

AAUW-NYS GOTV Counterpart Newsletter Get Out The Vote!



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Tonight is the final Presidential Debate!

The debate airs at 9 pm from Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida, moderated by Bob Schieffer, host of *Face the Nation* on CBS. This debate will focus on foreign policy and be divided into six time segments of approximately 15 minutes each on topics to be selected by the moderator (the same format used in the first debate).

If you missed any of the debates or want to watch them again (or read a transcript), go to: <http://tinyurl.com/4xoj6se>.

Remember, this is the presidential candidates' last chance to talk to voters, and Election Day is our chance to show we were listening. Make your voice heard!

AAUW-NYS Branch GOTV Action!

The **Rockland County Branch** co-hosted a CANDIDATES' FORUM on Oct. 21 along with JCC Rockland, Rockland Chapter of AARP, Rockland LWV, Hadassah, Nanuet Hebrew Center, Rockland Section National Council of Jewish Women, and the Rockland Chapter Statewide Senior Action Council.

- ♦ **96th Assembly** District Ken Zebrowski (D)
- ♦ **97th Assembly** District Ellen Jaffee (D), Joseph Gravagna (R)
- ♦ **US Congress** – 17th District Nita Lowey (D), Joe Carvin (R), Frank Morganthaler (We the People)
- ♦ **38th Senate** District David Carlucci (D), Janis Castaldi (R)
- ♦ **39th Senate** District Christopher Eachus (D), Rep. Larkin (declined invite)

The **Southern NY Branch** is co-hosting a series of candidate forums in October for local, state and federal office with their partners, WSKG, the League of Women Voters

and Broome Community College. The races include NYS Assembly: Lupardo vs. Lewis; County Executive: Preston vs. Abdelazim; US Congress: Hanna vs. Lamb; and NYS Senate: Libous vs. Orzel.

The **Cortland Branch's** second candidate forum with the local LWV for the 51st NYS Senate District: James Seward (Rep) and Howard Leib (Dem) and the candidate for the 125 Assembly District– Barbara Lifton (Dem) has been shown locally on Time Warner Cable Access Channel 2 (<http://www.cortland.org/news/CACTV.pdf>). AAUW shared copies of the DVDs with other in-District Leagues for their public access channels.

The **Westchester Branch** will be looking at **Concerns Regarding Hydrofracking in New York** with Susan Van Dolsen, a member of "Westchester for Change", an independent group of community activists working for progressive social and political change. The **Current Issues Interest Group** will continue to focus on the impending election with **THE ELECTION WRAP UP** on Nov. 2. Public Policy Chair **Selena Baron** wrote an excellent GOTV article, "Madness, Malfeasance, Mayhem and Money: They're all part of the 2012 Presidential election," for the branch newsletter, CHIPS.

Trick or Vote

This Halloween (Oct. 31) thousands of volunteers across the country will knock on over 100,000 doors, reminding people to vote. Join **Trick or Vote** to combine civic engagement with fun — it's democracy at its spookiest. Set up an event or find one near you: <http://trickorvote.org/>



Congressional Races to Watch

Long and Gillibrand clash on fracking, abortion

<http://tinyurl.com/9xcsfun>

Last Tuesday's issue of the day in 24th Congressional District race: Hydrofracking.

Before Democratic candidate **Dan Maffei** called on U.S. Rep. **Ann Marie Buerkle** to "take a stand" on hydrofracking, Green Party candidate **Ursula Rozum** also chimed in with her views on the issue. Hydrofracking is an issue that splits voters, with supporters saying natural gas drilling will boost the state's economy and create jobs. Opponents say environmental risks outweigh the economic benefits. A poll conducted by the Siena Research Institute in August found 39 percent of voters surveyed said they support allowing hydrofracking in New York, while 38 percent said they oppose it. In upstate New York, 48 percent of voters said they oppose hydrofracking, while 36 percent said they support it.

<http://tinyurl.com/8hcx9gn>

Ask state and local candidates where they stand.

Don't forget about the congressional, state, and local elections happening around you! Attend town hall meetings, candidate forums, and other speaking engagements to get the candidates on record on women's issues. Check out these sample questions to ask the candidates!

<http://www.aauwaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/CVR-poster.pdf>

Economic Justice in New York State

Watch this story closely. It may be our best chance to move the state legislature forward on economic justice issues like pay equity and raising the minimum wage!

