



# AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

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

NEWSLETTER

November 2022

## November 2022

### Gaithersburg AAUW VIRTUAL BRANCH MEETING!

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

Log in to Zoom meeting: 7:00pm

Presentation begins: 7:15pm

#### PRESENTATION:

#### Thurgood Marshall: A Trail-Blazing Civil Rights Victory in Montgomery County

Speaker: Ralph Buglass, Montgomery History

Civil rights icon Thurgood Marshall delivered an early blow to school segregation right here in Montgomery County—gaining equal pay for the county’s African American teachers in 1937. This little-known legal case is considered the first step in Marshall’s successful drive to have separate schools for white and Black children declared unconstitutional, as the Supreme Court did 17 years later in a landmark decision. This illustrated talk details this remarkable local story and its national significance.

*\*NOTE – The Zoom link will be sent to members and friends a few days prior to the meeting.*

#### Board Meeting

November 11, 7 p.m.

Zoom

The AAUW Gaithersburg Branch Board of Directors will meet on Friday, November 11 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The Zoom code will be sent by email. These meetings are open to all branch members.

#### Meeting information and more is on the **BRANCH WEBSITE**

Go to <http://gaithersburg-md.aauw.net> for information about upcoming meetings and other events, and current and past newsletters.

#### INSIDE

<i>November Events</i>	1
<i>President’s Message</i>	2
<i>New Member Welcome</i>	3
<i>Anita Taylor</i>	3
<i>November Birthdays</i>	3
<i>Great Decisions</i>	4
<i>HerStory Interest Group</i>	4
<i>Calendar</i>	5

## Presidents Message

### - Edie Allison

Fall is here and the branch has enjoyed two successful 50th anniversary celebrations, the September 18 celebratory luncheon and the AAUW-Maryland Fall Meeting, which the branch hosted on October 15. The meeting welcomed AAUW members from around the state with the help of a large group of branch members.

### **A big round of applause to everyone who helped!**

The Fall AAUW-Maryland program focused on topics appropriate to the period leading up to the November 8 Gubernatorial Election, improving voter participation for younger citizens. The voting rate for citizens over 65 years of age is over 70 percent, but under 50 percent for citizens under 30 years of age. Another feature of low levels of civic involvement by younger citizens, is the low level of young election workers. In the US most poll workers are over 60 years of age, and many are over 70.

Montgomery College is implementing a multi-pronged approach to increase voting by students, who have a high rate of voter registration but low election turnout. The college is supplying resources to help teachers incorporate voting affirmation into their curriculums. You may find some of the suggested data helpful in talking about civic involvement with your younger family members: the National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement (NSLVE) at Tufts University is a useful source of data, and best practices have been developed by the League of Women Voters.

Montgomery County Board of Elections has another tool that has successfully increased younger voter involvement. Future Vote gives middle and high school students SSL, Student Service Learning, credits for aiding at elections. This hands-on (students do not touch ballots or voting equipment) experience has helped boost the number of young people who are working as

election judges, significantly lowering the average of county election judges.



### **Artists for ERA**

AAUW Maryland President, Tracy Lantz, announced a new initiative for state branches and members, Vote Equality, a national campaign to get the Equal Rights Amendment ratified. AAUW Maryland will be involved through an Artists4ERA event at the Baltimore County Arts Guild, Catonsville, Maryland during the week of February 27 through March 5, 2023. The celebration will include a March 3 reception including a silent auction of the artwork and two panel discussions including local women on issues related to gender and equality on March 3. This event will be co-sponsored by the Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Howard County branches as well as the Catonsville Dismantling Racism Committee and the Maryland Women's Heritage Center. Please plan to attend!!

I wish you and your family and friends a festive Thanksgiving. But before gathering for turkey and other traditional foods, join us for the November Zoom program on November 15. Ralph Buglass, author and researcher on Montgomery County history, will talk to us about Thurgood Marshall, the first African American Supreme Court justice, and his 1937 campaign in Montgomery County to gain equal pay for African American teachers.

## NEW MEMBER WELCOME!

### - Heather Reichardt, VP-Membership

Meet Leah Brown, our newest branch member. Leah lives in Gaithersburg with her husband and works for the Pew Charitable Trusts as their Manager of Operations. She has had previous positions in operations for other firms in Washington, DC, as well as worked for several local biotech companies. Leah has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Organizational Management and a Master of Business Administration, both from Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Maryland. She has volunteered with the Rockville Science Center in

the past, as well as the American Cancer Society. Her hobbies/interests include reading, traveling (when it is safe) and helping with her three grandchildren who live in Virginia. We hope to see Leah at a branch meeting very soon!



## Anita Taylor is now living in Winfield Kansas

### - Liz Hessel

As many members will recall, two years ago Anita Taylor, a longtime member, moved back to Caldwell, Kansas to be near her extended family. After some months, she resettled in a nearby city. As the holidays approach, I am sure she

would enjoy hearing from her Gaithersburg friends. Her new address is 716 N Tweed St., Winfield, KS 67156. Drop her a card!

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Wish these branch members a Happy Birthday

Marilyn Leist	4th
Edie Allison	8th
Jean Hirsch	9th
Diane Carvey	14th
Liz Clark Hessel	21st

## GREAT DECISIONS

- **Mary Wykes, Coordinataor**



The Great Decisions interest group lead by Judy Sholes will discuss the timely topic #6 in our

Study Guide—No end in sight: a century of drug wars, via zoom at 2:30, Friday, November 18.

New members are always welcome. Text or call Mary Wykes at 301-717-1040 for the link and a copy of the study guide.

## HERSTORY INTEREST GROUP Saturday, Nov. 5 (first Saturday this month ONLY)

- **Maria Roberts**

Anna Fraker will highlight Nina Totenberg, award-winning journalist and founding mother of National Public Radio, and her fifty-year long friendship with Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

All are welcome at the HerStory meeting, Sat. Nov. 5, at 2 pm in

the ParkView Club Room of Asbury Methodist Village.



### AAUW GAITHERSBURG BRANCH

**Website:** [gaithersburg-md.aauw.net](http://gaithersburg-md.aauw.net)

*Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.*

#### **President**

Edie Allison

[Edieallison\[at\]comcast\[dot\]net](mailto:Edieallison[at]comcast[dot]net)

#### **Vice President for Membership**

Heather Reichardt

[hjr1234\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:hjr1234[at]gmail[dot]com)

#### **Treasurer**

Ellen Teague

[Ellensteague\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:Ellensteague[at]gmail[dot]com)

#### **Secretary**

Vacant

#### **Appointed Member of the Board**

Liz Hessel

[Liz\[at\]meral\[dot\]com](mailto:Liz[at]meral[dot]com)

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Qing Jiang

[Qjmailbox\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:Qjmailbox[at]gmail[dot]com)

#### **Newsletter Managing Editor**

## **AAUW GAITHERSBURG CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

HerStory – In person	Saturday, November 5 - 2:00 p.m.
Board Meeting – Zoom	Friday, November 11 - 7:00 p.m.
November Branch Program	Tuesday, November 15 - 7:00 p.m.
Great Decisions – Zoom	Friday, November 18 - 2:30 p.m.

The American Association of University Women  
Gaithersburg Branch  
437 Fellowship Circle  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877