



# Juniors in Action

GFWC of Taunton and Raynham Juniors

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

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April / May 2021

## Our Board Members

President – Robin Gendron, Vice President – Cindy Brogan, Recording Secretary - Joyce Clark, Corresponding Secretary - Judy Ackerman, Treasurer - Nancy Clark, Auditor - Nancy Martin, Director - Edith Edlund

### March Meeting:

**Once** again due to covid-19 the meeting was on zoom, with only 14 members in attendance. The Program was

Bill Moore who talked about the New Hope Program for veterans. The main office is

located in Worcester;

but they offer benefits to veterans all over the United States. They offer children of veteran's camps, family retreats, deployment reunions, and rehab counseling in Berkley. They run food panties in Westfield, Palmer, Holyoke, and Springfield Monday through Fridays; they put stuff into the community. These services are badly needed, since the suicide rate of veterans is very high.

Most of these ventures are run by volunteers such as Bill who are former military. He was very informative, the club members present at the presentation voted to donate \$50 to the Program. **Nancy** Clark our treasurer informed the members we now have a VENMO account that members and patrons can use to pay for club events. Just use the VENMO APP and TauntonJuniors under Nancy Clark. **Nancy** Brown requested members submit to her a woman they admired with a few sentences explaining why. **Nancy** Brown has volunteered to represent our club by making the garden flag for the Arts contest for the state. **She** has also submitted three photos for the photography contest.

**For** Dr. Seuss's birthday Nancy Brown read a poem she wrote several years ago for his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in line



with the who/what Dr. Zuess is to children. Happy Birthday to Dr. Seuss he was born in 1904! 117 years ago! He told us we'd all go places. He was right. **Robin** Gendron provided the rent

relief prize this month and the winner was Cheryl Carlos, a total of \$89 was collected. **Amanda** Fata reminded us that it was Black History Month. **Joanna** Alden sent a thank-you note for all the cards and calls members have sent her way. She said she was doing better and was home doing O.T. and enjoyed the newsletter.



### April Meeting:

**Once** again our meeting was on zoom with 13 members present and two guests: Donna Shibley, GFWC Massachusetts State President, and Nancy Coughlin, GFWC State Treasurer. The Program speaker this month for Autism Month was Paulette Clark (Joyce Clark's daughter-in-law) who enlightened the members on the facts surrounding Autism. She is an expert on all aspects of autism and has a Masters in Science Degree in Behavioral Analysis. She is also a mom and teacher and works with families of autistic children to help them cope and live productive and happy lives together. Her goal is the acceptance of autistic children/adults by everyone in society. She explained how with guidance they can hold jobs as dish washers, table setters and bus tables. She talked about cases of former students accomplishments. It was a very informative

presentation. **Judy** Floor has volunteered to become the Communications and Public Relations Chairman with guidance from Nancy Brown. Please feel free to come forward and volunteer to become a Committee Chairman. Many chairmen have been doing it for a long time and would love someone new to come forward and take over with fresh ideas. **Cindy** Brogan received her winning prize👏 from Suzanne this week. It was a \$25 gift card to Board and Barrel Restaurant in Raynham. Cindy has been wanting to try it and now she can for free! Cindy will be donating May's raffle prize and she has decided it will be a \$25 gift card to River House in the Weir section of Taunton. Please send \$1 or more to help with our rent relief and get a chance to win this prize. Mail the money to Nancy Brown or make your donation through VENMO at Tauntonjuniors (Nancy Clark).

**What Did Our Club Do For The Month of March?**

**Nancy** Brown WHRC Chairman for Women’s History Month requested from the club membership to state a women they admired and why. Paula Gasparoni, Judy Ackerman, Fran Perry, Cheryl Carlos, Nancy Clark, Joyce Clark, Nancy Brown, Cindy Brogan, Robin Gendron, Darlene Brown, Mary Barrett, Vel Bleau, Judy deAbreu, and Joan Curran responded. The following is a summary of the results: **Dr. Kimberly Perez** an oncologist from Dana Farber a graduate of George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences. **Malala Yousafzai**, an activist for



