

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - February 8, 2018



Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

In February, it's difficult not to think about love when Valentine's Day is around the corner. With romance on everyone's mind, it's an opportune time to acknowledge that not all love is healthy or safe. That's why February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. It encourages us to become educated about the signs of emotional, physical, and verbal abuse in teenage relationships so we can help prevent it.

The Department of Justice reports that the highest rate of intimate partner violence is experienced by girls and women between the ages of 16 and 24. Often teenagers don't recognize the signs, and even when they do, many of them are fearful to tell anyone. It's crucial that we open the dialogue so teenagers can understand what's not acceptable in a relationship and can feel more open to seeking help.

As you learn more about domestic violence and campus sexual assault, please use the [GFWC Signature Program Action Guide](#) and the [GFWC Campus Sexual Assault Action Guide](#) to guide

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

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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

your next steps. You can also wear orange to promote Teen Dating Violence Awareness Day on February 13 and share photos on your social media pages and the GFWC App with the hashtags #Orange4Love and #teenDVmonth

It's up to us to make sure teenagers and young adults can recognize the signs of an abusive relationship and aren't afraid to speak up. Take this month as an opportunity to learn the ways dating violence can manifest. Talk to the teenagers in your life about what they should expect in a relationship and what they can do if those expectations are being violated. Above all, make sure they understand that violence has no place in any relationship and that there's support and resources available to them.



GFWC Busy Bees

The first United States Spelling Bee was held in 1925 and sponsored by *The Courier-Journal*, the newspaper of record in Louisville, Kentucky. Initially, the bee was planned to be only a statewide competition. However, the *Courier-Journal* quickly realized that a national spelling bee with students sponsored by hometown newspapers would be far more effective. Nine finalists competed in the first spelling bee in Washington, DC. The winning word was "gladiolus", spelled by 11-year-old Frank Neuhauser.

Since 1989, clubs in the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs (NJSFWC) have helped continue the tradition of

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

Cares & Concerns

On January 24, GFWC lost a remarkable leader in [Jeanne Syverson](#), Past GFWC Washington State President (1988-1990) and Past GFWC Western States Region President (1996-1998). Memorial services for Jeanne will be held February 18 in Yakima, WA.

We send our condolences to GFWC Vermont President Joyce Lindamood on the passing of her husband of 62 years, [Laverne \(Vern\) Lindamood](#). A celebration of Mr. Lindamood's life will be held on February 11 in Springfield, VT.

GFWC President-elect Mary Ellen Brock is recovering from a recent car accident. She was in the hospital for a short time with chest bruising and a blood clot on her hand, and is now recuperating at home.

spelling bees by hosting contests for 4th and 5th-grade students. Many clubs such as the **GFWC Marlton Woman's Club**, the **GFWC Woman's Club of Denville-Rockaway Area**, and the **GFWC Junior Women's Club of Somerset Hill** host school-level events and sponsor three winners as they advance to the District Spelling Bee. Additionally, clubs such as the **GFWC Woman's Club of Peapack-Gladstone** take part by providing judges and prizes for school bees. Winners from the District Spelling Bee compete in the State Spelling Bee at NJSFWC Headquarters in New Brunswick. This year's New Jersey State Spelling Bee is scheduled for March 3, and the National Spelling Bee will be televised on May 31.

As the NJSFWC website states, "By sponsoring spelling bees, we aim to keep spelling a valued component of education, one that can also be fun, rewarding, and encouraging to students. The ultimate goal is to have students do their best and be their best." We hope the efforts of our New Jersey Federation sisters inspire you to get busy and host a spelling bee of your own.



Join Us for the Annual WHRC Women's History Month Event

The Women's History Month Event will be held on March 8 from 2-4 p.m. at GFWC Headquarters. The event will include a presentation, followed by a question-and-answer session, and a brief reception. Our speaker this year is Dr. Marjorie Spruill, a Distinguished Professor Emerita at the University of South Carolina. She specializes in women's and gender history and the



Interested in Advertising in the 2018 GFWC Annual Convention Program?

The Convention Program will be distributed to each clubwoman when they register in St. Louis, Missouri. The program contains meeting schedules, maps of the convention facilities, a complete agenda, exhibitor profiles, and information on local attractions. The program also provides an ideal opportunity to recognize the achievements of your Federation sisters!

[Click here](#) to find advertising rates, artwork specifications, submission deadlines, and the commitment form.

Membership News

Read the February edition of *GFWC Membership News* to learn how your state can be recognized at the 2018 GFWC Convention in St. Louis, Missouri! This and all issues of *GFWC Membership News* are available in the Resources section of gfwc.org.

history of the American south. Dr. Spruill will be discussing her most recent book, *Divided We Stand: The Battle Over Women's Rights and Family Values That Polarized American Politics*. *Divided We Stand* focuses on the women's movements of the 1970s, particularly the federally sponsored International Women's Year (IWY) conferences of 1977, in which GFWC participated.

