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## November 18-20

### AAUW State College Partners with Ten Thousand Villages

Ten Thousand Villages promotes dignity, hope and a living wage for artisans (mostly women) around the world. We're excited for our annual Community Shopping Days with them, November 18-20. Plan to shop during the sale days, and be sure to mention AAUW when you make your purchase. We still need a few volunteers to help staff this fun event - see page 8 for details.



## Election Day November 8 - Cast Your Vote

Thanks to Branch Public Policy chairs Mary Dupuis and Dianne Gregg who provided a comprehensive Election Guide on pp. 2-3. They have added the following remarks.

The Election Guide on pp. 2-3 was published in the last issue. However, the changes in the public information about the election requires that we add the following: Pennsylvania's senate race is now seen nationally as one of the two or three races which will decide who controls the U.S. Senate. We see this as an opportunity to make Pennsylvania the leader in protecting women's rights. We hope you'll see it the same way. The most important thing you can do is vote, and the second most important thing is for you to press all your friends and relations to vote as well.



## 2022 Candidate Races

If you are so inclined, you can go to the AARP voter guides [aarp.org/electionguides](https://aarp.org/electionguides) and search for Pennsylvania. Vote 411 hosts the League's statewide profiles.

For all five governor candidates, the clearest information is at Spotlight PA ([spotlightpa.org](https://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](https://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: all available websites are included 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 Yetzko (R): <https://www.facebook.com/yetskoforstaterep/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mary and Dianne penned a *Helping Hands* column on [Understanding Proposed Changes in the Pennsylvania Constitution](#), which ran in the October 19 issue of the *Centre Daily Times*. They remind us that “to return to a balanced consideration of attempts to amend our Constitution, learn which candidates support these amendments, and vote accordingly.”

## All About Standardized Tests



We often hear negative comments about standardized tests, but these tests have an important purpose in education. Used correctly, standardized tests, like the state assessments, can be used to identify strengths and weaknesses in students, classes, subject areas, and larger student populations.

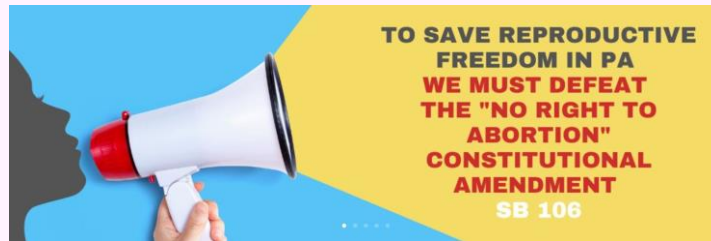
Grading practices can vary widely among teachers, and although many complain about the “bubble answer sheets,” standardized tests are objective. Teachers use test information to get a big picture of subject area mastery, improve instruction, or see the impact of a new curriculum.

Large scale tests can be comparative and are used to compare schools or school districts to another and determine which schools are making progress for accountability. **All public schools take the state assessments**, including charter schools. Many parochial schools also participate in the state testing program which enables comparison to the public schools. Pennsylvania has a Standards Aligned System where both instruction and the state tests are aligned to the same set of standards.

The Standards Aligned System Assessment Center has tools for teachers to ensure this alignment: [Standards Aligned Assessment Center](#). In a Standards Aligned System, teachers are not teaching to the test, but teaching to the standards.

*--Carol Hodes, Education Chair*

## Together, we can save reproductive freedom in Pennsylvania.



AAUW supports choice in determining one's reproductive life and increased access to health care and family planning services. We believe that these deeply personal decisions should be made without government interference. Family planning fosters self-sufficiency, promotes preventive health care, and teaches people how to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted infections.

(AAUW National statement)

**Sign petition opposing the anti-abortion constitutional amendment (SB 106):**

[Petition opposing anti-abortion amendment](#)

**Sign up for Women's Law Project Action alerts:** [Women's Law Project Action Alerts](#)

## Title IX Expert Peg Pennepacker to Speak November 16



***Title IX: What is it and how does it impact schools today?***

**Wednesday, November 16, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)**

Title IX was passed 50 years ago to prevent gender discrimination in the American education system.

Speaker [Peg Pennepacker](#), a leading consultant and advocate for gender equity, served as State College Area School District Athletic Director from 2011-2017 and was an active member of AAUW State College. Currently, Peg assists high schools with Title IX compliance issues.

Please share this flyer with friends and colleagues, especially with those who work in schools: [November 16 Talk on Title IX with Peg Pennepacker](#). Peg's talk is sponsored by AAUW-Doylestown & Delaware Valley University Office of Diversity & Inclusion.

