



FACETS



ROCKLAND COUNTY (NY) BRANCH

APRIL 2023

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

President's Message

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Karen Martin
aauw.kmartin@gmail.com

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Tip toeing thru the Tulips... Feel that fresh air! Get outdoors and try it! April marks the end of Winter with days of rain, daffodils, and watery, swollen eyes! You have to smile because even if you are not affected, someone you love, IS!

We are marking the 3-year anniversary of COVID-19 NYS as we consider the Spring of 2020. Think of the changes we have been through. Fortunately, our branch board adapted to the changing conditions that the pandemic has brought us while continuing to pursue our AAUW related interests. While not ideal, it broadened our outreach allowing folks from far away to join us and allowed us to attend meetings and events at a distance we would NOT have been able to travel to. The question is, **will there be Rockland branch AAUW, in person, on Zoom, or at all?** At the request of NYS President Griffith, we did not discuss disbanding. We are still hoping for a presidential person (s) to come forward. If this could be you, please reach out to Maureen Brown, head of our Nominating Committee.

This week, I led the "Great Decisions" group, attended by folks from all over the state and initiated by Maria Ellis, AAUW-NYS College/ Univ. chair. The topic was "Global Famine". Additionally, we discussed the implementation of western sanctions on Russia, which resulted in an increase in the number of food insecure people, particularly in Africa. Vice-President, Kamala Harris is in Africa visiting 3 countries for a week. Speaking of food insecurity, have you sent your donation re: TOUCH- NY, the Rockland agency Mr. Palmer spoke to us about in January, that has been meeting our needs here in the county? Please do!

Thank you, Lisa Kaess and Charlotte Sorger, for such delightful information at our Women's History Event last week. Registration is now open for our 2023 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)! On Saturday, April 8, from 9:15am – noon, AAUW-NYS will be presenting a College Women Presidents Celebration. See inside for more information. April is more than Springtime. We celebrate Ramadan, Passover, Easter, and the Earth! Each of these celebrations aim at making us better people. Let's take time: renewal, forgiveness, rightness, kindness and go forward.

Counting my blessings; naming them one by one,

Karen

JOIN AAUW TODAY
Check out our [website](#) or
contact Membership Vice- President,
Elda Graff at eldagraff@gmail.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

N.B. Unless otherwise indicated, meetings will take place via ZOOM.

Saturday, April 8	College Women Presidents Celebration AAUW-NYS 9:15am – 12:00pm <i>(see inside)</i>
Monday, April 10	Book Club Meeting
Tuesday, April 11	Executive Board Meeting*
Tuesday, April 25	Annual Business Meeting
Monday, May 8	Book Club Meeting
Tuesday, May 9	Executive Board Meeting*
Wednesday, May 10	Woman of Achievement Award Dinner
Tuesday, June 13	Executive Board Meeting*
Tuesday, June 27	June Branch Meeting

*All are welcome

FAMILY MATH NIGHT AT SUMMIT PARK ELEMENTARY MARCH 16, 2023

Joyce Brown's Legacy Continues

Joyce carries on! Debby Frank reported that Family Math Night at Summit Park Elementary School took place on March 16, 2023. Previously, Debby was in charge of this program which was initiated during Joyce Brown's STEM coaching program in 2008. The **FAMILY MATH NIGHT** program was an opportunity for students, parents, and teachers to play math games together, enjoy pizza and take home goodie bags of dice and mini cards so games could continue to be played at home with parents. This was an immensely popular annual event through 2019 when the coaching program was discontinued because of COVID. Principal Marissa Cavellero and District Math Coordinator Jo-Ann Feniger brought the program back this year.

Debby framed the beautiful picture of Joyce which adorned her memorial service program and displayed it along with the following message which was shared at the FAMILY MATH NIGHT.

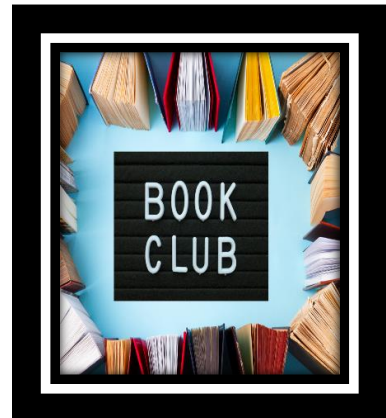
"As we come to Summit Park, our hearts honor the passing of Joyce Brown, a true educator who worked endlessly advocating for students her whole career. At Summit Park she started the Coaching Program, Chess Club, Knitting Club, and many other programs she could think of since about 2009. She had a talent for inspiring others to get involved with her many unique ideas."

