

**Vol 48, Number 5 ~ Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter ~ February, 2021**

**Calendar of Events**

<b>February 14<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Sunday</i>	<b>Valentine's Day! Zoom your loves and share ☺</b> <i>We have some ideas &amp; more door prizes!</i>	<b>2:14 pm</b>
<b>March 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY</b>	
<b>March 13-15</b>	<b>VA-AAUW State Conference</b>	<b>See details inside newsletter.</b>
<b>March 25<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Thursday</i>	<b>Women's History Month Zoom Program</b> <i>More details to come...</i>	<b>6:30 pm</b>

**President's Message**

**Who's Zoomin' Who?**

Who knew when Aretha Franklin sang this song in 1985 that it would be the anthem of 2020-21? But while we continue to distance, isolate, and stay at home-zooming and other creative ways to connect with friends and family are helping us cope.

Our branch has had some great zoom events- well attended, informative, and fun. Please join us for our Valentine Day program and future events. Also, check out the programs other branches are having, more information on them is in this newsletter.

AAUW has had over 35 webinars on a variety of topics. You can access them at [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLTL0yfGgwGXMyK\\_sroxeiKh4StRXtW3aN](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLTL0yfGgwGXMyK_sroxeiKh4StRXtW3aN)

Things are looking up. While my Christmas cactuses continue to bloom and bring color inside, the daffodils are poking up from the snow. Spring is coming. So, sing along with me:

Who's zooming who?  
Take another look and tell me, baby  
Who's zooming who?  
Who's zooming who?  
Who's zooming who?  
Who's zooming who?  
Now the fish jumped off the hook, didn't I, baby?  
Who's zooming who?  
Yeah



**Sandy Lawrence**

**[sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)**

## **Public Policy & Advocacy**

### **Local**

Our branch has already begun preparing for the announcement of AAUW's 2021 Equal Pay Dates (see the last page of the newsletter for 2020's) to seek support from the Prince William Board of County Supervisors for an equal pay resolution. We've been advocating for this for many years, endured scorn and misogynist statements at citizens' time presentations, and maintained and nurtured connections each year. Let's be confident that 2021 is the time! **Joyce, Eileen, Barbara B., Elaine, and Mary King**



would like to add your voice to theirs. **Sandy** lives in Springfield, and as our Public Policy Chair, champions advocacy- so contact her if you have a contact with a BOCS in your magisterial district. **Susan B.** lives in Manassas City and prepares her statements based on the goal of the SUCCESS! Conference (for all our regional students) to ensure gender equity- which includes pay equity, too!

**Paycheck Fairness Act:** AAUW has worked for decades to pass this landmark legislation to advance pay equity. The House of Representatives passed the legislation with bipartisan support during the 116th Congress, but it stalled in the Senate. The bill has already been reintroduced in the 117th Congress with broad support, but quick action is needed to get this critical bill to President Biden's desk so he can sign it into law. Take action with the [AAUW Paycheck Fairness Act advocacy tool kit today](#).

### **State**

February 5, 2021 was Crossover Day in the VA General Assembly. A couple of bills we have been lobbying for have passed out of the House of Delegates and been referred to Senate Committees. They offer another opportunity to make our voices heard in support of measures that support AAUW-VA's public policy agenda. (Also, Governor Northam signed a proclamation calling the members of the General Assembly into special session on Wednesday, February 10 to align the legislative calendar with the customary 46-day length for odd-numbered years. The projected end date is February 27).

**Paid Sick Leave (HB 2137).** Delegate Elizabeth Guzman's (31st District) bill to provide paid sick days for essential workers (HB 2137) has passed out of the House with only one amendment (to exempt retail businesses that employ 25 or fewer employees) and been referred to the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee. <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?211+ful+HB2137E>.

There are other bills RE: STEM courses. If you are interested in advocating, contact Sandy for letter templates to send to your VA legislator.

### **National AAUW Year in Review 2020**

AAUW recently published the 2020 Year in Review. The full report can be found at <https://www.aauw.org/about/years-in-review/2020-review/>, but here are a few highlights:

- Hosted over [35 webinars](#), which reached more than 30,000 people, engaging them on a [wide range of topics](#).
- Ramped up work with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other minority-serving institutions, thanks to a [generous grant from The Coca-Cola Foundation](#). A total of 29 minority-serving colleges, including 18 HBCUs, now offer [AAUW's Start Smart training](#), bringing the number of colleges/universities hosting the program to 142.
- The [Two-Minute Activists](#) sent 62,400 letters to elected officials calling for action on AAUW priorities such as comprehensive COVID-19 relief, the Voting Rights Advancement Act, the Paycheck Fairness Act, removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, paid family leave, support for Title IX, and more.
- Launched the Latina Policy Initiative to gain a better understanding of the economic and health impact of COVID-19 on Latinas, particularly those who are essential workers and in low wage occupations. A forthcoming fact sheet on the status of Latinas in the U.S. will be used to advocate for policies to address inequities that disproportionately impact this vulnerable population.