Cuomo Says Do "The People's Business" Before Pay Raise

Governor Cuomo says if state lawmakers are looking for a pay raise in a post-election session, they'll have to accomplish some items on his agenda first. Cuomo says he's seeking action on increasing the minimum wage, reforming New York City's Stop and Frisk laws, and decriminalizing small amounts of marijuana. Cuomo is not ruling out a pay hike. He's said in the past that his commissioners need a raise. He says the relatively low pay has been a barrier to hiring quality people.

<http://tinyurl.com/99saazy>

Wage hike splits candidates

The only candidates for Assembly or state Senate in the north country who have ambiguous opinions about an increase to the minimum wage are the incumbents. Opinions on the measure — which would raise the minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$8.50 an hour — are represented in both parties among challengers. But the Republicans who are in office all voted against it, while saying their opposition isn't rock-solid. The issue pits progressives — mostly Democrats who are hoping for a signature accomplishment for working families — against conservatives — mostly Republicans who say raising the minimum wage will hurt small businesses and wreck the economy. Many in Albany believe the state Legislature will vote to raise the minimum wage in the lame-duck session between the Nov. 6 elections and when the new legislators take office in January. They believe it will be coupled with a pay hike for legislators, who haven't seen one in about a decade.

<http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20121019/NEWS05/710199837>

The Youth Vote:

Are Young People Who Join Social Media Protests More Likely to Protest Offline Too?

Among adults who use social media such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and blogs for political purposes, 42% are under the age of 30. A case study of the controversial Budget Repair Bill in Wisconsin explored whether young adults who use social media are more

likely to engage in offline protests. Timothy Macafee, University of Wisconsin-Madison, compared the relationship between information-seeking behaviors online versus expressive engagement online (defined as using social media as a "soapbox" to share personal views and political events and issues) and actual participation in political protests. "Individuals use social media primarily for informational and expressive purposes," Macafee concludes. College students used social media to gain information related to the protests in this case study, but that activity did not affect their offline behavior; whereas, "expressive" political social media use encouraged offline protest participation. "Using social media for information gathering has quite different implications for real world behavior than does use of social media to express oneself (through blogs, tweets, etc.)," says Brenda K. Wiederhold, PhD, MBA, BCIA, Editor-in-Chief of Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking, from the Interactive Media Institute, San Diego, CA. "As young people utilize social media for information gathering more than traditional means, such as television or newspapers, those wishing to influence opinion and individual behavior should pay heed."
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/10/121017123749.htm>

Voting

'Gender Gap' Near Historic Highs

The gender gap is nothing new in American politics. Since 1972, when exit polling became widespread, men and women split their votes in three elections: 1996, 2000, and 2004. They came close to doing so on several other occasions. Since the first presidential debate in Denver, there have been 10 high-quality national polls that reported a breakout of results between men and women. The results in the polls were varied, with the gender gap ranging from 33 points (in a Zogby telephone poll for the Washington Times) to just 8 (in polls by Pew Research and by The Washington Post). On average, however, there was an 18-point gender gap, with Mr. Obama leading by an average of 9 points among women but trailing by 9 points among men. If that difference carries forward to the exit polls, it would reflect among the largest gender splits ever, rivaling the 20-point difference from 2000, and a 17-point difference in both 1980 and 1996.

The gender gap has been growing over time. It was nearly absent, for instance, in 1972 and 1976, the first two years that the exit polls tested it. But after the *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973, reproductive rights became a greater focus in presidential elections — particularly under Ronald Reagan in 1980, who was more willing to campaign on the issue of abortion than most of his predecessors. The gender gap jumped to 17 points that year, with men much more likely to vote for Mr. Reagan.

The large gender gap comes despite the fact that men and women's economic roles are becoming more equal — according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, women represented 47 percent of the labor force as of September — and that women suffered at least as

much as men in the recent economic downturn. This suggests the gender gap instead has more to do with partisan ideology than with pocketbook voting; apart from their views on abortion, women also take more liberal stances than men on social issues ranging from same-sex marriage to gun control.

<http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/10/21/gender-gap-near-historic-highs/>

Voters cast vote early in growing numbers

Before the second Tuesday after the first Monday in November was declared Election Day by federal law in 1845, states voted on different days and over different periods of time. It wasn't until the last decade that early voting began to pick up steam again. In 2004, 22% of Americans voted early and that rate rose to more than 30% in 2008, according to Paul Gronke, professor of Political Science who founded and runs the Early Voting Information Center at Reed College in Oregon. Gronke estimates that as much as 40% of eligible voters cast an early ballot during the 2012 election.

