

The Woman's Way



December
2025

President's Message

Note from Ruth Olive

As December arrives and Thanksgiving fades into memory, I invite you to pause amid the season's bustle—cooking, traveling, decorating, shopping, visiting, supporting our Christmas Home Tour, and preparing year-end reports—to reflect on our Club's many accomplishments. Each of you has contributed in some way, and together we've brought joy and service to our community.



I hope you'll join us for our traditional Holiday Banquet on December 9 at the American Legion Post #116, where we'll celebrate one another and our Club with good food, fellowship, and fun. Thanks to the creativity of our wonderful Social Committee, it promises to be a joyful evening. If you cannot attend, please accept my warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

This season reminds us to be thankful for our blessings and hopeful for what lies ahead. Perhaps we'll even see snow soon—if the old southern saying about thunder in winter holds true! Whether or not it does, I remain deeply grateful for each of you and the many ways our members give—through time, donations, encouragement, ideas, and service. Together, we've made 2025 remarkable, and I have every confidence that 2026 will be just as inspiring.

As we step into our Club's 100th year, let us honor the vision of the eight women who founded this organization in 1926. May their spirit of community, courage, and support continue to guide us, and may thankfulness and hope for good things to come shape all we do.

With endless gratitude,

Ruth Olive
President, FVWC

Friendly reminder:

Thanksgiving may have passed, but gratitude is meant to linger.



Carry thankfulness into every day.



VP's Report

Happy December! As we wind down the year, it's a great time to remember all of the things we've accomplished over the year, both personally and as a club. There's an easier way to submit your hours (Sharing Tree) and send in reports on events (Project Recaps).

Sharing Tree [Click here for the Sharing Tree form](#). You do not have to complete all fields and you can add all of your hours for the entire year here, if you'd like or just for the month. I'm trying to streamline this process and have all the info on 1 form.

If you want to continue to send via email please send to valerie.springle@gmail.com AND ruthfolive@gmail.com that is fine.

Project Recaps [Click here for the Project Recap form](#). Again, you do not have to fill in all fields. Complete what you can and we will fill in the rest when we are putting the reports together.

Below are the ladies who will be entered into the drawing at our Christmas party. If you'd like to enter, please use the links above or email your hours by Sunday, December 7th.

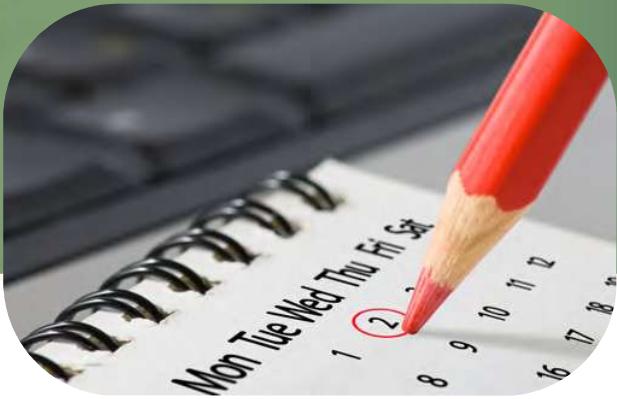
- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Martha Smallwood | 12. Anne Moell |
| 2. Faith Junghahn | 13. Barb Rickard |
| 3. Keely Kurth | 14. Hillary LeFevre |
| 4. Erica Cann | 15. Susan Stanley |
| 5. Barbara Giarelli | 16. Sandra Allen |
| 6. Melvina Croner | 17. Teresa Ennis |
| 7. Jan Seagroves | 18. Becki Randolph |
| 8. Jane Swinden | 19. Julia Yeargan |
| 9. Julia McCombs | 20. Sonni Young |
| 10. Fran Carroll | 21. Maureen Lund |
| 11. Debbie Semple | 22. Linda Goodwin |

Hope this is helpful and please let me know if you have any questions. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for all that you do and look forward to another amazing year!

*With gratitude,
Valerie Seymour - VP of CSPs*



Connect Luncheon with a great showing!
Love this time to relax and catch up with great ladies.
Next we took the bags to Hand of Hope for expectant parents.



Mark Your Calendar



FVWC HOLIDAY BANQUET: Tuesday, December 9, 6:00-8:00, American Legion Post #116 , consider bringing items for MMIA footlocker collection

Fluff the wreaths and primp the bows for Wreaths Across America Day / Civics Engagement and Outreach CSP Meeting as well : Friday, December 12, 10:00 am, Modern Metalworx, 202 Coley Farm Road.

Place the wreaths on gravesites for Wreaths Across America Day: Saturday , December 13, 9:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.

FVWC Christmas Home Tour Fundraiser for Clubhouse fund : Saturday, December 13, 11 am - 5 pm; tickets on sale and hot chocolate, cookies, Santa, and Artist in Action portrait raffle at Falcon Park Hut from 10-3.

December 31, member reports due for reporting of your generous donations to Club/GFWCNC/GFWC related or similar organizations and charities (look at budget where our club made donations) , your estimated time spent and in kind (non reimbursed by club) expenses for project preparation and participation for January 1-December 31, 2025 to Ruth and Valerie. Please send by email instead of text , or bring reports to the Banquet.

SAVE THE DATES 2026:

January through May FVWC monthly General Meetings on second Mondays

Reporting “Rejoicement” Parties - tentatively Wednesday and/or Thursday January 14-15, place and times TBD. This is for all interested members, especially Chairs of all committees and CSPs, to review drafts of all annual “rejoicement” reports of FVWC projects of service for calendar year 2025, opportunity for all members to contribute additional information, pictures, and data as needed before final reports prepared and sent to District and State award judges.

