



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

**MARCH 2022** 

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



Co- Presidents

Frances Blauvelt
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FACETS Editor
Programming Vice-President,
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Membership Vice-President Elda Graff

Treasurer,
Sandra Blasy

Recording Secretary,

**April Biggs** 

Corresponding Secretary, Kimberly Weston

Communications Chair,
Sylvia Miller

### President's Message

This is the time of the year we look forward to change. The weather changes and we get a spring in our step. Time changes and we look forward to longer hours of daylight. March is the month designated to celebrate women in our history.

This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shirley Chisholm, the first African American Congress woman from NYS becoming the first African American woman candidate for a major (Democratic) party to be nominated for the office of President of the United States. We have just completed a successful Diversity Brunch, shared with folks from all over NY State. Roger Glass shared an eyehole glimpse into the history of his African American female family members and their place in the early suffrage movement in the Lower Hudson Valley. Who knew Black women were so essential?

Looking forward to our branch activity, on **Saturday, March 26, at 3 p.m.**, Myrna Silberman, the committee chair, hosts a panel discussion on Women in Education Administration for our times. Further details are inside. Conversation about the 5 Star Plan has been exciting. At this time, our Branch has earned several STARS which are available for all to see on the <a href="https://www.AAUW.org">www.AAUW.org</a> website. Those interested in this engaging work, which we have named **5 Star Advisory Board**, please come to our next meeting **March 15**th, **7p.m. zoom**.

As I sit here at my desk, I am looking at blue skies and white puffy clouds. My snow drops and crocus are peaking out and up an inch. You too will soon feel the new season's energy. As we continue to meet on Zoom, please continue to take safety precautions when leaving your homes and gathering with people. Shalom,

Karen

### Would you like to join AAUW Rockland?

### Check out our <u>website</u> or Contact Elda Graff at eldagraff@gmail.com

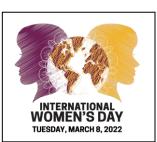




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N.B. Unless otherwise indicated, all events will be held virtually via Zoom.

Tuesday, March 8, 2022	Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.*  International Women's Day!!!
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	<b>Business/ Budget Meeting</b>
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.



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



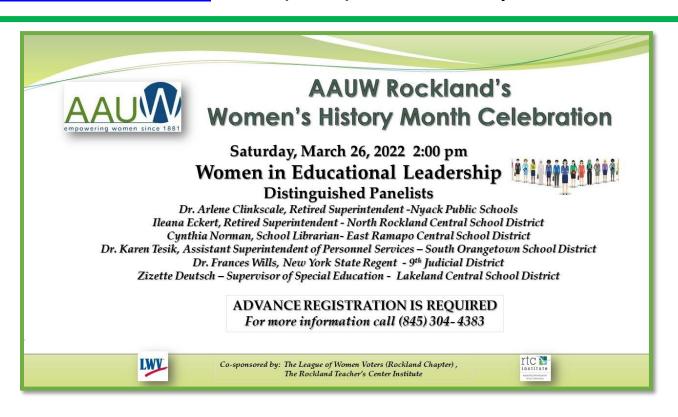
The AAUW – Rockland Book Club will meet at the New City Public Library from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Contact Betty Handelman for more info.** 

#### **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

March 14, 2022 "The Red Lotus", by Chris Bohjalian April 11, 2022 "The Absolutist', by John Boyne

#### **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER** for our (virtual) Women's History Month Celebration





**Marva Hawkins**, a returning member who lives in Tompkins Cove, achieved her BA from Hofstra University and her MS from Columbia University.

**Gail Wanger** lives in Nanuet. She graduated from SUNY Albany with a BA in Political Science & History, and earned her MPA (Master of Public Administration – concentration in Education Planning) from Pennsylvania State University. **Alice (Alie) Schulman/Winokur,** a New City resident, received her BA from Queens College, her MS from the University of Albany and music courses from RCC.

We look forward to meeting these new and returning members at our upcoming New Member Meeting in March.



**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. <a href="mailto:kimberlyweston@msn.com">kimberlyweston@msn.com</a>

**COMMUNICATIONS:** You will soon be receiving via email an **ADDENDUM for the DIRECTORY** including the information about our 3 new members and additional corrections. Be sure to include the information with your Directory when it arrives.

**TREASURER, SANDY BLASY:** If you would like to make a donation to National, individual donations can be made directly online <a href="https://www.aauw.org/">https://www.aauw.org/</a> 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 <a href="https://www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/">https://www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/</a> or contact LAF Chair, Charlotte Sorger

#### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

THIS YEAR'S SLATE FOR THE APRIL 26th MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS...

**President-OPEN** 

We need someone to take this position by July1, 2022. (A new "team" of presidents is another possibility)

Vice-President of Membership- Elda Graff

**Recording Secretary-** Ann Kinney

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**: March is Women's History month. Every March we celebrate the contributions of women past and present. In the past, we honored the contributions of women in medicine, women in technology and women in government, just to name a few. This year we are spotlighting **women in educational leadership.** There will be a panel of local women including a regent, former superintendents, supervisors, principals and a teacher. This event will be on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. It should be an informative and lively discussion. We are looking forward to seeing you all!



