



### **ROCKLAND COUNTY (NY) BRANCH**

## FACETS

**March 2019** 

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research

Co-presidents: Editor:

Suzanne Young-Mercer <a href="mailto:smymaauw@gmail.com">smymaauw@gmail.com</a>
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Doria E. Hillsman <u>dehillsman@earthlink.net</u>

Tuesday, March 5 Board Meeting

Conference Call 7:00 PM

Saturday, March 9 District V Professional Jump Start Conference

Guttman Community College 9:30 AM

Details inside

Thursday, March 21 "Tomorrow is NOW"

Rockland Community College- Ellipse 5:00 PM

Details inside

Saturday, March 23 Branch Meeting – Women's History Month Program

Valley Cottage Library 2:00-4:00 PM

Tuesday, April 2 Board Meeting\*

Ellie Grossman's Home 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 6 "What's Cool?" Conference

Finkelstein Memorial Library 1:30 PM

Tuesday, April 16 Branch Business Meeting

New City Library 7:00 PM

April 26 – 28 AAUW – NYS Convention

Cooperstown, NY

Tuesday, May 7 Board Meeting

Charlotte Sorger's Home 7:00 PM

Wednesday, May 15 Woman of Achievement Award Dinner

Nyack Seaport Restaurant 6:00 PM

## President's Message

On February 23, 2019, AAUW Rockland celebrated 20 years of diversity in Rockland County at our annual Diversity Breakfast held at the Pearl River Elks Club. The theme for our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary was "Empowering Women in Diverse Communities in the Age of 'Me Too'". This annual celebration was in conjunction with our co-sponsors, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Jill and Jack of America, and the NYS National Association of Social Workers. The guest speakers Emily Waters and Michelle Grier were from Girls for Gender Equity (GGE) who provided us with information on how we acknowledge and support women no matter where they identify on the "gender spectrum". They shared information on the mission of GGE and offered a moving spoken word performance on the topic of rape. Both speakers were knowledgeable and left us more informed.

We also chose to honor three women as shining examples in the areas of community service, justice administration and legislative leadership. Joyce Brown, past president of Rockland AAUW, received the Champion of the Community Award; Maureen McGarry Porette, Champion of Justice; and Ellen Jaffe was surprised with the Champion of the Legislature Award and a special Citation from Governor Cuomo. The assembly of more than 100 people in attendance served as a testimony to how valuable and beloved these women warriors are to our community.

I want to commend the hard work of the Chair of the Diversity Breakfast and Mistress of Ceremonies, Edwina Frances Martin, Esq. and her fantastic committee who worked tirelessly to make sure that the event was memorable. The food was great, the sound system steady and reliable, the decorations were elegant and the atmosphere was perfect for the diverse fellowship that is so unique to Rockland County. We had a splendid time.

As we spend the month of March celebrating and reflecting on the many ways that women have contributed to our society throughout history, I hope that you will participate in some of the various activities that the branch is sponsoring and co-sponsoring this month – and don't forget to bring a friend!

Suzanne Young-Mercer



The AAUW – Rockland Book Club meets in the Conference Room of the New City Library on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month from 2:30 - 4:00 P.M

\*March 18, 2019 "The Bridal Chair" by Gloria Goldreich

\*April 15, 2019 "Pachinko" by Min Lee

\*Contact Fran Carlson for more information and to confirm this date.





### **REGISTER NOW for our 2019 AAUW-NYS Convention**

April 26-28, 2019 Cooperstown, NY

Online registration at:

https://aauwnyswp.aauw-nys.org/wp/index.php/state-events-2/nys-convention/



#### THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2019

AAUW Rockland partners with Assemblywoman Ellen Jaffee's Office, the Spring Valley NAACP and Eleanor's Legacy to host:

"Tomorrow Is Now: Changing the Face of Power in New York State"

March 21, 2019 | 5:00 to 7:00pm RCC Ellipse Technology Center.

The conference will seek to encourage youth and young adults 16 to 21 years old to focus on the fundamentals of politics, leadership development, and to motivate and empower them to get involved in the political process.



### AAUW- Rockland Celebrates Women's History Month

Dr. Robin Bell, Lamont Doherty
Earth Observatory Geophysicist
will be our guest speaker for the
Women's History Month Meeting
on March 23, 2019 from 2-4 PM
at the Valley Cottage Library.
She will discuss her research on
climate change and her efforts to
encourage women to pursue
careers in science. This event is
being co-sponsored by the
League of Women Voters.

Don't Miss It- BRING A FRIEND!

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care









AAUW – Rockland, the Rockland Success Team and MHA Rockland present

## "Making Your Mark in the World"

16<sup>th</sup> Annual "What's Cool?"

Conference to empower young women.

Free and Open to all young women in 7th - 12th grades (ONLY)

Saturday, April 6th, 2019 1:30-3:00 pm Finkelstein Memorial Library

AAUW Rockland Diversity Breakfast February 23, 2019









**FROMCORRESPONDING SECRETARY, ANITA NESSIN:** Please forward any information regarding special events, such as weddings, illnesses, graduations, surgeries etc. She will be happy to send a greeting card. Please forward your birthday month and date (year is NOT necessary) so that your name can be placed on her special birthday roster.

