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Join AAUW State College

for a FALL HIKE with Park Ranger Justine Johnson

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1 p.m.
Black Moshannon State Park



Justine Johnson is a Park Ranger at Black Moshannon State Park. Employed by Pennsylvania's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, she helps to keep the park and its visitors safe and provides education on protecting our natural resources.



On October 15, Justine will share her story of climbing up through the ranks in a male-dominated field, and then will lead participants on a hike along the **Bog Trail**: a full loop ½ mile ("easy") hike to explore a wetland and observe waterfowl and other wildlife along the trail.

More on the trail:

<https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/pennsylvania/black-moshannon-bog-trail>

Gathering Place: Come to the Old School House on Concessions Road: <https://goo.gl/maps/euzKPGvVhMrJBuM8>
After her talk, Justine will lead the group to the Bog Trail.

Black Moshannon State Park is about 30 minutes west of State College. To sign up for the hike or request a ride, visit:
<https://signup.com/go/pCaOGAZ>

SEPTEMBER BRANCH POTLUCK BRINGS OUT A CROWD



The Branch Potluck & Engagement Gathering, held September 20 on a beautiful evening at Tudek Park, brought out a crowd of about 45 people, including several new members and some guests.



The variety of potluck dishes was a feast for the eyes.



Program Co-VP Nina Cowart and Membership Co-VP Jordan Glover got ready for the crowd.



Member Jennifer Mastrofski enjoyed getting out!



A potluck is a great place to catch up with old friends.



It was wonderful to have some Humphrey Fellows join us.



2022 CANDIDATE RACES – ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 8

We are writing this as we learn that the ballots in Centre County have just been approved by the Election Board and will be available for early voting in the next few days. If you have requested a mail-in ballot, you will receive it in the usual time.

One of the most interesting events this year is the cancellation of the League of Woman Voters candidates' night. The Republican nominees refused to take part, so the League, by its rules, can't hold it. The *Centre Daily Times* is offering to fill that void by hosting a virtual debate, we believe on October 18. At this writing, we don't know which candidates will participate.

If you are so inclined, you can go to the AARP voter guides. For Pennsylvania's guide, go to aarp.org/electionguides and search by state. Vote 411 hosts the League's statewide profiles. Locally, C-NET's half hour candidate interviews will be available in mid-October on Channel 7 or online.

For all five governor candidates, the clearest information is at Spotlight PA (spotlightpa.org). Scroll down to the article on the Governor's race titled "Your Complete Guide to the Candidates for Governor." We are not including the minor party candidates below, but as usual, we will cover all the major candidates for all levels.

For our U.S. Senate race, here are the relevant websites:

John Fetterman (D): <https://johnfetterman.com/>

Mehmet Oz (R): [Doctoroz.com](https://doctoroz.com)

For our lone contested U.S. House of Representatives seat:

Mike Molesevich (D): <https://www.padistrict15.org>

Glenn (GT) Thompson (R) incumbent: friendsofglennthompson.com

(His government site is [Thompson.house.gov](https://thompson.house.gov))

We have no State Senate seats up this year.

State House of Representatives seats: We include all available websites since most of these seats do not have large ad campaigns.

77th District: part of State College and surrounding townships plus Centre County through Philipsburg:

Scott Conklin (D) incumbent: ConklinForPA (Facebook). His website at

[Pahouse.com/conklin](https://pahouse.com/conklin) is his government site, not his campaign site, and this is also true of his other Facebook page.

Steve Yetsko (R): <https://www.facebook.com/yetskoforstaterep/>

82nd District: this is the new district including much of State College Borough and College Twp, continuing up through Snow Shoe:

Paul Takac (D): <https://www.paultakac.com/>

Justin Behrens (R): [Behrensforcentrecounty.com](https://www.Behrensforcentrecounty.com)

171st District: Bellefonte area, Penns Valley in Centre Co and much of Mifflin:

Robert Zeigler (D): [Zeiglerforpa.com](https://www.Zeiglerforpa.com)

Kerry Benninghoff (R) incumbent: <https://www.kerrybenninghoff.com/>

Remember that you can place your mail in ballot in the drop boxes locally, but you must place only your own ballot. Drop boxes are located at township and borough offices. If you have questions about where they are, call your township or borough office. You can, of course, mail them in, too.

If you have further questions about voting, call the Centre County Elections Office. If we can help, give us a call Mary: (814) 234-1148; Dianne: (814) 880-6724.

