

# Connections



NOV/DECEMBER 2020 Newsletter | [www.smwl.org](http://www.smwl.org) | Follow us on Facebook



Southern Maryland  
**WOMEN'S  
LEAGUE**

*Linked by More  
than Community*



## President's Message | Suzanne Wible

Happy Holidays SMWL!

I hope you and your families are all doing well. Please remember to reach out to any of the Board members if you are in need of anything.

We have had some especially trying times these past 6 weeks with the loss of our beloved sister and SMWL charter member Donna Ellis, as well as a few of our loved ones fighting the battle of covid.

With all of the challenges we have faced in 2020, now going into the holiday season and some not being able to spend time with family and loved ones, my wish for all of you is to have **Faith** in the place of doubt to strengthen you in place of fear. Have **Hope** for a better tomorrow. **Pray** for peace in the world to bring us all together again and let **Love** guide your hearts always.

May the joys and blessings of the season be yours!

## The Spirit of Giving | GRANT COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by: Candice Kelly, Grant Committee Chairperson and Rona Kelley, Foundation Treasurer*

This report covers the period of September, 2020 until December 20, 2020. The Grant Committee members are: Paige Gillentine, Rona Kelley, Carole Lewis, Brenda Lowe, Ruth Mudd, Katie Pierce, and Joan Rosier.

### The Board of Directors approved Small Grant Applications as follows:

- Special Olympics - \$250 - Sponsor: Suzanne Wible
- Families in Recovery/Charles County Drug Court - \$700 - Sponsor: Candice Kelly
- Hospice of Charles County - \$500 - Sponsor: Rona Kelley
- Spring Dell - \$500 - Sponsor: Rona Kelley
- Port Tobacco Players - \$500 - Sponsor: Rona Kelley
- The Arnold House - \$1,000 - Sponsor: Diana Rucci
- KidSTREAM, Inc. - \$1,000 - Sponsor: Darlene Breck
- Charles County Literacy Council - \$1,000 - Sponsor: Ruth Mudd
- Southern Maryland Carousel Group - \$500 - Sponsor: Lisa Case
- Lifestyles, Inc. - \$1,000 - Sponsor: Ann Rees
- Maryland Crime Victims Resource Center - \$1,000 - Sponsor: Laura Forbes
- Wayside Food Bank - \$500 - Sponsor: Ruth Mudd

– continued page 2

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- Page 2 - Committee Updates
- Page 3 - Member Spotlight
- Page 4 - Honoring our Friends

### SMWL MISSION STATEMENT

To promote, strengthen and support women in our community through fellowship, education, service and mentoring programs.

We are a dynamic group of women dedicated to helping each other grow and support our community through fundraising, special events, volunteer efforts, shared experiences and more.

Serving Southern Maryland and its Communities.



## SMWL BOD 2020/21

President: Suzanne Wible  
 Vice-President: Candice Kelly  
 Treasurer: Pam Frank  
 Foundation Treasurer:  
 Rona Kelley  
 Secretary: Kelly McCormack

## Chairs for the Standing Committees are:

**Program:** Becky Hoffman  
 and Carole Lewis, Co-Chairs  
**Membership:** Suzanne Wible  
 and Linda Cox, Co-Chairs  
**Public Relations:** Andy Sanford  
**Fund Raiser:** Pam Frank  
**Care:** Natalie McKinney

## PAST PRESIDENTS

### League

2006-2007 Rona Kelley  
 2007-2008 Rona Kelley  
 2008-2009 Diana Rucci  
 2009-2010 Diana Rucci  
 2010-2011 Doris Folineo  
 2011-2012 Terry Davis  
 2012-2013 Laura Brown  
 2013-2014 Laura Brown  
 2014-2015 Brenda Lowe  
 2015-2016 Diana Rucci  
 2016-2017 Diana Rucci  
 2017 Mia Allen-Ananyan  
 2018/20 - Suzanne Wible

### Foundation

2006-2007 Candice Kelly  
 2007-2008 Candice Kelly  
 2008-2009 Mollie Gieseeman

## Care Committee | Natalie McKinney & Pam Frank

We wish you all a joyous, safe and healthy holiday. It's been a tough year and we hope things get much better in the new year.

Please continue to keep the Ellis, Lewis and McKinney families in your thoughts and prayers. And for all those in need...

Happy Birthday to our December and January birthday babes!

- Larisa Pfeiffer - December 2
- Andrea Sanford - December 25
- Beverly Brown - January 21
- Tequila House - January 26
- Melanie Harvey - January 29
- Lisa Case - January 31



Wishing all of you and your families a wonderful and relaxing holiday season - Merry Christmas!

