

7:55 - 8:25: Small Group Discussions Facilitated by:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Table 1: Christa Miller-Shelley | Table 10: Peggy Hegarty-Steck |
| Table 2: Jynessa Dutka-Gianelli | Table 11: Jennifer Beloff |
| Table 3: Melissa Dimond | Table 12: Laura O'Neill |
| Table 4: Toni Borge | Table 13: Emily Siegel |
| Table 5: Michea McCaffrey | Table 14: Mary Benard |
| Table 6: Brianna Sullivan | Table 15: Jenny Benedict |
| Table 7: Sara Stanley | Table 16: Vee Chipperini |
| Table 8: Erina McWilliam Lopez | Table 17: Hannah Kimberley |
| Table 9: Sarah Grow | |

8:25: Closing remarks, more networking with women's services

*Drop your postcard in our Welcome Table box
-- we'll stamp & mail it!*



To learn more about Women's Equality Day, visit:

- nationaltoday.com/womens-equality-day
- nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/resources/commemorations/womens-equality-day
- feministmajority.org/our-work/equal-rights-amendment
- americanprogress.org / eracoalition.org

Thank you Mayor Verga for hosting this forum and City Councilors for supporting women's rights; our Moderator and Panelists, 501c3s, City Depts., 1623 Studios, The Open Door, and our many volunteers.

With sincerest appreciation to our forum Sponsor:



Andrée Gillian Group

The Andree Gillian Group of Engel Volkers by the Sea is proud to sponsor tonight's "City of Gloucester National Women's Equality Day forum."



andree.robert@evrealestate.com | 978-290-2360
gillian.bouchie@evrealestate.com | 978-985-2441
www.andreegilliangroup.evrealestate.com

ENGEL & VÖLKERS
ANDRÉE GILLIAN GROUP

Welcome to Gloucester's 2nd Annual



WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Forum and Celebration!

*Of the Anniversary of Congress Granting
Women the Right to Vote, Since 1920*

Monday, August 26, 2024

6:30 to 8:30 PM

Gloucester City Hall Auditorium

6:30 - 6:50 PM: Network and learn about local services:

1623 Studios, Action, Inc., Cape Ann Pride Coalition, Cape Ann Veterans Services, Coalition for Prevention of Domestic Abuse, CORE, Council on Aging, Essex County Commission on the Status of Women, Gloucester Education Foundation, HAWC, Human Rights Commission, League of Women Voters, The Open Door, Pathways for Children, Racial Justice Team, Sawyer Free Library, Schooner Adventure, UMass Gloucester Marine Station, Wellspring House, and YMCA.

6:50: Opening remarks by Co-Chairs Val Gilman and Amy Shapiro

6:55: Proclamations: Mayor Verga and City Council Pres. Tony Gross

7:00: Panel Moderated by Heather Atwood, Producer, 1623 Studios



Heather Atwood
Producer, 1623 Studios



Katie Kahl, PhD
Director, UMass Marine Station



Christa Miller-Shelley
Capt. Schooner Adventure



Melissa A. Dimond
President & ED, Wellspring House

Interviewing:

Katie Kahl, Ph.D., Director, Strategic Initiatives, UMass Amherst
Gloucester Marine Station

Captain Christa Miller-Shelley, Schooner Adventure and
Melissa A. Dimond, President and Exec. Director, Wellspring House

7:40 – 7:55: Recognizing more inspiring women leaders & mentors

Our first five honorees all spoke at our August 26, 2023 inaugural forum in Lanesville on the 50th anniversary of National Women's Equality Day:

Stacie Haller, Chief Career Advisor at [resumebuilder.com](https://www.resumebuilder.com), Strategist at Execunet; on CNBC, NBC, CNN, in Forbes, Wall St Journal, at the UN, over 30 years as a recruiter, coach, internationally recognized expert on work trends.

Vee Chipperini, Director, *Cape Ann Veterans Services*. Army, Purple Heart, background in Trauma Studies. Vee helps Veterans and their families access Veterans benefits, Healthcare Services, Employment Stability & much more.

