

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

October 2020

## **Branch Program Voting Past and Present October 13, 2020, 7pm**



At our October meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. we will be focusing on the history of the fight for women’s right to vote and the significance of women’s activism and vote today. We will learn about some of the women like Massachusetts native, Blanche Ames, a suffragist who held a suffrage meeting at her home in 1915. Then we will hear

about how we can get involved in getting out the vote this year! Here is the Zoom link to join us <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86267647256> Meeting ID: 862 6764 7256 Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York).

For more information contact [lynnphoward82@comcast.net](mailto:lynnphoward82@comcast.net)

*Editor’s note:* The Zoom link will be sent again via email closer to the meeting date.



## **President’s Message**

### **RIP Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg**



What a wonderful woman and role model for all our children. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, thank you for all you did for our country and especially for women just in your daily accomplishments as a wife and mother. You have shown that “we can do it all if we so desire”!!

The loss of Justice Ginsberg has added fuel to the already ferocious fire. This on top of a Pandemic and a crucial election. Well 2020 is turning out to be a Most Memorable year and not always in the best way!

The September meeting of our branch I felt was a great success. Although I missed having Pot Luck the attendance and program were outstanding. I guess Zoom is the next best thing if we cannot all be together in person!

I am looking forward to the October meeting on Voting which is so pertinent not only for the upcoming election but as a celebration of the 100th Anniversary of women gaining the right to vote. I have learned more in the last few months about that issue than I was probably ever aware of. I was fortunate to have attended a webinar about a musical, called 19th, that is in the works about this amendment as well having seen (on Zoom) a play that was also written about women aiming for the right to vote. Needless to say the restrictions of the Corona Virus have restricted the production of these programs but I am hopeful they will both come forth and be produced when we return to “normal”, whatever and whenever that may be.

I hope to “see” many of you at our program on October 13. Remember you do not need to put your shoes on, just sign in on the link, get yourself something to drink, tea, coffee or if you prefer a glass of wine and join your AAUW friends for an informative evening.

[Ginny Giordano](#)  
*President*

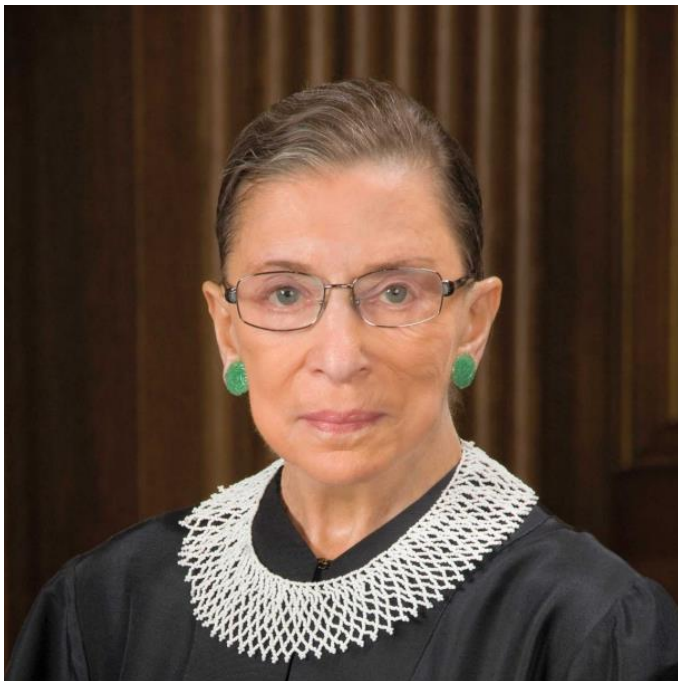
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## **Zoom Neophyte?**

Is this your first Zoom meeting or do you just want some simple directions on how to use Zoom? Click on this link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>) to show how to connect to a Zoom meeting for the first time either on your computer, tablet or phone.

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## **Public Policy**



### **AAUW Statement on the Passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg**

September 18, 2020 —America lost one of our most beloved role models tonight, a pioneering jurist and iconic feminist who blazed new trails not only in her own life but in the lives of the countless women she championed —

and inspired. On behalf of AAUW, its members and supporters who recognized Justice Ginsburg with a 1999 AAUW Achievement Award, we extend our condolences to her family, her colleagues and to every American whose lives and hearts she touched. The nation owes it to her — and to all women — to honor her final wishes and refrain from naming a replacement until a new president is elected.

And...

An excerpt from Jill Lepore’s article – *Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the Great Equalizer* – in the *New Yorker* <https://www.newyorker.com/news/postscript/ruth-bader-ginsburg-supreme-court-the-great-equalizer-obituary>

“Ginsburg’s dissents carried a particular power, not only rhetorically but politically. On the Roberts Court, she became the leader of the liberal wing, and, in 2007, in a case involving Lilly Ledbetter, a supervisor for Goodyear Tires, she wrote a dissent objecting to the majority’s denial of an argument about sex discrimination in employment.

