



Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs  
**Morrow Civic  
Woman's Club**  
SERVING SOUTH METRO ATLANTA



## May 2024

---

# NEWSLETTER



### A Message from Our President

Our May meeting is coming up soon, and we will welcome a very special guest presenter. Cimi Douglas, State Treasurer for GFWC GA, will share knowledge and expertise relating to creative and timely strategies for planning club meetings, and opportunities for growth in membership. Cimi has experience gained through working with clubs all over the state, and her connections at district and international levels. Joy and I had the opportunity to hear her present at this year's LEADS program.

The Spring Luncheon is scheduled for May 4, 12:00-1:00. Club members should be at the church at 10:30 to help with set up. Check the newsletter for pre-event reminders about door prizes, ticket sales, opportunity baskets, and contact Angelia with updated numbers of guests you expect to attend.

Our June 6 meeting will be at the church, at the regular time. The brunch planned for that date has been cancelled. The venue, Magnolia House is not hosting luncheons at this time.

We hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful Georgia spring weather, and the many special events that come with the season. See you May 2.

---

## COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

---



## Arts and Culture

### Art Supplies

A big thank you to all club members who brought art supplies for McGarrah Elementary. A large box of donations was delivered to Mr. Ables, the art teacher. He was very grateful for all the donated supplies.

### Student Art Contest

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, Mary Harmon, Peggy Wilson, Lois Wolfe, and Angelia Wright met at McGarrah Elementary's library to judge their students' art contest. There were many creative and beautiful entries from grades K-5 which made our task not easy. Ribbons, along with goodie bags were given to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners. Congratulations to the winners as well as to all students who participated.

### Outdoor Pops Concert

On Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm, an outdoor pops concert will be presented by the Southern Crescent Symphony and Clayton State University Orchestra. The concert will be held at First Baptist Church of Morrow and admission is free. This event can count as one of our activities in our community service program.

### Member Art Show

Just a reminder that our member art show will take place around the first of August. Hope that you are working on an entry that can later be entered in GFWCGA competition.



## Civic Engagement and Outreach

**The GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program reminds GFWC members that each of us is a part of a larger society and is responsible for undertaking actions that will create a better quality of life and foster a sense of community—locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. This Community Service Program highlights and encourages citizenship; crime prevention, safety, and disaster preparedness; the needy, hungry, and homeless; and our military personnel and veterans.**

## Educational Moment: National Police Week & National EMS Week

International Firefighters' Day: Is observed each year on May 4<sup>th</sup>. On this date you are invited to remember the past firefighters who have died while serving your community or dedicated their lives to protecting the safety of us all. At the same time, we can show our support and appreciation to the firefighters worldwide who continue to protect us so well throughout the year.

National Police Week: National Police Week offers honor, remembrance, and peer support, while allowing law enforcement, survivors, and citizens to gather and pay homage to those who gave their lives in the line of duty.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. Currently, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on Washington, DC to participate in a number of planned events which honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

National EMS Week: Since its inception in 1974, EMS Week has stood as an annual tribute to the tireless efforts and unwavering dedication of Emergency Medical Services practitioners. Celebrated during the third week of May, this week underlines the pivotal role these professionals play in saving lives, preserving public health and safety, and supporting their communities.

The origins of EMS Week date back to 1974 when President Gerald Ford established the first "National Emergency Medical Services Week".<sup>93</sup> The goal was to recognize the vital work of EMS practitioners and raise public awareness about EMS.

Stop and take a few moments this month to say "thank you" to our police, fire, and EMS personnel for risking their lives to keep us safe wherever we go.

### May Projects:

- Please bring to our May meeting the following non-perishable items for the First Baptist Church of Morrow's Food Pantry that assists families in our community experiencing food insecurities: Canned Meat, Canned Soup, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Pasta Sides, and Boxed Milk. \*\* Please watch expiration dates.
- Collect travel essentials (shoelaces, cell phone chargers, travel size hygiene items, backpacks, etc.) for Inspiritus's Team Libertad program. They help asylum

seekers who were recently released from the Stewart Detention Center in Lumpkin, GA and are leaving Georgia to reunite with loved ones and wait their day in asylum court in August.