The AAUW Book Club meets every 2nd Monday from
3:00 – 5:00 PM.

For details on the location of the Book Club meeting call
(845) 634-8211.

April 10th - "The Magician", by Colm Tolbin

May 8th - "The Most Beautiful Girl in Cuba", by Chanel
Cleeton



All AAUW Members should be receiving ACTION ALERTS.

Action alerts are notifications sent to members when there is an urgent need to communicate with legislators regarding issues which are aligned with our mission to advance equity for women and girls. If you have not signed up to receive **ACTION ALERTS**, please do so today!!!! [Click HERE to SIGN UP TODAY](#) - or text AAUW to 21333 to receive text notifications!!

WHAT'S HAPPENING.

FROM CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, KIMBERLY WESTON: Please forward any information regarding special events, such as weddings, illnesses, graduations, surgeries, etc. We 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 our special birthday roster.

kimberlyweston@msn.com

COMMUNICATIONS: For those of you who did not attend the fantastic Diversity Brunch, your AAUW Rockland Directory for 2022-2023 will be mailed to you shortly. EXTRA BONUS: please look inside the cover to find our newly resurrected trifold brochure about us. Please enjoy it and share with prospective AAUW members. More copies are available if you need them. Contact Sylvia Miller at aauwsam@optonline.net. Thanks, Sylvia

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.

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. Joyce Brown was a lifelong advocate of education for women. *Please consider making a contribution in her memory to the Korb Scholarship.* 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

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: In order for the Branch to move forward, as of July 2023, the following executive board positions must be filled: 1) President 2) Vice-President of Programming 3) Treasurer. Please consider “stepping up to the plate”, to keep the Branch active and vibrant. We need YOU! – Maureen Brown

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

WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT: This year our **Annual Dinner/Woman of Achievement Celebration** will be held on Wednesday, May 10th from 6 to 9PM at La Terrazza Restaurant, 291 South Main Street in New City. We will be honoring Linda Berns, President of the Rockland League of Women Voters. The Dinner fee is \$60.00, **Checks should be made payable to the: Rockland Branch of AAUW.** They should be mailed to the Rockland County AAUW, PO Box 19, West Nyack, NY 10994. Plan to come and enjoy the evening.

2023AAUW NYS Celebration of College Women Presidents!



On Saturday, April 8, from 9:15am – noon, AAUW-NYS will be presenting a *College Women Presidents Celebration*. Click [HERE](#) for a link to the program along with the [pictures and short paragraphs about our participating presidents](#).

Meeting ID: 745 719 9346 Passcode: AAUW or Dial in 1 (646) 558- 8656

Program

9:15 am - Welcoming Remarks by Carol Griffith, AAUW NYS President & Tiffany Sanchez, AAUW Vice President of Programs and Fellowships

9:45 am - Presentation by Maria Ellis, AAUW NYS College & University Director & Jessica Sims, AAUW American Fellow, Empire NYC Branch, Communications & Visibility Co-Director

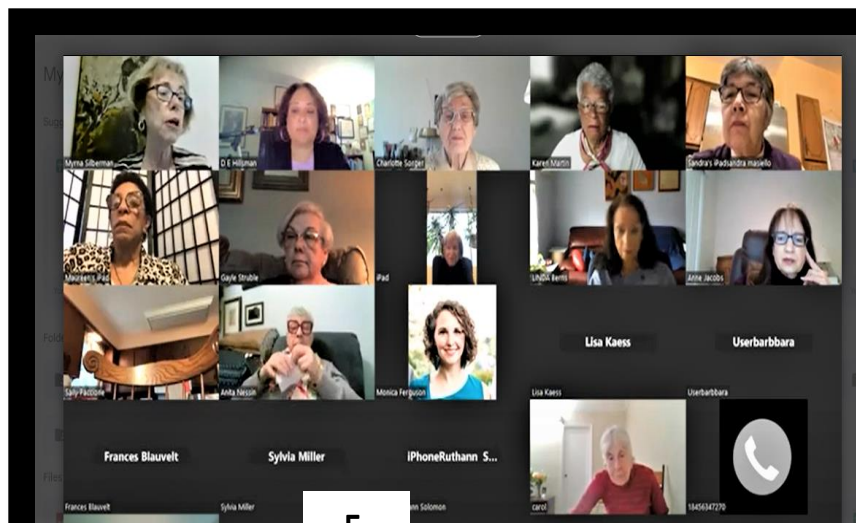
10:15 am - College & University Women Presidents - Panel I Q & A with Kimberly Edgar, AAUW NYS Ithaca Branch President