That opinion was so compelling that it led to the passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, signed by Barack Obama in 2009. And perhaps Ginsburg’s most resonant dissent, in light of this year’s election, is the one



she wrote in *Shelby County v. Holder*, in 2013, in which the majority all but struck down the 1965 Voting Rights Act, on the basis of the bizarre argument that it (and one of its features, known as “preclearance”) had effectively solved voter suppression for posterity. “Throwing out preclearance when it has worked and is continuing to work to stop discriminatory changes,” Ginsburg wrote, “is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet.” When she read the dissent aloud in Court, as Jane Sherron De Hart observed in a recent [biography](#), she added a conclusion that was not in the written version. “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice,” she said, quoting Martin Luther King, Jr. But it only bends that way, she went on, “if there is a steadfast commitment to see the task through to completion.” Much that Ginsburg predicted about the stripping away of voting rights has come to pass.”

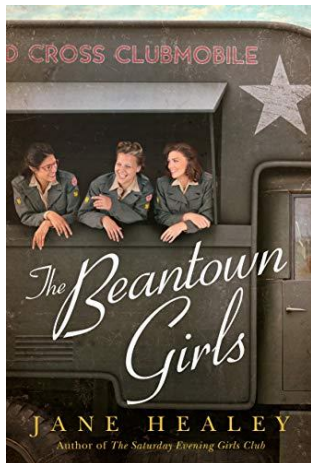
[Patrice Metro](#)

*Public Policy Chair*

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## Branch Read

### Jane Healey, author of *The Beantown Girls* will join us



In January we will meet to discuss *The Beantown Girls* by Jane Healey. We are announcing it now so you will have plenty of time to get it read. The Kindle version is currently offered on Amazon for \$3.99. “A novel of love, courage, and danger unfolds as World War II’s brightest heroines—the best of friends—take on the front lines.”

*Amazon.com*

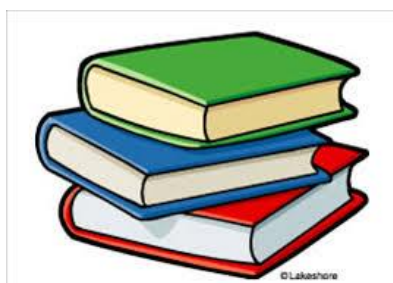
## AAUW Webinars

On September 22<sup>nd</sup> I attended the **Virtual Town Hall with AAUW National Board Webinar** along with some of you and about 500 fellow AAUW members. AAUW President Julia Brown led the discussion along with National Board member Malinda Gaul. They discussed the prospective dues increase, shared information about our racial equity and justice work, and what to expect on the AAUW voting ballot this year. This webinar will soon be posted along with the many others on the national AAUW website, [aauw.org](http://aauw.org). To find the webinars, click on **Membership** in the upper right corner of the landing page. Scroll down the page and on the left choose **2020 Vision: Marking a Momentous Year**. Scroll down the page until you get to the webinars entitled **2020 Convening Series**. It is always good to see and hear for ourselves what is happening on the national level.

*Hollie Bagley*  
Newsletter Editor

## Book Discussion

Our branch book discussion group meets monthly from September-May on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The list of the monthly selections is posted on the branch



web page, direct link <https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/files/2020/08/2020-2021-Book-List.pdf>.

Until further notice discussion will be held via Zoom. The meetings are open to all branch members. If you would like to receive an invitation to participate, please let [Lynn Howard](#) (781-901-9120 • Mobile) know.

## Branch Calendar

You will find our monthly branch calendar on the last page of this newsletter. It is on a separate page so that you can print it or transfer the dates to your personal calendar. All events on the calendar are open to all members.



## Equity Now

Together, we can achieve a vision of equal opportunity for all

Stay  
Healthy  
Stay Safe

# SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

## October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 <b>Yom Kippur begins</b>	28 <b>Yom Kippur ends</b>	29	30 <b>AAUW-MA Board of Directors Meeting, 4 pm</b>	1	2 <b>Sukkot begins</b>	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 <b>Sukkot ends</b>	10
11	12 <b>Columbus Day</b>	13 <b>Branch Meeting, 7 pm Zoom</b>	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 <b>Book Discussion, 6:30 pm Zoom</b>	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 <b>Board Meeting, 7 pm Zoom</b>	28	29	30	31 <b>Halloween</b>

September 30, AAUW-MA Board of Directors Meeting, 4 pm via Zoom

October 13, **Branch Program:** Voting Past and Present, 7 pm via Zoom

October 20, **Book Discussion:** *A Burning* by Megha Majumdar, 6:30 pm via Zoom, contact [Lynn Howard](#) for link if you are joining the book discussion for the first time

October 27, **Board Meeting,** 7 pm via Zoom

**2020-2021 Board Meetings** (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month)

Please add to your calendar:

October 27, 2020

January 26, 2021

March 23, 2021

June 2021 To be decided

Visit our branch web page:

<http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/>

Like and contribute to our branch Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWSouthShoreAreaMassachusetts/>

Articles for publication in the South Shore Area branch newsletter, *News of Note*, should reach the editor, Hollie Bagley ([holliebagley@gmail.com](mailto:holliebagley@gmail.com)) by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month