<http://tinyurl.com/9y5vwkj>

It's About Time: Research Tracks How Campaign Information Plays, Stays in Voters' Minds

If your candidate of choice wants his message to leave a lasting impact on undecided or low-information voters as they cast their ballots, he may want to focus on having a strong closing week, University of Nebraska-Lincoln political scientist Dona-Gene Mitchell says. Mitchell researches the effects of time on the political process -- and specifically, how long information endures or how fast it fades from people's minds during multi-week campaigns. Her most recent findings suggest that in a tightly controlled information environment, issue-related information about a candidate was supplanted quickly from voters' minds by new data. Character and personal facts about a candidate, meanwhile, were found to stick in people's memories a little longer -- but not by much. "I find a remarkably limited role for enduring information effects," Mitchell said. "In other words, during campaigns, citizens appear to operate as if they have short-term memory loss where information this week mattered but the effects quickly faded a week later." Mitchell said she was surprised at how other less sticky information, particularly where a candidate stood on a single issue, was displaced to make room for new facts. Partisanship combined with new short-term information to push other stockpiled information about the candidate out of participants' minds. "What is particularly striking about these findings is that the rapid rate at which information effects decay may be greater than previously imagined," Mitchell said.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/10/121017180158.htm>

Election 2012: Will Voters Follow Their 'Gut Feelings' at Polls?

The 2012 presidential campaign has provided endless fodder for social media, water cooler conversation and "Saturday Night Live" spoofs. But, in the end, Americans going to the polls generally pull the lever based on one thing: their gut feelings, says presidential politics expert Larry Butler of Rowan University. "More so than any other elected office, people vote for a president based on personal characteristics. This is the person who is going to be in your living room, so to speak, for the next four years.

"You're choosing the leader of your country, the person you trust more, the person you think will move forward with the direction you think our country should go, the person who represents your values," says Butler, a political scientist who serves as associate dean of Rowan's College of Humanities & Social Sciences. "It's a personal judgment." With the economy and jobs as the most pressing campaign issues, most of the nation's voters have already made their Election Day decisions, says Butler. "At this point, both campaigns are already working the margins by targeting narrow portions of the electorate," he says.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/10/121018133957.htm>

What's at Stake for Women (and their families) in 2012:

Issue: Energy

Although the candidates are not talking about energy on the campaign trail, it remains critical issue for voters, given how much of household budgets are impacted by energy costs. *Scientific American* has published an **In-Depth Report: Debate 2012:**

Grading Obama and Romney on Science. The editors used a five-star ranking system—and had lots of help from experts—to assess the presidential candidates' responses to 14 top science questions

<http://tinyurl.com/9nxeqfu>

Issue: Social Security

Male Retirees Get Bigger Social Security Checks

Lower Lifetime Wages Put Women at Disadvantage - The average female retiree on Social Security gets a monthly benefit \$300 smaller than the average male retiree.

Because retirement benefits are tied to average lifetime earnings, and women have tended to earn less than men, the average monthly Social Security retirement benefit is \$1,023 for women, \$1,323 for men. The difference -- \$300 -- is about what the average American household spends on groceries per month. Women accounted for 56 percent of Social Security beneficiaries in 2010.

<http://tinyurl.com/9dw8f9v>

Seniors on Social Security squeezed by rising prices

For some of the 56.3 million people who get Social Security -- either because they are retired or disabled -- the increase may not be enough to keep up with rising expenses. Part of the problem is a disconnect between the official inflation figure and what seniors actually pay, experts and seniors say. The inflation number used to calculate the cost of living adjustment is based on spending patterns among workers of all ages and across hundreds of items. A more accurate calculation would put more weight on the items that seniors purchase most frequently -- like food, gas and medical care, according to the American Institute for Economic Research. Medical care costs alone have jumped 4.1% from a year ago based on the latest inflation data, while prices for food climbed 1.6%

and gas rose 6.8%. Meats, poultry and fish cost 2.1% more, and the price of flour is up 2.5%.

