



## BRANCH CELEBRATION PLANNED FOR **JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Come and Celebrate! Plans are in place for a branch membership year-end celebration. Plan to come and enjoy each other's company and welcome new members. We will honor our scholarship recipients, recognize branch awardees, and celebrate the successful move into our new Workshop.

The Celebration will be held on **Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m.** at our new **Used Book Workshop, 2197 High Tech Road**, State College (opposite the airport and on the road between State of the Art and Cannon Industries).

We expect to be outside enjoying the warm weather. If it rains, we will move into the Workshop. A box dinner will be provided along with beverages and dessert. A box dinner will be provided along with beverages and dessert. We only ask that attendees bring their own **folding chair**.

The event is jointly planned by the Awards, Program, and Scholarship Committees, led by Chriss Schultz (Awards), Naana Nti and Nina Cowart (Program), and Falene Hamilton and Suzanne Kerlin (Scholarship).

**Reservations are required** and are **due by June 16<sup>th</sup>** to Suzanne Kerlin. Call or text her at (814) 360-1177 or email: [suziekerlin@gmail.com](mailto:suziekerlin@gmail.com).



## **May 17<sup>th</sup>** CULTURAL CONVERSATIONS:

### *Asian Americans in Centre County Speak Out*

Join us on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. via Zoom for *Asian Americans in Centre County Speak Out*, a panel discussion featuring Asian American (APIDA) community members.

**OVERVIEW:** Discuss the "Bigger Picture" including the U.S. history that we were not taught in school.

**DIVERSE PANEL:** Hear Asian Americans who work to make our community better for all.

**EXPLORE:** What we can do to be better allies for Asian Americans and counter hatred.

#### **MODERATOR:**

**SHIH-IN MA** - One of ten people of color out of the 600 students in her State College High School class, she is a third generation Chinese American who is active in local inclusion and social justice efforts.

#### **PANELISTS:**

**DR. NALINI KRISHNANKUTTY** – A first-generation American engineer turned writer, educator, and speaker, she is active in local and statewide efforts to build diverse, equitable, and inclusive communities.

**DONALD (DONG MYONG) HAHN, J.D.** - Magisterial District Judge in Centre County, former State College Borough Council President and Mayor, he is a Centre County native and son of Korean-American immigrants.

**HYESEON KIM** - Born in South Korea, she moved to Missouri for her M.A. and relocated here in 2005. She teaches Korean Language and Pop Culture at Penn State Altoona and is very active as a community volunteer.

**CELESTE GOOD** - A Kinesiology major who is Past President of QTPOC (Queer and Trans People of Color), she has done extensive activism work in the Penn State community for people of color, the Black, and LGBTQ+ communities.

**STEVEN ZANG** - Studying Economics, Political Science, and International Affairs, he is President of Penn State's APIDA Caucus and active in UPUA (University Park Undergraduate Association) where he advocates for social justice, accessibility, and equity for students.

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUode-tpjkqG9xf64u9MW9lmZTfKe1jOcYc> Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email on how to join the meeting and a reminder notice on the day of the event. This event is co-sponsored with the Borough of State College Community Engagement Office.



## **VOTER'S GUIDE for the MAY 18<sup>th</sup> PRIMARY ELECTION**

As with many primaries, this one finds most local races with little or no opposition. We will comment only on races where there is competition in either the Democratic or Republican Party.

To make this easier for us, the *Centre Daily Times* printed an extensive "Voters Guide" in the Sunday, April 25, 2021 issue. If you can find a copy, or can access it online ([Voters guide: State College, Bellefonte council and mayor races | Centre Daily Times](#)), it has full descriptions of all the local races in the Centre Region and Bellefonte. We will simply comment on those with opposition in which our members may be interested.

### **STATE COLLEGE MAYOR:**

The two candidates, both Democrats, present differing views of the role of the Mayor. **Jim Leous**, who is finishing 12 years as a member of the State College Area School Board, sees the Mayor as the elected official encouraging Borough residents to become involved in issues and to respond to the Borough Council regarding those issues. He has been active in the community for over 20 years. **Ezra Nanes** has run unsuccessfully for office, but has not yet held one. He believes that the Mayor can impact the way the Borough distributes funds and to whom. (NOTE: The Mayor is an advisory member of the government with no ability to make law. The Mayor is able to facilitate discussions but not able to actually make decisions.)

### **STATE COLLEGE BOROUGH COUNCIL:**

There are seven candidates, six Democrats and one Republican, for three positions. **Ronald Filippelli** is an incumbent; **Catherine Dauler** has spent several terms on the council. **Gopal Balachandran** is a law professor at Penn State. **Richard Biever**, owner of Singing Onstage, self-describes himself as a political advocate. **B. Divine Lipscomb** is a current Penn state student with a primary interest in restorative justice. **Katherine Yeaple** primary interests are in mental health and providing services to the community. **Jacob Werner** is primarily concerned with the Borough budget, assuring that funds are spent carefully and taxes are controlled.

