



American Association of University Women with  
Women in Learning and Leadership/Brookdale Community College  
*Invites You*

Wednesday, October 2

4:00 to 6:00 pm

Student Life Center, Navesink III Room 218  
Brookdale Community College\*

Northern Monmouth County Branch Meeting

**“Voting Matters:  
A Nonpartisan Guide to Election 2024”**

Speaker: Evelyn Murphy, PhD  
President of LWV of Monmouth County

\*765 Newman Springs Road Lincroft, NJ  
Parking Lot #7

Co-sponsored by



Our Branch is excited to announce an upcoming workshop titled *“Building Resiliency for Today and Tomorrow’s Challenges”* at our meeting on Monday, November 4, 2024. The event will feature Diane Lang, a nationally recognized speaker, educator, and certified positive psychology coach.



Lang writes, “The current crisis is unique in its uncertainty. We are not sure what the future will look like and when the crisis may end. This creates fear and brings additional challenges to coping. These are tough times, but they offer an opportunity for growth and to build resiliency.” Her PowerPoint presentation will be followed with a Q&A session. *Please mark your calendars and join us to learn how to build a resiliency plan in a crisis.*

*Barbara Withers, Program Director*

**Upcoming Branch Program  
Save the Date!**

**Monday, November 4  
3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Shrewsbury Historical Society**

## Presidents' Message

Dear members and friends,  
Our message today is short and to the point - plan to vote on November 5 or earlier if you are signed up for a mail-in ballot (last day to apply for one is October 29 from the County Clerk; in Monmouth County the website for information is: <https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/voter-information/vote-by-mail/>) or go to an early polling site to vote.

Many of you are already engaged in reminding others to vote with phone calls and by writing postcards to potential voters, and we commend you for encouraging others to participate in this most important act as a citizen of a democracy. Please remember to encourage the young people in your life to vote, for some it may be the first time.

Here are a few quotes to share or reflect on if you hear someone say it doesn't make any difference if they vote.

**"Every election is determined by the people who show up."** Larry Sabato

**"The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all."** John F. Kennedy

**"Not voting is not a protest. It is a surrender."** Keith Ellison

and finally, from Susan B. Anthony who fought for all of us to have the right to vote-  
**"Someone struggled for your right to vote, use it."**

In addition to voting, we hope to see you at upcoming branch meetings, study groups, and at the Used Book Sale where we hope you will shop, donate, and volunteer some of your time. That time you donate helps make a difference for those who shop there and for those who

benefit from the funds raised there to support scholarships and special projects for women and girls.

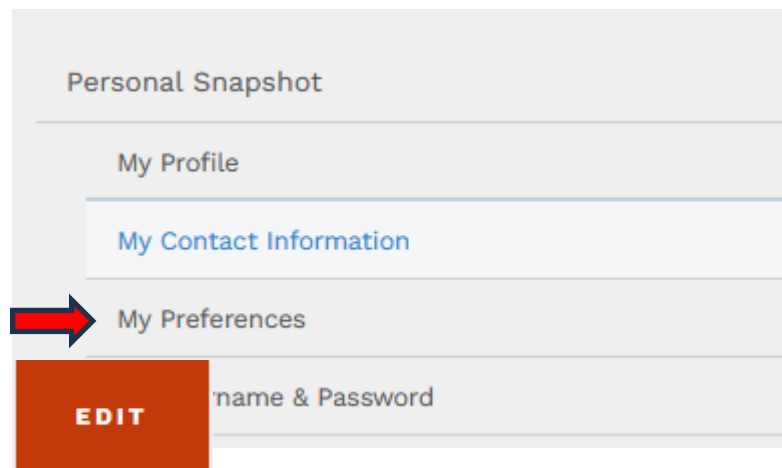


## How to reduce emails from AAUW National

Login to your membership portal on AAUW National Website:  
<https://my.aauw.org/NC> [Login](#)

Enter your email and password to login, if you don't have an account there are direction on the page to create an account.

On your Personal Snapshot page, click on "My Preferences" on the left menu.



After changing the different options, scroll to the bottom of the page and click the SAVE button to save your changes



-Marian and Heather

Marian Wattenbarger

Heather Balczarek

In order to get through a lot of complicated issues, it helps to have a little bit of humor.

—Madeline Albright

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*Membership Is Everyone's Responsibility*

We will be publishing a yearbook this fall. If you have not paid your dues to date, please send them in so we can be sure you are listed in the yearbook.

