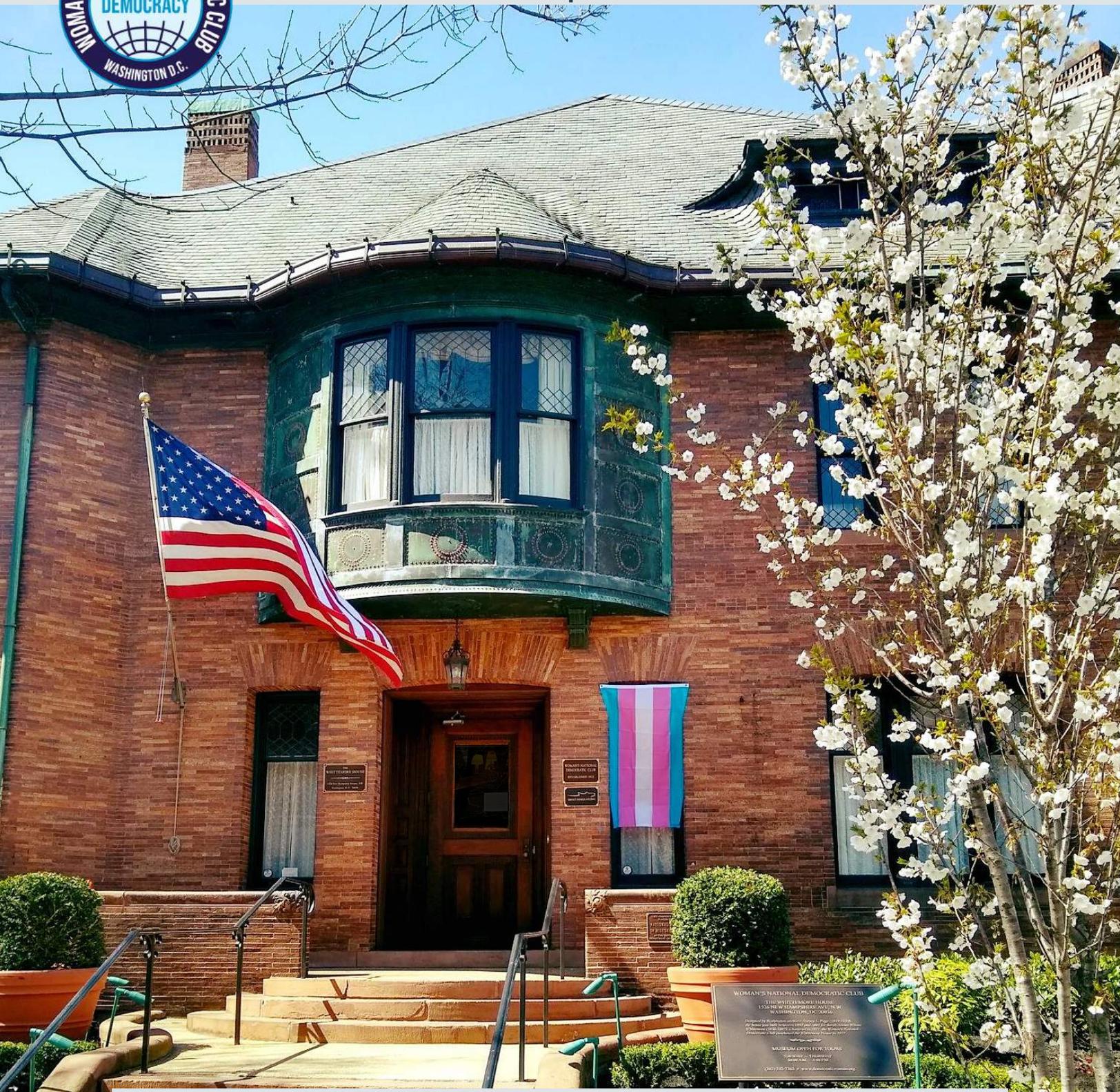


# WNDC

NEWSLETTER | APRIL 2020



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FROM THE RIGHT TO VOTE... THE POWER TO LEAD  
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# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

## Social Distancing In The Time of Corona



As we enter the second week of seclusion, life acquires a new rhythm. Far from the madding crowds, we are forced to tap into our emotional and psychic reserves. Those of us who manage to find alternate passions will come out stronger from this trying period. The trick is to avoid the 24/7 news cycle.

Changes at the Club have been incremental, if inevitable, as has the progression of this disease. We started out cancelling programs piecemeal. Until the Club reopens we might consider the possibility of streaming speaker programs electronically. Our private events suffered the same fate.

Three weddings and many other events were cancelled for March and April. And then there was a complete cessation of activity. We finally closed shop on March 17.

We, however, continue to work. If you call the Club you will still reach Pat Fitzgerald, but she is at her home. We are planning tech support “virtual office hours” for members who would like to become more tech-savvy. We are resuming work on the Club’s strategic plan, forming committees to plan Award Galas in the fall and spring, and transforming our GOTV activities to Virtual Winning Wednesdays. We received an amazing response to our idea of a “Care Pod”—many of you offered to help, while others sought assistance, and we will continue this community effort into the future. And we continue to welcome new members to the Club.