Months of January and February - Collect K-5 books for WAKE Up and Read Literacy Program

January 10	FACES speaker for FV101 at Clubhouse
January 17-18	FVWC Art Show at Windsor Point
February 1	Registration Opens for Women FORE Women Golf Tournament
February 7	District Art Show in Raleigh, NC at Edenton Street Methodist Church
February 14	Hope Center for Children and Families in Crisis speaker at Clubhouse
March 7	State Art Show in Mebane Arts and Community Center
March 14	Peak City Dermatology speaker at Clubhouse
April 11	Fertile Ground speaker at Clubhouse
April 24-25	Annual GFWC-NC Convention in Durham, NC
April 26	FVWC Centennial Celebration at Bentwinds Country Club, 2-5 pm
May 18	Women FORE Women Fundraiser Golf Tournament at Bentwinds

Environment

Mary Jane Jackson & Jane Swinden

While our busy group has its ears peeled back for any topics about the environment – our WORLD! – our focus of late has centered on recycling. At one of our CSP Committee meetings a couple of years ago Jeanette Moore-Burlock mentioned a company called Terracycle, www.terracycle.com, and we learned about their mission, and that it “primarily runs a volunteer-based recycling platform to collect non-recyclable pre-consumer and post-consumer,” from its website.

We studied the Terracycle website and found that we could encourage our Club members to recycle various items we’d typically throw in local trash receptacles! We created a (refrigerator) magnet to make it easy for our members to be reminded of items.

Right now we ask for:

1. Clean socks and underwear (new and used)
2. Razors and their packaging of all types
3. Empty pet food and pet litter bags;
4. Febreze-type air care and home care products and packaging, even with triggers (think Mr. Clean, Windex!)
5. Home healthcare container such as ‘Spray on Icy Hot’, both aerosol and non-aerosol such as tubes, mouthwash bottles, shampoo bottles;
6. Tide, Gain, Downy, etc plastic containers
7. Plastic packaging wrap

What happens with the items brought to our monthly meetings or picked up from your homes by our CSP? We hold on to them until we have enough to box to send to Terracycle or deliver to local containers aligned with Terracycle.

We know it's not easy to remember before you trash! Please, please, though, do check your refrigerator!! There's a magnet there from us, and it also has a phone number to call if you have a question, 843-509-1412 (Jane Swinden). Thanks so much for your ongoing contributions, and for recycling. If you need a magnet we can get one to you pronto.

--Submitted by *Angela French*, Environment CSP member

We are also pleased to report our UNICEF collections to date are \$625. We will continue to accept any donations (check or trick or treat boxes) at the December holiday meeting.

24 members, family, and guests enjoyed a lovely afternoon at the Smith Farm Sanctuary on November 9th. We learned about the renovations, fed the goats, and explored the farmland. A good time was had by all!



THE JINGLE IS ON!

OUR CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR IS ALMOST HERE!

On December 13th, FVWC will continue its cherished tradition, our Christmas Home Tour. The tour is not only a fundraiser but enhances the Christmas Spirit within our community. Who can pass up the opportunity view eleven beautiful homes, savor the decadent taste of hot chocolate and delicious cookies?

In addition, our very own Maureen Scullen, resident artist, will be painting a beautiful Christmas picture which we will raffle off at the end of the day.

The Fund Raising Committee has worked very hard to ensure the success of this event. Thanks to everyone that has purchased tickets, sold tickets, be a docent, bring cookies, or decorate. We could not do this with our your support!

There is one Very Special Woman who has been an inspiration to all of us. It is our own, Ms. Sarah Tew. She holds the record for the number of tickets sold be any member!

While on tour, please thank the home owners for opening their hearts and homes for us. Their support is invaluable to us and the community.

Christmas is a time to sharing memories, family, laughter and giving, A time to reflect on this past year and look forward to the next.

As each of you are a member of the FVWC family, the Fundraising Committee wishes all of our family a very Merry and Blessed Holiday Season.

Hope to see you on the Tour.

The Fundraising Committee
Patty Bryne, Co-chair

Frances Carroll, Co-chair



FUQUAY-VARINA
WOMAN'S CLUB



CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR

SATURDAY

DECEMBER 13, 2025

11:00 AM UNTIL 5:00 PM

TICKETS: \$20 PER PERSON

CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULT

Advance tickets available:

(Cash or Check)

LOGAN'S GARDEN HUT
1004 OLD HONEYCUTT ROAD

KNB'S MARKET PLACE
(120 RALEIGH STREET)

Or on the day of the tour:

FALCON PARK HUT
(105 FALCON DR.)

FOR CREDIT CARDS, VISIT [EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com)

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
WITH SANTA!!

FALCON PARK
10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

Home Tour Tickets



PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
WITH SANTA'S
CUTEST GOATS

415 RALEIGH STREET
12:00 PM TO 2:00 PM

Eleven Beautifully Decorated Homes

(PLEASE NOTE: HOMES ARE NOT ADA COMPLIANT)



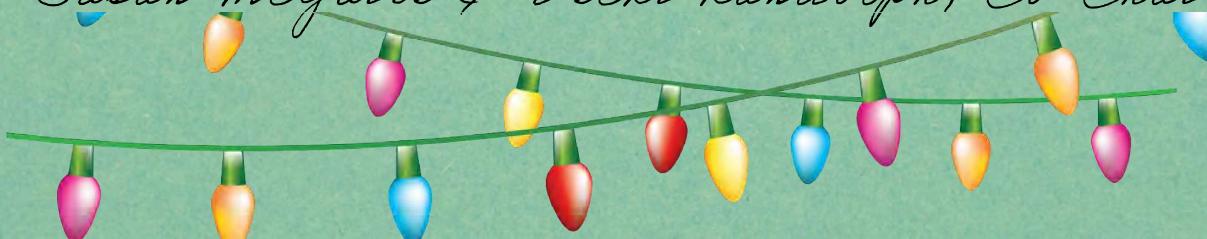
SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Mark your calendar for our Holiday Banquet, Tuesday December 9th at the American Legion Hall! Dinner and program from 6:00 - 8:30pm.

A catered meal by Garden State Grill will be provided.

Desserts provided by our great social committee ladies! You will have access to the bar for cocktails, beer, wine & soda (cash/credit). Ice tea and water provided.

