



McLean Area Branch
AAUW of Virginia

News

Co-Presidents

Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales
703.973.0925
myrtlehencor@gmail.com

Betsy Schroeder
703.209.5003
icu43@cox.net

Membership Co-VPs

Deborah De Masi
202.841.0319
DeMasiESQ@aol.com

Your Name Here
Phone
email

Editors

Cheryl Scott Williams
301.518.2773
cherylswilliams@verizon.net

Marie Briones-Jones
703.346.6386
brionesjonesm@yahoo.com

Judy Lettes
703.407.3910
judy.lettes@gmail.com

Branch Website

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

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McLean Branch Celebrates 50th Anniversary

On May 11, 2019, the McLean Area Branch of AAUW celebrated 50 years since its establishment. The evening celebration at the McLean Community Center was attended by 98 long-time and new members, including 19 past branch presidents, two of whom came from New Mexico and one from New Jersey for the occasion. Supervisor **John Foust** presented a proclamation from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors detailing the many contributions the branch has made to the community. Virginia AAUW Co-President **Leslie Tourigny** also brought a proclamation from the Virginia Board in honor of the occasion. The evening featured a musician who performed songs from 1969, a fun trivia quiz from that era, and a sumptuous buffet. (See pages 2-3)

June Branch Board Meeting

Monday, June 3, 9:30 -11:30 am

McLean Community Center

1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, Virginia 22101

This annual meeting includes current and new Board members and will be followed by a potluck lunch. All branch members are invited to attend.

Presidents' Message

Betsy Schroeder has served as Co-President of our branch for three consecutive years. As her two-year term was ending in the spring of last year, I asked **Betsy** to serve one more year as Co-President to give me guidance. She graciously agreed, even though **Betsy** was one of the co-chairs of our annual book sale. During her tenure, **Betsy** treated members unable to attend the September meeting to a home delivery of the new directory. When asked how she could spend such time and effort driving to so many homes in the McLean area, **Betsy** replied it was a nice way to make personal contact with our members. As chair of our 2019 book sale, **Betsy** continues to give to AAUW and our members. I heard a member say, "**Betsy** does so much for us." Indeed, **Betsy** gives generously of herself to AAUW and all our members. For a year, she has selflessly guided me as Co-President. **Thank you, Betsy; it has been a great ride!**

Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales Co-President.



50th Anniversary Celebration Photo Gallery (1 of 2)



Saturday, May 11, 2019,
6:00 pm
McLean Community
Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue,
McLean, VA 22101



50th Anniversary Celebration Photo Gallery(2 of 2)



STEM Excellence Award Recipient Recognized at Annual Dinner

The 50th anniversary celebration program included recognition of **Hana Abouelenein**, a sophomore at Langley High School, who is the 2019 recipient of the Branch's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Excellence Award. The STEM Excellence Award is given to a female student or team from a high school in the McLean area with an outstanding project in the field of Engineering presented at the Fairfax County Regional Science Fair. **Hana** was presented with a certificate and a \$100 award.

This year's award recognized **Hana's** work on her project, **"Creating a Neural Network that Differentiates Between Cancerous and Non-Cancerous Epithelial Cells."** Hana created a neural network, which is a set of algorithms designed to recognize patterns, that would use data about a skin cell's characteristics, including its width, height, circumference, and color to predict if it was cancerous or not. Her goal was to have over 80% accuracy rate for predicting cancerous and non-cancerous cells. Hana was able to achieve an 84% accuracy.

At the Regional Science Fair held in March, **Hana** received a Third-Place award for her project in the category of Robotics & Intelligent Machines and a second-place award in STEM from the American Association of Engineers of Indian Origin, in addition to receiving the STEM Excellence Award. **Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales** and **Judy Page** served as judges representing the branch at the science fair.



Shown from left to right are Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales, Branch Co-President; Mohamed Abouelenein, Hana's father; Hana Abouelenein; Judy Page, Branch STEM Chair; and Betsy Schroeder, Branch Co-President.

