



# Juniors in Action



GFWC of Taunton and Raynham Juniors

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

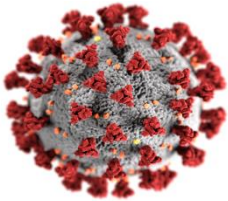
Volume 20

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April 2020

## Our Board Members

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



We are blue. It is okay to feel how you feel but don't stay there. Think about the helpers. People are making masks donating food and keeping in touch with the elderly. We are stronger together! The whole world is feeling the same. So spread the love out there and accept that love in! This too shall pass! Look at the birds, the cars, the trees, from a safe distance for everyone's sake. Soak it in! Look around. YOU ARE STILL HERE! YOU are doing your patriotic duty by staying home! YOU got this! Take a walk around the block. Maybe a few blocks. Then come back, do something fun! Look the whole world is having a common experience. Just know you are healthy. Your love ones are too.

## March Business Meeting:

The GFWC Taunton and Raynham Jr. Woman's Club's membership recently grew with two additional members installed at the club's March meeting at the Silver Platter Restaurant inside Bristol Plymouth Technical High School.



Membership Chairperson Joyce Clark installed Judy Floor, of North Dighton, and Debra Chaplin, of Raynham.

Acting president Cindy Brogan presented them with the GFWC pin welcoming them into the club.

The guest speaker keeping with the theme of Women History Month was the recently elected first female mayor of Taunton, Shauna O'Connell. Mayor O'Connell spoke on how she got to where she is today. Never intending to become a public servant she however was outrage when she had seen news broadcast concerning a child kidnapping in Florida in 2005. Being a



young mother she was affected by the kidnapping of the 10 year old girl who was kidnapped, raped and killed by a repeat offender. She decided then to make a difference to help protect potential victims and reduce a sexual offender's ability to re-offend. This began her unintentional journey into politics. She became involved with a local advocate



group of 20-25 mothers to draw up the Jessica Law and helped to bring it to the legislative branch and become a law. When she ran for Massachusetts State Representatives she was assisted by our member Fran Perry and

won by 31 votes. She is now the 50th mayor of Taunton. She feels Taunton is a big city with a small town feel. She was accompanied to the meeting by Kelly Dooner and Dennis Ackerman whose wife Judy is the club's Programs Chairperson. Acting President Cindy Brogan presented the mayor with a gift basket as a thank you for visiting



the club. The mayor then took a picture with the membership, which appeared in the Taunton Gazette.

An enjoyable time was had by those attending members with a March of Dimes Toss held to raise funds for the cause organized by Advocates for Children Chairperson Robin Broberg. Members were asked to bring dimes with them to the meeting. Two mini Irish pots of gold were set up, members picked numbers 2 of each number. Starting with the first number ones, they stepped up and tossed what dimes they brought attempting to get them in the tiny pot. Then the 2.s etc. down the line; it brought about a lot of laughs and some competitiveness. Judy Ackerman and Jane Pacheco were the big winners. Everyone who participated won a golden coin. This event raised \$51.25 that our Treasurer Nancy Clark forwarded to the March of Dimes. In addition, Leadership Co-Chairwomen Joan Rainville Curran and Paula Gasparonii tested the members' observational skills with a Mix It Up Game. Members were asked to remove 3 items from their person. The



female graduating senior continuing their education with a community service background totaling \$3,500. Our members are from the cities and towns of Taunton, Raynham, Berkley, Dighton and Rehoboth, Somerset, Assonet, Brockton and Lakeville.

A \$50 donation was made from our club by the selling of the Dine-Out Books by Fran Perry to Home for Our Troops. She has done this fundraiser for several years and has brought in several hundreds of dollars, Thank-you Fran.

Our club members made their favorite soups and pies and helped to serve them up at a Soup Sampler and Pie Fundraiser on Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion Hall in



Raynham. For \$10 each participant was able to



taste as many delicious homemade soups and pies until they burst at the seams. A raffle with gift cards gathered by members from area restaurants and local businesses was conducted by Cindy Brogan. This enjoyable



members were then divided into two groups one on each side of the room and

members had to guess what members had removed. Cindy Leonard was the big winner with 6 right answers; other winners were Vel Bleau, Debbie Chaplin and Cheryl Carlos. Membership Chairman Joyce Clark noted she has purchased new totes and club pens for new member gifts and will also be selling the totes to members for \$5.25.



fundraiser raised \$953 on tickets and \$615 on the raffle for a total of \$1,568! It was fun and well attended. If anyone has receipts for that event to be reimbursed

please mail the receipts to the club treasurer Nancy Clark and she will write and send you a check.

