

Bethlehem Bylines Brief

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Join us for the September Program

Chief Michelle Kott

The First Female Police Chief in the City of Bethlehem

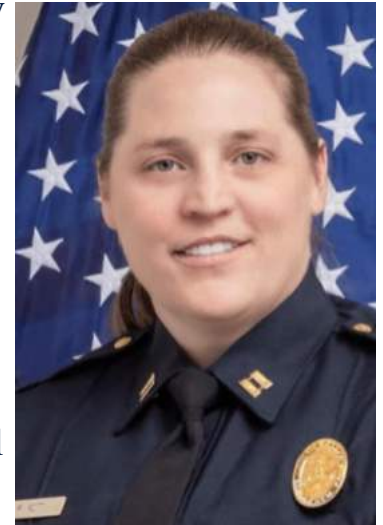
Saturday, September 17, 2022 10:00 a.m.
Northampton Community College
Fowler Family Southside Center,
511 E. 3rd Street, Bethlehem 18015
Public Invited

Chief Kott is an 18-year veteran of the City of Bethlehem Police Department. Prior to her appointment as Chief in 2020, she served as a patrol officer, detective, patrol sergeant, detective sergeant, detective lieutenant, and captain. In addition to these primary assignments, Chief Kott also served as a member of the department's Crisis Negotiation Team, and would later become the group's Team Leader.

Chief Kott is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, as well as the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association.

Chief Kott holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from DeSales University and a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from St. Joseph's University. In 2019 she received her Doctorate in Criminal Justice from California University of Pennsylvania and was the recipient of the Jay S. Albanese Award for Academic Excellence in Doctoral Criminal Justice Studies. Chief Kott is an adjunct instructor with Northampton Community College and resides in Bethlehem, PA with her wife and two children.

Please join us for this one of a kind presentation from a top notch woman. Since this event is open to the public, please invite friends.



Executive Team Message...

“I’ve had a perfectly wonderful evening. But I’m afraid this wasn’t it”- Groucho Marx

The Program Team Vice Presidents hope we NEVER hear that coming out of our members’ mouths! As members of AAUW, we have enjoyed many years of presentations, movies, and plays. We plan to maintain the trend.

The program suggestions we have received have been numerous. Some past presenters bear repeating due to current events and popularity. Some of them that we’re thinking about are Dr. Nichola Gutgold (March 2014), Dr. Cara McClintock-Walsh (2019), Bill White, Dr. Christopher Borick (November 2018) and a movie at ArtsQuest.

The “new” suggestions we have received include a presenter from Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center and Women of Bethlehem Steel. We are always interested in receiving additional suggestions. Check your monthly Bylines for updated programs. . As new members of the Executive Team, we look forward to your ideas and suggestions - and your help - with future programs.



Program Vice Presidents
Linda Federico
Kristina Hollingsworth

Welcome Georgia Cianci

Georgia graduated from Millersville University with a B.S. in ED and later received her M.ED from Lehigh University in Bethlehem. Georgia was a public school teacher retiring in 2003. She enjoys walking, reading, and exercising and is an avid volunteer.

We look forward to meeting Georgia at future events



Members Matter for Branch Success Be Part of the Fun

Allentown is gone. Like a number of AAUW branches in Pennsylvania, it's disbanding. It is a sad feeling for us all when any branch disbands, but when it is a close sister branch it's even more disturbing. We have friends in that branch. We know the people and have shared programs and repasts with them. They're part of us.

Why did Allentown make this difficult decision? Why did a devoted AAUW - PA Branch decide it was better off disbanding? The decision was largely based on the lack of willing members to become involved. The same people were doing most of the jobs and the leaders just burned out. Think about it. Not only does new blood bring exciting new ideas, it continues the future flow of the branch! We all are members of AAUW Easton, AAUW PA, and AAUW National for many reasons.

We want to bring change for our daughters and granddaughters and all people who have been barred from having the right to equal pay for equal work; paid leave; quality, affordable child care and maternal reproductive health. AAUW members work together to educate ourselves and our communities on these and other vital issues. We advocate for change. Without members stepping up to take their turn to lead, we'd have nothing—like Allentown.