Membership Renewal

This year we're using an online renewal system through the AAUW national office. You should have received an email recently with instructions on how to renew your dues online that includes a link and your member number. Click on "renew" and enter your credit card information. It's that simple and it makes our treasurer's job much easier. If you need help or did not receive the email, please contact **Lynne Glikbarg**, lynneglik@aol.com, **Deborah DeMasi**, demasiesq@aol.com, **Betsy Schroeder** icu43@cox.net, or **Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales**, myrtlehencor@gmail.com.

If You Shop at Amazon

Next time you make a purchase from Amazon, first go to our branch website, <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>, click on the Amazon link at the bottom of the home page and make your purchase. Amazon will give our branch up to a 10% rebate.

Price. Selection. Convenience.
amazon.com



Meet New Members

Erica Scherzer-Erica is a stay-at-home mother with her 16-month-old daughter and a second daughter due in July. She lives in McLean with her husband, Nationals' pitcher Max Scherzer, daughter, three rescue dogs and two rescue cats. She serves on the Board of the Humane Rescue Alliance where she and her husband donate their time. They are also active with the Nationals Youth Baseball Academy and Dream Foundation. Erica was active in several women's empowerment groups in Detroit where they lived for five years before moving to Virginia in 2015. An avid reader, she enjoys hiking in her free time.

Kathleen Burns-Kathleen, the speaker at the branch December Holiday Luncheon, is a prize-winning journalist with experience as a bureau chief, foreign correspondent, columnist, investigative reporter, magazine editor, congressional aide, and mediator. She has also taught as a full-time academic in five universities in the United States and overseas. She is currently an instructor in the adult education division of George Mason University. She is married to former FBI agent, J. Stephen Ramey. Their daughter, Lily, is a medical assistant in McLean and is working on an MBA at Virginia Tech University.

Anita Booth-After graduating from Florida State University with an MBA, Anita joined the U.S. Foreign Service and has worked in Washington, DC and at U.S. diplomatic missions in Tunisia, Gabon, Liberia, Belgium (NATO), Romania and Greece. After she retired, Anita accompanied her husband, Don, to Liberia, Zambia, and Ethiopia. Currently, she works on projects in the African Bureau at the State Department. Anita and Don have three grown children and one granddaughter, born in April. Her interests include travel, music, exercise and cooking and she volunteers at the Sylvestry and the Arleigh Burke Pavilion at Vinson Hall in McLean.

50th Annual Used Book Sale

There are four more **Saturday book collections**:

- **June 1**
- **June 22**
- **July 13**
- **August 3**

Please come to the **Sun Trust Bank at 515 Maple Avenue East, Vienna** during the weeks after these dates to **help sort**. The bank is open from **9:00 am-5:00 pm, Monday-Friday** and **9:00 am-2:00 pm on Saturday**. The books are on the third floor. **This is our one fundraiser, so we need everyone's help – that means YOU!** Contact any of the book sale chairs if you have questions: **Marge Degnon**, marge@degnon.org, **Carol Langelier**, clangelier@verizon.net, **Nina McVeigh**, nt.mcveigh@gmail.com, **Nancy Richardson**, nrichardson@aol.com, or **Betsy Schroeder**, icu43@cox.net.

Cheryl Williams will be contacting you over the summer to find out when you can volunteer at the sale, **September 13-15 at the McLean Community Center**. Or, you can email her with your availability at cherylswilliams@verizon.net.

High School Math and Science Award Winner

"Thank You!"

The Branch received the following thank you letters from **Tiara Allard**, Science Achievement Award Winner, and **Angela Feng**, Math Achievement Award Winner.

It was a great honor for me to be nominated and receive the distinguished AAUW Science Achievement Award from the McLean chapter. Thank you!

To briefly introduce myself, I am Tiara Allard from McLean High School. I am a junior inspired to major in a STEM field in college and a career down the road. Receiving this award means a lot to me, as it affirms my commitment to study in the STEM field and has boosted my confidence.