- The [Legal Advocacy Fund](#) supported five active cases and distributing over \$70,000 in 2020.
- The [AAUW Action Fund](#) and its Lobby Corp members provided 65 head-to-head voter guides on candidate positions in key federal races for 2020 elections.
- More than 250 recipients received nearly \$3.9 million in AAUW [fellowships and grants](#) for the 2020–21 academic year.
- [The Simple Truth About the Gender Wage Gap, 2020 Update](#) focused on how women of color face a wider pay gap — and one that will take far longer to close than the pay gap for white women. A special 2021 supplement to the report will include an analysis of the historical factors behind the wider pay gap for women of color.
- [Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans in the Time of COVID](#) explored how the pandemic exacerbated the student debt crisis and made it more difficult for many women to pay off student loans.
- *Factory Flaw: The Attrition and Retention of Women in Manufacturing* will be released in early 2021. The research, made possibly with a grant from The Arconic Foundation, explores the dearth of women in well-paying jobs in this sector and outlines ways employers and policymakers can recruit, retain and advance women in this field.

**Sandy Lawrence**, Public Policy Chair [sandyaaaw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaaaw@juno.com)

## **SHARING OUR PASSION & LOVEs on VALENTINE'S DAY**

Our bylaws give us a reason for a February meeting- for many years it's when we had our "Looking Toward Spring" Luncheon in Occoquan. It is also when we elect members to the nominating committee. So, let's make pink lemonade with the continued need to be virtual and celebrate our loves and passions- from our families, grandchildren, children, students, colleagues, friends, **careers, hobbies, community service, issues, creations.** We have **door prizes** and you don't have to be virtually present to win, you just need to send in photos, quotes, or descriptions to either one of us- by email, postal mail, or phone by Saturday evening, 02.13. **The zoom meeting will start at 02.14 pm on Valentine's Day, Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup>. We will have Bingo, part deux, with door prizes also.**

**Susan Bardenhagen**, Membership, [smbaaaw@gmail.com](mailto:smbaaaw@gmail.com) &  
**Colleen Hauser**, Social Committee, [colhauser13@gmail.com](mailto:colhauser13@gmail.com)



### **Annual January "Movie" Event: "Finish the Fight"** **January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

They were tireless organizers. Tenacious fighters. And political geniuses. They were Black and Latinx. Indigenous and immigrant. Together, they won women the right to vote and laid the cornerstone for gender equality in the United States. Yet their stories have rarely

been told. Until now. *{From the NY Times}* Branch members viewed the video of the performance prior to the program meeting at 3 pm. Fourteen members and one guest, artist Julie, joined the zoom meeting. First, we listed adjectives describing the five women portrayed in the chat: ***courageous, determined, resilient, stubborn, brave, powerful, authentic, bold, and persistent.*** Next, we discussed questions posed prior – the challenges and struggles suffragists and others have endured in striving for equity, including the themes of today- inequity, oppression, discrimination, and systemic racism; events presented in the performance which were enlightening; and the importance of education brought out through each woman's narrative. Different generations shared gender equity issues when applying to college and aspiring to fields that were non-traditional for women. Pam told us, " The primary reason I've been able to advance both as a scientist and as a feminist is because of my mother's emphasis on education and insight during my upbringing."



Next, several women's bios and photos/artwork **whose *herstory* should be shared** were presented. Suhani told us about Reshma Saujani, an American lawyer and politician, the founder of the tech organization Girls Who Code, and previously the Deputy Public Advocate at the Office of the New York City Public Advocate. With a photo of Grace Hopper and her mom at her promotion ceremony to Lieutenant, Sandy described Hopper's work with computer programming and in the Navy. Suhani shared that she got to attend the Grace Hopper Conference last year. Julie displayed two pieces of her artwork- Nancy Pelosi and Ida B. Wells, describing how she created them, the elements and details. Paige shared Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, the founder and chairwoman of the Indian biopharmaceutical company Biocon. Susan told of two opportunities to meet Maya Angelou and how her life and presentations, "And Still I Rise," affected our lives. A gallery view:



Adjectives and words given to describe our program's presentations – incredible, great, inspiring, amazing, wonderful, meaningful, terrific, love, and fun- Bingo. We played 3 rounds of "Wonder Women" the game- winners were Colleen, Julie, and Paige; they won RGB "Dissent" pencils, honoring a woman who also fought for equity. It was heartwarming to hear from Julie and our members. So much so, that the board when it met the next day, suggested that we play BINGO again and continue our look into women's history from our members' and friends' eyes.

