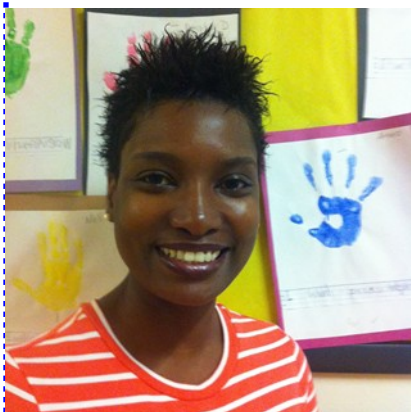




BEDFORD-LEXINGTON AREA BRANCH OCTOBER 2016

Breaking Through Barriers for Women and Girls

“CHALLENGES AND SUCCESSES IN A BPS” WITH PRINCIPAL TAMARA BLAKE-CANTY WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2016, 7:00 PM BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY



Tamara Blake-Canty has been principal of the Russell School in Dorchester since 2008. Under her leadership the school went from underperforming to now being high performing. Tamara attributed the success of her learning community to strong

leadership, shared decisions making, teacher leadership, strategic community partnerships and family engagement. She will share with us her experiences in this adventure.

Tamara received her bachelor’s degree from Emmanuel College in Child Psychology, Master’s from Wheelock College, and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies from UMass-Boston. In She expresses her philosophy of education as follows: "My vision for early childhood is that it's academically rigorous and that it's socially appropriate and that teachers are given the tools and necessary resources to be successful so that children can be successful."

The Russell School has been very committed to nurturing young black male students. In partnership with Nazarene College, one of the third grade teachers has been running the “10 Boys Initiative” for several years at the Russell. College students help mentor the boys and teach them to be responsible youth. In addition, all of the teachers have gone through professional development around Cultural Competency with Dr. Carol Blake. The school truly works as a whole to

help develop and grow students into great responsible leaders.



Robert Kraft, “Pat”, and cheerleader help Tamara and students at the Russell School celebrate being the grand prize winner of “Find Your Balance”

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PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

We started the program year out with an outstanding presentation focused on finances, especially what is important for women. "Heavy" but important stuff.

I personally am really looking forward to our October presentation by Tamara Blake-Canty. I have been to her school, seen her with the students, and heard her speak. Wow! She has done amazing things at the Russell School. We hear so many negative things about the Boston Public Schools but little about those schools which really shine—in spite of having to deal with old buildings, lack of supplies, poorly educated parents, etc. See the block below for items the school's teachers have requested, in addition to books for the children. Let's send her back to school with a car loaded with supplies and books!

This October meeting would be an excellent one for inviting friends who are or were teachers, spouses, high schoolers or college students interested in teaching, and anyone else who is interested in hearing about a Boston public school of which everyone can be proud. See you there...hopefully with a car full of friends, too!

If you are in need of a ride to the meeting, please email me (wetlandmom@aol.com) or call me (781-956-6774—my cell) so we can try to work something out.

Ruth Ladd

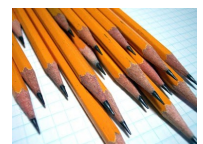
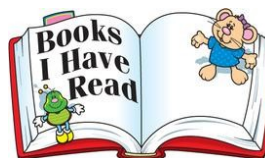
CHILDREN'S BOOKS...and other things

Ruth Ladd thanks the many members who have donated many children's books for the Russell School in Dorchester. She and her husband have delivered two loads of books (about 800 total) already. She continues to collect books but, as some members requested, obtained a list of other materials that teachers put on a wish list (see below) so all donations are enthusiastically accepted. Tamara Blake-Canty, the Russell School principal, will come and speak to us on October 5 so materials collected until then will be presented to her at that time (assuming they will fit in her car!).

If you don't want to hang onto things until October, you can either bring them to the September meeting or drop them at Ruth's house: 15 Pine Knoll Road, Lexington. An email (wetlandmom@aol.com) alerting her to their arrival would be appreciated!

TEACHERS' WISH LIST ITEMS:

- Reams of copier paper
- Dry erase markers
- Post-its with and without lines
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Tape
- Bulletin board borders
- Markers and crayons for students
- Color markers for large chart paper
- Working computers and notebooks (for K-2 students)
- Apple adapters for projectors



Educational Opportunities Fund Committee's Good News Update!

When International Fellow Judy Bolanle Ogunyemi visited our branch as a speaker in December 2009, she made a lasting impression on branch members. Upon completion of her fellowship at Brandeis University, Judy continued her humanitarian work in Kenya and has kept in close touch with us through her ongoing friendship and correspondence with Joan Zinderman.

