



NEWS & NOTES

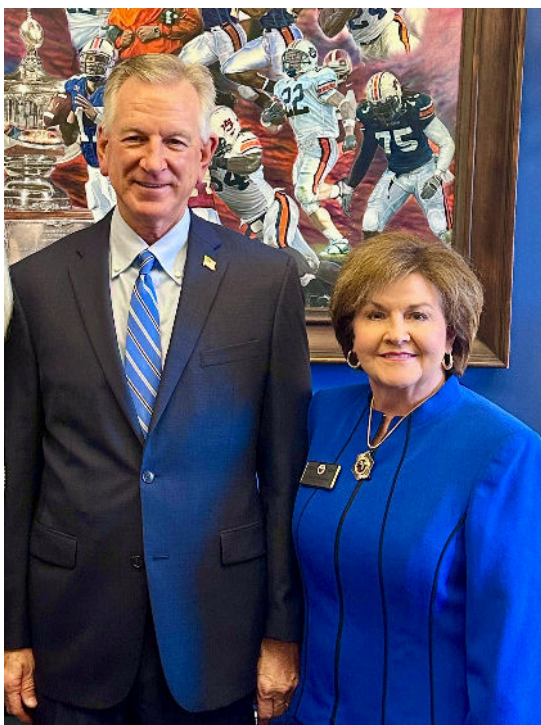
YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

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December 12, 2024

GFWC: Powerful Volunteer Network

Making Connections on the Hill



Alabama Senator Tommy Tuberville and GFWC International President Suellen Brazil after their meeting on December 9, 2024.



Brazil and President's Assistant Susan Bledsoe outside Senator Tuberville's Congressional Office.

GFWC International President Suellen Brazil met with Alabama Senator Tommy Tuberville, during which the two connected over their shared experiences as

educators and the importance of supporting education at all levels.

After conveying GFWC's mission with Senator Tuberville, Brazil spoke to GFWC's commitment to advocating for resources and expanded care for veterans and caregivers across the country. Additionally, she emphasized the need to support initiatives for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Meetings such as this raise public awareness of GFWC's legislative advocacy work and our collective efforts that contribute meaningfully to society.

Holiday Shopping?

Visit the GFWC Marketplace



GFWC Pashmina Scarf

Available in Blue, Black, Gray, Taupe, and Purple



GFWC Padfolio

Available in Red and Blue



GFWC Zipper Vests

Available in Black, Navy, and White

SHOP NEW ITEMS



Join us for the Winter 2025 GFWC Learning Gateway Series

Start 2025 off right with 2024-2026 GFWC Honorary Chairmen webinars.
Register Today!

January 27, 2025, at 7 p.m. ET - ESO Beyond the Page, Mystery with a Mission

Join Amazon best-selling and award-winning author, **Amy Peele**, GFWC Education and Libraries/Health and Wellness Honorary Chairman as she dives into her book “CUT” and how she brought a 35 -year career in the transplantation field to the pages. Her Transplant Medical Murder Mystery series is referred to as “mystery with a mission and a side of humor” and enjoys five-star reviews on Goodreads and Amazon.

<https://bit.ly/3AkgYoc>

February 5, 2025, at 7 p.m. ET - Heart Health Awareness Month

During Heart Health Awareness Month, **Jude Mabone**, Miss District of Columbia 2023 and GFWC Health and Wellness Honorary Chairman recounts how her own heart health scare has brought her to work with the American Heart Association. She will share her life's journey and the importance of CPR/AED training.

<https://bit.ly/48Epc7g>

February 11, 2025, at 7 p.m. ET - The Role Storytelling Plays in Advancing a Brand and Building Membership

Leslie Capps, Founder Wild Woman Marketing and GFWC Communications Honorary Chairman Personal Connections are the key to building membership. We will delve into how using your GFWC volunteer story as a marketing strategy

will gain local recognition and increase membership numbers!

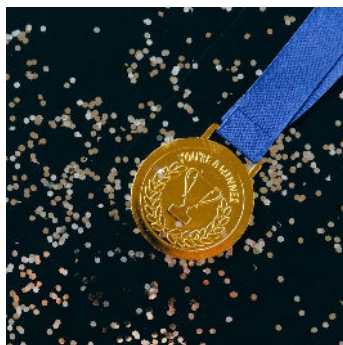
<https://bit.ly/3UI3Srs>

Thank You!



To all who generously supported GFWC on Giving Tuesday, thank you for helping us to preserve our National Historic Landmark through the GFWC Headquarters Façade Restoration and Beautification Project. Your donations are vital to protecting interior spaces and ensuring long-term structural integrity.

To find more information on this and other funds or to make a donation visit the [GFWC Member Portal](#).



More than Awards

By: Jennifer Jobe, GFWC Communications & Public Relations Committee Member

As we are near the end of another year, it's time to reflect on our personal accomplishments and those of our GFWC clubs. As you prepare award entries and complete statistical forms, remember this process provides invaluable insight into your projects through dollars donated, in-kind contributions, and volunteer hours. These entries tell your club's story and, ultimately, record your state's history. It is more than a GFWC Award Entry, together, each project creates a timeline of the significant service you provide local communities.