**Register:** [November 16 Talk Registration](#)

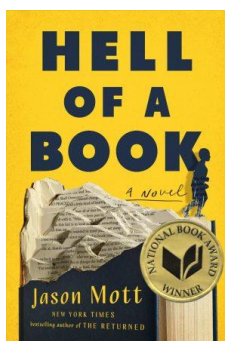
## DIVERSITY CORNER

### Fall Diversity Event Videos

C-NET's coverage of the September 2022 Multicultural Unity Fair is online at [cnet1.org](https://cnet1.org). To view via the direct link go to [2022 Multicultural Unity Fair](#)

View video from the October 5 Community Diversity Group Cultural Empowerment for Women event: [When You Are the First or the Only](#)

### ¡ADELANTE! Book Club to meet Thursday, December 15



Our book club is modeled after the AAUW Diversity Outreach for Impact Program, featuring diverse cultures in both fiction and nonfiction offerings.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, December 15 at 2:30 p.m.** The group will discuss *Hell of a Book*, by Jason Mott. A 2021 National Book Award Longlist Selection, this is a story of racism, police violence, and the hidden costs to Black Americans, and America as a whole.

To participate, please contact [info@aauwstatecollege.org](mailto:info@aauwstatecollege.org). Join the meeting: [December 15 Adelante Meeting Link](#)



### November is National American Indian Heritage Month

In partnership with other entities, the Library of Congress pays tribute to the ancestry and traditions of Native American and Indigenous people: [Native American Heritage Month](#)

Violence against Native women documentary: [Bring Her Home](#)

Inspiration Articles: [How Native American Women Inspired the Women's Rights Movement](#)  
[Ten Native Women in History](#)

-- Naana Nti and Maria Schmidt, Diversity Committee

*The secret to our success is that we never give up. — Wilma Mankiller*





## Branch-Sponsored Penn State Forum Speaker Lunch December 1 at the Penn Stater– *Four Tickets Left!*

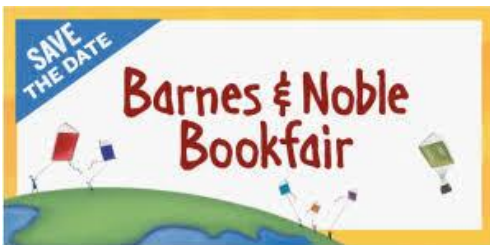
Four tickets remain for the **Thursday, December 1** Penn State Forum lecture and luncheon with AAUW State College-sponsored speaker **Dr. Na'ilah Nasir**. Dr. Nasir's research examines the racialized and cultural nature of learning and schooling. **Learn more:** [December 1 Nasir Lecture](#).

Dr. Nasir's talk is funded by the Branch's Centennial Endowment, created in 2016.

### Purchase Your Penn State Forum Ticket Today

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

## MSLC Barnes & Noble Bookfair: November 18-20



Through an AAUW State College Community Action Grant, Mid-State Literacy Council provides scholarships and instructional materials to women on their road to literacy. We are happy to share information about their

fundraising endeavors, including their November 18-20 bookfair at Barnes & Noble.



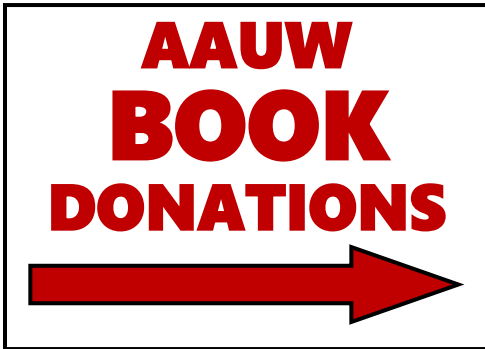
MSLC uses the fair proceeds to award thousands of new books to children in our community. At the MSLC table at the bookfair shoppers may select from a wish list of books to add to the holiday book drive and support children in our community. **Remember to mention Mid-State Literacy Council or Bookfair ID 12599163 at the checkout register.**

The fair features several fun events for both children and adults including author readings, children's drum circle, cupcakes and thankfulness celebration, and more. For the schedule of events and complete details, visit: [Nov 18-20 Barnes & Noble Book Fair](#)

If you are unable to attend the bookfair in person, support MSLC by visiting [BN.COM/bookfairs](http://BN.COM/bookfairs) online from **November 18-25** and use **Bookfair ID 12624029** at checkout.

