

## AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

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### Co- Presidents' Message



Dear Members,

After more than a year of non-stop political campaigning, the voting is over. (Legal battles may have just begun, but we hope not.) We hope you voted. Yea, we just KNOW you voted! And, thanks to Marilyn Falksen for keeping us informed of some of the important issues and registration and voting deadlines!

Thanks and kudos go to Becky Gaul and Susan Conklin for our great October program. We had a very timely and informed discussion of the proposed amendment to the Virginia Constitution regarding redistricting, by Sara Fitzgerald of the League of Women Voters-Falls Church and Brian Cannon of FairMaps Virginia. The proposed amendment, intended to substantially reduce gerrymandering of electoral districts, was on the ballot this Nov. 3. AAUW of VA and The League of Women Voters supported its passage.

*A Special Request.* We have always had our book sale to create and sustain our AAUW-FC community. During the hours of sorting and selling, the book sale creates time for friendships to develop, thoughtful discussions to ensue and great finds to appear in the boxes of donations, for our life-long learning and reading pleasure. This year, due to the pandemic, we had to forgo all of this AND the opportunity to raise funds for our donations to AAUW national funds and programs and our cherished AAUW-FC local scholarship program. However, the pressing issues that AAUW national addresses to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy have only grown in scope and intensity. In addition, given the high rate of unemployment in service occupations (other than healthcare and related services), the need for scholarship support in our Falls Church community has also grown.

*Because AAUW-FC was unable to conduct the book sale in April 2020, and has not engaged in other fundraising, AAUW-FC does not have funds to make a donation to AAUW national programs this year, nor to fund any local scholarships.\**

Instead, this year we are relying on YOU -- our individual members -- to reflect upon what you value about AAUW and consider making an individual donation to AAUW national programs, a donation to the AAUW-FC branch for local high school scholarships ("FC branch local scholarship fund"), or both. That's right, Aunts Elizabeth and Sharon want YOU!

- A. If you wish to make a donation to AAUW national programs, AAUW is a Section 501(c)(3) organization; so, for tax purposes, your donation is considered a charitable contribution. We suggest that you make the donation online using the link below, which you may do up to December 31, 2020. At the time you make the donation, there is a space for entering your Member ID number. Please provide your Member ID. number so your contribution will be counted as a one of the AAUW- FC branch contributions. Go to: <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gift-new/>



THE POWER OF YOUR GIFTS

You may also make a donation by check and mail it. If you do so, please indicate on your check your membership number, and AAUW Greatest Needs Fund #9110 (or another fund number) and mail it by end of day December 17, 2020 to assure that AAUW national receives and counts it before December 31, 2020.

When you donate online, you are required to select the fund where the money will be deposited: *AAUW is encouraging members to designate their donations to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (#9110), which gives AAUW the flexibility to put the money where it is most needed.* For example, if an unexpected public policy issue arises (such as, the cancellation of school and lack of childcare during the pandemic and the impact on women's employment), funds could be taken from the Greatest Needs Funds to address it. Or, if NCCWSL needs more funding, money from the Greatest Needs Fund could be used. If you donate by mail, please indicate on the check the fund to which the money should be deposited. For questions about giving to a fund other than the Greatest Needs Fund (#9110), go to: <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gift-new/> and call AAUW.\*\*

- B. If you wish to make a donation to the FC branch local scholarship fund, make the check payable to Falls Church AAUW, note it is for the FC branch local scholarship fund, and mail it to Anne Baxter, 3440 S. Jefferson, Apt 527, Falls Church, VA 22041-3124. Donations to the branch are donations to a 501(c)(4) organization, and, for tax purposes, *are not* considered a charitable contribution. Awarding scholarships in April 2021 is dependent upon our members' generosity and compassion. The scholarships are a lifeline to many of our recipients and we hope you will be generous.



According to Heather Miller, AAUW's Director of Advancement, 55% of the contributions to AAUW national funds comes from branch and member donations. That underscores the importance every year of branch and member contributions, and especially the impact of such donations in 2020, as many foundations and corporations that normally contribute to AAUW national funds have cut back drastically on their funding. AAUW national asked that we share this with you and that you consider a generous contribution to AAUW national funds this year.