FIRST WOMAN CHIEF JUSTICE in PENNSYLVANIA'S HISTORY

Madam Justice Debra Todd is now Chief Justice of the PA Supreme Court. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court is over 300 years old, making it the oldest state Supreme Court in the country. This is the first time a woman ever has been Chief.

We expected Justice Todd's elevation to become official with Justice Max Baer's retirement at the end of the year. Justice Baer died unexpectedly on September 30. Justice Todd assumes his duties immediately but reserves her official ceremonies for January, as originally planned.

--Mary Dupuis and Dianne Gregg, Public Policy Chairs

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - VOTING INFORMATION



Thank you, League of Women Voters Centre County, for your tremendous efforts in providing necessary voter information.

[VOTER DEADLINES](#)

[VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION](#)

THOUGHT PROVOKING CONSTITUTION DAY ROUNDTABLE:



What is the Role of Public Education in our Community?

About 30 local citizens with an interest in public education participated in the Constitution Day Community Deliberative Roundtable on September 17th. The event was organized and hosted by David Hutchinson, president of Constitution Day Centre, who has worked with our branch in the past on educational forums. The goal of this roundtable was to convene education professionals, parents, and community members to discuss the

main question: *What is the Role of Public Education in our Community?* Learn more:

<https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/article265601756.html>

Three separate groups discussed how well-prepared today's students are for college and career, and whether the schools can do anything differently. Although we didn't have answers to all the questions, we did discuss topics of interest. In my group, there was general curiosity about the state of civics education and whether students are adequately prepared for responsible citizenship. We considered important the development of skills such as critical-thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity to navigate in our more complex world.

We felt it was important to understand how students develop agency, or the capacity to have the power and resources to optimize their potential. Since today's students are likely to have several careers in their lifetime, we felt that education should be broad and prepare students for a multicultural society. The Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Civics and Government are available to the public at:

<https://www.stateboard.education.pa.gov/Documents/Regulations%20and%20Statements/State%20Academic%20Standards/CIVICSANDGOVERNMENT.pdf>

If you would like to engage in discussions like this, join the Education Committee!

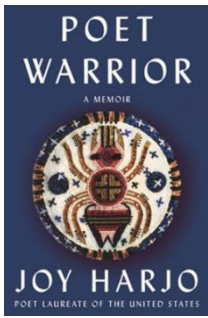
--Carol Hodes, Education Committee Chair, carolhodes@yahoo.com

DIVERSITY CORNER



OCTOBER 8th HAPPY VALLEY LATINO FESTIVAL, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The Happy Valley Latino Festival will take place on Saturday, October 8 at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza on Fraser Street. Celebrate Hispanic/Latinx heritage with live music, arts and crafts, food and more! This event is hosted by the Borough of State College, Downtown State College, and Happy Valley Latino Festival. To learn more about Hispanic women in history visit: [Hispanic Women's History](#)



¡ADELANTE! BOOK CLUB TO MEET THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20th

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, October 20 at 2:30 p.m.** The group will discuss Joy Harjo's second memoir, *Poet Warrior: A Memoir*. Joy Harjo, the first Native American to serve as U.S. poet laureate, offers a vivid, lyrical, and inspiring call for love and justice in this contemplation of her trailblazing life.

Questions? info@aauwstatecollege.org. JOIN: [Adelante Book Club Sign-in](#)



CULTURAL EMPOWERMENT for WOMEN LUNCH FOCUSES on *When You Are the First*

The Cultural Empowerment for Women lunch, a collaboration between the Community Diversity Group and AAUW

State College, was held October 5 at the Penn Stater. There were over 60 people in attendance, a wonderful turn-out. After lunch the panelists provided a lively and inspiring discussion on being first in their careers, by gender, by ethnicity, or both. Hats off to the Community Diversity Group, CDG Director (and AAUW State College member) **Carol Eicher**, and the Cultural Empowerment for Women committee for providing such a high quality program.



Panelists: Kyleen Abrahamson, patrol officer, State College Police Department; Sharon Barney, Associate Director of Career Services at Penn State Law; Jolene Cicci, line worker for West Penn Power; Moderator: Jolene Hindman, consultant for First Energy.