Each award entry should provide the *Who, What, Where, When, and Why* of the club's activities. This will provide details and explanations of a club's projects, programs, and events. Although many of our activities could fit in more than one

work area, place it in the one that makes the most impact according to your intent. Clubs should follow state procedures and submit the award entries and statistical forms by the state's deadline. The information will be compiled by each state and sent to the appropriate GFWC Chairman.

The information and data from each state and International Affiliate provide details and statistics of our collective work, telling the story of The General Federation of Women's Clubs and building our connections around the globe. This award season, be part of writing GFWC's history.

Cares & Concerns

Please keep GFWC New England Region Secretary Debbie Fiore in your thoughts after the passing of her mother. Cards may be sent to Debbie and her family at 14 Cartier Road, Enfield, CT 06082



WHRC on the Road

Joanna Church, WHRC Librarian at GFWC Headquarters, was invited to the November meeting of the GFWC Frederick Woman's Civic Club of Maryland, founded in 1911, to give a brief presentation on the Women's History and Resource Center collection. A Maryland native herself – and a fan of historic houses – Joanna was delighted to attend the meeting and tour the early 19th century Steiner House, which has been home to the Frederick club since 1962.

Room Reservations are Now Open for the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention in Atlanta, Georgia!



Book your room now for the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention in Atlanta, Georgia! Connected to the College Football Hall of Fame and one block from the World of Coke and Georgia Aquarium, this hotel is in the center of it all. Reserve your room for June 7-9, 2025, and don't miss out on the excitement of next year's Convention!

See hotel amenities and photos: <https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/atlanta-centennial-park/property-details>

[Book Your Room](#)



Supporting Our Neighbors

By: Vickie Davis, GFWC Arkansas State President

The GFWC Arkansas state project is supporting the work at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Located in the neighboring state of Tennessee, the hospital is an ideal GFWC Affiliate Organization partner for Arkansas. With each treatment, emotions run heavy, and cures are joyful. Our gifts make those treatments and cures possible.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is leading the way the world understands, treats, and defeats childhood cancer and other deadly diseases. Families never receive a bill from St. Jude — for treatment, travel, housing, or food — because all a family should worry about is helping their child live.

The members of GFWC Arkansas have been busy fundraising for this tremendous effort. We have just finished "The Month of Giving," during which we gave dollar amounts for the day on the calendar. T-shirt sales have just closed, and soon, we will prepare for the spring conference, all with the focus of St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in our thoughts.

Your club can find many ways to assist in the fight against childhood cancer. Please review the GFWC Club Manual or visit the [GFWC St. Jude website](#) for easy ways to join the fight.





Saving the Red Wolf

By: Sharon Oliphant, GFWC Environment Chairman

The Endangered Species Act is a program for the conservation of threatened or endangered plants, animals, and the habitats in which they are found. One such endangered species is the Red Wolf. It is the world's most endangered wolf species. Federal bounty programs, predator removal, and habitat fragmentation have led to the shrinking of the species to about 15 wolves in the wild.

The most prevalent threat to the Red Wolf is humans. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working to reverse the belief that Red Wolves are ferocious, fearsome creatures. Continued education is needed for businesses and farmers to prevent further decimation of this endangered species. We must also be conscious of the cultural impact of the loss of Red Wolves. This species holds significant cultural value to the Cherokee people, as wolves are believed to be part of their Creator and protectors of humans.

As members and protectors of our National Parks, wildlife, and nature, we can educate our members about endangered species in our area. In 2025, invite a speaker on endangered species.

For more information on the Endangered Species Act click [here](#). To learn more about the connection between the Red Wolf and the Cherokee people watch [Wayla, Saving Our Red Grandfather](#).

HEALTHY CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER
GIVING VOICE TO WOMEN'S HEALTH

Why the Rise in Parkinson's Diagnosis

Parkinson's Disease

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 | 7–8p.m. (EDT)

According to the Parkinson's Foundation, a new study estimates that nearly 90,000 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with Parkinson's disease each year. This represents a steep 50% increase from the previous estimate of 60,000 diagnoses per year. Johns Hopkins neurologist **Liana Rosenthal** reveals what is behind this increase as well as other important information from Parkinson's disease research.



Liana Rosenthal, Ph.D., M.D.
Associate Professor of Neurology

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

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Read about their other educational programs by visiting: hopkinsathome.jhu.edu*



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Volunteers in Action: GFWC Village Improvement Association (DE)



The GFWC Village Improvement Association of Rehoboth Beach, DE, recently delivered needed supplies to Operation Smile Global Headquarters in Virginia Beach, VA. The donations included 448 blankets, 58 hospital gowns, 48 Smile bags, 18 Smile dolls and 46 splints. The work was supported by the Summer Fabric Fund donors, who raised funds by placing donation containers in local businesses. The proceeds from the Fabric Fund Challenge ensure that members will be well stocked with fabric and sewing supplies for the next year. The 100 members of the committee logged 2,179 hours and donated \$5,632 gifts-in-kind in 2024.

The GFWC Village Improvement Association has supported Operation Smile for many years but has been very active since 2019, making 11 deliveries that included 2,422 blankets and 509 hospital gowns.

Want your club project to be featured in an upcoming issue of News & Notes?

Simply send your full club name, State Federation, and 100 words describing your club's favorite project to PR@GFWC.org.
Make sure to add a great action shot or two that brings your project to life!

GFWC Headquarters
1734 N ST NW | Washington, DC 20036
www.GFWC.org

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