

## AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

Volume 70, Number 7

July 6, 2020



### Co- Presidents' Message



July 3, 2020

Co-Presidents' Message

Dear Members,

Although we do not usually continue our branch activities in July and August, Pam Martinov has agreed to help keep us all up to date and engaged by publishing a July newsletter. Thank you, Pam! In it you will find a number of suggested on-line AAUW and other programs of interest to you, and on-line meetings for the book group and the newly revived movie group. Thank you, new program VPs, Becky Gaul and Susan Conklin, book group chair, Polly Rosenstein, and new movie Director Aida Loomis!

We would also like to acknowledge and thank Dianne Bodeen, former VP-Programs, and Aida Loomis, former Secretary, who gave up their positions on the Board after many years of service. We are grateful for their creativity, enthusiasm and 100 percent plus participation not just in fulfilling their official duties, but in all the activities and events of the Branch. Thank you to both of you.

Scholarships. On July 11 and 12, Mary Youman will meet individually, with the ten young women to provide them their scholarship certificate and an AAUW logo coffee cup to take with her to college. Photos will be taken and shared with the membership, and published.

Please Pay Your Dues. AAUW's membership year begins on July 1, 2020 and ends on June 30, 2021. Thank you for being a member! We look forward to more interesting times ahead!

**Book Sale Deferral. The book sale, deferred in April 2020, will not occur any time during 2020.** This decision is based upon member responses to the Book Sale Participation Survey ("Survey"), current restrictions on group gatherings, current state orders to maintain social distancing, and other concerns related to the continued presence of COVID-19 and the challenges it is posing to group activities. We received approximately 25 responses to the Survey. Significantly, only one member responding to the Survey indicated that she would volunteer to perform all of the activities that would be necessary to prepare for and conduct a book sale.

**The Board is hopeful that we may be able to safely conduct a book sale in April 2021.** However, no final decision has been made, and any decision to commit branch resources to reserve space, rent tables, trucks, etc. store books and other items will be made as late as possible, and will be subject to change, if the government decrees or the Board and membership determine that we, collectively, do not feel safe gathering. At this time, the Willston Center

continues to store those books that we received and sorted as of mid-March 1. We do not know how long we will be able to store books with them.

Book Collection. We are not engaging in book collection. If you agree to receive books, you must store them at your house.

Storage Locker. We are no longer paying for storage. Several members are temporarily storing books and book sale equipment.

Please take a look at all the activities that are available to you. We look forward to seeing you on some of these online conversations!

We would like to stay in touch and reach out to any member who is looking for conversation, support of any type and a little cheer. Any member that wants to be in communication as part of a call group, or just a one-on-one conversation, should indicate so via email to Elizabeth, Sharon or Shannon. We are here for each other. Reach out to an AAUW Board member or AAUW friend if you need assistance or a little conversation.

Elizabeth Kessel and Sharon Zackula  
Co-Presidents

## Renew Your Dues for 2020-2021



**FOR PAYING YOUR DUES BY JUNE 30!!!**

**Thanks to all branch members, who made the dues collection process goes smoothly.**

**Most of you have paid early and by credit card! You've saved me preparing a deposit and trips to the bank!**

If you've forgotten to pay your dues for 2020-2021, **now is the time to act. It's very easy to pay on-line.** You should have received a link to pay on-line recently. It takes less than 1 minute! Click on the link that was sent last week, enter your credit card number, and your membership is renewed. Dues are \$92. If we don't hear from you, we'll give you a call soon.

If you have any questions, please contact Anne at 703-969-6743 or [vabaxter@verizon.net](mailto:vabaxter@verizon.net).

**(PLEASE DO NOT SEND** your dues payment directly to National AAUW. You will not be listed as a Falls Church branch member.)

## PROGRAM UPDATE

Looking for things to do this summer while we are hanging out at home and not socializing? Zoom events are an option.