It is especially heartwarming to read your website and see a shared interest in helping and advocating STEM opportunities and education for women and girls. I participated in the NeuroInspire program, which had the goal of reaching and inspiring elementary school students in different STEM fields. I've also taught a first-grade math class at a community school. It was great to see many young girls interested in these topics. We have a bit of ways to go, but we will get there by pursuing AAUW's mission.

Thank you so much for your generous \$100 certificate, especially because the proceeds came from your book sale. Reading is my first love, and I look forward to using this money to expand my bookshelf.

Sincerely,
Tiara Allard

Dear Members of the AAAUW McLean Branch,

Thank you for giving me the honor of receiving the AAUW Math Achievement Award. Junior year has been the most academically challenging year for me so far, and it is so rewarding to see that my hard work in math class has been recognized by such an influential organization. Besides the honor of receiving such a respected award, I am also so appreciative of AAUW's generosity in giving me \$100 for my achievements. This is my first time receiving a monetary award, and I am still amazed that I have been so fortunate as to earn this money.

The AAUW mission of encouraging young women to pursue passions and careers in the STEM field is one that really resonates with me. Before presenting me with the award, Ms. Hendricks-Corrales and Ms. Page mentioned how the percentage of females in the computer science and engineering fields has remained noticeably low. I, myself, plan to pursue a degree in aerospace or biological engineering after graduating high school. During many of my college tours, I have noticed that out of all engineering students at most universities, the percentage of women remains close to 20 – 30%. Despite the discouraging statistics, I am excited to be one of the few women pioneers in my field of interest.

Until this year, I noticed that STEM classes always seemed much easier for me than those with a liberal arts focus. However, it was this year that I truly developed a passion for STEM. I have been taking AP Calculus BC and AP Physics 1 my junior year; now, my STEM classes are the ones I find the most challenging. Nonetheless, the curriculum has truly sparked my interest. I have had the opportunity to learn real world applications of complex principles derived from surprisingly simple mathematics. Calculus and physics really work hand in hand and seeing their connections with anything from projectiles to space travel has been an eye-opening experience. My amazing teachers Dr. Ricketts and Mrs. Anton have both inspired me as female experts in their fields.

Learning both calculus and physics this year has been quite the emotional rollercoaster at times. But throughout the ride, I have gained a greater appreciation for STEM and the women who work in it. Receiving the AAUW Math Achievement Award has been a real morale booster for me during my journey in pursuing an engineering career.

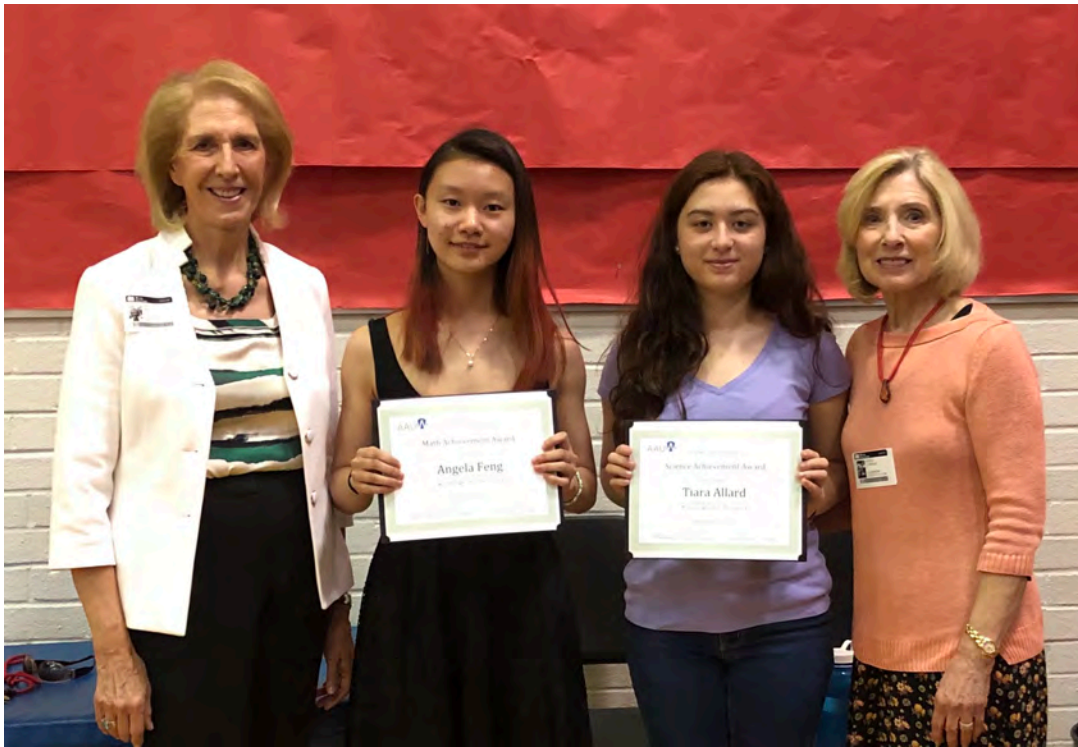
Thank you for your support and generosity.

