

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

FACETS

February 2020

President:

Suzanne Young-Mercer smymaauw@gmail.com

Editor in Chief:

Doria E. Hillsman dehillsman@earthlink.net

Sunday, February 23, 2020

Black History Month Event 1-3 PM **
AAUW-Rockland Member Betty Vallone's Book Signing
Rockland Historical Society

Monday, March 16, 2020

AAUW Rockland Albany Lobby Day 10 AM – 1 PM
LOB Albany, NY

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

Board Meeting*
Conference Call
(515) 606-5692 | Access code: 913415

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Women's History Month Celebration 2-4 PM
Valley Cottage Library

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

Branch Business Meeting 7:00 PM
Location TBD

April 24-26, 2020

NYS- AAUW State Convention
Fairport, NY (Registration now open)

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Board Meeting*
Home of Karen Martin

May 2020

Woman of Achievement Award Dinner

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Board Meeting*
Home of Charlotte Sorger

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Branch Business Meeting 7:00 PM
Location TBD

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Board Meeting*
Home of Doria Hillsman

** This event is in lieu of our annual Diversity Brunch.

*All are Welcome

President's Message

February is African -American History Month and as a member of AAUW, President of the Rockland Branch, and Chair of Diversity for NYS AAUW, the words of our mission, ***"In principle and practice, AAUW-NYS values and seeks an inclusive 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"***, are very important to me.

For 20 years the Rockland Branch has celebrated this month by hosting a Diversity Brunch. Unfortunately, this year we were unable to secure a venue for this event and as a result, we will not be hosting an event this year. We will double our efforts to resume this very important event next year. In lieu of the Diversity Brunch this year, I have a suggestion for your consideration. There are two movies that have recently premiered: *Harriet* (a movie about Harriet Tubman) and *Just Mercy* (a movie about Bryan Stevenson, Esq., and the Equal Justice Initiative). These two critically acclaimed movies provide distinct insights into the African American experience. I encourage you to see at least one of these two movies, if you have not already done so. I also encourage you to come out to support our own Betty Vallone who is hosting a launch for her recent publication *"Just Call Me Lucky"*, a biography of Hezekiah Easter, the first African American Legislator in Rockland County. Perhaps your savings from the Diversity Brunch ticket can be put toward supporting this important literary conservation of Rockland County history.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote and it is also the 100th anniversary of AAUW-NYS. In recognition of these momentous occasions the AAUW-NYS convention which will be held April 24-26, 2020, in Rochester, NY will be hosting a gala event celebrating all that women have achieved during these past 100 years. I ask you to mark your calendars and make an effort to attend the convention. Whether or not you are able to attend the Convention, I am asking that you consider purchasing the lapel pin specifically designed for this occasion. See details inside about purchasing the pin. As an incentive for purchasing the pin, we will provide a \$20.00 discount for five (5) members of AAUW Rockland who request it. Contact me via email smymaauw@gmail.com to enter the drawing for the discount. The deadline to enter the drawing is Friday, February 21, 2020. Winners will be contacted by Wednesday, February 26, 2020. If you have already purchased a pin, you may enter for a \$20.00 reimbursement.

I hope that you will make every effort to learn something new about the history of African Americans this month, whether you go to see a movie, a play or purchase Betty's book. Thank you.

Suzanne Young-Mercer

The AAUW- Rockland Book Club meets on the 2nd Monday of each month
New City Library at 2:30 PM.

Contact Fran Carlson for more details.

February 10th – “Where the Crawdads Sing”, by Delia Owens

March 9th - “Straight Man”, by Richard Russo



“Mrs. Vallone’s overdue biography accomplishes much more than just telling the story of Hezekiah Easter, the first African-American county legislator and politician. She takes you on a journey into the subject’s mind and heart” – John Allen Murphy

MEET THE AUTHOR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd 1-3 PM

ROCKLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

20 Zukor Road | New City, NY

Betty will be interviewed about the book on Monday,
February 17th at 9:30 a.m. on WRCW 1250 AM.



