



## Newsletter of the

# Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch

Founded April 1971 ~ Celebrating 53 Years!

2023-2024, No. 10, May-June 2024

**AAUW Mission:** AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

**AAUW Vision:** Equity for all. **AAUW Values:** Nonpartisan, fact-based, integrity, inclusion, and intersectionality.

AAUW is open to graduates who hold the associate, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified college or university.

The Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch of AAUW supports the full range of the AAUW mission through its monthly program meetings, special interest groups, and public outreach events, by engaging in social action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and supporting area young women and girls directly. We are one of five branches in the St. Louis, MO, area that comprise the AAUW Metro St Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

### **Branch Officers, 2023-2024**

#### **Co-President:**

Jeanne Webdell  
573-751-0943  
jeannewebdell@gmail.com

#### **Co-President:**

Lynne Roney  
314-223-3426  
roneyeditorial@gmail.com

#### **Program Vice President:**

Kay Meyer  
314-962-7487  
kicmeyer51@gmail.com

#### **Membership Vice President:**

Deb McWard  
314-607-2908  
debmcward@earthlink.net

#### **Finance Vice President:**

Carol Davis McDonald  
314-623-1847  
davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

#### **Secretary:**

TBD

<https://kwg-mo.aauw.net/>

## Year-end Branch Meeting and Lunch Celebration

### Saturday, June 15 - 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Rm. 2, Grant's View Branch Library, 9700 Musick Ave. at Gravois

After the AAUW MO State Meeting in May (no May branch meeting), we will get together on June 15 to review the state meeting and our 2023-24 year, as well as elect officers. This will be a fun, informal get-together to celebrate our branch's accomplishments and to make some plans for next year!

Lunch orders are due by **Monday, June 10**. You may fill out the form below and mail it, or email your choice to Lynne at roneyeditorial@gmail.com. The cost is \$15, including tax and drinks. Money will be collected at the June meeting. Please make out checks to AAUW KWG. Lunch includes a sandwich with chips and a cookie, or a salad with a cookie. Vegan options are available. Water, lemonade, and tea will be available at the meeting room. *Invite a friend!*

Note: We have the room only until 1, so we will eat and discuss at the same time.

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#### **Lunch choices (from the Blue Duck in Maplewood). Check one:**

- The Ham - Ham, yellow cheddar, lettuce, tomato, onion, shallot aioli on sourdough
- Veggie (Vegan) - Mushroom, tomato, pickled red onion, arugula, and balsamic vinaigrette on sourdough
- Turkey Club - Turkey, bacon, white cheddar, avocado, honey chipotle mayo on green chile brioche
- Smokehouse Club - Turkey, ham, bacon, yellow cheddar, white cheddar, lettuce, tomato, red onion, honey chipotle mayo on sourdough
- Chicken Salad - Chicken salad, lettuce, tomato on sourdough
- Smoked Turkey Salad - Spring mix, smoked turkey, cheddar cheese, red onion, tomato, avocado, tortilla strips, ranch
- Vegan Salad - Spring mix, pickled red onions, grapes, marinated red peppers, pistachios, chai vinaigrette
- Apple Harvest Salad - Mixed greens, chicken, apples, candied walnuts, red onions, goat cheese, dried cranberries, balsamic vinaigrette

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Lynne Roney, 412 Oakley Dr., St. Louis, MO 63105  
roneyeditorial@gmail.com, 314-223-3426

**Deadline: JUNE 10**

## Advocacy ...



Jeanne



Lynne

We all stand in awe of the suffragists who worked for voting rights for women with courage and tenacity. These women spoke, wrote, petitioned, marched, traveled the country, and participated in demonstrations. Some were even arrested or suffered injuries. One of the early

twentieth century suffragists, Alice Paul, participated in hunger strikes and picketed the White House for two years. She planned the 1913 Woman Suffrage Parade in Washington DC.