Susan McGuire & Becki Randolph, Co-Chairs



Reality of Money Event

The Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club and Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club helped out at the Fuquay-Varina High School with Reality of Money Day sponsored by the State Employees Credit Union to help the students understand the importance of budgeting their money.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Chairs: Faith Junghahn & Melvina Croner



Stay safe this holiday season with a smile! Here are some humorous safety tips to keep the festivities fun and safe.

1. Cat-astrophic Christmas Trees

Cats and Christmas trees are a recipe for disaster! If you have a feline friend, secure your tree to prevent it from toppling over when Fluffy decides to climb it. Remember, a cat in a tree is not a holiday decoration!

2. Candle Caution

Never leave a burning candle unattended! Unless you want to recreate a scene from a holiday horror movie. If you must light a candle, make sure it's not near your cat's favorite climbing spot or your uncle's favorite armchair!

3. Tangle-Free Lights

Tangled lights can ruin your holiday spirit! Instead of wrestling with them, wrap your lights around a cardboard cutout. This way, when it's time to pack them up, they'll unravel effortlessly, saving you from a holiday meltdown!

4. Reindeer Safety

Why does Santa always wear a seatbelt in his sleigh? To sleigh safe and sound! Remember, safety first, even when flying through the air with a bunch of reindeer!

5. Gingerbread Goggles

Why did the gingerbread man wear goggles? To protect his cookie eyes from all the holiday sugar! Keep your eyes peeled for sugary treats, but don't forget to enjoy them responsibly!

6. Elf-and-Safety Rules

How do elves avoid injuries in Santa's workshop? They always follow the elf-and-safety rules! So, whether you're decorating or baking, remember to keep safety in mind while having fun!

7. Fireworks and Festivities

Why don't elves play with firecrackers on Christmas Eve? Because it might explode their holiday plans! Keep the fireworks for New Year's and stick to safe celebrations during the holidays.

8. Holiday Food Safety

Watch out for holiday food safety! If you're frying a turkey, make sure to follow all safety guidelines. Remember, a fried turkey is delicious, but a turkey fire is not a holiday treat!

These funny tips not only bring a smile but also remind us to stay safe during the holiday season. Enjoy the festivities while keeping safety in mind!



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Wreaths Across America

December 13th, 2025



Our biggest event for the CSP CE/O is Wreaths Across America. We will pull the wreaths from storage on December 12th, starting at 10:00 AM. We will meet at Modern MetalWorx in Fuquay-Varina. We place wreaths on December 13th at three locations in Fuquay-Varina. Contact Faith with any questions. We need all of your help!

See you there:

Wake Chapel at 9:00 AM

Greenlawn Cemetery 10:30 AM

Bazzel Creek 12:00 PM

Further questions, send a note to Faith Junghahn in Slack.



wreathsacrossamerica.org

Fill the Footlocker Drive

Military Missions in Action



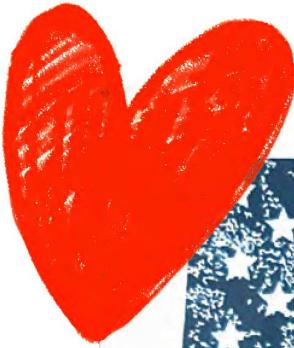
In October, we had a MMIA guest speaker at FV 101, and our club has a wonderful opportunity to make a meaningful difference this season by supporting Military Missions in Action's Fill-the-Footlocker drive.

This initiative provides essential toiletries and food snack items to homeless veterans here in our area and to active duty service members overseas through care packages. By contributing, we can help fill backpacks with dignity and comfort for those who have served, while also sending a touch of home to those currently deployed. Every small donation—whether it's toothpaste, soap, granola bars, or trail mix—adds up to a powerful show of gratitude and support.

To make giving easy, collection boxes will be placed in several convenient locations: at the FVWC clubhouse, at the FV Art Festival, during the art show, and at the Christmas & May Banquets. These events and spaces are natural gathering points for our members, and they provide the perfect chance to drop off items while enjoying fellowship and community. Imagine the impact if each of us brought just a few supplies—together, we could fill footlockers with care and compassion that will reach veterans and service members in real need.

Let's rally around this cause and show that our club stands strong behind those who have worn the uniform. Your generosity will not only provide practical support but also remind our veterans and troops that they are never forgotten. Please consider picking up a few extra toiletries or snacks during your next shopping trip and bringing them to one of the collection sites. With everyone's participation, we can make this Fill-the-Footlocker drive a resounding success.

You will see the Footlocker at the December 9th dinner, and at the January Art Show and we will preset our fill footlocker to MMIA in May.



Fill The Footlocker

Care Packages & Homeless Veteran Support

- | | |
|---|--|
| ◆ Snack Foods /Ready Meals | ◆ Lip Balms |
| ◆ Gum/ Hard Candy | ◆ Sun Block (non-aerosol) |
| ◆ Non-Pork Jerky | ◆ Bug Repellant (non aerosols) |
| ◆ Water Flavoring | ◆ Baby/Foot Powder (non-aerosol) |
| ◆ Trail Mix/Peanuts | ◆ Tampons/Pads/Feminine products |
| ◆ Protein Bars (non-chocolate) | ◆ Razors/Shaving Cream (non-aerosol) |
| ◆ Cookies/ Cracker Packs | ◆ Body Lotions/ Foot Care Creams |
| ◆ Movie Style Candy (boxes) | ◆ Bar Soap/Body Wash |
| ◆ Hot Sauce Packets/Small Plastic Bottles | ◆ Hand Sanitizer |
| ◆ Coffee | ◆ Baby Wipes |
| ◆ Sugar, Sweeteners and Creamer Packets | ◆ Eye Drops |
| ◆ Tuna and Chicken Packets/Cans | ◆ Q-Tips |
| ◆ Fruit Cups | ◆ Combs/Brushes |
| ◆ Pudding Packs | ◆ Travel Tissue Packs |
| ◆ Toothpaste/Toothbrushes | ◆ First Aid Supplies (Moleskins/ Bandaids) |
| ◆ Dental Hygiene Products– Picks/Floss | ◆ Socks |
| ◆ Nail Care Files/ Clippers | ◆ Playing Cards |
| ◆ Deodorant | ◆ Pens/Pencils |
| ◆ Shampoo/Conditioner | ◆ Note Pads/Paper |
| ◆ Dry Shampoos | ◆ Paperback Books/ Magazines |

If your group would like to partner with Military Missions in Action to collect and donate comfort items to our servicemembers and/or our homeless Veteran population, please contact us.

