

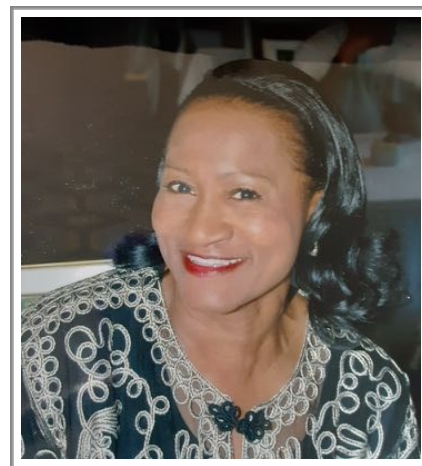
ZONTA ZEST

Zonta Club of St. Louis

President's Message to the Club

Greetings Zontians,

Spring has finally sprung and the Zonta Club of St. Louis welcomes our new members and community activities! Our Service Committee recently helped transition the Women's Safe House boutique from winter to spring and summer clothing. Although we used a lot of muscle power, we were also energized to spread the Zontian theme of Building a Better World for Women and Girls!



Zontian Judy Jensen's and her team are working on a Yellow Rose phone case to sell at the District 7 - Area 2 & 4 Meeting later this month. The case, which promises style and practicality, will be sold to raise money to support our club's activities. Zontians and prospective members are encouraged to register for the Area meeting being held locally in Chesterfield, MO..... This is an opportunity for fellowship with other Missouri Zontians. as well as Zontians from eastern Kansas and Iowa. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Several club members plan to attend Jefferson City's annual Yellow Rose Women of Achievement Award's program on May 21st; there is still time to register, but hurry!

Committee Chairs, if you have not completed the Yearly Report, please do so as soon as possible and before the April 17th membership meeting. Committee reports will be presented at the meeting.

APRIL IS NATIONAL SAVE A LIFE MONTH! Visit your local License bureau or go on line for more information on organ donation. My late husband was a donor. Our family received a lot of counsel and support for several years following his death.

Laura Burton

President



April Board Meeting Updates:

- The Slate of Officers and Directors was presented.
- The Zonta District 7 - Area 2 and 4 Meeting is April 25 - 26 in Chesterfield, MO.
- The Zonta club of Jefferson City's Yellow Rose Luncheon is May 21st.
- The Young Women in Leadership award winner is Ryleigh McKinney and will be featured in an upcoming ZEST. She plans on attending the June Award Picnic.
- We have another Charity Clothing Pickup bin established just north of Gravois and MacKenzie road in Affton, MO. It's at the MacKenzie entrance to O'Reilly Auto Parts.
- Committee Reports are due and some have been delivered. They will be published starting with May's ZEST.
- Some discussion on changing how the Sharon Carmody Award is managed
 - Should we keep a mentor?
 - Should we better define the disabilities that qualify?
- The Amelia Earhart Book Club's next book to read is *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*.

APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, April 17th

6:00 Fellowship

6:30-7:30 Meeting

Meet up in Person:

Moneta

100 S. Brentwood Blvd - Suite 500

St. Louis, MO 63105

Meet up on ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84942682960?pwd=nDQ5Qzw3Vr1bajaF7CjGnfnzFhEVWS.1>

Meeting Topic: Membership Annual Meeting

- Committee Reports
- Elections

Note: There will not be a meal option, however, you are welcome to bring snacks to share and coordinate with others to bring plates and napkins. Think trivia night type food! Crackers, dips, veggie and fruit trays.

Kindly RSVP by Tuesday, April 15th at

<https://www.easy-rsvp.com/bVupGD-april-zonta-membership-meeting>

- include an **M** after your name if joining in person at **Moneta**
- include a **Z** after your name if joining via **Zoom**
- example: Stacy Donovan **M**

Event Contact: Stacy Donovan (901) 299-7759



Slate of Officers and Directors for 2025-2026 Term

Officers

President
VP
Treasurer
Secretary

Candidate

Stacy Donovan
Sharon Hales
Kathleen Braun
Judy Jensen

Additional candidates
nominated from the
Floor may be added to
the slate prior to
voting...