GFWC has continually been a faithful supporter and advocate for women's rights and equality. Over the decades, this support has played out through varying forms and with myriad voices. For women across the country and within GFWC, the 1970s focused sharply on women's equality and welcomed increased activism for the recognition of women's rights. In 1975, some of that attention turned to the United Nation's International Women's Year, which launched a series of women-centric conferences around the globe. Although GFWC deliberated over our participation, International Past President Margaret Arnold urged that "GFWC is mentioned as a forerunner of the women's movement... long before Betty Friedan was heard from. We must not forget our longtime role in the women's movement, or the achievement it marks."

Dr. Spruill will discuss the significance of the IWY in both the past and present. She argues that the great debates of the 1970s over women's rights and social roles were transformative in American politics and policies. Reflecting on *Divided We Stand*, Gloria Steinem has commented that, "[W]e will gain courage, knowledge, and tactics from reading about the historic National Women's Conference and the following decades of meetings, struggles, and campaigns that allowed women to decolonize our minds and begin to express ourselves as unique human beings."

We hope you will join us for this very special event!



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GFWC Partner Spotlight: Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership

Our partner, Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY), is now accepting registrations from parents and organizational partners for the State Leadership Seminar. This means you may now directly register selected students! The Seminar is for high school sophomores interested in discovering what it means and what it takes to lead others. More than 10,000 students across the country will join the Seminars for 3–4 days of fun and engaging leadership training this spring. Learn more and register by March 4th at www.HOBY.org/Direct-Registration

Legislative Corner

On January 30, President Trump delivered his first State of the Union address. He renewed his pledge to offer a path to citizenship for the 1.8 million young immigrants, but only as part of a larger border security package. He also called for a \$1.5 trillion new infrastructure package. Details should be released soon.

Human Trafficking

Congress approved H.R. 4708, the Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign Authorization Act, which provides resources to law enforcement and private sector organizations to increase awareness and better combat human trafficking.

Nutrition

Go Red for Women's Health

We thank the many clubwomen who helped raise awareness of heart disease on National Wear Red Day. Clubs from Mississippi to Alaska can be seen on the [GFWC Pinterest page](#) sporting their red attire and exhibiting their dedication to improving the health of women.



GFWC Clubs Celebrate Mardi Gras

Mardi Gras is a day of gold, green, and giving— at least for GFWC clubwomen! Read the newest addition to the [GFWC Blog](#) to learn how the GFWC Western Wake Woman's Club (North Carolina), the GFWC St. Petersburg Junior Woman's Club (Florida), and the GFWC Frederick Woman's Civic Club (Maryland) are putting the "fun" in fundraiser this holiday!

The House of Representatives passed H.R. 772 in a partisan vote to leave it up to convenience stores, restaurants, and fast-food outlets to decide how to disclose the nutritional contents of menu items. The bill would also give these businesses flexibility in deciding what constitutes a portion size for the nutrition and caloric information.

The menu labeling initiative was spearheaded by former First Lady Michelle Obama as part of her healthier eating advocacy. Helping consumers determine the nutritional value of prepared food was required as part of the Affordable Care Act.

The House passed bill would direct the FDA to make changes and reissue the menu labeling regulations. Meanwhile the Trump administration extended the compliance deadline another year. The Senate will have to agree to these changes.

Tips on Parliamentary Procedure

By GFWC Parliamentarian Shirley Gomes

Rules for Debate:

- Members must first obtain the floor. A member rises when no one else has the floor and must be recognized by the chair to speak.
- The maker of the motion may speak first. Debate is made to the chair.
- Debate is confined to the merits of the motion, and not the motives or personalities of other members.
- Amendments may be offered to improve the motion. They must be approved by the members, and the motion must still be adopted as amended.
- To close debate immediately, a member may move the Previous Question.
- To limit or extend limits of debate, a member may move to do so. (See suggested language by [clicking here.](#))
- Debate can be closed by a vote of the members or by the chair if no one seeks the floor for further debate.



Set Sail with GFWC and Princess Cruises

March 21-31, 2018

There is still time to join GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea and your fellow clubwomen for a once-in-a-lifetime 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 a wildlife-filled rainforest in 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. For pricing information and to reserve your cabin contact Avoya Travel Representative Linda Stone at 866-617-2470.

In the News



Marketplace: 2016-2018

Administration Bar Guard

Just in - the 2016-2018 administration bar guard! The administration year bar guards are 3/4" wide by .188" high, this gold-plated bar guard indicates the years of an office held and can be used with any officer pin. Includes jump ring with 1.5" chain attached and a plastic back attachment. Available for \$5 each at the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

Super Bowl weekend saw members of the **GFWC South Brunswick Islands Woman's Club** (North Carolina) getting into formation for their 9th annual SOUPer Bowl. To make the event a success, the club partners with area potters who make and donate soup bowls, restaurants which contribute a wide variety of soups, and *The Brunswick Beacon* which offers free publicity. Club members take part by baking bread and desserts to round out the meal. Over 300 tickets were sold, and each participant received a handmade bowl and a delicious meal. Proceeds from the event will be divided among three food pantries who feed the community's disadvantaged residents. Read more about the project in *The Brunswick Beacon*.

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