The October 2 Branch meeting will feature a Shape the Future Membership Drive. This is for new members only or those whose membership has lapsed 2 years. Please bring your friends to this very important meeting and suggest they join AAUW at this time. The membership fee will be \$62.00 as opposed to the regular rate of \$98.00. We can only take cash or checks at this event.

### In Memoriam:



**Linda Beltran** of Swannanoa, North Carolina passed away on September 10, 2024 at age 79. She earned a Bachelor of Science from Ohio State University, a teaching certificate from Akron University and an MS in Business

Administration from Central Michigan University. She served in the Peace Corps in Colombia from 1967-1970 and worked for 28 years as a civilian for the US Army. She was a certified Qi Gong instructor, a member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) for 30 years, an ESL instructor and a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Monmouth County in Lincroft, NJ. She loved her dogs, walks in nature, reading, quilting and doing hidden random acts of kindness.

Linda was President of our branch from 2001-2003 and was a member until 2013. She is survived by her daughter Dianna. While in NMCB in addition to President, Linda was Membership VP and Program VP.

Co-Membership Directors:

Mary Lea Burden

Judy Kramer



## PUBLIC POLICY NEWS AND RESOURCES

### PUBLIC POLICY

The first week of October is National Voter Education Week. And we are doing our part with our October 2 program at Brookdale Community College. We will be sharing the nonpartisan AAUW 2024 Voter Issue Guide, which explains

AAUW positions on nine public policy priorities that support gender equity. You can download it in [English](#) or [Spanish](#), share with friends and family, and encourage them to vote! While the upcoming election is holding much of our attention, important work lies ahead! For example, in the September newsletter, CEO Gloria Blackwell notes that the gender pay gap has widened:

Women working full-time now earn just 83% of what men earn, a decline from last year's 84%. This amounts to a loss of \$11,550 annually for each full-time working woman.

While there have been gains in real earnings for both men and women, women, especially women of color, continue to be pushed into lower wage jobs. . . We must address the systemic barriers that keep women from earning their fair share – like the lack of paid leave, affordable childcare, and strong pay equity laws.

As we move forward this fall, let's channel our collective energy. Whether it's by joining [Two-Minute Activist](#), voting for candidates that support women's issues, or standing up against injustice wherever you can, each of us has a role to play in creating a more equitable world.

Tax-Smart Giving: And, of course, our donations would help support the AAUW mission. You are invited to explore tax-smart giving options that can help empower women and girls while also reducing your tax burden. If you own stock or cryptocurrency, or have an IRA or a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF), you can [learn more here](#).

Women's Economic Empowerment Webinars: Whether you're a student stepping into the professional world, currently in the workforce, or a higher ed staff or faculty member (who can share the webinars), our salary negotiation and financial literacy sessions are

curated to offer valuable insights and tools for every career stage. [See the schedule here](#). Applications for Fellowships and Grants Now Open: It's that time of year—[applications for fellowships and grants are now open](#) for the 2025-26 academic year. Thanks to your dedicated support, AAUW continues to impact the lives of women scholars and community organizations focused on equity for women and girls. Please share with your networks.

Nancy Butler, NMCB Public Policy Director

~

**SAVE THE DATE**  
*MEET AND MINGLE FOR NEW*  
**MEMBERS, FRIENDS OF AAUW,  
BOARD MEMBERS**

SUNDAY JANUARY 12, 2025 3 PM

SHREWSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
(IN THE SHREWSBURY MUNICIPAL  
COMPLEX)

## **Book Sale Book Sale Book Sale Reopening Saturday, September 7, 2024**

Old First Church  
69 Kings Highway, Middletown  
Lower Level, outside stairs  
732-275-2237

Open: Saturdays: 10am - 2pm,  
Thursdays: 10am - 12noon

Donate: Saturdays: 10am - 1:30pm  
Thursdays: 10am - 11:30am Thursdays

Our AAUW Used Book Sale is in full swing. Come in and check out the great bargains on recent books, CDs, DVDs, records, puzzles, and games; we also have greeting cards.

Please keep us in mind if you, or someone you know, is downsizing and needs to find a home for books. Our donation policy is on our web page. Just remember that if you wouldn't buy it, we can't sell it.

If you're not on our book sale volunteer list and would like to come in on a Thursday to get to know our crew, contact **Ruth Hodum**, **Kathy Olsen**, or **Irene Gibson**. It's a fun two hours, getting to know other members and helping to shelve book donations.

AND we always welcome volunteers for our Saturday sales days.

All proceeds go toward scholarships for local women at Brookdale Community College and Monmouth University, as well as book awards for the senior girl with the highest math score in 22 public high schools in northern Monmouth County.