Directors

PR
Finance
LRP
Membership
Service

Candidate

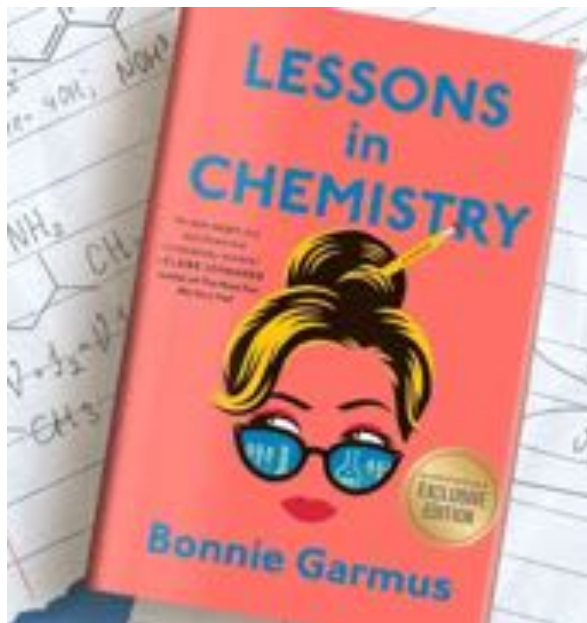
Linda White
Jill Cooper
Norma Nisbet
Ellen Embry
Sue Ellbogen

Nominating Committee: Mary D'Angelo
Betty Davidson
Barbara Meyer

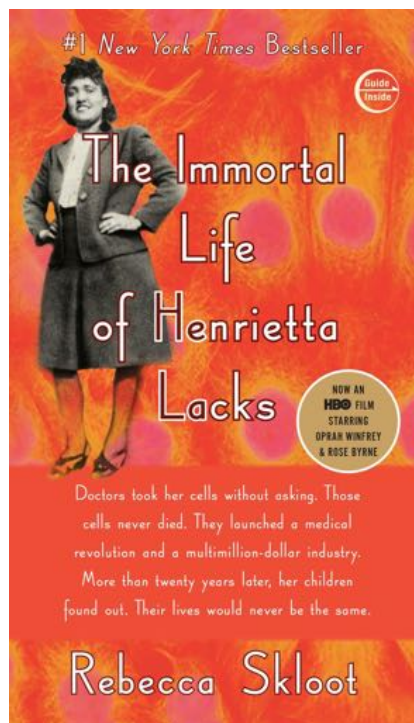
Club Member Trustee-at-Large:
Kay Moss (6/1/2024 - 5/31/2028)

Amelia Earhart Book Club!

Sponsored by the STEM Committee



We had our first meeting to discuss *Lessons in Chemistry*. We had a lively discussion about the book and some discussion about the miniseries that aired on Apple TV. It was interesting sharing insights and interpretations. So, let's keep this going! Our next book will be



Our Next Book...

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

by Rebecca Skloot

Learn more about this book on [Goodreads](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3712322-the-immortal-life-of-henrietta-lacks)

The Amelia Earhart Book Club will meet again on May 19th!

So get reading!

We will try to make this a “meet in person” event... with the option to ZOOM in:)

Zontians in Action...

WOMEN'S SAFEHOUSE SERVICE PROJECT

On April 1, club members Peggy Gilbertson, Laura Burton, Sharon Hales and Linda White plus two friends of Peggy's volunteered at the Women's Safe House. This organization provides emergency safe shelter, advocacy and support for women and children fleeing from domestic violence. We sorted donated clothing for their "boutique" that provides free clothing for the women and children who many times leave a situation with just the clothes they are wearing. We changed out winter clothing for spring/summer clothing and bagged up all of the clothing from winter that was donated but not used. They let us take those bags with us to donate to WAC pickups. We filled 4 large cars!





Our last service project will be on Thursday, May 8th at Rung for Women, located at 2717 Sidney Street, 63104. This is an amazing organization that helps women move up the career ladder. There is no cost for women who are typically unfulfilled, unhappy, and underpaid in their current jobs, but don't know how to take the next step to enhance their career. They work with employers who use geospatial technology to meet their workforce needs while seeking to increase the number of women, especially women of color, in geospatial careers.

The organization grows their own food that is used to make meals for the students (farm to table) and they also provide a free farmers market for the women so they can make healthy meals at home. As volunteers, we can do anything from harvesting the produce, weeding, composting, planting and cutting or preparing seed packets. We can finetune the project as to what we prefer. For example, last year a few sat the whole time and prepared seed packets and sifted dirt to collect worms while others weeded.

<https://rungforwomen.org/>

Please email Peggy Gilbertson, gilbertson.peggy@gmail.com if interested. They would like 10 volunteers.



Reminder....

