

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - December 15, 2016



Introducing Shea II, a Canine Companions Puppy in Training

Whether donating time and money, participating in DogFest Walk 'n Roll events, or raising puppies, GFWC clubwomen are among the most active supporters of Canine Companions for Independence. Through GFWC's Home Life program, members spread awareness about this life-changing organization. In honor of GFWC's tremendous support of Canine Companions for Independence, we are proud to announce that Shea II, a male yellow Labrador Canine Companions puppy, has been named after GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea.

Shea II is being raised by a volunteer puppy raiser, who also happens to be a clubwoman, in Southern California to become a Canine Companions for Independence assistance dog. For 18 months, Shea II's puppy raiser will teach him basic obedience and socialization. After this time, Shea II will return to Canine Companions for Independence for professional training. When



GFWC — an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service

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he graduates, Shea II will be able to perform tasks such as picking up dropped items, turning on lights, and pulling a manual wheelchair.

GFWC is excited to support puppies like Shea II, who are on their way to providing life-changing support as assistance dogs for people with disabilities. These dogs are provided free of charge to those who need them most. We are especially proud that Shea II is being raised by a GFWC clubwoman!

Stay tuned to the [GFWC blog](#) and social media for updates on Shea II's journey to becoming an assistance dog. To learn more about becoming a puppy raiser, please [click here](#). See how you can support Canine Companions for Independence this holiday season by visiting cci.org/giveadogajob.

Join GFWC for the 2017 Democracy Reception

Are you going to be in Washington, D.C. in January? Add a trip to GFWC Headquarters to your itinerary! Celebrate the spirit of democracy and the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States by attending GFWC's Democracy Reception on January 19. This event is held every four years at GFWC Headquarters to coincide with the Presidential Inauguration, which takes place on January 20. GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea, clubwomen, staff, and guests will be present for an afternoon of refreshments and fellowship. If you are planning on being in town, please stop by for a patriotic celebration of the United States and the freedom that allows us to vote and participate in a democratic society. The 2017 GFWC Democracy Reception will take place on January 19 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please feel free to visit at any time within those hours to mingle with GFWC leadership and clubwomen at GFWC's historic headquarters! For more information and to RSVP, please email GFWC Events Coordinator Grace Soriano at gsoriano@gfwc.org. Learn more about the 2017 Presidential Inauguration by visiting <https://www.usa.gov/inauguration-2017>.

Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to GFWC Membership Services Manager Kate Garlick at kgarlick@gfwc.org and you're all set!

Cares & Concerns

Doris Small passed away on June 30, 2016. A longtime member of GFWC-Wyoming, she was elected GFWC Wyoming President for the 1992-1994 administration. We belatedly send our prayers to her husband and family in Wheatland.

We send our condolences to the family of **Loy Aho**, 1970-72 GFWC Wyoming State President, who passed away November 9. A community activist, Mrs. Aho dedicated her time to not only GFWC-Wyoming but over a half-dozen other social organization as well. She will be greatly missed by all.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to **GFWC Arizona President Celene Post** as she recovers from a recent surgery.

GWC was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Middle Atlantic Region Vice President Linda Kreussling's father last week. Our condolences go out to Linda and her family.

GFWC Maryland Helps Homeless Students Stay in School

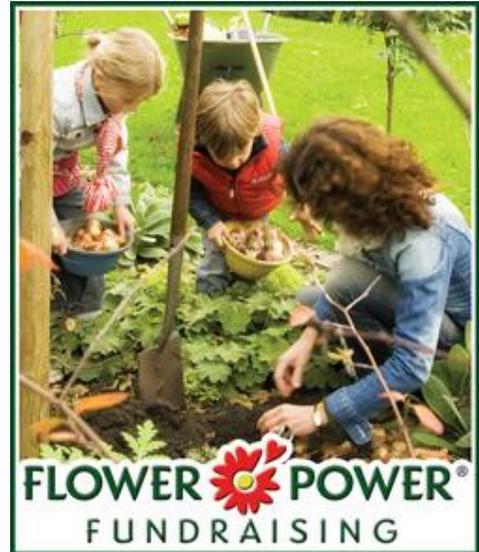
Today, we highlight **Reno Eitel's** State President's Project for Maryland, the [Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership \(SHIP\)](#).

SHIP began in 2013 with small individual acts of kindness. The more than 700 students coping with homelessness in Fredrick County Public Schools were being assisted by a part-time Homelessness Coordinator. Despite the overwhelming need, the coordinator was doing her best to ensure that the children's concerns both large and small were being addressed. To help with material needs, she developed an email distribution list that would reach out to community members requesting items such as clothing. Just one example was a young boy who was abandoned by his father and resided with family members who could not financially support him. One day, the boy was seen walking home from school in only flip flops. The community quickly spread word of his dilemma via social media by posting this message, "He was seen wearing them in the freezing cold walking home from school. He wore his previous sneakers every day until they fell apart. His birthday is this week. This would be a birthday gift of sorts." Local citizens, including one of the future founders of SHIP, were so touched they provided the boy not only with shoes, but also clothing and a birthday cake.

This grass roots effort became formalized with the establishment of SHIP. Currently, SHIP is working to provide material items, nutritional meals, emergency shelter, and funds to participate in after-school programs so the homeless children may succeed in school and beyond.

When asked why she selected SHIP as her State President's Project, President Eitel said, "When the Director of SHIP spoke at our Board Meeting, I was so moved by stories of the hundreds of homeless students struggling with this devastating situation who were determined to stay in school in spite of the odds against them, that I felt compelled to help in some way."