female education and the youngest Nobel Prize laureate. She spoke out publicly on behalf of girls and their right to learn. This made her a target and in 2012 a masked gunman boarded her school bus and shot her on the left side of

her head. After a long road of recovery and attending school in England she graduated in 2020 from Oxford University. She continues to fight for girls and says that together we can create a world where all girls can learn and lead. **Eleanor Roosevelt** was active in promoting



women in leadership. She was a diplomat and activist for women voters and political engagement, and she was the longest serving 1st Lady of the United States for the four terms of her husband Franklin D. Roosevelt. She

said,” A woman is like a tea bag; you never know how strong it is until it’s in hot water.” **Rosie the Riveter**

was an allegorical icon of World War II and represented all the women who worked in the shipyards during the war. Sometimes they took entirely new jobs replacing the male workers who joined the military. **Sister Mary**



**Angelica, (Mother Angelica)** who grew up Rita



Antoinette Rizzo and rose above a very difficult childhood. She became not only the first religious, but the first women in the television network industry! She started her

own television network, EWTN, with only \$200 and her total faith in God to provide. She still is dominating the network today. She had a remarkable gift; never gave up, and accomplished what many men said could not be

done. **Melania Trump** rose to success coming from the small country of Slovenia to becoming 1st Lady of the United States. She was a former super - model, a business woman, a mom, and was fluent in five languages. She was an immigrant to this country,



married Donald Trump in 2005 and became an American citizen in 2006, and 1st Lady of the U.S.A. in 2016. **Katherine Goebels Johnson** who is one of three



African –American female mathematicians that served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in U.S. history.

Crossing all gender, race and professional lines and known as a ‘human computer’ she was tasked with calculating the momentous launch of John Glen into orbit, and guaranteeing his safe return, becoming an American



hero. **Clara Barton** was a pioneering American nurse who founded the Red Cross. She was a nurse in the American Civil War, a teacher, and a patent clerk. Nursing education was not formalized so she didn’t attend nursing school,



she provided self-taught nursing care. She was noteworthy for doing humanitarian work and civil right advocacy at a time before women had the right to vote and was inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame in 1973.

**Rosa Parks** who is known by Congress as



“the first lady of civil rights”, and “the mother of the freedom movement” She showed great courage as an American activist in the Montgomery bus boycott, refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger on a segregated bus, launching a nationwide effort to end racial segregation of public facilities. **Maya Angelou** was an American poet, memoirist, and civil rights activist. She published seven autobiographies, three books of essays, several books of poetry, and is credited with a list of plays, movies, and television shows spanning over 50 years. She received dozens of awards and more than 50 honorary degrees. Many lives are inspired her quotes. “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel.”



**Mrs. Marguerite Pote** was a Girl Scout leader. She was elderly & kept a troop together at Medford Hillside section. Her husband was a professor at Tufts College in Medford. In a basement of her Church Mrs.



Pope taught troop rules, ethics, and the Scout motto by herself or with speakers. She taught them how to be a chef, tailor, childcare provider, and how to do housekeeping and proper bed making.

**Kitty Cleveland** is a singer/songwriter and inspirational speaker from New Orleans who began her professional career as a lawyer and then as a college professor.

During a devastating family crisis she clearly heard the Lord call her to become a “music missionary”. She has since released 12 CD’s of music and prayer. Her latest project called “Sounds of Peace” is a digital music player with nine of her most popular CD’s which she gives away for free to Catholic ministries of the poor, sick, and dying.



**Amelia Earhart** had courage, fortitude and defied the odds as a women pilot. She wrote



several books about her flying experiences and was instrumental in the formation of the Ninety-Nines, an organization for female pilots. **Danielle Steel** is an American writer, best known

for her romance novels. She has written 176 books and is a bestselling author admired worldwide. She has many other accomplishments under her belt, not least of all the raising of nine children and still finding the

time for herself and her writing. She had her share of trials but used all to her advantage. Her approach to writing is summarized in a sign she has in her office. “There are no miracles. There is only discipline.” She is a woman of tenacity. She said “Dead or alive, rain or shine, I get to my desk and I do my work.” “Sometimes I’ll finish a book in the morning, and by the end of the day, I’ve started a new project.”