Believe it or not, it's fun to be a part of a leadership team. We share ideas and get to know each other on a different level. Yes, sometimes it's aggravating--what isn't? But, in the end, it's worth it.

So, when the Nominating Committee calls you within the next few months, please say yes!

Join the team!

Randi Blauth Membership VP—AAUW PA
from The Easton Edition



October Program at the Pennsylvania Playhouse

On October 2019, several AAUW-Bethlehem members went to the Pa. Playhouse to see the play, “And Then There Were None”. Now it’s the fall of 2022 and we’re returning to see a new play, “Deathtrap”. This play was written by Ira Levin and directed by Kim Carson.

Synopsis: Sidney Bruhl, a successful writer of Broadway thrillers, is struggling to overcome a dry spell and a shortage of cash. Sidney receives a script from a student and believes it has the potential to be a Broadway smash hit. Sidney’s plan is to offer collaboration to the student for co-credit. Or is it?

Forty seats are reserved at the playhouse for October 16, 2022, 3:00 matinee. The price is \$22.00 The deadline for obtaining tickets is September 28, 2022. Linda Federico is collecting the ticket money. I can be found at Mystery Paperback, PPII Book Group, Bacchae and Out to Lunch Bunch. The money can also be mailed to Linda Federico. My address is in the yearbook.

Linda Federico and Kristina Hollingsworth
Program Vice Presidents



Public Policy

I had some good response to last months article. I was wondering if there would be interest in forming a study group that would focus on issues like Women’s Right to Choose. We could send postcards, emails, letters to the editor etc. Sometimes it’s easier to become more politically active if you do it with others. Good conversation also helps. Let me know if you’d like to get together.

Joanhowe3@gmail.com

Joan Howe
Public Policy



The Book Nook



The New Section for Book Reviews is for all branch members to contribute to. If you read a book that you think other branch members will enjoy, please write a small synopsis and review, It is a fun way to share interesting reads and to get to know each other through the books we enjoy. Submit to Olga Conneen or Beth Corroda to be included in this new section.

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek and its sequel, *The Book Woman's Daughter*. Author - Kim Michele Richardson.

When I was working the checkout at the Book Fair, someone had the Book Woman book and I jotted down the title. So glad I did. The books follow the women who traveled the backwoods of eastern Kentucky, providing books, magazines and homemade scrapbooks to people who had no access to books. The two main characters were part of a family of “Blue People” of Kentucky whose skin was blue due to an inherited recessive gene.

Kristina Hollingsworth reviewer

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson.

I just finished the book *Just Mercy*. It tells the story of the Equal Justice Initiative, from the early days with a small staff facing the nation’s highest death sentencing and execution rates, through a successful campaign to challenge the cruel practice of sentencing children to die in prison, to revolutionary projects designed to confront Americans with our history of racial injustice. It was amazing and eye-opening, I highly recommend it!

Madison Scarfaro, reviewer

The Engineers Wife by Tracey Enerson Wood

It could be said that she built the Brooklyn Bridge, so why don't you know her name?

Emily Roebling played an essential role in building one of America’s monuments for all time. Then she was lost in its shadow. Discover the fascinating woman who helped design and construct the Brooklyn Bridge. Perfect for book clubs and fans of Marie Benedict.

Switchboard Soldiers by Jennifer Chiaverini

From *New York Times* bestselling author Jennifer Chiaverini, a bold, revelatory novel about one of the great untold stories of World War I—the women of the U.S. Army Signal Corps. They broke down gender barriers in the military, smashed the workplace glass ceiling, and battled a pandemic as they helped lead the Allies to victory.

Ready or Not..... Here it Starts.....BOOK FAIR 2023 !!!

Rita and Amy have started to THINK! about our upcoming Book Fair adventure next April and hope many of you have saved April 2023 on your calendars!

We are always on the lookout for excellent help and this year is no exception. Our biggest job to fill will be our replacements. Rita is stepping down at the end of Book Fair 2023 after a great run. She will still be around to run the Cooking section, and answer any and all questions. Amy will be stepping down at the end of the 2023 Book Fair after a shorter run. Her daughter and family are moving to Namibia in January 2023 for an appointment for her daughter at the University of Namibia. They will be there 5 years and the best time to travel there is April. Amy will continue to serve with Rita this year as co-chair.