*Programs.* Becky and Susan have a great November 9 program, derived from the AAUW **2020 Convening Series**. Please come to the meeting. Say hello to your AAUW friends and join the discussion on thought provoking topics -- *Is Your Perspective Inclusive?, Conversations on Race, Equity & Inclusion, and Justice Ginsburg's Legacy & the Future of the Court.*" See more details below. **The November 9 meeting will be online, and a ZOOM invitation will be emailed to you from Sharon around noon on November 8, the day before the meeting.**

In addition, several very thoughtful November programs hosted by our Northern VA counterparts, such as AAUW Arlington (Nov. 10, The Changing Role of Women in Leadership), AAUW McLean (Nov. 17, Policing Black Bodies) and AAUW Vienna (Nov 16, Exploring Social Justice in Policing and Education), may interest you. See more details below.

Thank you, Pam Martinov, for a great newsletter!

Stay safe, be well and keep in touch,

Sharon Zackula and Elizabeth Kessel

\*In 2018 and 2019, AAUW-FC voted to split the book sale profits to use 45% for a year-end donation to AAUW national funds, 45% for scholarships to local high school seniors, and 10% for grants to local programs that align with AAUW's goals.

\*\*In 2019, AAUW-FC donated money to AAUW national, designating the contribution for the following AAUW national funds: AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (#9110); AAUW Economic Security Fund (#4449); AAUW Education and Training Fund (#4450); and National Conference for College Women SL Fund ("NCCWSL") (a fund for scholarships for NCCWSL attendees) (#2504).

## November Branch Zoom Meeting



On Monday, November 9th at 7:30 pm, we'll hold our Branch meeting again via Zoom to review & discuss a recent AAUW webinar of your choice. If you've already taken advantage of webinars offered by AAUW staff with guests, terrific, you're ready! If you been ignoring all those emails, you can view recorded sessions at your leisure via this link-

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/2020-convening/>.

Be sure to scroll down that page to reach the list of **2020 Convening webinar series**. Most are about 30 minutes if you skip over final Q&A segments. With our pre-meeting Zoom invitation email, we also hope to have links to post-election summaries. Please join us on November 9 at 7:30!

Susan & I suggest viewing one of these 3 but feel free to watch & comment on any presentation on that **2020 Convening** page:

7/30/2020 -Is Your Perspective Inclusive? with Dr. Lisette Garcia & Pamela Fuller

8/6/2020 -Conversation on Race, Equity & Inclusion with Dr. Taharee Jackson

10/1/2020 -Justice Ginsburg's Legacy & the Future of the Court

In addition, consider joining nearby branch online programs. On Tuesday, November 10th at 6 pm, Arlington invites us to a panel on the Changing Role of Women in Leadership. On Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 pm, McLean hosts a repeat of the very well-received GMU presentation on Policing Black Bodies. See separate newsletter items with details on joining these events.



Mark your calendars for Sunday afternoon, December 13th, for our FC AAUW Holiday Celebration. Even via Zoom, we'll mark the season, have fun and encourage each other as we push on towards better days in the New Year.

[Post Election Women Leaders Forum: From the Ballot Box to the Boardroom Tickets, Tue, Nov 10, 2020 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Eventbrite - Arlington County Government Network for Women Leaders presents Post Election Women Leaders Forum: From the Ballot Box to the Boardroom - Tuesday, November 10, 2020 - Find event and ticket information <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/post-election-women-leaders-forum-from-the-ballot-box-to-the-boardroom-tickets-123417736773>

**Post Election Women Leaders Forum:  
From the Ballot Box to the Boardroom**  
Tue., Nov. 10, 6-7 p.m., Free



## Jean Zapple's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday

Jean Zapple, long-time member of FC AAUW now living in Brewster MA, celebrated her 100th birthday this summer. Thinking about Jean's long devotion to AAUW, I found a biography of her from our 65th anniversary party in 2015.

Jean joined FC AAUW in the 1950s after serving in the SPARS, the women's Coast Guard, during WWII. Jean moved to DC and then Falls Church with her husband, Nick, where they raised a family. When Jean joined FC AAUW, the branch was compiling and publishing a list of private kindergartens, a public service in Virginia which had no public kindergartens at that time.

Jean reminisced that FC AAUW raised money for scholarships by holding bridge parties, etc. raising a few hundred dollars each year. But weren't satisfied with that, and someone had heard about a Pennsylvania branch that held a book sale. So, FC AAUW decided to try it. Jean remembers the huge success – the first year raising at least \$3000; and the sale took off from there.



