

Mt. Vernon Voices

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Volume 61 Issue 5 January 2018

Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER

HAPPY NEW YEAR! WOW!

I remember as a child wondering what it would be like to say 20 xx instead of 19 xx. Well, I managed to get across that bridge and now we look at 2018 as yet another bridge. May the New Year be happy, blessed, adventurous and wonderful for all of us!

I hope the Mt. Vernon Branch of AAUW will grow in number of members, enthusiasm of existing members and devotion to the causes of AAUW in 2018.

This wonderful organization does more good in the world than we realize. We forget about the graduate students who are studying because of the help they receive from AAUW.



How many of you remember the holiday luncheon several years ago when we invited 3 or 4 foreign students who were studying here in the D.C. area on AAUW scholarships?

I picked up one of the students at the metro station and escorted her to the luncheon. What a woman! She was profoundly deaf and I communicated with her during lunch in writing, (I wrote, she spoke) and she stood up and addressed the group to thank them for what they were doing for her! I believe that she was Asian and I was so impressed that even though she was deaf, she still could communicate and study in at least two languages. It frankly made me

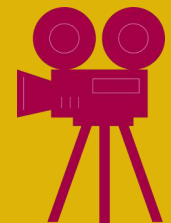
(Continued on page 2)

**Sunday
January 14**

**Branch
Program**

4:30 - 6:30 pm

**Heritage
Presbyterian
Church**



BRANCH PROGRAM JANUARY 14



**HOW ARE LEGISLATIVE VOTING DISTRICTS DETERMINED?
WHAT IS GERRYMANDERING?
IS IT FAIR? WHY IS IT DONE?
WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF GERRYMANDERING?
WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT?**

The documentary, *GerryRigged: Turning Democracy on its Head* has answers. If you have ever wondered about how our voting districts are determined, or have concerns about the effects of gerrymandering, come to the

**Heritage Presbyterian Church
8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308
on January 14, at 4:30 – 6:30 to view the 58 minute film.**

Afterwards, representatives from **OneVirginia2021** (a leader in advocating for fair redistricting in the Commonwealth of Virginia) and the **League of Women Voters** will answer questions.

The event is free. Light refreshments will be available. Friends and family are welcome!



feel rather inferior! The other students also addressed the group and were equally impressive – but her added disability was so touching to me!

I bring this to mind just to help us remember the many ways AAUW advocates for women and girls worldwide. These women will never forget the aid they received from this organization and we should never forget the good AAUW does.

So as we begin the New Year, I hope we will all make a resolution to help our branch by bringing friends to the amazing programs we have each month, telling others about our organization, and advocating for it as it advocates for us!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

SHIRLEY RICHEY
CO-PRESIDENT



Meet Brian Cannon, the executive director of OneVirginia2021, at our January 14 film screening of Gerry Rigged!

Brian Cannon became the **Executive Director of OneVirginia2021** in January 2015. He brings over a decade of experience in non-profit leadership, community building, fundraising, and bipartisan advocacy for state policy issues. Previously, he worked as a consultant with startups and high-growth companies. While in law school, **Brian** studied election law and was on one of the winning teams in the 2011 state-wide redistricting competition.

Brian is a double William and Mary graduate (2011 JD, 2004 BA). He and his wife, Kelly, live in Richmond, Virginia with their son. When not working on redistricting reform, he serves on several non-profit boards and plays rec league football.



BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2017 – 2018

Elected Officers

Co-Presidents: Edie Bartlett
Joanne Clark
Joanne Malkin
Shirley Richey

Program Vice President: Joanna Crane
Mary Ellen Mehler

Membership Vice President: Shannon Dubicki

Treasurer: Edie Bartlett

Secretary: Clair Wylie

Appointed Chairs

Bylaws: vacant

AAUW Funds: Joanne Malkin

Public Policy: Patsy Quick

Newsletter/Website: Bianca Daugherty

Newsletter/Directory Distribution: Cynthia Gindlesperger
Mary Ellen Mehler

Nominating Committee Chair: Lois Passman

Hospitality: Cathy Krebs

Interest Groups

Book Group: Liz Promen

Dining Out: Elizabeth Lonoff

Game Night: Bianca Daugherty

ImpromptEvent: Barbara Mann

BOOK GROUP

Please inform the hostess whether or not you plan to attend.