Military Missions In Action

411-B N. Judd Pkwy NE

Fuquay-Varina, N.C. 27526

TAX ID: 26-1379308 | 919-552-1603 | www.MilitaryMissionsInAction.org

MMIA
Tee off For the Troops
Golf Tournament





Arts & Culture

Co-Chairs: Martha Smallwood + Melvina Croner

The January art class is to make a junk journal, see the collage for pictures. Jan 10, 2026, time 1-3pm at the club house. There will be 14 spots at \$5. Please sign up at the next meeting or pay by Venmo, check or cash to Martha. Any questions let me know at smallwood1231@gmail.com.

Art show literature is due at the next meeting, you can hand it to me. If you have any questions on how to do it, please ask.

Venmo @Martha-Smallwood-3



Membership

-Julia Geargan & Linda Goodwin

Please give a warm welcome to our newest members.

Kim Koeller Myra Greene
DeJane Kerr Kim Carlton

They will all be great assets to our awesome club!
Thanks for being so friendly to our visitors, it means a lot when you don't know anyone.

-Julia Geargan

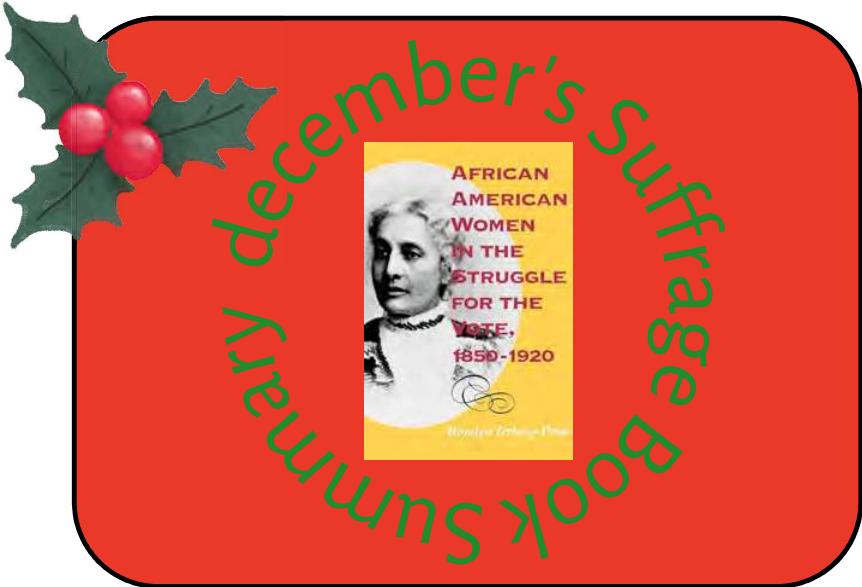
Publication and Communications

Send your pictures and event announcements to Martha at smallwood1231@gmail.com





Co-Chairs: Shirley Simmons &
Barbara Giarelli



African American Women in the Struggle for the Vote, 1850-1920

The author, Rosalyn Terborg-Penn uses original documents to paint a comprehensive picture of the African American Women who fought for the right to vote. Not all African American women suffragists were from elite circles. Terborg-Penn analyzes the women's own stories, represented by working-class and professional women, from all parts of the nation. She observes why they joined and how they participated in the U.S. women's suffrage movement. Some of these women employed radical, others conservative, means to gain the right to vote. Black women, however, were unified in working to use the ballot to improve not only their own status, but the lives of black people in their communities. State governments in the South enacted policies which disfranchised African American women even after the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment. Many white suffragists closed their eyes to these discriminatory acts. The author shows how every political and racial effort to keep Africa American women disfranchised met with their active resistance until black women finally achieved full citizenship. Terborg-Penn quotes Harriet Tubman, "Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

WAKE UP and READ Drive

Remember to begin collecting gently used children's books, preschool through fifth and sixth grade for FVWC's annual WAKE Up and Read drive. Wake Up and Read is a community coalition of various agencies in Wake County committed to ensuring that ALL children across the county read proficiently by the end of 3rd grade. In the last two years the FVWC has contributed nearly 10,000 books. Increasing the number of books in a child's home has a positive impact on their literacy development. So ask family and friends and neighbors to contribute to the drive. Further details and contacts will be provided In January, but start your collections now!!





FUQUAY-VARINA MINI GRANT AWARDS 2025



The Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club is delighted to share the news of the Fuquay-Varina Mini Grant Awards for 2025. On October 30, the Education and Libraries CSP under the leadership of Shirley Simmons, Barbara Giarelli, and Julia McCombs enjoyed presenting the largest number of Mini grant awards in the history of the Program.

Seventeen local schools in the Fuquay-Varina Area were invited to make applications. A total of 49 educators worked to send in projects. The Town awards \$6000 to the recipients and the Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club added \$2,319.34 to this year's fund.

For the 34th year of this program administered by the FVWC, there were a total of 34 awards made. The awards are judged without attention toward schools or levels so that decisions are anonymous. This year's emphasis was on special education and English Language classes with a number on reading programs.

Middle Creek Elementary was the big recipient this year with Fuquay-Varina Middle as second. Awards also went to educators at Ballentine, West Lake Elementary, Fuquay-Varina High, Fuquay-Varina Elementary, Banks Rd, Bowling Road, Herbert Akins Elementary, and Willow Springs.

Much appreciation goes to the administrators of the schools who encouraged the applicants. Principals Caroline Miller and Greg Peckham attended to support their recipients. Cindy DeFoor, Grants Administrator of Wake County Schools, also came in support. Thanks also were given to Mayor Blake Massengill and Vice President FVWC Valerie Seymour who presented the checks.