We are fortunate that today AAUW provides us with an easier way to advocate – starting right at our computer. People (not just members) can begin by signing up for the **Two Minute Activist**, which alerts people to important issues and connects them with the email addresses of their legislative representatives. One of the important issues on AAUW's agenda is the *Paycheck Fairness Act*, which will update the *Equal Pay Act* of 1963. This update is hardly a radical agenda; it simply closes the loopholes in the Act, which has weakened over the past 56 years.

People can sign up by going to the AAUW.org website, going to Take Action, and then to the [Two Minute Activist](#) and filling out a short form. An alternate way to participate is to text AAUW to 21333 to receive text messages.



One of the ways our branch has been advocating is through our *Get Out the Vote Signs*, designed with the League of Women Voters-St. Louis. These signs encourage people to find out about the issues and candidates in their area when they are deciding how to vote. As we are getting nearer to the fall election, we are looking for new ways to market our signs, which we have sold for \$5.00 to community people with discounts to AAUW members.

The signs remind people to vote and, with the contact information, help them to be informed voters. Please submit any ideas you have about the signs or other advocacy projects to one of us or to a board member.

*Jeanne and Lynne*

### CALENDAR

May 4 AAUW MO annual state conference, Columbia  
May 15 AAUW voting deadline  
May 27 IBC movie group  
May 28 AAUW IBC meeting  
May 30 Adelante book group

June 15 Year-end Branch Meeting and Lunch Celebration  
Sep 19 K-WG Branch meeting  
Oct 1 Expressions starts up again

Report  
from the



NOMINATING  
COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee of Nancy Hutchins, Marsha Koch, and Lynne Roney presents the following slate of officers to be voted on at the June meeting:

- Co-President: **Nancy Hutchins**
- Membership VP: **Deb McWard**
- Finance Officer: **Carol Davis McDonald**
- Secretary: **Marsha Koch**

Many thanks to outgoing **Co-President Jeanne Webdell!**

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

Debbie McWard



**2024-2025 Renewals**

If national has your email address, you will be receiving three notifications about renewing your 2024-2025 membership. My first one came yesterday with instructions on how to do it. I will send an email to those whose membership does not expire on the traditional June 30 date. Your notifications will come later. Also, the renewal form below can be used; but if you renew by this method, please don't wait until the last minute. It will take much longer to process. Questions? Call me (314-607-2908).



Kirkwood-Webster Groves (MO) Branch

**2024-2025 Membership**

July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Home #</b>
<b>Address</b>	<b>Work #</b>
<b>City, State, Zip</b>	<b>Cell #</b>
<b>Month &amp; Date of Birth</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
<b>Degree(s)/Area of Study</b>	<b>College or University</b>
	<b>City, State/Graduation Year</b>
	<b>Home #</b>
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

In addition to attending monthly meetings with informative speakers, I would like to participate in these branch activities:

- Administrative
- Public Policy
- Social
- Communications
- Fundraising
- Technology
- Planning programs

**DUES**

National	\$72.00
State (MO)	\$10.00
Branch	<u>\$15.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$97.00</b>

Payable to AAUW—KWG

Send to: Carol Davis McDonald  
827 Bergquist Drive  
Ballwin, MO 63011-4215

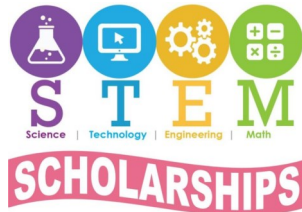
Join online at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/>

Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on

Select Missouri in the state list and click on

Click on the Kirkwood-Webster Groves branch name and

# 2024 KWG STEM Scholarship Presentation



Thanks to Chris Nobbe’s contact with the high schools, counselors, and parents, we were lucky to have our three 2024 STEM Scholarship recipients, family members, and school faculty present at our well-attended April 11 Branch meeting. Each girl received a \$500 check to assist in her STEM education.

AAUW Fellow **Atzimba Martinez** from Washington University gave a presentation on her career path and her research topic of topology. Kay Meyer arranged for the speaker, and Sue Barley connected us with information from the Fellows program.

