

News & Notes

WOMEN'S CLUB OF FARMINGDALE

Founded 1913

*Dedicated to: Education, Philanthropic Endeavors, Civic Pride and Social Enrichment
November 2019*



GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS
Member Since 1916

Editor: Cheryl Parisi

CO-PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Wow! What a special day it was! Our President's Luncheon was just amazing. I would like to thank our co-chairs Val Thieke and Ingrid Hernandez and their committee: Gail Mcguirk, Judy Vilas, Fran Rotondo, Barbara Magnon, Judy Vasquez, Anna levolo and Margaret Barrett.. Outstanding job. The room looked beautiful and everything went so smoothly. We need to do this every month! Just kidding.

Jane Monaghan was presented with an Honorary Life Membership for her outstanding contributions to both the Juniors and Women's Club.



SUCCESS STORY

From nonverbal to clerk, supported employment works.



"Tim was great from the day he was born." Mrs. Carman beamed when she recently met with CMA staff to talk about Tim's success in our employment program. Tim's parents gushed about how sweet and loving Tim was a baby. How he taught himself to play piano at home and how he excelled at baseball as a child. Tim was nonverbal until the age of five years old, but he had the support of many amazing teachers and his parents as tireless and passionate advocates.

Tim journeyed with us through pre-vocational services and into supported employment. Our team recognized right away that Tim is extremely bright. We got to know him well and felt that his significant focus and attention to detail would allow him to excel in a clerical capacity. CMA's made a connection with a law firm and was able to get several managers to come into meet with him at the CMA office to allow for an interview in a supportive environment since Tim can sometimes have difficulty expressing himself under pressure.

The law firm managers were charmed by his presence and offered him a brief work try out to see how he did.

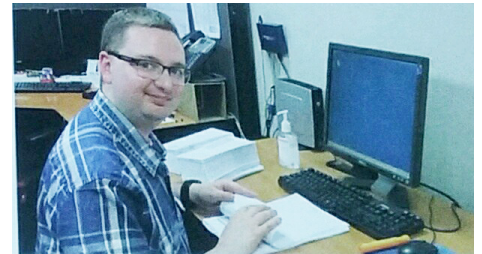
He excelled at these work tasks at the Law Firm, and they hired him soon after, eventually increasing his hours. One of the job coaches noted it was amazing to see the young man have lunch with his co-workers. Despite his quiet nature, he was fully accepted and appeared comfortable and confident. He was able to learn new skills, including social skills.

When the firm unfortunately closed, Tim was understandably disappointed. But with the support of CMA and his parents, he was soon hired by another law firm due to his impressive resume. He is now successfully employed as a support service clerk near his home.

"Timothy has been an absolute pleasure to work with. He is smart, polite, and very work oriented. He completes all his tasks efficiently and timely. I am so happy to have him as a part of our team!" Cina - Client Services Manager at Kirschenbaum & Phillips, P.C.

When asked what advice they might have for other parents of young people with disabilities transitioning to adulthood, the Crans said: "Get them involved and keep them involved with programs like CMA!"

Tim is the son of member, Nancy Carman.



WELFARE

As in the past we continue to collect paper products for St. Kilian's Outreach. This would include napkins, toilet paper, and paper towels. These are items that are often not thought of by others donating.

CINDERELLA'S CLOSET

The Coast Guard Spouse's Club of Staten Island was very excited that we are willing to donate cocktail dresses, gowns and prom dresses/gowns. The President of the Spouse's Club said that there are numerous occasions for the wives to attend and costly to purchase a new dress/gown each time. She also mentioned that they have teenagers who need homecoming and prom dresses every year.

So, during November, dig into your closets for those dresses and gowns you would like to donate. Please be sure they are cleaned. You can drop them off at my home (Barbara Hoerner) anytime after November 13. I will be delivering the dresses and gowns the week after Thanksgiving.

ADOPT A BATTALION

Please start collecting items for the soldiers. They are requesting the following: cookies, gum, mints, candy, granola bars, protein bars, powdered drink mixes, trail mix, nuts, beef jerky, peanut butter, jelly and all other non perishable items are accepted.

In addition to these snacks, we also send assorted toiletries such as shampoo, conditioner, soap, body wash, body lotion, bandaids, neosporin, tylenol, motrin, feminine products, toothbrushes, hair brushes, tooth paste, dental floss, moist wipes, chapstick, razors, etc. Please remember to buy the trial size so that the packages are not heavy. You may bring these items to our meetings. Barbara Hoerner will be collecting them.

LESSONS & CAROLS

Members of the Farmingdale Women's Club will be singing with the Interfaith Choir at St. Kilian Church on Sunday, December 15, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. This is a special concert conducted by Mr. Gene McCoy, Music Director at St. Luke's Church. Please join us and hear the voices of the combined churches of Farmingdale singing special songs of Christmas.

Speak Up For The Poor

I don't know how many of you go the website to see what is being accomplished by this organization. As Lynn read at our Executive Board meeting, they have a Learning Center waiting for our name to be added. I thought it was important for everyone to read about what a great job they are doing and how important it is for us to help with this cause!