**MEET Lauren Rodgers!** She is a second-year student at Rockland Community College and will be providing a by-line on women's issues for FACETS for the next few months. While at RCC, she discovered her love of writing and is now pursuing a career in journalism. She sees this opportunity to write for AAUW Rockland as a great experience and also a great way to practice writing. She comes to us through the efforts of our College/ University Committee Chair, Patricia Lopez, as we seek to develop meaningful collaborations with area colleges and universities.

WELCOME LAUREN!



# This month's Member Spotlight is on... Sondra "Sandy" Gordon



Sondra (Sandy) passed away peacefully at her home in New City, NY. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt as well as an incredible friend to all who knew her. Born in Brooklyn, Sandy was a retired special ed teacher and more recently a tutor of elementary education students, her love for kids knew no bounds. For over 30 years Sandy was involved with the Elmwood Theater in Nyack, NY as an actor and producer, and was recently awarded a "lifetime achievement" award for her years of service. Family was the center of her universe, and she is survived her husband Neil (61 years), her three children Michelle (Frank), Eric (Heidi), and Sharon as well as her grandchildren Stephen, Andrew, Jordan, Grace, Kyra, Phinn, and her brother Steve (Cynde). She was a member of AAUW Rockland for seven (7) years and remained a member until her death on Christmas Day, 2021.

"Sondra and I always had conversations regarding the teaching of mathematics when we were tutors at Summit Park. Her students very much enjoyed working with her." S. Blasey

"Sandy produced a play that I was in several years ago. What a sweetie – who knew how to get the job done! I'm glad that she got to 'smell her flowers' before she passed in the timely tribute she received from Elmwood." D.E. Hillsman

"So sorry to hear the news. Over so many years attending Elmwood, I have been one of the audience who benefitted from her endeavors." S. Miller

"So sorry to hear. I knew her from Summit Park also. What a dynamic, feisty and talented woman she was." M. Silberman

"Sandy Gordon and I shared a room one year when we were coaching at Summit Park Elementary. She was a dedicated teacher and the children truly benefitted from her hard work. She will be missed." S. Masiello

Won't you share a brief article about yourself for our new "Spotlight" byline so that we can get to know you 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

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

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



Doria Hillsman. Karen Martin, Sylvia Miller and Maureen Brown

AAUW-Rockland Members attend the Rockland County Legislature's Black History Month Celebration on February 16, 2022.

AAUW Member, Doria E. Hillsman was honored for her service to the Rockland Community



#### **WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**



# **AAUW MEMBERS**

MAKE HER ~ STORY!!!!



REP. Jeanette Rankin – First Woman Elected to Congress



REP. Shirley Chisolm – First Black Woman Elected to Congress. First woman to run for president in a



REP. Patsy Mink –
Co- author of Title IX



REP. Edith Green – "Mother" of Title IX



Marie Curie First Woman to win the Nobel Prize



Chien Shiung Wu Physics Pioneer



Mae Jemison Medical Doctor, Engineer, Astronaut



Nancy Grace Roman First woman Chief NASA Engineer, "Mother" of the Hubble Telescope



Rachel Carson "Mother" of
Environmentalism



Margaret Mead Pioneering Anthropologist and Activist



Dorothy Walcot Weeks First Woman to earn a degree in mathematics at MIT



Helen Claudia Henry – Worked with Jonas Salk on the polio vaccine team



Jessica Marquez NASA Engineer



Virginia Gildersleeve Worked on FDR committee that created the United Nations (AAUW NATIONAL BOARD MEMBER)



Agnes Ernst Meyer

Journalist and owner of the Washington Post



Julia Montgomery Walsh First woman registered on the American Stock Exchange



Jane Addams
First woman to win
the Nobel Peace Prize



Lou Henry Hoover FLOTUS, First woman to receive a Geology degree from Stanford and Co- Founder of the Girl Scouts of America



Janet Reno
First woman US
Secretary of State



Wilma Mankiller First Native American woman Chief of Cherokee Nation

If you want to know more about these and other exceptional AAUW Members and award recipients, go to AAUW.org





# Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson makes history as the first Black woman nominated to the Supreme Court of the United States.

This nomination is a long-overdue step towards a Supreme Court that better reflects the country it serves. When judges and justices come from diverse backgrounds, their decisions and rulings are more likely to reflect a variety of outlooks and perspectives. What's more, public trust in our judiciary increases when people see jurists who look like them, understand their issues and care about their needs.

## AAUW <u>supports</u> Judge Jackson. Now the U.S. Senate must swiftly and unanimously confirm her.

Judge Jackson's nomination represents a historic milestone that will impact our nation for generations to come. She has stellar qualifications and a sound judicial temperament that has earned her broad, bipartisan support. Her confirmation would not only bring the first Black woman to the highest court in the land, but would also be the first time in the Supreme Court's 233-year history that four women are serving simultaneously, achieving near gender equity on the nine-person bench.

How you can help: Advocacy can take many forms, and we appreciate all the skills AAUW members and supporters bring to their activism. In that light, we have developed a range of options for you to <u>Make History: Confirm Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson!</u>

Born in Washington, D.C., and raised in Miami, Florida, Jackson attended Harvard University for college and law school, where she served as an editor on the Harvard Law Review. She began her legal career with three clerkships, including one with U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Stephen Breyer. Prior to her elevation to an appellate court, from 2013 to 2021, she served as a district judge for the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Jackson was also vice chair of the United States Sentencing Commission from 2010 to 2014. Since 2016, she has been a member of the Harvard Board of Overseers.