Amn46@hotmail.com

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH:** Robin Bell, geophysicist at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory will be speaking to us about climate change. She will tell us about a volcano which she has discovered and her effort to encourage other women in her field. Dr. Bell has a mountain in Antarctica named after her! This promises to be a most interesting and informative event. The event will take place on Saturday, March 23, 2019 from 2-4 PM at the Valley Cottage Library and is being co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** The Nominating Committee proposed Slate of Officers to be elected at the **April 16**<sup>th</sup> **Meeting** is as follows - Co- President: Suzanne Young- Mercer, 3<sup>rd</sup> term, Alternate Co-President one year term (open) Programming Vice- President: Doria E. Hillsman, Treasurer: Sandy Blasy, 3<sup>rd</sup> term. Additional candidates for these positions may be nominated from the floor at the meeting *provided that the nominee has consented to the nomination*. Seeking members in advance of this year's round of elections! Sign up TODAY! Call Frances Blauvelt at (845) 356-3081.

MIMI KORB SCHOLARSHIP: 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. Please make your tax-deductible check payable to AAUW Rockland County Branch and write "Mimi Korb Scholarship" on the detail line. Mail your check to: Sandra Blasy | 29 Hickory Hill Lane | Tappan, NY 10983

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: The Executive Board is happy to announce the selection of this year's Woman of Achievement. Kathy Galione is a staff member of the Rockland County Youth Bureau and is the Youth Program Coordinator of the Rockland Conservation and Service Corps. Her service and commitment to environmental causes has impacted all ages and aspects of our community. The dinner is on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 from 6:00 to 9:30 pm at the Nyack Seaport Restaurant, 21 Burd Street, Nyack, NY 10960 the cost is \$55.00. Checks should be made payable to Rockland County AAUW and mailed to: Sandra Masiello, 95 Green Road, West Nyack 10994 with your name, phone number, and e-mail address.

**PUBLIC POLICY:** A recent court ruling by a federal court judge in Washington D.C. now requires companies to report pay data by gender, race and ethnicity. This decision is heralded as a victory since removing the shroud of secrecy about who earns what is a critical step towards ensuring equal pay for equal work. Tanya S. Chutkan, a U.S. district judge for the District of Columbia, ordered the government to move forward with a requirement that large employers with more than 100 employees confidentially provide pay data to EEOC by May 2019.

(for more information check out <a href="https://www.aauw.org/article/a-victory-for-equal-pay/">https://www.aauw.org/article/a-victory-for-equal-pay/</a>)



African American women in New York State are TWELVE times more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This horrible statistic has no correlation with comparative education or socio- economic status.

If you'd like to learn more, check out brand new documentary video, "Death by Delivery".

## Town Talk.



### Please Join Us As We Celebrate

VCS Services in Spanish
Thursday, April 18, 2019, 6pm
Casa Mia Manor House
Blauvelt, NY

Cocktail Hour & Dinner Complimentary Beer and Wine - Cash Bar

\$65 per person
DJ Barry Ruzzi





# The Rockland Community Foundation

We Are Pleased to Announce Our 2019 Gala Keynote Speaker

> New York State Honorable Regent Judith Johnson

JOIN US as we shine a spotlight on Rockland Community Foundation's education initiatives, and help us celebrate all those who are working to empower education in our community.

> Thursday, March 28, 2019 5:30pm Hudson Water Club



#### **Register Now**

## There are two Undoing Racism Workshops scheduled in Rockland

March 15 - 17, 2019 March 18 - 20, 2019
Fri evening - Sun afternoon Wed afternoon
Nyack Public Schools Stony Point

Conference Center
Central Administration Building



#### **Working Together for Racial Justice**

You are invited to attend January Meetings. The monthly meetings are especially for graduates of the Undoing Racism Workshop. However, those who have not yet taken it, are also invited. The goal is to have discussion which is facilitated in a manner that is consistent with the tenets of the Undoing Racism Workshop.

Daytime Meetings: 9am - 10:30am on the 2nd Wednesday every month Location: Nyack Center, 58 Depew Ave,

Nyack Meeting: March 13

Evening Meeting: 6:30pm - 8pm on various Mondays Location: Nyack Library, 59 South Broadway, Nyack

(Community Room)
Meeting: March 11



NYACK NAACP Membership Renewal and Recruitment Dinner
Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 6:00 PM
Pearl River Hilton | 500 Veterans Memorial Drive | Pearl River, NY 10965

For reservations, contact Voncile Oliver (845) 268-6626 or Maria Whittingham (845) 664-8492 AAUW- Rockland's Own Deborah
Barnes is an Honoree at this event!!!
CONGRATULATIONS, DEBORAH!!

Ticket Price \$85.00 includes a one- year membership in the NAACP.



AAUW- Rockland's Own Doria E. Hillsman is an Honoree at this event!!! CONGRATULATIONS, DORIA!!!!

Ticket Price \$99.00 and may be purchased at:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-martin-luther-king-multi-purpose-centers-2019-annual-awards-benefit-galatickets-57537098009

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

https://www.aauw.org/article/a-victory-for-equal-pay/

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

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through economic barriers, so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

AAUW Rockland County Branch
PO Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994-0019

<u>aauwrockland62@gmail.com</u> http://rocklandcounty-ny.aauw.net *educational* 

There was a recent proposal to replace Andrew Jackson with an image of Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill. Plans have been rolled back, but it is interesting to note that women have been on currency throughout history!!! The first woman depicted on currency was Arsinoe II, a Ptolemaic queen of Eqypt, who appeared on a coin in the third century B.C., says Ellen Feingold, curator of the National Numismatic Collection. Others have included Queen Elizabeth I of England in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Indira Gandhi in the 1980's, Maria Montessori in the 1990's and Eva Peron and Marie Curie in this decade. Women have been far less commonly depicted on U.S. currency. The full roster: Pocahontas and Martha Washington appeared on bills in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; Susan B. Anthony and Sacagawea appeared on dollar coins beginning in 1979 and 2000, respectively and Helen Keller appeared on a quarter issued in 2003. "

– Smithsonian Magazine, contributed by Sylvia Miller