



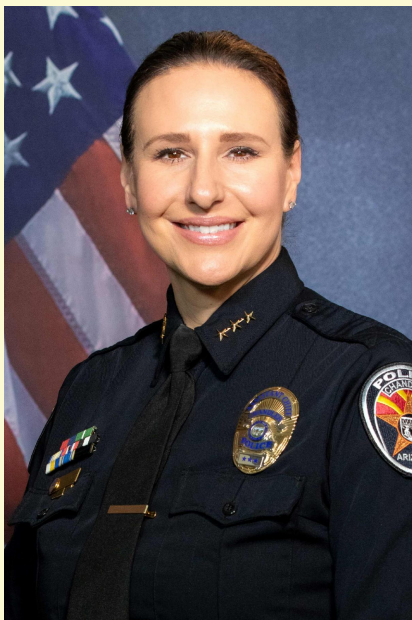
American Association of University Women
Southeast Valley (AZ) Branch
Chandler, Gilbert and the Greater Southeast Valley
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The Prickly Pear Newsletter

November
2024

November Branch Meeting



November 18, 2024
5:30 - 7:00 pm
Sun Lakes United Methodist
Church
9248 Riggs Road

Our guest speaker is Melissa Deanda,
Chandler Assistant Chief of Police.

Assistant Chief Deanda will speak about her
current responsibility in her leadership role
and share her story that led her to this key
position.

Deanda will also be available to local high school and Chandler-Gilbert
Community College students, invited as guests, to answer questions on
how to pursue a career in the justice system.

Inspired by a school resource officer during her high school years and
eager to make a difference in her community, Deanda joined the
Chandler Police Department in January 1999, making this her 25th year

in policing. After working her way up through a variety of positions within the Department, she received a promotion to Assistant Chief in January 2023 and began overseeing the Professional Services Division.

Meeting Schedule:

5:30 - 5:40 - Social Time

5:40 - 6:10 - Branch Business

6:10 - 7:00 - Speaker

**There is Still Time to
Vote**



Civic Engagement Beyond Voting is a nonpartisan organization working to empower Arizona residents to exercise their voices at state and local levels. Click on the page below to see the 2024 CEBV Ballot Guide. To find out more about CEBV, visit the [CEBV website](#).



Election - November 5 So many decisions! Here's some help.

Proposition 139 - Arizona Access Abortion Act

AAUW Arizona has endorsed Proposition 139 which gives access to abortion to Arizona residents up to the "point of fetal viability."

CEBV Endorses Proposition 479 - No tax increase

This prop continues a half-cent sales tax for transportation, which has driven economic growth throughout Arizona by funding infrastructure improvements. It expands roads and freeways, reduces traffic and gridlock, and enables Maricopa County to invest in its transportation infrastructure to keep up with population growth. It will boost our economy and is projected to create 30,000 new jobs per year for the next 25 years. Unsurprisingly, it's endorsed by an enormous coalition of business, labor, community and elected leaders and organizations, including every mayor in Maricopa County regardless of political party.

AAUW Endorses Prop 486 - Arizona Expenditure Limit and Maricopa Community Colleges

In 1980, Arizona voters established an expenditure limit to restrict how much a community college district, including Maricopa Community Colleges, can spend even if funding is available. Much has changed since 1980. If passed, this will permanently adjust the base on which the expenditure limit is calculated to allow Maricopa Community Colleges to continue supporting students with high quality, relevant and affordable education. If this does not pass, Maricopa Community Colleges will be forced to cut up to \$100 million in expenses. This is not a request for additional funds, is not a tax increase, and does not get rid of the expenditure limit. According to Axios.com, Prop. 486 has no organized opposition campaign, and no one submitted arguments against the proposal.

CUSD Governing Board Candidates

Southeast Valley Branch has endorsed Zeyna Pruzanovsky, SEV Branch member, for the Chandler Unified School District Governing Board. She is a teacher at the Blackwater Community School with the Gila River Indian Community. She encourages us to also vote for Claudia Mendoza and Barb Mozdzen for the CUSD Board. Vote for the "z's."

AAUW AZ supports the views of Civic Engagement Beyond Voting, a progressive nonpartisan organization, working to empower Arizona's citizens to exercise their voices at the local level.

For more information on the issues, go to CEBV.us

"My Vote, Our Voice" - AAUW

AAUW Welcomes Special Guests

At the October meeting AAUW SEV welcomed two women who are AAUW fellowship recipients.

It was an honor to meet and introduce
Natalia and Shekesha.

They are pictured here next to our new AAUW banner.



Local Elections Matter

AAUW Southeast Valley Branch endorses Barb Mozdzen, Claudia Mendoza, and Zeyna Pruzhanovsky for the Chandler Unified School District Governing Board.

A poster for the Chandler Unified School District (CUSD) Governing Board election. The poster features a photograph of three women, Barb Mozdzen, Claudia Mendoza, and Zeyna Pruzhanovsky, standing together. The text on the poster reads: "Protect our #1-rated Chandler Unified School District!" and "Vote for Barb Mozdzen, Claudia Mendoza, & Zeyna Pruzhanovsky for CUSD Governing Board". Below the photo, there are two boxes: one with "Early Voting Starts: October 9th, 2024" and "General Election: November 5th, 2024", and another with "Learn More! Visit CUSDThree.com". To the right, there is a box titled "Your tax dollars at work for" with a list of benefits: "Strong public education", "Fiscal responsibility", "Workforce development", and "Community investment". The poster is set against a wooden background.

Calendar of Events 2024-2025

BOARD MEETINGS:

November 13, 2024
December 11, 2024
January 8, 2025
February 12, 2025
March 12, 2025
April 9, 2025
May 14, 2025

BRANCH MEETINGS:

November 18, 2024
January 20, 2025
February 17, 2025
March 17, 2025 Branch Annual Meeting
April 21, 2025 Induction of Officers

EVENTS:

November 8, 2024 Fall Forum
December 14, 2024 Holiday Funds Event
TBD Scholarship Fundraiser

SEV BranchSpecial Interest Groups

Bridge Group Mon. Nov. 4

It meets on the first Monday of the month at the Poolside in Oakwood. This is fun, not competitive, bridge.

Mahjong Group

Details TBD

Afternoon

SEV Website Changes

The directory has been removed. Please use your paper directory.

Website updates are applied monthly. We hope you will visit it often.

AAUW SEV Website

Membership

A reminder that new members are always welcome to join AAUW SEV. Bring a friend or family to one of our meetings and introduce them to the

Book Club

Mon. Nov. 11 - 1:00 pm

Book: *House of Eve*
by Sadeqa Johnson

Lunch Bunch

Picazzo's, Gilbert
Thurs. Nov. 14 11:30 am

Great Decisions

Wed. Nov. 20 - 3:00 pm

Topic: Pandemic Preparedness

Evening Book Club

Tues, Nov. 26 - 6:00 pm

Location: TBD
Book: TBD

Dinner Group

Will meet next in
January 2025
Details TBD

important work of AAUW and
the fun we have together.



BRING A
FRIEND!



✓
vote

AAUW Southeast Valley | AAUW Southeast Valley | Southeast Valley, AZ 85224 US

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