--Naana Nti, Diversity Chair



BRANCH SPONSORED PENN STATE FORUM SPEAKER SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 1 - *Tickets on Sale Now!*

Thursday, December 1st is the date of the Penn State Forum lecture and luncheon with AAUW State College-sponsored speaker **Dr. Na'ilah Nasir**. Dr. Nasir is President of the American Educational Research Foundation; member of the National Academy of Education; and CEO of the Spencer Foundation. Her research examines the racialized and cultural nature of

learning and schooling. **Learn more:** [December 1st Nasir Lecture](#). Dr. Nasir's talk is funded by the Branch's Centennial Endowment, created in 2016 when the branch celebrated its 100-year anniversary. The event will be held at the Penn Stater.

Purchase Your Penn State Forum Ticket Today

AAUW State College has reserved three tables for this event, which includes a buffet lunch. The cost to attend is \$25. Send check made out to “**SCAUW Inc.**” to Vasundara Varadan, 746 East McCormick, State College, PA 16801. Write “Forum Lunch” in the memo line.



AAUW STATE COLLEGE “BOOK-BEES” SHARE TOP HONORS at MSLC SPELLING BEE

Mid-State Literacy Council’s *Ron and Mary Maxwell Community Spelling Bee* took place on September 21. The AAUW State College team, *The Book-Bees* (left), included **Vasundara Varadan, Martha Hummel, and Morgen Hummel.**

After a crazy but fun-filled evening of spelling, *The Book-Bees* tied for first place with the *Word Wranglers* by correctly spelling **F-A-R-R-A-N-G-I-N-O-U-S**, “formed of various materials in no fixed order or arrangement.” Who knew?!

Congratulations to branch member **Mary Dupuis** who received the MSLC Ruth Kistler Service Award for outstanding volunteerism, and thank you to the business and community sponsors who raised vitally needed funds for MSLC’s literacy programs. For the next Mid-State Literacy Council fundraiser, visit [Nov 18-20 Barnes & Noble Book Fair](#).



MEET MARTHA JANE SZALKAY HUMMEL

I was born in a farmhouse 90 miles west of State College along Rte. 322 near Reynoldsville, Pennsylvania. It was November 1932; all of America was deep in the Great Depression and my parents were too poor to go to a hospital in Pittsburgh for my birth.

Times were hard. My big, strong, child of Hungarian immigrants father went door to door asking for work— Need a new roof? Plumbing repairs? Remodel your kitchen?

My beautiful blue-eyed mother, born with a gift of gab, talked her way into a job selling cosmetics in a store in downtown Pittsburgh. With help from the families on both sides and their own hard work, we survived.

Ever the pragmatist, Martha doubles as an EXIT sign at the book sale.

My Dad, Charles Karoly Szalkay, and Mother, Martha Belle Hetrick Szalkay, survived and prospered. Dad went to work for U.S. Steel, quickly working up to supervisor, and the two of them continued working on remodeling and repairs, even with two children.

In 1948 we moved to a farm near Reynoldsville where I went to school for my senior year, graduating at age 16 from Reynoldsville high School. Penn State Dubois was nearby so I started my college days there. In January 1951, I moved into Simmons Hall, on Penn State's main campus.

I changed majors, from Music Ed to Psychology, having learned that I didn't want to teach music, but also didn't have performing talent. In my sophomore year I met my future husband, newly widowed, raising a motherless toddler (now dead). We finished school, married in 1957, had three children together, and had a good life.

We built a house on land my parents bought, west of Pine Grove mills, after they gave us a 6-acre lot. I still live there. Of my children, two live nearby, and one in northeastern Pennsylvania.

I had a health scare in November 2018 but survived. In my working life, I did many interesting things. I drove a school bus; I went to work at Penn State as a clerk-librarian. I moved up to thesis editor in Penn State's Grad School, retiring in 1992, when Penn State decided to stop reading theses.

I continue to proofread for a court reporter, a gift I was apparently born with. My health remains good, for a woman who will be 90 on November 18, 2022.

—Martha Hummel

Editor's note: *Martha is being modest. She inherited many gifts of the above gifts from her parents. In addition to being a champion speller, she volunteers weekly at the Used Book Workshop, recycling books that are unsaleable. Her laughter fills the workshop.*

PLAN to SHOP and VOLUNTEER at the NOVEMBER 18-20



AAUW STATE COLLEGE & TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES COMMUNITY SHOPPING EVENT

Ten Thousand Villages is a pioneer in fair trade and is dedicated to breaking the cycle of generational poverty by putting people and the planet first. What began with one woman committed to the concept of *women helping women* has



-8- *Hand-blown glass by a Ten Thousand Villages artisan.*

evolved into a nonprofit organization that works with over 20,000 artisans in more than 25 countries. Ten Thousand Villages builds long-term buying relationships - averaging 20 years - to support the sustainability of artisan businesses and impact families generationally. We focus our efforts on marginalized communities. Over 60% of the artisans that Ten Thousand Villages works with are women.