Jean was been deeply involved in the sale from the very start. In fact, the first time the branch priced special books was around 1980 when the branch held a special sale at Jean's house for a donation of books about Massachusetts, Salem, and the witch trials. We immediately recognized they might be valuable (and even checked with the donor that he really meant to give them to us - and, yes, he knew the value and wanted the proceeds to go to our good cause). So, Jean researched their value (not so easy before the Internet) and raised a sizable sum from that one lot alone.

Jean's daughter in-law Robbie Zapple (rzapple@cox.net) tells us that Jean is doing well, but unable to have the usual visitors at her nursing home because of COVID restrictions. If you want to wish Jean a Happy Birthday, you can send her a card at Pleasant Bay Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 383 S. Orleans Rd. #202 A, Brewster, MA 02631.

## Anne Peabody



Falls Church AAUW member, Anne H. Peabody, sailed into eternity on October 27, 2020 at the Vinson Hall Retirement Community in McLean, Virginia at the age of 100. See the obituary here:

<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/18799403/Anne-Margaret-Peabody/Alexandria/Virginia/Everyly-wheatley-Funerals-And-Cremation>.

A visitation will be held Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 5pm at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302. A funeral service at the Old Post Chapel followed by the interment at Arlington National Cemetery will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the US Navy Memorial, Women in Service to America Memorial, US WWII Memorial, AAUW or Arlington Forest United Methodist Church.

## Falls Church AAUW Postcard Campaign Update –

### Final Total 5435

As of this writing, Election Day is just a week away and all of our postcards have been mailed. The grand total of 5435 cards represents the effort of 21 members and 9 additional friends (and family)! Counting the latest round of postcards, these FC AAUW members and friends have written 5435 postcards.

Participating members were Anne Baxter, Martha (Marty) Behr, Ellen Blalock, Dianne Bodeen, Sally Brett, Marilyn Falksen, Mary Ellen Gannon, Rebecca Gaul, Margaret (Peggy) Howard, Marian (Bunny) Jarrett, Sarah John, Elizabeth Kessel, Linda Lawrence, Pam Martinov, Lee Roussel, Mildred Schreiber, Rebecca Shaw, Martha Trunk, Mary Youman, Sharon Zackula, and Mollie Jewell.

And friends/family, who helped out in a big way, were: Sarah Shannon, Carole Sullivan, Dolores Gerber, Mary Ann Francis, Diane Weeks, Jeff Rogers, Alison Deem, Millie John, and Dan Blalock, And, thanks to all who recruited helpers.

The project honored the memory of Kitty Richardson, an active civil rights supporter and our diversity chair, who passed away this winter. We wrote postcards to get out the vote and fight voter suppression through the Reclaim Our Vote (ROV) campaign. FC AAUW has partnered with ROV to and the postcards also support the AAUW priority of increasing voter turnout. The ROV postcard writing campaign is a project of the Center for Common Ground of Virginia, a registered non-partisan 501 (c)3 organization. National partners include NAACP, Black Voters Matter, Mi Familia Vote, VoteRiders and DemLabs.





We started this project in July and finished our last batch of cards in mid-October, by urging Cobb County GA, voters to vote early. Previously we had supported the North Carolina NAACP in asking voters to pledge to vote. Then we asked voters in Florida (Hillsboro Co/Tampa) and Orange Co. (Orlando) to vote in the primary and fill-in the census. In Texas, we urged voters to vote early in Hidalgo Co. (Ft Worth/EI Paso) and Laredo. We also asked inactive voters in Lowndes Co. GA to reactivate their status and vote early and voters in Seminole Co Florida to vote and vote early.

## Public Policy

### Latinas and the Pay Gap

October 29 is [Latina Equal Pay Day](#). Because of the gender pay gap, Latinas were compensated 55% of what non-Hispanic white men were paid in 2019. That means it takes Latina workers almost an entire extra year of full-time, year-round work to be paid the average annual earnings of white men.

## A Message from Our VA AAUW Funds Chair

Here is some important information for you as we head into the holiday season (unbelievable, isn't it?).

### AAUW Funds Contributions Deadline

Remembering that contributions operate on a calendar year, not a fiscal year, all contributions [from individuals and branches] to be counted for CY 2020 must be received at AAUW by **December 31**. If mailing checks, use Dec. 17 as the deadline to allow plenty of time for the checks to get there. If donating with a credit card, December 31 will be on time. Please let your members know as they may want to make a contribution as a gift to AAUW.

