

## Newsletter of the Saint Louis Branch (Since 1893)

2015-2016, No. 5

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

#### Who we are...

The Saint Louis Branch of AAUW supports the broad goals and actions of AAUW by holding public outreach events, engaging in political action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and by supporting area young women and girls directly. We promote a "You Can Do It" approach. We are one of six branches in the Saint Louis, MO, area that comprise the AAUW Metro Saint Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

#### Branch Officers, 2015-2016

Jan Scott, Co-President 314-727-6876 jan@wypstlouis.com

Carol Davis McDonald Co-President and Newsletter 636-227-0511 davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

Susan Barley, Finance Officer, AAUW Funds, Bylaws and Policies 314-361-2920 Barley702@gmail.com

**Ellen Irons** Director at Large, Programs

Sally McGowan Director at Large, Public Policy

(Vacant) Director at Large, IBC

#### Web Sites:

Branch Web Site: http://stlouis-mo.aauw.net

IBC Web Site: http://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net

State Web Site: www.aauwmo.org

National Web Site: www.aauw.org

## **ST LOUIS BRANCH UPDATES:**

Saturday, June 18, 2016, 11:30 AM Pietro's Restaurant of Saint Louis 3801 Watson Road, St. Louis, MO 63109 (314) 645-9263 – www.pietrosdining.com



**Remember this place?** We had our spring luncheon there last year. Back by popular demand - we decided to do it again.

This has been a very busy time for your board members, so we apologize for not "getting our act together" regarding this year's luncheon. We let May slip right by and tried

to come up with a mutually-agreeable date – a hard thing to do when May comes around and fills up our calendars with all our organizations' trying to fit their functions into the limited weekends that are not too hot or too cold.

Our busy Jan has piled her plate very high. To name a few things, she is program chair for the Press Club of Metro St. Louis, IBC chair, on the board of her music fraternity, and now has been installed as president of AAUW of Missouri. I have been compiling the current issue of *Missouri in Motion* (arriving soon in your mailbox), and I am also handling registrations for the upcoming AAUW Biennial Midwest Regional Conference in Kansas City, KS – please try to attend, as it's very educational and much fun visiting with members from other states; preparing for the next IBC meeting; and, in the meantime, putting this newsletter together. Consequently, our May luncheon is now our June luncheon.

This luncheon meeting will be our <u>annual business meeting</u>. We will need to vote on the two-year term (2016-2018) of finance officer. **Sue Barley** has held this position for two terms of the four terms allowed by the bylaws. She is agreeable to continuing and has been nominated for the position. In addition, Sue has recommended a change to our branch bylaws regarding the <u>minimum</u> number of meetings. She proposed that we change this to <u>two</u> from four. Please consider these two items to be voted on at the meeting.

Now, for reservations: Please contact me, one way or the other, phone call or email (636-227-0511 or <u>davis-mcdonald@outlook.com</u> – yes, a new address for AAUW business) so that we know how many reservations to call in. If there are any changes in plans or something you need to know about that day, we will be contacting those of you who have contacted us. Questions? Please contact Jan or me (see list at left). I am looking forward to a most enjoyable afternoon with good friends of like minds (and maybe some who aren't as "like" – we all get along). On a serious note, we tearfully will not be joined by our dear friend, Fran Irwin, who passed away last month. Her funeral notice is on the next page.

#### **MEMBER NEWS:**

Happy April Birthday! 7 – Amy Weisser
Happy May Birthday! 17 – Nancy Collins 20 – Lois Eason
Happy June Birthday! 27 – Deb Burris
Happy July Birthday! 8 – Barbara Johnson 27 – Ellen Irons
Happy August Birthday! 27 – Gwen Cotton

If I missed your birthday, either it wasn't on your membership application or I didn't receive an application. Sorry, happy belated birthday.

#### Congratulations (again) to Jan Scott!

She was installed as president of AAUW of Missouri, 2016-2018, in Jefferson City on April 30<sup>th</sup> at the annual state meeting. Also installed were Ellen Johnson, left, (KC Branch) as finance



officer and Sue Shineman, center, (Independence Branch) as membership vice president. Wish you all could have been there. We had a great time and learned a lot.