DATE: Monday, January 15, 2018
7:30 PM

HOSTESS: DeJuana Jones
8406 Stockade Drive
703/780-5026

CO-HOST: Barbara Mann



BOOK: Small Great Things
by Jodi Picoult

REVIEWER: Joanne Malkin

NEXT BOOK: Hillbilly Elegy
A Memoir of a Family and
Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

GAME NIGHT

Join us for fun and games!

Friday, January 26, 2018

7:30 pm

Home of Barbara Mann

Spouses and significant others are welcome!

Contact **Bianca Daugherty** if you would like to join the group
(biancadaauw@gmail.com)



<http://laoblogger.com>

DINING OUT: CHEESETIQUE FOR SUNDAY BRUNCH

Join **Dining Out** as we visit **Shirlington** to celebrate **Winter Restaurant Week** on **January 28 at 11 am**. The special fixed-price brunch costs \$22 plus beverage, gratuity, and tax, plus any extras you order.



4056 Campbell Avenue, Arlington, 703/933-8787

Former Alexandria software developer **Jill Erber** opened the original **Cheesetique** cheese shop in 2004. She added a cheese and wine bar in 2008 and opened the Shirlington location in 2011, followed by Ballston's in 2016. Cheesetique sells fine cheeses and food-friendly wine and has an eclectic, cheese-centric menu.

Special Restaurant Week menu:

http://www.ramw.org/sites/default/files/restaurant-week/menus/Restaurant%20Week%20Winter%20Shirlington%20BRUNCH%202018_0.pdf

Reviews:

<https://www.opentable.com/r/cheesetique-shirlington-arlington>

<https://www.yelp.com/biz/cheesetique-arlington-2>

Please feel free to invite a family member or friend. Cheesetique is wheelchair accessible. Free parking is available in garages around the corner.

Seating is limited. If you haven't already RSVP'd and received the Group confirmation or if your plans have changed, please contact **Elizabeth Lonoff** (elonoff@msn.com) ASAP.



UPCOMING EVENT FEBRUARY 3



Join us at the Town Meeting

31st Annual Mount Vernon's District Town Meeting
Saturday, February 3, 2018
Mount Vernon High School
8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria

For the fourth year, **Mt. Vernon AAUW branch** will have a table at the town hall meeting. We will distribute AAUW literature and have a chance to chat with neighbors in the community. The event starts early in the morning, the exhibition hall opens at 7:45 am.

This is a great opportunity to reach out to the Mount Vernon District community and then attend the Town Meeting. The annual Town Meeting is always interesting with its focus on what is new in the Mt. Vernon District, what is coming, what is controversial, dignitaries from the Fairfax County Government, budget and school questions, etc. Don't miss it!

We will also need people to help set up at 7:15 AM and to man the booth between 7:45 and 9:15 AM.

Contact Mary Ellen Mehler if you have any questions or would like to help (memehler@msn.com)

AAUW STATE LOBBY DAY



AAUW of Virginia State Lobby Day Richmond - February 7, 2018

On **Wednesday, February 7, 2018**, we will be holding our annual **State Lobby Day**, and I hope that we will have a large cadre of members participating. The agenda is being prepared, but will not be available until a few days before the event. However, you should expect that the day's agenda **will begin early (8:30 am or earlier)**.