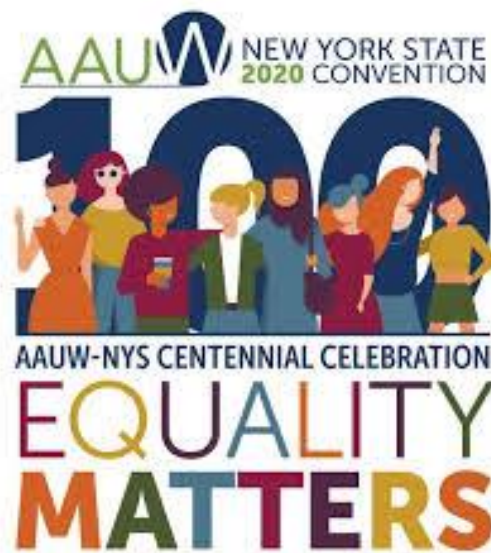
The League of Women Voters is also celebrating their
centennial this year. AAUW Rockland wishes them a



**DON'T FORGET YOUR AAUW
ROCKLAND BRANCH DUES!
Prospective Members...
THIS IS YOUR YEAR!!!!**

Join AAUW Rockland County Branch
Mail check to:
AAUW Membership, PO Box 19,
West Nyack, NY 10994

Thank you for your continued support!
Sandy Blasy



Registration is now open!
April 24-26, 2020
Rochester, NY Area

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING.

FROM CORRESPONDING 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

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

MEMBERSHIP: Membership Committee Meeting on Tuesday, February 11 at 12:30 p.m. at Sylvia Miller’s home, 98 Foxwood Road, West Nyack, NY 10994. All interested members are invited to join us. Call Sylvia at 845 358-1680 for details. If you would like to renew or become a member go to <https://rocklandcounty-ny.aauw.net/membership/> and print out a membership form. Complete and mail it with your **check of \$85.00** to AAUW Rockland Branch | PO Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994 – 0019.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Nominating Committee needs everybody’s help in finding committed women to fill these vacancies.

- Alternate Co-President (Suzanne has taken on a 5th year because there was no Alternate). REALLY IMPORTANT!
- Membership Vice President (Ellie is unable to take on her 2nd term)
- Recording Secretary (April is finishing her 2nd Term)

We will start our conference calls for the following offices this month. We must be finished in March in order to report nominations for the Annual Business Meeting in April. I will email info for dates, times, phone, and access codes of conference calls. Committee members are: Sandra Countee, Deborah Barnes, Kathleen Sullivan, and Phyllis Morena. Thanks to everyone - Frances Blauvelt, Chair.

PUBLIC POLICY: New York Legislation: SexEd NY Coalition is working to put in place a NY State requirement for all NY kids in grades K -12 to take sexual education course. We insist that the curriculum must be comprehensive, accurate, science-based. The current legislation that has our support is A6512/ S4844 **Federal Legislation: ERA:** VA just passed the Equal Rights Amendment making it the 38th and final state to ratify the ERA. The ERA is the only constitutional amendment to have a date for ratification. This is a situation which has never before or since been proposed, which is the reason for possible court action. The fight now moves to congress and the courts to ensure the ERA is added to the Constitution. **Title X:** Family Planning Services are provided through Title X. These federal funds are provided directly to service providers. The services include: contraception, sexually transmitted infections (STI’s) treatment, preventative services (screening for breast and cervical cancer), pregnancy testing and counseling, and education programs. The Supreme Court has accepted an abortion case since Brett Kavanaugh and Neil Gorsuch joined the Supreme Court. The case, June Medical Services v. GEE is a “TRAP” (target regulation of abortion provider) This case could overturn Roe v Wade. Until next month – Ann Mulligan

WHAT'S HAPPENING.

CONT'D

WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT: At the January Executive Board Meeting, Deborah Thomas was selected to be our 2020 Woman of Achievement. Deborah was nominated by our past president Joyce Brown and Deborah Thomas was chosen as she has greatly contributed her time, talent, and support to the youth of Rockland County. More information about our Annual Dinner to be held in May will be forthcoming.

