Bringing Smiles to Children: July is National Cleft and Craniofacial Awareness and Prevention Month

We often take the simple things in life, like access to safe surgery and our ability to smile, for granted. However, for many of the 220,000 children born each year with facial deformities who lack access to safe surgical care, a new smile means so much. Thanks to GFWC International Outreach Partner Operation Smile, these children are now getting the care they deserve. July is National Cleft and Craniofacial Awareness and Prevention Month, a great time to learn more about Operation Smile’s mission of providing free surgery for children with a cleft lip or cleft palate. Read the stories showing how a new smile is changing the lives of children by visiting http://www.operationsmile.org/blog/. You can also raise awareness of National Cleft and Craniofacial Awareness and Prevention Month through volunteer service.

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

Subscribe to News&Notes

If you haven’t yet subscribed to News&Notes, the best source for all things GFWC, what are you waiting for? Signing up is easy and gives you access to timely news items from around Headquarters, our partners, and our work on a national and local scale.

Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to GFWC...
Awareness and Prevention Month by learning the facts about cleft lip and cleft palate by visiting Operation Smile’s website.

GFWC members support Operation Smile by donating homemade quilts, blankets, hospital gowns, and smile bags for patients. For example, the GFWC Contemporary Women of North County (California) recently sewed 54 hospital gowns, and members of the Exeter Area GFWC (New Hampshire) made 25 blankets to donate to Operation Smile. In Minnesota, the GFWC Morris Golden Star Juniors of North County Club raised $700 for Operation Smile by hosting the Kiss a Pig Fundraiser. Consider supporting Operation Smile by hosting a similar event, and stay tuned for more information about a campaign to raise $150,000 for a GFWC-sponsored Operation Smile Mission, in which a limited number of volunteer positions will be available.

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Community Improvement 1st Place Award Winner—GFWC Woman’s Club Of Hendersonville

For their 2014-2016 Community Improvement Project, GFWC Woman’s Club of Hendersonville (Tennessee) decided to assist an underserved segment of their local population—special needs children. Inspired by club members with children or grandchildren with different abilities, the club created a place where children could go to feel welcome and accepted. The club raised funds, created classes, and started activities for the

Cares and Concerns

We mourn the passing of GFWC Wyoming State President (1992-1994) Doris Small on June 30. Our thoughts are with her family and club members.

Membership Services Manager Kate Garlick at kgarlick@gfwc.org and you’re all set!

NOW exclusively to the GFWC community

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brand-new Sumner County Teen Center for children with different abilities.

When asked what the intangible effect of supporting the center was, the club told the story of a teenager named Austin. Diagnosed with autism, Austin participated in one of the first art classes the club sponsored. He was accompanied by his mother who hovered not far from his side throughout the class. The class project was to paint a Christmas tree on canvases. Austin painted a tree, then repainted it, then painted it again. His mother was worried about how the teachers would react to Austin’s behavior and explained that art “was not his thing.” She should not have been concerned, club members were excited simply to have Austin participate. Austin regularly returned for art classes and began calling the center “his place.” Eventually, he told his mother he would be fine at the Center on his own. However, Austin’s mother also became a regular visitor—as a volunteer who now has the support of other parents in situations similar to her own.

Congratulations to the GFWC Woman’s Club of Hendersonville for their outstanding work improving the lives children and families in their community!

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Honoring Linda Beatty:
GFWC Southeastern Region Jennie Award Winner

Starting this week, we’ll be featuring each of the eight Jennie Award Winners on the GFWC blog. This week, we are honoring Linda Beatty, the GFWC Southeastern Region Jennie Award Winner. Linda is a member of the Tarrara Women’s Club in Boykins, Virginia and has been a member of GFWC since 1967.

Visit http://www.gfwc.org/lindabeatty/ to learn more about Linda and her accomplishments.

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during this difficult time. You may read Mrs. Small’s obituary and express your condolences to her family by clicking this link: bit.ly/DorisSmall

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It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of New Jersey State Director of Junior Clubs (2000-2002) Irene Stewart’s husband Kevin Stewart. Please keep Irene and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

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New Partner Videos on GFWC.org

At the 2016 Partner Power Luncheon, GFWC Partners shared inspirational and moving videos, many of which specifically demonstrated the powerful impact clubwomen make in helping these organizations achieve their missions. These videos are now available to view on GFWC.org. Click here to view the videos and share them at your next club meeting!

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Share Your Accomplishments with Convention Press Releases!

LEADS Press Release

If you’re a graduate of the 2016 LEADS Class, announce your achievement to members of your local media by sharing a press release! Click here to download the press release as a Word Document, which is customizable and can be edited.
Prevent Child Abuse America Thanks GFWC Clubwomen for Their Ongoing Support

Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA) would like to thank the many clubs that have embraced the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign. It was greatly appreciated. Although PCAA was unable to exhibit at the 2016 Annual Convention, PCAA wishes to recognize those clubs who applied for the PCAA award. While PCAA was not in Baltimore this year, PCAA hopes you will continue to support their work, in particular, at the state level in partnership with our chapters.

The following clubs received a certificate in appreciation for their participation in PCAA’s Pinwheels for Prevention campaign: Elgin Junior Women’s Club (Illinois), GFWC Illinois Woman’s Club of Bismarck (Illinois), Gilman Woman’s Club (Illinois), Liberty Woman’s Club (Texas), Oconomowoc Junior Woman’s Club (Wisconsin), and Temecula Valley Women’s Club (California).

Congress Passes Bipartisan Legislation To Address Opioid Epidemic

At the 2016 GFWC Annual Convention, a Resolution “to promote legislation and regulations to combat opioid overdose and addiction” was approved by delegates. Acting on that commitment, clubwomen came together and utilized the GFWC Legislative Action Center to support the Comprehensive

to add details about your club and State Federation.

Convention Press Release
If you or your club won awards at Convention, click here to download a general press release that can be customized to highlight the accomplishments of your club.

Spotlight Your Club on the GFWC Facebook Page

Are you interested in having your club featured on the GFWC Facebook page and GFWC.org? Visit bit.ly/clubprofiles to learn how to submit your club’s profile! Read the profiles of some GFWC member clubs at http://gfwc.org/featured-clubs/.

In The News

The Princeton Junior Woman’s Club (Illinois) is being lauded in the press for providing Pediatric Jump Kit Bags for every first responder unit in Bureau County. The Pediatric Jump Kits enable first responders to quickly assess a patient’s size. Decreasing the amount of time to determine the correct size of medical equipment utilized in an emergency can help save a child’s life. Learn more about this successful program by clicking here.
Addiction and Recovery Act. The House of Representatives and the Senate voted to overwhelmingly pass the bipartisan bill.

Once signed into law by President Obama, the legislation will create grants and other programs that address drug abuse which is a crippling problem affecting every community in the United States. Since 1999, overdose deaths involving opioids, including prescription opioid pain relievers, has nearly quadrupled. With over 40 people per day dying from overdoses involving prescription opioids, the time had come to pass legislation to combat this issue. Among other provisions, the bill includes an expansion of prevention and educational efforts and an increase in the availability of naloxone which reverses the effects of opioids.

We thank GFWC clubwomen for taking action and urging their representatives to pass this bill. If you do not already receive Legislative Action Center alerts, please click here to subscribe.

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Marketplace: GFWC Umbrella

Get your GFWC Shine on, even when it’s raining! The GFWC umbrella is both functional and fashionable with leopard print, hot pink writing, a 43” arc and auto open/close. Selling for $15, these umbrellas are a must-have for any clubwoman! Click here to order yours today.

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