#### **Mourning Our Friend**



Frances M Irwin, PhD, passed away suddenly on April 16, 2016. She was the beloved wife of Harry A. Irwin; dear mother of Linda (David) McNair, Kathy I. (Robert) Wood, III, Bryan (Patrice Todisco) Irwin, Alan Irwin, and Shirley A. Irwin; dear grandmother of

William (Lauren) and Harrison Wood, Stephanie and James McNair, and Nate and Charlotte Irwin.

Fran joined the St. Louis Branch in 2002. She earned a B.S. in Public School Music from Duquesne University in 1954, a M.M. (1974) and an Ed.D. (1984) in Music Education from Washington University. Besides education, she was a self-employed musician and a volunteer for the Metro South Arts Council as chairman of their annual Scott Joplin Ragtime Competition. Fran was international president of Mu Phi Epsilon, an international music fraternity, and wrote two music books: *Balkan Melodies for the Accordion* and *World Melodies for the Accordion* (Mel Bay Publications). Her

hobbies and interests were multicultural music, her five children, and her six grandchildren.

Services were at KUTIS AFFTON CHAPEL on Friday, April 22, and mass was celebrated at St. Raphael the Archangel. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. Visitation was on Thursday, 4-9 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family asked for donations to be made to the Mu Phi Epsilon Dr. Frances Irwin Scholarship. Checks should be made out to Mu Phi Epsilon and be sent to: Mu Phi Epsilon, 5312 Sutherland Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63109.

## AAUW NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT, by Sue Barley

The AAUW Fund advances AAUW's mission by sustaining all our programs and activities. Some of the popular programs are NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders), \$tart \$mart, Work Smart, Elect Her, Legal Advocacy Fund, and the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund. These programs are supported by fees, donations from members and supporters, and, in some cases, by corporate support. No part of your dues is used to support programs.

We are proud that our programs advance equity for women and girls and get results. It is easy to make a taxdeductible gift to the AAUW Fund. You may use your credit card online or send a check to AAUW, 1111 Sixteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20036. If you wish, you may send your check to Sue Barley, and she will make sure AAUW receives it and you are given credit.

Thank you to the AAUW St. Louis Branch members who generously gave to the AAUW Fund in 2015 to support our many vibrant national programs.

- Missouri Century Club Plus (\$250+): Sue Barley, Mary Bruemmer, Carol Davis McDonald
- Missouri Century Club (\$100+): Gwendolyn Cotton, Barbara Johnson, Helen Shopmaker
- *Up to \$99*: Nancy Brown Collins, Barbara Johnson, Sally McGowan

These gifts were credited to the AAUW St. Louis Branch for a total of \$1,504.00.

## How's Your Elevator Speech?

As we head full throttle into the new AAUW year, we hope you will reach out to new audiences and practice your elevator speech using AAUW's <u>new worksheet</u>. The elevator speech is your first chance to open a conversation with a potential member. Identify their interests and what about AAUW would engage them. Everyone can support AAUW's mission through membership, donations, signing petitions, or joining AAUW's Action Network.

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"He believed that lack of education was the root of all of Pakistan's problems. Ignorance allowed politicians to fool people and bad administrators to be re-elected."

 Malala Yousafzai, I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban

## **INTERBRANCH COUNCIL UPDATES**



On May 3, 2016, we lost a good friend from the Ferguson-Florissant Branch, Anna "Nancy" Wayne (Ashhurst) Gerber, Ph.D. Her father was Dr. Astley Paston Cooper Ashhurst, a noted surgeon and author who died before she was born. Her mother was Anna Pauline Ashhurst (Campbell) was a descendant of General

Mad Anthony Wayne. Nancy was a graduate of Vassar, Middlebury, and the University of Pittsburgh. She authored *La Literatura Hispanoamericana En La Crtica Espaola*. Active in her branch, the Interbranch Council, AAUW of Missouri, and the International Fellowship of University Women, she was a dear friend to many of us.