- National Moment of Remembrance - Asking all club members on Monday, May 27th (Memorial Day) to pause at 3:00 p.m. for a duration of one minute to remember those who have died in military service to the United States.

### **Upcoming August Projects:**

- Collect hygiene items such as men & women socks, washcloths, travel size hand sanitizers, travel size toothpastes, toothbrushes, band aids, combs, face masks, bar soap, and sanitary pads to make health kits (using gallon zip lock bags) for our first responders to give out to the homeless.



### **Education and Libraries**

This is the month many of the teachers reflect on the year and celebrate the accomplishments of their students. As a GFWC woman we can look forward to rewarding our scholarship and helping prepare students for a new year this fall.

Book swap - You are invited to bring used books you would like to donate to swap with members or give to other groups with needy readers such as Friends of the Library.



### **Environment**

Peter Helfrich did a great job with his presentation that focused on pollinators. We can also look forward to National Pollinator Week ( <https://pollinator.org/pollinator-week>) in June, and a Pollinator Festival will be held in Decatur. Many of the wild bees you may encounter in your backyard garden make their burrow homes in the soil. Some bees create hives in snags (a dead or dying standing tree, often with its branches broken off), or in holes in trees. You can also encourage bee-residents by providing man-made nesting blocks or “Bee Condos.” <file:///C:/Users/maryh/OneDrive/Desktop/Build-Bee-Condo.pdf>

The Great Southeastern Pollinator Census ( <https://gsepc.org/>) will be conducted in August, and we all have an opportunity to participate in this event. All you need is a small area, a recording sheet, and just 15 minutes of your time each day. We can record

information that will let us know about our pollinator populations and get some fresh air in the process.

Hopefully we will soon be able to start working on the prayer garden, perhaps we can apply some of the things we learned in the process.

Check out opportunities in our area.

Conservation Districts

<https://www.gacd.us/claytoncounty>

Activities at Reynolds Preserve

<https://www.claytonparks.com/reynolds-nature-preserve/>

Henry County Rotary Club

<https://www.henrycountyrotary.org/story/view>

Open Burning Laws Georgia

<https://epd.georgia.gov/air-protection-branch/open-burning-rules-georgia>

Stay tuned for upcoming updates!



## Health and Wellness

Days to Note in Health and Wellness:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
World Autoimmune/Auto-inflammatory Arthritis Day	May 20
Don't Fry Day	May 24
National Senior Health & Fitness Day	May 29

[www.mcwcga.org](http://www.mcwcga.org)



Did you know that GFWC Facebook has “WHRC Wednesdays” on the GFWC FB page? Every Wednesday, there is something new to learn. Interesting, right? Well, here’s something that might catch your attention. If you email Lois Wolfe with something new you learned from GFWC WHRC Wednesdays with the date of post, your name will be entered in an opportunity drawing that will be held in December for a \$25 Chick-fil-A gift card. As you know, more entries increase opportunities, so email those interesting facts to Lois often during this club year!

2025 will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the Morrow Public Library, and it is hoped that MCWC’s role in its establishment will be featured in the celebration. All the data have been organized and a letter highlighting the relationship between the library and our club has been sent to the Clayton County Library System Director. Hopefully, he will respond soon.

