

April 2024

CHIPS

The monthly newsletter of the Westchester Branch of the American Association of University Women, Westchester County, New York



Westchester County, Inc. (NY) Branch

Westchester AAUW Has Been
Empowering Women and
Girls Since 1933

APRIL BRANCH MEETING - WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Our panel of four distinguished leaders in the field of higher education will discuss current issues, trends and priorities in higher education, and their career paths to inspire and inform other women.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 5:30pm

WHERE: Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Rd, Elmsford and via Zoom.

Visit www.greenburghlibrary.libcal.com to register for in-person or virtual to receive the Zoom link.



Laurie Austin has been Director of Admissions and Recruitment at Lehman College for over 15 years. Prior to coming to Lehman, Ms. Austin was Director of Recruitment at CUNY's Office of Admission Services and Director of Admissions at City College. She has held other senior positions at both private and public colleges. Ms. Austin holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Manhattanville College, and a Master's Degree in Higher Education Administration from Teachers College, Columbia University. She has served on many committees for professional organizations, Lehman College, and CUNY.

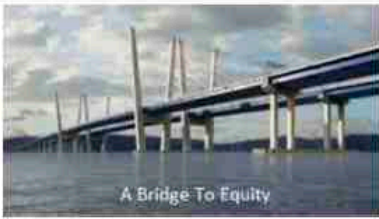
Dr. Susan R. Burns is the 6th president of the Univ. of Mount Saint Vincent. An extraordinarily effective and collaborative leader, Dr. Burns came to the University of Mount Saint Vincent from Clarke University in Iowa, where she served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty. Dr. Burns also served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Morningside College. At Morningside, she taught psychology and statistics. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in experimental psychology from Emporia State University and her Ph.D. in social/personality psychology from Kansas State University.



Dr. Susan Parish is the 13th president of Mercy University. President Parish previously served as Dean of the College of Health Professions and Sentara Professor of Health Administration at Virginia Commonwealth Univ. Prior to joining VCU, President Parish served as Dean of Bouvé College of Health Sciences at Northeastern. She was also the inaugural Nancy Lurie Marks Professor of Disability Policy and directed the Lurie Institute for Disability Policy at Brandeis University. She began her academic career as an assistant professor of social work at Univ. of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. President Parish has been a prolific researcher primarily investigating the health and well-being of children and adults with disabilities and their caregiving families. She earned her B.A. in English Literature and her M.S.W. from Rutgers University and earned her Ph.D. in Public Health from the Univ. of Illinois at Chicago.

Dr. Rene S. Parmar joined Lehman College in 2021 as the Dean of the School of Education after serving as Professor of Measurement and Evaluation and department chairperson at St. John's University. She also held the position of Associate Professor at the University at Buffalo. Dr. Parmar began her career as a special education teacher. She has published and presented widely in the areas of educational assessment, mathematics for students with learning disabilities, and educational leadership for inclusive environments. Dr. Parmar received her B.A. from the University of Jabalpur (India), M.Ed. from Vanderbilt University and Ph.D. from the University of North Texas.





MISSION: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

VISION: Equity for All

OUR VALUES: Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering. Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.

BRANCH OFFICERS

Co-Presidents

Abby Hirsch & Marcia Keizs

Program Co-Vice Presidents

Diana Lennon & Teresa N. Neal

Membership Co-Vice Presidents

Thea Jacobs & Mary Schenck

Recording Co-Secretaries

Susan Appel & Elaine Weiss

Corresponding Secretary

Susan Ferris Rights

Co-Treasurers

Susan Gardner & Judith Kessler

CHIPS Editor

Sue Lambert slamb47@aol.com

Branch Web Site

westchester-ny.aauw.net

State Web Site

www.aauw-nys.org

National Web Site

www.aauw.org

Facebook

AAUW Westchester NY

Bridge Photo from NY State Thruway Authority

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON THURSDAY, APRIL 11

On Thursday April 11 we have the chance to be treated to an exceptional gourmet meal and to support our Beverly Jordan AAUW–Westchester Endowment. The luncheon is prepared and served by students in Westchester Community College’s Culinary and Hospitality Department. The scholarships will be given to two current female students majoring in STEM fields at WCC. These recipients will be invited to speak at our Spring Fling dinner in June.