It takes a village to achieve change, and the partnership between AAUW and Ten Thousand Villages promises to promote equal opportunities for education and economic security for women both in the United States and abroad.

Ten Thousand Villages carries handmade jewelry, bags, purses, home décor, kitchen linens and as well as coffee, chocolate, tea, spices, and soup mixes. Shopping fair trade allows consumers to feel confident that their

purchases help improve lives and protect the environment. To support these efforts, please visit Ten Thousand Villages during the AAUW State College Shopping Days, November 18-20.

--Jenn Miller, Ten Thousand Villages State College Director of Outreach & Education

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Help staff the AAUW State College table at Ten Thousand Villages (1341 S. Atherton Street, State College) during the sale days! We will share information about AAUW and encourage shoppers to mention AAUW at the point of sale. A percentage of the proceeds will come back to AAUW State College.

TABLE HOURS: Friday, November 18 – 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, November 19 – 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, November 20 – noon-4 p.m.

TO HELP: Contact Connie Schroeder, connieschroeder@gmail.com.

HUMPHREY FELLOWSHIP SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATIONS NOVEMBER 9



Several Penn State Humphrey Fellows have been volunteering regularly at our Used Book Workshop and some Fellows attended the branch potluck in September. For those interested in learning more about education in the Fellows' home countries, we have been invited to the symposium on November 9. Fellows will present their work from noon – 3 p.m. in the Penn State Libraries' Foster Auditorium, followed by a reception in the Mann Assembly Room.

Humphrey Fellow Sessions include the following:

- 12:00 – 12:30 Girls' Education in Egypt and Pakistan: The Struggle for Equality
12:30 – 1:00 Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers: Alternative Models
1:00 – 1:45 Higher Education Panel- Capacity Building: The European Model;
Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Suriname; Increasing Student
Research Abroad: A Model from Panama
1:45 – 2:15 Trends in Online Education in Pakistan and Mexico
2:15 – 3:00 Campus and Community Engagement: Perspectives from Three Countries
3:00 – 4:00 Reception

Zoom Webinar Link: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/97514454972>



Humphrey Fellow Quratulain Talpur (above with Workshop Lead Sherry Crassweller) helped with pricing and in the recycling area of the workshop.

USED BOOK WORKSHOP
2197 High Tech Road (near University Park Airport)
Deposit books in outdoor bins 24/7.
For help bringing books inside:
Mondays 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Tues./Wed. 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
To learn more about book donations:
https://aauwstatecollege.org/used_book_sale_donations/

SEEKING a USED BOOK SALE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULER



Raise Your Hand! Used Book Sale Chairs **Donna Trapp** and **Mary Ann Blair** are seeking a branch member to schedule volunteers for the May 13-16, 2023 sale. A solid list of long-time volunteers from both the branch and the community will be reused. The first call for volunteers will go out in February and scheduling will continue all the way up to the sale. If interested, contact Donna Trappdonnatrapp@pennstatefederal.com for details. This is a great behind-the-scenes job and critical to the success of the sale.

BRANCH SOCIAL MEDIA HELP NEEDED



We need some help with AAUW State College social media messaging on our Facebook and Instagram pages. It's important to keep our name out there to a broad audience. If you have a little time to spare and are knowledgeable about posting social media messages, contact Connie Schroeder, connieschroeder@gmail.com.

AAUW STATE COLLEGE AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS to SCIENCE U CAMPERS

Last summer, AAUW State College provided scholarships to seven young women from Centre County to attend a Science-U camp of their choice at Penn State. These high school students had earned their AAUW scholarships in 2020



Pre-med Academy campers dissect sheep brains.

but were not able to attend a camp that summer due to the pandemic. Thanks to the generosity of AAUW State College, they were allowed to defer attending Science-U until this year when the camps at Penn State's University Park campus returned to in-person attendance.