**Zonta District 7 - Area 2 and 4 Meeting
in Chesterfield, MO**

April 25th (dinner) - 26th (meeting)

Contacts to register:

Ruthi Sturdevant at sruthi@aol.com

Marcia Chamey at mic1208@yahoo.com



2025 WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT YELLOW ROSE LUNCHEON

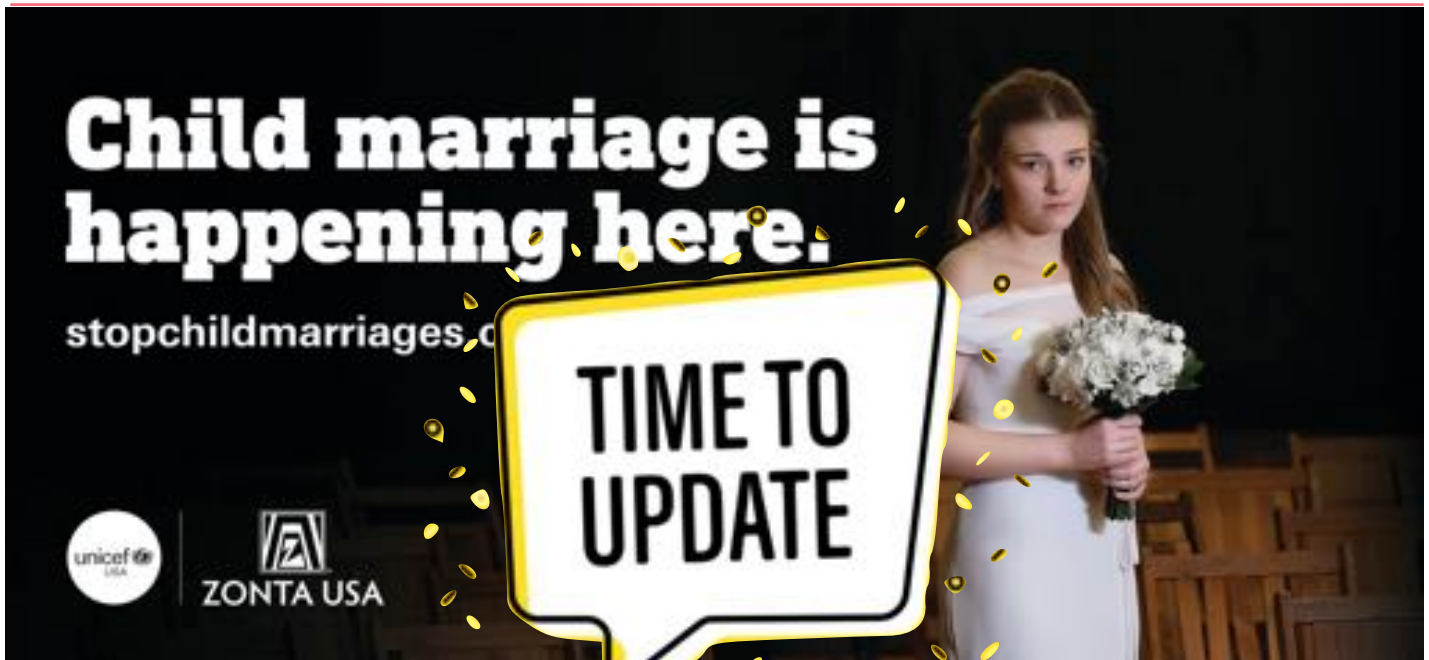
Celebrating Women Who Weather The Storm

Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City

Celebration Speaker: Kelsey Kobielusz, Meteorologist at KOMU

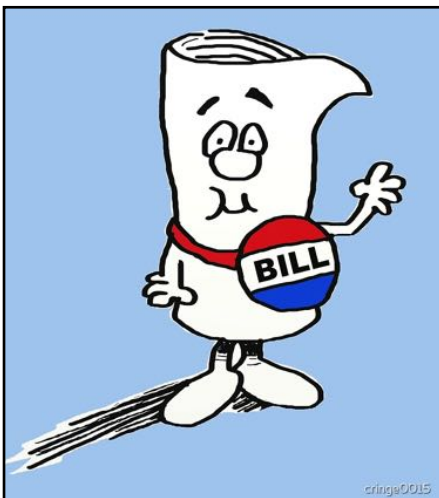
Luncheon 11:30 - 1:00





Senate Bill (SB66) proposing that the age of marriage be raised to 18 in Missouri overwhelmingly passed on March 6, 2025 and was passed on to the House of Representatives for consideration.

The House Bill (HB1200) seems to be sailing through the House of Representatives and is already on the calendar for “Perfection”. Looks like we are getting close!



- I. INTRODUCTION OF A BILL.
- II. FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.
- III. PUBLIC HEARING.
- IV. COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE SESSION.
- **V. PERFECTION OF A BILL.**
- VI. THIRD READING AND FINAL PASSAGE.
- VII. SIGNING BY THE GOVERNOR.
- VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE OF LAWS.