Please join us at 11:30 a.m. on April 11 at the Viking Café at WCC. Guests are welcome but be sure to sign up early to reserve your place. Seating is limited. Sign up for the luncheon using the coupon below.

AAUW Local Scholarship Luncheon

Thursday, April 11 at 11:30 a.m.

Viking Café Westchester Community College –
75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla
Student Center–Parking Lot #8

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Email _____

Address: _____

of People attending ____ x \$35 = \$_____
(\$21 of \$35 is tax deductible)

Additional Contribution \$ _____ (fully tax deductible)

Please make checks **payable to AAUW – Westchester** with “scholarship” on memo line.

Mail to Marilee Scheuneman, 27 Hillside Drive,
Yonkers, NY 10705



VOTING FOR NEXT YEAR’S OFFICERS AND BUDGET

Voting for the 2024-25 slate of officers (listed on page 5) and the 2024-25 budget (shown on page 5) will take place at the April Branch Meeting. You can also vote via e-mail to Sue Lambert at slamb47@aol.com.

please
vote

If you do not have access to email and will not be able to attend the April meeting, please vote using the ballot provided on page 5.

It is important that you vote so that we reach the required quorum.

CURRENT ISSUES April 5th at 10 AM VIA ZOOM

Learn more about the issues that impact us. Get involved. Discuss different topics. March's topics were:

- Spacecraft Travel
- NYS 2024- Congressional elections and redistricting, Part 2
- The Gulf Dead Zone: Will LA sue the Northern States?

April's topics will be just as interesting. Hope to see you on Zoom.

Call Ellen Leuner if you would like to join.

ART INTEREST GROUP

On April 18 the Art Interest Group will have a private tour at the Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Garden.

If you would like to come, please email Shelli Pines.

Have
You Seen
Our Web Site?

westchester-ny.aauw.net

Board minutes are posted on the Web Page

There are times when one of our members is dealing with an illness, a loss, or another personal crisis.

If you know of a member who should receive our well wishes or support, please send the information to our corresponding secretary, Susan Ferris Rights at susanferris123@gmail.com



JOIN AAUW WESTCHESTER BRANCH

Membership is open to anyone with an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from an accredited college or university. To join, please complete this form and send a check payable to AAUW Westchester Branch to the address below. Dues for a new member are \$98 for the first year of membership, a \$10 reduction from regular membership dues, which are \$108/year. When you join the Westchester Branch of AAUW, you also become a member of the AAUW New York State and National organizations.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City:State:Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

College/University, Degree, Graduation Year:

To join send a check to: Westchester AAUW, 455 Tarrytown Rd. #1354, White Plains, NY 10607 or to get more information go the Westchester AAUW Website (westchester-ny.aauw.net).



TUESDAY MORNING LIT GROUP

The Tuesday Morning Lit Group will meet on April 9 at 10 a.m. via Zoom. We'll discuss F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel, The Great Gatsby. Barbara McNear will lead our conversation.

Please contact Wilma Gitchel if you'd like to join us.

EVENING LITERATURE GROUP

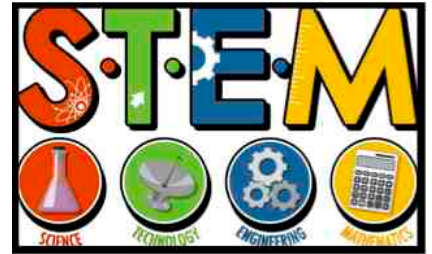
The Evening Lit Group will meet on Wednesday, April 3 at 6 p.m. at The Lexington Square Cafe in Mt. Kisco. Abby Hirsch will lead the discussion of Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus. Please contact Marsha Savino by phone, e-mail or text to let her know if you plan to attend.

