



NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

December 8, 2023

GFWC Holiday Open House



We were so glad to see many sparkling smiles at Wednesday's Holiday Open House. Visitors enjoyed touring newly renovated spaces at GFWC Headquarters, such as the Archives and Board Room. They also roamed the house admiring the village submissions from the second half of the alphabet. Thank you to those who attended; it was lovely to celebrate the holiday season with you all.



Hotel Bookings for the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention are Now Open



Book Here

For room booking questions, please contact the Hilton Chicago (312) 922-4400

This holiday season, you can make a difference with UNICEF



Every day, UNICEF supports children worldwide — reaching the most vulnerable with emergency relief, lifesaving nutrition support, childhood immunizations, safe water, education and more. As we reflect on this past year during this holiday season, the work UNICEF does could not be done without support like you. Here are a few ways you can make a difference with UNICEF this holiday season:

1. Support UNICEF's [For Every Child Fund](#)
2. Shop UNICEF USA's [online gift catalog](#) for beautiful hand-crafted artisanal gifts that give back
3. Send [lifesaving supplies](#) to children in the name of your friends and family
4. Take [action](#) on behalf of children and write to your representatives

With your continued support, we can keep delivering for children no



GFWC Massachusetts Director of Junior Clubs Project: Stand Tall and Proud with GFWC

By: Marisa Jablanski, GFWC Massachusetts Director of Junior Clubs

For this administration, Massachusetts Junior Clubwomen have been encouraged to promote their clubs and membership through communications and public relations efforts. This state project is a bit unconventional, as it strays from a typical theme that provides clubs the opportunity to donate or participate in hands-on service projects.

Our theme is “Stand Tall and Proud with GFWC.” When we are proud of the work we are doing and the positive changes we are making in our community, it encourages and enables us to do more and strive to share more. Clubs have been encouraged to ‘brag’ about their projects and accomplishments. Yes, there is much to be said for doing good work just for the sake of doing good work and not expecting any recognition. But there is also something to be said about making sure your community knows it was your club that made that difference, and that they know how to find you to learn how they can help the next time. Hopefully, they also ask to become a member.

Massachusetts Junior Clubwomen are always up for a challenge, and they rose to the occasion. They increased their social media presence, increased the amount of press releases they submitted each year, and made new brochures, websites, banners, shirts, etc. This boost in name recognition in their communities helped produce a solid increase of almost thirty new Junior Club members.

As we approach the final few months of this administration, clubs will be encouraged to keep their current members engaged and nourished with what they are doing while getting the GFWC name out there and inspiring new membership. As clubs continue to be proud of the work they do, Massachusetts Junior Clubwomen are sure to make a lasting impact on their communities.



Photo from Find a Grave, Credit to Mary Cummings 8-6-2022

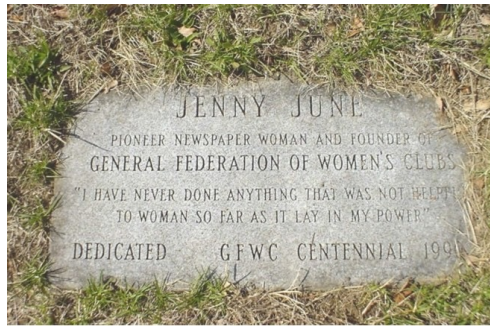


Photo from Find a Grave, Credit to James Alexander 4-6-2003

Annual Giving Program: GFWC JANE CUNNINGHAM CROLY GRAVESITE FUND

By: Tric Heepe, GFWC Annual Giving Program Committee Member

Jane Cunningham Croly, or we know her by her pen name “Jennie June,” was an 1850s journalist credited with founding our General Federation of Women’s Clubs. I think almost all members know the story of her being denied attendance at an 1896 dinner for Charles Dickens at the New York Press Club because she was a woman, but few realize that she was there because she was a journalist. A few years after this incident, she established the New York Women’s Press Club, and the New York Press Club apologized for banning her.

Jennie June became a professor of journalism and literature at Rutgers University, becoming the first American woman to teach “News Writing,” or Journalism, as it is known today.

Jennie June is buried in the Evergreen Cemetery in Lakewood, New Jersey. In 2010, the Croly gravesite was refurbished with funds from club and club members, but as with all gravesites, it is always in need of maintenance and incurs cemetery fees.

[Download Annual Giving Form](#)

John Hopkins Webinar: December 12

HEALTHY CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER
GIVING VOICE TO WOMEN'S HEALTH

Managing Your Microbiome — How It May Help Your Health



Tuesday, December 12, 2023 | 7 – 8p.m. (EDT)

Learn from infectious disease and cancer researcher **Cynthia Sears** what the microbiome is, what can modify it and emerging discoveries about its broad impact on health and disease. Sears will discuss early approaches to using the microbiome as a modifiable tool to improve colon cancer detection and patient responses to cancer immunotherapy.



Cynthia Sears, M.D.
*Professor of Medicine and
Cancer Immunotherapy*

REGISTER NOW for this complimentary monthly live webcast discussion between Johns Hopkins faculty physicians and moderator Kelly Geer Ripken, national chair of *A Woman's Journey*.

www.hopkinsmedicine.org/awomansjourney/webcasts.html

Brought to you by Johns Hopkins Medicine's A Woman's Journey



Starfish Project: Tidings of Joy



Introducing the Tidings of Joy Collection! ☑ Be the merriest at every Christmas event in bright, bold colors perfect for parties and gifting! Shop our new Christmas collection today!

Please use the following link to ensure your purchase goes towards the GFWC Scholarship fund! You should see the GFWC Member

Welcome Banner when you click the link. Thank you so much for continuing to restore hope together!

Link: https://starfishproject.com/collections/gfwc-members?utm_source=GFWC&utm_medium=online&utm_campaign=evergreen

The above link will take you to the Starfish GFWC partner page. **If you do not use this link and go directly to the Starfish Project website, please use “GFWC” in the Promotion Code box, and it will be credited to GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship Program.**

Volunteers in Action: GFWC Paradise Valley Junior Woman’s Club (AZ)



The GFWC Paradise Valley Junior Woman’s Club participated in the 2023 Walk to End Alzheimer’s held November 4, 2023 in Phoenix, AZ. They became interested in this cause after hearing about the Alzheimer’s Association at the GFWC Convention in June 2023. A flyer was developed on donating to the team for club members to distribute and post on social media. It was also published in the club’s newsletter and posted on their website.

The club had 10 walkers on the team. Many donations were given by club members, family, and friends. The goal was to reach \$1000 in donations and the club exceeded this goal by raising \$1725. The team was honored by having a placard with “General Federation of Women’s Clubs” on the Honor Walk since they had raised \$1000 for the cause.

Submit photos and a short story about the awesome things YOUR club is doing in the community to PR@gfwc.org.



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www.GFWC.org