



Vienna Area (VA) Branch

<https://vienna-va.aauw.net>

OCTOBER/2024

AAUW VIENNA BRANCH MEETINGS

Patrick Henry Library

Monday, September 30, 2024

7:00pm (Doors open at 6:30pm)

Elections in Fairfax County: Making Sure Your Vote Counts

The County employs a group of experienced election workers who turn out for each election to support the small full-time staff in delivering on their election plan. The group helps with equipment preparation, site arrangements, volunteer support, and the security of election materials used in early voting and 265 election-day precincts. They also participate in reconciling results which are used by the Election Board to certify the election. Jean calls it a “rapid response team” as the job is different every day and every election!

***Vienna Police Department Community Room, 215 Center Street S.**

(Note different venue. Parking: On-site, on-street and at Vienna Elementary School across the street. A small blue "Vienna Police" sign marks the drive entrance to the station lot.)

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

7:00pm

Vienna Area Scams: How to Avoid Them and What to Do If You Think You Might Be a Victim

Vienna Police Public Information Officer Juan Vazquez will describe recent Vienna area scams, how to avoid them and what to do if you think you may be a victim.

***Patrick Henry Library**

Monday, November 4, 2024

7:00pm (Doors open at 6:30)

The Inside Scoop on Engaging with Our County Government

Penny Gross, recently retired vice chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, will discuss the best ways to raise your issues with the board. She will also talk about how the county government works, political issues of concern to women, and ways to get involved with

the community. Gross has a wealth of public-service experience. This also is an opportunity to raise your questions with her.

***Jointly Sponsored Zoom Call**

Monday, December 2, 2024

5:00pm

Preview of Upcoming Congressional Session

Rep. Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly (D-Va.), who represents Fairfax City and most of Fairfax County in the U.S. House of Representatives, will preview potential activities of the 119th Congress, which begins in January 2025. This preview is being sponsored jointly by the Vienna Area Branch with these additional AAUW branches: Reston-Herndon. Alexandria, Arlington, Falls Church, McLean and Mt. Vernon. You may need to register to receive the Zoom link. Watch for more details in a future newsletter.

DECEMBER ACTIVITY

AAUW Vienna Lunch and Gift Card Collection for Artemis House

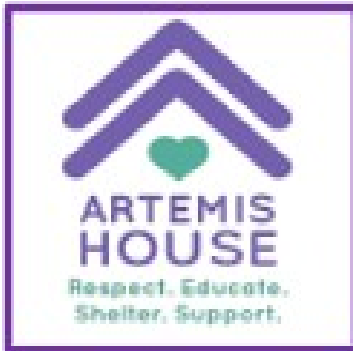
Saturday, December 7th at 12 Noon

The Olive Garden Restaurant, 8133 Leesburg Pike, Tysons Corner, VA

You are invited to get together for socializing with AAUW Vienna Area members at **The Olive Garden Restaurant** on Route 7 in the Tysons Corner area. Please invite friends and your significant other to join us at this nice event.

We will gather in the restaurant's large private room, members will order from the full menu and each will be separately billed for their meal—which can be made easier by paying in cash. We will start with a social mix time (when you can order beverages) and then be seated at several tables. You may wish to check out the extensive menu in advance at <https://www.olivegarden.com/menu/appetizers>

At this event, I will complete my final collection of gift cards and personal care items for the women of Artemis House. As we have many new members and it never hurts to refresh our memories, you may want to read about this annual function in support of Artemis House. I encourage you to read the article below for tips on the best way to prepare your donations.



For well over 30 years, our branch has annually supported residents of Artemis House (operated by Shelter House, Inc.) as our project to benefit women-in-need and their children in our community. With two locations, Artemis House is the only Fairfax County-sponsored 24-hour emergency shelter for women and children fleeing domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking.

The branch collects donations of store gift cards and full-size personal care items that are given to the residents, who generally arrive only with the clothes they are wearing. Gift cards from grocery, drug stores, and multi-purpose stores like Walmart and Target are the most useful.

Artemis House staff have found that multiple gift cards in smaller denominations are better than those in large denominations. This allows them to best serve the diverse needs of the women and children.

Donations of full-size adult or child/baby hand, body, and face lotions, shampoo, and body wash and other personal care items are appreciated. Your donation is a tax-deductible donation to “Shelter House, Inc.,” in compliance with IRS policies, which do not allow us to collect cash donations for another non-profit.

Thank you to AAUW Branch members for your decades of generous help to Artemis House women and children that means such much to them!

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have joined our branch over the last few months and at our recent successful Open House. You may have seen mini biographies of some of them in the June newsletter, and others will be circulated soon.

How to Renew your AAUW Vienna Branch Dues

Online with a credit card:

Go to www.aauw.org and click on Log In. Once logged in, scroll down and click on RENEW and follow the directions.

VIENNA AREA INTEREST GROUPS

Tuesday Morning Literature Group

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 9:30am

Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris by Paul Gallico.

Mrs. Harris is a salt-of-the-earth London charlady who cheerfully cleans the houses of the rich. One day, while tidying Lady Dant's wardrobe, she comes across the most beautiful thing she has ever seen in her life--a Dior dress. In all the years of her drab and humble existence, she's never seen anything as magical as the dress before her and she's never wanted anything so badly. Determined to make her dream come true, Mrs. Harris scrimps and saves until one day, after three long, uncomplaining years, she finally has enough money to go to Paris.

Brown Bag Lunch Literature Group

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 30, 2024, 1:00 – 3:00pm

The Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedict

She was beautiful. She was a genius. Could the world handle both? She lands in Hollywood, where she becomes Hedy Lamarr, screen star. But Hedy is keeping a secret even more shocking than her Jewish heritage: she is a scientist. She has an idea that might help the country and that might ease her guilt for escaping Germany alone—if anyone will listen to her.

Non-fiction Book Group

The book for November is *On-Call* by Anthony Fauci.

Great Decisions Program with the Foreign Policy Association

Next Meeting: October 20, 2024, 2:00 – 4:00pm

Topic 8: Pandemic Preparedness

Looking back at the covid-19 pandemic, there (are many lessons to take away in terms of domestic and international policies. Although this pandemic seems to have waned, how can we apply these lessons to future pandemics? Will countries cooperate, and will a consensus emerge on how to manage global health challenges?

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Movie Meet-ups

Normal Schedule: Fourth Tuesday of the month. No meetings in July or August. Please contact Susan to be included on the distribution list.

Where: Cinema Arts Theater for the early show.

Film is selected when the theater publishes its films and schedules on its website. Those who can stay afterwards have lunch together at First Watch, in the shopping center. Group Coordinators convey this information in a reminder email.

Next Meet-up: Tuesday, October 22, 2024

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 socio-economic status.