

BWA News...

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May 2018

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President's Message

“No matter how chaotic it is, wildflowers will still spring up in the middle of nowhere.”

Sheryl Crowe

What a busy month May is for BWA and one filled with much good news!

As you probably have discovered by now...we have a new website. Thanks to the wonderful work and guidance from Mad4Marketing, and the diligence of Debbi Hartman, we hope you find the site easy to navigate. Please take the time to update all your information on the new site. The transition is still a work in progress. We welcome your input and appreciate your patience while we tweak it over the next few weeks.



May is Mental Health Month. We are fortunate to have a speaker whose expertise brings her face-to-face with the mental health crisis facing our nation and our families. Lee Wein from Henderson Behavioral Health will be here to bring us up-to-date on this important topic. Please join us on Monday, May 14 at the Tower Club.

Once again, we had a very successful raffle for the Scholarship Fund and raised \$570 at our April meeting, bringing our year-to-date donations to

Not all pain is physical and not all wounds are visible. Henderson Behavioral Health has been serving the women, men, children and families in our community for over 65 years. Innovation, Compassion & HOPE! Hope for a safe place to live. Hope for recovery. Hope for stability. Hope for a brighter future.

Did you Know...

1 in 4 people will suffer with a diagnosable mental health disorder in a given year.

Mental health disorders are the leading cause of disability in the U.S.

Approximately 33,000 Americans including 5,000 under the age of 25, take their lives each year.

Last year, 600 people living in Broward County lost their lives to an opioid overdose.

Join Us to learn the most know facts about mental illness and how individuals can recognize the signs of someone dealing with a mental health crisis and how to offer support and the resources available.

You Will hear about Henderson programs as well as mental health awareness, mental health first aide and how to recognize the signs of mental illness and be proactive.

Register

Member Spotlight

Merrie Meyers, Ph.D., APR, Fellow PRSA

Merrie Meyers is a small person with a big vocabulary. But the biggest word in her dictionary right now is transition. On May 7th, the 5' communications pro will retire from Broward College (BC). After serving as the college's grant writer for six years, she decided to hang up her thesaurus. That doesn't mean that she is going to spend her days in a rocking chair. "There's a bucket list," she says. "And I'm checking things off." Earlier this year, Meyers accomplished the first item on the list, attending the Westminster Kennel Club's annual dog show in New York. "It was awesome. Really got my doggie fix."



Next on the list is completing several UFOs, a quilting term for unfinished objects. "There's a pile of fabric waving to me every time I walk by my sewing

room.” Projects have been piling up during the past several years, due in part to her night time duties as an adjunct professor. Most recently, she finished a quilt for her better-known cousin, Seth Meyers and his wife Alexi in honor of the birth of their second child. “I got it to them just in time. Deadlines are clearly the driving force behind some of this.”



Meyers, a past BWA president, says volunteer activities still take up space in her digital Day Timer. She is an active Sustaining Member of the Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale, serves as editor of “Ruff Drafts,” the official publication of the Dog Writers Association of America, and is co-chairing the Broward Public Library Foundation’s Night of Literary Feasts. She recently helped found a writer’s group and is working on a series of essays and commentaries.



Prior to becoming a BC Sea Hawk, she held communications positions in banking and newspapers for eight years, and then “went public,” spending 25 years with the Broward County Public Schools in various public and community relations roles.

What’s up next? Following a summer break, Meyers plans to resume teaching part time, volunteering and sewing up storm. “I totally intend on winning the contest for most fabric!”

Dr. Merrie Meyers received Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from the University of Florida and her Ph.D. from Florida Atlantic University. She is an accredited public relations practitioner and a Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Fellow. She lives in Wilton Manors with two incredibly devious Jack Russell Terriers, Sunny and Simone.

Did you know?

- Merrie has taught for four local colleges and universities; Nova Southeastern University, Broward College, the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale and DeVry University.
- Merrie is a dog park architect. She is the founder of the City of Fort Lauderdale’s Bark Park@ Snyder Park, “The Park Dogs ask for by Name.” She has also aided several other cities in developing their parks.
- In her 20s, Merrie raced cars with the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA). She is currently driving her first “automatic transition” car since 1980.

Member News

Broward County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division had a Judicial Reception at the Museum of Science and Discovery on 4/19/18. Attached are pictures of Kristin Weisberg Padowitz, Candidate for Broward County Circuit Court Judge, Group 36 and her husband Ken Padowitz as well as a picture of

Kristin Weisberg Padowitz and Attorney Stephen Duane who just launched his new Law Firm The Freelance Firm.



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FULL MOON PARTY

Thursday, June 28th, 2018

HONORING
GENIA DUNCAN ELLIS RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE
KATIE TORRES CATO INSURANCE
JOHN HALEY HALEY ENGINEERING

6:00PM - 10:00PM
THE ATLANTIC HOTEL POOL
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\$100 INCLUDES DINNER AND 2 DRINKS
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Opening Doors for Homeless Youth

For Covenant House

With Mothers' Day quickly approaching I want to share with others that my daughter, Melissa Soldani, Ph.D – Professor of History at Tallahassee Community College since 2005, has been recruited to be one of the South Florida Anti-Bias Trainers for STARBUCKS employees on May 28. Melissa was Director of Programs for the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) Broward from 2002 through 2005. While there she developed and delivered anti-bias training to a variety of organizations including Leadership Broward, Urban League, AutoNation, City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County Schools, PACE and Holy Cross Hospital, to name a few. Melissa also trained hundreds of community volunteers on facilitation skills and anti-bias program delivery content while at NCCJ. Proud to have my daughter

be a part in such an important issue and in making a difference in our community. Maria Soldani

Sponsorship

For sponsorship information contact us at browardwomensalliance@gmail.com

Save the Dates 2018 Events Calendar

May 24th - "Women & Wine Wagon" fundraiser in support of PACE Center for Girls

June 11th - Scholarship Awards

*Speakers and topic's subject to change without notice

Contact Us

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