<http://tinyurl.com/ccdtvkw>

Issue: Student Loans & Debt

Well-Off Will Benefit Most From Change to Student Debt Relief Plan, Study Says

With nearly one in six student loan borrowers in default, the federal government is making changes to its income-based repayment plan to help borrowers with relatively high debt and low incomes keep up with their payments. But a report released by the New America Foundation, a nonprofit and nonpartisan policy institute, says the changes ultimately will provide only marginal help for low-income borrowers who are at the greatest risk of default. Rather, the changes would provide big benefits to middle- and high-income borrowers, particularly for those seeking a graduate degree, the authors found. The report says that at least one financial planning company is telling law school students that the changes could allow them to write off \$100,000 in student debt. "If left unchanged, the program is set to provide huge financial windfalls to people who, far from being in need, are among the most financially well-off graduates in today's job market," the report says. The Obama administration is tweaking the program to make it easier for some borrowers, by expediting changes that will reduce monthly payments from 15 percent of discretionary income to 10 percent and forgive outstanding balances after 20 years of payments, instead of 25 years. Some participants will be eligible for the reduced minimum payments this month as well as the 20-year repayment term; the remainder will be eligible in 2014. The New America Foundation report says the primary beneficiaries would be high-income, high-debt participants who could make relatively small payments for 20 years and then have a large part of their debt forgiven, the authors said.

<http://tinyurl.com/94qdvx2>

Issue: Health Care

Medicare Advantage 14% subsidy reduced

The Affordable Care Act reduces costs, improves quality and rewards better Medicare Advantage plans, U.S. researchers say. The Commonwealth Fund report said the Medicare Advantage program, created in 2003, allows Medicare beneficiaries to receive Medicare benefits through private insurance plans. However, they have averaged costing 14 percent more a year than traditional Medicare for the taxpayer. Under the Affordable Care Act the excess payments to private insurance companies will be reduced to 2 percent, saving \$132 billion over 10 years, the Congressional Budget Office estimated. Last month, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, said due to the Affordable Care Act passed in 2010, Medicare Advantage premiums fell by 10 percent, while enrollment rose 28 percent. The Affordable Care Act reduced the

overpayments of the Medicare Advantage while maintaining benefits and keeping premiums low, Brian Cook, a spokesman of the CMS, told UPI.
<http://tinyurl.com/8c434bb>

Doctors Who Go Digital Provide Higher Quality Healthcare: Study Says Electronic Health Records Help Physicians Provide Better Care

The use of electronic health records is linked to significantly higher quality care, according to a new study by Lisa Kern and her team, from the Health Information Technology Evaluation Collaborative in the US. Their work appears online in the Journal of General Internal Medicine, published by Springer. The authors conclude: "We found that EHR use is associated with higher quality ambulatory care in a multi-payer community with concerted efforts to support EHR implementation."
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/10/121017102537.htm>

Hospital costs nearly double in decade

The cost of the average American hospital stay nearly doubled from 2000 to 2010, even though average stay length declined. Charges soared from \$17,390 in 2000 to \$33,079 in 2010. In fact, in the U.S. we spend almost three times as much on a hospital stay compared to other industrialized countries, even though their average stay tends to be longer.
<http://tinyurl.com/9mqrnkm>

Singles need more money when ill, elderly

Singles, especially those without children, will need to budget more money for healthcare in old age than those who are married, U.S. researchers say. The MetLife Mature Market Institute's monthly Market Trends report said the 2010 Census revealed married couples are 48 percent of U.S. households. Those with children age 18 and younger comprised just 20 percent of households and those with two children were 8 percent. From a planning perspective it is harder to control costs when injured, sick or elderly if patients cannot convalesce at home because there are no family members to help them, the report said. People who live alone now rank as the second largest household type, right behind married couples with no children age 18 and younger. People who live alone account for 28 percent of households. Regarding long-term care, many elderly would prefer to be cared for at home rather than spend their retirement savings on a stay at a nursing home or rehabilitation facility, the report said. But 45 percent of U.S. householders age 65 or older live alone, making home healthcare delivery to them considerably more expensive and something they need to accommodate. "There are no easy solutions to helping the many millions of single individuals plan for their retirement and manage their short- or long-term healthcare expenses," the report said.
<http://tinyurl.com/96b24ky>

Issue: Un/Employment

Unemployment doesn't just hurt the unemployed

High unemployment has negative spillovers for most of those still at work. In a labor market like ours, with low unionization rates, bargaining clout for many in the workforce is very much a function of the unemployment rate. Excess labor supply over labor demand typically puts downward pressure on both nominal and [real wages](#). The combination of price growth and high-unemployment-induced slower nominal wage growth is lowering hourly pay.

http://www.salon.com/2012/10/16/unemployment_doesnt_just_hurt_the_unemployed

The middle class isn't losing more jobs than usual. But it is losing more money.

