

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](http://aauw.rockland.county.ny)  
[AAUW/rockland.publicpolicy@yahoo.com](mailto: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, November 1      AAUW Board Meeting at Myrna Silberman's home at 7:00 p.m.  
Be sure to let Myrna know if you will or will not attend.
- Thursday, November 3      AAUW 'Rockland Readers Book Club' at 1:00 p.m.  
Barnes & Noble NANUET  
*The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah
- Monday, November 7      STEM Engineer's Conference at 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Nanuet Library Community Room
- Tuesday, November 8      BE SURE TO VOTE!!! Remind your friends or take them along!
- Saturday, November 12      ELMWOOD PLAYHOUSE FUNDRAISER at 8:00 p.m.  
45 Park Place, Nyack, NY  
"An American Daughter"
- Tuesday, November 15      BRANCH MEETING at the Nanuet Library 7:00 p.m.  
Speaker: Diane Jablonski  
Topic: Equity for Women in Politics?  
See details within
- Monday, November 21      AAUW Book Group New City Library at 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.  
*Unlikely Collaboration: Gertrude Stein, Bernard Fay, etc.* by Barbara Will
- Thursday, November 24      HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!
- Thursday, December 1      AAUW 'Rockland Readers Book Club' at 1:00 p.m.  
Barnes & Noble NANUET  
*The Monopolists- Obsession, Fury and the Scandal Behind the World's Favorite Board Game* by Mary Pilon
- Tuesday, December 6      Board Meeting at Karen Martin's home at 7:00 p.m.  
Be sure to let Karen know if you will or will not attend.
- Tuesday, December 13      HOLIDAY BUFFET AND ???????  
at Rosemary Waltzer's home, 6:00 p.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**

It is November 1, 2016 and we have exactly one week until we finally get to vote for the next President of the United States. It seems like we have been going through this process for far too long but finally there is light at the end of this tunnel.

No matter whom you decide to vote for in this election the important fact is that everyone needs to exercise this right which is part of the role we play in our democratic society. Voting for the next President is important because that person will pick the next Supreme Court justices who have played significant roles in determining the law of the land, but more importantly we also will be voting for local leaders who make a significant difference in what happens here locally and who we have more access to reach. Your vote counts in so many ways. So get out on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 and vote and bring a couple of friends with you.

On October 15, 2016, we had a successful **District V Conference on "Diversity and Inclusion in Today's Workplace."** I believe all of the participants would say that this conference was very informative. We had Bich Ha Pham of the New York City Public Advocate's office as our Keynote speaker who discussed relevant issues on gender equity. She discussed the fact that New York City was drafting legislation to end the practice of asking the question about previous salary history, and she was interested in AAUW possibly being a co-sponsor of this legislation. This would be a significant collaboration for AAUW.

The panelist discussion was very well-received. Our panelists: Azadeh Khalili, First Executive Director of Commission on Gender Equity, Mayor Office City Hall; Pamela Abner, Chief Administrative Officer of Diversity and Inclusion, Mount Sinai Health System; Rippi K. Karda, Assistant General Counsel, Verizon Communications, Inc.; and Gabrielle Lyse Brown, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, New York City Bar Association, discussed topics relevant to understanding why we need to have a diverse and inclusive workforce, how this can be achieved and what the next steps are to ensure that this mandate continues to be the practice.

If you were not able to attend, you missed a very lively discussion, but I believe AAUW District V gained individuals with whom we can collaborate in any future endeavors.

Please see below the plans for our November monthly meeting and hope you can come out and participate in what will be another informative discussion topic.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne Young-Mercer

## **BRANCH NOTES**

A special thank you to **Suzanne Young-Mercer** and her committee for an excellent District V Conference. The speaker and panelists were outstanding.

Get well wishes to **Phyllis Morena** on a successful recovery from ankle surgery.

Congratulations to **Suzanne Young-Mercer's husband Ken** who was honored by the Spring Valley Branch of the NAACP at their Annual Freedom Fund Membership Gala on October 28, 2016. He is a special person who also was Suzanne's super assistant for the District V Conference.

REMINDER - ELMWOOD PLAYHOUSE FUNDRAISER SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, AT 8:00 P.M.  
PLAY "AN AMERICAN DAUGHTER" Call Karen Martin for tickets at (845) 425-6489 or (914) 419-0613.

**BRANCH MEETING** Tuesday, November 15 at the Nanuet Library Community Room at 7:00 p.m.  
Topic: Equity for Women in Politics?