## MEMBER NEWS

**First off, we wish you all a warm virtual hug for Valentine's Day. We hope that you and your families are safe and well. The directories are in your hands or on their way. Here is our 2020-2021 photo!**



## BRANCH PROJECTS

**Marketing Math & Science for Girls Letter Writing** At our January 23<sup>rd</sup> branch program/meeting, Paige gave us an update on one of our AAUW Woodbridge branch projects, called *Marketing Math and Science for Girls*. Paige has drafted letters to organizations and companies and shared the text with us. Several members contacted her with both positive examples and ones which needed addressing. At the recent meeting we decided that those whose signature hand is ready to affix your "Lady or John Hancock" to the letters would receive each letter's contents and addressee from Paige and we would reply with our affirmation, that more signatures on one letter would have more impact than many letters to one address.



Please continue to view ads, commercials, and other items for equitable or inequitable advertisements, and forward ideas to Paige- [pepler@jhmi.edu](mailto:pepler@jhmi.edu) and Mom Assistant, Pam- [pcoan@gmu.edu](mailto:pcoan@gmu.edu) . Thank you!

**Scholarship for Emily Jean Rishell** *Update:* A scholarship was established in our member Jeanette's daughter's honor. It is a \$1000 scholarship for a Manassas Park High School senior who will be attending a 2-year or 4-year college/university, a business or technical school, to major in business or information technology. The applicant will submit an essay addressing specific criteria, judged by a panel including the Woodbridge Branch members, educators, and community leaders, at Manassas Park High School's 2021 graduation ceremony. The funds will be forwarded to the registrar of the school the scholarship awardee attends.



The Woodbridge Branch donated \$100 as seed money for the scholarship, from our funds and scholarships savings account. The branch board began the process and asks members to consider donating to this charitable organization and support a graduate in Emily's name. *We are now just over halfway to the total goal amount. Thank you.*

Please send a check, **made payable** to the "BELL Education Foundation, One Park Center Court, Suite A, Manassas Park, VA 20111". Please note "**Emily Jean Rishell Memorial Scholarship**" in the **memo/note line**. On the envelope, you can write, " Attn: Deanne Perez. **Please forward this information as you desire and please post on social media if you can.**

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION

### **Mini-Grant from VA AAUW- "Starting Conversations to Address Differences with Books & Voices"**

Marlo and I selected the book titles, we plan to offer audio options in addition to the print copies, and we hope to include both our branch members as discussion leaders and invite our NVCC student affiliate members to join in the conversations. The four books we have included: [Hillbilly Elegy](#), [I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings](#), [Sabrina & Corina](#), and [White Fragility](#). If you have any of these texts and would like to participate, please let us know. We are ordering six copies of each to share with members to join us, as a branch library lending. Participants can join any combination of the groups; zoom meetings can be once after reading book or in sections; and the discussion leaders will offer discussion questions and ideas. Like the plan for 1.23's program on "Finish the Fight", we can include media and input from artists of a similar background. **Please contact us to let us know which group(s) you would like to join.**

**Susan Bardenhagen** [smbaauw@gmail.com](mailto:smbaauw@gmail.com) &  
**Marlo Thomas Watson** [marlo@themarlocompany.com](mailto:marlo@themarlocompany.com)



## *Zooming with Other Virginia Branches*

### **SPRINGFIELD/ANNANDALE AAUW**

**Our next general meeting is on Thursday, Feb. 18, 2021 Via Zoom @ 7:00 PM**

**Our speaker is author Olivia Campbell.**

Olivia Campbell is a journalist and author specializing in women and medicine; her work has appeared in The Guardian, The Washington Post and New York Magazine. Olivia will be discussing her debut nonfiction book, *Women in White Coats*, which is due to be published by HarperCollins/Park Row Books in March 2021. Three outstanding women, Elizabeth Blackwell, Elizabeth Garret Anderson and Sophia Jex-Blake, fought for a women's place in the male-dominated medical field. For the first time, Olivia Campbell has told the complete history of these three pioneering women, who despite many obstacles, earned medical degrees, and created medical care for women by women. All three women paved the way for other women to follow in their paths.

Please join us, on Zoom, to hear some of Olivia Campbell's compelling stories of how the glass ceiling was broken in medicine. You can pre-order her book and Irene McGhee will send out the Zoom sign in later in the month. To get it, please contact Irene at [carmiegos@gmail.com](mailto:carmiegos@gmail.com).

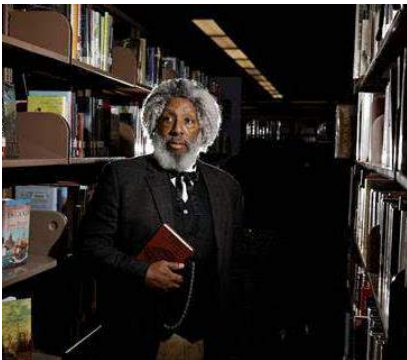
### **The AAUW Suffolk Branch**

is pleased to invite you to a free Black History Month live history performance of Frederick Douglass discussing his role in the Women's Suffrage Movement. Mr. Douglass and Nathan Richardson, who portrays him, will answer questions following the performance.