### Affton High School: Sydney Paglus

Sydney has participated in a PLTW (Project Lead the Way) Biomedical Science

program and a social justice leadership group called FOCUS Youth Leadership St. Louis. She is considering Loyola University Chicago, Saint Louis University, or



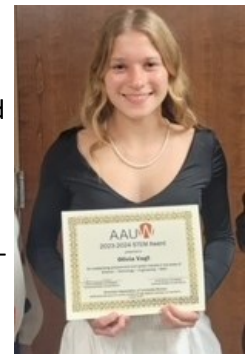
Truman State to study forensic science. Sydney has served on the student council and has played varsity basketball (captain), soccer, and cross country. She has been named a scholar athlete and is a member of the National Honor Society. Her parents, Brian and Susan, and Affton Librarian Jan Nelson attended the event with Sydney.

### Maplewood-Richmond Heights High School: Gracie Horton

Gracie has an interest in ancient civilizations, human organization, mathematics, and systems of the world. She is planning to continue to explore these areas with a strong focus on STEM development. She was on the varsity track and volleyball teams, has served on the Student Council, and is a member of the National Honor Society. She also participated in the first Pfizer vaccine clinical trial in 2020. Gracie’s mother, Liza Horton, as well as her brother and grandparents joined us.

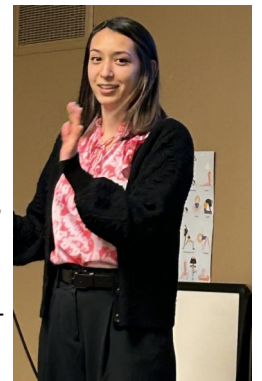


**Valley Park High School: Olivia Vogt**  
Olivia is planning to study meteorology in college. She plans to start her journey at St. Louis Community College and then move to a four-year school. She has taken four years of science courses at Valley Park, is passionate about learning, and in the words of her principal, Ryan Luhning, is an amazing young person! Olivia’s parents, Chris and Jim Vogt, attended with her.



### Speaker: Atzimba Martinez, Washington University Department of Mathematics

Atzimba Martinez described her journey from a small town and college in Washington State to her PhD studies in pure mathematics at Washington University. Her AAUW American Fellowship allows her to do research in topology, which is useful in such areas as understanding DNA. She plans to continue in research, and she is passionate about increasing the participation of underrepresented groups in mathematics. An appropriate speaker since mathematics is right in the STEM name!



“Don’t let anyone rob you of your imagination, your creativity, or your curiosity. It’s your place in the world; it’s your life. Go on and do all you can with it, and make it the life you want to live.”

— Mae Jemison, first African American woman astronaut in space

Education is the foundation for your future; STEM education is the leveler for all to be successful in the future needs of humanity.



## ADVOCATE BY JOINING THE MISSOURI RIGHT TO READ COALITION

Recently, AAUW KWG advocated for our public libraries by joining forces with other organizations to oppose legislation that places restrictions on libraries.

*Missouri ranks third nationally for books banned at school libraries. Under a new law, school librarians are subject to fines and/or imprisonment. A policy effective in 2023 could result in the state's withholding funds from Missouri's public libraries.*

The statewide [Missouri Right to Read Coalition](#) supports the premise that Missouri's libraries must remain an open, accessible resource for books and other materials available free-of-charge to the public.

The organization opposes attempts to restrict access to public and school libraries, instead placing confidence in trained, experienced librarians and educators to evaluate and select materials available to the public. Membership in the Right to Read Coalition is open to organizations and individuals who support the coalition's purpose.

There is no financial commitment to join the coalition. For information on how to join, email [righttoreadcoalition@gmail.com](mailto:righttoreadcoalition@gmail.com). Lise Bernstein is the steering committee chair. Or use this link: [BECOME A COALITION MEMBER!](#)

898 individuals and 81 organizations have joined, including our branch, AAUW MO, Joplin AAUW, Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice, League of Women Voters of Missouri, and NCJW-STL.