### What has our club been up to this March?

This past month the Education Chairman wrote letters and contacted the 7 high schools Taunton, Bridgewater-Raynham, Dighton Rehoboth, Bristol Plymouth, Bristol County Agricultural, Somerset-Berkley, and Apponequet Regional gifting each school with a \$500 scholarship to be given to a

During this month members have been busy, 12 books collected from the membership were delivered to Berkley Elementary School and games donated by Joan Curran were donated and delivered by Denise Wheeler to Girls Inc..

April calendar's woman of the month just happens to be Nikki Haley: This would have been read by

WHRC Chairman Nancy Brown during the April meeting. Here are some facts about our country's former United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations. Nikki was born in Bamberg, South Carolina, a daughter of Indian immigrants and



proud graduate of Clemson University. Her first job was at the age of 13 keeping the books for her family's clothing store. She was elected in 2010 as the first female Governor of South Carolina and reelected in 2014. She served until she was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 2017 as U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations. Quote: "My best advice is to always trust your gut. If you pause or second guess yourself, push through the fear. When you do, you will surprise yourself with just how strong you are."

### Committees:

**Advocates for Children** –Robin Broberg – Hundreds of thousands of vulnerable U.S. children could face a heightened risk of abuse and neglect as coronavirus-related school closures keep them at home and away from the nation's biggest group of hotline tipsters: educators. Teachers, administrators, school counselors and other educational professionals report one in every five child-mistreatment claims in the nation, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Other major sources include law enforcement and social workers. Those reports could plummet, experts predict, as children's social circles contract to just family members, which collectively represent just 12% of hotline calls. Even kids in otherwise functional families could face peril as parents unaccustomed to providing round-the-clock care and stressed by the collapsing economy are pushed to the edge. Calls to the group's National Parent Helpline for families in crisis have spiked 30% in the past week, Pion-Berlin said. They're coming from mothers and fathers

stressed about child care, food insecurity and other fears arising from the coronavirus crisis. The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline also has seen a 10% surge this week in calls and texts. Rather than reporting abuse, however, some of the callers are anxious parents seeking help with child care and frightened children stuck at home with their abusers. Stress is a factor in coronavirus pandemic. Of children who are sexually abused, 90% know the perpetrator. Staying home could make those children more vulnerable. If you know of any child or family that fits this profile try to phone or video chat with them. But children who have not yet come to social workers' attention remain at higher risk. Take an active role in monitoring child safety in your community. Everyone needs to have a more watchful eye on children if you suspect anything is wrong.

**ARTS** – Kathy Sampson – Drawing and painting for children and adults is a nice activity during self-distancing.



**COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS** –Nancy Brown – Please save newspaper clippings. We were published in the Brockton Enterprise Wicked Local and Gazette along with the Rehoboth Reporter. Go online to the BUZZ Raynham for the full coverage. The group photo with the Mayor, our installations and March of Dimes Toss were included with the article. I hope you all got to see them.



**CONSERVATION** – Denise Wheeler – 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**.



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** - Amanda Fata- no update at this time

**EDUCATION** – Nancy Martin/Joyce Clark–Read to



your children and grandchildren during this time using zoom or skype.

**FUNDRAISING** – Cindy Brogan – At this time the **Fashion Show** will still be moving forward.

Although we had planned a service project for the Favors at the May meeting it is currently on hold. We will plan something in the future to get people together to work on the center pieces and favors.

The committee is more concerned about everyone's health and safety so the choosing of models will wait until June. **CENTENNIAL SUFFRAGE**

**TEA:** The next item is the postponement of our Centennial Suffrage Tea. We are not giving up just moving forward. It's been suggested that we try for October or November to hold our Tea. The

GFWC Taunton and Rayham Jr. Woman's Club  
PRESENTS

**SUFFRAGE**  
CENTENNIAL SUFFRAGE  
TEA  
**POSTPONED**  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020  
1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.  
ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA  
PARISH CENTER  
499 SPRING STREET  
NORWICH, VT  
TICKETS \$12.  
\$5 CHILD  
UNDER 12  
SURPRISE GUESTS  
REVENUE FROM THIS EVENT GOES TO LOCAL CHARITIES

committee will be checking dates and talking to Fr. Paul Fedak about using the parish hall at that time as the church has scheduled functions lined up as well. We are going to take one day at a time, and we will keep you updated.