ESO or any reading members:
See the flyer at the end of the
newsletter for a new
opportunity which connects
with HEIFER International and
other CSP projects as well.
Check it out to see if you want
to record your reading.



Mini Grant Purchase





DECEMBER STRONG WOMAN

December Strong Woman of the Month -- Maureen Scullin

I know you will enjoy reading about this very talented member.
-Amy Massengill

You have been recognized as a strong woman in our community. One that represents leadership, assertiveness, resourcefulness, and integrity. You are "a dash more".

1. What do you feel are some of the characteristics of a strong woman?

A strong woman shows strength and confidence, but never at the cost of others. A confident woman strives to achieve her goals in her career, her family and in her community, she accepts help along the way and pays it forward for the next generation.

2. What is your occupation: i.e. what is your role at (Company)? What are the primary services/products that you represent and what benefits do they offer?

I am currently a full-time fine artist, formerly a marketing, business development professional. My primary products are oil paintings of people, places and pets.

In what ways do you feel your organization contributes to our community?

I believe my greatest contribution is to bring art directly into the community. I use my paintings to raise both awareness and funding local needs. More than that, I help to celebrate and reinforce the importance of art as a catalyst for positive change in our community.

What is your vision for your organization (or business, department, etc.). Are there aspects of this vision that you feel would further contribute to our community?

I would like to help our town become an arts & cultural destination and show others that they can be creative as well.

3. Family — Tell us about your family. What makes you most proud of your family?

My family consists of my husband (of 33 years) and our twin daughters, who are approaching 26 years old. The greatest source of pride is our family's strong foundation built on shared values and mutual support. We maintain an extremely close relationship, and I believe we have successfully instilled great appreciation for the little things in life, which are the most important after all.

4. Volunteer Work - Do you participate in any volunteer work within our community? If so, how? And how does the work of your volunteer organization support communities?

Besides the Women's Club, I volunteer with the Fine Arts League of Cary which supports artists in our region by offering art workshops, exhibits, mentoring and support.

How do you balance work, family, and volunteering?

With our daughters on their own now, I have more time to spend in my studio, which I am so grateful for! To manage everything, I try to organize my time and hoping that it works to get things done. We can only try!



DECEMBER STRONG WOMAN

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I know you will enjoy reading about this very talented member.
-Amy Massengill

5. Hobbies — Do you have any hobbies? If so, what drew you to those hobbies?

My favorite hobbies are cooking and taking care of my plants. I love to try new recipes and really feel that cooking grounds me. It can also be very creative and satisfying if it ends up right! I love being home and painting, cooking and enjoying time with my husband.

6. Inspiration or Mentor

Who do you look up to for inspiration or mentorship?

My greatest inspiration and mentoring came from my father. He was a great influence in my life, both as an artist and as a human being. He taught me so much about my craft, but more importantly, he taught me about business, to treat everyone with respect and kindness. He showed me that I could achieve anything if I worked hard at it. He also taught me to be humble, creative and loving towards others. He wasn't perfect, but neither am I.

What do you feel are the most important attributes of successful leaders (or business/small business owners) today?

The most important attribute for leadership today is to see the needs of their community or their organization and create a commonsense plan that will address and benefit those requirements. A truly great leader gathers the best people and lets them do what they do best. An excellent leader doesn't micromanage; they guide, they know that lifting others up is the greater achievement.

7. What Motivates You?

How do you motivate yourself despite obstacles?

Like so many others, I have faced difficulties that sometimes seemed insurmountable, but I've always tried to learn the lesson that each obstacle is created for me. If you don't learn the lesson, you will keep getting those problems until you get it right. Also trying to see the humor in all things helps too!

What one thing makes you most proud?

My family makes me the proudest. My husband is a wonderful, kind man who has always supported me even when I suggested we move to a brand-new area where we knew no one. We have always worked together to figure things out. Our daughters are wonderful women. They are smart, confident and kind to everyone. They taught us to be better human beings. Our whole world changed for the better the moment that they were born.

Part of growth is taking risks. Can you think of a risk you took that you wished you hadn't? What did you learn from it and how did it motivate you to do things differently?

Some of my biggest risks included quitting my job and starting a company. I developed several marketing programs/platforms that hospitals utilized to create greater awareness of their services. There were moments when I really wasn't sure I knew what I was doing, but I was determined to figure it out. I developed many new systems to handle various programs. It led to having successful business with clients across the nation.



DECEMBER STRONG WOMAN

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-Amy Massengill

Is there a book that you have read that motivated you?

A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving motivated me because it tells a story of how everyone can touch others no matter how tragic their life has been, that if you look hard enough you will see beauty in others. My story, that I take with me always. I once had a work colleague named Dave, that was very difficult to deal with. He didn't get along with others and kept to himself. He once was very nasty to me. I went to my boss to see if he could do something about him. My boss asked me to take one week and see if I could see the value that Dave brought to the company and what was so special about him, I thought this was a ridiculous request, but I admired my boss, so I agreed to the challenge. I made it a point to interact with Dave a little more each day. I learned from someone that knew him that he came from a horrible family and that he had a very rough childhood. He was also a genius and was solving our company's development program at warp speed. At the end of the week, I had greater appreciation for Dave and he seemed to be opening up a bit to me. By the time I left the company, Dave hugged me and said that he would miss me. I was overwhelmed. This situation taught me a valuable lesson; try to get beyond the façade and see if you can really see the value in every human being.

Health & Wellness



-Barb Rickard & Susan Stanley
Becki Randolph, Sub-Chair

It was a very busy month for our committee!

The Health & Wellness Committee, in conjunction with the American Legion Post 116, supplied new sweatshirts and socks to be delivered to our state's veterans through the Garner VA and Fayetteville VA.

Our Committee also purchased, assembled and provided 'Mommy' and 'Daddy' bags to be distributed to new parents through the Hands of Hope Pregnancy Center.

In anticipation of the holiday season, our Committee was able to 'adopt' 3 children through the Blessingway organization. We purchased all gifts requested by the children, as well as providing gift cards to the Grandmother/caregiver of the children. Our Committee spent a lovely afternoon wrapping these great gifts while enjoying a Friendsgivingcelebration.