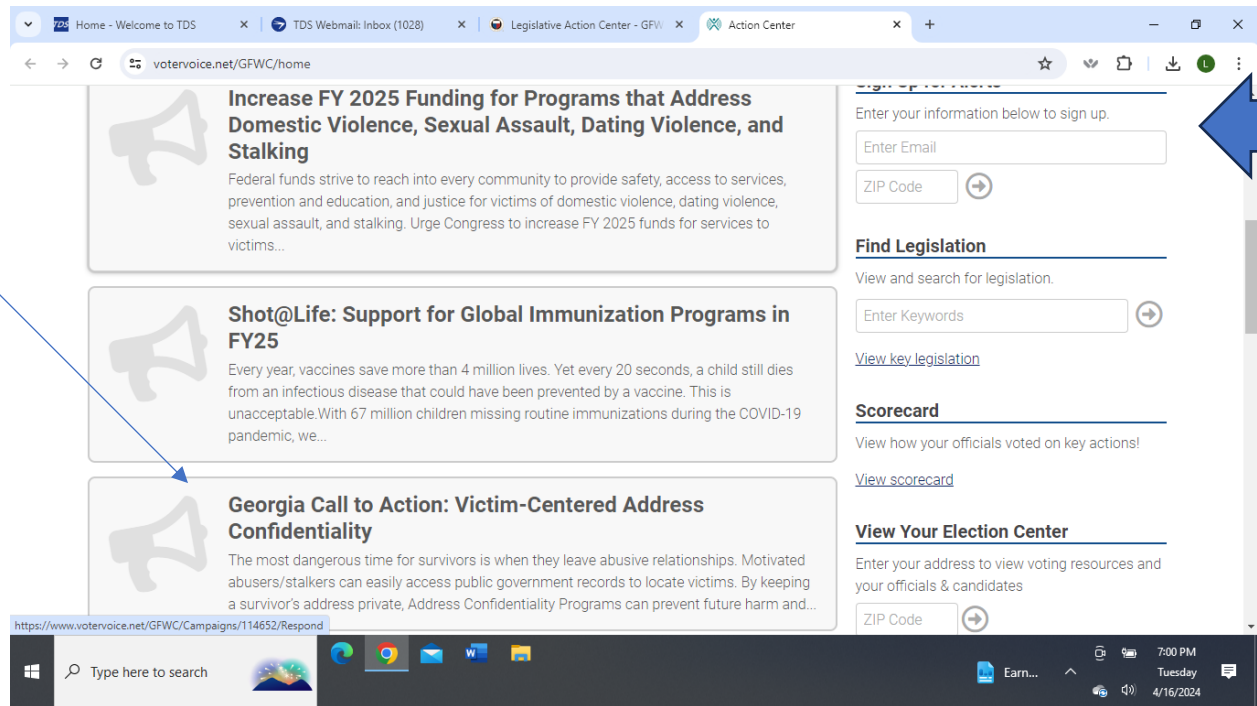


Well, have you started spring cleaning? Please donate some of your good, but no longer needed items to the Blessings Thrift Store that is located at 18 Depot Street. The store is open Tuesday-Saturday 9:00am-4:30pm. Donations are accepted on Tuesday-Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm. Please remember to record a list of your donations for the end of year Domestic Violence club report.

The Blessings Thrift Store accepts donations of gently used clothing, furniture, household items, toys, and linens. Donors receive a tax donation receipt at the time of donation. For questions, call 770.337.3886.



## Legislation and Public Policy



Are you registered for the GFWC Legislative Action Center (LAC)? If not, visit <https://www.votervoice.net/GFWC/home> and enter your email and zip code. See the large block arrow on the right. If you are registered, did you respond to Georgia's Call to Action? See the narrow arrow on the left. SB 324 Victim-Centered Address Confidentiality has been sent to Governor Kemp for his signature. Stay posted for updates.

## COMMITTEES



### Budget and Finance

Spring Ladies Luncheon

Please bring the following items to our May meeting:

[www.mcwcga.org](http://www.mcwcga.org)

**Ticket money or unsold tickets.** Please give to Peggy

**Door prizes** – You can either bring them to the meeting or on Saturday.

**Opportunity Baskets items** (At this time, our baskets are complete. If you have already purchased items, please bring them. There's no need for you to purchase any more items.)



Just a few days remain to encourage eligible candidates to apply for the Andrea Lane Memorial Scholarship. The application is due at 11:59 pm on May 1 and can be found on our club's website, [www.mcwcga.org](http://www.mcwcga.org). During our June meeting, submitted applications will be discussed and the committee's recommendation for the \$1,000 financial award will be made.

Previous scholarship recipients have been invited to our Spring Luncheon. Deena Attia, the 2019 awardee, will be present!



**Tallulah Falls School**

I new about Billy Burrel while attending TFS. Here is his Alunmi Success Story. This helped me remember



---

## Alumni Success Story: Billy Burrell '48

Billy Burrell came to Tallulah Falls School as a first grader in 1938. At the time, the lower grades met in different houses. “First grade was in the basement of one house, then we went upstairs to grades two, three, and four,” said Burrell. After grade four, he moved across campus to another house. “It housed three grades – fifth, sixth, and seventh, which was my grammar school,” Burrell said.