Once again, members from the **AAUW Greater Richmond Branch (GRAAUW)** will graciously be opening their homes to host any of our members participating in **State Lobby Day**, who arrive on February 6, and want to spend the night. **Anyone who wants to partake of the GRAAUW hospitality should let me know no later than January 25**. Also, there are hotel rooms available through a block of rooms reserved by the **League of Women Voters of Virginia (LWV-VA)** for \$139 plus tax for the night at the **Hotel Berkeley**, 1200 E. Carey Street, Richmond, VA, 804 225-5149. Mention LWV-VA when you call.

Also, **no later than January 25, 2018**, please email me the names and email addresses of those who will be attending **State Lobby Day**, along with an indication of those who will be going to lunch with the group.

The **League of Women Voters of VA** has invited us to join with them on **State Lobby Day** for lunch at the **Hotel Berkeley** (walking distance from Capital Square) after we are recognized in the House and Senate galleries. There will be a deli buffet for \$20, including tax and tip. **Please let me know no later than January 25 if you want to come to lunch**. Although you'll be able to pay at lunch, if you have to cancel after RSVPing that you are coming, please do so by February 1 to ensure that we are not charged for the lunch.

Leslie Tourigny
State VP for Public Policy
ltourigny@gmail.com

AAUW BITS AND PIECES

AAUW and numerous other advocacy organizations signed on to a letter this week opposing two new rules proposed by the Trump Administration. The rules would allow both religious and moral exemptions to contraception coverage, which could severely impact access to birth control. Read the letter here:

<https://www.aauw.org/files/2017/12/Contraception-Rule-Comment-12.1.17-nsa.pdf>

In recognition of Computer Science Education Week, AAUW announced the release of our new cyber security curriculum for middle-school girls: [STEMpack: Cyber Security](#). This curriculum, made possible through a partnership with cyber security company Symantec, is intended for a classroom setting and includes robust lessons that cover the origins of the internet, binary code, an introduction to programming languages and coding, deconstructing a computer, and more. Through this STEMpack, not only do students tackle cutting-edge coursework, but they also remain inspired to pursue their STEM passions long after the lessons are finished.



State Legislative Proposals to Curb Human Trafficking

A new toolkit from **Shared Hope International** provides rankings based on each state's [human trafficking laws](#) and offers policy solutions to strengthen existing legal frameworks. The guide focuses on six primary areas – criminalization of domestic minor sex trafficking, criminal provisions addressing demand, criminal provisions for traffickers, criminal provisions for facilitators, protective provisions for child victims, and criminal justice tools for investigation and prosecution. Tennessee earned the highest ranking. Coupled with the [Polaris Project's model state legislation](#) resource and the **AAUW and National Council of Jewish Women [Sex Trafficking Toolkit](#)**, advocates have many avenues to pursue in the fight to stop human trafficking.

Analysis Reveals Gender and Racial Pay Gaps for 25 Major U.S. Cities

WASHINGTON — The **American Association of University Women (AAUW)** released an analysis of the gender pay gap in 25 of the largest U.S. metropolitan areas. The analysis also breaks down the pay gap for women of different races and ethnicities in each city. AAUW's report reveals a substantial gender pay gap in all 25 cities examined, with even larger gaps for black and Hispanic women.

"No matter where you reside, your background or chosen industry, women face the systemic pay gap," said **Kim Churches**, chief executive officer at AAUW. **"Instead of avoiding the issue of unequal pay, women's voices and actions are on the rise. To fight inequities, we need to arm women with strong salary negotiation skills, fact-based research and advocacy locally, regionally and nationally."**

The major metropolitan area with the widest overall gap in the study is **Detroit**, where women are paid 75 percent as much as men, and the area with the smallest overall gap is **Los Angeles**, where women

are paid 90 percent as much as men. **Looking within the racial/ethnic categories, the widest gap falls in Houston, where Hispanic women are paid just 35 percent of what white men are paid.** AAUW's analysis drew on U.S. Census data from the American Community Survey to calculate the pay gaps for metropolitan areas across the country with a population of at least two million.