## DOWNTOWN LUNCH GROUP

Here are the places to be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 11:45 AM. Please join us – we have lots of good conversation. For reservations contact Kay Meyer at 314-962-7487 or <u>kicmeyer51@gmail.com</u>.

Jun 21 Lombardo's Trattoria at Drury Inn, 201 S. 20<sup>th</sup> Street, 63103, 314-621-0666

## AAUW İADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

Book clubs are a fun, social way to open a dialogue on women, diversity, and change. Many AAUW members share a love of reading; and that love, partnered with a desire to seek out books written from diverse perspectives,



launched a component of AAUW's diversity outreach program in 1996 — AAUW's iAdelante! Book-of-the-Month Club. The St. Louis IBC book group meets September through May.

- Where: Barnes & Noble, Chesterfield Oaks Shopping Center, 1600 Clarkson Rd.
- When: 1:30 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month.
- Contact: Teri Brecht, tebrecht@yahoo.com. AAUW members from all St. Louis area branches are welcome.
- Upcoming books:
  - May 26 *Go Set a Watchman,* by Harper Lee. Reviewer: Linda Roberson
  - Sept 22 Charity and Sylvia: A Same-Sex Marriage in Early America, by Rachel Hope Cleve, OR A Tale for the Time Being, by Ruth Ozeki. Reviewer: Betty Takahashi

## AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

This is a joint group with the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch. The group meets the  $4^{th}$  Monday of each month at <u>4:00</u> <u>PM</u> at St. Louis Bread Company



on Manchester in Kirkwood (or a place to be announced). Friends, family, and guests are always welcome to join the discussion. Contacts: Barbara Johnson, 314-962-3501, or Kay Meyer, 314-962-7487 or kicmeyer@yahoo.com. Here is the reading list for the next few months:

May 23 Planning Meeting June 27 *Go Set a Watchman,* by Harper Lee

## **STATE NEWS**

**The annual members' meeting** was held in Jefferson City on April 30<sup>th</sup> following the state board meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>. A summary of the meeting is in the soon-to-be-sent Spring issue of *Missouri in Motion*, so be on the lookout.

<u>Congratulations</u> to **Jan Scott** and **Sue Barley** who were our branch's AAUW Fund State Named Gift Honorees. The St. Louis Branch was No. 8 in the Top Ten Branches in Total



Giving and No. 5 in the Top Ten Branches in Per-Capita Giving (\$65.39 average). The State of Missouri "per capita" was \$80.22. Above, AAUW Fund Chair **Yvonne Morrison** (left) presents the certificate to Branch representatives **Carol Davis McDonald** and **Jan Scott**.

The Branch received recognition for eight out of ten stars in the AAUW MO Star Award program. (To see what is required for each star, visit <u>click here</u> to see the application.) Program Vice President **Nicky Stanke** (below, left) presents the certificate to (left to right) **Jan Scott, Carol Davis** 



McDonald, Sue Barley, and Barbara Johnson, representing the St. Louis Branch.

Since the Branch received an incentive grant from AAUW of Missouri in support of our public policy event in February, we were required to give a presentation at the state meeting, as well as a display and/or handout. **Sally McGowan**'s poster signage, as well as a poster display of our 250 Notable St. Louis Women, and copies of **Ellen Iron**'s final report were set up in the room with other posters. Carol (right) made an oral presentation using Ellen's report.



## **REGIONAL NEWS**

## JOIN THE EXCITEMENT!

## MIDWEST AAUW BIENNIAL CONFERENCE



Join us on June 3-4, 2016, (noon Friday to Saturday late afternoon) at <u>Great Wolf Lodge</u>, Kansas City, Kansas. Nationally-known speakers, inspiring workshops, ongoing networking, AAUW Funds money-making opportunities, award-winning film, open forum, public policy events, Eleanor Roosevelt run/walk/sleep-in, recreation, shopping adventures, FUN, and more!



