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Elda Graff

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April Biggs

Corresponding Secretary,
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Sylvia Miller

President's Message

Welcome to Black History Month! As we continue into the new year, it is time to check that date of 2022. I've noticed that I remember to write the new year in January, but in February the brain starts writing the old year! Interestingly, Eddie Glaude, a professor at Princeton University, spoke my feelings about the world in 2022. When asked if he had "hope" or "optimism" for the year ahead, he said, "I have a bluesy soaked hope." Whatever your outlook for the future, we can all look optimistically forward to some wonderful events in AAUW Rockland in the coming months.

On Saturday, February 26, we will have our 22nd Annual Diversity Brunch (via ZOOM). Suzanne Young-Mercer will introduce Roger Glass, who will present the historical influences that his African-American grandmother and aunt played in the Women's Movement in Rockland County. **On Saturday, March 26**, in our celebration of Women's History Month, Myrna Silberman will introduce a virtual five-woman panel on "Women in Educational Leadership". Be sure to circle those dates!

Thanks to all of you who contributed to our fund-raiser to ETF (Education and Training Fund) and Greatest Need in December. In January the MLK Multi-Purpose Center presented a wonderful program in honor of MLK Day. Many of our members contributed to the Martin Luther King Jr. Multi-Purpose Center in recognition of the work it does to help many of the under-served children in our community.

Karen Martin, State VP of Membership, reminds us that we should work on the FIVE STAR PROGRAM, a National AAUW program of goals for individual branches. Anyone interested in more information and/or helping with this committee should contact Karen. The five goals include: Advancement, Public Policy, Governance, Programs, and Communications. We as a branch are high achievers in so many ways, but we need to document our achievements and get credit for them! The deadline for applying for the award is June 30, 2022. In the meantime, don't forget that the Nominating Committee needs suggestions on whom to nominate for President, Co-President, and Recording Secretary. The elections are in April so there's no time to lose!!!

Working together,

Frances Blauvelt

Would you like to join AAUW Rockland?

Check out our [website](#) or

Contact Elda Graff at eldagraff@gmail.com



N.B. Unless otherwise indicated, all events will be held virtually via Zoom.

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.*

Saturday, February 26, 2022

**Diversity Brunch (Virtual) 11:00 a.m.
Special Guest – Roger Glass**

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.*

Saturday, March 26, 2022

**Women's History Month Celebration
Women in Education Administration**

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Business/ Budget Meeting

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

WOA Award Dinner

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Scholarship Presentations – 7:00 p.m.

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



The AAUW – Rockland Book Club will meet at the New City Public Library from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Contact Betty Handelman for more info.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

February 14, 2022 “Beneath a Scarlet Sky”, by Mark Sullivan

March 14, 2022 “The Red Lotus”, by Chris Bohjalian

REGISTER NOW FOR OUR (virtual) 22nd ANNUAL DIVERSITY BRUNCH



AAUW ROCKLAND COUNTY BRANCH
(Virtual) 22nd Annual Diversity Brunch

African American Women In the Movement



Roger Glass, Family Historian and Lecturer

A Family’s Legacy of Women’s Rights Activists

New Yorkers Addie Jackson and her daughter Beatrice Jackson joined other Black women in New York State, in the early 1900’s in leading the fight for equal rights for African Americans and voting rights for all women.

Join us to hear Family Historian and Lecturer, Roger Glass’s account of his ancestral discoveries!

Saturday, February 26, 2022

11:00am – 12:30pm

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED –
For further information call (845) 406-5156

YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS EVENT!!!

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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 **2021-2022 DIRECTORY** is now available and has been mailed. If you would also like to have it emailed to you, please let me know. Sylvia Miller at aauwsam@optonline.net. **Directory update:** Congressman Mondaire Jones now has an office in Rockland. Please add this information to the last page of your directory – “Keep in touch with your Government Officials” Mondaire Jones New City Office – 20 S. Main Street, New City, NY 10956 Phone (845)826-8090

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. *Please note: If you are so inclined, contributions to the Mimi Korb Scholarship may be sent in honor of our recently departed member, Sondra Gordon.* 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: It's that time of year again to nominate the following officers for two-year terms, 2022-2024. Maureen Brown will be the chairperson for the committee this year, so all communications should be directed to her email address, mbrownsss74@gmail.com or the committee members, Ellie Grossman, Suzanne Young-Mercer, and Sandy Masiello. Offices which will be open for nominations are:

President- The Triad's "term" is over as of July 1, 2022. We need someone to take this position. (A new "team" of presidents is another possibility)

Vice-President of Membership- We hope Elda Graff will continue to serve her second term.

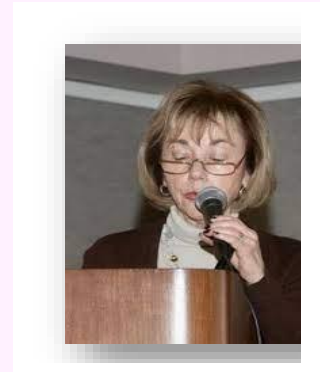
Recording Secretary- April Biggs has finished her third term (six years), and we need someone else to fill that position. Please think about joining the board, helping us to continue our great work

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
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This month's Member Spotlight is on...