"The greatest danger to our future is apathy."  
- Jane Goodall

## Do you still bake?

Here is an easy recipe from our pecan supplier to give you an idea about how to use the pecan halves:

### Brie, Apple, Pecan Crescent Rolls.



#### Ingredients:

Crescent Rolls	Brie	Tart Apple
Pecans	Honey	

#### Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In each crescent roll wedge, stack a slice of brie, slice of apple and a pecan. Drizzle with honey and roll up. Bake for 13 to 15 minute or until golden brown.

## College-University Relations

On Wednesday, April 17, the branch hosted a "Meet and Greet" at Webster University at noon. This was an opportunity for us to introduce students to AAUW and let them know of the benefits we offer them, such as scholarships, opportunities for advocacy, our support of women's issues and not least, the offer of free AAUW memberships



for undergraduate students. We also had a chance to meet faculty members and entice them to get their feet wet in AAUW affairs. We provided simple snacks and beverages.

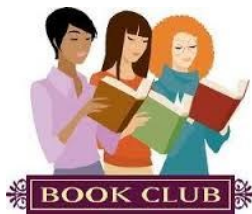


## AAUW METRO ST LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

KWG is **one of the five branches** that form the AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council, more commonly known as IBC. They meet 4 times a year, some virtually and some in person. Each branch is allowed 3 voting delegates, and historically the officers of each branch have served as those delegates.

The purpose of IBC is to foster cooperation among member branches and to financially support programs and projects and to open channels of communication among branches for the sharing of ideas and interests.

The next quarterly IBC meeting will be at 7 p.m. on May 28, 2024, via ZOOM. The website is <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>. All AAUW members are welcome to attend.



### IBC ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

This group meets virtually to discuss books written from diverse perspectives.

Where: Join Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85338959790?pwd=NFNKS01FMXh6bXpiaXh0ci80VC9rUT09>

When: 1:30 pm the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month in September, October, January, February, March, April, May

Contact: [PattyMurrayAAUW@gmail.com](mailto:PattyMurrayAAUW@gmail.com)

#### Upcoming selections:

May 30 *Lessons in Chemistry*, by Bonnie Garmus (400 pgs). Pat Shores or Nancy Hutchins, facilitator. (5th Thursday this time only)

### Metro St. Louis Branch Programs

**Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch**—May 9, 11 am, Marriott St. Louis West - Spring luncheon, Encircling All Women, \$45, deadline May 1.

AAUW was honored by the National Council of Jewish Women St Louis with the Community Partnership Award at their Celebrating Women Award on April 3, 2024. Three Ballwin-Chesterfield members attended the awards ceremony to accept: Pat Shores, Carol Anthony, and Karen Francis.

**Ferguson-Florissant Branch**—Contact [Patty Murray](mailto:PattyMurrayAAUW@gmail.com) for meeting information, 314-838-7887.

**Saint Charles Branch**—Meets the first Thursday at 1 p.m. at First St. Charles UMC, 801 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles 63301. The May 2 meeting will focus on human trafficking. High school scholarships will be presented after the program.

**St. Louis Branch**—The next meeting is June 9, 2024, 1-3 p.m. It is the annual meeting (elections) and will be a potluck held at the gallery of member Ruth Reese. Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo and STL members will present a re-enactment of one of the key scenes from Sheila's play, *The Black Suffragist and the Harlem Hellfighter*, featuring Victoria Clay Haley, Cynthia Isgrig Knefler, and Edna Gellhorn. Contact [Ellen Irons](mailto:EllenIrons@stlouis-ibc.aauw.net) for meeting location information, 314-727-9918.

The branch has been invited to get involved with the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri for the March 2025 Women's History Month patch program. This is a follow-up from their 2023 project.