Our ongoing projects include bingo at both the Homes for the Elderly (2nd Tuesday of each month) and at Pine Acres Community Center (2nd Thursday of each month). If you have any interest in assisting with these, please contact us.

Additionally, this past month we were able to supply bingo prizes to the Black River Village Apartments in Angier. This is a community similar to the Homes for the Elderly.

November also came in with an emergency request from the Backpack Buddies coordinator. Within 3 days of this request, our Committee was able to donate food to support this wonderful program.

Keep those shoes coming. We are still collecting used, new, single, or pairs of shoes/sneakers/boots/sandals....

Soles4Souls will either distribute them or recycle them for other purposes (i.e. playground filling). Let's keep these out of the landfills

News & Happenings



Health & Wellness Holiday "Working Luncheon"



Backpack Buddies, Health & Wellness



Calyx Memory Care



Health & Wellness, with the American Legion, delivering food to 5 schools this year, serving roughly 150+ children with food insecurities.

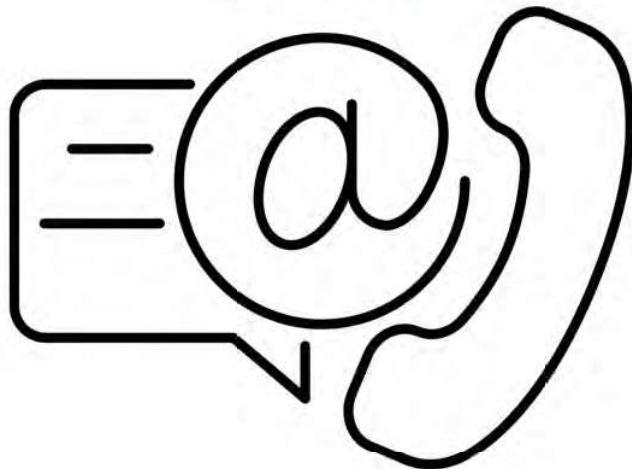
Wake Forest Woman's Club Holiday Tea Fundraiser



Health & Wellness

FVWC Officer

Contacts



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HEIFER, INTERNATIONAL – GFWC ESO CHALLENGE



Beanstack GFWC Guide- How to Set Up Your Account and Log Reading

Welcome to Heifer's *Read to Feed* Beanstack website.

Beanstack is a web-based reading challenge software and GFWC and Heifer International have partnered with them to make it a little more fun to read! With this site, you can track your reading minutes, write book reviews, and participate in fun activities to earn digital streaks and badges!



Download the **FREE** app from your favorite app store.

How do I sign up?

Go to our Beanstack website: heifer.beanstack.org.

Choose:

1. GFWC Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) Challenge 25-26
2. Create an account by selecting 'I am registering myself'.
3. "No" to previously using Beanstack
4. Fill out the areas of the form that have a red star.
5. Enter age because you must be over 18
6. For your library input: 2025-2026 GFWC
7. For teacher, input: Not applicable
8. Click next
9. Select Register

GFWC - Epsilon Sigma Omicron Challenge 2024-2026
Jul 1, 2024 - Jun 30, 2026
Minutes Activities Age: 19 - 107

Description
Embrace your passion for reading while learning more about Heifer International. Log your reading and complete the activities in your Beanstack App or on the web. Collect badges and finish activities while you learn about Heifer and how to help people around the world. Happy reading!

Sign In Create an Account

Heifer's Read to Feed Secondary School Challenge 25-26
Jul 1, 2025 - Jun 30, 2026

Register



You earned your first badge!!!
You are now signed up and can begin logging your reading.

FV Woman's Club Monthly Budget	11/01- 11/26/2025	
BEGINNING BALANCE IN GENERAL FUND		\$16,292.0 5
INCOME TO GENERAL FUND (funded by fundraisers)/donations)		
Suffrage monument		\$31.98
UNICEF		\$625.00
From Art CSP Fund raiser for Cennennial quilt		\$93.92
TOTAL GENERAL FUND INCOME		<u>\$750.90</u>
		\$17,042.9 5
EXPENDITDURES TO GEN FUND		
Arts- embroidery for Centennial quilt		\$60.00
H&W gifts for family Christmas		\$218.27
H&W BPB		\$87.21
H&W Elferly		\$296.02
H&W Hand of Hope		\$134.38
FV Food Pantry		\$500.00
NC Zoo		\$50.00
H&W gifts for family Christmas		\$81.95
		<u>-\$1,427.83</u>
		\$15,615.1 2
BEGINNING BALANCE IN CLUBHOUSE		\$5,335.70
E. Chiodo 2/7/26		\$100.00
C Griffin Mar 6 & & 2026 cash		\$200.00
FV Garden Club Oct		\$100.00
C Powell 12/7		\$100.00
M McMillian 12/28,1/24,2/28,3/28		\$400.00
INCOME TO CLUBHOUSE		<u>\$900.00</u>
		\$6,235.70
EXPENDITURES TO CLUBHOUSE		
Tammy Horton cleaning sept		
Southern Gutters		\$2,000.00
Duke Nov		
Dominion Gas 11/4		\$18.73
T of FV - Nov		
		<u>-\$2,018.73</u>
TOTAL FUNDS IN CLUBHOUSE		\$4,216.97
BALANCE IN OPERATING funded by club dues		\$9,318.49
INCOME TO OPERATING		
dues		\$240.00
Christmas Social		\$1,200.00
		<u>\$1,440.00</u>

TOTAL TO OPERATING INCOME	\$10,758.4
	9

EXPENDITURES TO OPERATING

Am legion hut rental & cleaning	\$312.50
Holiday soical supplies	\$32.00
Memorial - Susan Stanley Sister	\$25.00
	<u>-\$369.50</u>
	\$10,388.9
	9

