

WILLMAR BRANCH AAUW

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2015

PLEASE JOIN US!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 - 9:30 A.M.

(Note Change of Day and Time)

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH (use south door)

Because Bethel Church is closed on national holidays, and the third Mondays of January and February are national holidays, we have scheduled one meeting for both months on SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 at 9:30 A.M. In recognition of February as black history month, our program will be a "Tribute to Maya Angelou", the well-known American black author and poet who died in 2014. This program will be led by MARY GRUIS, who teaches English at Ridgewater College on the Hutchinson campus. Recommended reading includes I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings and Letter to My Daughter.

Refreshments will be served by Carla Buzzeo and Le Lucht. Don't miss it! And bring a friend.

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******CAMPUS ACTION PROJECT******

Last fall, Beverly Crute, College Rep Mary Myers, and Jeanette Carlson met with the girls at the group home to find out what their career interests might be. It was a very enlightening session! Since that meeting, we have set a date to carry out a "Campus Action Project" (CAP) at Ridgewater College on February 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The "taste of college" visit will include:

- 1. Food Service: Meet Patty for a tour to learn about the food service and catering industry followed by lunch hosted by AAUW.*
- 2. Cosmetology: Meet students, tour the department, and receive complimentary manicures, thanks to Marcy Asche, department chair.*
- 3. Meet Dawn Bjork, career counselor, and take a Career Interest Survey on-line.*

Our AAUW branch always encourages girls from the group home to complete their high school education and to consider some kind of higher education. Statistics show that the more education one has, the higher the income. This can result in a better lifestyle, especially for women and children. A "hands-on" visit to Ridgewater College should encourage the girls to go on to further their education. Along with that, we hope to spur their interests in a career field in which they might enjoy working. We in AAUW hope to make each visit to the college a fun experience for the girls, something hands-on, as well as educational.

What Are You Reading?

I recently finished reading Sally Ride: America's First Woman in Space and found it to be extremely interesting.....inspirational.....and wondered why I always found the study of science beyond my ken. Sally loved science, so much so that she completed her doctorate in aerophysics and became a member of the first astronaut class to include women.

When she completed her time with NASA, she taught on the college level and went on to establish science camps, especially for girls. Sally "wanted to awaken young female minds to the wonder of science that had captivated her; she wanted to inspire and insure the next generation of America's mathematicians and engineers and physicists and astronauts. She wanted to teach them, as she'd been taught, that if you're a girl, you can do anything. She wanted them to see, as she had, beyond the stereotypes." Sally went on to emphasize the importance of STEM education. On a smaller scale, this is something AAUW all across the country is promoting.

(Jeanette Carlson)

EXERCISE, ANYONE?

At the November meeting, Amber Chevalier at Rice Hospital gave an excellent presentation on wellness and led some fun exercises. If AAUW members are interested, she would be willing to lead future sessions. At this point, we do not have the six participants needed to have a session. The cost is free because of a ReYOU grant. Perhaps we could have Amber come 30 minutes early to our monthly meetings for some exercise time. If you are interested, contact Beverly Crute at:

revbev@rice.willmar.mn.us

Refreshments Volunteers

March 16	6:45 p.m.	Kathy Vruwink & Sam Aakre
April 20	6:45 p.m.	Louise Thoma & _____
May 18	6:00 p.m.	International Potluck Buffet
		Paper Products: Becky Romosz
		Beverages: _____

Can YOU fill in the blanks? Contact Marsha Milani: rbmilani@gmail.com or 320-894-2526.

Bits and Pieces.....

Thanks to all who donated prizes and gift cards for the Bingo game at the December party for the girls from the group home. A special thank-you goes to Kay Scholten and Pam Vruwink for their Mary Kay product donations. The girls had a wonderful time and went home with lots of gifts and treats. Thanks, also, to Marsha Milani for her presentation on St. Lucia.

If our Campus Action Project on February 11 at Ridgewater College proves successful, the committee will put together an application for a possible state AAUW grant to cover the cost of the first project and future projects. This is due February 15 and will be awarded at the state convention in April. Future possibilities include Vet Tech, Photography, Nursing, and STEM career areas. Your input is welcome. Contact Beverly, Mary, or Jeanette.