### EXPRESSIONS! Craft Group

The last Expressions meeting was Tuesday April 2, 2024. The group will meet again Tuesday October 1, 2024. We usually meet the first Tuesday of the month from 1 to 3 pm at the Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Creve Coeur. This is the first year Expressions has been open to all AAUW Metro IBC Branches. We are looking for crafters who would like to share their skill and ideas with the group. If you have an idea for an interesting craft or simple project for the coming year contact Kay Meyer or Nancy Hutchins.



### Join the Movie Group

Each of us watches a selected movie on Netflix. The movie is then discussed by the group on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Contact [Ellen](mailto:EllenIrons@stlouis-ibc.aauw.net) (St. Louis Branch) for the link.

#### Upcoming movies:

May 27 - *Shirley* (leader: Vett Goods)



Appreciating the art of film is much different than simply watching films for entertainment. To appreciate the art of film, you should try to experience many types of films, explore film culture, and gain a basic understanding of cinematography and the technical aspects of filmmaking.



# Grace Butler Tribute Project

AAUW MO Special Donation to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund

## In Memory of Grace Butler, AAUW Leader and Mentor About Missouri's Amazing Grace

William Shakespeare's quote: "*And though she be but little, she is fierce*" perfectly described Grace. So much so that her family incorporated it into her memorial service. Grace was small in stature, just under five feet, but fierce in determination. To know Grace was to respect her. She worked tirelessly to make a difference in the lives of women and girls. Her AAUW career started in Pennsylvania and then moved to Columbia, Missouri, as Grace returned home after her husband passed away in 1975. Grace raised her four boys, worked as an academic advisor at the University of Missouri, and continued her AAUW career dedicated to helping women succeed.



In her more than six decades of service, Grace held many AAUW positions. She was president of AAUW Missouri from 1991-1993 and went on to become Southwest Central Regional Director for two terms, covering Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. In that role, she served on the national level as well. Most every state president in Missouri that worked with Grace has high praise for this little lady. She was filled with enthusiasm, wonder, excitement, and passion. She could enthral a crowd with one of her stories of life on her farm and then give another life-lesson about the issues facing women and girls. She was involved, she was committed, she was caring - and she got results! Thus, she was frequently called "Amazing Grace." To those who knew and worked with her, she certainly was! Grace passed on October 11, 2023, just one month shy of her 97th birthday. **It is an honor for AAUW MO to present this tribute project for Grace. We hope you will join us.**

### Wall Quilt Drawing

Quote lovers will enjoy the many insightful women's quotes, one of which is the Shakespeare quote above. This 37"x 37" cotton, quilted, wall hanging, in cheery colors of teal and coral, will brighten any room while the quotes will provide daily inspiration (see quilt and quotes on next page).

Drawing for the wall hanging will be at the AAUW MO State Conference on May 4, 2024, in Columbia, MO. You DO NOT have to be present to win or be an AAUW member. Purchase your tickets and get them in to Susan Barley, state AAUW Fund chair, at the conference.

**Tickets are \$2 each, 3 for \$5, 6 for \$10, or 12 for \$20.**

Make this a branch project! If you wish to honor Grace but do not want to be in the drawing, please send your donation check, with 'Grace Butler Memorial' in the memo line, to:

**Susan Barley, AAUW Fund, 4 N. Kingshighway Blvd, 5-D, St. Louis, MO 63108**

**THANK YOU!**

(Tickets provided separately. Make copies as needed. Questions? Contact Susan Barley at [barley702@gmail.com](mailto:barley702@gmail.com))

## Quotes Featured on the Wall Quilt



This colorful 37" x 37" wall quilt print was created with fabric by Bernina, the sewing machine folks. **Valeria Ott**, sister of AAUW member **Kay Meyer**, pieced it together and made it into this lovely wall hanging. Here are the quotes contained in the squares:

*The especial genius of women I believe to be electrical in movement, intuitive in function, spiritual in tendency. —Margaret Fuller*

*Though she be little, she is fierce. —Shakespeare*

*Little girls with dreams become women with vision.*

*A successful woman is one who can build a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at her. —David Brinkley*

