



League Line

Marietta Welfare League established in 1926

Special Issue - COVID 19

mariettawelfareleague.org

Summer 2020

World pandemic affects us all *The League maintains community connections*

Community access to food was (and still is) of great concern to our group, especially the most vulnerable populations: seniors and children. The League did something about it.

As soon as we closed The Shop in March, we realized that our local IGA would be hit by our sudden lack of weekly shopping for milk and other foods. We also thought that local seniors were going to be affected by all of the changes and stay-at-home orders. In an effort to help both, the board voted to buy 25 \$40 **IGA gift cards** (\$1000) to be handed out to senior shoppers. The Manager, Mike Morrison, was able to help us by randomly giving out the cards during the store's senior (early) shopping hours. Each time a customer was given one, he told them it was paid for my Marietta Welfare League. We heard back from a few of those senior shoppers and all were so thankful!

MWL also donated \$1000 to local restaurant, **Joe Momma's Kitchen** and their senior meals program.



JMK owners Sara and Eric Sauls created and delivered meals to seniors in need for weeks during the initial quarantine period. (You may have heard their story mentioned in Gov. DeWine's televised updates earlier this year.) Two hundred (200) people in Washington County were able to have a free meal from our donation. Many local people and businesses donated to this project and *overall 7,680 meals* were delivered to seniors... All at no cost to them!! Check out

our member involvement stories to see who helped deliver too.

GoPacks is a program spreading through Marietta City Schools that feeds children in need. MWL donated \$1000 to this program to buy food distributed to Washington County kids!

We are proud to have been even a small part of these programs. We are even prouder to be a part of a community where so many people all over the area stepped up and helped... and are still helping.

Members and friends to help Shoe Tag Fund

Fall Auction Cancelled, Need is Still Great

The annual Fall Auction has been cancelled for 2020. As most of you know, normally the money raised at the annual event goes to fund The Shoe Tag program. This program has been around since 1938 and allows Washington County children the ability to get new shoes. Currently Shoe Tag vouchers have a \$35 value each. Last year, we helped nearly 600 children!

Without an auction event to gather supporters this year, the committee has decided to try a direct approach by asking those people who would have normally

attended the social night to donate directly to The Fund. Active League members are encouraged to ask 10 people for \$35 or more, in addition to their regular annual

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Marietta Welfare League
Shoe Tag Fund
P.O. Box 525
Marietta, OH 45750





The Shop is NOW OPEN!

On Saturday, March 14th, Marietta Memorial announced that due to COVID-19 no visitors would be allowed in the hospital. On March 16th, The MWL Board voted to temporarily close The League Shop. Concern for the health and welfare of our volunteers and employees played heavily on the decision to close, as did weighing state and local regulations.

On June 15, we reopened The Shop. The hospital installed shields (pictured on the right) between the customers and the register area. The local health department gave us the limit of 4 customers and 3 employees in The Shop space at one time. We have instituted a mask policy for all people in our shop (customers and employees alike). Currently, we are not having any volunteers work behind the counter. Volunteers are still shopping at Sam's Club and IGA, as well as working on gifts and other behind the scenes activities.

We initially reopened with shorter hours and are reevaluating our schedules and offerings as time goes on.

As of July 28, 2020 The League Shop hours

Monday – Thursday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sunday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

(We are hoping to extend evening hours soon, please watch our FB/IG and website for updates.)

mariettawelfareleague.org



@mariettawelfareleague
#drinkcoffeeanddogood
#fundingchange



ALL The League Shop customers and staff are to WEAR A MASK.



Thank you.

News & Updates



While we were closed:

During The Shop closure our group was still very active. The Board met via Zoom multiple times, constantly evaluating how and when we could open back up safely.

The Board voted to **pay our employees** an average of their paychecks for two pay periods after the initial closure. At the end of this time, the new and expanded state unemployment guidelines had been issued and the board voted to furlough our employees and help them apply for the special government unemployment assistance. We also sent out **two rounds of grocery gift cards** to help employees, offered assistance with paperwork, and maintained connections.

Our commitment to Memorial Health System: The Memorial Health Foundation reached out to us to help purchase a **CEPHEID Molecular Lab Module and 1BS-2 Hood**. This critically important equipment allows COVID-19 tests to be processed right here in Washington County. Instead of 5-7 days, test results can be achieved in 45 minutes! On top of that, this equipment can be used for 8-10 other tests including the BRCA genetic testing helpful in Breast Cancer diagnosis.

This major issue was taken to our general membership for an online vote in mid April. The group voted to give \$10,000 to this urgent cause.

Susan Strauss took charge of an effort to show our support and appreciation for the Nursing Staff at MMH. On May 6 (during Nurse Appreciation Week), The League donated pizzas to both day and night shifts. Working with three different restaurants and MMH Volunteer Services, **110 hot pizzas** were delivered to deserving and grateful nurses.

Member News!

League members doing great things during this unprecedented time!

Our members have been balancing work and home life in drastically different ways than before. Many have turned their homes into classrooms for online schooling or transitioned dining room tables into work offices and virtual meeting hubs. Some have taken on the task of grocery shopping for neighbors or other families. Members have contributed to stimulate the economy by ordering takeout from local restaurants (and started to return to the dining rooms lately). Some donated funds to the MOV Tip Jar to help offset the loss of wages for local wait staff and bartenders. Each and every one of us has been doing our very best. (Even if that means calling friends and loved ones on the phone or via FaceTime instead of seeing them in person. Or sharing a good news post on social media or just turning OFF the onslaught of constant news to relax and simply be.)

