

# AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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OUR MISSION: *To advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

## JANUARY 2024

Happy New Year Friends and Members!

We've had lots of fun things going on as you will see in this newsletter and we are looking forward to more in 2024 with three of our major interests being to provide scholarships to non-traditional women, supporting future women leaders and getting equal women's rights codified in the U.S. Constitution. Read more about the ERA march in D.C. on page 6.

Although we will not have a branch meeting this month, I encourage you to sign up for the League of Women Voters Legislative Breakfast on Saturday, **January 6<sup>th</sup>** at Elkridge Library to hear from Howard County legislators on relative issues and bills slated to go before committees and possibly the General Assembly in Annapolis over the next three months. See more details on page 3.

The fun continues at Pinot's Palette where you can show off your artistic skills on Sunday, **January 28<sup>th</sup>** at 3 pm in Turf Valley, Ellicott City. The signup link is on page 2. Providing it doesn't snow, we will hold our annual Book Bash on **Feb. 10** at Union Jacks where we always enjoy learning about new books and lunch besides! See page 3.

I look forward to seeing you at one or all of these events! Stay warm and connected.

Beth Hayden [bhayden@aol.com](mailto:bhayden@aol.com)

# Pinot's Palette

Our first fundraiser of the new year!



## Paint at Pinot's Palette

**Sunday, January 28, 2024** from 3 to 5pm (doors open at 2:30).

**Location:** 11105 Resort Road, Suite 105, Turf Valley Towne Square (across from Smyth Jewelers).

**NOTE:** Sign-ups are available only online at link below.

**Cost:** \$42 per guest (20% will be donated to us if we have at least 20 people).

There will be a bar available (cash or credit) and 10% of all bar sales will be donated to us. Non-alcoholic drinks and snacks will be available for free.

Please invite your friends to join us – there is room for 30 participants, and anyone can sign up online.

You may think that you have no artistic talent, but you may be surprised! Talented or not, you will have a terrifically good time. Bea Dane has offered to take unwanted pictures; her husband will clean the canvas and use it for his own artwork.

Register online at <https://pinotpalette.com/ellicottcity/event/726143>

We will be led by a professional artist who will show us how to create “Sunshine Bouquet” (shown below). Any questions call or text Connie Palmieri 410-802-1556.



## LOOKING AHEAD - A FAVORITE MEETING

### February 10 – The Book Bash

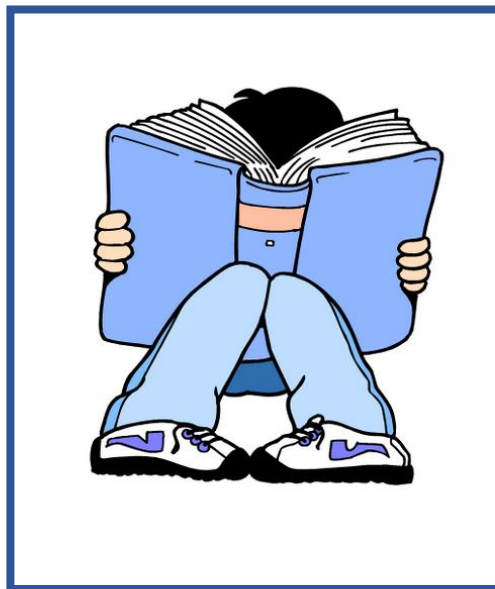
#### “Nothing But the Truth”

This year, we'll step away from our usual review of different genres of fiction and ask you to review non-fiction of some sort. These can range from biographies to travelogues to true crime. We can even stretch to include memoirs (purported to be true?).

We will also have our book swap, book contributions to AAUW Gaithersburg's book sale and food collection for Howard Community College *and* a raffle!! WHEW!!

The Book Bash will be held at Union Jack's. RSVP form will be sent out soon in a separate email.

**PLEASE** contact Susan Hailman [shailman@comcast.net](mailto:shailman@comcast.net) by January 13 if you can do a 5-minute book review. Hope to see you there!!



