



Kensington-Rockville Newsletter

American Association of University Women

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Kensington-Rockville

Road Scholar Ambassador Program

Saturday, February 10, 2018
11:00 a.m.

Montgomery College, Rockville Campus, Science Center,
Room 151, Rockville, MD

Please join us at Montgomery College to learn more about how we can continue to stay intellectually engaged, young, and active through educational travel! Annually, over 100,000 travelers have benefited from experiential learning opportunities featuring an extraordinary range of topics, formats and locations, in every state in the U.S., 150 countries and aboard ships on rivers and oceans worldwide. Road Scholar Ambassador Elaine Murrell will discuss her exciting adventures with the Road Scholar Program and answer any questions we may have about how to become a Road's Scholar. You don't want to miss this opportunity!

Parking: Free parking in North Garage

Campus map: http://media.montgomerycollege.edu/communications/maps/Rockville_Campus.pdf

Presidents' Message

It's the anniversary of the Women's March. Let's take a moment to reflect on the energy women unleashed across our country over the last year. Many of our branch members marched in Washington, DC along with millions of people throughout our nation (and worldwide) for women's equality, for our voices to be heard and to have a seat at the power tables. The feeling of solidarity was palpable. This past year hundreds of women have trained to be serious, viable political candidates and are now running for public office. The "Me too" movement has called out sexual harassment in the workplace and government. A paradigm shift is occurring. Look to how you can be supportive of these women.

The brief Federal Government recently underscores us how important it is for AAUW members to remain vigilant and continue advocating for responsible budgets and government. Who knows how many more continuing resolutions we will see and how many millions will be affected and how many billions of dollars will be wasted? It reminds us all how vital civil discourse and working together to solve problems is to the well-being of our country and, indeed, our own personal lives. *May what we say and what we do* continue to build upon our AAUW values advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Let each of us review what is specifically important to our lives, our community and our country and recommit ourselves to continuing that momentum in 2018.

Co- Presidents Kate Campbell Stevenson and Erin Prangley

January Branch Meeting at the Natural History Museum Hall of Human Origins



Members of the KR Branch met with Smithsonian Docent Dr. Jurate Landwehr at the Natural History Museum Hall of Human Origins earlier this month. We were treated to an immersive, interactive journey through 6 million years of scientific evidence for human origins and the stories of survival and extinction in our family tree during times of dramatic climate instability.



KR Branch members Dian Belanger, Kate Campbell Stevenson, and Margaret Schweitzer and Dr. Jurate Landwehr pause for a discussion of the significance of the famous Lucy Australopithecus specimen which added much to our understanding of early hominin species.



Members of the KR branch pause for a picture in front of one of the five bronze statues of early human species created by artist John Gurche on display at the Hall of Human Origins. Gurche used the latest forensic techniques, fossil discoveries, and decades of experience

AAUW Funds Chair

Ella Iams

Let's meet our goals for contributions to the Maryland Woman of Distinction award (Fund 4355). Goal one is 100 percent of Board members contribute to AAUW Fund and Goal two is 50 percent of branch members contribute. Please consider a contribution either by check or on-line and be sure to indicate Fund 4355 and our Branch code (MD 2030). This is a wonderful way for us to honor the 2017-18 Maryland Woman of Distinction, our branch member/Co-President Kate Campbell-Stevenson.

AAUW KR branch members working and lobbying at the start of the 2018 Maryland General Assembly Session

Submitted by Erin Prangle

AAUW KR member Catherine Hill, formerly AAUW Vice President for Research, is now the Executive Director for the Maryland Women's Legislative Caucus! She has already contributed much to elevate the issue of sexual harassment in the state legislature. This month the Maryland Women's Caucus' [announced](#) it is examining policies dealing with workplace sexual harassment in all three branches of Maryland state government. AAUW MD advocates for equitable access and advancement in employment and workplace climates free of harassment, bullying, and sexual assault. We are so proud to have one of our branch members doing such important work in our statehouse!

The Maryland Patient's Bill of Rights was introduced this month. KR branch member Anna Palmisano helped write the bill and was in Annapolis lobbying for cosponsors. AAUW-MD believes that everyone is entitled to high-quality, affordable, and accessible health care. But Maryland hospitals routinely rank near the bottom in patient satisfaction [surveys](#) and is [ranked 48th](#) out of 50 states in patient safety. As Anna points out in her [Washington Post letter](#) to the editor, "Why is Maryland, rich in resources compared with many states, ranked so poorly in hospital patient satisfaction and safety? One factor is the weakness of

Maryland's law to protect patients' rights." That's why we're urging you to contact your state legislators to urge them to cosponsor and actively support the Maryland Patient's Bill of Rights. Click below to send a message to your state legislators! Click [here](#) to send a message to your state legislator in support of Maryland Patients' Bill of Rights! Or cut and paste this address into your browser <http://bit.ly/2rD9dp1>.