<u>Registration</u> is \$45 to cover Friday reception and film, Saturday light breakfast, breaks, conference materials, AV, and all special activities. The Saturday American buffet is \$26 for salad, pasta, entrée, dessert, bread, and beverages. <u>Hotel</u> room reservations being accepted: call 1-866-944-9653. Use block code 1606AAUW. Suite rooms \$176.86 plus taxes and fees. Sleeps 6 people. For conference <u>information</u> or if you have difficulty with room reservations, call 314-831-5359 or 636-938-3958. Act quickly – the deadline is May 28<sup>th</sup>!

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"The only thing better than education is more education."

 Progress to Freedom (1942) by Agnes E. Benedict, American educator, 1889-1950

## NATIONAL NEWS

## AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Victory for Two LAF-Supported Plaintiffs in Sex Discrimination Suit. After a decade of litigation, educators Michelle (Jaureguito) Henley and Laurel Wartluft have successfully settled their cases against Feather River Community College in California. Along with another LAFsupported plaintiff, Paul Thein, they filed whistleblower lawsuits in 2006 against Feather River. They alleged that the college violated Title IX by retaliating against them for complaining about sex discrimination, among other claims. All three cases were eventually referred to California's State Personnel Board. In August 2009, a California State Personnel Board judge issued a decision in favor of all three plaintiffs, ordering their reinstatement and awarding them back pay and damages. Feather River appealed the judge's decision. After a lengthy appeal, the full State Personnel Board upheld the judge's 2009 decision in the plaintiffs' favor. Their cases highlighted Title IX's important role in protecting faculty and staff who advocate for gender equity.

AAUW is thrilled for the plaintiffs and proud to have supported their cases. Paul Thein is still pursuing his case. He will be a speaker at the AAUW Midwest Regional Conference June 3-4 in Kansas City.

## WASHINGTON UPDATE

Despite all the attention on the primary season, America's voter turnout rate remains one of the lowest in the world. In 2012 <u>a record low of 17 percent</u> of the voting age population voted in the primary, and <u>only 55 percent cast a vote</u> in the general election. AAUW is dedicated to making sure every eligible woman is registered to vote and has the necessary information to cast her vote. That's why efforts are being renewed through the <u>It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard</u> campaign! We want to harness the dedicated power of AAUW members nationwide to register and turn out millennial women voters at a time when young women are less likely to vote.

Lisa Maatz, VP of Government Relations, had the opportunity to <u>testify</u> on behalf of AAUW before the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). The hearing was called to hear public testimony on a new rule that seeks to tackle the persistent gender and racial pay gap through improved data collection. AAUW has long fought to end gender pay discrimination, from our first report on pay equity released in 1913 to our work today to pass the <u>Paycheck Fairness Act</u>. This proposed EEOC rule, which AAUW strongly supports, <u>would collect summary pay data from</u> employers to better understand compensation patterns.

The Commission invited her to testify on this issue because AAUW has been a leading voice for pay equity and a champion of commonsense solutions to close the pay gap. At the end of January, when the proposed rule was released, <u>AAUW Action Network</u> supporters sent over <u>4,000 messages</u> to Labor Secretary Tom Perez urging him to finalize a new rule swiftly. Well done!

AAUW Title IX Coordinator Resources Delivery Project Reaches 25 States. AAUW members and advocates in <u>25</u> <u>states</u> have delivered the Department of Education's new resources to local Title IX coordinators. The resources explain the full scope of a Title IX coordinator's job to ensure that they can best assist the students they serve. Hundreds of members at the 2015 AAUW national convention pledged to deliver the resources. Branches are utilizing the project as a branch activity, coordinating and planning which schools they visited. Recently AAUW released a <u>Program in a Box</u> for the project, which provides a step-by-step guide for branches or individuals who wish to participate. <u>Find out</u> if your local schools have received these materials—if not, make a plan to visit their Title IX coordinator!