*Perhaps this is the moment for which you have been created. —Esther 4:14*

*She believed she could, so she did. —R.S. Grey*

*She is clothed in strength and dignity. —Proverbs 31:25*

*Here's to strong women. May we know them. May we be them. May we raise them.*

Quotes added by Bernina include:

*Women are Smart.*

*Women are Empowering.*

*Women are Compassionate.*

*Women are Strong.*

*Women are Successful.*

*Women are Powerful.*

*Women are Nurturing.*

*Women are Spiritual*

### Grace Butler Tribute Project – Tickets for Drawing

*(Additional copies of this page may be made on any color paper. Drawing is at State Conference on May 4, 2024)*

**INSTRUCTIONS:** All tickets and money must be at the AAUW MO State Conference by 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 4,

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Grace Butler Wall Quilt Drawing</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Branch _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$2 each   3 for \$5   6 for \$10   12 for \$20</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Grace Butler Wall Quilt Drawing</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Branch _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$2 each   3 for \$5   6 for \$10   12 for \$20</b></p>
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## National News

From Susan Barley  
National Advancement Committee and  
AAUW MO Fund Chair  
April 17, 2024  
314-361-2920  
[barley702@gmail.com](mailto:barley702@gmail.com)



- NCCWSL Update** (as of 4/10)
  - o Registrations = 413 (this time last year the number was 275) – 140 registered by branches
  - o Agenda = <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/nccwsl/agenda/workshops-panels/>
  - o WODs = <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/nccwsl/agenda/speaker-announcements/>
  - o Sponsors
    - AAUW Maryland
    - Coca-Cola Foundation
    - Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)
    - Origence
    - The American Society for Emergency Contraception (ASEC)
    - Authority Speakers Agency
    - Vital Voices Global Partnership
    - Feminist Majority Foundation
    - Lyft
    - Stevenson University Online
    - George Mason University, Schar School of Policy and Government
    - Amtrak
- AAUW National Election** - as of 4/12, we have 7,861 votes in. Open membership is currently passing at **66.7%**. Some additional details:
  - o The current number of votes in represents 19.1% of membership. 7,753 electors voted in last year's campaign in total, and we have already surpassed that number, in large part due to your efforts.
  - o 6.3% of national members have voted while 23.3% of branch members have voted. Another reminder email went out 4/15.
- Link to our Webinars page:** <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/>
- April 15 marked the **AAUW Fellowships and Grants Team's Notification Day** – awardees, alternates and unsuccessful applicants were notified of their status.
- During the **68th UN Commission on the Status of Women** and NGOCSW, AAUW hosted a virtual and in-person

event, participated in a coalition event, attended a multitude of key meetings throughout the week, and also engaged with AAUW members and partners.

6. **It's My Vote Campaign** – Voter Education Resources (supported in part by the Mooneen Lecce Giving Circle), <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/get-involved-in-elections/#trainings>, also listed on the Action Fund website: <https://www.aauwaction.org/my-vote/>

7. We will be launching our **College-University Toolkit** this month and linking to it on our website.

8. Spring **2024 AAUW State Conventions** have been occurring each week, and both Gloria Blackwell and Meghan Kissell have been featured/keynote speakers – virtually and in person.

9. In addition to NYC and the UNCSW, our ongoing efforts to elevate **AAUW's outreach and visibility** continue. You can check out Gloria's [LinkedIn profile](#) for some highlights, including providing insight for [The Washington Post's "Work Advice" column](#), attending the [White House Women's History Month Celebration](#)--present to witness the President sign an Executive Order to Advance Women's Health Research, and the F&G NYC event. Gloria also attended an intimate White House meeting with five select national organization heads to discuss the new Title IX regulations. She has also been invited to a number of events and received increased interaction based on being recognized as one of [Diverse Issues in Higher Education's 40 Outstanding Women](#).