Best Regards,
Angela Feng

(Continued on page 7)

High School Math and Science Award Winners

(Continued from page 6)



At the McLean High School Awards Ceremony held on April 30, 2019, Judy Page, STEM Chair, and Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales, school liaison for McLean HS, presented the 2019 McLean Area Branch Math and Science Achievement Awards to juniors Angela Feng and Tiara Allard, respectively. Show from left are Judy Page, Angela Feng, Tiara Allard, and Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales.

AAUW Diversity Statement

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.



Vote in the County Primary Elections

All registered voters in Fairfax County may vote on **Tuesday, June 11**, in the open primary elections in Fairfax County. Voting is available in **all** precincts because the **County's Commonwealth Attorney** and **Chairman of the Board of Supervisors** are county-wide.

In Virginia Senate District 33, the incumbent, **Barbara Favola**, has a challenger, **Nicole Merlene**. Incumbent **Jennifer Boysko**, in Senate District 38, also has a challenger, **M. Hussain**. Four people are running in the Democratic primary for Chair of the Board of Supervisors: **Ryan McElveen**, **Timothy Chapman**, **Jeffrey McKay**, and **Alicia Pierhoples**.

In Fairfax County, there are only Democratic primaries this year. Since citizens do not register by political party in Virginia, any registered voter in Virginia can vote in either a Democratic or Republican primary. Republican, Libertarian, and other parties are not holding open primaries, but are selecting their candidates by other means. The candidates, once they are certified, will appear on the ballot in the General Election in November.

The League of Women Voters provides VOTE411.org to find your polling place, register to vote, update your voter registration and more. In the Commonwealth, in the November election, Senators will be elected for four years and delegates for two years.

Title IX News in the County

George Mason University will double the number of Title IX staff on its Fairfax campus by hiring two new coordinators before the 2019 fall semester. The university's Office has only two dedicated staff positions at present. The planned expansion comes in the wake of an outcry from students who also opposed the university's hiring of U.S. Supreme Court Justice **Brett Kavanaugh** as a visiting professor at the Antonin Scalia Law School, but the hiring was upheld.

Latest Lobbying Topic on the Hill

Volunteer members of AAUW's Lobby Corps are actively pursuing support for the FAMILY Act. The Act would establish a self-funding paid family and medical insurance program and would provide workers with up to 12 weeks of partial income replacement when they take time off for serious health conditions or caregiving purposes. The program would be funded by small employee and employer payroll contributions of two-tenths of one percent each or about \$1.50 per week for the average worker. The FAMILY Act is designed to be affordable, cost-effective, sustainably funded and does not cut from or reduce benefits from other benefits programs on which people rely. Why does AAUW pursue support for this bill? A federal paid leave program will build stronger families, healthier workers, and successful businesses.



Arena Stage

ARENA STAGE offers some of the best theater in the Metropolitan Washington Area.

Join the members of the McLean Area Branch of AAUW who have been attending together.

If carpool is necessary, we do the very best to make that happen.