One of the scholarship winners was from Penns Valley Area High School and attended the *Make It Matter* camp about materials science and sustainability during the week of June 27-July 1. Six of the scholarship winners were from the State College Area School District and attended the Premed Academy camp during the week of July 18-22. This camp was taught by Dr. Carline Crevecoeur, a fellow AAUW member, who shared her experiences as a medical professional with the campers. In a post-camp survey, two of the scholarship winners offered these thoughts:

"As a scholarship recipient, I feel empowered to advocate for accessible science education in my own community. Ultimately, AAUW and Science-U gave me the confidence to pursue post-secondary studies in medicine and elevated my passion for STEM leadership."

"Science-U is a great place to learn and meet people who are interested in STEM. Receiving a scholarship to this camp will always be a happy memory for me."

--Carol-Beth Book, STEM Co-Chair

ANNE ARD, CENTRE SAFE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RETIRES



After 25 years at the helm, Anne Ard, Executive Director of Centre Safe, is retiring. Formerly the Centre County Women's Resource Center, Centre Safe provides services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. A long-time AAUW State College member, Anne is active on the Scholarship Committee. We thank Anne for her outstanding leadership and extraordinary vision for Centre Safe over the years and wish her the very best in her retirement. To learn more about Anne and Centre Safe, visit <https://www.centredaily.com/news/local/article266573226.html>.



With Centre Safe being an AAUW State College Community Action Grant recipient, Anne shared recently that "AAUW grants fund outreach and prevention work with youth, specifically the Camp Peaceworks program. Camp Peaceworks helps youth in grades 6-12, look at the societal root causes of violence, such as sexism, homophobia, and racism."



Branch History with Centre Safe

AAUW State College supported the opening of the Centre County Women's Resource Center (CCWRC) in 1975 and through Community Action Grants, it remains an integral focus for the branch to this day.

In the branch's Centennial History 1916-2016 ([AAUW State College Centennial History 1916 - 2016](#), pp. 43-44) Branch Historian Jackie Esposito reported, "CCWRC was a grassroots effort to provide services for women and children affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse. It has grown from a one-room operation providing services both in State College and Bellefonte to managing the Sylvia Stein Shelter, and providing a wide range of educational offerings. It provides an environment of support and encouragement for women who are redefining their lives and exploring opportunities for personal and professional development."

Left, in 1977, branch member Mary Dupuis visited the Women's Resource Centre with past member Nancy Strother.



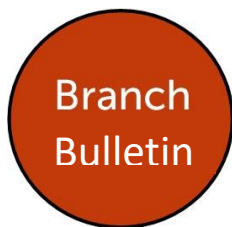


BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The AAUW State College Executive Board (composed of the Branch elected officers plus Donna Trapp, co-chair of the Used Book Sale), which is serving as the branch's leadership team this year, met on October 3. Highlights include:

- Our Used Book Workshop has been sold. The Used Book Sale leaders met with the new owners who confirmed that our lease will continue as is until June 2024.
- The Branch will sponsor a “watch party” and discussion on *Pennsylvania Reproductive Rights After Dobbs*, a webinar from AAUW-PA that is part of its new Mission Critical Series. Date still TBD, but likely November or December.
- Different members of the Executive Board volunteered to manage the monthly general Board meetings in November, January, March, April, and June.
- A new Branch website team will update and monitor <https://aauwstatecollege.org>. They have attended two training sessions on Word Press, our web platform, and had a zoom conference with Pam Mitchell, our web developer. Another meeting is planned for October 12. Watch for changes to our website.
- The Executive Board will be exploring new efficiencies, including a Zoom account that all committee chairs can use, a means to update our Google Business page more easily, and a student intern.
- The Board discussed expanding our membership and influence beyond Centre County into contiguous counties.
- A motion was approved to sponsor up to four Humphrey Fellows to attend the Penn State Forum on December 1 featuring the AAUW State College Centennial Speaker.
- Selecting a Nominating Committee was deemed a top priority.

BRANCH BULLETIN DATES to REMEMBER



To accommodate the mid-term election, the next *Bulletin* comes out on **Monday, November 7**, a week ahead of schedule.

Items for inclusion in the next issue should be sent to *Branch Bulletin* Editor Connie Schroeder, ConnieSchroeder@gmail.com, by **Monday, October 31**.

Bulletins are available at www.aauwstatecollege.org under News at https://aauwstatecollege.org/blog_gender_equity/.