AAUW (Lisa Maatz) Attends Pre-Oscars "Dinner for Equality" Patricia Arquette, the Oscar-winning actress, co-hosted an intimate <u>"Dinner for Equality"</u> party in March, with Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff. AAUW Vice President of Government Relations Lisa Maatz was invited to join dinner guests spanning the entertainment, political, business, and activism fields to discuss the need for gender equality in America. This event was held in Arquette's home in California, a state that recently passed the nation's strictest pay equity law, the <u>California Fair Pay Act</u>. Following the dinner party, Arquette introduced Kamala Lopez's documentary <u>"Equal Means Equal,"</u> a compelling and persuasive film on the urgency of ratifying the <u>Equal Rights Amendment</u>.

Bill to Expand Rights for Sexual Assault Survivors Introduced

**in Senate.** The Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act was <u>introduced</u> in the Senate on Tuesday. Amanda Nguyen, a survivor and activist, helped craft the bill after her rape kit was nearly destroyed by the state of Massachusetts. Under Massachusetts state law, rape kits are destroyed in six months unless the survivor files an "extension request," despite having 15 years to decide whether to pursue legal action. The pamphlet given to Nguyen at the hospital did not explain how to file an extension request. The Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act establishes steps to provide survivors with a trained sexual assault counselor to fully understand their legal options. The bill also ensures the right to know the location of their rape kit, whether the kit has been tested, and the test results. These rights are guaranteed to the survivor whether or not she or he decides to take legal action.

Women May Not Be Earning Enough to Get the Credit Score They Deserve. A new study from the credit analysis service Credit Sesame <u>found</u> that women have lower credit scores than men, despite the fact that women carry less overall debt and have lower credit card balances than men do. Credit Sesame's chief strategic officer says he believes that income disparity between men and women may be a factor in credit scores. Women typically earn just 79 cents for every dollar a man earns, which means women are not being paid enough to fully pay off their debt. Furthermore, <u>recent research from</u> <u>AAUW</u> found that men were paid 18 percent more than women a year after graduating college. A larger paycheck for men results in a lower debt-to-income ratio, a measure that lenders consider when evaluating a borrower's loan

#### **State Spotlight**

**AAUW-Maryland Member** Anita Rosen testified in favor of pay equity in Maryland during a hearing on <u>a new bill</u> (SB0481) sponsored by State Senator Susan Lee (D-Montgomery County). During her testimony, Anita highlighted the need for the elimination of barriers to pay equity, such as employers' retaliation against workers who discuss wages. She was joined by other women's and labor advocacy groups who testified in support of the bill. In addition to prohibiting retaliation for discussing wages, SB0481 would prohibit discrimination based on gender identity.

#### **Spotlight on STEM.**

AAUW and Green Works Collaborate for StemBox. Help girls unleash their <u>#NaturalPotential</u> with <u>StemBox</u>, a monthly subscription service providing at-home science experiments for girls. In collaboration with Green Works, a portion of the proceeds from each subscription purchased in March will be donated to AAUW to help girls advance in STEM. The cost of StemBox is \$28 per month.

**STEM Programs for Girls.** Not all STEM education takes place in the classroom. AAUW members provide community programs that break down <u>stereotypes</u> about STEM and show girls that intellectual skills grow over time, regardless of gender. These programs create an environment where girls are encouraged to expand their knowledge and ability in STEM through fun and educational activities - and they foster girls' excitement for STEM, rather than dim it. These programs take place on a national scale but draw on the hard work and community knowledge of local AAUW members. In <u>one year alone</u>, AAUW organized more than 150 STEM programs in 35 states and 93 congressional districts, reaching more than 10,000 girls and their families.

A Voice for STEM on Capitol Hill and Jefferson City. With a national policy strategy, a strong grassroots and motivated volunteer activists, AAUW works at all levels of government to advocate for policies that increase access to STEM education for women and girls. In the past year alone, AAUW advocates sent tens of thousands of messages to members of Congress from all 50 states.

Our key policy recommendations for STEM include

- Increasing funding for STEM education
- Promoting computer science in K–12 public education

#### **Cheers and Jeers**

AAUW Cheer: A UK pharmacy changed its sexist pricing in response to an online petition. Boots Pharmacy changed prices of eye cream and razors after citizens throughout the UK called out the retailer for charging more for women's products than identical male products. Research by *The Times*  discovered price disparities across hundreds of genderspecific items, with those markets that target women priced 37 percent higher on average. Defense Secretary Ashton Carter announced that no job in the United States military will be denied based on gender, opening the door for women to hold combat jobs. This decision will open up about 220,000 jobs when implemented.