This event will be held on **Wednesday, February 24 at 4 p.m.**

Pre-registration is required in order to receive the link for this Zoom presentation -

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_MdDwxDqoSKyObKu3\\_713hQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_MdDwxDqoSKyObKu3_713hQ)



**Nathan M. Richardson** is a published author, performance poet and Douglass Historian. His poetry collections include "Likeness of Being", "Twenty-one Imaginary T-shirts" and "The 7 Last Poems of an Unarmed Citizen." His work has been widely re-published in anthologies, magazines and newspapers such as the Channel Marker, The Cupola, Coastal Virginia Magazine and the Washington Post. Nathan teaches a variety of workshops for emerging writers and is the creator and host of the Poetry, Prose & Pizza Open Mic series. Switching hats frequently from literature to history, Nathan is now in his 7th year of The Frederick Douglass Speaking Tour; a living history performance in which he captures completely the physical and spiritual essence of the former slave, writer, orator and abolitionist Frederick Douglass. For a preview of this performance, [see Mr.](#)

[Richardson as Mr. Douglass delivering his famous Fourth of July speech.](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

### **The Mt. Vernon Branch:**

invites you to our program on February 25, at 4 p.m. via Zoom. **To celebrate Black History Month, we will hear from Audrey Davis, Director of Alexandria Black History Museum, and Ron Chase, Director of the Gum Springs Museum in Mt. Vernon.**

**Registration is required.** Here is the link: <https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/7314837> Registration closes 24 hours before the program. Call Sherwood Regional Library, if you miss the deadline: 703/765-3645. **The Zoom link to the program is emailed on the day of the program.**

### **Reston Herndon Invites you to share our upcoming program:**

**February 26 at 4:00 pm** - Dr Sherri Burr, Professor of Law at the University of New Mexico will be our speaker. Dr. Burr has an impressive background. She is the Dickason Chair in Law and Regents Professor Emerita at the University of New Mexico School of Law, received her education at Mount Holyoke College, Princeton University and the Yale Law School. The author of 26 other books, Burr lectures on her research related to Free Blacks and created the art exhibition "400 Years of Freedom, Restriction and Survival." For more information about her you can go

to: <https://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/burr/index.html> Her talk will focus on the challenges of being a free Black woman in Pre- Civil War Virginia. In addition, she has written a Pulitzer Prize nominated book Complicated Lives Free Blacks in Virginia 1619-1865. She indicated that the discussion would be more engaging if we read her book in advance. This should be a wonderful talk.

**Topic:** AAUW R-H Sherri Burr

**Time:** Feb 26, 2021 04:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

**Join Zoom Meeting** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738824357?pwd=U1ZGS2VNUWlOdnh1R0gxaWpTMWJhZz09>

Meeting ID: 897 3882 4357

Passcode: 015506

**You can purchase the book here:** [https://smile.amazon.com/Complicated-Lives-Blacks-Virginia-1619-1865-ebook/dp/B07ZKV97RT/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=T81HEZ8AEQNR&dchild=1&keywords=complicated+lives&qid=1610210370&srefix=c omplicated+Lives%2Caps%2C144&sr=8-1](https://smile.amazon.com/Complicated-Lives-Blacks-Virginia-1619-1865-ebook/dp/B07ZKV97RT/ref=sr_1_1?crid=T81HEZ8AEQNR&dchild=1&keywords=complicated+lives&qid=1610210370&srefix=c omplicated+Lives%2Caps%2C144&sr=8-1)

## STEMM from Suhani & STEAMM from Susan



The influence of role models who look like us is immeasurable, especially for young girls who dream about pursuing STEAM. Melissa Edmonds is a gifted resource teacher at Kyle Wilson Elementary school, who is one such pioneering role model using her passion for sciences to inspire her students. She founded Girls' Geek Day, which annually brings together hundreds of elementary school girls to attend hands on workshops, such as for coding and robotics. Additionally, as a Lego Master Educator, Melissa coaches students to build their own Lego creations and compete in challenges. In her classroom, she teaches about 3D printing, architectural stimulation, and productivity tools, such as Microsoft Office Suite, which positions her students to confidently succeed in a technologically savvy world and earned her the prestigious Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert award. Melissa's drive to immerse students in meaningful and creative educational endeavors is an asset to our community. *{Interview by Suhani; Dr. Edmonds was a 2020 AEW- Honoring Our Educators honoree, as was Suhani.}*



### AAUW's Member Art Contest

In the art world women are underrepresented and undervalued. Only a third of artists represented by commercial galleries are women and women working in arts professions are paid on average 74 cents to every dollar paid to men. This is what motivates AAUW to host an annual art contest — to give women artists the attention they deserve. The 2021 entry period has closed. Voting is now open and will close on March 3. The six winning entries will be featured in a collection of notecards mailed to AAUW members in the spring.