10. AAUW's 2023 Year in Review: <https://www.aauw.org/about/2023-year-in-review/?emci=87ac2f3b-89e7-ee11-aaf0-002248223794&emdi=c41a2cbf-aae7-ee11-aaf0-002248223794&ceid=30823121>.

### VOTING WHETHER TO CHANGE THE BYLAWS TO "OPEN UP" AAUW IS HAPPENING NOW!

Voting ends May 15, 2024

If you need more information about what's involved, go to this site: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/>

You should have received an email from national with the link/ and information for your vote.

Search your email inbox for a subject line of: Reminder: AAUW Election 2024.

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Welcoming the Stranger: The Immigrant and Refugee Experience in St. Louis



Thursday, May 9, 7 p.m.

In-person program at The Center of Clayton  
50 Gay Ave, St. Louis, MO 63105

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; program begins at 7 p.m.

[Please let us know you're coming here.](#)

Have you ever been to a foreign country and needed help? How did you find it? Did you feel welcome?

**Sal Valadez** (diversity, outreach and marketing representative for the Laborers International Union of North America-Midwest Region) and **Moji Sidiqi** (director for multicultural affairs and Afghan outreach for the International Institute of St. Louis) will share their personal stories of being immigrants to the US, finding their way to St. Louis, and their dedication to serving the immigrant populations in our area. Currently the St. Louis area has around 135,000 immigrants, which accounts for about 4.8% of the population.

### April Was Child Abuse Prevention Month



By Dana Klar, JD, LCSW, associate teaching professor at UMSL, Gateway Alliance against Human Trafficking Board Member

There is no single definition of child abuse and neglect, as these terms are defined by federal and state laws. At the federal level, *The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act* (CAPTA) defines child abuse and neglect as “any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caregiver that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation, or an act or failure to act that presents an imminent risk of serious harm.” In Missouri, physical abuse is defined as any injury inflicted on a child by other than accidental means by those responsible for the child’s care, custody and control. Neglect occurs when those responsible for care, custody and control fail to provide proper or necessary support; education as required by law; nutrition; or medical, surgical or any other care necessary for the child’s well-being. Missouri includes sexual abuse/exploitation as a form of neglect and specifically includes victims of sex trafficking or other severe forms of trafficking.

Mirowitz Center was the first organization in Missouri to be licensed to teach **Senior Planet from AARP** curriculum – and is the only one licensed to operate in St. Louis County!



### "Maybe It's Your Meds"

Wednesday, May 1 - 1:00 - 2:30 pm (in person)  
8 Millstone Campus Dr, St. Louis 63146

Managing your meds can be challenging! No one understands that better than Hedva Barenholtz Levy, PharmD, a geriatric pharmacy specialist and author of *Maybe It's Your Medications*. Dr. Levy will discuss important safety aspects of prescription and nonprescription medications and explain the best ways to prevent medication-related problems. Even if you only take a few pills daily, mark your calendar!

To register, [click here](#), call [\(314\) 733-9813](tel:314-733-9813), or email [program@mirowitzcenter.org](mailto:program@mirowitzcenter.org).

## SENIOR PLANET

FROM AARP

### "Intro to Smartphone Photography"

Thursday, May 9 - 1:00 - 2:00 pm (in person)  
8 Millstone Campus Dr, 63146

Learn about smartphone features like recording videos, adding filters to pictures, and using your camera's timer! Trainer Jim Salih will review basic camera tips for taking good selfies, selecting backgrounds, and using optimal lighting. This presentation will cover both Android devices and iPhones.

### Advocacy in Action Lunch & Learn



**When:** Thursday, May 16 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM

**Where:** Zoom [RSVP Here](#)

**Women's Economic Equity:** We are all familiar with the gender pay gap. Women overall make 84 cents to a man's dollar. It's a big problem. But actually ... it's only part of the problem. The lesser-known gender gap is the gender wealth gap. Not how much women make compared to men, but how much they own and keep. What can we do about both?

**Questions? Email Jen Bernstein**  
at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org) or call **314.993.5181**