



SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER

**Never has support for our community
been more vital. Thank you.**

The Coronavirus has created hardships for many. To protect each other, our club has canceled events and conducted virtual meetings. But while we follow social distancing guidelines, we have also managed to continue connecting with our community in meaningful ways. A letter was sent to all neighbors, offering help so the most vulnerable among us don't take unnecessary risks. We've delivered lunch to Rising Hope (see below) and voted to distribute \$5225 in funds intended for canceled social activities to Feed The Fight, United Community, the Penn Daw Fire Station and the Animal Shelter League.

Parties/Events

- Wintertini @ Ann and Tom Scully's home
Co-Chaired by Karen Harriman and Cate Hinko
- St. Patrick's Day Parade at Willard Circle
Co-Chaired by Michele Gibbons

Cultural Events

- Co-Chaired by Alison Christmas and Betsy Regnell
 - National Gallery of Art Tour

Community Outreach

- Peggy Baucom and Margie Griffith
 - Speaker – Alison DeCoursey, Director of United Community
 - Lunch for 40 delivered to Rising Hope food pantry

Can we help you? If you need help with grocery shopping or pharmacy pick-ups, we have members standing by. Please email jkgess@yahoo.com and we will respond ASAP.

Virtual Membership Meeting to vote on our 2020-21 Board of Directors. On Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 7:00pm, dial in to this meeting that's open to the entire paid membership. RSVP to Kim Gess at jkgess@yahoo.com and dial-in instructions will follow.

Connect easier than ever on our BHWC website and Facebook page.

During this time of quarantine, we're all spending more time online. Connect with neighbors and friends by visiting www.bellehavenwomensclub.com. You only need a password (bhwc22307) to access the directory. Check out our Facebook page to enjoy pictures from all Winter events.

Kim Gess
President

Lisa Lawrence
Vice-President

2020 SPRING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2020

All events canceled due to Covid-19 virus

May 2020

Thursday, May 7
7:00pm

BHWC Virtual Membership Meeting
RSVP to Kim Gess at jkgess@yahoo.com.
Dial-in instructions will follow.

Thank You Note

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to the doctors, nurses and volunteers whose courage and commitment are making the difference for patients, families and community members.

Garden Club

Our tours of gardens this past spring have been cancelled due to social distancing, but we have been able to garden in our own gardens, and through classes given on-line by the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia. You can go to their website (<https://mgnv.org/public-education-events/vce-horticulture-programs-registration>) to see what courses are being offered and to obtain links to on-line classes.

Garden Club President Eleni Silverman has also been providing gardening tips on spring garden chores, and tackling the weeds and garden predators that have been out so far this year. You can find these on the Garden Club website (www.bellehavengardenclub.com) or email her at elenisilverman@gmail.com to be placed on the Garden Club mailing list.

We are hoping to have a final meeting on June 16th at the home of Eleni Silverman whose deck should be able to accommodate members while observing social distancing. If we can meet, we will discuss the current state of our gardens, any helpful tips on gardening these days, and next year's tours and speakers.

Garden Club President Eleni Silverman and Vice President Janet Forsgren hope that you are all well, and able to get some respite by working outside in all this fresh air. One good thing about the need to stay home is that the air is now much cleaner and clearer, and our Belle Haven gardens have become lush spaces to get outside.

Community Outreach

Alison DeCoursey, Director of United Community, spoke at BHCC on Tuesday, February 11. On Saturday, March 7, at our annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, we collected non-perishable food for United Community. We thank the entire neighborhood in advance for continuing to enthusiastically support this endeavor through the years.

Cultural Events

National Gallery of Art's West Wing. Jennifer Jacobs, a neighbor, member and NGA docent with more than 20 years of museum experience, led our private tour of the Dutch galleries. The tour included predominantly portraits, genre, landscapes and seascapes from 17th century Dutch life. Known as the Golden Age, this gilded period in art produced some of the finest oil paintings in the world. Highlights and artists will include Rembrandt, Vermeer, Frans Hals and Aelbert Cuyp.

Young Members

The Belle Haven Young Members group collected over 2,500 diapers for the Campagna Center in March. We hope to continue this tradition next year. Thank you to all of those who donated money and diapers to support this community outreach project.

Records and Archives News

BHWC has an incredible history with a devoted community. An illustrated book, *The Belle Haven Women's Club: A Social History of the Community*, is available for purchase for \$10. Contact Kim Gess at jkgess@yahoo.com if you are interested in purchasing this keepsake.