When Burrell was promoted to eighth grade, he went to the main building where he spent his high school years. Classes started early so that the boarding students could work in the afternoon. Burrell was a day student, so he took the bus home at 12:30 each day.

“I loved TFS because it was different from most schools,” said Burrell. We were up there in wide open spaces. They called it the light in the mountains because that is where we were.” For Burrell, it was home and community.

“We always celebrated the seasons of the year,” said Burrell. “We would have presentations in the auditorium. Different classes would provide a program or a skit, and the ladies from Atlanta who sponsored the school saw that we had a big Christmas time. They would bring up small toys and other gifts for the older students.”

Ms. Ida Fitzpatrick was the resident trustee and director of the school during Burrell’s years at TFS. He also remembers Ms. Yula Dillard, but he seems to remember Ms. Mary Griggis the most. “She was a large lady - a tall woman,” he said. “All she had to do was walk down the aisle, which was enough of a warning to behave.”

At the time, students graduated after year 11. There were 21 students in Burrell’s graduating class in 1948. That fall, he attended Bob Jones University. It was during his time there that he began preaching. Burrell would hitchhike from Greenville, SC, to Mount Carmel Baptist Church in Demorest to preach on the weekends.

Burrell soon became a full-time pastor. He pastored several churches before he became the pastor at Hazel Creek Baptist in Toccoa, where he served for thirty years.

“When I was called to the ministry, I knew it was for preaching, but I had a built-in desire to expand that ministry through the radio,” said Burrell. He began working in radio at WLET in Toccoa. He wanted to create a musical program with a devotional. “I saw an old 78 RPM record labeled, ‘Sunshine Medley.’ I thought it said ‘melodies,’” he said. “I adopted the name ‘Sunshine Melodies’ for the half hour I was on the radio early in the morning sharing uplifting songs, scripture passages, and a prayer time.”



For a long time, Burrell made tapes on a homemade recorder and mailed them to Cornelia's 250-watt WCON AM station. In February of 1954, John Foster took over the radio station. In 1965, Foster ran into Burrell in the old Cornelia Post Office. "I was in a tight and needed someone to fill the morning show temporarily," said Foster. "He came in every morning at 5:30 a.m. for 60 years. I never found his replacement." Foster could always depend on him. In bad weather, the police would go and get him and bring him to the station. Eventually, the station became a 100,000-watt FM radio station reaching millions of listeners.

"He was the community's pastor," Foster explained. "People and listeners would stop by, and he would pray for them."

Burrell didn't choose his songs beforehand; he prayed and asked God to tell him what to play. "Billy carried around his CDs in an old toolbox," said Foster. "He is humble, joyful, and always thankful."

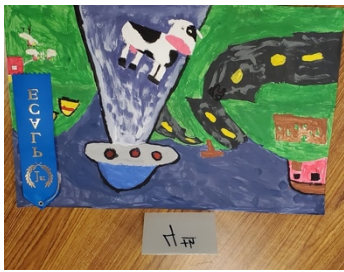
In July of 2022, Burrell went on the air for the last time at 92 after 68 years of radio ministry – the longest-running weekday radio show hosted by the same person in North America. Billy Burrell brought rays of light to homes across Northeast Georgia for seven decades through his "Sunshine Melodies."



Scrapbook and Website



[www.mcwcga.org](http://www.mcwcga.org)



A few pictures of a Day of Service and Judging Art Competition at McGarrah.

As we engage in our work, remember to take pictures, and email them to

Scrapbook and Facebook- Heloise Wilson [wils4929@bellsouth.net](mailto:wils4929@bellsouth.net)

Website- Kristy Coughlin [coughline@bellsouth.net](mailto:coughline@bellsouth.net)

---

## Special Occasions

---



Catherine Douds 5/29



Brenda Rayburn 05/15

## Hostess(es) for Meeting

Coordinator	Hostess	Devotional
Renee Goolsbee	Peggy Wilson	Lois Wolfe



State website: [gfwcgeorgia.org](http://gfwcgeorgia.org)



National website: [gfwc.org](http://gfwc.org)