### Designation of Contributions to AAUW Funds

We are encouraging members and branches to designate their donations to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (#9110), which gives AAUW the flexibility to put that money where it is most needed. For example, if NCCWSL needs more funding, money from the Greatest Needs Fund could be used. Or if an unexpected opportunity arises for AAUW, funds could be taken from the Greatest Needs Fund. For example, a public policy media opportunity or an opportunity to host a women's group from another country.

## McLean Area Branch

McLean Area Branch invites Northern District Branch members to our ZOOM meeting on November 17 at 6:30pm. Our speakers are Dr. Earl Smith and Dr. Angela Hattery, authors of "Policing Black Bodies." They will speak about how African Americans are treated differently in many settings, including our public education system and the criminal justice system.

Their presentation at the Summer Leaders Meeting was a highlight among all the excellent speakers. This is a chance to hear them if you were unable to be at the meeting (or hear them again). To add your name to the registration, contact Co-President Carol Mournighan at [clmourn@gmail.com](mailto:clmourn@gmail.com).

## Mount Vernon Branch News

The Mt. Vernon Branch (and Sherwood Regional Library) invites you to a Zoom program Thursday, November 19, 4:00 p.m.

The speaker will be Karen Corbett Sanders, Chair of the Fairfax County School Board. She will address the various school issues that resulted as the pandemic took over.

It is important for us to learn what is happening now in our public school system.

**The link for participation is on the flyer (See the last page of this newsletter). Registration closes November 18.**

\*\*\*As requested, the link for the YouTube recording for our program on October 15, with Jessica Buchanan, is here: [https://youtu.be/cKo6\\_zO\\_GM](https://youtu.be/cKo6_zO_GM)

Patsy Quick, President, Mt. Vernon AAUW

## Reston Reston-Herndon AAUW Branch Friendsgiving Event November 19 at 7:30 PM

We have been so fortunate to have each other during these difficult times. Dr. Jean Ann Linney, a member of our group and expert in mental health, will speak on "Maintaining Mental Well Being in the Time of COVID 19." Please join us for this special event so we can celebrate together and learn how we can maintain our mental health during this most unusual time in our lives. If you wish to attend please email [janinegrnwd@hotmail.com](mailto:janinegrnwd@hotmail.com)

## Vienna Branch News

Exploring Social Justice in Policing and Education Monday, November 16, 2020, 7:30 p.m.

Meet via Zoom

We are honored to have four distinguished guest speakers this month who will share their experience and knowledge in two areas of current relevance. Social Justice in Policing

Hunter Mill District Supervisor Walter Alcorn will discuss current initiatives in the Fairfax County Police Department.

Shirley Ginwright, Chair of the Fairfax County Communities of Trust, will talk about their role in improving police relations with the Fairfax County community.

Social Justice in Education Sean Perryman, President of the Fairfax County NAACP, will join Leona Smith-Vance, Director of Equity and Family Engagement at Fairfax County Public Schools. They will discuss social justice concerns and initiatives in the county school system.

This program is a joint presentation of three organizations:

- AAUW Vienna Area Branch
- Optimist Club of Greater Vienna



- Virginia State Organization, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Alpha Nu

Our thanks to everyone in these organizations who helped us plan the program. Georgia Chirieleison, Program Co-VP

This program is shared among three groups, and we hope you will attend. Please register by emailing ViennaAAUW@gmail.com by November 12. You will receive the Zoom link on November 13.

## How about another library card?

Mary Riley Library- It Is Not Just for Books -It's for Films Too!



*Get one of your very own!*

**SIGN-UP FOR A  
LIBRARY CARD  
TODAY!**



Let's face it. Our lives have changed. But rather than focusing on what we cannot do, let's think about what we can do. We can still meet virtually online through Zoom. We can watch films online through paid subscriptions. But did you know that you can watch films online for free through your Mary Riley Library card? Below is a Q and A on how you can do it too!

### **Q: How do I obtain a Mary Riley Library Card?**

A: You can apply for a card [Online!](#) While the library is closed due to Covid-19 Mary Riley Library will not be processing library cards in person, but if you or someone you know is unable to get online to create a card, call 703-248-5031 for assistance.

### **Q: Do I need to live in Falls Church City to get a Mary Riley Library card?**

A: You don't have to live in the City of Falls Church to get a Mary Riley library card. They serve a diverse population of the Washington, DC Metro Area.