General Funds	\$15,615.12
Club House	\$4,216.97
Federation / Operation	\$10,388.99
FV Town Tech Scholarship-NC Community Foundation	\$7,000.00
Memorials -	\$50.00
CIP	\$316.50
Art CSP Fund raiser	<u>\$261.43</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	\$37,849.01

10/31/25 money market ...\$7146.24

Duke - Foundation (\$1463.88)

Year to Date Spend

FVWC budget 2025-2025	Approved:9/8/25	Budget	6/25-12/25	2026 End
General Fund (funded by fundraisers/donations)				budget
Beginning Cash Balance from June 1, 2024	\$27,071.80	\$27,071.80	\$27,071.80	
Christmas tour	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 112.54	\$ 112.54	
Christmas tour expenses (flowers, food, printing, decorations)	\$ (800.00)	\$ (372.63)	\$ (372.63)	
Cookbooks & stockings	\$ 50.00			\$ -
Daddy Ds & Papa Murphy	\$ 300.00			\$ -
FV Tech Scholarships - NC foundation/ T of FV money (transferred)	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	
May Golf Silent auction, bev tips, lunch, 50/50	\$ 5,500.00			\$ -
2025 Golf tournament sponsor & team	\$ 3,510.00	\$ 3,510.00	\$ 3,510.00	
May Golf tournament sponsors	\$18,000.00			\$ -
May Golf tournament teams	\$12,500.00			\$ -
FV JR Arts Festival	\$ 100.00			\$ -
Centennial Quilt (use Art Quilt Fundraiser up to \$355.35)		\$ 93.92	\$ 93.92	
Out of Darkness walk - members		\$ 95.00	\$ 95.00	
Suffrage monument		\$ 230.20	\$ 230.20	
UNICEF	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 625.00	
Income from Fundraisers/donations	<u>\$57,160.00</u>	<u>\$12,294.03</u>	<u>\$12,294.03</u>	
Total earned Income (begin cash + fundraisers +donations)	\$84,231.80	\$39,365.83	\$39,365.83	

Program Expenses (funded by fundraisers/donations):			
Arts & Culture (\$1900 budget with Jr donation)	\$ 1,185.00		
Art Festival Best in Show	\$ 25.00		\$ -
Art festival teacher packages	\$ 90.00		\$ -
Arts festival copying & supplies (ribbons, certificates)	\$ 200.00	\$ 121.96	\$ 121.96
Misc	\$ 300.00		\$ -
Junior donation	\$ 100.00		\$ -
Centennial Quilt (use Art Quilt Fundraiser up to \$355.35)		\$ 93.92	\$ 93.92
	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 215.88	\$ 215.88
Environmental (\$1300 budget)			
Smith Family Goat Sanctuary	\$ 500.00		\$ -
Speaker - April meeting,	\$ 50.00		\$ -
NCSU Vet school- Turtle Rescue	\$ 100.00		\$ -
Animal Edventures Coats	\$ 50.00		\$ -
UNICEF (from members)	\$ 50.00		\$ -
Yates Mill	\$ 100.00		\$ -
Mosquito Bucket Challenge	\$ 100.00		\$ -
Beach Bluff Park	\$ 50.00		\$ -
Misc	\$ 300.00	\$ 12.07	\$ 12.07
	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 12.07	\$ 12.07
Education & Libraries: \$1975 budget			
Baby's First Book (Hand of Hope)	\$ 200.00		
FVES PTA Coupon funds (student recognition)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Library Feb event	\$ 100.00		\$ -
Library Worker's Day	\$ 125.00		
Library whirligigs	\$ 100.00		\$ -
Library CIP Serenity Garden (use CIP \$\$)	\$ 316.50		
Jumpstart (read for record)	\$ 250.00		\$ -
Mini Grant Recipients Bags	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Sally Southhall Cotton scholarship-	\$ 100.00		\$ -
Suffrage books for FVWC library	\$ 200.00	\$ 151.23	\$ 151.23
WHOA high school hygiene supplies (FVHS, FVMS, WSS)	\$ 200.00		\$ -
Wake up & read	\$ 100.00		
Misc/Mini Grants	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,332.81	\$ 2,332.81
	\$ 4,291.50	\$ 2,734.04	\$ 2,734.04
Health & Wellness: \$3000 budget			
Wellness (elderly, youth, cancer, food insecurity)	\$ 2,700.00		
Hand of Hope		\$ 34.38	\$ 34.38
kids-books, crayons		\$ 88.34	\$ 88.34
Family for Christmas		\$ 397.63	\$ 397.63
Elderly/kids			\$ -
Misc	\$ 300.00		\$ -

	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 520.35	\$ 520.35
Civic Engagement & Outreach: \$ 3405 budget (+\$700 from Am Legion for wreaths)			
Arts Center Black History Celebration (food/scholarship)	\$ 200.00		\$ -
Designed for Joy gift card /recognition	\$ 100.00		\$ -
Boys & Girls Home	\$ 100.00		\$ -
FV101	\$ 225.00	\$ 15.42	\$ 15.42
FD/PD 911 recognition /gift cards	\$ 800.00	\$ 258.11	\$ 258.11
FV Employee of year (gift 100/painting 150)	\$ 250.00		\$ -
FV Fire Dept car seats	\$ 1,000.00		\$ -
Speaker	\$ 120.00		\$ -
Strong Woman of month	\$ 225.00		\$ -
Wreaths across American (700 from Am Legion)	\$ 250.00		\$ -
Misc	\$ 300.00		\$ -
	\$ 3,570.00	\$ 273.53	\$ 273.53
Total for CSP requested funds	\$14,061.50	\$ 3,755.87	\$ 3,755.87
Standing designated club donations (standing donations)			
BackPack Buddies	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 87.21	\$ 87.21
Boys & Girls Home Lake Waccamaw	\$ 50.00		\$ -
Out of Darkness Walk (members 95)	\$ 100.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 195.00
CCW sponsorship (fall 2025)	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Elderly Home bingo / Christmas/ Easter	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 412.63	\$ 412.63
FACES	\$ 500.00		\$ -
FV Downtown Revitalization for en plien air	\$ 250.00		\$ -
FV Food Pantry	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
FV Growers Market - Senior citizen day (May 2026)	\$ 500.00		\$ -
FV Museums	\$ 250.00		\$ -
FV Tech Scholarships (T of FV money)(Transferred)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
FV Tech SS \$ moved to FV Tech SS fund		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
FVWC SSC Scholarship	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Hand of Hope Pregnancy	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
HOBY -FVHS	\$ 295.00		\$ -
HOBY-Harnett	\$ 295.00		\$ -
HOBY -WSHS	\$ 295.00		\$ -
Military Missions in action	\$ 500.00		\$ -
NC Zoo	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
OP Smile	\$ 240.00		\$ -
Prizes Art (used Judges, best in show, D6 fees)	\$ 250.00		
Standing designated club donations from Golf proceeds			
Golf tournament expenses (Bentwinds fees, food, gift bags, printing)	\$13,000.00		\$ -
Charities (from Golf proceeds) 2025			
GFWC-NC President Spec Project-Suffrage Monument	\$ 1,000.00		\$ -