If you have questions about this group phone Ellen Eschmann, the group leader. New members are welcome.

APRIL CO-PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Abby Hirsch and Marcia Keizs

Several years ago, when my granddaughter was about 10, she told me that she knew what career she wanted when she grew up. I was intrigued and asked her to tell me. "I am going to be an astrophysicist and I am going to study at MIT." I was impressed and asked her did she know what this was. I did not want to show my complete ignorance since I had no idea. She proceeded to educate me and then wanted to know if I could recommend any more colleges for her to consider. I told her that I would get back to her on this and then came a most devastating response. "You're a college counselor. Aren't you supposed to know these things? How can you help students if you don't know things?" I am happy to report that my ignorance did not damage her love for me and now as a 10th grader she does respect, or at least pretends to, my college expertise. I am very pleased that she has pursued her love for science and research.



Soon after this, one of my MERCY college colleagues and I applied for a grant through AAUW to hold a conference for school counselors to educate them in the need to introduce STEM careers to their female students. It was well attended, and many admitted that they knew very little about these fields. One of our speakers was Lorrin Johnson.

And so the question is: What do we know about STEM and how can we share what we know with girls and young women? This question is readily answered this month as our chapter holds our annual STEM conference. Launched 20 years ago by Lorrin Johnson who learned about a program at Mills College in California called "Explore Your Horizons." The conference dedicated to young girls had the goal to introduce them to the world of STEM which as you know by now stands for Science Technology Engineering and Math. Lorrin decided that this program needed to move to the east coast and she along with other AAUW members such as Wilma Gitchel and Maria Ellis made it happen. She contacted the New York City AAUW branch and also Barnard College, where she had been working at the time. Both organizations were enthusiastic to collaborate with us. The original program followed the Mills College program but incorporated special local AAUW touches. After many years there were too many 7th and 8th graders attending and we outgrew Barnard College. Happily, a new home was found at Mt. Saint Vincent University in Riverdale where our support from the College's leadership has been enthusiastic and strong .

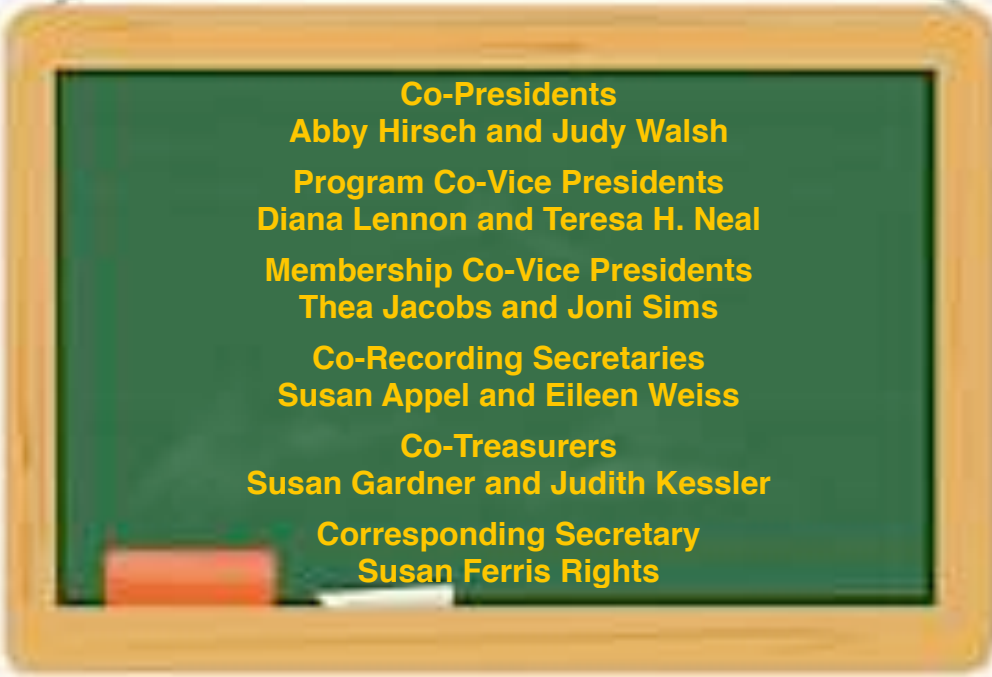
STEM nurtures critical thinking skills, enhances scientific literacy and cultivates the next generation of trailblazers and problem solvers. The study of STEM subjects helps children discover real-world applications, sparks creativity and develops 21st century skills including media and technology, productivity, social skills, communication flexibility and initiative. How wonderful that both our AAUW chapter as well as national AAUW is supporting this.