### **The Alexandria AAUW Branch will be hosting Zoom events in July and August.**

—July 22nd at 1:00 PM: Update on Title IX by Dr. Cynthia Pascal, Interim Association Vice President & Interim Title IX Coordinator.

—August 6th at Noon: Update on Redistricting Reform by Brian Cannon of One Virginia 2021.

Zoom links will be sent out later. Sandy Lawrence ([sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)) is the contact.

### **Mary Riley Styles Public Library (MRSPL) also has some interesting programs:**

—July 8 at 8 PM watch the film *1985* on Kanopy, then join a Zoom discussion.

—July 9 at 7 PM: Thursday Evening Book Discussion via Zoom on *Say Nothing: The True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland* by Patrick Radden Keef.

Learn more at [www.fallschurchva.gov/LibraryAtHome](http://www.fallschurchva.gov/LibraryAtHome).

**AAUW Webinars also have saved presentations on the AAUW website.** We encourage members to watch CEO Kim Churches' State of the Association and Virtual Town Hall sessions. A listing is at: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/2020-convening/>.

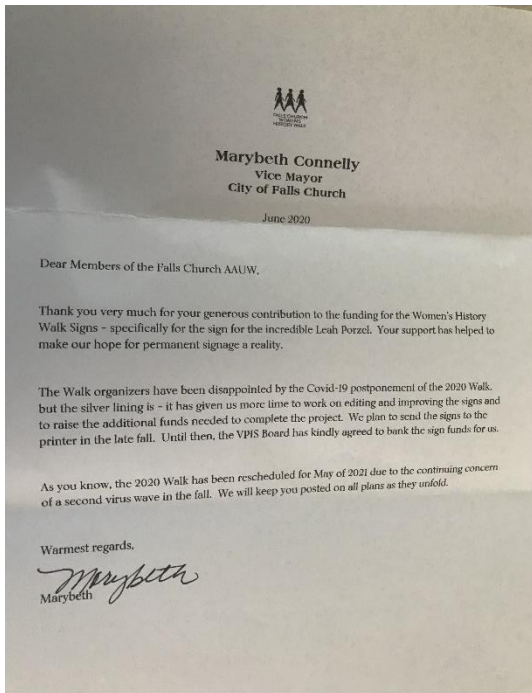
If you have not already done so, please email future program ideas to new Program Co-Chairs Susan Conklin ([sconklin00@aol.com](mailto:sconklin00@aol.com)) and Becky Gaul ([beckygaul@verizon.net](mailto:beckygaul@verizon.net)). We welcome ideas for topics, specific speakers, things you have seen, heard, done or want to do, especially those related to AAUW issues of fair pay & economic equity, advancing women in leadership & removing bias in education. Given our uncertain meeting situation, ideas for both in-person and online possibilities will be gratefully considered.

## Public Policy

### **The Vote**

On Monday, July 6, and Tuesday, July 7, at 9 p.m. WETA-TV is broadcasting "The Vote", which tells the story of the struggle to obtain the right to vote for women. This informative documentary is part of the American Experience series about history, events and historical figures that have had an impact on the U.S. Government and its citizens. The award-winning series is produced by WGBH in Boston. For additional information about the fight to win the right to vote for all women, go to <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/vote/>. "The Vote" will be rerun on the WETA World Channel at 8 p.m. on July 10 and 11.

## Women's History Walk



We have received the above letter from Marybeth Connolly, thanking us for our purchase of a sign honoring Leah Porzel to be used at the annual Falls Church Women's History Walk. More information about the Walk and Ms. Porzel can be found in the April 2020 FLASH.

## Movies, anyone?

Let's Go to the Movies Virtually!

