



NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

<http://newlondon-ct.aauw.net/>

October/November 2020

Volume 50 No. 1

“AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education and research. AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.”

NEWS AND VIEWS

American Red Cross

Date: Wednesday, October 14
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89642607549>
Meeting ID: 896 4260 7549
One tap mobile
+13017158592,,89642607549# US
(Germantown)
Dial by your location
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 896 4260 7549



The October meeting of our branch will take place on Zoom with Lynn Fairfield-Sonn speaking about the services provided through the American Red Cross. Lynn G. Fairfield-Sonn joined the American Red Cross as a Regional Philanthropy Officer for Connecticut and Rhode Island in 2018. She had previously served as the Director of Development & Community Relations at Child & Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut for six years where she directed the development, marketing and public relations, and volunteer activities. Other past work experience includes business management, consulting on strategic planning, Board management, survey research, financial policy, training and development and operational procedures.

Campaign Trail

Date: Thursday, November 12
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81380966160>
Meeting ID: 813 8096 6160
One tap mobile
+13017158592,,81380966160# US
(Germantown)
Dial by your location
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 813 8096 6160

Cate Steel will be the speaker for the November meeting. Cate is running for State Representative for the 37th District (East Lyme and Salem) as well as Board of Education in East Lyme where she currently serves. She will talk about her experiences meeting and greeting constituents and forming relationships with them as she answered their questions. Cate has a television show on Atlantic Broadband interviewing people about their stories. She also has a zoom program called Chat with Cate in which she answers questions from constituents about the health crisis, the economic crisis, Black Lives matter and the protests for example.



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October/November at a Glance

- October 14 Branch Meeting
- October 13 Book Discussion Group
- November 12 Branch Meeting
- November 10 Book Discussion Group
- November 19 News & Views Deadline



President's Message

Dear Ladies,



HAPPY FALL!!! I was thrilled to see twenty-seven members and guests at our September get together at Langleys. Most of the ladies I visited with are handling the PLAGUE very well. I have been playing Mah Jongg and Bridge on our deck, usually while wearing a mask. Several AAUW Board and Book Club members have been at our house, specifically Elizabeth & Kathy Hume & Jeanne OConnell. Some members have also ZOOMED in, and it's been a pleasure to see them. I want to thank Kim Blake for arranging our first ZOOM meeting regarding Food Insecurity and our September 9th event. Dr Joanne Moore discussed the History of the Women's Suffrage to celebrate the 19th Amendment "Giving" Women the Right to vote in 1920. Everyone attending appreciated Dr. Moore's presentation. A delicious meal was served followed by coffee and dessert.

In my previous Newsletters I have always focused on important issues that I have found on AAUW National's website. My October issue focuses on THE FUTURE OF WORK. Jobs of the future are changing rapidly—creating new opportunities and obstacles. We need to change policies and practices so women can thrive in the next generation workforce.

NOT YOUR MOTHER'S WORKFORCE. The nature of work—what we do and how and where we do it—is constantly evolving. The pace of change will only accelerate in the years ahead, presenting new opportunities and challenges for the workforce as a whole, but especially for women.

Technological advance—particularly automation and artificial intelligence—will diminish demand for certain jobs. Though women make up less than half of the overall workforce, research suggests women are 58% of workers at highest risk of losing their jobs to technology. On the other hand, these changes will also increase the need for other roles, most significantly in the STEM fields, where women are vastly underrepresented.

New workplace modes, such as telecommuting and gig economy could allow for greater flexibility to enable workers to find a better job-life blend. But the downsides include greater competition for certain roles and, for gig workers, the lack of stable wages and benefits that full-time employment provides.

Finally, tomorrow's workforce will be increasingly diverse, the byproduct of demographic shifts and a global economy. According to population analysis, by 2044 the full U.S. population will become "majority minority"—where the number of

individuals who are multiracial and racial and ethnic minorities exceeds those of whites.

The Board and I have met, and we have formulated some interesting programs via ZOOM. Highlights for October will be Lynn Fairfield-Sonn bringing news from the Red Cross; in November our own Cate Steel will tell us about events she encountered on the campaign trail; Emma Palzer Rae, an actress, will portray Victoria Woodhull in December. Emma's rendition will make you howl. In the meantime, stay safe and well and enjoy the changing leaves.

Best, Gay

Book Discussion Group



The book group will meet on Zoom this fall, on the second Tuesday of the month. On October 13, 2020 at 2:00 pm we will discuss *Crazy Brave* by Joy

Harjo which was the One Book/One Region title this year. Members should call their local library and reserve a copy. There should be plenty of copies.