## Grant Committee Report -- Continued from Page 1

Members Teresa Klopfer and Suzanne Wible sponsored a grant application to underwrite boxed lunches for homeless individuals prepared by Martini's Restaurant. Because the recipient is not a 501(c)(3) the Foundation was unable to contribute, however, the Board voted to provide \$500 from the corporation's surplus as the result of there being no programs since March.

The Board made this decision because we believe that we have a duty to feed the hungry and care for the homeless, and that due to the unprecedented circumstances we find ourselves in because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the needs are dire and extreme.

The Board and Grants Committee invite you to sponsor non-profit groups that are helping those in need with a SMWL Small Grant. The application is available on our website. We know that there is considerable need during these difficult times and together we can make a difference.



## Networking Nook

Buy local and help support  
 your small SMWL businesses

### RONA KELLEY

#### Tri County Hearth & Patio Center

2475 Old Washington Rd  
 Waldorf, Md. 20601  
 301-843-1771

[www.heatbyfire.com](http://www.heatbyfire.com)

*We are a store for all seasons.*

*Fall - think firepits & fireplaces*

*Winter - think more about  
 fireplaces and wood stoves*

*Spring - Start thinking about  
 outdoor patio furniture and new  
 barbecue grills.*

*Summer - Enjoy the outdoors -  
 maybe you need an umbrella or a  
 new Big Green Egg grill.*

### VICKIE JOHNSON

#### Celebration of Spirits

*Bar Catering, Full Bar Service  
 and Bartenders for all your  
 special occasions*

301-751-3235

[vjohnson7775@aol.com](mailto:vjohnson7775@aol.com)

[www.CelebrationOfSpirits.com](http://www.CelebrationOfSpirits.com)

### VICKIE JOHNSON - Realtor

#### Century 21/New Millennium

301-751-3235

[Vickie.Johnson@C21NM.com](mailto:Vickie.Johnson@C21NM.com)

9405 Chesapeake Street

La Plata, MD 20646

[www.C21NM.com](http://www.C21NM.com)

### KATIE PIERCE

#### Grille No. 13 and Sugar Lips Cakery

*Catering and Cakes for your  
 Holiday events!*

Grille No. 13

3016 Waldorf Market Place

Waldorf. 301-645-2983

[www.grille13.com](http://www.grille13.com)

[facebook.com/GrilleThirteen](https://facebook.com/GrilleThirteen)

## Member in the News - Congratulations



BIG SHOUT OUT to CSM Alumna and Chief of Staff Larisa Pfeiffer on being elected the Northeast Region Representative and Member-at-large for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Professional Board Staff Network (PBSN).

# Larisa Pfeiffer

#CSMProud #CSMAlumni

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) announces that Chief of Staff Larisa Pfeiffer has been elected the Northeast Region Representative and Member-at-large for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Professional Board Staff Network (PBSN). In this capacity, Pfeiffer will provide leadership, facilitate communication and develop programs for the annual ACCT Congress.

ACCT is a non-profit educational organization of governing boards, representing more than 6,500 elected and appointed trustees who govern more than 1,200 community, technical and junior colleges in the United States and beyond. Located in Washington, D.C., ACCT is a major voice of community college trustees to the presidential administration, U.S. Congress, the Departments of Education and Labor and more. The Northeast Region includes Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec.

In her CSM position as the college's first chief of staff, Pfeiffer relies on peers serving in similar roles in community colleges and four-year institutions to understand higher education and governance trends and policies; and to create a shared knowledge network.

In addition to being elected to the PBSN, Pfeiffer received a membership grant for the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education this July. This furthers Pfeiffer's network and access to information resources that aid in her service to presidential leadership at CSM.

Prior to serving as CSM's chief of staff, Pfeiffer spent four years as the institution's lead community engagement coordinator and five years as the college's business and information technology coordinator for CSM Workforce Development division. She has also served as an adjunct professor of Communication.

Pfeiffer holds an associate degree in Arts and Sciences from CSM; a bachelor's degree in Business from the University of Maryland, a master's in Communication from Southern New Hampshire University, and is currently a doctoral candidate of the Community College Leadership program at Ferris State University. She was recently published in the April 2020 Vol. 10 Issue 1 of AT ISSUE "Building the Community College Leadership Pipeline: Prioritizing Succession Planning". Pfeiffer's dissertation research is focused on onboarding and education practices of new trustees appointed to community college board governance.