As a child she eyed a different career.... as a Catholic nun. **Eleanor Roslynn Carter**, growing up in poverty in Plains, Georgia, wasn’t aware that her family had no money, but neither did anyone else. So as far as she knew, they were well off. In 1970 she became the First Lady of Georgia as the Governor’s wife. In 1977 when Jimmy Carter won the presidency she became the First Lady of the United States. She was an active honorary chair of the President’s Commission on Mental Health and testified before a Senate Committee, and was the second First Lady to appear before Congress. She was cited many times by her husband as an equal partner, even calling her “A perfect extension of me”. She has been a leading advocate for numerous causes and was politically active during her White House years. When asked after leaving the White



House what she would have changed she said, “I would have turned up the thermostat.” **Amanda Gorman** is the youngest inaugural poet in U.S. History as well as an award- winning writer and cum laude graduate of Harvard University, where she studied Sociology. She has written for the New York Times and has three books forthcoming with Penguin Random House. She became the sixth and youngest poet, at age twenty-two, to deliver a poetry reading at a presidential inauguration. Her poem is “The Hill We Climb”. **Members** Nancy Martin and Nancy Clark ran a March Madness Squares Fundraiser where each square sold for \$10, helping to raise \$500 for high school scholarships. The winners were: Corey & Keissy Wade \$250 (Cousin to Nancy



Martin), and \$66.50 each to James Dykas, Michal & Lynne Kinsey, Charles & Joanne Briody (friends of Nancy Martin) and member Suzanne Kaye. **For** Women's History Month Nancy Brown





collected \$15 from 9 members and purchased the WHRC Heritage Pin. In 1892, the Committee on the Federation Badge Pin was created to design an image that would reflect the aim of GFWC. Appointees included GFWC's founder, Jane Cunningham Croly, and its first president, Charlotte Emmerson Brown. The Committee chose the sun's rays and the color blue as elements to symbolize the Federation. The resulting pin, GFWC's original emblem, featured an image of the rising sun in a blue sky above snow-capped mountains with its rays illuminating "GFWC" in block lettering. An upturned, russet-colored banner displayed the motto, "Unity in Diversity." **Prime** Time was given 30 packages of cookies, 20 individual tissues and 3 Word Search books delivered by Nancy Brown. Donations of masks and hand sanitizers along with the usual items is still being requested.

**What Did Our Club Do For the Month of April?** For the month of April our over 100 purple pinwheels were put on Winthrop Street by Joyce Clark for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. **Joyce** Clark was given \$50 to mail the baby hats and blankets made by members, mostly Joyce to GFWC International in Washington DC. **Joyce** Clark, Robin Gendron and Denise Wheeler helped to collect 1,661 lbs. of clothing for the Savor fundraiser. This raised \$334.12 for our club.



Thanks to all the members that donated and a big thanks to Joyce Clark and Robin Gendron for organizing this fundraiser. **Joyce** Clark collected 12 suitcases from members and brought them to Donna Caravan for the Foster Children Program in Springfield.



**What's Coming Up for GFWC of Taunton Juniors?**

**GFWC** Taunton and Raynham Junior Woman's Club is hosting a Centennial Suffrage Take-Home Tea Fundraiser which was postponed from last May to Sunday,



May 16. A donation of \$20 gains you a three-course tea-in-a-bag which includes your very own elegant china tea cup and saucer, along with a chance to win free admission to next year's tea.



All the bags will include sandwiches individually wrapped, scones and



homemade fudge made by Vel Bleau. DeAvila Catering will be providing the sandwiches and Nancy's Bakery in Somerset is providing the Lemon Cookies for each bag. Pick-up time will be between 1 and 3 p.m. . Anyone wishing to attend should call Nancy Brown at 774-218-1456 or purchase tickets by going to Venmo @ tauntonjuniors. The deadline for purchasing tickets is May 7. Membership has sold 55 tickets so far. Taunton



Mayor Shaunna O'Connell and Founder and President of Suffrage 100 MA Freddie Kay are guest greeters and will distribute, along with the Juniors, the individual bags to all ticket holders. The club's basket raffle will once again be available with many gift cards mostly obtained by Nancy Brown and Judy Ackerman. Guests will be required to follow safety guidelines by wearing masks inside the building and



maintaining a safe distance from others. On Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup> several members got together to prepare the 110 bags for the Tea. Several members helped Nancy Brown: Robin Gendron, Joyce Clark, Brenda Saben, Fran Perry, Denise Wheeler and Vel Bleau. Members who are helping that day need to wear white and bring a hat and be at the hall by 12:30 p.m.