Myrna Silberman

Myrna, a native New Yorker, taught elementary school in Flushing New York after graduating with a B.A. and M.S. from Queens College. She became active in AAUW largely through the influence of recently departed member, Inez Brisfjord. Sadly, Inez passed last year. She was 100 years old. Inez came upon AAUW's curriculum 1983 and 1984 curriculum guides for 4th and 5th graders on biographies of women who made contributions to our country such as Elizabeth Blackwell and Shirley Chisholm. Inez invited Myrna to join her committee after learning that she was one of the authors of these guides. The 1984 guide was given to 4th grade teachers in the county and focused on Rockland women such as Arlene Clinkscale and Dr. Virginia Davies. Myrna was one of the women who initiated the two projects, writing biographies of the women which were accompanied by lesson plans for distribution directly to classroom teachers. In writing the 1984 guide, she was able to include information gained by an interview with Isabelle Savell, author of the book *"Ladies Lib: How Rockland Women got the Right to Vote"*.

Myrna served as one of the original tutors in Joyce Brown's STEM coaching program at Summit Park School in the East Ramapo Central School District where she used her teaching skills to help the students at the school and became familiarized with the math curriculum and with new techniques that were developed since her retirement. Myrna taught in this program until the COVID-19 lockdown.

Myrna has always had a deep concern for environmental issues and was involved in the Nuclear Freeze Campaign back in the 70's and 80's. She always encouraged her students, family, and friends to see the importance of how our activities impact our climate and influence global warming. She hopes to continue to make a positive impact on people's lives.

The TRIAD would like all members to write a brief article about themselves for our new "Spotlight" byline so that we can get to know each other better. Please include something that you'd like everyone to know... It can be as long or as short as you like. Please include a photo as well... Send your article to Anita Nessin at triad.aauw@gmail.com

Black History Month Celebration

“Representing Ourselves: A Survey of Black Americans in Visual Arts”



SPRING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Karen J. Pinel, Principal

Black History Month Celebration
*“Representing Ourselves...
A Survey of Black Americans in Visual Arts...”*
Special Guest: Curator, Art Historian and Writer,
Jonette O’Kelley Miller

Thursday, February 24, 2022
at 7:00 pm
via ZOOM

[Join Meeting Here](#) (or Dial- In 929.205.6099)
Meeting ID: 948 2228 6942 Passcode: 891702

The poster features several images: a painting of people at a table, a portrait of a woman, a bust of a woman, a circular portrait of a woman, a portrait of a man, and a photograph of a group of people.



On February 1, 2022, AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell issued a statement in response to the announced retirement of Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer. Here is an excerpt...

“As U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer moves toward retirement, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) wishes to express our deep gratitude for his 28 years of service on the nation’s highest court ... Looking ahead, President Biden is poised to make history with an action that is decades overdue. The president’s commitment to nominating the first Black woman to the U.S. Supreme Court will create a far more inclusive court. President Biden has a deep and exemplary pool of highly qualified candidates from whom to choose, and it is our hope that the next Supreme Court justice will move us even further along in safeguarding the rights of women and girls and in advancing the policy priorities that AAUW espouses”. For the complete statement see: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/press-releases/statement-on-retirement-of-supreme-court-justice-stephen-breyer/>



AARP Rockland Meeting Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via ZOOM.
Topic: Your Heart – speaker from the American Heart Assoc. to discuss risk factors, heart nutrition and myths. For information go to <https://www.technologytoday.us/AARP>





A belated welcome to new member **Tanya England** who joined AAUW Rockland in November 2021. Tanya lives in Pomona, graduated from Long Island University with Masters in Science (2004) and Education (2008). She achieved her PhD in 2021 from Concordia University. Congratulations Tanya and again, welcome to AAUW Rockland.



Congratulations to **Doria E. Hillsman** who is being honored in a ceremony celebrating Black History Month by the Rockland County Legislature on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022 from 6:30 – 7:00 pm** in the Legislature’s Chambers located at **11 New Hempstead Road in New City, NY.**

AAUW – Rockland’s ALBANY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



Meeting (via ZOOM) on Tuesday, February 15th at 7:00 PM to discuss our legislative priorities and how we are going to approach our elected officials this year in advance of the NY State Budget decisions. Please familiarize yourself with AAUW national issues <https://www.aauw.org/issues/> in advance, and come prepared to discuss local concerns.

Contact Doria at (845) 598-8520 if you plan to attend and to receive join information.
ALL are welcome... YOUR input is needed.



AAUW Rockland mourns the passing of beloved member and friend, **Sondra Gordon**. Sondra Gordon who has been an AAUW Rockland member for the past eight years was also a long- time coach at Summit Park Elementary School as part of our STEM program there. We recently congratulated Sandy on her Elmwood Playhouse “Lifetime Achievement Award” which she received in October, 2021.

She was an extraordinary woman with talents in numerous fields who had an exceptional connection with all children. Sondra died on December 25, 2021. Our sincere condolences are extended to her husband and family.

Contributions in honor of Sondra Gordon may be made to the Mimi Korb Scholarship Fund. Mail to:
AAUW Rockland County Branch
PO Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994-0019