The city findings provide a more detailed look at the oft-cited 80 cents number, which is the amount women working full time in the United States typically make compared to men's dollar. **The gender pay gap is larger for black and Hispanic women when compared with white men and is also larger for mothers.**

This study builds upon findings from AAUW's research report [The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap](#), which provides a detailed look at the pay gap, its causes and impact, and solutions to close it. Expanding on one of those solutions, five city governments so far have partnered with AAUW to bring **AAUW Work Smart** salary negotiation workshops to their cities. The latest, San Francisco, will launch in 2018.



Mt. Vernon AAUW

Presents a Screening of the Documentary



Sunday, January 14, 2018, Time 4:30-6:30 PM

Heritage Presbyterian Church

8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

**Representatives from the League of Women Voters and
OneVirginia2021 will respond to questions afterwards.**

More Info: AAUW Mt. Vernon 703/780-8494

GerryRIGGED: Turning Democracy On Its Head examines the historical context and consequences of gerrymandering through a multi-partisan lens that includes Republicans, Democrats, Independents, Libertarians and the Tea Party. The documentary explores the impact on communities and individual lives by including testimonials from strategists, political consultants, and map drawers, and by incorporating interviews with the men and women in politics who have the most to win – and perhaps lose – through reform. “Gerrymandering is the enemy of representative government. It deliberately manipulates the system to take away from voters the very choice that should be a hallmark of our system,” says program producer William Oglesby. “We hope with this documentary to help citizens understand that this isn’t the way it has to be; that the voters have a right to choose their representatives rather than the representatives choose them.”

2017 - 2018 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, September 21, 2017, 6:30 pm Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Kickoff Dinner
Saturday, October 21, 2017, 1:30 pm George Mason Regional Library 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA, 22003	Northern District Meeting Meet new AAUW CEO, Kim Churches
Saturday, November 11, 2017, 11 am The Campagna Center 418 S Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314	Early Childhood Education and its Effect on Women Dr. Tammy Mann, President and CEO
Saturday, December 9, 2017, 12 noon Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Holiday Event - Luncheon
Sunday, January 14, 2018, 4:30 - 6:30 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	Film screening and Discussion "GerryRigged: Turning Democracy on its Head"
Saturday, February 24, 2018, 11 – 3pm Lorton Prison Workhouse 9518 Workhouse Rd, Lorton, VA 22079	Tour of Lorton Prison Workhouse
Saturday, March 17, 2018, 9:30 am Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Annual Meeting and Brunch
Sunday, April 15, 2018, 6 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	Immigration and its Effects on Women and Children
Tuesday, May 1, 2018 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance Little Theatre of Alexandria 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	Little Theatre Fundraiser "Harvey"
Thursday, May 24, 2018, 6:30 pm Home of Paula Lettice	Annual Pot Luck Dinner
Saturday, June 9, 2018, 9:30 am Home of Mary Ellen Mehler	Annual Planning Session

Other Important Dates to Remember:

February 3

February 7

April 20 - 22

31st Annual Mount Vernon District Town Meeting

State Lobby Day, Richmond

AAUW of Virginia Conference, Newport News



AAUW Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger
915 Neal Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

<http://aauw-va.aauw.net/>

<http://mtvernon-va.aauw.net/>

First Class



Mt. Vernon (VA) Branch

- **2 Board Meeting, 7:15 pm**
Home of Joanne Malkin
703/360-7725
- **14 Branch Program
4:30 - 6:30 pm**
Contact Elizabeth Lonoff
703/765-2634
Patsy Quick
703/360-8678
- **15 Book Group, 7:30 pm**
Contact DeJuana Jones
703/780-5026
- **26 Game Night, 7:30 pm**
Contact Barbara Mann
703/360-3880
- **28 Dining Out Lunch**
Contact Elizabeth Lonoff
703/765-2634

JANUARY 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Board Meeting	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Branch Program	15 Book Group	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Game Night	27
28 Dining Out	29	30	31			