We invite you to vote. **There are six AAUW members from Virginia's 24 branches that we know of, including yours truly, Susan. 😊 Mine are photographs titled, "Dancing to Her Inner Voice" and "Momma Mallard & Her Ducklings".** Here is the link to view the nearly four hundred entries in the gallery: <https://artcontest.aauw.org/contest/> Here is the link to vote:

[https://artcontest.aauw.org/contest/?access\\_str=dd5b0eebcf2c44ffc47a42e059671333&action=show\\_voting](https://artcontest.aauw.org/contest/?access_str=dd5b0eebcf2c44ffc47a42e059671333&action=show_voting)

## PRINCE WILLIAM-MANASSAS REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

This year's fair will be judged virtually during March 13-20<sup>th</sup>. We need at least five judges who will review the projects for middle school females online through a platform that will have students' abstracts and more by categories. Similar to previous in-person judging, each judge will narrow the projects for consideration to 2-3 per category. Then, all five judges will review the ones identified and select the best per category. A zoom meeting will be scheduled for one hour to choose our first, second, third, and possible honorable mention awardees. Please contact Susan [smbaauw@gmail.com](mailto:smbaauw@gmail.com) or Suzanne [Harvey.suzanneL@gmail.com](mailto:Harvey.suzanneL@gmail.com) if you interested in joining the team. The review process is at your convenience from the 13-17<sup>th</sup>.

## VIRGINIA AAUW - 2021 STATE CONFERENCE



### *Conference Schedule and Registration Information*

Please join us virtually for the annual AAUW of Virginia State Conference, which also includes our 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting. In addition to conducting important business of our organization, over the course of three days, you'll hear from and be able to question an exciting variety of speakers on the AAUW mission-related topics described below.

On **Saturday, March 13**, there will be morning and afternoon sessions, while on **Sunday, March 14, and Monday, March 15**, there will only be afternoon programs.

**The conference and business meeting are free, but please register in advance** for each day you want to "attend" by using the registration links below. You will be sent Zoom links for each day. **Even though there will be two sessions on March 13<sup>th</sup>, there will only be one Zoom link for that day.**

### **SCHEDULE, LINKS, AND DETAILS HERE**

[REGISTER NOW FOR DAY 1](#)

[REGISTER NOW FOR DAY 2](#)

[REGISTER NOW FOR DAY 3](#)



The Winter-Spring 2021 Virginia Vision (in your inbox on February 9<sup>th</sup> has lots of information about the conference, too. Contact us at [AAUWofVA@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWofVA@gmail.com) if you have any questions or problems with the links.



## HERstory/THEIRstory – Writing Women & the Under-Represented into History

On February 12, 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or the **NAACP**, was created following a New York City conference addressing a recent race riot. The activist group in attendance included **W.E.B. Du Bois** and **Ida B. Wells-Barnett** and brought forward an organization that has pushed toward racial equality through protest, legal action and public attention. Also on **Abraham Lincoln's** birthdate (in 1809), in 1967, **Thurgood Marshall** was confirmed as the first African-American Supreme Court justice.

14 February 1954:  
Billie Holiday's first  
London concert



**Valentine's Day 1954** - Did you know Billie Holiday performed her first ever concert in London at the Royal Albert Hall on Valentine's Day in 1954? She was supported by Jack Parnell and His Orchestra. When she played the Royal Albert Hall on Valentine's Day, 1954 she was overwhelmed by the warmth of the reception. She loved "the awareness" of English audiences and their appreciation of her music. "I want to settle in Britain because I love the people. They call me an artist not just a singer," she said.

On the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, **Chien-Shiung Wu**, a Chinese-born American physicist, will be commemorated with a U.S. Postal Service (USPS) stamp for her significant contributions in nuclear physics during her 40-year career. More specifically, Wu's experiment on parity violation that had a monumental impact on particle theory and floored physicists at the time, reports Adrian Cho for *Science*. Before Wu brought her innovative skills to physics, she pursued graduate studies in physics at the University of California at Berkeley in 1936 under Ernest Orlando Lawrence, a nuclear scientist. Lawrence was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1939 for inventing the cyclotron. After receiving her Ph.D., she became the first woman hired as a faculty member in Princeton University's physics department, according to the U.S. Embassy in Georgia. She later left Princeton for Columbia University in New York. *{from Smithsonian, by Elizabeth Gamillo, 2.10.2020}*



### February Highlights

- 1, 1978 – **First** postage stamp to honor a black woman, **Harriet Tubman**, is issued in Washington, DC
- 4, 1987 – **First** "National Women in Sports Day" is celebrated by Presidential Proclamation
- 11, 1989 – Rev. **Barbara Harris** became the **first** woman bishop in the American Episcopal Church & Anglican Communion
- 12, 1869 – The Utah Territorial Legislature passes a bill allowing women to vote
- 15, 1921 – Suffrage Monument, depicting **Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott**, sculpted by **Adelaide Johnson**, dedicated at US Capitol & 1953 – **Tenley Albright, first** American woman to win the World Figure Skating championship
- 17, 1870 – **Esther Hobart Morris** in Wyoming became the **first** American woman Justice of the Peace
- 24, 1912 – **Henrietta Szold** founds Hadassah, largest Jewish organization in American history, focusing on healthcare and education in the Israel and the U.S. & 1967 – **Jocelyn Bell Burnell** makes the **first** discovery of a pulsar, a rapidly rotating neutron star
- 27, 1922 – **U.S. Supreme Court upholds the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote**