The November meeting will be Tuesday, November 10 at 2:00 pm. The November book is *Island Beneath the Sea* by Isabel Allende. Waterford Library will be getting us the books this month.

Going forward, we will choose titles from the Groton Public Library Book Discussion Books. At the present time, the library will not be able to get copies from all over the state. I have a few possible titles-- *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles, *Digging to America* by Anne Tyler, *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger.

I will look into a few more. When interlibrary loan is possible for Waterford, we can expand our choice to some that members have mentioned to me.

Join Zoom Meeting (Same for all book discussions)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81569538554>

Meeting ID: 815 6953 8554

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,81569538554# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 815 6953 8554

Elizabeth Hume

News and Views is published 5 times a year by AAUW and sent to members of the New London Branch. Editor: Gale Bradbury 12 Heritage Drive, Stonington, Ct. 06378, fax # (860)464-9927, email: bradbury@ledyard.lioninc.org. The deadline for submissions is the third Thursday of the month. Branch President: Gay Clarkson email: willypetey15@gmail.com. Membership VP: Kim Blake, kajblake@gmail.com

AAUW Statement on the Passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

The following is a statement by AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches:



America lost one of our most beloved role models tonight, a pioneering jurist and iconic feminist who blazed new trails, not only in her own life, but in the lives of the countless women she championed-- and inspired. On behalf of AAUW

and its members and supporters who recognized Justice Ginsburg with a 1999 AAUW Achievement Award, we extend our condolences to her family, her colleagues and to every American whose lives and hearts she touched. The nation owes it to her--and to all women--to honor her final wishes and refrain from naming a replacement until after a new president is inaugurated.

Justice Ginsburg's Alma Mata, Cornell also published their thoughts.

Click the "Read more" link below for additional information in the *Cornell Chronical* about this amazing woman.

Michelle J. Vaeth '98, Associate Vice President for Alumni Affairs at Cornell wrote the following:

It is with deep sorrow that I reach out this evening to share the news that Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg '54 has passed away.

Justice Ginsburg, whose legal career in the fight for women's rights, equal rights and human dignity culminated with her ascent to the U.S. Supreme Court, died September 18 in Washington, D.C. She was 87.

"Ruth Bader Ginsburg was a true hero and a giant of American jurisprudence. A relentless champion of equity, she dedicated her life to innumerable, honorable causes, always fighting for what was right," said Cornell President Martha E. Pollack. "While the nation mourns her passing, we can find solace in the indelible imprint that she leaves on American society and on the lives of each of us who found inspiration from her actions and who will carry her spirit with us long into the future."

Please [read more](https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2020/09/supreme-court-justice-ruth-bader-ginsburg-54-dies) (or go to <https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2020/09/supreme-court-justice-ruth-bader-ginsburg-54-dies>) as we remember the life and legacy of this notorious Cornellian.

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Ms. Fairfield-Sonn has also served on many non-profit Boards including the Old Lyme Phoebe-Griffin Noyes Library, the Friends of Music of Lyme Old Lyme Schools, the Junior League of greater New Haven, and the Board of Education of the Regional School District 18 (Lyme and Old Lyme).

Cate Steel Con't from page 1

Currently serving as a member of the East Lyme Board of Education, Cate Steel has worked within Connecticut's education system for over twenty two years as a Speech Language Pathologist. She has a deep understanding of the impact of quality of education can have on an individual's life. The second youngest of nine children, Cate's widowed mother instilled the value of independence, community outreach and most importantly, being the voice for others whenever possible. After Cate retired as a speech pathologist, she continued to educate our youth teaching improv classes and building up opportunities for our Veterans and retired seniors in our community. She serves as Board President for the Norwich based non-profit Artreach and is a former Board President of New London Based Connecticut Storytelling Center. Cate is a longtime member of Niantic Toastmaster's Club as a President and District Leader for Toastmasters for Southeastern Connecticut. Cate also served on the Executive Board for Arc of New London County, advocating for the rights for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Cate earned a Masters in Speech Pathology from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and completed her Educational Leadership (Sixth year degree) at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut. When Cate is not advocating for the needs of others, you can find her biking through the open spaces of East Lyme. She is proud to have raised three children and loves nothing more than playing with her grandchildren. Cate is a proud member of American Association of University Women (AAUW) and Southeastern Connecticut Federation of Democratic Women.

Election Day



November 3, 2020 is Election Day.

Connecticut will mail an absentee ballot to every registered voter. The deadline to register online or in person is October 27. Mail in registrations must be postmarked by October 27. Absentee ballots must be requested by November 2 and returned by November 3. Every vote counts – be sure to cast yours!

A friendly notice from our banking partner
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AAUW—New London Branch



Women working together
To advocate for all women



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