



*AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

# News of Note

November 2022

## *November Branch Program*

### *AAUW Webinar: In Conversation with Dr. Keisha N. Blain*

**Tuesday, November 15 at 7 pm**  
**Virtually via Zoom**

Please join us as we view and discuss AAUW's special webinar in its 140th anniversary series, AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell speaks with 2016-17 AAUW American Fellow and award-winning author, historian and professor Dr. Keisha N. Blain.



*Fannie Lou Hamer*  
[womenshistory.org](http://womenshistory.org)

Just as we heard from Rachael Rollins how vital AAUW's Fellowship was to her, Dr. Blain will tell us how her AAUW Fellowship shaped her career. Her most recent book *Until I Am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's Enduring Message to America*, is a

riveting biography and intellectual history of Black activist Fannie Lou Hamer. We will learn Hamer was a crucial political thinker for the civil rights movement and the modern-day relevance of Hamer's ideas. *Until I Am Free* has been described as a must-read for anyone committed to social justice.

As members of AAUW, you will find that Fannie Lou Hamer's message is particularly relevant to us.

To prepare for this program you might want to read a brief biography of Fannie Lou Hamer such as the

one found at

<https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/fannie-lou-hamer>.

Please note the change in date for this program. We will meet via Zoom on the third Tuesday, November 15 at 7 pm. The Zoom link will be sent closer to the date.

## *Co-President's Message*



Happy Halloween! Our year has gotten off to a great start! In October we had a very informative and interesting Zoom meeting presented by Jennifer Regan Robinson, the state president of **Moms Demand Action**, arranged by Carol

Sullivan-Hanley. The statistics about gun violence presented were eye-opening and alarming; however, many opportunities were suggested for ways that we can get involved. We also held a **Get Out the Vote** event at Weymouth High School on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Patrice Metro, Ruthanne Kennedy, and Fran Schlesinger for helping out! This event gave us the chance to plan for the next election in 2024. At our Executive Board meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>, Lynn Howard gave us an updated report on the **STEM Day** held on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Lynn Howard and her team of volunteers presented 15 workshops to 64 girls in grades 4 - 8. We are so proud of Lynn for spearheading this exciting event! Thank you to the South Shore Branch members that helped out that day. Please continue to stay involved with our wonderful programs presented from month-to-month. We look forward to seeing you!

*Gail Saccone*  
*Co-President*

# Membership Matters

AAUW is quick to acknowledge that they have come a long way but still have a long way to go. The battle for gender equality is just getting started. Over the last three decades we have broken down barriers and made the world equitable for future generations of women and girls. Despite all that we have accomplished, there is still a lot to be done and we need the support of every member and rely on their outreach to encourage new members to join our organization as we advocate for new laws. Strength is in numbers.

*Welcome!*

Please welcome new member, **Laurie Ozelius**, and add her to your membership list.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families on the passing of **Patricia Bologna** and **Sema Faigen**, both AAUW-MA past presidents. RIP

*[Anne Foley](#)  
Membership*

## STEM Conference for Girls



We had another terrific STEM Conference on Saturday, October 22nd. Sixty-four girls in grades 4-8 attended the Conference. The Keynote Speaker was Lyndsey Littlefield, a

biology teacher in Bridgewater-Raynham. She inspired the girls to try new things, meet new people, and become STEMInists! There were 15 different workshops, each girl had the opportunity to attend three of them during the conference. Some of the topics included Careers in Cardiovascular Medicine, Research and Design Engineering, Comparative Anatomy, The Magic of Electricity, Making Your



Own Bouncy Balls, Chemistry-Fun with Plants, and Pet First Aid. Thank you to our members that volunteered and helped in the workshops: Hollie Bagley, Sheila Doherty, Anne Foley, Ginny Giordano, Ruthanne Kennedy, Patrice Metro, and Fran Schlesinger. Overall, the girls seemed to be engaged and very interested in the activities.

*[Lynn Howard](#)  
STEM Chair*

## Public Policy

### Working to Support Reproductive Rights

On June 24, 2022, the US Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. Although Massachusetts had previously passed the Roe Act protecting the state's citizens, 26 states are certain or likely to ban abortion. Abortion bans most severely impact people in marginalized groups who already struggle to access health care, including abortion.