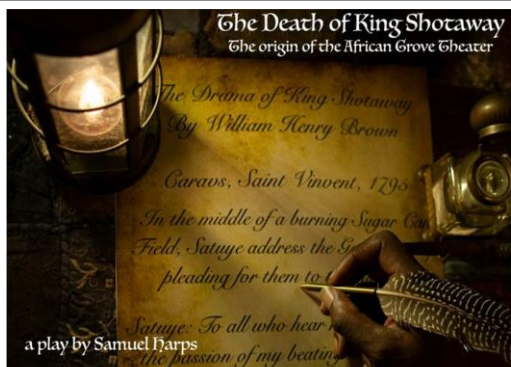
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH: Our March branch meeting on Saturday, March 28th, 2020 at 2:00PM at the Valley Cottage Library will feature a panel on "Women in Government". The panel is composed of local, state, and federal women officials. The panelists are: Rockland County Legislator Harriet Cornell, Rockland County Human Rights Commissioner Constance Frazier, Clarkstown Candidate for Town Justice Court Lorraine Feiden, Orangetown Supervisor Teresa Kenny, State Assemblywoman Ellen Jaffee, and Congresswoman Nita Lowey. Save this date and be sure to attend this exciting meeting.

**Town
Talk.**



WAR NO MORE Committee on Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) **FRIDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2020**

Honoring the 75th anniversary of the United Nations *Details for the conference, including program, special hotel rates for out-of-town conference participants, registration, and other information can be found on the Website: www.teachun.org*



Based on the true story of the first black theater company established in New York in 1821, and the first to perform Othello with a Negro actor.

with
Reich Bulluck-Dimitri Cambronne-Phil Gist-John DeBlasio
Drusilla Kinzoni-Barbara Cepeda-Bruce Pearl-Anne Pearl
Richard Groiano-Salem Ghaxton-Heather Roland-Blanco
Rick Levi-Richard Clark and Patrick Birmingham

Assistant Director-L'Ganya Watkins - Stage Manager (Marguerite Louissaint)
Light Design/Technical Director - Wayne Bissinger

Feb. 20-21-22-8p

Ramapo Cultural Arts Center
64 N. Main St.
Spring Valley, N.J.

\$20Adv. - \$25 Box Office
online tickets

www.shadesrep-gordonbca.org-eventcombo.com
845.675.8044-845.533.2660

Sponsored by the Gordon Center for Black Culture and Arts

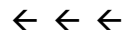
Additional Support from The African-American Historical Society of Rockland County.