### February Birthdays

- 1, 1878 (1950) – **Hattie Wyatt Caraway**, first woman elected to the U.S. Senate(1932), **first** woman to preside over the Senate(1943) & 1930 (1986) – **Ruth Ross**, magazine editor, helped **found inaugural** issue of "Essence" (1970), which included articles of leading African-American scholars and writers, however the Black Perspective, **first** to address issue of race in the media, feared advertising losses and removed her so the magazine became "less black"
- 3, 1821 (1910) – **Elizabeth Blackwell**, the **first** fully accredited female doctor in the U.S. along with her **sister Emily, founded** the **first** medical school for women & 1874 (1946)- **Gertrude Stein**, poet, author, art critic- "A rose is a rose is a rose is a rose"
- 4, 1865 (1921) – **Lila Valentine**, Southern suffrage leader, introduced kindergartens & vocational training into public education in Virginia, recognized health needs with the Visiting Nurse Association fighting tuberculosis, supported the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia & the National American Woman Suffrage Association after visiting England and realizing that many health issues required women's voice & 1913 (2005) – **Rosa Parks**, "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement" & 1918 (1995) – **Ida Lupino**, American director & actress, in the 1930's, involved with movies dealing with social issues- unwed mothers & rape more than 40 years before the topics were widely discussed & 1921 (2006) – **Betty Friedan**, author & activist, *The Feminine Mystique* (1963), **cofounded** the National Organization for Women (NOW) in 1966
- 6, 1887 (1985) – **Florence Luscomb**, architect and reformer, **first** woman to graduate from MIT as an architectural graduate in 1909
- 7, 1867 (1957) – **Laura Ingalls Wilder**, author of Little House books & 1918 (1997)- **Ruth Sager**, scientist, graduate of the University of Chicago, worked on genetic research in plants, studied cancer research after 1975, became professor of cellular genetics
- 8, 1911 (1979) – **Elizabeth Bishop**, poet and writer, graduate of Vassar, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1956, struggled with depression, alcoholism and asthma, wrote on a variety of subjects, probably her most enduring work is *Geography III* (1976)
- 9, 1944 – **Alice Walker**, writer, **first** African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, for *The Color Purple* (1983)

**10, 1883 (1959)** – **Edith Clarke**, **first** woman to earn an M. S. in electrical engineering from MIT (1919), **first** woman professor of electrical engineering (1947), **invented** the Clarke Calculator, a graphical device for solving power transmission line equations **&** 1907 (1992) – **Grace Hamilton**, **first** African-American in the Deep South’s state government, elected to the Georgia General Assembly 1966-84 **&** **1927** – **Leontyne Price**, Grammy Award winning opera singer

**11, 1925 (1998)** – **Aki Kurose**, interned in 1942, the American Friends Service Committee funded her college work, anti-war projects included treatment for cancer victims of Hiroshima, taught peace education in Seattle schools with MLK’s nonviolent example

**12, 1926 (1992)** – **Joan Mitchell**, abstract painter, creations included 6-8-foot canvasses with animals, poetry also included nature

**13, 1906 (1990)** – **Pauline Frederick**, journalist, **first** woman network radio correspondent (1939), **first** woman to moderate a presidential debate (1976)

**14, 1847 (1919)** – **Anna Howard Shaw**, woman suffrage leader, fine orator, licensed as Methodist minister in 1880, graduated as M.D. in 1886, organizer with Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association, lectured in every state, beloved president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (1904-15), awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for her work during World War I **&** **1891 (1977)** – **Katherine Stinson**, the fourth licensed woman pilot in the country (1912), **first** to fly mail from Helena, Montana (1913), **first** woman to “loop the loop” (1915), **first** woman to fly in Asia, drawing 25,000 to watch in Tokyo **&** **1904 (1988)** – **Jessie O’Connor**, journalist, Smith College magna cum laude (1925), reported textile strikes in North Carolina and coal strikes in Harland Co., Kentucky, helped those accused of communism, Vietnam anti-war opposition, and anti-Reagan protests **&** **1914 (1976)** – **Nancy Love**, pilot, ferried planes to Canada during World War II as Commander of the Women’s Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS) 1940-42, group later absorbed into WASPs

**15, 1820 (1906)** – **Susan B. Anthony**, leader of 19th century women’s right movement, national suffrage strategist, lecturer, activist **&** **1935** – **Susan Brownmiller**, writer, also known as Susan Warhaftig, writes novels and conducts historical research, including *Against Our Will: Men, Woman and Rape* (1975) and a memoir, *In Our Time*

**16, 1870 (1927)** – **Leonora O’Reilly**, labor organizer, **founding** member of the Woman’s Trade Union League, helped found NAACP **&** **1905 (1988)** – **Louise Larson**, **first** Chinese American and **first** Asian American reporter in a mainstream daily paper (1926), received many awards, wrote memoir *Sweet Bamboo* (1989)

**17, 1912 (2005)** – Andre Norton, writer, **Alice Mary Norton** used “Andre” thinking that it would be more salable in science fiction and fantasy, also used **pseudonyms** Andrew North & Allen Weston, 50 years later named “Grand Dame of Science and Fantasy” **&** **17, 1930** – **Ruth Rendell**, author who under the **pseudonym** “Barbara Vine” became popular in America for her psychological crime thrillers novels but she is really the English Baroness of Babergh, C. B. E.

