



FACETS

January 2017

The Rockland County Branch of the
American Association of University Women, Inc.

Rockland County Branch AAUW
P. O. Box 962, Monsey, NY 10952-0962
OUR WEB SITE: aauw.rockland.county.ny.us
AAUW/rockland.publicpolicy@yahoo.com

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

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tuesday, January 3 **AAUW Board Meeting** CONFERENCE CALL 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, January 5 **AAUW 'Rockland Readers Book Club'** at 1:00 p.m.
Barnes & Noble NANUET
The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman
- Monday, January 16 **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** See special event on page 4.
- Monday, January 16 **AAUW Book Group** New City Library at 2:30 p.m.
We Are Not Ourselves by Matthew Thomas

***SATURDAY, January 21 BRANCH MEETING at 2:00 p.m.**
Nanuets Library Community Room
 149 Church Street, Nanuet, NY 10954
Speaker: Anita Nessin Topic: Overweight, Underweight, Perfect Weight
 See Details within
 Free and Open to the Public Refreshments will be served

- Saturday, January 21 **Women's March on Washington, D.C.** See details within
- Friday, January 27 **CTAUN Annual Conference at the United Nations.**
- Thursday, February 2 **AAUW 'Rockland Readers Book Club'** at 1:00 p.m.
Barnes & Noble NANUET
The Sixth Extinction - An Unnatural History by Elizabeth Kolbert
- Tuesday, February 7 **AAUW Board Meeting** CONFERENCE CALL at 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, February 25 **ANNUAL DIVERSITY BRUNCH**, St. Charles A.M.E. Zion Church, Sparkill 10:30 a.m.
See Details within

VISION STATEMENT: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT: In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

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

PRESIDENTS'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year. We are now in 2017. It seems like yesterday that we were bringing in 2016. That being said, I am going to make the theme of this message the theme that is being generated throughout AAUW National and New York State.

MEMBERSHIP is everyone's business because anyone who is a member of AAUW can talk to how great this organization is and what it has done for the lives of women and girls for the past 135 years.

AAUW has been at the forefront of making a difference in women's and girls' lives nationally, statewide, and regionally. We do it here in Rockland County through our STEM programs and regular monthly programs bringing attention to local legislation and forming coalitions with other women's groups to ensure that we are relevant with the times.

AAUW is a powerful organization but it is nothing without its members doing the things necessary to keep it a powerful and relevant organization. **So membership is the key.** Let us pledge to each bring in one new member in 2017 or encourage an old member to renew their membership.

MEMBERSHIP is everyone's business and I thank all our members for your support of the Rockland AAUW and all that we do for women and girls.

Suzanne Young-Mercer

BRANCH NOTES

Welcome new member **Karen Rae Steele** of Englewood, New Jersey who achieved her degrees from Fairleigh Dickinson, Montclair, and Seton Hall.

Get well wishes to **Ellie Grossman** after her surgery. She is at home with a long recuperation expected. Do give her a call at **(845) 642-5226**.

We are sorry to report that former member **Naomi Anthony** died December 22, 2016. A memorial service took place December 31 at her church, the St. Charles A.M.E. Zion Church in Sparkill. We extend our sympathies to her husband and family.

Holiday Buffet Dinner/Fundraiser. On December 13 our branch held its Holiday Dinner/Fundraiser to raise money for AAUW's Educational Opportunities Fund. We enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner with the help and planning of hostess Rosemary Waltzer and had a fun time with the festivities of a Chinese Auction. Thank you to the 23 members who supported the Holiday Auction and helped our branch raise \$290.

This year we can proudly say that between the Summer BBQ and our Holiday party, we have supported AAUW EOF with a total of \$1,250.

Sandy Blasy, Treasurer

And special thanks to **Rosemary Waltzer** for again hosting our Holiday event and to **Ellie Grossman, Sandy Blasy** and **Karen Martin** for creating our new fundraiser, the *Chinese Auction*, which was enjoyed by everyone.

Holiday Barnes & Noble NANUET Gift Wrap Fundraiser On December 23 & 24, 2016, our branch held the Gift Wrap Fundraiser to support local county programs. Through the generosity of the Barnes & Noble Nanuet customers, we raised \$432. A special "thank you" to the volunteers who without giving of your time during this busy holiday season, this would not have been possible.

Sandy Blasy, Treasurer

Reminder!!

Consult our Branch website:



<http://rocklandcounty-ny.aauw.net/> for up-to-the minute information about Branch activities as well as current and back copies of our newsletter.

It's there for you 24/7.

BRANCH MEETING Saturday, January 21, at the Nanuet Library Community Room at 2:00 p.m.

(In order to accommodate more of our members who are unable to come to evening meetings, we are having this Saturday afternoon meeting. We hope many more of you will be able to attend.)

AAUW member Anita Nessin recently achieved her degree in nutrition. Congratulations, Anita! She will present a program which is not about weight loss. She will be talking about how to find a healthy weight. Anita explains: "We are bombarded by advertisements for a wide range of weight loss programs and products and books touting the "perfect" food plan to reach your "perfect" weight. Celebrity doctors and personalities push their latest plan. Movies, television and magazines show us images of what we are supposed to look like. We are given hints about how to get a "beach body," how to dress to look thinner. How are we to decide? I'll be talking about how to find the right weight for you."

Refreshments will be served. Anyone interested in contributing refreshments, call Karen Martin, 425-6489.

WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT: Time for Nominations is now!!!

