



BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE BRANCH NEWSLETTER December 2022

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FOX HILL
8300 Burdette Road
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Handicapped accessible. Plenty of parking.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO BRING GUESTS!

Saturday, December 10, 11:00 a.m.

Women's Issues in Maryland: A Look Ahead to the Maryland Legislative Session Senator Susan Lee, District 16, Maryland



Susan C. Lee represents District 16, which includes Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Friendship Heights, Potomac, Rockville, Cabin John, and Glen Echo. She was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 2002 and to the Senate in 2014 to represent District 16 and has been described as the General Assembly's leader on cyber security and innovation, identity theft, online fraud, and consumer protection issues. Maryland's strongest advocate for women's issues of concern to AAUW, Susan led efforts to pass an aggressive agenda of legislation to fight domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; economically empower women, children and families; secure funding for statewide rape crisis centers; and authorize the placing a statue of Marylander and American hero Harriet Tubman in the United States Capitol. Susan also is a champion of education, the environment, public safety, civil rights, transportation, quality health care, telemedicine, bioscience, clean energy, and emerging technologies.

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I have just sent off my holiday cards and am getting into the mood of the season. I was reflecting on the recent mid-term elections and am delighted that a record number of women – from both parties – were elected to House and Senate seats. The coming year will be challenging to those of us who value and fight for women's rights, but there are positive signs that we have strong voices among our elected officials who will care about reproductive rights, marriage equality, violence against women and other issues key to women and to AAUW. I hope that each of you will be one of those voices.



At our November meeting, we learned about one issue on which some of you may wish to take an active role. Donna Smith, Maryland campaign director for Compassion & Choices, outlined the bill to be introduced in the coming Maryland legislative session. The Medical Aid in Dying will legalize efforts for people to have the right to participate in their own end of life choices. She shared plans for introduction of legislation in the 2023 Maryland legislative session.

Medical Aid in Dying is a trusted and time-tested medical practice that allows a terminally ill, mentally capable adult with a prognosis of six months or less to live to request from their doctor a prescription for medication they can decide to self-ingest to die peacefully in their sleep. Eleven states, including Oregon, the model for the Maryland bill, authorize medical aid in dying.

There are other bills upcoming in the legislature which also need our support. Carol Starr, Vice President for Public Policy for our Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW branch, will share our priorities at the January meeting. Maryland AAUW is part of MLAW, the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women, a coalition of women's groups in Maryland which actively organizes support for those bills which member organizations have selected as most important to women.



You will receive information on how you can be involved in the issues you care about.

My best wishes to you during this holiday season!

Pat

Pat Stocker, Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW President

Upcoming Meetings

Saturday, January 14, 2023

Challenges of Aging in Our Bethesda-Chevy Chase Environment

Donna Phillips Mason

Donna Mason recently served as chair of Montgomery County's Vital Living Network. Ageism is an important issue facing older women, as many of us have observed. She will discuss aging issues, such as aging in place, caregiving, housing options, the range of services available as we age, senior centers and senior programs, the role of volunteering in maintaining health as we age, and other keys to successful aging. This will be an interactive session, and those experiencing aging may share their stories, as well as those caring for aging parents or others. Donna is a specialist in the field of aging with 30 years of broad-based experience at the national, state and local levels. She was also chair of the Montgomery County Community Grants Advisory Group and a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Council for the Aging. She is currently Vice President of North Bethesda Village, one of the 22 Villages in Montgomery County, www.northbethesdavillage.com



Saturday, February 11, 2023

Reflections on Over 35 Years of Service in Maryland Government

Brian Frosh, former Attorney General, Maryland



Brian Frosh, first elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1987, has become one of the most influential and most admired Maryland politicians. He served five terms in the Maryland State Senate, representing Maryland's District 16 in Montgomery County. Prior to serving in the Senate, Frosh also represented District 16 in the Maryland House of Delegates, serving two four-year terms. His most recent service was as Maryland Attorney General from 2015 until January 2023.

Saturday, March 11, 2023

National and International Perspectives on US Policies

Mark Medish

Mark Medish will share his insights into US policies throughout the world as well as perspectives on current US politics. He is founder of Keep Our Republic, a non-partisan civic action group dedicated to election and transition integrity. He also served at The White House as Special Assistant to President Bill Clinton and Senior Director for Russian, Ukrainian, and Eurasian Affairs on the National Security Council. He served at the U.S. Treasury as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs under Secretaries Robert Rubin and Lawrence



Summers. Medish was educated at Georgetown, Harvard, and Oxford. He has held Fulbright, Luce, Mellon, and Shintaro Abe scholarships.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Branch meeting dates, all at 11:00 a.m. at Fox Hill, for the remainder of this program year will be:

December 10, 2022; January 14, 2023; February 11, 2023; March 11, 2023; April 15, 2023; and May 13, 2023.

Board/Leadership meetings will be held via Zoom on January 7, 2023; and March 4, 2023.

April 15, 2023 - **AAUW Maryland Convention – Howard County**

Save the Date/Event Alert – Artists 4 ERA!

Three Maryland branches have come together to organize a fundraising event that will raise money for the effort to finally get the ratified Equal Rights Amendment enshrined into law as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution. They are working through VoteEquality.org, a national organization whose mission is to advocate for the ERA to be certified by the National Archivist. This would be the last step in solidifying gender equality as law across the United States.

The Baltimore, Howard and Anne Arundel branches successfully applied for a 'mini grant' which will be used to set up an exhibit of ERA-related posters in Catonsville, MD in late February/early March 2023.

Artists 4 ERA will be a unique event with posters by well-known artists, including one by Shepard Fairey, who created President Obama's "HOPE" poster. These works of art visually heighten awareness of the need to finalize the ERA. The signed posters will be sold through a silent auction and a raffle to raise money to advocate for the ERA. All of the posters can be seen at Artists4ERA.org. As stated on their website:

"Through partnerships with well-known artists, this depicts diverse groups and communities, including LGBTQIA+, Black women, women of color, Indigenous peoples, and young people, to help them see themselves in the struggle for equal rights in the Constitution. The art created for the project will financially support VoteEquality's work to ensure gender equality is part of our Constitution through and live releases of limited edition, signed ERA art prints."

One example of the posters, created by Hannah Rothstein,

The Garrett County branch held a very successful reception fundraiser with the Artists 4 ERA posters, and other items, this year. Current AAUW Maryland President, Tracy Lantz, attended. She said she was "inspired by AAUW Garrett's work in collaboration with other local women's organizations to host such a successful event. The art work is beautiful, and it, along with the testimony of those involved, was a reminder that our work towards equal rights is not done."

In addition to raising funds with the posters, there will be two discussion panels with women of different ages highlighting their experiences of incurring discrimination and overcoming gender bias. Members of the organizing committee include AAUW Maryland President Tracy Lantz, Roxann King and Debby Chessin, Anne Arundel, Denise Gray, Baltimore, Beth Hayden, Howard, Bea Dane, Maryland Women's Heritage Center, Carolyn Fisher, State Diversity Chair and Nancy Henderson, Catonsville Dismantling Racism Committee.

Details on the Baltimore area event are:

LOCATION: Baltimore County Arts Guild Clubhouse– Catonsville: 10 St. Timothy Lane, Catonsville

EXHIBIT DATES: February 27 – March 5

RECEPTION/SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE:

- Friday, March 3
- 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

SAVE THESE DATES AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY ATTENDING THE RECEPTION!

Heather Reichardt

AAUW Gaithersburg; VP Membership

AAUW Maryland; Co-VP Programs



project

online

2021

and
earlier



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

AAUW Vision Statement: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 135 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

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 based on age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.