**LWV Legislative Breakfast on January 6**

**Register now** to attend the League of Women Voters Legislative Breakfast on Saturday!  
It is a free event where you can hear from our local Howard County State delegation. Many Howard County officials also attend.

**Saturday, January 6** Doors open at 10:00 AM  
Belmont/Hockley Room, Elkridge Branch of the Howard County Library  
6540 Washington Blvd., Elkridge  
Refreshments served.  
Free

[https://hoco.lwvhowardmd.org/legislative\\_breakfast\\_2024](https://hoco.lwvhowardmd.org/legislative_breakfast_2024)

## AAUW Dues Information

The AAUW National office has sent the following information about members' dues.

Individual members and students will not see a change in national dues for FY 2025. The proposed change to the Action Fund dues will simply reallocate those dues to AAUW, Inc. **As a result, individual member dues will now be fully tax deductible,** whereas previously only a portion of the dues were tax deductible.

The reallocation of the \$3 from the AAUW Action Fund to AAUW Inc. is both a procedural change to streamline AAUW's operations, a key goal for the Board and an added benefit in that it makes the annual dues of \$72, **fully tax deductible [beginning in Spring 2024].** Again, there will be no change to national individual member dues for FY 2025.

## Member Notes

**NEW ADDRESS:** Zeli Castella has moved. Her new address is 8820 Shining Oceans Way, Apt. 305, Columbia, MD 21045.

# Photo Gallery



Members and guests enjoying the Holiday Party at Bare Bones restaurant.



**Holiday Fundraiser at Horse Spirit Arts Gallery in Savage Mill.**  
**Above left** from top of staircase: Laura Violand, Diane Roca, Beth Hayden, Bea Dane and Barb Carter.  
**Below left:** Laura Violand, Jeanne Parr, Beth Hayden and Bea Dane.  
**Above right:** Beth Hayden and Bobbie Brooks learn about egg decorating from artist Wendy Ng.



# March for the ERA

AAUW and several other organizations - including GenerationRatify, the League of Women Voters, and NOW - met at Lafayette Square in Washington DC on December 13 to march in support of certification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the US Constitution.

AAUW Maryland was represented by several participants from various branches. Representing our Howard County branch were Barb Carter and Diane Roca who braved a chilly day to march 1 ½ miles from the White House to the US Capitol where Representative Ayanna Pressley (D; MA) held a news conference. AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell was one of the speakers.

The ERA was first proposed 100 years ago, and the marchers carried the message that it must be certified now. “Not One Year More!” read some of the posters.



AAUW Maryland members ready to start the march. Far left wearing black hat is our member Barb Carter. In the middle wearing green scarf is Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO. Next to her in blue is Tracy Lantz, President of AAUW Maryland.

Displaying the ERA banner in front of the Capitol Building.

A large graphic featuring the letters "ERA" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. To the right of the letters is a solid green circle.

## Interest Groups

### **LUNCH BUNCH**

Join us for lunch @ Nordstrom Cafe, Columbia Mall on Thursday, January 25 at 11:30 am. No RSVP needed. Looking forward to seeing you.  
Contact: Caroline Tunison  
301-346-1750

### **ADVENTURES IN DINING**

Adventures in Dining will take a winter break. The next dinner date will be in March, most likely at Kelsey's Pub, to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.  
[carolmcauliffe@verizon.net](mailto:carolmcauliffe@verizon.net)  
443-878-2848

### **GREAT DECISIONS**

The 2024 Great Decisions Discussion Group is ready for the first meeting of the year. It will be Monday, January 15, at 2:00 PM at Brightview Senior Living. The address is 6670 Martin Road in Columbia.  
We will discuss "Mideast Realignment," the first topic in the book. Come a little early to find a parking place. You may need to park on the street.  
Contact: Diane Roca  
[dbroca@comcast.net](mailto:dbroca@comcast.net)  
443-255-1628

### **AAUW READERS**

All meetings will take place at the East Columbia Library in the 50+ Center. Starting time is 10:30 a.m. followed by an optional lunch at a nearby restaurant. All Branch members are welcome. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please let Debbie Munley know via email [debbiemunley@verizon.net](mailto:debbiemunley@verizon.net).