Meals on Wheels	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
SPCA of Wake CO	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
INTERACT	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
SAFE House - Harnett Co	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Designed for Joy	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Dementia Alliance of NC	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Alzheimer's Assoc (GFWC partner)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Cancer Reaerch (Kay Yow)	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Cancer Reaerch (St Jude)	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Total from 2025 Golf Proceeds	\$ 9,500.00		
Charities TBD (from Golf proceeds) 2026	\$ 9,000.00		
Designated donations required for Honor club			
Corporate Champions for Women & Children	\$ 25.00	\$ -	
GFWCNC arts fund	\$ 25.00	\$ -	
GFWCNC Legacy (provides services) designated club donation required Honor Club)	\$ 50.00	\$ -	
NC General Trust/Supplements Op Fund	\$ 25.00	\$ -	
Sally Southhall Cotton scholarship	\$ 25.00	\$ -	
	\$55,975.00	\$19,994.84	\$19,994.84
Total departmental expenses	\$70,036.50	\$23,750.71	\$23,750.71
Estimated General Fund Balance (Income - expenses)	\$14,195.30	\$15,615.12	\$15,615.12
Operating starting balance (funded by club dues)			
Operating Income:	\$ 7,677.48	\$ 7,677.48	\$ 7,677.48
Dues (Asso @ \$90, life @\$30, @\$80) (25-26 80 members)	\$ 6,208.00	\$ 2,584.00	\$ 2,584.00
Nametag		\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
void check #3569 for convention expenses		\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Leadership registration fee for meetings-member donation		\$ 21.00	\$ 21.00
Christmas social		\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Member TY		\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
	\$13,885.48	\$11,567.48	\$11,567.48
Operating Expenses (funded by club dues) -			
Federation Dues (\$50 State except 5 life members, \$15 GFWC) (2025-80 members)	\$ 3,750.00	\$ -	
D6 Dues (\$4 per member & \$25 club fee) 80 members	\$ 345.00	\$ -	
Centennial Party	\$ 1,500.00		
FV Chamber of Commerce (designated club donation)	\$ 140.00	\$ -	
CPA	\$ 500.00		
Corresponding Sec	\$ 50.00		
Encouragement gifts /wards	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
Board of Directors liability insurance (NEW)	\$ 227.00	\$ 227.00	\$ 227.00
Leadership registration fee for meetings supplement by Duke \$)	\$ 1,846.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00
Jr-Gen connect socials (\$300 deposit paid in April)	\$ 200.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00

Marketing items (tent, banner, flag)	\$ 400.00		\$ -
Membership committee (cookbooks/nametags/pins)	\$ 450.00		\$ -
Memorials	\$ 200.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
News Letter / website/Scrap Book/ yearbooks (increased)	\$ 150.00	\$ 131.99	\$ 131.99
Office Supplies - postage for reports /printing/bank checks	\$ 150.00		\$ -
Social committee (Christmas/May social)	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 644.50	\$ 644.50
Misc.	\$ 200.00		\$ -
Total Operating expenses	\$11,708.00	\$ 1,178.49	\$ 1,178.49
Estimated Operating Balance (Ops Income - Op expenses)	\$ 2,177.48		\$10,388.99
Clubhouse Fund			
Balance In Clubhouse	\$10,188.79	\$10,188.79	\$10,188.79
Estimated rent (increased)	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Total Clubhouse Income	\$17,188.79	\$13,188.79	\$13,188.79
Estimated Clubhouse expenses			
CH / Grounds Maintenance/cleaning supplies/mowing	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 666.89	\$ 666.89
Gutters/Vapor Barrier	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Deep cleaning rugs		\$ 1,174.39	\$ 1,174.39
Deep cleaning	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Décor upgrade (curtains, pillows, décor)	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,292.15	\$ 1,292.15
Advanced Q Inspection-Air sampling		\$ 375.00	\$ 375.00
CH cleaning (\$60/month)	\$ 720.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00
Grant research fee	\$ 250.00		
Grant writing (\$60/hr., 10 hr. estimate, 3 grants)	\$ 1,800.00		
Utilities (water, gas, electricity)	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 915.39	\$ 915.39
Taxes (except from property taxes)(waste fee)	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
Insurance (decreased 2025)	\$ 2,098.00	\$ 2,098.00	\$ 2,098.00
Total estimated Clubhouse expenses	\$13,788.00	\$ 8,971.82	\$ 8,971.82
Current balance in CH (CH income-expenses)	\$ 3,400.79	\$ 4,216.97	\$ 4,216.97
Other club fund balances			
FV Town Tech Scholarship (\$7000 remaining)	\$ 7,000.00		
Memorials	\$ 50.00		
CIP (Community Improvement Project),move to Ed	\$ 316.50		
Art Dept Fund Raise (move to Arts for quilt)	\$ 261.43		
Duke donation -- future operating exp) (\$1463.88)	\$ 1,463.88		
10/31/25 money market ...\$7146.24			

D6 fall meeting (Arts 2027)- for future budgeting