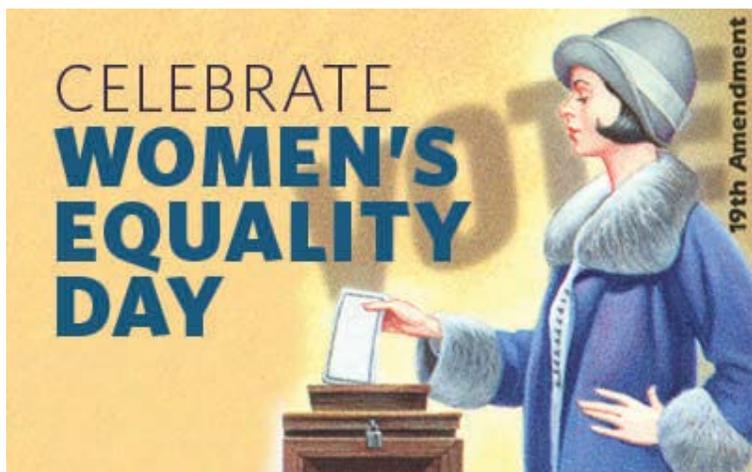


# NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - August 24, 2017



## Celebrate Women's Equality Day

This Saturday, August 26, marks the 46th celebration of Women's Equality Day! Women's Equality Day was first designated in 1971 at the urging of New York Congresswoman Bella Abzug as a way to commemorate the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

The 19th Amendment guarantees women the right to vote by denying the ability of the states and federal government to restrict voting rights on the basis of sex. Observance of Women's Equality Day helps to celebrate this monumental achievement to which GFWC was so integrally tied. However, it also highlights the struggle beyond the vote, and continuing efforts towards full equality. This is a journey which the women of GFWC have, and continue to, contribute so much.

The women of GFWC marched, protested, and organized for our right to vote, and persisted in struggling for equality well beyond the suffrage movement. In 1923, GFWC became an outspoken advocate for the Equal Rights Amendment, and remained so through the 1980s. The women of GFWC have championed women's education



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

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## 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.

since its founding and were essential contributors to the second wave of feminist movements in the mid-20th century.

Today, we continue to advocate for women's equality through support of equal pay laws, through our volunteer work with women who have survived or are struggling to overcome abuse, and through empowering women to take an active role in their homes and their communities. GFWC will always support and fight for the equal rights of women. Please take time to reflect upon those women who have fought for your rights, and we hope you will continue their legacy. Happy Women's Equality Day!

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## Ending Food Insecurity in Massachusetts

Imagine a child who goes days without a nutritious meal, a child who never knows where her next meal will come from, or if it will come at all. Did you envision a child living in Massachusetts?

Hunger in Massachusetts, as in most states, is concentrated in specific areas and often goes undetected by the majority of residents. GFWC Massachusetts Director of Junior Clubs Martha Casassa and the state's Junior clubwomen are working to both raise awareness of food insecurity and combat its devastating effects by supporting Project Bread.

A statewide nonprofit, [Project Bread](#), has developed a series of programs and services to assist the one in ten Massachusetts' households that are food insecure. For example, Project Bread provides funding for food banks; works with local farmers to build a

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

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## Cares & Concerns

We send our condolences to GFWC Iowa State President Betty Wade on the passing of her mother, [Jeanette McKay](#), on August 10. Please keep President Wade and her family in your thoughts.

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## Welcome Sarah Fannon

We are very pleased to announce that Sarah Fannon joined the GFWC Headquarters staff on August 21. Sarah is a recent graduate of George Washington University and will be acting as the new Communications and Public Relations Coordinator. We are certain you will enjoy getting to know Sarah as she writes articles and social media post applauding the achievements of GFWC clubwomen.

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## New on Pinterest!

Check out [GWFC's Pinterest Board](#), 2017 Photography Contest Winners, which features this year's collection

robust regional food system; and advocates for laws to aid low-income families.

Project Bread would be unable to do this vital work were it not for the generous contributions of community groups such as the GFWC Massachusetts Juniors. At the beginning of her administration, Martha's goal was to raise \$1,500 for the charity. However, after only one year, the Juniors have surpassed her expectations and raised well over \$3,000 by participating Project Bread's annual walk/run, through creative club sponsored activities, and by holding raffles at state meetings.

As Martha says, "There are so many children in Massachusetts that go hungry – over 400,000 of them! In today's world, this should not be." We are proud of all the Junior clubwomen who are answering Martha's call to make a difference in their state. For each additional child that awakes knowing they will never again go hungry, the world is a brighter and better place.



## Battling for March of Dimes

GFWC West Virginia held a March of Dimes contest with a colorful twist. Sarah Jarrett, Director of Junior Clubs, and Rebecca Roll, the state's Advocates for Children Chairman, formed a virtual team for their local March of Dimes Walk, and set a goal to raise \$2,000. Sarah and Rebecca motivated their team by raising the stakes. If the Juniors could raise \$2,000, Rebecca would dye her hair March of Dime's signature color – purple!

of stunning winning photographs in four contest categories: Scenes, Still Life, Volunteers in Action, and A Year In Pictures, taken by GFWC clubwomen all over the country.