The Northern Monmouth County Branch of AAUW has been making a difference in the community for more than 90 years and welcomes new members to join them in advancing equity for women and girls. Membership in AAUW is open to any graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

To learn more about the AAUW and the book donation policy, visit [aauw-nj-nmcb.org](http://aauw-nj-nmcb.org) or call 732-275-2237.

~  
*Boscov's Monmouth Mall* will hold its **charity day** this year on Tuesday, **October 22**.

Purchase a shopping pass for \$5 to benefit our branch. How? You can buy them from **Ruth Hodum**. This allows you a 25% discount on the lowest sale price of any item in the store or online.

Please save the date and encourage friends to buy tickets as well. Tickets sold at the door that

day do not benefit our branch, so plan ahead.

## Study Group News

If you'd like to have contact with interesting AAUW members, broaden your knowledge of the world, and add something special to your life, consider joining. Check with the Chairs listed below. Those attending are required to be members in good standing. Guests may attend three meetings before being required to join AAUW. Here are your possibilities.

## Art History

Five members of the group met at the Belmar Art Center on Thursday, September 19, to view varied images on the theme "Transportation." The Center is located at 608 River Rd, Belmar N.J. 07719; check its website: [www.belmararts.org](http://www.belmararts.org). The current show runs until October 5, 2024.

Here are some photos of the show by group member **Marion Giles**.



Noir1, Acrylic, by Bob Mataranglo



New Jersey County Map No.19, License plates,  
by John Rounds



Car Wash by David Chase

Afterward, we enjoyed lunch together at Klein's Waterside Cafe in Belmar. Our events are open to all.

RSVP to the co-chairs if interested.

## UPCOMING

Thursday, October 10 - 11:00 am  
Sarah Fishbein: Perfect Brokenness  
ArtSpace/Monmouth Arts  
99 Monmouth St.

11:00 am Meet the artist and learn about her art that explores the multifaceted lives of women from many angles.  
Voluntary donation for the artist [suggested \$10]  
Lunch at a nearby Red Bank restaurant TBD.

Thursday, November 7 - 11:30 am  
Black Glass Gallery  
Middletown Arts Center [by the train station]  
Middletown

A dynamic social media-based photography community founded in New Jersey.  
1:00 pm Lunch at No Limits Cafe on Rt. 35

Saturday, November 30 - 12 noon  
Holiday Art Market. [hours 11 am to 5 pm]  
Jersey Shore Arts Center  
66 S. Main Street, Ocean Grove  
Noon Lunch at SeaGrass in Ocean Grove  
After lunch, do your holiday shopping at the Art Market.  
More than 30 local artists and crafters | Open Artists' studios | Holiday music |  
Food and beverages | Admission is Free; \$5 suggested donation

Watch your email for details. Any questions, contact the co-chairs.

Joan Fruchter  
Barbara Withers

### **French Conversation**

Our group enables women with a good knowledge of the French language to maintain their fluency through some language structure reviews and conversations with other members on different topics. Upon the recommendation of our members, we have now added a literary component to some of our meetings.

To keep up with the needs of our members, we will be meeting once a month (the second Thursday at 7:30 p.m.) through Zoom.

Members are encouraged to participate (orally or written) at the monthly meetings.

If anyone is interested in joining the group, please contact the chair for further information. Newcomers are always welcome.

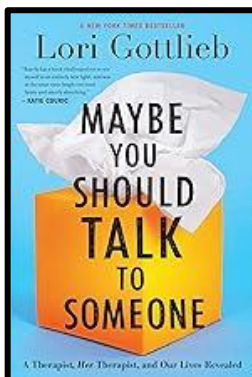
Chair: Jeannine Maloney

### **Insights**

Insights, our non-fiction book group meets for discussion on the second Tuesday of each month.

Our October 8 selection is *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone* by Lori Gottlieb. Kathy Olsen will host the 3 p.m. meeting in October. For more information, contact Kathy Olsen, chair.

New members are always welcome.



### **Russian Short Stories**

We have scheduled future Zoom meetings for the third Thursdays of the month at 1 p.m.

Contact Study Group Chair:  
Stephanie Rose

**Currently, we have three study groups on hiatus: German Conversation, Literature, and Writing. If you have an interest in reactivating any of these or something new, please contact Susan Gelber.**

~

### **Barbara Withers's Other Talent on Full Display**

We all know and admire Barbara for her talent as a program organizer, meeting and membership planner, and otherwise indispensable member of our branch. Some of us also know her as a talented photographer. Those who do – and those who don't – should head on over to the lobby of the Atrium between now and the end of November to see her current show. It's really quite remarkable, especially when hearing some of Barbara's stories about how she got these shots – most, by the way, taken on an iPhone and many printed on canvas.