Arena Stage announced its 2019-2020 season and will include the following:

- **Ann** -- By Holland Taylor-- July 11 – August 11, 2019
- **Jitney** -- By August Wilson--September 13 – October 20, 2019
- **Right to be Forgotten** -- By Sharyn Rothstein--October 11 – November 10, 2019
- **Disney's Newsies** -- A musical based on the Disney Film by Bob Tzudiker and Noni White
Music by Alan Menken, Lyrics by Jack Feldman, Book by Harvey Feinstein
November 1 – December 22, 2019
- **Dear Jack, Dear Louise** -- By Ken Ludwig--November 21 – December 29, 2019
- **A Thousand Splendid Suns** -- Adapted by Ursula Rani Sarma, from the novel by Khaled Hosseini
January 17 – February 23, 2020
- **Mother Road** -- Oregon Shakespeare Festival Production, By Octavio Solis,
February 7 – March 8, 2020
- **Celia and Fidel** -- By Eduardo Machado-- February 28 – April 12, 2020
- **Seven Guitars** -- By August Wilson -- April 3 – May 3, 2020
- **Toni Stone** -- By Lydia R. Diamond -- April 23 – May 31, 2020

If you would like to be part of the Arena Stagers or have questions or want to know how it works, contact **Elaine Lailas** — elailas@aol.com, 305-281-5787 (cell).

Special Interest Groups | June - August

Bridge Group: The bridge group will meet on **Monday, June 10, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**, at the **Community Room in the McLean House, 6800 Fleetwood Road, McLean, VA 22101**. Contact **Barbara Carr**, barbaralcarr@msn.com or 703-356-3127, for information.

Current Events: Current Events group now has two locations for gathering on the **second Tuesday of the month, June 11, at 9:30 am**. One option is to gather at the **McLean House, 6800 Fleetwood Road, McLean, VA**. All branch members are invited to attend and bring an article or web link to share for the discussion. RSVP to **Mary Lou Melley**, maryloumelley@gmail.com.

A second option is to meet at the **Star Nut Gourmet, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean, VA**. For more information on the second option, contact **Dawn Schulz** or **Reed Isbell**.

Note that the Current Events group will continue to gather on the second Tuesday of the month during July and August.

Morning Lit Group: The Morning Literature Group will hold its annual Book Selection Luncheon, on **Friday, June 14, 11:30 am**, at **Café Oggi, 6671 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA**. If you plan to attend, contact **Reed Isbell**.

Evening Lit Group:

The group will meet on **Monday, June 17, 7:30 pm**, at the home of **Dorothy Hassan, 7020 Hector Road, McLean, VA**. The group will discuss *Alternate Side* by Anna Quindlen. All members are welcome to attend. Contact **Dorothy** if you plan to attend at dshassan@aol.com or 703-407-2828. The group will be selecting books for next year, so bring your book suggestions to the meeting.

Great Decisions: This group will meet on **Tuesday, June 18, 9:30 am**, at **The McLean House, 6800 Fleetwood Road, McLean, VA 22101**. The topic will be Chapter 5, Decoding US-China Trade. *The group will continue to meet at the same place and time on July 16, August 20, and September 17.* New members are invited to join. For information details, contact **Angela Ehemann**, acehemann@verizon.net, 703-893-3578.

Connections Calendar | June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Branch Joint Board Meeting and Lunch, 9:30 am, McLean Community Center	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Bridge Group, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, McLean House	11 Current Events Group, 9:00 - 11:00 am, McLean House & Star Nut Gourmet 	12	13	14 Morning Lit Group, 11:30 am, Cafe Oggi	15
16	17 Evening Lit Group, 7:30 pm, Dorothy Hassan's Home	18 Great Decisions, 9:30 am, McLean House	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

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

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

For membership information call

**Deborah De Masi
202.841.0319**

Do you have any AAUW McLean Branch news, updates or information you wish to share with our local community?

Please email your publicity materials no later than three weeks before you wish to have it posted in our local newspapers |

Cheryl Scott Williams (cherylswilliams@verizon.net)



**McLean Area (VA) Branch
7020 Hector Road
McLean, VA 22101**

Branch Website | <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>

AAUW VA Website | <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>

AAUW Website | www.AAUW.org