



# News of Note

January 2026

## President's Message



Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a nice holiday season with family and friends. We wrapped up 2025 with a lovely brunch at the Weathervane restaurant in Weymouth. The food was delicious and the conversations were full of cheer and laughter. We missed those that weren't able to join us though.

We will kick off the new year with our annual book discussion via Zoom on **Tuesday, January 13th**. We will be discussing the book ***The Women of Arlington Hall*** by Jane Healey. ***The Women of Arlington Hall*** "is a historical fiction novel set in 1947, following a young woman named Cat who becomes a female codebreaker at Arlington Hall to hunt Soviet spies, blending espionage, romance with an FBI agent, and Cold War intrigue. The story is based on the real-life "government girls" of Arlington Hall and incorporates historical figures and events, exploring themes of loyalty, betrayal, and the fight against Soviet infiltration during the early Cold War. " Jane will be joining our meeting, so even if you don't have a chance to read the book you should try to join us as I'm sure it will be an interesting discussion. Remember to let your family and friends know about this meeting, you just have to share the Zoom link with them and of course encourage them to become a member too!

[Lynn Howard](#), President

## Best-Selling Local Author Jane Healey January 13, 7 pm via Zoom

Join us for our annual book discussion with the author on January 13, 2026 at 7:00 Each cold January, AAUW of the South Shore gathers for a literary evening and lively book discussion on Zoom. This year we have chosen,



***The Women of Arlington Hall***, by Jane Healey. It is a compelling tale of espionage and cryptoanalysis taking place in Washington D.C. during the early Cold War era. The protagonist uses her intellect and savvy to decipher intricate code ensuring the safety of our country. She, too, deals with the misogyny of the male dominated FBI.



This is the seventh book of historical fiction written by the former journalist, Jane Healey. The combination of her gifted storytelling skills and attention to authentic historical detail make the tale riveting. She will be present during the Zoom meeting and will happily answer questions and provide insight to the story.

It promises to be an informative and engaging evening. You are welcome to invite friends and colleagues and it is not mandated that you read the book. (She is that great as a speaker.) The Zoom link for the meeting is on the calendar page. It will also be sent again closer to the meeting date.

## Membership Matters

Now that we have made it through the busy holiday season, it is time to look ahead to the new year and the very serious problems we need to tackle. Let's give it our best shot and try to increase our membership. As the saying goes, "there is strength in numbers."



AAUW has worked tirelessly to accomplish the progress we have made in the lives of women and girls and it is being undermined in the classrooms and the

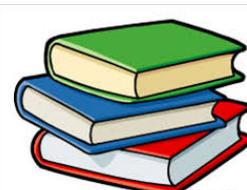
courtrooms across the country. We refuse to accept a future where women and girls are left behind. Our mission to advance equity for women and girls through education, advocacy and research has never been so urgent. Our journey is a long one and by increasing our membership we have a better chance to win the battle. Mention the impressive work AAUW is doing when meeting with friends. Who knows....you may impress one person in the group to join.

My best wishes for a safe and joyful New Year.

*Anne Foley*  
Membership VP

## Book Discussion

Our branch book discussion group meets monthly from usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The monthly selections for 2025-2026 are posted on the branch Activities web page, direct link <https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/files/2022/03/AAUW-SS-AB-Book-List-2025-26.docx-Google-Docs.pdf>. The group is open to all branch members. If you would like to receive a Zoom link to any of the discussions, please contact [Lynn Howard](#) (781-901-9120, mobile). This month the entire branch will discuss *The Women of Arlington Hall* with a visit from the author Jane Healey.



## Public Policy

### The Latest Letters, Comments, Testimony & Legal Briefs Submitted by AAUW

Each title below is hyperlinked – so just click on the title for more detail.

[AAUW Letter to Congress Calling for Urgent Congressional Action on the Dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education \(11.24.25\)](#)

[Coalition Letter Opposing the Working Families Flexibility Act, Which Would Severely Weaken Overtime Protections for Workers \(11/20/25\)](#)

[Joint Statement Opposing the Dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education through Illegal Transfer of Roles and Responsibilities to Other Federal Agencies \(11/20/25\)](#)

[AAUW Letter Urging U.S. Representatives to Support the Healthy Families Act \(11/20/25\)](#)

[Coalition Statement Affirming Our Joint Commitment Towards Ensuring Children and Youth with Disabilities Receive the Education and Support Fundamental to their Growth and Development \(11/19/25\)](#)

*Patrice Metro*  
Public Policy Chair

## Equity Now

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

Visit our [branch web page](#)  
Visit and contribute to our [branch Facebook page](#)  
Newsletter editor: [Hollie Bagley](#)

# SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

## January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6 Epiphany	7 Orthodox Christmas Day	8	9	10
11	12	13 Branch Program 7 pm	14	15 evening Lailat al Miraj	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Branch Budget/Board Meeting 6:30/7 pm	28	29 Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act 2009	30	31

**December 31**, Last day for your 2025 donation to AAUW

**January 13**, Branch Meeting: Discussion of *The Women of Arlington Hall* by Jane Healey, 7pm

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89157639307?pwd=MXvOfavR0W2FCML4ForWp4Gdeba3V1.1>

Meeting ID: 891 5763 9307

Passcode: 810076

One tap mobile

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+13017158592,,89157639307#,,,\*810076# US

(Washington DC)

**January 28**, Branch Board and Budget Meeting, 6:30 Budget, Board, 7pm via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85125232585?pwd=xGaT8ii06S2iAYuXVL9ACoLuG1IB03.1>

Meeting ID: 851 2523 2585

Passcode: 480953

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(Washington DC)