## Networking Nook

Buy local and help support your small SMWL businesses

### LISA CASE

**Carousel Clothing, Inc.**  
2939 Festival Way  
Waldorf, MD 20601  
301-645-4660, 301-843-8884  
cell: 301-643-8888

### Holiday special for SMWL

**members:** 10% off any purchase, includes children's formal wear, medical and school uniforms and our custom embroidery services on gift items and company logos! (exp 12/31/20)

### CANDICE Q. KELLY, Esquire

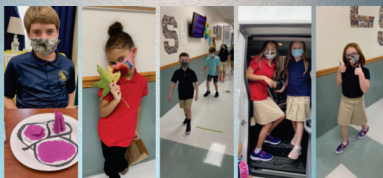
Announcing the opening of The Law Office of Candice Q. Kelly. *No problem is too big or too small.*  
204 Washington Avenue  
La Plata | 301-848-8294

### Andrea Sanford Design

Logos, Newsletters, Social Media Coaching and more! 301-399-0583



WE MAY LOOK DIFFERENT... BUT WE ARE BACK...AND WE ARE LEARNING!!!



## Growing - Learning Succeeding

**In our 46th Academic Year!**

1200 Charles Street La Plata, MD 20646  
www.growingwithgrace.org  
301 932-0963

## League Treasurer | Pam Frank

Greetings everyone! We are looking forward to a new year and some sense of normality!

We have **\$3,382.43** in the League Bank account... not much activity!

I miss seeing all of your beautiful faces...hope to see you soon!

## Calendar of Events

**GENERAL MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS ARE THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED** – There is a cost for members and guest. Additional information will be shared as we get closer to each month's event. Watch your emails for special invitations & announcements. **INFORMATION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WILL BE SENT OUT AS UPDATES ARE AVAILABLE.**

- January 6, 2021
- February 3, 2021
- March 3, 2021
- April 7, 2021
- May 5, 2021
- June 2, 2021 – MEMBERS APPRECIATION ELECTIONS – MEMBERS ONLY

### VIRTUAL BOARD MEETINGS (3RD TUESDAY)

DECEMBER 15, 2020, JANUARY 19, 2021, FEBRUARY 16, 2021, MARCH 16, 2021, APRIL 20, 2021, MAY 18, 2021, JUNE 15, 2021.

## This is your SMWL Newsletter!

Please email us to share your news... including special family announcements, business information and SMWL specials, charitable organizations or drives that are near and dear to your heart, By-the-ways and more! We'd love to include the information to share with our SMWL Sisters.

asanford12@gmail.com  
smwl@gmail.com

.....  
*Amazing things happen when women help other women.*  
.....

KASIA GOSPOS



## We honor our dear friends...

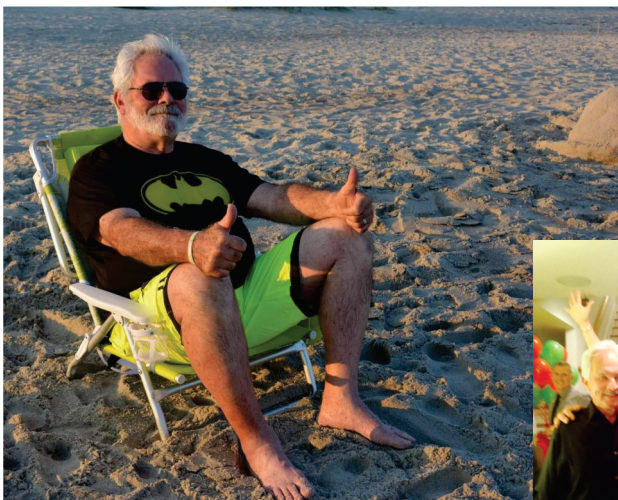
Dear sisters, words cannot express the sadness we feel with the passing of our dear friend and sister - Donna Ellis. Donna would want each of us to renew our affection for each other. So, in that spirit, say a prayer for our dear Donna and tell your sisters, biological and otherwise, how much you love them.

Donna was a bright light and devoted friend to all who encountered her. She was a stalwart presence at all SMWL functions. She was never too busy to lend a helping hand or take on the difficult tasks. Donna was the one who would pick up the phone and call members to encourage attendance at our functions. She led us to believe that she was calling to get a headcount, but we all know in our hearts that she was making sure each of us knew that we were special to her, important, loved and valued. She didn't take sides in petty grievances. She loved to dance had an amazing laugh, as tiny as she was her heart was gigantic.

We continue to send our love and heartfelt sympathy to Donna's husband, Stromie, and her family.



*We miss being together!  
We miss your smiling faces!  
We miss your good cheer!  
We miss your support!  
We miss your shared love!  
We miss YOU both!*



## A Tribute to Marv Lewis

### The Other Man in My Life!

He was bigger than life itself.  
A man among men.  
Strong and courageous.  
Carole's rock.  
My dessert buddy.  
My partner in crime.  
My friend.  
With him gone, nothing will be the same.  
Rest in Peace Marv, till we meet again.

Love, Becky Hoffman