Most striking when a friend and I arrived on its opening afternoon was a picture of a fractured building, or so it appears – it's actually the façade of an aging one reflected in the glass of another, quite modern one. My first thought was of a digital puzzle; inspection demonstrates otherwise. Mounted next to it are three others -- all emphasizing the geometry of several new structures, aiming aloft against a brilliantly blue sky. Barbara says she was on an afternoon tour to Lower Manhattan sponsored by Brookdale Community College. Participants were given 20

minutes to wander on their own – and Barbara’s eye not only caught some extraordinary shots, her camera got them as well.



Also in the show are some calendar-worthy photographs of bears, polar and brown; the latter taken on a trip to Alaska. The brown bear portrait, full face, looks as though it was taken from only a few feet away; actually, it was about 15 feet distant. As Barbara explained, he was in one enclosure; she was in another, set up for just this purpose in a manner designed to neither scare nor endanger the bear.

Walking toward the gallery area, I saw what appeared to be a painting of a lighthouse. My initial thought was that someone else had work in the show. But, no, it was indeed a lighthouse, and the process of printing the image on canvas suggests at first glance an acrylic. A few other seaside shots have a similar visual impact. (Catch the sunset!)

Barbara, I think we do all know, is quite a traveler. These shots originated on some of her trips – Manitoba and Maine, as well as Manhattan. You can see them all in the Atrium

lobby, 40 Riverside Dr., in Red Bank, open to visitors all day.

■ Connie Goddard

Scholarship Luncheon

Save the Date

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

*NetWorks* is published by the Northern Monmouth County Branch of AAUW. Please submit copy to Karen Topham, Editor.

The due date for copy for the November *NetWorks* copy is Tuesday, October 29.

Send address changes, names of prospective members, membership applications and checks, and questions about non-receipt of the newsletter to:

Judy Kramer and Mary Lea Burden, Membership, Co-directors

P.O. Box 398, Red Bank, NJ 07701 [aauw.nmcb@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.nmcb@gmail.com)

Our electronic mailing list enables us to inform you about opportunities for AAUW members that arise too late for publication in *NetWorks*. You can be sure that we carefully evaluate each notice before we send it out.

Please note that the use of the branch email list is for branch activities only. Members wishing to share other information with branch members are invited to submit a notice to the “Networking” column in *NetWorks*.

Something to share? Please send the information to Karen Topham for the next *NetWorks*.



PRESENTED BY AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF NEW JERSEY

# FIGHTING HATE TELLING OUR STORIES

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 | 7:00 PM



**FALEEHA HASSAN**  
Member  
Int'l Writers & Artists Assoc.



**ELIZABETH ROTHMAN**  
President  
AAUW Freehold Area (NJ) Branch



**VALERIE GRANBERRY**  
Minister &  
Motivational Speaker



Opening Remarks  
**MATTHEW J. PLATKIN**  
New Jersey Attorney General



Moderator  
**EDWINA SESSIONS**  
Director of DEI, AAUW NJ

REGISTER AT  
[bit.ly/aaunwj-fighting-hate](https://bit.ly/aaunwj-fighting-hate)





American Association of University Women  
Northern Monmouth County Branch  
P.O. Box 398  
Red Bank, NJ 07701

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class. Membership is open to any graduate holding an associate degree or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. AAUW-NMCB is designated as a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations to the branch, as well as to the national organization, are fully tax-deductible. AAUW is a highly rated charity.

## AAUW Used Book Sale



The store is located at:  
Old First Church  
69 Kings Highway  
Middletown

**Open:** Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
through June.  
Thursdays from 10 a.m. to Noon through  
June.

**Donations:** Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Thursdays 10 a.m. to Noon

(The sale is closed on holiday weekends.)

Have you been missing  
AAUW's *Outlook* magazine that used to  
arrive in the mail?

Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). At the bottom of  
the home page, sign up for the  
newsletter with your email address and  
zip code.

## Stay Connected!

AAUW [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

AAUW-NMCB [www.aauw-nj-nmcb.org](http://www.aauw-nj-nmcb.org)

AAUW Action Network [www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/](http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/)



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AAUW-NJ [.AAUWNJ.org](http://.AAUWNJ.org)

Branch phone 732-275-2237

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