### **Q: Does my MRL card provide me access to downloadable films?**

A: After signing up for your MRL card you can then gain access to over 30,000 films through Kanopy. Check out the link <https://fallschurchva.kanopy.com/>

If you need help, call or text Aida at 703 966 8050.

## Movies, anyone?



Let's Go to the Movies Virtually!

In November, the movie group will be discussing **The Old Guard** a 2020 American [superhero film](#) directed by [Gina Prince-Bythewood](#) and written by [Greg Rucka](#), based on his comic book of the same name. The film stars Oscar winner, [Charlize Theron](#). The film is about a group of mercenaries, all centuries-old immortals with the ability to

heal themselves, who discover someone is onto their secret, and they must fight to protect their freedom.

**The Old Guard** can be watched on Netflix online. The group will meet virtually to discuss the film on Wednesday November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. All are invited to join us. **No ticket required.** For more details, call or text Aida Loomis at 703 966 8050.

Other News: Selections for the Winter and Spring will be announced November 11<sup>th</sup>.

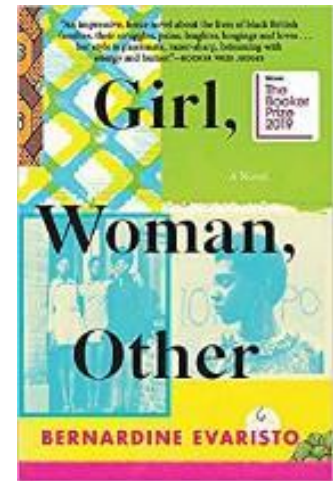


## Book Club News

Tuesday, November 17 at 7:30 pm via Zoom Meeting:  
Book by a Foreign Author Selection: ***Girl, Woman, Other*** by **Bernardine Evaristo**- Joint Winner of the Man Booker Prize 2019

A zoom invitation will be sent to the chapter the day before.

Teeming with life and crackling with energy — a love song to modern Britain and black womanhood *Girl, Woman, Other* follows the lives and struggles of twelve very different characters. Mostly women, black and British, they tell the stories of their families, friends and lovers, across the country and through the years. Joyfully polyphonic and vibrantly contemporary, this is a gloriously new kind of history, a novel of our times: celebratory, ever-dynamic and utterly irresistible.



Also, we are now voting for our reading selections for 2021 Winter/Spring. You will receive an email with the selections, so please vote. Everyone may vote, and we hope to see you join in on the lively discussion.

Polly Rosenstein for FC AAUW book group

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 9	7:30pm	Falls Church Branch Meeting via Zoom
November 10	6:00pm	Arlington Branch- The Changing Role of Women in Leadership
November 11	7:00pm	Movie Group Zoom Meeting
November 16	7:30pm	Vienna Branch- Exploring Social Justice in Policing and Education
November 17	7:30pm	Book Club Zoom Meeting
	6:30pm	McLean Branch- Policing Black Bodies
November 19	4:00pm	Mount Vernon Branch- School Issues in the Time of COVID 19
November 19	7:30pm	Reston-Herndon Branch- Maintaining Mental Well Being in The Time of COVID 19
December 13	Afternoon	FC AAUW Holiday Party via Zoom

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, and socioeconomic status.





**Sherwood Regional Library**

## **Wondering How Fairfax County Schools Are Doing During the Pandemic?**

### **Have Questions or Concerns About Virtual Learning?**



**Join the Zoom Discussion**

**Thursday, November 19 at 4 p.m.**

**With Fairfax County School Board Chair**

**Karen Corbett Sanders**

**Registration Required:** <https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/7024999>

**Registration closes November 18.**

Karen, a native of Fairfax County, has a wealth of business, education and non-profit experience. She is a retired international business executive, a community advocate for healthcare and education issues, past PTA president, and Odyssey of the Mind coach. She also serves on a number of boards.

As school board chair Karen is committed to ensuring that our "students have access to a world class education" and the pressing question of the day is, are our schools delivering that to children now, virtually?

With AAUW's focus on women and girls, we also look forward to hearing Karen address how Fairfax County is promoting STEM subjects to girls. How the County plans to address the issues of minority representation at its flagship STEM school, Thomas Jefferson, is another hot topic we expect to hear about.

AAUW empowers women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. This nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States, as well as 800 college and university partners and 1,000 local branches, 24 of which are in Virginia. **Contact AAUW Mt. Vernon: [AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com](mailto:AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com)**