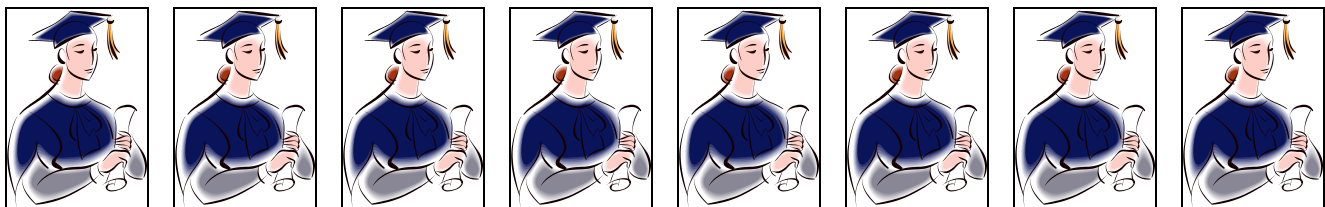
We are thrilled to share the good news that Judy has been awarded a 2016-17 AAUW International Project Grant and that she is featured in the current issue of AAUW's *Outlook* magazine on page 27!

“Judy Bolanle Ogunyemi’s passion for human rights advocacy in Kenya includes educating young women and girls on their reproductive health and rights, understanding the law, and analyzing the availability and need for better access to reproductive health services in the slums.” (AAUW website)

Judy is a fine example of the extraordinary young women who receive awards through AAUW's Fellowships and Grants program. She has always expressed deep gratitude for the support she has received through AAUW and is so appreciative of the key role AAUW plays in breaking barriers for women and girls.

Thanks to all branch members who continue to support AAUW's Fellowships and Grants program through our December fundraiser for the Educational Opportunities Fund. Our branch goal once again this year is 100% member participation! You can and do make a difference!

Diane Leahy
Joan Zinderman
Education Opportunities Fund Committee



UPCOMING PROGRAMS FOR 2016-17

(note the various locations!)

October 5—Tamara Balke-Canty, Principal, on
Successes and Challenges in Boston's
Russell Elementary School
(Dorchester)
BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

November 2—Senator Michael Barrett on the
Massachusetts Ballot Initiatives.
LEXINGTON COMMUNITY CEN-
TER

December 3—December Brunch/EOF Fundraiser
BEDFORD COMMUNITY CENTER

March 1—Erin Kelley, Title IX Coordinator at
Bentley University
BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

April 5—Michelle Roche, Director of Career and
Technical Education, on the Girls in
STEM Initiative at Minuteman Tech
MINUTEMAN TECHNICAL
SCHOOL

[LAF celebration and collection]

May 3—Nancy Nelson, Superintendent of Min-
uteman National Historical Park on
the National Park Service's 100th
Anniversary
BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

June 7—End of Year Dinner at the Club Car Café
in West Concord

NOTES FROM OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

Robin DeMott

Our September meeting was very informa-
tive. George Gagliardi, a financial planner
from Lexington, spoke about financial is-
sues that women need to be aware of.
Ruth emailed us the checklists he distrib-
uted. He has written many articles for the
Lexington Minuteman and you can find all
his articles on the Resources section of his
web site, **CoromandelWM.com**. They
are very informative and discuss many
subjects (Medicare, retirement, paying for
college, etc.). You can also join his mailing
list to get his future articles.

There were two points that stood out to
me. One was writing down all the user-
names and passwords of your bill paying,
credit card, email, Facebook, LinkedIn,
etc. accounts and provide disposition in-
structions so that someone can handle
them after you are gone. The other was
using a digital storage location, for exam-
ple, Everplans, for life insurance policies,
final wishes, etc., so out-of-town children
can access the information without physi-
cally being in front of their parents' file
cabinet.

OUR WEBPAGE

Have you checked out our webpage re-
cently? It is [http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/
branches/bedford-lexington/](http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/bedford-lexington/) and fi-
nally has current information! Our
branch is accessed through the state's
website.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

GIVE A GRAD A GIFT!

With a gift of AAUW membership, you will...

- Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 170,000 members and supporters who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.
- Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects.
- Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive *Mission & Action*, *AAUW Outlook*, Action Network alerts, and more.