11:00 am College & University Women Presidents – Panel II Q & A with Carol Griffith, AAUW NYS President

11:45 am Closing Remarks by Estelle Kone, AAUW International Fellow, Empire State NYC Branch member

Our 2023 Women’s History Month Celebration

On Saturday, March 25th, we held our virtual Women’s History Month Celebration. The event was well attended by both branch members and several community members and friends of our speakers. Lisa Kaess, International Financial Consultant and Charlotte Sorger, former entrepreneurial businesswoman spoke about women in the world of money making, sharing both historical and personal perspectives and offering some prognosis about what the present day situation offers for the future. **The event was recorded and can be viewed by clicking [HERE](#).** Ms. Kaess offered this reference for further inquiry, Traister, Rebecca – *“All the Single Ladies: Unmarried Women and the Rise of an Independent Nation”*; S&S/ Marysue Rucci Books, 2016. She also recommended that participants review the National AAUW website. (WHM Committee: Myrna Silberman, Chair, Linda Berns, Elda Graff, Doria Hillsman, Karen Martin, Sandy Masiello, Anita Nessin)



April's Member Spotlight Kimberly Weston



I was born and raised on the Eastside of Detroit Michigan. I worked full-time in various clerical and administrative positions while I attended college. I worked for more than ten years in academic administration at Wayne State University from 1977-1991. I moved to New York after I completed Graduate school in the summer of 1991. Since then, I have resided in Bed-Stuy, Crown Heights, Nyack, and Monsey. I currently reside in Spring Valley. I began full-time work at the Nyack Library on December 9, 1991, and worked until 1999. I am currently a Technical Services Librarian at Rockland Community College, and my rank is Associate Professor. I am married with 2 adult children.

One of the first things I noticed when I moved to Rockland was the 'quiet'. It took time to adapt, but I finally made the transition to appreciating suburban life. Rockland is a great place to live for its proximity to NYC and its State parks. I plan to stay in New York upon my retirement because I enjoy NY's cultural institutions and I like the seasons!

I have served over the years on several Rockland boards and commissions. I am currently a member of the Rockland County Human Rights Commission and the Fair Housing Board.

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>

aauw.kmartin@gmail.com

Nearly 45% of Rockland County residents are experiencing some degree of food insecurity You can help.



During our January meeting, Julian Palmer, the Executive Director of Touch- NY presented to the group about food insufficiency and insecurity in Rockland County. The numbers were astonishing and unsettling.

Our executive board agreed in advance of the meeting that we would send some sort of donation to TOUCH-NY which is an umbrella organization which coordinates and supplies most of the food pantries in the county.

Won't you please join us in donating to TOUCH-NY? As we are a 501(c)3 organization, we cannot make donations from our operating budget, but we can collect member donations and write an AAUW check for the donations that we receive. If you'd like to donate to this worthy cause, please write your check payable to: "AAUW Rockland County Branch" and in the memo line write "TOUCH-NY DONATION". We'd like to have all donations in by **Monday, April 10, 2023**. Send your check to : Rockland County Branch AAUW| PO Box 19| West Nyack, NY 10994 - 0019. TO LEARN MORE Click on the picture above.



If YOU are STILL NOT receiving emails from AAUW National, what are you waiting for???? Sign up today to get the latest on AAUW News and Events!

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP TODAY](#)

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

**AAUW ROCKLAND'S ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023**

Join Zoom Meeting or Dial In 646 931 3860

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84784954489?pwd=RzdMNCtVN25xUk1neUI4QOVadGU4dz09>

Meeting ID: 847 8495 4489 **Passcode:** 0627

PLEASE ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETING

SHARING AND CARING FROM KAREN.... MAYA ANGELOU QUOTES....

- * Nothing will work unless you do.
- * Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud.
- * Won't it be wonderful when Black history and Native American history and Jewish history and all of U.S. history is taught from one book? Just U.S. history.

AAUW ROCKLAND WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DINNER

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 6:00 – 9:00 PM

La Terrazza 291 South Main Street, New City, NY

Honoring

Linda Berns

President of the Rockland County League of Women Voters



Ticket price \$60 Make check payable to "Rockland County Branch of AAUW"

Mail to AAUW Rockland Branch | PO Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994 – 0019

For more information call (845) 358-8240