Please keep GFWC Chief Operating Officer Rosemary Thomas in your thoughts as she deals with the illness and recovery of family member, Sam Ellis.



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Calling All Juniette Club Sponsors

GFWC Juniettes are learning leadership skills, bonding with like-minded friends, and improving communities around the country. However, they are rarely featured in GFWC publications. We would like to change this and give our amazing Juniette members the attention they deserve. To make this happen, we need the assistance of you -- our Juniette club sponsors. Please share social media pages, websites, and newsletters created by your clubs. The more information we get, the better! You may send your submissions to pr@gfwc.org. If we hear from enough clubs, we would like to create publications and a social media site specifically for Juniettes. So let us hear from you!

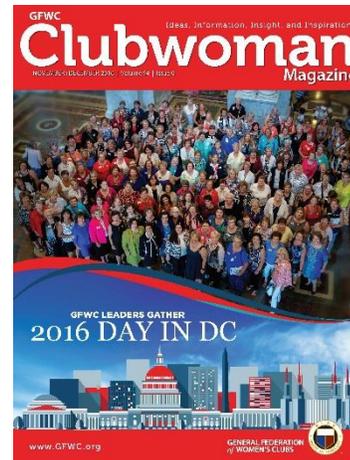
Apply for the Croly Award

The Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism Covering Issues of Concern to Women, or simply the Croly Award, recognizes journalists who best capture the courage, vision, and spirit of Jane Cunningham Croly. A pioneer in journalism, Jane Cunningham Croly devoted her life to helping women improve their lives and expand their rights. The Croly Award winner will demonstrate a concern for the rights and advancement of women in our society; an awareness of women's strength and bravery; and/or an attempt to counteract existing sexism.

Past winners include freelance journalist and author Ada Calhoun for her NBCNews.com article, "Pregnant on Opiates: When Following Doctors' Orders Breaks the Law;" *Washington Post* columnist Selena Rezvani for her work entitled "A Glass Ceiling, By Any Other Name;" and CNN Digital contributor Jessica Ravitz for in-depth coverage of a young Afghan woman struggling to fight the Taliban in "Saving Aesha."

We encourage all clubs, clubwomen, and partners to spread word to any print, broadcast, or digital publication that may be interested in submitting an entry for this prestigious award. [Click here](#) to download the entry form and guidelines for the 2017 Croly Award.

www.FlowerPowerFundraising.com or
call 1-888-833-1486.



It Is Time To Renew Your Club's Subscription To GFWC Clubwoman Magazine

As the New Year approaches, many club subscriptions to *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine* are set to expire. Do not let your club miss out on this ultimate resource for members. Each issue is filled with valuable in-depth articles, highlights of club activities, Partner updates, club news, and insights. **If every member of your club subscribes, GFWC will discount the subscrip**ts by 20 percent!

Please contact Membership Services Coordinator Jennifer Simpson at jsimpson@gfwc.org to enroll your club.



Download the GFWC Mobile App

Take GFWC wherever you go with the Official GFWC Mobile App. The app, available for iPhone iOS and Android, allows you to easily connect to fellow members across the country and stay informed with the most recent updates from GFWC Headquarters, including information on the 2017 GFWC Annual Convention. Some app highlights include the following:

Activity Feed: Post about your club's projects. It's a great way to share information and inspire other clubs. Pictures shared on the app also give GFWC insight about potential stories for *Clubwoman Magazine* and *News & Notes*.

2017 Annual Convention Info: Get the latest information about the 2017 Annual Convention in Palm Springs, California.

Everything at your Fingertips: So much useful information is just ONE CLICK away! GFWC Bylaws, *Club Manual*, Legislative Action Center, Administration Directory, Staff Directory, *News & Notes*, and so much more.

With over 1,500 current users, we don't want you to miss out—download the app today and make sure your entire club does the same! To learn how to download and use the app, please read the Official GFWC Mobile App Guide [here](#).

2016-2018 GFWC Club Manual

The *GFWC Club Manual* is frequently altered to reflect the most up-to-date information available. This week an updated version of the Statistical & Award Entry Forms were added to gfwc.org. [Click here](#) to download the new forms.

Join GFWC for Wreaths Across America

On Saturday, December 17, GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea, members, and staff will honor those who gave their lives for our country at the annual

Wreaths Across America at Arlington National Cemetery. We

invite all GFWC clubwomen and their friends and family to join us for this special occasion. Please

email gfwc@gfwc.org if you are interested in attending this event with us. We will be meeting at the front door of the Women In Military Service For America Memorial at 9 a.m. To learn more, visit

www.wreathscrossamerica.org.

In The News

The GFWC Marlborough Juniorettes (Massachusetts) were featured in an article in the *Community Advocate* for their volunteer work this holiday season. Members are making fabric



GFWC Marketplace

In honor of Free Shipping Day, all orders placed at the [GFWC Marketplace](#) on Friday, December 16, will receive **FREE SHIPPING!** Don't miss out on this great deal.

GFWC Headquarters will be closed for the holidays beginning December 22, 2016, and will re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2017. Orders can be placed at the Marketplace during this time, however any orders placed after Tuesday, December 20, will not be shipped until January 3. We appreciate your understanding and hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

wreaths and blankets to donate to the Marlborough Hospital, and are collecting toys for the local Toys for Tots drive. [Click here](#) to read the article and learn more about the Marlborough Junioresettes and how the members are making a difference.

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