**18, 1931 (2020)** – **Toni Morrison**, Pulitzer Prize winning novelist, **first** African American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature 1993 **&** **1934 (1992)** – **Audre Geraldine Lorde**, writer, authored a book of poetry or essay almost every year, fought sexism and homophobia, joined the struggle for civil rights and feminism, **created** Kitchen Table Women of Color Press with others in 1988, wrote *A Burst of Light* to highlight her response to liver cancer

**19, 1902 (1992)** – **Kay Boyle**, writer and political activist, involvement in anti-Vietnam war demonstrations led to jail sentence **&** **1952** – **Amy Tan**, novelist, mother-daughter relationships are subject of *The Joy Luck Club*, now in 35 languages, *The Kitchen God’s Wife* (1991), and *The Bonesetter’s Daughter* (2001)

**20, 1805 (1879)** – **Angelina Grimké**, abolitionist, joined the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society in 1835 and addressed “mixed” audiences in 1837, wrote *An Appeal to the Christian Women of the South* criticizing slavery in 1836, after which a price was placed on her head should she return to South Carolina **&** **1902 (1995)** – **Katharine Way**, Ph. D. in nuclear theory at the University of North Carolina (1938), developed the Way-Wigner formula for fission produced decay, her concern for the health of retirees led to Durban Seniors for Better Health in the City of Medicine

**21, 1855 (1902)** – **Alice Freeman Palmer**, educator, **founded the predecessor organization to the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in 1881 &** **1903 (1977)** – **Anais Nin**, began her 69 volumes of journals with a letter to her father, found she liked recording her thoughts in stream of consciousness style, some journals were published in 1966, also wrote novels and *D.H. Lawrence: An Unprofessional Study* (1932) **&** **1927 (1996)** – **Erma Bombeck**, humorist and columnist, began writing obituaries and columns on gardening, eventually wrote books of humor, supported the ERA, appeared on “Good Morning America” for 11 years **&** **1936 (1996)** – **Barbara Jordan**, politician, star debater at Texas State University, served in Texas state legislature 1962-72, House of Representatives 1973-78 where she sponsored expanding the coverage of the Voting Rights Act, taught 17 years at University of Texas, awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1994)

**22, 1876 (1938)** – **Gertrude Bonnin Zitkala-Sha**, writer; Sioux Indian activist, **founded** National Council of American Indians (1926) **&** **1892 (1950)** – **Edna St. Vincent Millay**, **first** woman to receive the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry (1923) **&** **1900 (1996)** – **Meridel LeSueur**, passionate poet and writer of short fiction and essays dealing with unfair labor conditions and the land rights of Southwest and Minnesota Native American tribes

**23, 1900 (1991)** – **Elinor Warren**, composer, gifted pianist, wrote more than 65 art songs, major works with orchestra are “The Harp Weaver” (1936) and “The Legend of King Arthur” (1970) **&** **1904 (1995)** – **Helen Nearing**, determined to live a more simple life, she and her husband Scott learned better techniques for surviving independently and also for getting maple syrup, traveled on lecture circuit where they publicized their *The Good Life* practices, which they had refined at their Maine homestead and organic garden

**25, 1910 (1992)** – **Millicent Fenwick**, fashion editor, member of the New Jersey General Assembly (1969-73), earned the nickname “Outhouse Millie” for her fight for better working conditions for migrant workers (including portable toilets), won seat in Congress in 1974 **&** served three terms, turned up in comic strip “*Doonesbury*” as “Lucy Davenport,” champion of gun control, campaign spending limits, and ERA

**26, 1859 (1953) – Louise Bowen**, Chicago philanthropist, saved Hull House financially in 1935, funded the Woman’s Club building, demanded removal of health hazards from Pullman Company, obtained minimum wage for women at International Harvester Company and raised \$12,000 for families of strikers **& 1921 (1985) – Wilma Heide**, educator and women’s studies **pioneer**, president of National Organization for Women 1971- 72, spearheaded sex discrimination charges against ATT