AAUW Jeer: A new study by the <u>Harvard Business Review</u> found that women receive less credit for teamwork than men. Academic coauthored papers lead to a collaboration penalty for women, leading to fewer promotions for female academics than their male colleagues. Only 52 percent of women received tenure, compared with 77 percent of men despite the statistical lack of difference in the number of papers that men and women produced.

AAUW Cheer: The first Native American woman was confirmed as a judge in a <u>U.S. District Court</u>. Diane Humetewa, a member of the Hopi tribe, was one of six judges to be confirmed to the federal court in Arizona on Monday. She is just the third Native American individual to be named to the federal bench.

AAUW Jeer: At a rally in Virginia, Ohio Governor John Kasich <u>claimed</u> that women "left their kitchens" to help elect him. The presidential candidate was referring to his early career in the 1970s and later apologized, saying his comment was not "artfully" made.

AAUW Cheer: President Obama nominated Carla Hayden to be the Librarian of Congress. If confirmed, she will be the first woman and first African-American to hold the position. Hayden has been chief executive of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Maryland, since 1993 and was president of the American Library Association from 2003 to 2004.

AAUW Jeer: Land's End apologized for an interview with Gloria Steinem and withdrew their support for a women's equality fund. The clothing retailer caved to pressures from the anti-abortion movement and removed the interview with feminist icon Gloria Steinem from their website. Land's End has discontinued its campaign that enabled customers to donate to the Fund for Women's Equality, of which Steinem is a board member, and has removed all "ERA" embroidered merchandise from its stores. [I guess I won't be ordering from them anymore!]

#### **Bits and Pieces**

 Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff applauded the Obama administration's new proposed rule to require large companies to report compensation summary data on gender, race, and ethnicity. Recently Salesforce spent \$3 million to ensure female and male employees were given equal salaries.

• The White House announced the "Computer Science for All" initiative to empower all American students K-12 to learn computer science. The initiative provides \$4 billion in funding for states and \$100 million directly for districts in the upcoming budget. It also invests more than \$135 million beginning this year by the National Science Foundation and the Corporation for National and Community Service to support and train computer science teachers.

• The Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights has reached nearly <u>200 open Title IX campus sexual violence</u> <u>investigations</u> at 162 different schools. This disappointing milestone was marked by an investigation at Skidmore College in New York opened last Thursday.

 New evidence <u>suggests</u> that voter ID laws skew election results. Findings from the University of California-San Diego revealed that strict voter ID laws significantly decreased turnout among black and Hispanic voters.

A note from **Mary Mosley**, legislative chair for the Missouri Women's Network: As you probably already know, the Missouri Senate has finally passed voter ID bills. The Missouri Constitution would have to be changed since the Missouri Supreme Court already decided it was unconstitutional under present law. Voter ID is just a way to make it hard for people to vote and could disenfranchise 200,000 Missourians. There are two bills--HB 1631 and HJR 53. HJR 53 is the constitutional amendment that would have to go to voters for approval before it could become part of the constitution. It was truly agreed to and finally passed on May 12, 2016. You can read about it at by clicking here.

• An analysis from the Population Research Center at the University of Texas <u>found</u> that after a prolonged campaign against abortion and family planning providers such as Planned Parenthood, births among low-income women in Texas have increased.

• The Department of Homeland Security's <u>Blue Campaign</u> made a number of efforts <u>to raise awareness to human</u> <u>trafficking</u> this year. The campaign <u>partnered</u> with groups in California ahead of Super Bowl 50, as high-profile events often serve as opportunities for traffickers. In addition, the department named January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month and established a partnership with Washington, D.C.'s Office of Human Rights to disperse new resources.

Senior officials told House Democrats that the Obama administration plans to extend <u>Medicaid coverage</u> to pregnant women and children affected by the Flint, Michigan, water crisis. The Medicaid coverage would include lead-blood level monitoring, behavioral health, and nutritional support.