Talk of "two Americas" feels like 2004 election kitsch at this point, but for some economists, it's a going concern. The Great Recession, according to a popular theory known as "job polarization," has led to a loss of middle-income jobs and created a new reality in which the only jobs are either lucrative and highly skilled (computer programming, for instance) or else menial and poorly remunerated (e.g. janitorial work). Josh Mitchell and Austin Nichols at the Urban Institute looked at the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), a Census survey that tracks groups (or "panels") of respondents over the course of four years. That allows analysts to compare how the same people's economic lives changed over an extended period. Mitchell and Nichols find that the risk of unemployment grew across the board, and not just for those in the middle. Mitchell and Nichols do find two areas for concern. While middle-income people were no likelier to lose their jobs, those that did become unemployed saw bigger pay cuts once they got another job than people at the top or bottom of the income scale. Mitchell and Nichols also find that middle-income people were the likeliest group to lose health insurance in the 2008 panel, a reversal from 2004, when the poor were the likeliest to lose coverage. The fact that middle earners' compensation — both in terms of money and in terms of benefits — is taking a harder hit than that of other groups' suggests that the recession may be upsetting class dynamics in an important, enduring way.

<http://tinyurl.com/9bf2te5>

Women are back on the job

Women are finding their way back into the workforce. The economic upswing had until recently been a "hecovery," but the revival is now becoming more balanced between the genders. The number of women employees has jumped by 300,000 in the past six months, nearly the same amount as men. And in September, men and women each saw a job gain of 57,000. "The recovery has definitely picked up for women in the last year," said Joan Entmacher, vice president of family economic security at the National Women's Law Center. Women were hit hard by job losses in the public sector -- particularly in schools -- which accelerated in 2011 after stimulus funds ran out. Governments continued to shed jobs well after the private sector started reviving, delaying women's recovery since they make up 59% of the state and local workforce. And as governments

looked to tighten their financial belts, they reduced funding for job support initiatives -- particularly subsidized child care programs that allow poor women to seek and retain jobs. But governments have finally begun to stem job losses over the past year. Local school districts added 79,000 jobs between July and September, the strongest summer hiring since 2006. At this point, women have recovered 32% of the jobs lost in the recession, while men have gained back 43%, according to Entmacher. Women are also benefiting from gains in education and health services in the private sector, Entmacher said, as well as professional and business services, which include temp jobs. For roughly every one job lost in the public sector, women have gained three in the private industry since June 2009. There were 25.7 million women in poverty in 2011, up from 22.1 million in 2008, according to Census Bureau data. The share of women in poverty has held even at 56% since the overall number of poor Americans jumped as well. Women's fortunes, however, could soon take another turn for the worse, Entmacher said. If looming federal budget cuts become a reality, women could get slammed by a new round of government downsizing and reduced funding to child care programs. "The real risk going forward are these public sector job cuts and [the loss] of job supports that have helped poor women," Entmacher said.

<http://money.cnn.com/2012/10/19/news/economy/women-jobs/index.html>

Issue: Child Poverty

Obama Addresses Child Poverty Questions; Romney Declines

President Barack Obama sent a two-page letter to six child advocacy organizations to explain his plan to combat poverty among children in his second term. Nearly one in five children in the United States lived below the poverty line last year, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Three questions by advocates asked the candidates' plans to address comprehensive health care coverage, education and food security for children; steps each would take to fight child poverty in the first 100 days of their administration; and the candidates' long-term visions for a solution. The Romney campaign declined to respond to the questions.

The issue of childhood poverty has been essentially invisible in the presidential campaign so far, many advocates say. It has not come up in either of the two presidential debates conducted so far, or in the sole vice-presidential debate. And neither of the two major-party candidates has made it a part of his stump speech.

"This is really quite mind-boggling to all of us in the child advocacy community that this is not a front and center issue," the co-founder of one of the six organizations, Dr. Irwin Redlener of the Children's Health Fund said. Of the nine states considered battlegrounds for both candidates, three -- Florida, Ohio and North Carolina -- had more children in poverty last year than the national average of 22 percent, his interviewer, Chris Jansing, pointed out.