We need someone to step up to shadow us this year to make the transition easier for April 2024.



Please contact Rita or Amy with your interest.

Rita Bergstrom ritabergs@netscape.net 610-365-2566
Amy Fields ajf219@rcn.com 610-703-5834
Book Fair Co-Chairs

A Good First Step

It's the back-to-school gift so many needed. President Biden's announcement to forgive some debt for federal student loan recipients is welcome news addressing a core gender and racial equity issue. It will change the lives of millions.

But let's face it, it doesn't go far enough to fully support women and their families. This is especially true for Black women, as I share in the op-ed for the *Miami Herald*. I am so proud that AAUW has tirelessly advocated on this important issue for years.

In fact, the very same day as the president's announcement, AAUW released new research highlighting why action on student debt is desperately needed—and entirely aligned with our mission. The survey shows women of color are encountering the “perfect storm” of challenges repaying their loans, due to the combination of the racial wealth gap, gender and racial pay gaps, and economic instability caused by the pandemic.

So let's celebrate. But we must also keep working to ensure policy remedies serve those who need them most. That means advocating for even greater loan forgiveness, investing in the Pell Grant program, and improving income-based repayment.

Meanwhile, it's worth remembering that next steps can come only after you take that first one. Finally, we did!

Thanks for your commitment to equity for all,

Gloria Blackwell
Chief Executive Officer

Information :

Bacchae: Bacchae will meet on Thursday, September 8, at 3:00. Fran Bentkowski and Jeanne Eroh will serve as hosts. Our theme for this year is wines from the Northwest, focusing on Washington, Oregon, and Northern California. Please notify Fran or Jeanne as to whether you will be attending or not. Any questions? Contact Phyllis Wargo.

Mystery Paperback: Join us as we try to solve the mystery of “The Moonflower Murders”, by Anthony Horowitz at the home of Linda Federico on September 27 from 1:30pm to 3:00pm. A retired executive is found murdered in a hotel in Suffolk. A maintenance man is found guilty and spends 8 years in prison. His innocence is questioned and the subject disappears. Is he guilty or innocent and if innocent, who is the real culprit.? Contact: Linda Robbins, 484-347-4416 for additional books and dates or other information.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging: The next meeting will be September 1, 2022 on Zoom. The topic is Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer—Parts 1 & 2. New members are always welcome.

Paperback I: Paperback I meets in the homes of members and discusses fiction and nonfiction books available in paperback. We usually meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Meetings are not held in July, August, and December. We will meet next on September 27 and discuss "The Night Watchman" by Louise Erdrich. “This book is based on the extraordinary life of Louise's grandfather who worked as a night watchman. He carried the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington D.C. This powerful novel explores themes of love and death and reflects the elegant prose, sly humor, and depth of feeling of a master craftsman.” It is the winner of the National Book Award. Our group warmly welcomes new members. Group leader: Mardi Metzger

Paperback II: PPBII BOOK GROUP meets the third Tuesday of every month September through May except for December. Meetings start at 7:00pm. There is a different host each month on a volunteer basis. Light refreshments are served. Members volunteer book titles and descriptions of their books. Usually the reviewer is the person who recommends the book to be read. PPBII BOOK GROUP will open their 2022-2023 year by reading: “The Remains of The Day” by Kazuo Ishiguro.- “A brilliant and deeply moving novel. Beneath the simple and compelling narrative, Ishiguro has run a line into the core of history and the English mind.” A compelling portrait of the perfect English butler and of his fading, insular world in postwar England. We will meet on Tuesday, September 20th at Shirley Daluisio’s home in Bethlehem at 7:00pm. We welcome new members.

Please contact me for more info: Joanne Wagner-610-392-0891

Out to Lunch Bunch: We are looking forward to our September gathering on Wednesday the 14th at Twisted Olive Restaurant (51 W. Broad Street, Bethlehem) beginning at 12:30. If you have notified Joan that you are coming, she has your name. If you have not notified Joan, please email her at joanlhowe3@gmail.com by September 7th. Always a great afternoon getting reacquainted with friends.



@AAUWBethlehemPA



Have a GREAT summer !!

Beth Corroda
2226 Lafayette Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18017