Links to information about supporting reproductive rights:

**Coalitions.** Check out state Planned Parenthood organizations. They can also offer information about other trusted coalition members.

<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/health-center?location=delaware#hc-per-state-list>

**Data and Analysis.** The Guttmacher Institute is #1 in reproductive rights data & analysis, including drilling down to state-specific information.

<https://www.guttmacher.org/>

**Legal Activity.** The Center for Reproductive Rights leads on litigation and legal analysis:

*(Continued on next page )*

<https://reproductiverights.org/our-regions/united-states/>

**Provide direct help with the abortion access crisis.** Check with the National Network of Abortion Funds to see who is working in your locality, and check with your local fund for volunteer opportunities. The local funds might also direct you to a “practical support network”, which includes simple help like driving folks to/from the airport/clinic/safe housing/etc. <https://abortionfunds.org/>

**See the AAUW central hub for reproductive rights information:**  
<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/rallying-for-repro-rights/>

*Patrice Metro*  
Public Policy Chair

## Get Out the Vote (GOTV)



On Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, Gail Saccone, Patrice Metro, Ruthanne Kennedy, and Fran Schlesinger provided an opportunity for Weymouth High School students age 16 and over to learn more about registering to vote. We set up a table with two large posters (thanks to Hollie Bagley) to attract interest. Patrice provided an information sheet with specific instructions about how to register online. We answered questions from the students over the two days we were stationed in the two cafeterias during lunchtime. It was a fun experience and we learned a few things to be prepared for the next election in 2024. Thanks to Patrice, Ruthanne and Fran for helping out!

*Gail Saccone*

**Equity Now**

## Book Discussion

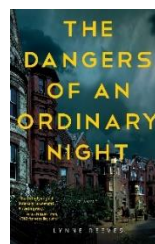


The branch book discussion group meets monthly from September-August on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

The November 22<sup>nd</sup> book selection is *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger. (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday this month.)

Even you have not been part of the group before, we'd love to have you join us! Just let Lynn Howard ([lynnphoward97@gmail.com](mailto:lynnphoward97@gmail.com)) know and she will include your email in the Zoom link. If you can't join us for all of the monthly meetings just let us know if there is one or more, you'd like to be part of and you'll get the Zoom link.

The reading list is also posted on the branch web page under Activities. The direct link is <https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/files/2022/08/2022-2023-Book-List.pdf>.



Local author Lynne Reeves has agreed to be our guest at our January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting for our traditional all-member read. We will be reading her latest book, *The Dangers of an Ordinary Night: A Novel*,

characterized as “an exploration of the explosive family secrets that are often hidden in plain sight”. We hope all members will participate in this exciting event!

## Save the Date



On Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> we will have our **Holiday Social** at the Tinker's Son Restaurant in Norwell, 707 Main St 02061. I hope you will be able to come. On Sundays the restaurant offers an Irish buffet or you can order off the menu. They feature an Irish band which should add to the merriment! Please let me know by Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> by text or phone so I can make a reservation for all of us. I hope to see you on Dec 4.

*Shelia Doherty*, Social Chair  
781-267-1098



**STEM  
Conference for  
Girls**  
October 22, 2022



# SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

## November 2022 Native American Heritage Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31 Halloween 	1	2	3	4	5
6 Daylight Savings Time Ends	7	8 Election Day 	9	10	11 Veterans Day 	12
13	14	15 Branch Program 7 pm	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Book Discussion 6:30 pm	23	24 Thanksgiving Day 	25	26
27	28	29 Giving Day 	30 Native Women's Equal Pay Day	1 RSVP Deadline for Holiday Social	2	3 Holiday Social tomorrow at noon 

November 15, Branch Program, AAUW Webinar: *In Conversation with Dr. Keisha N. Blain*, 7 pm, via Zoom

November 22, Book Discussion of *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger, 6:30. Zoom link will be sent closer to the date

December 1, Deadline for RSVP for Holiday Social

December 4, Holiday Social, Tinker's Son Restaurant, Norwell, 12 pm

Visit our branch web page:  
<http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/>

Like and contribute to our branch Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWSouthShoreAreaMassachusetts>

Articles for publication in the South Shore Area branch newsletter, *News of Note*, should reach the editor, Hollie Bagley ([holliebagley@gmail.com](mailto:holliebagley@gmail.com)) by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month