AAUW data tells us that only about 35% of women are actually working in a STEM related field. Today girls are pursuing excellence in math and science more than ever, but representation in these fields remains low.

Only about 12% of engineers are women, 25% are in the computer related fields, 40% are chemists and only 6% are CEOs in STEM companies. It is important that girls find and see more female role models in these fields. Nancy Grace Roman is called the "mother of the Hubble excellence" and worked at NASA. When she was in high school, she told her counselor that she wanted to take Algebra II instead of Latin. She was told "what lady would ever take mathematics instead of Latin." After she died, she left a generous gift to AAUW. Some other noteworthy STEM women include Barbara McClintok geneticist; Irene Au computer designer; Ainni Rometty CEO IBM; Joan Clarke code breaker ; Rear Admiral Grace Hopper inventor and computer scientist; and Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Dorothy Vaughan, mathematicians who were instrumental in NASA's launching of its earliest space flights . These three women were memorialized in the recent movie "Hidden Figures".

It is important that we continue to learn about these fields and encourage our young women to pursue these wonderful opportunities. We will help them all to "Explore Your Opportunities".

**THE 2024-2025 BRANCH
BOARD MEMBERS SLATE**



**Westchester
AAUW Ballot**

In favor of the proposed
slate for 2024-25

Yes No

In favor of the proposed
budget for 2024-25

Yes No

Name _____

Please mail you ballot to
Sue Lambert at
19 Pinehurst Dr.
Purchase, NY 10577 or
email your vote to
slamb47@aol.com



