



ROCKLAND COUNTY (NY) BRANCH

FACETS

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

MAY 2021



Suzanne Young-Mercer,
President

smymaauw@gmail.com

Doria E. Hillsman,
Programming Vice-President
Editor

Elda Graff,
Membership Vice-President

Sandra Blasy,
Treasurer

April Biggs,
Recording Secretary

Anita Nessin,
Corresponding Secretary

Sylvia Miller,
Communications

President's Message

Happy Month of May. As I write this message, I am sitting on my back deck enjoying a beautiful spring day. As trees are coming back to life with all their blossoms, I am realizing that for many of us, the beginning of the season is fraught with runny noses and itchy watery eyes. As my aunt used to say, "this too shall pass."

I want to thank all members who voted for the new and old members of our board. Doria Hillsman will continue as VP of Programming and Sandra Blasy will continue as our Treasurer. Additionally, we are fortunate to welcome a new member, Kimberly Weston, who will be our new corresponding secretary. We thank you all for your commitment to serve and to advance the mission of AAUW.

Unfortunately, we were unable to fill the office of President, so we are handling this position as a coalition of three individuals - Frances Blauvelt, Karen Martin and Anita Nessin -who will take on different aspects of the president's responsibilities. I will serve as a mentor to help in keeping us on mission and focused on the work of the Branch.

If you have not voted in the national election, there is still time as voting will conclude on May 17, 2021 @5pm. And, if you are able, please join a zoom meeting on Advancing Gender Equity on May 4, 2021 sponsored by the Empire State AAUW branch. (Link will be provided in the newsletter).

As the world begins to open up again, there is still much that we must do to ensure equity for all. In the words of Laurel Thatcher Ulrich "**Well behaved women rarely make history**". Let us continue to make history.

Best regards,

Suzanne Young-Mercer



**Would you like to join AAUW
Rockland?**

**Check out our [website](#) or
Contact Elda Graff at
eldagraff@gmail.com**



Tuesday, May 18

Branch Meeting 7:00 PM

Tuesday, May 25

Board Meeting – 7:00 PM

June 15, 2021

June Branch Meeting – 7:00 PM

June 22, 2021

Board Meeting – 7:00 PM

**All members are welcome to attend board meetings. Call (845) 598-8520 for join information.*

The AAUW – Rockland Book Club
will meet at the home of Fran
Carlson (outdoors) on the
3rd Monday of each month as
long as weather permits from
2:30 - 4:00 P.M

**May 10, 2021 “ The Sun Does
Shine” by, A.R. Hinton*

**Contact Fran Carlson for more
information (845) 634-9648*



AAUW NATIONAL ELECTIONS

- **National Board Members**
- **By Laws Amendment**
- **Public Policy Priorities**

***Voting closes at 5:00 pm ET on
Monday, May 17, 2021.***

WHAT'S HAPPENING.

FROM CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, KIMBERLY WESTON: 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.

kimberlyweston@msn.com

COMMUNICATIONS: The addendum to the 2020-21 was sent last month which gives contact information for all of our local, state and national elected officials. If you have not received it please contact Sylvia Miller aauwsam@optonline.net

TREASURER, SANDY BLASY: If you would like to make a donation to National, individual donations can be made directly online <https://www.aauw.org/> or by sending your check directly marking your donation with their new fund name of 'Education and Training' fund. Mail to: AAUW Development, P.O. Box 98045 Washington, D.C. 20090-8045

MIMI KORB SCHOLARSHIP: Contributions to the Mimi Korb Scholarship (tax- deductible) can be made to honor any one, 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: AAUW Rockland| P.O. Box 19| West Nyack, NY 10994-0019

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND : Check out the latest court cases that AAUW publicly and financially supports <https://www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/> or contact LAF Chair, Charlotte Sorger

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Congratulations to our newly elected (and re-elected) board members:

Vice President of Programming – Doria Hillsman

Corresponding Secretary – Kimberly Weston

Treasurer – Sandra Blasy

Nominating Chairperson, Frances Riley Blauvelt

PUBLIC POLICY: If you are interested or curious about AAUW Public Policy issues, please drop me an email. You will be added to the AAUW Public Policy Mailing List and can expect to receive periodic messages on the latest legislation developments in Washington and in Albany. Please drop me an e-mail to get started today. AMulligan125@gmail.com

***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 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>

JOIN US FOR OUR MAY BRANCH MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM

[Click HERE to Join Meeting](#) Or DIAL- IN 646. 876. 9923

Meeting ID: 811 7309 2738 Passcode: 218216



AAUW Rockland May Branch Meeting

Join us for an evening of
Money Matter\$ and Financial Empowerment
As we discuss the fascinating field of

FEMINOMICS

Our special guest

Lisa Kaess,

VP MLK Center and Feminomics Consultant

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM



Nuff Said™



Join the AAUW Empire State NYC Branch on Tuesday, May 4th at 5:30 pm to hear Jacqueline Ebanks, Executive Director, Commission on Gender Equity, Office of the Mayor, The City of New York.

Jacqueline will share how the Commission on Gender Equity worked on multiple fronts to achieve gender equity for all New Yorkers within and across its three focus areas: Economic Mobility and Opportunity; Health & Reproductive Justice; and safety --as laid out in its 2018-2021 Strategic Plan. This is a complimentary zoom meeting, and you can join us by clicking on the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7457199346?pwd=VXI4YURMSmdsSXpxRHdia0Nwa01FUT09>

Meeting ID: 745 719 9346 Passcode: AAUW Dial 646 558 8656 US (New York)

ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021 at 7:00 PM

GET THE FACTS ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER



**WEDNESDAY MAY 5
MEETING THE CHALLENGE FOR
ROCKLAND'S DRINKING WATER**

Chemicals used in everyday tasks, found in everyday items, and detected in drinking water across Rockland County, now exceed newly established state contamination limits. There is evidence that exposure to these chemicals can lead to adverse human health effects.

Learn more about PFOAs and PFOSs - what they are, where they are found and used, and how to protect your family's health. Listen to a range of speakers dealing daily with these issues.

Last August, New York State passed its first maximum contaminant level (mcl) of 10 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS - two substances in a class of thousands of persistent chemicals in the environment and in living organisms. Before that, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had established health advisory levels of 70 parts per trillion (ppt).

TO LEARN MORE AND HAVE YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED,

The Rockland Task Force on Water Resources Management, created by County Government in 2014 as a government-community organization, has assembled a panel of experts who will speak about this class of contaminants, actions being taken, and answer your questions.* ➡

Livestreamed For All To View
7 P.M. Wednesday, May 5

SPEAKING:

New York State Department of Health; Rockland County Department of Health; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; SUEZ Water; Environmental Advocates of NY; Riverkeeper; Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory/Columbia University

Livestreaming of this important event will be viewable on the Rockland County Legislature's YouTube channel.

You do not have to subscribe to the channel to view the program.

Go here at 7 p.m. on May 5:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwVjg9cKxD3DOihXyLRnorw>

***To submit questions in advance, please email them by May 3 to: cornellh@co.rockland.ny.us, with the subject line: DRINKING WATER.**

[CLICK HERE TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT MEETING](#)