



# News of Note

December 2025

## December Branch Activity

### Holiday Social

Sunday, December 7, noon

Tavern at Weathervane, Weymouth



Our Holiday Social will be held on Sunday December 7 at noon.

We will be gathering at the Tavern at Weathervane Golf Club. We will be ordering off the menu and have individual checks. The address is 117 Clubhouse Drive, Weymouth. If you are coming, please let me know by Thursday December 4th by text or calling 781-267-1098 so I can make the reservation. Thanks!

[Sheila Doherty](#)  
Social Chair  
781-267-1098

## President's Message



I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving celebration. I can't believe we are now entering the last month of 2025! We have had some wonderful programs this year and I look forward to some great ones coming up in 2026. Last month's presentation by Miriam and Mark Goram about their experience helping a young boy from Palestine, Walid, and his mother while they stayed with them while Walid received treatment at Children's Hospital for a year and half was so interesting and inspiring. Miriam and Mark shared information about the steps it took for Walid to get medical and travel permits to come

from Palestine to Massachusetts. Then the surgeries he needed for his treatments and the many successes that he achieved thanks to their help and the help from HEAL Palestine, a non profit organization, along with the medical care at Children's Hospital. They also shared some wonderful and beautiful pictures of Walid and their family. It was so nice to see his smiling face with their two boys and to see the progress he has made. Thank you Carol Sullivan-Hanley for setting up this program for our Branch and thank you Miriam and Mark for taking the time to share your story with us. If you'd like to make a donation to help other children like Walid you can click on the link and donate to HEAL Palestine

<https://www.healpalestine.org> or the 1 for 3 Organization that works in tandem with them to support food security, rooftop gardens and educational opportunities <https://www.1for3.org>.

We will have our annual holiday brunch on Sunday, December 7th at noon at the Weathervane Golf Club Tavern in Weymouth. Please let Sheila know by December 4th if you will be able to attend. Then in January we will meet via Zoom to discuss the book ***The Women at Arlington Hall*** by Jane Healy. The book follows three women working at Arlington Hall in Washington DC as codebreakers just after World War II, as the Cold War is ramping up. **Jane Healy will be joining our meeting**, so it should be a very interesting and informative discussion. Remember to invite family and friends to join you at our meetings, the more the merrier! I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season. Happy Holidays! See you in 2026!

[Lynn Howard](#)  
President

# Membership Matters

Seasons Greetings! With the Holidays upon us, we will be gathering with family and friends and it is the perfect time to be on the lookout for possible new members for our South Shore Area AAUW group. With our country in such turmoil, we all need to be aware of the unbelievable changes that are chipping away at our democracy. Adding new members makes us more powerful in fighting to keep our democracy strong.



It is also very important that we keep the

numerous opportunities we have set up to improve the lives of women and girls. We refuse to accept a future where women are left behind. Our mission is to advance equity through education, research and advocacy. Our programs don't just change individual lives, they strengthen our families and communities.

National will be requesting donations to help them continue the fine work they are doing. Do contribute what you can to help AAUW keep the fine programs we have developed.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

*Anne Foley*  
Membership

## **Recruitment Discounts and Waivers - Coupon Codes**

The [Shape the Future Campaign](#) discount of 50% off national dues for new members (those entirely new to AAUW or rejoining after two or more years) remains. Use coupon code **STFFY26** at checkout through 3/31/2026. Coupon codes for College/University member students are **CUStudentFY26** Student Associates (undergrads); **CUGradStudentFY26** for Grads. All coupon codes are valid through 3/31/2026.

## ***AAUW College/University Membership***

If you have a relationship with a C/U who is NOT on our member list, invite them to join us! C/U membership is \$250, includes two free national memberships for named faculty/staff members (as representatives), and unlimited free student affiliation for undergrads/graduate students. For more info or help? [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

# Public Policy

## **Some Washington Updates on National Legislation, a Supreme Court case, and more.**

**Supreme Court case Louisiana v. Callais** – a Louisiana-based challenge to key aspects of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, which prevents racial discrimination in voting. Severe ramifications for the country if overturned.

Also:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=npuvROmDkEI>  
(AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell remarks at 1:28:24.)

**Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act.** The United States House of Representatives has passed the SAVE Act (HR 22), which would require every eligible voter to provide documentary proof of citizenship to register to vote. Concern is that this can lead to voter suppression—and disproportionately impact women. AAUW formally opposes the SAVE Act.

### **For more information:**

<https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/us-supreme-court-hear-case-that-takes-aim-voting-rights-act-2025-10-15/>

<https://www.scotusblog.com/election-law-explainers/section-2-of-the-voting-rights-act-vote-dilution-and-vote-deprivation/>

<https://www.aclu.org/press-releases/supreme-court-arguments-conclude-in-landmark-voting-rights-case#:~:text=The%20case%20was%20argued%20before,illegally%20diluted%20Black%20voting%20power.>

**Contact your legislators about the SAVE Act and other important legislation.** It's quick and easy! Click here to access AAUW's Two-Minute Activist page

(<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>), then click on "Tell the Senate: Oppose the SAVE Act". There are other important issues with links to register your views with Congress on: Paid Sick Days, Removing Barriers for Student Parents, co-sponsoring the Family Act.

**Reach out to your legislators to do something proactive to protect voting rights.** Click here to access the Center for Common Ground web page (<https://www.actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-congress-pass-the-jlvraa>) to ask Congressional

representatives and senators to champion passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (HR 14), supported by AAUW

**Opposing the Higher-Ed “Compact”.** The administration’s “Compact for Academic Excellence” ties funding to rollbacks of DEI and academic freedom. AAUW will issue our own statement, and we’ve joined a coalition letter urging presidents and trustees to reject the “administration’s invitation to violate the law, abdicate your duty to your students and campus community, and betray academic freedom.” MIT and Brown University have both publicly rejected the Compact.

AAUW has submitted an organizational comment opposing the **U.S. Department of Education's proposal to adopt the supplemental priority "Promoting Patriotic Education."**

Please see a background briefing on the Department's proposal from Democracy Forward and AAUW's comments HERE:

<https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2025/10/AAUW-Comment-ED-2025-OS-0745.pdf>

*Patrice Metro*  
Public Policy Chair



## **Book Discussion**

The branch book discussion group meets monthly from September-August on the 3<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

The reading list is posted on the branch web page under Activities. The direct link is

<https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/files/2022/03/AAUW-SS-AB-Book-List-2025-26.docx-Google-Docs.pdf>

The December 16<sup>th</sup> selection is ***The Frozen River*** by Ariel Lawton. Even if you have not been part of the group, any time you would like to participate contact [Lynn Howard](#) and she will send you the Zoom link for the meeting.

## **Exciting News**

Our January 13th meeting will be our traditional all-member read. We will be reading ***The Women of Arlington Hall*** by Jane Healy. The best-selling author will be joining our discussion via Zoom. Plan on attending this event even if you have not read the book.. You won't be disappointed.

*“In 1947, a female cryptoanalyst joins Arlington Hall to hunt Soviet spies, finding romance with an FBI agent while navigating dangerous Cold War espionage.”*--Amazon

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Visit and contribute to our [branch Facebook page](#)

Newsletter editor: [Hollie Bagley](#)



# SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

## December 2025

| Sunday   | Monday                 | Tuesday                             | Wednesday   | Thursday                                       | Friday | Saturday |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--------|----------|
|  | 1                      | 2                                   | 3   | 4<br>RSVP<br>Deadline for<br>Holiday<br>Social | 5      | 76       |
| 7<br>Holiday Social<br>noon<br> | 8                      | 9                                   | 10  | 11   | 12     | 13       |
| 14<br>Hanukkah<br>begins<br>    | 15                     | 16<br>Book<br>Discussion<br>6:30 pm | 17  | 18   | 19     | 20       |
| 21   | 22<br>Hanukkah<br>ends | 23                                  | 24<br>Christmas Eve<br> | 25<br>Christmas<br>Day                         | 26     | 27       |
| 28   | 29                     | 31<br>New Year's<br>Eve             | 1 New Year's<br>Day   | 2  | 3      | 4        |

**December 4**, RSVP Deadline for Holiday Social

**December 7**, Holiday Social at Weathervane Golf Club, Weymouth, noon

**December 16**, Book Discussion of *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawton, 6:30 via Zoom  
(Zoom link will be sent closer to the date.)