2024-2025 Proposed Budget

	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	As of 9/30	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	As of 12/31	As of 3/31	As of 6/30	BUDGETED	Budget 2024-5
INCOME												
Total Branch Dues	\$854.18	\$548.30	\$108.00	\$1,402.48	\$38.29	\$29.00		\$1,469.77	\$1,469.77	\$1,469.77	\$4,060.00	\$4,000.00
Contributions for Sr. Awards				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Contribution for 8th grade awards(restricted funds)				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Donations	\$25.00	\$48.00		\$73.00				\$73.00	\$73.00	\$73.00		
Scholarship Fundraiser for WCC Scholarship Fund		\$45.60		\$45.60				\$45.60	\$45.60	\$45.60	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Proceeds from Spring Fling				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Proceeds from Holiday Luncheon/ X20/ etc.	\$592.80	\$836.00		\$1,428.80			\$2,468.00	\$3,896.80	\$3,896.80	\$3,896.80	\$1,925.00	\$3,896.80
Total Income				\$2,949.88				\$5,485.17	\$5,485.17	\$5,485.17	\$11,585.00	\$11,525.00
EXPENSES												
BRANCH ACTIVITIES												
8th Grade Educational awards				\$0.00	\$51.10			\$51.10	\$51.10	\$51.10	\$ 300.00	\$300.00
Sr. Educational Awards				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 850.00	\$800.00
Public Policy (Running & Winning)				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 200.00	\$200.00
Westchester Women's Agenda				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 100.00	100
AAUW Student Leadership Conference				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 600.00	\$100.00
Total Branch Activities Expenses				\$0.00				\$51.10	\$51.10	\$51.10	\$2,050.00	\$2,050.00
CONFERENCES/CONVENTIONS												
Delegates - State or National				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Total Conferences/Conventions Expenses				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
GENERAL MEETINGS & SOCIALS												
Hospitality				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 150.00	\$150.00
Programs				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 150.00	\$150.00
Scholarship Fundraiser for WCC Scholarship Fund				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Spring Fling Expenses				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 2,900.00	\$2,900.00
Holiday lunch expenses, Toy Drive, Misc. lunches	\$592.80	\$851.88		\$1,444.68	\$150.00		\$2,064.00	\$3,658.68	\$3,658.68	\$3,658.68	\$ 1,400.00	\$1,400.00
Rental & Custodial Fees (inc. \$300 to library)				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Total meeting/social expense				\$1,444.68				\$3,658.68	\$3,658.68	\$3,658.68	\$6,700.00	\$6,700.00
OPERATING EXPENSES												
Corres. Sec./Sunshine Fund				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 50.00	\$50.00
Insurance				\$0.00	\$200.00			\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$ 600.00	\$600.00
Membership	\$89.76			\$89.76				\$89.76	\$89.76	\$89.76	\$ 75.00	\$75.00
Newsletter/Postage				\$0.00	\$25.97			\$25.97	\$25.97	\$25.97	\$ 300.00	\$300.00
Board Expenses [zoom, fees,...]	\$64.56	\$13.59	\$13.59	\$91.76	\$13.59	\$63.59	\$13.59	\$182.53	\$182.53	\$182.53	\$ 600.00	\$600.00
Publicity/Branch Brochure				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 200.00	\$200.00
Yearbook/Postage				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 950.00	\$950.00
AAUW Funds Mailing				\$0.00	\$219.00			\$219.00	\$219.00	\$219.00	\$ 200.00	\$240.00
Constant Contact @9.99 per month				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 120.00	\$120.00
Intern Expenses				\$0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 100.00	\$100.00
Total Operating Expenses				\$181.52				\$717.26	\$717.26	\$717.26	\$3,195.00	\$3,235.00
Total Expenses				\$1,626.20				\$4,427.04	\$4,427.04	\$4,427.04	\$23,730.00	\$23,710.00

A CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S HISTORY

Submitted by Selena Barron



Women's History Month has been observed annually for the month of March since 1987. The holiday is designed to celebrate women's contributions to history, culture and society. For 2024 the theme is "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion."

One simplified concept to explain the women's movement in the U.S. is the four waves of feminism. The first wave took place between 1848 and 1920. Beginning in 1848 Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton founded the National Woman Suffrage Association which paved the way for the 19th amendment which gives women the right to vote. They said, "Organize, agitate, educate, must be our war cry".

The second wave took place between 1963 and the 1980s. In 1963 Betty Friedan published *The Feminine Mystique*. She argued that women felt confined at the expected role of women as wives and mothers. The book sold 3 million copies in three years and women felt urged to take action. The second wave then inspired the civil rights movement and protests against the Vietnam War. Women wanted a reevaluation of gender roles in society and an end to sexist discrimination. In 1971 Friedan, Gloria Steinem and Bella Abzug founded the National Women's Political Caucus. They inspired the passage of the Equal Pay Act and the Landmark Supreme Court decisions in *Griswold v. Connecticut* in 1965 and *Roe v. Wade* in 1973 related to reproductive freedom. Congress passed the Equal Rights Amendment in 1972 but it has never been able to get enough state votes to be ratified.