### **STATE COLLEGE AREA SCHOOL BOARD:**

There are seven candidates for four openings. All candidates are cross-filed as both Democrat and Republican. One incumbent is running, **David K. Hutchinson**, who has worked with us in the past on education issues. **Carline Crevecoeur** reached out to our Branch's Education Committee. In a meeting with her, we discussed our areas of concern and she voiced support for them. She has since become a branch member.

**Peter Buck** (inadvertently left off the candidate listing in preceding *Branch Bulletins*) is a sustainability educator at Penn State and a former member of the Ferguson Township Board of supervisors. **Jackie Huff** and **Dawn Lorenz** have teaching experience and **Deborah Anderson** and **Michelle Glenn Young** have been active volunteers in SCASD schools.

#### **TOWNSHIP RACES:**

The five townships that make up the Centre Region have no contests, except for Halfmoon, which has two Democrats running for one supervisor position. **Danielle del Corso** is an incumbent Halfmoon supervisor running for reelection. **Rose Ann Hoover**, though listed as a Democrat, has refused to talk with Democrats. She was formerly registered as a Republican.

Please consider these candidates and make your decisions based on our AAUW priorities and areas of concern expressed in the Branch *Handbook*, on our website ([www.aauwstatecollege.org](http://www.aauwstatecollege.org)) or the priorities outlined on the AAUW state and national websites (<https://www.aauw.org/issues/>).

*--Dianne Gregg and Mary Dupuis, Public Policy Co-Chairs*

# Congratulations

## **NEW BRANCH OFFICERS ELECTED**

The 2021 election has been completed, and congratulations are due to AAUW State College's newly elected officers for 2021-2023. Their terms of office are for two years unless indicated otherwise.

Co-Presidents (One-year terms)

**Linda Friend**

**Sally Kalin**

Vice-President for Finance

**Sherry Crassweller**

Co-Vice Presidents for Marketing and Communications

**Carolyn Donaldson**

**Cindy Hall** (One-0year term)

Co-Vice Presidents for Membership

**Jordan Glover**

**Charlene Harrison**

Co-Vice President for Programs

**Susan Chyczewski**

Co-Secretary

**Nancy Weinreb**

Treasurer

**Vasa Varadan**

The new officers join the officers already on the Executive Committee:

Immediate Past President

**Cindy Hall**

Co-Vice President for Program

**Nina Cowart**

Co-Secretary

**Chriss Schultz**

Special thanks to **Suzanne Kerlin**, chair of the Nominating Committee, to **Naana Nti**, who crafted the online ballot, to the other members of the Nominating Committee, **Linda Friend**, **Jordan Glover**, and **Mary Dupuis**, and to the members who agreed to stand for election.

*--Cindy Hall and Sally Kalin, Co-Presidents*



## BRANCH NOTE CARDS AVAILABLE

Our branch note cards are selling really well. We are celebrating spring by offering these lovely note cards for sale to branch members and anyone else who is interested in having some. They were reproduced from the painting branch member **Ann Echols** submitted to the 2021 AAUW National Art Contest, which ultimately received top honors.

The cards are offered as a **4-pack for \$5.00** and as an **8-pack for \$10.00**. We'd love to have as many cards as possible in circulation now to use as we invite others to join AAUW State College for our new membership year (which starts July 1). The cards make a great gift item, so think ahead and purchase for others today.

All proceeds from the sale of the cards will support AAUW State College in our mission to advance gender equity for women and girls. The cards are available now. To purchase, contact Connie Schroeder, [connieschroeder@gmail.com](mailto:connieschroeder@gmail.com), (814) 360-4810.



## RENEW YOUR AAUW MEMBERSHIP TODAY

Thank you to all who have renewed your membership for the 2021-2022. Our new membership year commences July 1<sup>st</sup>.

A personalized AAUW membership renewal was sent to all branch members via email from [memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org) on **April 9<sup>th</sup>**. **If you have not yet renewed your membership, please locate the email and follow the instructions provided.** **Avoid long lines at the U.S. Post Office, save postage and a paper check – renew online!** You will receive an email confirmation upon completion. If you prefer to send a check and a printed membership form through the US mail, please contact Cindy Hall, 814-571-6472, [cindyhall07@gmail.com](mailto:cindyhall07@gmail.com). A printable form is available on our website: <https://aauwstatecollege.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Membership-Form-3-2021.pdf>.