As we approach Thanksgiving for the majority of our donors in the United States, and the holiday season around the world for all of us, it's a great time to reflect on what we are thankful for this past year. In Bangladesh, we've had an eventful year with a lot to be thankful for:

We've been able to build Learning Centers in 23 of the 30 villages where our Girls Education Program serves more than 1300 girls and their families. Our Learning Centers now have fans and lights, making them even better places than before for our girls to study and thrive. Many of our LCs have individual sponsors who paid for the building.

It's hard to count exactly, but we can count at least 37 child marriages that we stopped in some form or another, a great success for our Advocacy Team.



In partnership with our GEP Field team, the A-Team tackles our hardest cases and works with the police and local officials to intervene in illegal child marriages and other forms of exploitation and abuse. Besides these 37 individual cases, hundreds of our girls in grades 8 through 10, the most vulnerable years for child marriage, have been empowered to stay in school. Our team is helping these girls survive the gauntlet of child marriage in these most difficult years. While we mourn the many young women we know who got married too young and whose child marriages we were unable to stop, we are thrilled to work with hundreds of girls and families who are choosing something much better for their family's future.

156 out of 175 10th grade girls passed their SSC exams and are now in the 11th grade, well on their way to receiving a full education. Our 89% pass rate is our best ever, and surpasses the Bangladeshi national pass rate of 83%. The 19 young women who failed their exams are all in different stages of working to take their SSC again and are getting individualized attention to help them succeed. In two years, the 156 who passed will all be eligible for college or other higher education, and likely about 100 of them will join our College GEP.

45 out of 64 12th grade girls passed their HSC exams and are now preparing for various forms of higher education. Our 70% pass rate was slightly lower than the national pass rate of 73%, so we are trying to develop new ways for our girls to succeed in the future, including bigger stipends so they can get more individualized tutoring in problem subjects. Many girls who fail their HSC exams kind of give up on their education as they are 18 or 19 years old and realize that they might soon marry, so we are partnering with other local NGOs to provide vocational training and other opportunities for young women who cannot go on to a higher education.

Of the 45 who passed, most of them will be continuing on to college or nursing school. We are thankful and excited to share that next month, we will be opening a new second dormitory for young women from our GEP who are preparing for college and nursing school!

We now have 78 young women from grades 8 through university and nursing school living in our dormitory in Khulna City, and we have 40 other college students living in other dorms around the city. With at least 20 of the young women who just passed their HSC exams moving to Khulna in December to start college or nursing school, we will be renting a new dorm space near many of the schools they may attend. We likely will house at least 40 young women in our new dorm.

This Thanksgiving season, we are grateful for our great progress this past year. We are thankful for so many girls who joined our GEP years ago, who have grown into strong young women entering college and nursing school. And we are so grateful to all of you who sponsor these girls and young women, and support our work. Thank you for partnering with us to create a new reality for girls in poverty!

Troy Anderson, International Director

Holiday Wishes from The Sisters of St. Claire

The Sisters of St. Claire continue to pray for us daily. Whenever I speak to them they refer to us as "their sisters." I always give them the names of our members who are ill to be remembered in special prayer.

Last year they were overwhelmed with our generosity due to our Ambassador's project. For the last 5 years many of the ladies have given me donations at our Holiday Luncheon to send to the sisters. Once again I will accept anything you wish to give. No one is under any pressure or obligation. I ask only in the spirit of charity for they are in need. A dollar, two or three is never too little!

In their name, I thank you. Bea Ferrari



The Women's Club of Farmingdale Executive Board

Cheryl Parisi, Lorraine Stanton	Co-Presidents	Ann Ciuffo.....	Corresponding Secretary
Catherine Sewell.....	1st Vice President	Lynn Connolly	Treasurer
Rosemary Emigholz, Lois Carbo	Co-2nd Vice Presidents	Ann Lomonte.....	Auditor
Gail McGuirk	Recording Secretary	Tina Diamond	Imm. Past President



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - JANUARY - 10:00 AM



Trento's

Route 110, Farmingdale

Thursday, December 5th

Noon - 3:00 pm - \$45 pp

Please make your check out to Women's Club of Farmingdale.

Reservations may be made by calling Loda Romanelli.

You may also send a check to her home.



Women's Club of Farmingdale
P.O. Box 293
Farmingdale, New York 11735

ABIGAIL E. LEONARD

The Farmingdale Library has completed putting information regarding Abigail E. Leonard on their website. The information includes text and photographs of about 24 pages. This information was gotten from the book about Ms. Leonard that was donated to the Farmingdale Library by the Women's Club. If you would like to access this information go to www.farmingdalelibrary.org, click on history - click Farmingdale Local History - click on Farmingdale Digital Photographs. If you scroll down the page to Abigail E. Leonard's Photograph and click the photo you will see a red arrow on the upper-right-hand corner- click and you will be able to scroll down the pages.

EYEGASSES



Ladies, please remember to recycle your old eyeglasses. They will be donated to the Lions Club for recycling worldwide. Collections will be made at all in-house meetings. Thank you, Maria



DECEMBER

Lorraine Stanton - 7
Ingrid Hernandez - 27