Our speaker will be Diane Jablonski, current AAUW New York State treasurer. A graduate of the University of Delaware with a degree in Mathematics, she retired after 37 years in management at IBM and as a consultant and director for Cap Gemini Ernst and Young . In 2005, Diane ran successfully for the position of Dutchess County Comptroller. Currently she is a Commissioner of the NYS Bridge Authority and active in the Dutchess County Mediation Center, the LWV, AAUW, Dutchess Democratic Women's Caucus and her church. She has been active in training and mentoring women to run for office locally for the last 15 years.

Diane will focus her presentation on 1) the current status of elected women in New York, 2) why having women as part of the elected bodies is really important, and finally, 3) the inhibitors: what are they and why aren't more women running?

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Charlotte Sorger and Brian Korb** attended a special dinner at Dominican College acknowledging scholarship donors and their recipients. Our Mimi Korb Scholarship and Myneder Scholarship recipients this year were both honored at Dominican College. Brian Korb (Mimi's son) was very impressed when he met this year's scholarship recipient. As a result, he has already contributed a substantial amount to the Korb scholarship for 2016. Thank you Brian. We want to remind you that contributions to the Mimi Korb Scholarship (tax deductible) can be made to honor any occasion or to generously support this most worthwhile endeavor as you have in the past.\*

**Patricia Lopez** attended the dinner as the chair of our College/University program to further AAUW relationships with Dominican College.

\* Please make your tax deductible check payable to **AAUW Rockland County Branch** and put **Mimi Korb Scholarship** on the detail line. Mail your check payable to AAUW Rockland Branch, P. O. Box 962, Monsey, NY 10952-0962.

Thank you.

### **STEM**

STEM at Summit Park Elementary School is steaming ahead in its 9th year with 50+ volunteers on board. My dear and trusted administrator, Rosalyn Maxwell, is moving on. I will miss her tremendously.

Mrs. Kim Hewlett, Principal of Summit Park, fought very hard to keep us in a classroom and she succeeded; however, our space is much smaller, both service space and storage space. We are grateful for what we have. There are 3 new kindergarten classes.

Coaches have begun working with students and are they warm, charming and eager to learn. We are offering the following recess clubs: Art, Book Club, Chess Club and a Knitting Club. The instructional ratio for chess and knitting is 3 to 1. We plan to start soon but we need assistance for the art and book club which meet on Fridays from 1:00 to 1:30. If you are interested and available, PLEASE CALL Joyce Brown 845 352-3275.

We are looking for bi-lingual Spanish coaches. If you know someone who is fluent in Spanish, please suggest that they contact us.

### HOLIDAY WRAPPING AT BARNES & NOBLE, NANUET

Our **holiday** fund raiser is here again. AAUW needs volunteers to wrap presents at Barnes & Noble, NANUET for the holiday season. The dates are Friday, Dec. 23 and Saturday, Dec. 24. Select dates for your time to volunteer; just a couple hours would be a great help.

Times are:	<u>Dec. 23</u>	<u>Dec. 24</u>	
	9 - 11 am	9 - 11 am	Come out and enjoy your fellow AAUW members, meet the shoppers. Just have fun while you are helping AAUW continue its mission.
	11 - 1 pm	11 - 1 pm	
	1 - 3 pm	1 - 3 pm	
	3 - 5 pm	3 - 5 pm	
	5 - 7 pm	5 - 6 pm	
	7 - 9/10 pm		

### PUBLIC POLICY by Ann Mulligan

In the 2016 session of the New York State Legislature, **Paid Family Leave** was passed. This bill moves from unpaid **Family and Medical Leave** to employee-funded insurance which provides compensation when employees take family leave. This is an expansion of a previous employee benefit bill which was passed into law by Congress and President Bill Clinton in 1993. It allowed employees to take *unpaid* time off from their jobs to provide care to sick family members or newly born, or just adopted, children. There were restrictions on who qualified; however, this was the first time employees had a right to take time away from work knowing a job would be available for them when they returned to work.

Starting in 2018 New York State will lead the nation in providing income for employees while they take family leave to deal with an unexpected medical issue, care for an elderly relative, or build the bond with a new family member - newborn or adopted child. Paid Family Leave in New York State will have broad social benefits by building strong families and improving relations between children and parents, by lessening economic inequality and will help keep women in the workforce. New York is one of five states with a Paid Family Leave law and has the best employee coverage.

### DECEMBER AAUW HOLIDAY BUFFET DINNER and ????

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 at 6:00 p.m.