For July, the movie group will be discussing the 2019 film, *Just Mercy*. It is based on the true story of Bryan Stephenson, an African American Harvard educated attorney, who moves to Alabama to defend falsely accused African Americans on death row. The film cast includes Michael B Jordan and Academy Award winners Jamie Foxx and Brie Larson. *Just Mercy* can be watched on Amazon Prime free for a month. It is also available through Redbox, Netflix subscription and other venues. The group will meet virtually to discuss on Wednesday July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. All are invited to join us. **No ticket required.** For more details, call Aida Loomis at 703 966 8050.



Coming Soon to AAUW FC: *Cold Sweat*, a riveting drama about an Iranian futsal champion, Afrooz, who finds herself unable to travel to the biggest match of her life without her husband's permission.

## Book Club News

Our June Zoom meeting was a great discussion of books we are currently reading or have read in the past and recommend to the group. Below are the group's recommendations.

Sharon Zackula:

- *The Plague* by Albert Camus
- *The Stranger* by Albert Camus
- *The Meursault Investigation* by Kamel Doaud (the Algerian perspective on the crime committed in *The Stranger*)
- *Olive Again* by Elizabeth Strout

Pam Martinov:

- *The Splendid and the Vile* by Eric Larson
- *The Great Influenza* by John Barry

Anne Baxter:

- *The Education of an Idealist , a Memoir* by Samantha Powers
- *Ask Again, Yes* by Mary Beth Keane
- Alan Alda's podcast, *Clear and Vivid*
- Podcast with Itzhak Perlman, and documentary on Itzhak (Amazon Prime), may also be on PBS streaming

Polly Rosenstein:

- *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals* by Michael Pollan
- *Clementine: The Life of Mrs. Winston Churchill* by Sonia Purnell

Elizabeth Kessel:

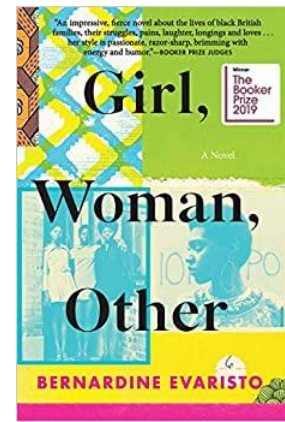
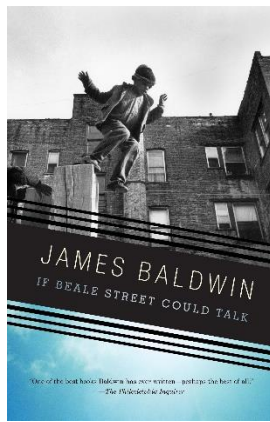
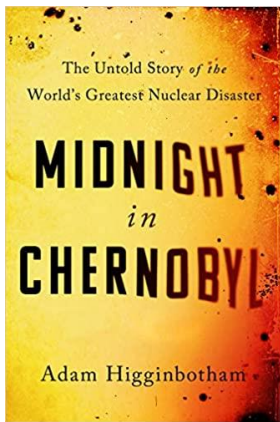
- *Visitation Street* by Ivy Pochoda
- *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn

Martha Trunk:

- Albany Park Theater Project production of *Home/Land*
- *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins

OUR NEXT ZOOM MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY JULY 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 P.M. We will again discuss books we are currently reading or have read in the past and recommend.

PLEASE JOIN US; ALL ARE WELCOME! A ZOOM invitation will be sent out to the entire branch membership closer to the July 21<sup>st</sup> date.



Here are our fall reading selections voted on by the chapter members:

- Tuesday Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>: History Selection - *Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World's Greatest Nuclear Disaster* by Adam Higginbotham
- Tuesday October 20<sup>th</sup>: Classic Selection - *If Beale Street Could Talk* by James Baldwin
- Tuesday November 17<sup>th</sup>: Contemporary Fiction by a Foreign Author - *Girl, Woman, Other* by Bernardine Evaristo

We hope to see you on Zoom on July 21<sup>st</sup>!

Polly Rosenstein for FC AAUW Book Group

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 8	7:00pm	Movie Group Zoom Meeting
July 21	7:30pm	Book Club Zoom Meeting

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.