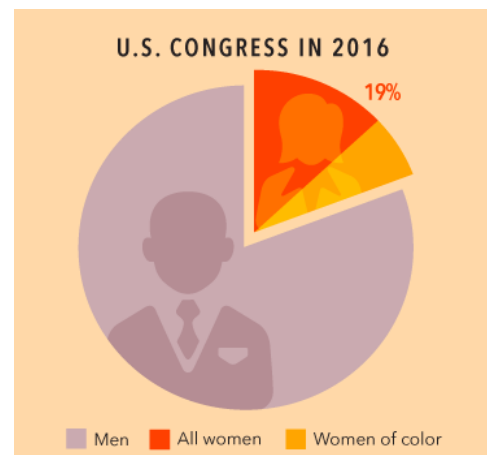
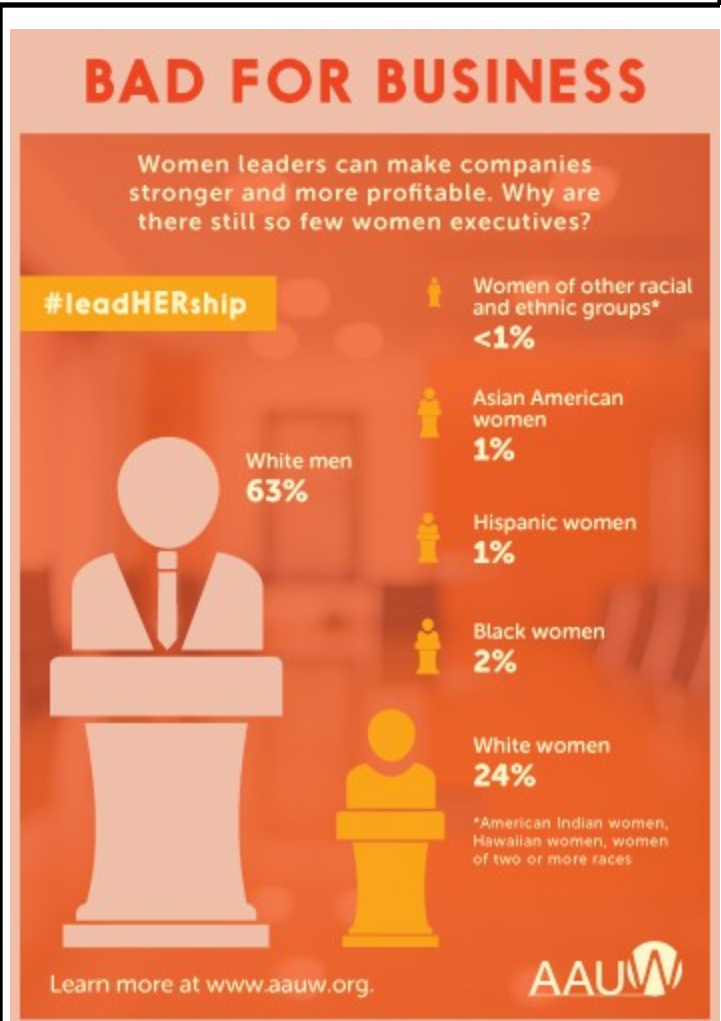
Increase their buying power with access to member-only discounts.

The information you will need: graduate's name, address, phone, email, college/university attended, degree earned, year graduated or anticipated graduation year, and your information including your branch and the relationship of the graduate to you. It can all be done on-line and will cost you NOTHING for national membership for the new grad!

HAVE A COLLEGE OR GRAD STUDENT IN YOUR FAMILY?

An AAUW e-student affiliate (ESAF) is a student who attends a college or university that has joined AAUW and become a partner member. These students are eligible to join AAUW for **free**. To join, all a student has to do is complete [an online form](#). Once a student joins AAUW, she has free student membership until she graduates, as long as her school remains a college/university partner institution. Upon

graduation the student will receive a free year of full membership on behalf of her college/university through the Give a Grad a Gift program. What a deal!



Newsletter Editor
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AAUW's Value Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

→ **NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2016**

BOOK GROUP

The group meets at 1:00 pm. New members are most welcome!
Contact Catherine Boyd at catherinefboyd@verizon.net for directions.

October 19 at Harriet Hathaway's
All the Light We Can Not See by Anthony Doerr (Harriet)

November 16 at Sue Giurleo's
The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion (Sue)

December 21 at Sue Giurleo's (food by committee TBD)
Book Swap

January 18 at Concord Public Library (Joan Zinderman)
Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy by Karen Abbott (Jeanne)

February 15 at Helene Rosenthal's
We Are Market Basket by Daniel Kerschun and Grant Welker (Irene)

March 15 at Concord Public Library (Joan Zinderman)
The American Heiress by Dorothy Eden (Joan)

April 19 at Catherine Boyd's (catered by Janet Khattab)
My Life on the Road by Gloria Steinem (Janet)

May 17 at Mary Brzezinski's bring next year's recommendations
Year of Wonders, a Novel About the Plague by Geraldine Brooks (Mary)

June 21 at Catherine Boyd's
The Cat Who Ate Danish Modern by Lilian Jackson Braun (Catherine)