At the home of Rosemary Waltzer, 16 Sandusky Road, New City 10956

**This is our very special winter event. Members will provide the food. It is a wonderful time to meet new members and get reacquainted with others.**

**Please e-mail ROSEMARY WALTZER at [rosescorf@gmail.com](mailto:rosescorf@gmail.com) or phone (845) 634-7928 by Friday, December 9** to let her know what food item you will bring. Appetizers, entrees, salads, beverages, etc. are needed. Please make your contribution to serve 8 portions and bring **already prepared goodies**. As a courtesy to our wonderful hostess, please let her know your plans by Friday, December 9.

The holiday auction raises funds for the branch contribution to AAUW's **Education Opportunities Fund**. We will also have our **LAF** basket raffle. So bring your money, your checkbook and prepare to share.

This year we are adding something new to the FUNdraiser portion of the program. Watch for details in the December newsletter.

**TELL YOUR FACEBOOK FRIENDS TO BE SURE TO VOTE!!!!**

## Did you know?

- AAUW announces that Nationwide Car Insurance Company is now offering a discount to AAUW members. Call 1-888-889-4322.
- AAUW National - New Building, Same Mission. AAUW has moved to 1310 L. St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005. Thursday, November 17, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. You are invited to join the national staff at AAUW's new headquarters for refreshments and networking as they celebrate member appreciation week so you can learn how they're using this new space to continue AAUW's mission of empowering women and girls. Reserve your spot early - this event is limited to 200 members. RSVP by Monday, November 14, to [rsvp@aauw.org](mailto:rsvp@aauw.org).

## HAPPENINGS

Wednesday, Nov. 9 - **Rivertown Film** presents **ZERO DAYS** at 8:00 p.m. at the Nyack Center, Nyack, NY.

Wednesday, Nov. 16 - **VCS Women Dine for a CAUSE**, 6:00p.m. - 8:00p.m., 311 North Broadway, Upper Nyack, NY 10960. Bring a dish and support VCS celebrating 45 years. Salad/Side-Main Dish-Dessert Drinks: Wine and/or case of bottled water. WOMEN Dine for a CAUSE raises money for non-profit organizations and programs that provide services to Women, Children and Families in Rockland County. Register at [www.womendine.net](http://www.womendine.net) or email [womendine@gmail.com](mailto:womendine@gmail.com)

Thursday, Nov. 17 - **League of Women Voters Day at the United Nations, 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

Join League members and friends for a day exploring the UN and hearing from top UN experts on Sexual Violence in Conflict Areas and Anti-Terrorism. To register call (518) 465-4162.

Friday, Nov. 18 - **Rivertown Film** presents **DANCE TO THE MOVIES** at the West Gate Lounge in Nyack, 26 Route 59, Nyack, NY 10960, 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. Dance to some of the great film dance sequences of all time at the Rivertown Film Benefit. Sensational DJ, film clips, dance demonstration & lesson and refreshments.

Wednesday, Nov. 30 - **League of Women Voters meeting**, 7:00 p.m. at the Nanuet Library. Topic - Legislative Procedures.

Wednesday, Nov. 30 - **Rivertown Film** presents **LITTLE MEN** at 8:00 p.m. at the Nyack Center, Nyack, NY.

Friday, January 27, 2017 - **CTAUN Annual Conference at the United Nations - "Refugees: The 21st Century Challenge."** Registration is now open. Information and Link to Register: 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. **Thanksgiving** will be here soon. Last year PTP provided over 2,000 families with a turkey and all the trimmings. Please continue providing canned goods, juices, cereal, soups, peanut butter & jelly, and thanksgiving foods to PTP as often as you can. For more information, go to their web site: [www.peopletopeopleinc.org](http://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!** And have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

## SAVE THE DATE

TUES. Nov. 1 BOARD MEETING, 7:00 p.m. at Myrna Silberman's  
MON. Nov. 7 STEM Engineer's Conference, Nanuet Library 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
TUES. Nov. 8 Be sure to VOTE!!!  
SAT. Nov. 12 ELMWOOD PLAYHOUSE FUNDRAISER "*An American Daughter*" 8:00 p.m. Park St. Nyack, NY  
TUES. Nov. 15 BRANCH MEETING, 7:00 p.m. at Nanuet Library  
TUES, Dec. 6 BOARD MEETING, 7:00 p.m. at Karen Martin's  
TUES. Dec.13 HOLIDAY POTLUCK DINNER & FUNdraiser, 6:00 p.m. at Rosemary Waltzer's home  
Dec. 23 & 24 HOLIDAY GIFT WRAP FUNDRAISER, 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. (2 hour shifts)  
Volunteers needed