• The U.S. Department of Education recently opened a new <u>Title IX sexual violence investigation</u> at Southwest Tennessee Community College. This case brings the department's <u>total</u> <u>number</u> of investigations nationwide to 205. Only five of those investigations are at community colleges.

• A study from computer science researchers <u>found</u> that <u>code contributions from women</u> are accepted at a higher rate than men. Only 20% of software developers are women, but their code is accepted at a 4% higher rate for every programming language than male coders.

• A study from the University of Southern California <u>found</u> only 33% of speaking characters in film and TV were women, and only 28% were non-white. The study also found that women where three times more likely to show nudity and dress in sexy attire than the male characters depicted.

• The status of <u>undergraduate women</u> at MIT was analyzed in a new study. The report shines light on the stereotypes and

discrimination women face at MIT, despite female students graduating with higher GPAs (controlling for major) than their male counterparts.

 Microsoft launched a video ad to promote women inventors. In a push to get more girls into sciences, Microsoft has expanded their efforts to include broadcast, online video, and social media across 35 countries.

• An Alabama state trooper was <u>sentenced</u> to just six months in prison for raping a car accident victim. Under the agreement made, he will also be permitted to serve his sentence "in increments at his own discretion."

## AAUW is pleased to announce a new member

benefit with Target that allows members to participate in

weekly flash sales. For every sale, AAUW earns up to 5 percent commission. Just click on the Target link on the <u>member</u> <u>benefits page</u>, and all sales or registries you make from there will support AAUW. And



make sure you check out our other exciting member benefits, including access to films intended to empower women and girls and discounts on magazines, prescriptions, Office Depot orders, and more, including Road Scholar and AAUW

Prescription Discount.

**ROAD SCHOLAR** 

Adventures in Lifelong Learning







May 23	Afternoon Book Group at SL Bread Co (p3)
May 24	IBC quarterly meeting, Thornhill Branch Library
May 26	Adelante Book Group at Barnes and Noble (p2)
Jun 2-4	NCCWSL
Jun 3-4	Midwest Regional Conference, Kansas City, KS (3)
Jun 18	ST LOUIS BRANCH LUNCHEON at Pietro's (1)
Jun 27	Afternoon Book Group at SL Bread Co (p3)
Jun 30	2016-2017 officer reports due to national
Jun 30	AAUW national occupying new offices
Jul 6	Last day to register to vote in primary
Aug 2	Primary election
Aug 20	St. Louis Equality Day Celebration
Sep 3	Re-creation of the 1916 Golden Lane, St. Louis
Sep 22	Adelante Book Group at Barnes and Noble (p3)
Oct 12	Last day to register to vote in general election
Nov 8	General election

Anything you want to share with our members? Please send articles and information for the newsletter to Carol Davis McDonald, 827 Bergquist Drive, Manchester, MO 63011-4215, or <u>davis-mcdonald@juno.com</u>.



# JOIN THE EXCITEMENT!



## MIDWEST TEN STATE AAUW BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

## June 3-4, 2016 (Noon Friday to Saturday Late Afternoon) Great Wolf Lodge Kansas City, Kansas

Conference Registration Registration includes Friday reception and film, Saturday light breakfast, breaks, conference materials, AV, and all special activities.	\$45
Saturday American Buffet Salad, pasta, entree, dessert, bread and beverages. Please let us know if you have special dietary needs.	\$26
Donation for Student Attendee	
Student Registration	\$20
TOTAL	
Name	_
Address	4
Phone	-
Email	_

Make checks to AAUW Midwest Regional Conference and mail to: Carol Davis-McDonald, 827 Bergquist Drive, Manchester MO, 63011 Deadline May 28, 2016

Call 1-866-944-9653 for room reservations. Use block code 1 606AAUW. Suite rooms are \$176.86 plus tax and fees and sleep 6 people. For more information call 314-831-5359 or 636-938-3958 or contact sbreeze@mindspring.com or apatriciashores@att.net