Whether it's talked about or not, the issue of poverty among kids in the United States is not going away, Redlener said. "At the end of the day, whoever wins the presidency of the United States is going to have to pay attention to the needs of children. And it's not

just a matter of compassion either,” he continued. “This has to do with our long-term economic viability and well-being.”

http://www.youthtoday.org/view_article.cfm?article_id=5626

Issue: Pay Equity (or the lack of it!)

Mark Your Calendars for Equal Pay Day! April 9, 2013

It is never too early to start preparing for **Equal Pay Day**, scheduled for **April 9, 2013**. Equal Pay Day is the symbolic day where women’s earnings “catch up” to men’s earnings from the year before. It takes almost four extra months each year, thanks to the wage gap. As usual, AAUW will host special events and distribute resources to help celebrate the work that has been done and that still needs to be done to ensure women receive equal pay for equal work. **This year’s Equal Pay Day will be especially important, as 2013 marks the 50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act (originally passed in 1963).** Look out for AAUW’s upcoming report on the pay equity and student debt, **Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation**, to be released on **Wednesday, October 24**.

Up to one billion women to enter workforce in next decade

They say it is a man’s world, but perhaps not for much longer, as **up to one billion women are expected to enter the workplace in the next decade, according to the latest survey from Booz and Co. on women in the workplace**. The report from the global management and strategy consultancy said the surge in women employees, employers, producers, and entrepreneurs in the next ten years would improve not only gender equality, but global economic growth — however, it also warned that governments could miss out on this potential. **“As the world economy grows and develops, countries cannot afford to ignore over 50 percent of their talent pool,”** Penney Frohling, business strategist and partner at Booz and Co, told the CNBC business television channel. “There is a view that countries that are able to tap into that talent pool are going to see higher growth. There is a very clear correlation between empowering women and GDP growth, literacy rates, infant mortality rates.” **Childcare is also a big issue for women in their career progression, as is gender equality in the workplace, Frohling said, with the US making an “interesting” statistic. “In the US... there are women living hand-to-mouth in low-waged jobs and 41 percent of their salaries are taken over by childcare costs — so there’s really no way of getting ahead when you’re facing those kind of [obstacles],” she said.**

<http://www.royalgazette.com/article/20121016/BUSINESS05/710169958>

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

National Network to End Domestic Violence Welcomes New President and CEO, National Women's Advocate Kim Gandy

NNEDV is pleased to announce the selection of **Kim Gandy as its new president and CEO**. As a national leader and advocate for women, Kim brings a proven track record of guiding organizations seeking to raise awareness about the prevalence of violence

against women, while bringing about legislative reform and equal protection under the law. From her years as a young activist in her native Louisiana, to her work prosecuting violent offenders, to her role in the passage of the Violence Against Women Act, Kim has remained dedicated to ensuring that women have the opportunity to lead safe, healthy and prosperous lives. Her long career in advocacy, legislative reform and coalition-building includes areas such as civil rights, women's rights and specifically violence against women. Kim was most recently vice president of and general counsel for the Feminist Majority and the Feminist Majority Foundation. She also spent 22 years as a top leader of the National Organization for Women (NOW), including two terms as NOW president.

<http://www.nnedv.org/news/nnedv/1345-new-president-kim-gandy.html>

Spotlight on New York State:

Citizen Action of New York is taking their “**Caravan of Corruption**” on the road next week with 10 stops across New York between October 23rd and 24th. For too long, New Yorkers have had to suffer the consequences of a corrupt legislature that works on behalf of the highest bidder, instead of listening to the voice of the people. In the past decade, 15 state-level elected officials have been convicted on a smattering of charges. Albany is so scandal-scarred and blemished by corruption that it has become a running joke with voters. They’ll be highlighting this “Decade of Dirty Dealings” with our “Caravan of Corruption” - a traveling sideshow that will make stops across New York profiling these 15 legislators and calling for publicly financed Fair Elections for New York. Find the closest one to you! There will handouts, great speakers, and plenty of ways to make sure your elected officials know you want Fair Elections now! With publicly financed Fair Elections, we can change the culture in Albany and put elections back in control of the voters, instead of the super wealthy. Governor Cuomo has already shown his support for publicly financed Fair Elections, but we need to keep the pressure on to push our legislators to pass Fair Elections now.

<http://www.caravanofcorruption.org/>

AAUW NYS Facebook:

Remember to “like” our state Facebook page and stay up to date with all the breaking news. <http://www.facebook.com/AAUW.NYS> Share things from our page to yours and help us build our social network for change!

Share your successes!