Diana Rubin, Commissioner, Montgomery County Commission for Women, Kate Campbell Stevenson, AAUW Maryland Vice President, Programs and AAUW KR Branch Co-president, Lisae Jordan, Executive Director, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault

KR branch co-president Kate Campbell Stevenson testified on behalf of [AAUW MD](#) in support of the Rape Survivor Family Protection Act (Senate Bill 2) which would give rape survivors a process to terminate the parental rights of the rapist when a child is conceived as a result of the rape.

This common-sense bill provides compassionate legal recourse for women who make the difficult decision to bear a child conceived by rape. Our support for the proposed bill is prompted by our firm belief in the self-determination of one's

reproductive health decisions and freedom from violence and fear of violence in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities. You can read more and see a video of Kate's testimony online [here](#) or copy and paste this address into your web

browser: <https://www.facebook.com/aauw.maryland/posts/1804595952898689>.



Kate Campbell Stevenson testified on behalf of AAUW MD in support of the Rape Survivor Family Protection Act (Senate Bill 2)

If you are interested in learning more about AAUW MD policy program or would like to testify on any of our legislative priorities, please contact Erin Prangley at erin.prangley@gmail.com.

BECOME A TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST

Action Network is the cornerstone of AAUW's e-advocacy efforts. By signing up, you will join **AAUW Action Network** and receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your elected officials. With our online Two-Minute Activist tool, it takes just minutes to make your voice heard!

To sign up, go to www.aauw.org. Scroll down on right side of screen to "TAKE ACTION." Click on and then scroll down to "Become a Two-Minute Activist" and register.

Join the AAUW Archives Corps!

Does the Past stir your juices? Are you curious about what AAUW has done to keep women loyal and committed for 136 years, and counting? Have you ever wondered who all those thousands of women were, and would become, that we have supported with AAUW fellowships and grants since 1888? Do you enjoy piecing together long-forgotten stories from fragile, faded papers?

Join the AAUW Archives Corps to work with other local members, under staff direction, to rediscover, process, and preserve for future use the documentary record of AAUW's extraordinary history. Archives volunteers commit to one partial day per month, usually the first Monday or Tuesday. Intrigued? Query Dian Belanger, dobelanger@comcast.net.

Join the AAUW Lobby Corps!

Does the Future push your buttons, especially the future for women and girls? Do you care about Title IX, sexual harassment, pay equity, voting and human rights? Does today's political atmosphere keep you up at night? Would you like to rationally promote and influence nonpartisan progress at the highest level?

Join the AAUW Lobby Corps on Capitol Hill to inform and urge legislative action for a more just world. Volunteer lobbyists, trained and briefed by AAUW public policy staff, commit to Thursday mornings when Congress is in session. Impassioned? Query Erin Prangle, erin.prangle@gmail.com.

Interest Groups

Lunch Bunch

Parma Holt

AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

GREAT DECISIONS

Marianne Jacobs

mariannejacobs@verizon.net

TBA

Le Groupe Française

Ruth Spivack

AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

The next meeting will be on Monday,
Feb. 19 at 1 p.m.

Place - TBD

We will continue reading L'Hote by
Camus

The Afternoon Literature Group

Judy Burr AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

February 20

Go Tell It On The Mountain by
James Baldwin

Deadline for the March Newsletter is February 20.

Upcoming Events

February 8: MLAW Legislative Reception, Miller Senate Office Building, 11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD

February 17: 10:00 a.m. Bethesda Chevy Chase AAUW
Fox Hill, 8300 Burdette, Bethesda, MD
The Mother of Hubble – and a Lego Figure as Well! Dr. Nancy Grace Roman

March 10: 12 noon Kensington-Rockville Branch Meeting

Focus on Our Fellows

Ingleside at King Farm, Rockville

Lunch together, then AAUW fellows and grantees with connections to Kensington-Rockville Branch will share their always-inspiring stories

March 22 – 24 Gaithersburg AAUW Branch Used Book Sale Arbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg.

April 14: AAUW Maryland State Convention Hosted by Baltimore Branch

May 12: K-R Branch's Annual Meeting. Pot-luck. Anita Rosen's home, Silver Spring, MD

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more *than 135 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.*

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW Vision Statement: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

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