FORMER WAC STUDENT SHINES

Stacycee Dixon, a former WAC student and a foster mom is putting together her first gala to honor foster care champions. This is a big event and challenge for her and she is very dedicated to the foster program. She asked that we pass this along to our organization. Even if you are unable to attend, if you would like to support her with a donation or a nomination , information is below.

SAVE THE DATE:

Date: Saturday, May 3, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Location: Better Family Life, 5415 Page Blvd, Saint Louis, MO 63112

Tickets: Only \$25

RSVP by April 7, 2025 at EventBrite to secure your spot!

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/illuminating-hope-a-day-of-honoring-foster-care-champions-tickets-1262496684569?utm_experiment=test_share_listing&aff=ebdsshios

Charity Clothing Bins

Benefitting ZONTA's Women's Another Chance Program

Two Charity Clothing collection bins have been placed at the MacKenzie entrance to O'Reilly Auto Parts in Affton, MO. The entrance is just north of the MacKenzie and Gravois Road intersection.





February 28, 2025

Zonta Club of St. Louis
Awards and Scholarships
PO Box 170083
Saint Louis, MO 63117-7783

Dear Zonta Club of St. Louis,

Your commitment to WashU students is truly remarkable. Because of your generous support of scholarships, exceptional students are pursuing their educational dreams based on their potential and ambition — not their ability to pay.

As you know, Sophie Wollitzer is the recipient of the Zonta Club of St. Louis Scholarship. The attached profile will give you a glimpse into Sophie's interests, achievements, and aspirations. You'll see that your scholarship provides so much more than financial aid. You empower students to embrace opportunities and shape their own paths forward. By investing in these talented individuals, you are transforming lives and preparing principled, future-ready leaders.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to our students and to our university. Your support continues to make a profound impact for which we are deeply grateful.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bridget M. O'Leary".

Bridget M. O'Leary

Encl.



Washington University in St. Louis
Assistant Vice Chancellor of Donor Relations
MSC 3000-414-2100
One Brookings Drive
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899
office 314.935.8736

SOPHIE WOLLITZER

Class of 2027 | Major: Computer Science

Zonta Club of St. Louis Scholarship

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR AREA OF STUDY?

My dad inspired me to study computer science. His work is related to computer science, and he always encouraged me to try it because he saw how underrepresented women were in the field. I coded my first project in Turtle when I was thirteen and was instantly hooked. In high school, he suggested I try taking computer science classes, so I took "AP Computer Science Principles" and "AP Computer Science A." I loved the classes and knew that it's what I wanted to study in college. He never forced me to choose this path, but I'm so grateful that he helped guide me.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE WASHU?

I chose to attend WashU because of its academics and community. I felt that the education and opportunities I would receive here would not be matched by other schools, and I haven't been proven wrong. However, despite the incredible academic rigor, the students here aren't competitive with each other. I love the community because it's so collaborative, and everyone wants to help each other out. Lastly, spending time on such a beautiful campus definitely doesn't hurt!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT WASHU?

My favorite thing about WashU is the people. Everyone here is so dedicated to learning and working hard, but not in a way that's harmful to others. I've seen here how WashU students push each other in the most supportive way possible. I also love how diverse our student population is here. Everyone is from different places with different opinions, and I don't feel like I'm in an echo chamber.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR FREE TIME?

I love hiking. I'm from Arizona, so we have beautiful hiking trails. During the winter, I go often with my dad. I also love spending quality time with my friends and family. Whether we're doing an activity or just chatting, I think it's important to spend any time you can with the people most important to you.



"Thank you so much for your scholarship! I feel so lucky to have the opportunity to research at WashU, and it wouldn't be possible without you. With your help, more students here will be able to expand their knowledge and make some incredible discoveries. Your kindness will not be forgotten!"



Scholarship Update, 2024-25



Nurses in the Special Care Nursery at St. Luke's thank the Zonta Club of St. Louis for the fleece material.

The fleece is cut up into blankets which are used for covering incubators. Families take the blankets home with them when the baby is discharged.



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

April

- 3rd Board Meeting
- 17th Membership Meeting
Business Meeting - Elections
Hybrid MTG: Moneta or ZOOM
- 25-26th ZONTA District 7 - Area 2 & 4
Meeting in Chesterfield, MO

May

- 1st Board Meeting
- 8th RUNG for Women
Volunteer in the Garden
- 15th Membership Meeting
Induction of new board members
- 19th Amelia Earhart Book Club Meeting
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
- 21st Zonta Club of Jefferson City
Yellow Rose Luncheon

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

April

- 14th Debbie Redmond

May

- 3rd Cheryl Bielema
- 11th Stacy Donovan
- 14th Shima Rostami