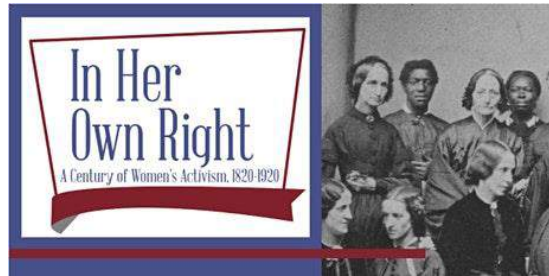
**27, 1890 (1989) – Mabel Staupers**, graduate of Freedman’s Hospital of Nursing (now Howard University) in 1917, led Harlem Committee of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association, organized health education, public lectures, free exams and dental care for school children, fought for full racial integration with the help of **Frances Bolton**, integrated Army and Navy nurses **& 1897 (1993) – Marian Anderson**, opera singer, **first** African American member of the New York Metropolitan Opera (1955)

**28, 1898 (1992) – Molly Picon**, Yiddish actress, performed around the world beginning with “Baby Margaret” at age 5, entertained troops in Korea and Japan during World War II, renowned for her somersaults and flips well into her seventies, wrote one-woman show, “Hello, Molly” (1979), and an autobiography, **Molly** (1980)

**29, 1916 (1994) – Dinah Shore**, singer and actress, performed on WSM in college with Frankie Laine, Dennis Day, Frank Sinatra and others, became a regular on Eddie Cantor’s show in 1940, entertained USO troops during World War II (12,000 at Versailles), won first of 10 Emmy Awards in 1955 for “The Dinah Shore Show,” which ran until 1962

**The above calendar research is from  
Our Colleagues at the National Women's History Alliance**

**Check out Their Events on Women's History!**



**Women in the Navy!**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/unladylike2020-where-are-the-women-tickets-136750342957>





**AAUW Continues Branch 5-Star Recognition Program - 7.1.2019-6.30.2021**

**Programs**

- Host 2-4 strategic plan- related programs in FY21. 1- September 12<sup>th</sup> program on women's history & STEAM 2- AEW Program 11.15 including testimonials on gender equity (The Sadkers), STEM, and DEI 3-1.23 Finish the Fight & Iconic Women

**Advancement**

- \* Shift focus in branch giving from fellowships and grants/LAF to greatest needs or strategic plan focus areas by 50%. \*\* Retain 90% or more of your branch membership and submit annual dues by September 30.

**Communications & External Relations**

- All existing websites and social media presences include an Economic Security Focus and Work Smart Online.
- Note: Monthly posts are required for social media; Work Smart Online must be included on the website home page.

**Public Policy & Research**

- Conduct an annual meeting with U.S. representative(s) and/or state legislators around a strategic plan area of focus. An alternative elected official is acceptable if circumstances warrant. ?- PWBOCS for equal pay resolution
- Ensure a branch public policy chair is appointed who collaborates with the state public policy chair.
- Host at least one public event where Action Network sign-ups are collected.

**Governance & Sustainability**

- Align planning with state and AAUW national strategic plans.
- Branch board institutes a succession plan to ensure new ideas and perspectives are included in the future leadership.

***WE ARE A 5-STAR BRANCH for 2019-2021. We're continuing to live up to our status, by striving to re-earn each star's goals for 2020-2021- highlighted.***

## Moving Forward in 2021

Dates are based on 2019 U.S. Census data on median earnings for full-time, year-round workers. Because they are observances, adjustments may have been made to avoid weekends and holidays. It is expected that next year, the data from 2020 will paint a regression of gains.

**2.11.2020 ↓ 2.23.2021: Asian American Women's Equal Pay Day**

(Asian Women v. White Men - \$0.87 (from \$0.90))

**3.31.2020 → 3.24.2021: All Women's Equal Pay Day**

(Women overall v. Men overall - \$0.82)

**4.9.2020 ↓ 4.10.2021: White women's equal pay day**

(White Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.79)

**6.4.2020 // 6.4.2021: Mom's Equal Pay Day** (Moms vs Dads - \$0.70)

**8.13.2020 → 8.3.2021: Black Women's Equal Pay Day**

(Black Women v. White Men - \$0.63)

**10.1.2020 → 9.8.2021 !! : Native Women's Equal Pay Day**

(Native Women v. White Men - \$0.60)

**10.29.2020 → 10.21.2021 : Latinas' Equal Pay Day**

(Latinas v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.55)

*The trend has been upward and improving from 2018, except in 2019 for Native American Women. At this point, there is no way to know how the effects of addressing COVID 19 will result in a change to the above dates.*

**WE SO HOPE NEXT YEAR'S DATES WILL SHOW GAINS FOR ALL WOMEN.**

*VA AAUW State Conference will be held virtually March 13-15.  
See inside this newsletter for more information!*

American Association of University Women's Mission:  
*To advance gender equity for women & girls through  
research, education, and advocacy.*

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.

Woodbridge homepage: <http://woodbridge-va.aauw.net/> AAUW homepage: <http://www.aauw.org>

Northern District Co-Representatives: **Sara Anderson** [sfpaaaauw6382@aol.com](mailto:sfpaaaauw6382@aol.com) and  
**Sandy Lawrence** [sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)

AAUW of Virginia homepage <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>