Order

Climate change has become one of the defining issues of our time. As much of the world bands together to come up with a plan, the U.S. remains the notable holdout. What is the rest of the world doing to combat climate change? What impact will the effects of climate change have on global geopolitics? I will lead the discussion.

February 16, 2 p.m.

#### India and Pakistan

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi rode a wave of Hindu nationalism to a historic reelection in 2019. His first order of business was to revoke the special status granted to the Kashmir region, inflaming the rivalry between India and Pakistan. How will the Kashmir situation affect the region, both economically and politically? Kristin will lead the discussion.

### Nonfiction Book Group

January 13, 7 p.m.

Jean will lead the discussion of *Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue: The Untold History of English* by John McWhorter. This book presents the many languages which were shuffled together (and in what order) to create the complex and interesting language we, or at least the British, use every day.

**Next Date: March 9, 7 p.m.**

We will discuss *Patient H.M.: A Story of Memory, Madness, and Family Secrets* by Luke Dittrich

### 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: January 28  
February 25**



**Branch Program Schedule, 2019-2020**



<b>September 7</b>	10:00 a.m.	Open House
<b>October 19</b>	2:00 p.m.	Fearless Women: An Afternoon of Storytelling, with Kristin
<b>November 21</b>	7:00 p.m.	Family Friendly Legislation, with Briana Sewell
<b>December 7</b>	Noon	Holiday Luncheon with Mayor Laurie DiRicco
★ <b>January 11</b>	2:00 p.m.	Women Entrepreneurs: Creating a Sense of Community, with Jen Morrow
★ <b>February 25</b>	7:30 p.m.	Civil Rights in Alexandria, with Audrey Davis
March 12	7:30 p.m.	Women in Architecture, with Carey Sienicki

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.