## Book Donation Update

Nearly five months into gathering books for our **May 13-16, 2023** Used Book Sale, workshop volunteers have sorted and priced about **2,000 boxes**. We hope to process another thousand boxes before for the sale. Thank you, book donors!



Look for the new red and white book donation signs on the way to the Used Book Workshop. The first is on the corner of High Tech Road across from the airport. The second is down High Tech at the driveway entrance on the right.

### We Welcome Book Donations!

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:**

[Book Donation Guidelines](#)

## October Look-Back: *Black Moshannon Hike*

*Our October 15 hike, organized by the Program Committee, turned out to be a gorgeous fall day. Several branch members joined Park Ranger Justine Johnson for a guided hike.*

*Along the way participants got to know each other better, sharing stories of health challenges, raising children, and more.*



## Step Off the Sidelines



Our membership has grown over the past several months, and that's terrific. The next step to being an AAUW State College member is to become active and volunteer for branch events, at the Used Book Workshop, or for the Used Book Sale.

Whether you're new to the branch or a long-time member who has stayed on the sidelines, we hope you'll join us by volunteering.

### *Table Sitters for Ten Thousand Villages Days*

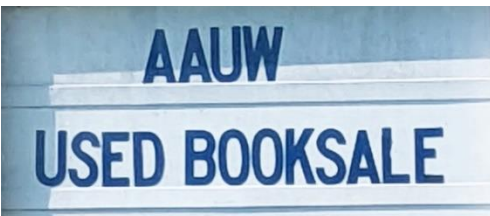


We seek branch members to staff our AAUW table during our Ten Thousand Villages Days, November 18-20. Volunteers are needed on **Nov. 19 from 3-5 p.m.** and on **Nov. 20 from 12-2 p.m.** Table staffing is fun and easy. We talk with customers, share information about AAUW, and encourage shoppers to mention AAUW when they make their purchases. When they do, a percentage of proceeds will be redirected back to AAUW State College.

If you can staff one of the open shifts, contact [Connie Schroeder](#) today.

Thank you to our friends at Ten Thousand Villages for making this event possible!

### *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. This is a great behind-the-scenes job and critical to the success of the sale. A solid list of past volunteers from both the branch and the community will be used. The first call for volunteers will go out in February and scheduling will continue up to the sale. Contact [Donna Trapp](#) for details.



### ***We are building our Web Team!***

Are you comfortable with WordPress or willing to enhance whatever knowledge you have? Our goal is to have each member of the Web Team assume responsibility for updating a couple of pages (there are 25) on the website. Team member will work closely with the Board member responsible for the content in their area. If you are interested, please

contact [Sally Kalin](#).





## Penn State Humphrey Fellows November 9 Symposium

The Penn State Humphrey Fellows have been a vital and active presence at the Used Book Workshop this fall. This month, they invite us to learn more about their countries and research by attending the **Humphrey Fellowship Program Symposium on Wednesday, November 9, from 12 noon to 4 p.m.**

at the Pattee & Paterno Libraries on campus.

For those unavailable to attend in person, their presentations are also available via Zoom:

[Program Link](#)

Share with friends and colleagues: [Humphrey Fellows November 9 Program Symposium](#)



## Branch Handbook/Directory

Great news! Our 2022-2023 Handbook/Directory was completed and mailed on October 27, thanks to the hard work of Handbook editor Suzanne Kerlin. In this electronic age it may seem old-fashioned to have a paper directory but over the years it has proven, time and again, to be a wonderful reference booklet.

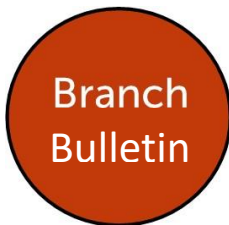
If you are a new member of AAUW State College but are not listed in the current directory, contact [Suzanne Kerlin](#). It is likely that you joined right after the handbook went to press.



## Branch Leadership Report

The December issue of the *Branch Bulletin* will include a report from the November and December executive committee meeting and board meetings. The November board meeting did not take place until after this bulletin was issued.

## Branch Bulletin Dates



Items for inclusion in the next issue should be sent to *Branch Bulletin* Editor [Connie Schroeder](#) by **Monday, December 5**. The issue will be sent **by December 12**.

Bulletins are available at [www.aauwstatecollege.org](http://www.aauwstatecollege.org) under News at [https://aauwstatecollege.org/blog\\_gender\\_equity/](https://aauwstatecollege.org/blog_gender_equity/).