## Download the Signature Program Action Guide

The goal of the GFWC Signature Program focusing on domestic violence awareness and prevention is to end the widespread occurrence of abuse. There are a myriad of ways clubwomen can support this initiative and we have created a new resource, the [GFWC Signature Program Action Guide](#), to assist you in finding the latest and most helpful information available.

What's inside?

- Informational Videos
- National/State Domestic Violence Resources

To make things a little more interesting, the Juniors challenged the Woman's Club members to raise the same amount of funds. State President Sharon Sheridan accepted the challenge on behalf of the Woman's Club members, and took it a step farther by matching Rebecca's incentive and agreeing to dye her hair purple if her team could raise \$2,000.

In the spirit of the competition, the Juniors withheld the amount of money they raised until the very end so that the Woman's Club members would not attempt to beat their number at the last minute. The reveal would occur at GFWC West Virginia's summer conference. In the end, the Junior's secrecy was unnecessary, as the Woman's Club members triumphantly raised \$2,118 and the Juniors raised an equally notable \$1,500 for a grand total of \$3,618.

As she promised, President Sharon Sheridan donned purple hair at the conference dinner to celebrate her team's impressive feat, as well as their victory over the Juniors. Since Sarah Jarret's team lost, she had to wear a West Virginia University t-shirt the next day at the conference.

March of Dimes is one of GFWC's proud partnerships. The proceeds that both battling GFWC West Virginia's teams collected will fund research to improve the health of babies.

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## Partner Spotlight: Prevent Child Abuse America

For 45 years, Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA) has helped lay the groundwork to deliver great childhoods to children nationwide. By working to improve child well-being and prevent abuse and neglect before it begins, together PCAA helps American families thrive and develop the next generation of leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs. With chapters in all 50 states, PCAA is able to support parents with programs and resources while strengthening communities. Through signature programs like Healthy Families America, PCAA helps parents create safe, nurturing environments for their children that contribute to healthy development. With the support and partnership of GFWC, PCAA is able to drive change in our communities and promote happy childhoods. Visit [preventchildabuse.org](http://preventchildabuse.org) to learn more and see how you can get involved.

- GFWC Branded Fliers/One Pagers
- Pre-made social media posts
- Quick Facts and Statistics

Please share this guide with your club and local communities.



## FUNDRAISING

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## A Woman's Journey

GFWC is collaborating with Johns Hopkins Medicine's *A Woman's Journey* to offer GFWC members the latest health information specifically focused on us as women! Stay tuned for health information in *News & Notes* or *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine* and learn about women's health conferences throughout the country! There are already several conferences planned throughout the East Coast:

- Baltimore, MD - Saturday, November 11, 2017
- Palm Beach, FL - Thursday, January 25, 2018
- Naples, FL - Friday, February 23, 2018
- Tampa, FL - Wednesday, February 28, 2018
- St. Petersburg, FL - Thursday, March 1, 2018
- Sarasota, FL - Friday, March 2, 2018
- Greater Washington, D.C. Area - Wednesday, May 2, 2018

To request an invitation to one of the above conference, please go to:

[http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/awomansjourney/invitation\\_request\\_form.html](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/awomansjourney/invitation_request_form.html)

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### Marketplace: *Living the Volunteer Spirit* Button

This popular button features the tagline *Living the Volunteer Spirit*. Measuring 2.5 inches in diameter, it includes the classic design with an updated twist. Wear

this button wherever you go to show others the difference you make in your local community and around the world. Available for \$3 each at the GFWC Marketplace. [Click here](#) to order yours today!

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## Set Sail with GFWC and Princess Cruises

**MARCH 21-31, 2018**

You're invited to join GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea and your fellow clubwomen for an unparalleled experience – sailing the Panama Canal.

While explorers began dreaming of a route between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans over 400 years ago, carving of the 51-mile canal was not completed until 1914. Travel through this man-made wonder of the modern world with Princess, the number one cruise line in the region. Go beyond the locks to explore the wildlife-filled rainforest of Central America. While on the voyage you will dine on fresh, local cuisine, visit colorful towns, and unwind on sun-kissed beaches.

Ports of call will include: Fort Lauderdale, Aruba, Cartagena, Colon, Costa Rica, and Jamaica. Fares for the 10-day tour, departing and returning to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, start at \$1,499 plus additional taxes of \$370 per person. A deposit of 20 percent per person

is required by September 1 with final payment due by December 20, 2017. To reserve your cabin contact Avoya Travel Representative Linda Stone at 866-617-2470.

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## In the News

### **Newbern Woman's Club**

(Tennessee) prepared 24 "Thinking of You" backpacks for children receiving services through the Dryer County Department of Children's Services. Each backpack is filled with care items needed when a child must be removed from an abusive or traumatic home situation. [Read more](#) about the generosity of our Federation sisters in the *State Gazette*.

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### **Our Contact Information**

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