Contacts: Jean Salkeld (410) 992-4198  
[jesalkeld@gmail.com](mailto:jesalkeld@gmail.com) and  
Debbie Munley  
[debbiemunley@verizon.net](mailto:debbiemunley@verizon.net)  
(301) 776-7388

**January 18, 2024 Demon  
Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver  
Historical Fiction**

**March 21, 2024 Garden of the  
Beasts: Love, Terror, and an  
American Family in  
Hitler's Berlin by Eric Larson  
Non-Fiction**

**May 16, 2024 The Mayfair  
Bookshop  
by Eliza Knight Historical Fiction**

**July 18, 2024 Lady Tan's Circle of  
Women by Lisa See  
Historical Fiction**

**2024-2025 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers**

President: Beth Hayden (410)-707-2018

First Vice President: Position open

Financial Officer: Bea Dane (410) 299-8403

Vice President, Programs: Susan Hailman  
(443) 994-5453, shailman@comcast.net

Vice President, Philanthropy: Position open

Co-Vice Presidents, Meetings/Social: Carol Phelps  
(443) 878-2848; and Bobbie Brooks (443) 545-5642

Secretary: Jean Parr (410) 381-6351;

Alt: Bobbie Brooks (240)-888-5231.

Vice President, Education: Cindy Graham  
(214) 912-5656

Vice President, Public Policy: Barb Carter (443) 864-5663

Vice President, Membership and Diversity:

Suzanne Soules (410) 872-8603

Vice President, Communications:

Diane Roca (410) 964-3523

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Website Manager: Position open

Adventures in Dining: Carol Phelps (410) 381-7076

AAUW Readers: Jean Salkeld (410) 992-4198 and

Debbie Munley (301) 776-7388

Great Decisions: Diane Roca (410) 964-3523

Lunch Bunch: Caroline Tunison (301) 346-1750



## 2024 Branch Calendar

Planned events are tentative and will be confirmed closer to the date

### JANUARY

- 2 – No Adventures in Dining
- 5 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 6 -- League of Women Voters Legislative Breakfast, 10:00 am; Elkridge Branch of the Howard County Library - 6540 Washington Blvd, Elkridge
- 9 – Board Meeting; Cancelled
- 15 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm; Brightview Senior Living, 6670 Martin Road, Columbia
- 18 -- AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library
- 25 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café
- 28 – Women’s Legislative Briefing, sponsored by the Montgomery County Commission on Women; noon to 4 pm; Universities at Shady Grove, Rockville
- 28-- Pinot’s Palette Fundraiser, Turf Valley , 3 – 5 pm. Doors open 2:30 pm

**No Branch Meeting**

### FEBRUARY

- 2 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 6 -- No Adventures in Dining
- 10 -- Book Bash and Branch Meeting; 11:30 am; Union Jack’s restaurant, Columbia
- 19 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm; location TBD
- 29 – Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Cafe

## MARCH – Women’s History Month

- 1 - Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 4 (?) – Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD
- 5 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD
- 18 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD
- 21 – AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library
- 28 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Cafe
- ?? -- Girl Power; Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab; Laurel

## APRIL

- 4 -- Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD
- 5 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 11 -- Branch Meeting – Diversity: Latin community; location La Palapa Too; Maple Lawn
- 15 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD
- 20 -- AAUW Maryland Annual Meeting; Ingleside at Kings Farm; hosted by Kensington-Rockville Branch
- 25 – Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café
- 27 (?) – Honorary Tea or ERA Forum at Howard Community College

## MAY

- 3 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 7 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD
- 9 -- Board Meeting, if needed; 2 pm; location TBD
- 14 -- Branch Meeting, Potluck, New Officers; Kittleman Room at HCC
- 20 - Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD
- 16 – AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library
- 30 – Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

?? -- NCCWSL, U of MD, College Park, MD

## JUNE

4 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD

7 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

17 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD

27 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

**No Branch Meeting**

## JULY

2 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD

5 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

15 - Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD

18 - AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library

25 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

**No Branch Meeting**