Natalie Mack volunteered and delivered meals from



Joe Momma's Kitchen to seniors in Washington County. Evy Bryant and her husband got involved with a food pantry near her winter Florida home. Mindi Line has been reviewing our organization's Constitutions and Bylaws to be sure we are doing everything we can to stay effective, legal, and modern in all types of situations.

Many of our members have stepped up to help all over the area. Susan Strauss, Pat Bateman, and Melanie Schneider have been sewing masks since the beginning - hundreds of masks!! Sustainers, like Debbie Mincks, have been putting sewing machines to work as well. If you or someone you know has been sewing, tell us about it! Tons of League members are known for amazing sewing skills...but we can't talk about it if we don't know you are doing it!! The ladies mentioned above never shouted from the rooftops, but we found out and we wanted to share some GOOD news.

How are YOU coping with the ups and downs of 2020? LET US KNOW! Send us an email mwleague@gmail.com. Visit us on Instagram and leave a comment. POST a picture on Facebook. We LOVE hearing from YOU!!

Welfare League Lifetime Members

Mary Lou Atkinson

Carol Bergen

Sandra Blair

Tonya Booth

Kay Callihan

Kay Caltrider

Jane Combs

Janet Cranston

Judy Deering

Shelley Elliott

Susan Feil

Betty Fleming

Peggy Forbes

Sharon Gegner

Martha Guinn

Penny Hall

Sheila Lankford

Becky Mallett

Brenda Matthews

Nancy McCartney

Elizabeth Mendicino

Amy Mitchem

Jo Powell

Barb Rankin

Janine Satterfield

Edith Seiffert

Jan Sheridan

JoAnn Stowe

Pat Thrash

Holly Watson

Jane Watson

Phyllis Wells

Joyce Williams

We truly THANK these ladies for their continued support of The League and our mission. Lifetime memberships are open to any person that has completed her ten years of service in League. If you are interested in becoming a Lifetime Member, please contact our General Treasurer Angie Huck.



In Memoriam

With great sadness, we remember amazing women who served the community so well. Their legacies will live on in their families and our work throughout Washington County.

Ilene Barengo

Feb. 2, 1933 - Feb. 26, 2020

Anne Jacoby

June 24, 1943 - June 26, 2020





Music in the Park Cancelled. 2021 already in the works

Music in the Park Chairperson, Evy Bryant, loves coordinating the annual summer concert series. She works with regional performers to set up the schedules many *months* in advance. Promotional materials are printed early to get people excited about our summer. (They were created even earlier for 2020, as the Strecker Fashion Show was moved up two months to March.) So, you can bet it was a tough decision to cancel MITP this year.

It started slowly...with many discussions with the local health department, city officials, and the bands themselves. We waited as long as we could. June's acts were cancelled in May. As of June 1, any gatherings with more than 10 people were strictly prohibited. So, with that (and more calls to the bands who would be affected) July was cancelled. Finally, as more conversations with local officials tend to err on the side of caution and two of August's acts being school groups with unknown future practice times and with massive concert attendance...the entire season was scrapped.

It wasn't a fun decision, but it was the best choice. We appreciate everyone's passion about our annual concert series. We hope that passion this year turns into attendance in 2021! MITP will be back!

If you or someone you know is interested in performing in 2021, please send an email to Evy at evybryant@yahoo.com.

A note from our President

Friends and members,

Please know that in these difficult times The League is here to not only support our community, but each member and sustainer as well.

Keep in touch with each other and don't hesitate to call any member for help, advice or just to chat! I hope to see you all soon...stay safe! - *Ann Corbett*



Our general email address:
mwleague@gmail.com

Ann's email:
acorbett713@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary is Pat Bateman:
pcbateman@hotmail.com Full membership directory (with phone numbers) is in the member handbook. If you need an update, let Pat know. *Reach out!*

WELCOME New Members!!

Even during these strange times, people are HELPING and JOINING US as we work for Washington County.

**Pam Stephanik and Lura Wilcoxon
have joined The League.**

We are SO HAPPY to have them and look forward to working with them! Stay tuned for more about our newest members in a coming newsletter.

SHOE TAGS, continued

donation. Our Sustaining members already know the value of The Shoe Tag Fund and are also asked to contribute.

We know that this global pandemic has hit local families and businesses very hard. The need for shoes is great. We also realize that the businesses that have generously supported us in the past may not be as able to do so this year. It is a tough balance to make, but we are confident that this year's direct campaign with help to *Put Shoes on Kids' Feet!* Any and all dollars collected will make an impact.

Shoe Tag Chairwoman Pat Bateman and Vice President Susan Strauss are spearheading this campaign. They and the entire group truly appreciate your support! If you have questions or would like to make a contribution, please email us mwleague@gmail.com or mail a check made out to "Marietta Welfare League" subject line: Shoe Tags to P.O. Box 525, Marietta, Ohio 45750. Please submit your generous donation before November 15, 2020. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you!

The Fall Luncheon has been CANCELLED. Dues are still due.

We hope to be back at the luncheon table with all of you in the Spring of 2021!! Until then, please remember Membership dues are still due in October and may be mailed directly to P.O. Box 525, Marietta, Ohio 45750.

**Active member dues are \$25/year.
Sustaining member dues are \$15/year.**

A Lifetime membership is open to those ladies who have completed ten years of service in League. Lifetime dues are a one-time \$200.