March 2020

Dear GCC Members and Friends,

These are not normal times, but the Gulf Coast Chapter will continue to do our small part to help members and women around the globe.

Need help or want to lend a hand?
If anyone needs assistance or is particularly vulnerable, please contact us! Need a grocery delivery? Dog walk? Telephone tech support for all the new online activities that are cropping up? Email gulfcoast@unwomenusa.org or call 941-400-8174. I'm sure that one of our members would be able to help.

Home? Check Out Our Now VIRTUAL Book Club:
If the library is closed for our regular Book Club meeting, we'll go virtual! If you're familiar with the online platform Zoom,
we'll go virtual! If you're familiar with the online platform Zoom, great. If not, we'll be providing a short tutorial. Leita Kaldi Davis will still lead the group, and you'll all be able to see and hear each other, ask questions, and enjoy a little literary conversation.

April's book: *A Door in the Earth*, by Amy Waldman, is available on Kindle or on iBooks for those with iPads, and the local Bookstore is arranging car drop-offs for those who prefer paper books. Book Club is open to all - no sign-up or membership required. Watch for an email with the link. Next meeting is Monday, April 13th, 2:30 - 4 PM.

Through Women's Eyes International Film Festival: We had a phenomenal film festival in early March, with new locations, programs, and a record number of filmmakers in attendance.

Did you love any films in particular? Or perhaps you missed one or two? Good news: We're working to provide free access to some of our films, online, for you to share with friends or watch again. Stay tuned for an email with all the details.

We're also fast-forwarding our Through Women's Eyes 2021 plans to take submissions earlier. We know many filmmakers are in the editing stage and would welcome an opportunity to be considered now. This means our screeners who are at home more than normal can help us out for Through Women's Eyes 2021. Would you like to be a screener? It's easy and fun. Email debbievaletwe@gmail.com to get more information.

The Important Work of UN Women: We often talk about how women suffer disproportionately during times of national disaster, such as with the current pandemic. We know women are the vast majority of health workers and caregivers. We know women must be actively involved in
We know women must be actively involved in response plans and solutions. UN Women is working with governments NOW to make sure women are considered as crisis response decisions are being made. To read more, see UN Women's statement of March 20 here.

GCC Chapter Meeting:
We're looking at scheduling a virtual GCC chapter meeting in early April. This would be using the online Zoom conference service and be a great chance for us to check in and update everyone on our plans for the next season.

Please rely on the medical and safety advice of trusted sources such as the CDC and WHO.

Be well,

Scott Osborne
UN Women USA Gulf Coast Chapter President
GCC 2019-2020 SEASON

Events at GCC WEBSITE

Saturday, October 17, 2020
"Women and the Environment"
Issue-oriented Fall Lunch
Sarasota Yacht Club

Saturday, February 6, 2021
Walk With Us
Payne Park

March 5-7, 2021
22nd Annual Through Women's Eyes International Film Festival
Gulf Coast Chapter Book Club
This active book club meets every second Monday at the Sarasota North County Library from 2:30 to 4 p.m. For more information, contact Leita Kaldi Davis, Lkaldi@hotmail.com.

About Your Donations
UN WOMEN is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.

UN Women supports global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programs and services needed to implement these standards.

UN Women stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on five priority areas:

- increasing women's leadership and participation
- ending violence against women
- engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes
- enhancing women's economic empowerment
- making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting

Your Gulf Coast Chapter

For more information, click here:
Gulf Coast Chapter Website

Interested in becoming a member of or participating in the local work of the Gulf Coast Chapter?

For membership, contact Cathy Berna at 941-923-1050 cadberna@msn.com

Please SHARE this newsletter! BUT DO NOT JUST FORWARD THIS EMAIL!
To share: Copy and Paste into a new email. Then send!
For more information about Gulf Coast Chapter activities and opportunities to get involved go to: www.unwomen-usnc.org/gccaboutus