## INVITE FRIENDS & COLLEAGUES to JOIN AAUW STATE COLLEGE

With our 2021-2022 membership year commencing July 1, now is the time to extend an invitation to friends and colleagues to consider joining us. The AAUW National election ends May 17<sup>th</sup> and includes a proposal to drop the degree requirement for membership (next story). If it passes, we will share the information with our membership immediately because that would open AAUW up to many more people. In the meantime, please share this membership flyer with potential

members: [AAUW STATE COLLEGE MEMBERSHIP FLYER](#).

## AAUW NATIONAL ELECTION INCLUDING PROPOSAL to DROP the DEGREE REQUIREMENT **ENDS MAY 17<sup>th</sup>**

As an AAUW State College branch member, you received an important email on **April 7<sup>th</sup>** from Shannon Wolfe, AAUW National Managing Director and Chief of Staff, about voting in the [AAUW National Election](#), which runs through **May 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm**. This year, members' voices will determine our path forward as an organization.

An important proposal is a Bylaws change to eliminate AAUW's longstanding membership degree requirement. AAUW State College Co-Presidents Cindy Hall and Sally Kalin have gone on record to strongly support the proposal to drop the degree requirement.



**The voter information and link provided in the April 7<sup>th</sup> email is customized for you, so if you have not yet voted, you will need to find that email in order to vote.**

**This is an important election for AAUW. If you already voted -- THANK YOU. If you have not, please do so TODAY. Your voice matters!**

Your voice and your vote are vital. The future of AAUW is in your hands.



## USED BOOK WORKSHOP UPDATE

For the time being, the AAUW State College Used Book Workshop remains **CLOSED for book donations**. We hope to reopen for donations this summer when the new workshop is organized for volunteer book sorting and new donation bins/receptacles are in place. Visit [https://aauwstatecollege.org/used\\_book\\_sale\\_donations/](https://aauwstatecollege.org/used_book_sale_donations/) for updates.



## JOIN AN AAUW STATE COLLEGE TEAM for MID-STATE LITERACY COUNCIL BEE

Like to spell? Mid-State Literacy (MSLC) is holding the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ron & Mary Maxwell Community Spelling Bee on **August 4<sup>th</sup> via Zoom** (6:00 pm). We would love to field an AAUW State College three-person spelling team to participate.

The event is sponsored by several local companies, groups, and individuals who raise money for MSLC. It's a fun event which raises vital funds for local Adult Basic Literacy and English as a Second Language students. Learn more about MSLC services at [www.midstateliteracycouncil.org](http://www.midstateliteracycouncil.org).

If interested in spelling, contact Connie Schroeder, [connieschroeder@gmail.com](mailto:connieschroeder@gmail.com).

**Did you know:** Mid-State Literacy Council helps 200 students each year, two-thirds of whom are women.



## BELLEFONTE READS EXTENDS THANKS to BRANCH

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude for your sixth consecutive donation toward our cause. The funds you provided enabled us to purchase hundreds of amazing books for our community. While our event had to look a bit different this year due to COVID, we didn't let that stop us. Our committee worked tirelessly to ensure that Bellefonte found a way to engage in our program, even during the midst of a pandemic. On the evening of Friday, January 29th, we hosted our 7th annual "One Book, One Bellefonte" celebration. Over 400 families registered -- our greatest participation to date! However, instead of attending an in-person event this year, families drove up in their cars to pick up personalized bags filled with books, supplemental activities, and snacks. In all, over 1,300 FREE books were provided to the community!

While we were unable to offer our typical hands-on activities this year, we were able to engage our readers in a variety of other ways. We created a Bellefonte READS Bitmoji Bookshelf (<https://bit.ly/BREADSBookshelf>), where community members of all ages could access virtual activities that correlated with each title. Our mission to put quality books in the hands of children and families is more important now than ever. Thank you again for your donation. We look forward to working with you in the future.

--Bellefonte READS Committee



## MAY 8<sup>th</sup> ReMAKE LEARNING DAY

*ReMake Learning Day*, held May 8<sup>th</sup> at The Rivet at Discovery Space, was made possible by a partnership with AAUW State College. The goal of the event was to expand the awareness of robotics opportunities, particularly for female students. It was geared to all students in grades 4-12, to help them become more aware of robotics opportunities and to showcase the ways that robotics fits into many careers, including machining, wiring, mechanical assemblies, and computer design. Students from the Centre County 4-H Robotics Club were on hand to help with the event. Not all schools have access to robotics classes or kits, so this event was a fun introductory event for families.



Please send submissions for the **May 31<sup>st</sup> Branch Bulletin** to Connie Schroeder, [connieschroeder@gmail.com](mailto:connieschroeder@gmail.com), by **May 24<sup>th</sup>**. Bulletins are sent electronically to branch members and friends by the date of issue and also are accessible at <https://aauwstatecollege.org/blog/>.