The 3rd wave took place in the 1990s. The 2nd movement had achieved more equality and rights for women. Now the 3rd wave focused on fighting problems that still existed such as sexual harassment in the workplace and a shortage of women in positions of power. Groups like Bratmobile and Heavens to Betsy used music to express feminist problems. Some of their songs included problems with sexism, patriarchy, abuse, racism and rape. The third wave also tried to be more inclusive about race and gender.

The 4th wave is sometimes defined as a continuation of the 3rd wave. However, the introduction and use of the internet has presented ways of quickly communicating to a larger audience. For example, in 2007 Tarana Burke used the internet to launch action by women. In 2017 the #Me Too movement used the internet to describe revelations about influential film producer Harvey Weinstein's sexual misconduct. The responses led to Weinstein's conviction. In 2020 Weinstein was convicted of sexual crimes in New York City and sentenced to 23 years in prison. In 2023 in Los Angeles, he was convicted of rape and sentenced to 16 years in jail to follow the New York sentence for a total of 39 years behind bars.

The following quotes from outstanding women stand as inspiration for all women.

"Women are like teabags. We don't know our true strength until we are in hot water".

Eleanor Roosevelt, first lady, activist, political figure, diplomat

"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right."

Rosa Parks, civil rights activist

"One child. One teacher, one book, one pen can change the world."

Malala Yousafzai, Pakistani female education activist, Nobel Peace Prize laureate

"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity."

Amelia Earhart, aviation pioneer

Women into Leadership



RUNNING AND WINNING PROGRAM Submitted by Joni Sims

On April 18th, around 60 High School girls from across Westchester County will show up for our Running and Winning program. This day long event allows the girls to meet with and hear from most of Westchester County's locally elected female politicians, for a first hand accounting of what it's like to run for office, as well as what it's like to serve. AAUW-Westchester and the League of Women Voters of Westchester join together to bring about this program. Girls will hear what it's like to *Campaign For and to Work In Public Office*. Then they will have a chance to plan and present a public policy campaign, choosing from several provided subjects. This experience isn't just about running for office, but helps these young women become more politically savvy.

Girls for STEM EXPLORE YOUR OPPORTUNITIES!

**A CONFERENCE FOR
7TH & 8TH GRADE GIRLS
APRIL 13, 2024
8:30AM-1:30PM**

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS FOR
STUDENTS AND PARENTS

INTRODUCING GIRLS TO STEM BASED CAREERS
(SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH)

UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT SAINT VINCENT
RIVERDALE, NEW YORK 10471

[INFO AND REGISTRATION: AAUW-GIRLSFORSTEM.ORG](http://AAUW-GIRLSFORSTEM.ORG)

[QUESTIONS? AAUW.GIRLSFORSTEM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AAUW.GIRLSFORSTEM@GMAIL.COM)



SPONSORED BY AAUW WESTCHESTER BRANCH
AAUW EMPIRE NYC BRANCH
AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT SAINT VINCENT



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT YOU
CAN CONTACT LORRIN JOHNSON 917 297-4548 OR MARIA
ELLIS 973 216-4181 OR AT OUR E-MAIL
AAUW.GIRLSFORSTEM@GMAIL.COM.



APRIL 2024

4/3	Evening Literature Group	Lexington Square Cafe, Mt. Kisco	6 p.m.
4/5	Current Issues Discussion Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
4/9	Tuesday Morning Literature Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
4/10	Deadline for submitting for CHIPS		
4/10	Board Meeting		4 p.m.
4/10	Branch Meeting	Greenburgh Public Library and Zoom	5:30 p.m.
4/11	Scholarship Luncheon	Viking Cafe at WCC	11:30 a.m.
4/13	Explore Your Opportunities Conf.	Un. of Mount St. Vincent	8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
4/16	Poetry Interest Group	Zoom	1:30 p.m.
4/18	Art Interest Group	Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden	
4/18	Running and Winning Workshop	Manhattanville College	8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Bridge - every Monday at 11 a.m. in person and/or 1 p.m. online