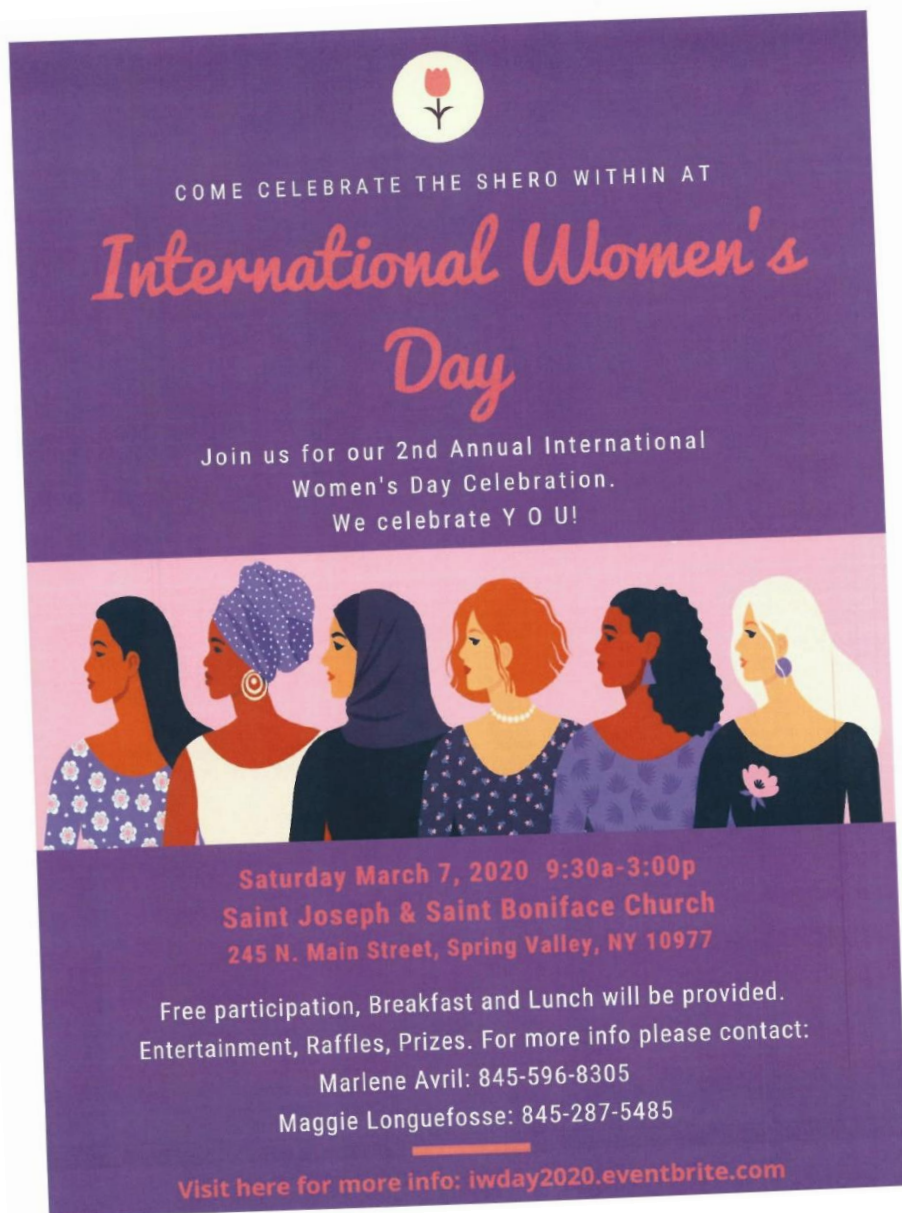
With special permission from
The Town of Ramapo

African American History Month **"The Death of King Shotaway"**

An original play by Rockland playwright, Samuel Harps at the Ramapo Cultural Arts Center.

This family friendly play is a
"Must See" event.





river town film
DOCUMENTARY | FOREIGN | INDEPENDENT

Upcoming Films



AMAZING GRACE

Showing: Wednesday, February 12
– 8:00 PM -- [Nyack Center](#)
Genre: [Documentary](#), [Music](#)
Director: [Alan Elliott](#), [Sydney Pollack](#)
With: [Aretha Franklin](#)
[View Trailer](#)
[Purchase Tickets Now](#)

A 1972 concert recording of Aretha Franklin's best and biggest-selling gospel album, shot at the New Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Watts. Featuring astounding footage of Franklin at her midtiest



THE CONTEST (announced on January 7th) ENDED ON JANUARY 28th BUT YOU CAN VOTE FOR THE WINNER UNTIL FEBRUARY 10th <https://www.aauw.org/contests/>



AAUW- Rockland will be going to Albany on MARCH 16, 2020 to lobby with Ellen Jaffee, David Carlucci, James Skoufis, and Ken Zebrowski, regarding the political concerns of AAUW on both the local and national levels.

All attendees will be briefed on what these concerns are and will be given a “Calling Card” outlining our positions to leave with each of our elected officials.
Interested in coming? Carpooling will be available.

All Are Welcome!

Call Doria Hillsman at (845) 598-8520 for more information



STAY in touch with AAUW-NYS

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aauwnewyork>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/aauwnewyork>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/aauwnewyork>

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

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 and educational barriers, so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

AAUW Rockland County Branch
PO Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994-0019
aauwrockland62@gmail.com
<http://rocklandcounty-ny.aauw.net>