Each year at our Annual Dinner in May, our branch recognizes a ***Rockland County woman who has affected a positive change in our community.*** Branch members are asked to submit their nominations for this award in the form of a one-page biography and reason for recommendation (approximately 100 words). Send to Sylvia Miller, 98 Foxwood Road, West Nyack, NY 10994 or aauwsam@optonline.net **by January 31, 2017.**

Thank you.

LAF (LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND)

Gosset v. Lasch, Cooper, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University of Southern California: A Sexual Harassment Case. Nathalie Gosset, the plaintiff, alleges that she experienced sexual harassment by her employer and was terminated after she reported the behavior. Not only was she terminated, but her daughter lost her scholarship to the school. This case was adopted in September 2016.



Mark your calendars for the
 American Association of University Women
 New York State 2017 Convention
 April 21 to 23, 2017
 at
 DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse
 6301 State Route 298 East Syracuse, New York 13057
 Phone: 315 432 - 0200

Plan to come early Friday for a tour and High Tea at the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation and a tour of the J.G. Stickley Museum in Fayetteville.



Save the Planet UNITY CELEBRATION

Honoring the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 16, 2017 at 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
RAMAPO HIGH SCHOOL
 400 Viola Road, Spring Valley, NY 10977

Showcase includes Drama, Dance, Poetry, Music, Vendors

Sponsored by The Martin Luther King Multi-Purpose Center
 For more information, contact Marc Pessin at (834) 558-8355



THE WOMEN'S MARCH ON WASHINGTON, JANUARY 21, 2017

The march is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2017, at Third Street and Independence Avenue SW, near the U. S. Capitol. A delegation of AAUW members, friends, and family will meet at a to-be-determined time and location before the start of the march. Sign up at advocacy@aauw.org. The rally will disperse at the southern part of the Ellipse near the White House, at Constitution Avenue between Fifteenth and Seventeenth Streets NW. This nonpartisan rally of women's rights advocates seeks to deliver the message that women's rights are human rights. A program featuring nationally recognized advocates, artists, entertainers and thought leaders is expected to be announced soon. Buses are available from Rockland. Round trip: New City - Washington DC \$75 each. Go to <http://bit.ly/2imtm3>. Payment can also be by check mailed to: SPACE PO BOX 100; Stony Point, NY 10980.

Did you know ?

Nellie Taylor Ross of Wyoming took office as America's first female governor, succeeding her late husband, William, following a special election in 1925.

Martha Ann Miller, age 105, remembers when women gained the right to vote. She shared with AAUW what it's been like to advocate for women's issues since she joined a Virginia AAUW branch in 1944. Go to AAUW.org for her story.

HAPPENINGS

Wednesday, January 11 - **Rivertown Film** presents *Mia Madre* at 8:00 p.m. at the Nyack Center, Nyack, NY.

Monday, January 16 - **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Unity Celebration** at Ramapo High School. Details above.

Wednesday, January 25 - **Rivertown Film** presents *Everybody knows...Elizabeth Murray* at 8:00 p.m. at the Nyack Center, Nyack, NY. She is only the fifth woman to have a career retrospective at MoMA.

Friday, January 27 - **CTAUN Annual Conference at the United Nations - "Refugees: The 21st Century Challenge."** Registration is now open. For information and Link to Register, go to **CTAUN CONFERENCE 2017**.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE FOOD PANTRY - PTP is serving over 1,400 families a month through their Food Pantry Program. That's about 4,000 people per month and nearly 50% of them are children. They are in the process of expanding their storage space with more capacity for nonperishable foods to provide more fresh food to clients. Please continue providing canned goods, juices, cereal, soups, peanut butter & jelly as often as you can. For more information, go to their web site: www.peopletopeopleinc.org. Hours are Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. at 121 West Nyack Road, Nanuet, NY 10954. Questions? Call (845) 623-4900. THANK YOU!

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, January 21, 2017 - BRANCH MEETING in the afternoon. Speaker Anita Nessin. Topic: Overweight, Underweight and Perfect Weight.

Saturday, February 25 - **Annual Diversity Brunch**, 10:30 a.m. at St. Charles A.M.E. Zion Church, Sparkill, NY.

Tuesday, March 7 - **Board Meeting** conference call 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 8 - **International Women's Day**

Saturday, March 11 or 18 - **"What's Really Cool" Conference**, Finkelstein Library, Spring Valley.

Saturday, March 25 - Afternoon **Branch Meeting** - Celebration of Women's History Month at the Valley Cottage Library.

Monday, April 3 - **Board Meeting** at Charlotte Sorger's at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4 - **Pay Equity Day**

Tuesday, April 18 - **Branch Business Meeting** 7:00 p.m. "Pay Equity Program" & election of officers.

April 22 - 23 - **AAUW NYS Conference**, Double Tree by Hilton, Syracuse, NY.

Tuesday, May 2 - Board Meeting at Dorothea Flieger's at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 17 or 24 - **Annual Dinner/Woman of Achievement**, Installation of Officers at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 6 - **Joint Board Meeting** (new and current board members) at Ellie Grossman's.

Tuesday, June 13 - **Branch Meeting** - Meet & Greet our Scholarship Recipients.

June 14-17 - AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION, WASHINGTON D.C. Complete your convention registration before January 15, 2017 and you will be eligible to win a free registration. Go to [AAUW National Convention](#).

SAVE THE DATE

18th ANNUAL DIVERSITY BRUNCH

HOSTED BY

THE ROCKLAND COUNTY BRANCH OF
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, INC.

In collaboration with the women
Of
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017
10:30 a.m. UNTIL 1:00 p.m.
ST. CHARLES A.M.E. ZION CHURCH
432 VALENTINE AVE.
SPARKILL, NY 10976

Watch for details coming soon.