**It has never been more important to be a part of this growing and vital community.**

It is impossible to predict how long this lockdown will last. It may be weeks, if not months. We are in the same boat as other small businesses and non-profits, but with an additional caveat: We have an expensive historic house to maintain during the shutdown. The bills will still keep rolling in. In addition, we have concerns about the economic well-being and health of our staff. We would like to ensure that essential bills get paid and that each of our seven employees receives their salary and health benefits during the shutdown.

We made an appeal to our friends and members earlier in the week. **If you still have not contributed to the Employee Benefit Fund, please do so now.** Extraordinary times demand extraordinary measures. **Please contribute generously.**

We have enclosed a pre-addressed envelope with this newsletter for those of you want to contribute by check. If you pay your dues by check, please use this envelope for the same purpose. You can also contribute online at <https://democraticwoman.org/donate-ebf/>.

We, at the WNDC, have an important legacy to maintain. With almost a century of women’s leadership in progressive activism and educational and cultural initiatives, we must soldier on. In the immortal words of Eleanor Roosevelt:

*You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, “I have lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along.”*

—Nuchhi Currier

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nuchhi Currier'.

# WNDC *Community Care*

We have been overwhelmed by the response that we have received for our WNDC Community Care Pod. Thank you to all who have offered to help—we are in the process of setting up response shifts. And we are honored to provide support for those who could use it! The WNDC was founded on the values of community and solidarity. We also want to extend our help and assistance to our members as they take steps to keep themselves and others safe.

We know the situation in our area continues to shift on a daily basis, and many members are now taking greater precautions than they may have been a week ago. Public transit is operating in a restricted capacity, and there is always the possibility that we may be asked to shelter in place. Our Community Care Pod is still here to help!

If you are healthy and want to help please sign up to assist in getting groceries, walking pets, running errands, providing tech support, or picking up prescriptions for the vulnerable. In turn, should you feel the need for a bit of extra support, please sign up as well. Some of our members have also offered specialized skills—such as legal advice. Let us know if there are ways you can help that we may not have thought of! Or if there is help you need that you can't find elsewhere. For all those who sign up, a fellow WNDC member will be in touch and co-ordinate to make sure you get what you need.

This is an unprecedented time, but among all the uncertainty we have seen wonderful expressions of connection and community. We will get through this with each other's love and support. SIGN UP AT: [www.democraticwoman.org/communitycare](http://www.democraticwoman.org/communitycare).

## TECH-CHECK



Our need for technology has suddenly ramped up in the last two weeks. And many of us are suddenly confronted with having to navigate new software and programs that we aren't 100% comfortable with. Are you struggling with figuring out how to get on that Zoom Happy Hour, or having difficulty with the Uber Eats app? Do you finally have the time to try and work with Google Drive? Is your phone bothering you?

Sign up for the WNDC Tech Check, and have a club member walk you through your problems! [www.democraticwoman.org/tech-check](http://www.democraticwoman.org/tech-check)



*Jenny doesn't need tech help but she says hi to everyone!*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM CONTINUES DURING OUR TEMPORARY CLOSURE

When we re-open to host regular events, current WNDC members will receive free admission to any of our regular programs for each new member they recruit. This initiative is now more important than ever, and new members are crucial to the health of the Club.

### HOST YOUR ALUMNI GROUP AT THE CLUB

Do you (or a friend) have connections with the local chapter of your college alumni club? If so, why not invite that chapter to hold their next meeting or social event at the WNDC? Perhaps a luminary from your college or university deserves to be honored for an accomplishment. So, when alumni news arrives in your inbox or mail box, please note if there is an active DC chapter.

### LIVESTREAMED EVENTS IN THE FUTURE

Like all other area businesses, we are unsure when we can re-open for regular lunch or evening programs. As some folks may prefer to watch programs from home, we will transfer the livestream from our public Facebook page to WNDC's private page. If you are not yet a Club member, you can keep up with our timely programs by joining. Members can register for the Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wndc.community/>. If you need help with any part of this process, please see the letter in this publication about such assistance.



Winning Wednesdays have gone virtual! We all may be cooped up indoors but this doesn't mean our activism has to stop!

The Winning Wednesday team is working to offer you a host of activities so that you can continue your political activism from the comfort of your own home.

We are still working through the nuts and bolts of virtual volunteering, and we are coordinating with campaigns, partner organizations, and State Democratic Parties as they explore new modes of operation.

Winning Wednesday on the Web (see what we did with the www?!) in April is on April 8 and April 22, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We will also hold regular training sessions leading up to these days so that we can make sure that everyone is comfortable with the software we may need to use. To make sure everybody has the tools and resources they need, we urge you all to sign up as early as possible at [democraticwoman.org/events](http://democraticwoman.org/events).

Thank you in advance for your patience and flexibility as we work through new challenges. And thank you for being part of our incredible team that keeps at it despite unexpected challenges! There is nothing that will stop us from the work we need to do to take this country back! Join us!

### Woman's National Democratic Club

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## May Newsletter Deadline: Friday, April 17

We gladly post late entries on the website, but we cannot print any items submitted after the deadline. You may send your event write-up or article to [lollison@democraticwoman.org](mailto:lollison@democraticwoman.org).

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YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



WNDC