Purple sashes will be provided for each. We will be actively taking tickets as guests choose their tea bag.

**COMMITTEES:**  
**ADVOCATES OF CHILDREN**— Robin Broberg – It's March of Dimes time



**ARTS AND CULTURE**— Kathy Sampson – Our Garden Flag Contest entry was completed by Nancy Brown. Winning flags may be displayed in the new garden or around Headquarters.

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH** –Emily Weiland/Cindy Brogan- Virtual Opportunity to Help with COVID-19—Rescuing Leftover Cuisine (RLC) is a 501 ©3 food rescue Organization that links available food with organizations that need it at no costs to the recipient through a network of volunteer ‘Rescuers” and RLC’s food rescue app. <https://volunteermatch.org/search/opp3357179>. From the Dedham Junior Women’s Club—Please mark your calendars and join us for a unique, community-wide, artistic presentation of storytellers! The Suitcase Stories® are coming to Massachusetts via Zoom, on Monday, May 24th, at 7 PM A virtual program of the International Institute New England <https://www.iine.org>, the Suitcase Stories (<https://suitcasestories.org>) invite dialogue between U.S. and foreign-born residents to develop and share life-changing experiences of migration and cultural change. The objective of this program is to foster a more welcoming and inclusive environment for newcomers into our neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces. Eryn Clavelli [erclavelli@gmail.com](mailto:erclavelli@gmail.com).

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**—Judy floor. See publicity at the end of the newsletter Now more than ever, it is important for clubs to strengthen connections with seasoned members and build them with new ones. Internal communications are vital to maintain strong clubs. Share your stories.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT** – April is Child Abuse Awareness Month wear blue and post a photo on social media to create a buzz. Consider the Pinwheel project in your community. <https://pinwheels.preventchildabuse.org> Trisha Rusco [vineyardwkndrs@yahoo.com](mailto:vineyardwkndrs@yahoo.com)

**AWARENESS AND PREVENTION:** - Amanda Fata-No report

**EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES** – Nancy Martin- Join the ESO Facebook Book Group April: book is : Ain’t I A Woman” a book of poetry by women in celebration of National Poetry Month. IF you’re not an ESO Member yet: Request to be added to the GFWC 2020-2022 ESO Book Club on Facebook This month is Autism Awareness Month, Math Education Month, National Poetry Month, National Turn Off the TV and Read Month, and National School Library Month.

**ENVIROMENT** – Denise Wheeler – Martin Middle School teachers are looking for books and CD’s for teachers to swap. Our club is collecting Sweatshirts, sweatpants, coats, hats gloves and empty shoe boxes. Still collecting newspapers, puzzles, board games, empty ink cartridges, fabric, yarn, old cell phones, eye and reading glasses, small jewelry boxes, coffee cans, old batteries, embroidery floss, used eye glasses with cases, metal and plastic coat hangers, holiday cards, soda tabs, and old bras. GFWC of Massachusetts Junior Board is looking for someone to chair this committee on the state level contact Katie Robey if interested. National Park Week is April 17-25, 2021. You can recharge with nature while visiting one of our 63 national parks. An annual pass cost \$80; Gold Star families and US military veterans receive free access to federal recreation areas; there is a 4th Grade Pass good for duration of 4th grade school year through following summer; Seniors (over 62) can get a lifetime pass for \$80. Earth Day is Thursday, April 22, 2021. The theme this year is “Restore Our Earth.” Join in a cleanup in your community as you get outside and Celebrate the Earth! Arbor Day is Friday, April 30, 2021 Celebrate Arbor Day by planting a tree in your neighborhood.

**FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT** – Cindy Brogan – Send money for rent relief prize to Nancy Brown. Read all the information on the TEA in this newsletter.

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS** - Nancy Brown- You can continue to save tissues, crackers and cookies,

small hand sanitizers. Also looking for 300-500 piece puzzles, crossword puzzle books or any kind of puzzle books. No peanut butter crackers. April is Stress Awareness Month.

**LEADERSHIP** – Paula Gasparoni and Joan Curran – Think about co-chairing a committee. All chairmen are looking for help, contact any of them. Don't forget to Apply to be the GFWC MA LEADS candidate details on website.

**LEGISLATION/ PUBLIC POLICY** – Nancy Clark – "Increase Funds to Prevent Child Abuse"

### Take Action

**MEMBERSHIP** – Joyce Clark – Building new and stronger relationships within your membership is the key to attracting membership. Post your reflections on our FB page– What is the greatest opportunity you have received as a GFWC member? Marissa Jablanski Mjabo115@yahoo.com

**WOMENS HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER**– Nancy Brown- No report.

## **GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors to hold in-person meeting**

The GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors will hold its first in-person business meeting since being interrupted by COVID-19 at 7 p.m. May 3 at the USMC League-Det.#1285, 265 High St., Somerset.

The group will follow the state mandate for social distancing, masking and other appropriate safety measures in order to gather and reunite after months of virtual meetings. Members are welcome to bring their own beverage and should call Robin at 774-281-0120 if they will be attending.

## **GFWC Taunton and Raynham Junior Woman's Club hosts April meeting**

COURTESY OF GFWC TAUNTON AND RAYNHAM JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

The Wicked Local.com

The GFWC Taunton and Raynham Junior Woman's Club hosted their April virtual business meeting April 5.

Speaker Paulette Clark enlightened the members on the facts surrounding Autism. Clark is an expert on all aspects of autism and has a Masters in science and behavioral analysis. She is also a mom and teacher and works with families of autistic children to help them cope and live productive and happy lives together.

Other guests for the evening included Donna Shibley, GFWC Massachusetts state president, and Nancy Coughlin, GFWC state treasurer.

The club is planning its Suffrage Centennial Tea-in-a-Bag scholarship fundraiser. Tickets are available through Venmo at Taunton Juniors, through any of the club's members or by calling 774-218-1456.

The club's March Madness fundraiser raised \$500 for student scholarships. Scholarships are given to local high schools, which include Taunton High, Bristol Plymouth, Bristol Agricultural, Dighton/Rehoboth, Somerset/Berkley and Bridgewater-Raynham.

For more information on the club or to become a member, call Joyce at 508-823-4482.

### Happy Birthday to members: April



**Denise Wheeler**

**Nancy Brown**

**Fran Perry Susan Johnson**

**Kathy Voller**

**May: Judy Riley**

**Cindy Brogan**

**Kathleen Sampson**

### What's Happening?

Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> Combined Annual Convention via zoom 9:00am to 1:00pm

May 3<sup>rd</sup> in person Business Meeting at USNC High Street Somerset at 7:00pm **See you there!**

The Centennial Suffrage Tea is May 16<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm

May 24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting 6:00pm

June 7<sup>th</sup> – June Social; Information will be given during the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Business Meeting

Send pictures of items you are donating to sell to Edith with a description – she has opened an account to sell items for our club, **Do it now!** Call Edith if you have any questions.

Federation Day in the Forest: This year Federation Day in the Forest is Saturday, May 29th, 1pm at Headquarters. Please join your fellow club woman to honor members, family members and friends that have passed away over

the past year. We will also be dedicating the Memorial Garden in honor of Diane McCurley. Four club members are planning to go contact them if you would like to go with them: Joyce Clark, Robin Gendron, Nancy Clark, and Nancy Brown.

Welcome Federation Day in the Forest: This year Federation Day in the Forest is Saturday, May 29th, 1pm at Headquarters. Please join your fellow club woman to honor members, family members and friends that have passed away over

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**Happy Spring!**

from your editor Nancy L. Martin