This is a time of Plan A, B and sometimes C, so have faith and remember that, this too shall pass.

**HOME LIFE** – Nancy Brown- No Prime Time, so sad. BUT.....I'm doing a lot of SNAIL MAIL lately, and I'm finding that my own mailbox is full of cards and letters and less junk. I like the idea of taking time to sit and write a personal note to friends or family and find it very relaxing and more intimate than a text, even if it is slower. Surprise a friend or neighbor with a card saying that you're thinking of them. It will bring a smile to their face and lift their spirits. The mailbox can become something one looks forward to emptying knowing someone may have written to them personally, and not just another bill or solicitation. Reach out if you haven't already. It'll make you feel good and bring cheer. Reach out to elderly or those in nursing homes. These are very difficult and scary times. Everyone needs to be uplifted. Stay safe and well. (You may want to consider sending some postage stamps to

the elderly so that they may reach out themselves to friends and loved ones but don't have access to get stamps for themselves.). You can continue to save tissues, crackers and cookies, small hand sanitizers, 100-300 piece puzzles, novelty key chains, etc. to be used as Bingo prizes at Prime Time when we get back to normal.

Try to keep track of letters and cards that you send or receive. When we return to our meeting routine it will be interesting to know how many people were uplifted by you, or how many times you were uplifted receiving cheerful messages to renew your spirits.

**HOSPITALITY** –Cindy Brogan– None this month.

**INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH** –Emily Wyland- No update at this time.

**LEADERSHIP:** - Paula Gasparoni and Joan Curran – Think about applying for LEADS

**MEMBERSHIP** —Joyce Clark – Joyce has been trying to keep in contact with members by phone during this time. Keep in touch!



**NEWSLETTER** – Nancy Martin – If you do something representing our club during any given month, please forward information about it along with pictures to [MRMartin947@aol.com](mailto:MRMartin947@aol.com).

**PRESIDENTS SPECIAL PROJECT:** Edie Edlund- No update at this time.

**PROGRAMS**-Judy Ackerman– September is Sampson; October is on Child Abuse; November is Paul Clifford on Suffrage Movement

**PUBLIC ISSUES** –Cindy Brogan – The special election for Representative (The seat vacated by Mayor Shaunna O'Connell ) will be held on June 2, 2020.

**PUBLIC POLICY & LEGISLATION** – Nancy Clark – No update at this time.

**WEBMASTER** – Nancy Clark – If you haven't gone on the site, use your free time to browse through our clubs' Facebook and Website pas.

**WHRC** – Nancy Brown- WHO'S WHO? We may not be able to be together in body but we can still connect via email, text or phone. I hope that you all

tried to match up members with their facts on the WHO's WHO quiz. As promised I will reward anyone who has matched at least half (there are 33 so lets say 16),and am counting on the honor system. Attached to this email you will find the Facts and answer sheets. Have fun getting to know us all and please try to fill in your answers before you look them up. If you match at least half let me

know . Your name will be placed on my reward list. Who knows.... maybe we'll be able to get together for our June Social for you to receive. Anything is possible. Keep Praying! Good luck and be honest. **YEARBOOK** – Edith Edlund – Everyone should have received their yearbook. If not please contact Edith.

**Happy Birthday to Members:**



**Denise Wheeler**

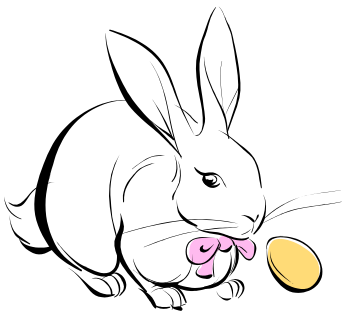
**Nancy Brown**

**Fran Perry**

**Susan Johnson**

**Kathy Voller**

A message from past president Edith Edlund: We hope that everyone is well and finding interesting things to do during our confinement. Thought I would share what I have been doing. I've been learning how to do bead art for my cards, great way to use all my extra beads and gems. Discovering a new activity can be fun, trying a new recipe, folding pages in a book for Nancy and Denise's project, or going through your markers for conservation projects. Do you have fabric you're not using? How about making masks? Think about your story when this pandemic is over; share your clever ideas with other members, Edie.



Just STAY HOME!  
Your editor: Nancy L. Martin

**Happy Easter and Passover!**