Elise Sinagra, MSW, Director, *Gloucester Elder Services*. Elise has helped lift vulnerable populations via Action Inc., Family Promise N.S.B., Lahey Health Continuing Care, and the office of Congressman John Tierney.

Maiuza Alves, *Gloucester Human Rights Commission*, assists people with grievances to uphold their constitutional, civil and human rights. Her efforts have included the Driver's License Bill and promoting Racial Justice.

Sunny Robinson, feminist, nurse, educator, human rights activist, especially for women's and international issues. Co-founder/co-chair, *Gloucester's Coalition for the Prevention of Domestic Abuse*, and now a housing advocate.

The above honorees, presented by Amy Shapiro, 2024 Co-chair

Nicki Richon-Schoel, though decades of leadership, has demonstrated how to address domestic abuse while supporting survivors. These decades span years as staff at Wellspring and HAWC, in her counseling practice, and include her wonderful, dramatized stories "*In Harm's Way*." As one of three founders of, and then coordinator for 20 years, of the *Coalition for the Prevention of Domestic Abuse*, her skills and commitment have mobilized many in our community to engage in the effort to move Gloucester toward becoming a *Domestic Violence Free Zone*. Presented by Sunny Robinson, the *Coalition for the Prevention of Domestic Abuse*

educator, she helps Wellspring connect with the community to share the histories of the Freeman family and other formerly enslaved individuals. Toni's work has deeply impacted Gloucester, fostering a greater understanding of our shared heritage. *Presented by Melissa Dimond, Director of Wellspring House*

Calandra Salo is a YMCA Health and Wellness Instructor, early mornings, nights and weekends at the Y, and accountant by day. She has inspired hundreds of women to be stronger and more confident as part of her classes, ranging from aquatics fitness to Pilate Reformer sessions. Calandra is a go-to mentor for our new and emerging fitness staff. She naturally leans into the mentorship aspect and has expanded her reach to help summer camp counselors understand how body language can translate into confidence and act as a medium to build trust. *Presented by Erina McWilliam Lopez, YMCA*

Bo Abrams is a caring, supportive woman who has championed great things for Gloucester's education system and community. When I started my job with UMass Amherst, Melissa Dimond and Jill Cahill were just starting new roles too. Bo brought us together as *ladies who launch* to share meals, successes, challenges, and goals in our new leadership roles, creating a peer mentorship group when we were all starting out. Her effort, kindness and support were and are truly appreciated! *Presented by Katie Kahl, UMass Amherst Gloucester Marine Station*

Avis Murray has been a lifetime advocate for women's equality in sports. Thanks to her efforts, field hockey was introduced the year after she graduated in 1955. In 1993, Avis was inducted into the GHS Hall of Fame as a forerunner of women's athletics. In 2009, when USTA inducted Avis into the New England Hall of Fame, 150 Gloucester friends attended to honor her. For 53 years as Head Pro at Bass Rocks and as a MAC women's league coach, Avis has been a role model and mental toughness trainer for young girls and women's tennis, on and off the court. *Presented by City Councilor, Val Gilman, 2024 Co-Chair*

Thank you www.wellspringhouse.org for hosting today's NWED forum content and discussion summaries. Here is the site's QR code →



Karina Roark has volunteered with HAWC for 10 years supporting survivors of domestic abuse in court. She has given 1000s of hours to ensure that survivors are greeted by a calm, warm presence, provided vital information and supported on what is often one of the most difficult days of a person's life. Karina is a beacon of hope leveraging her experience to empower survivors. We honor Karina for directly supporting survivors to seek the respect and protection they deserve, creating a foundation for greater equality in our community. *Presented by Sara Stanley, of HAWC*

Jai Fields is a co-founder of *Cape Ann Pride Coalition*, and anti-racist leader. Her work with the Cape Ann Pride Teen Division is changing lives and her advocacy for BIPOC people is helping shape CAPC's mission as intersectional. She's been on the board of Northern Worcester Pride, a Girl Scout leader, a Big Sister, and advocates for LGBTQIA+ rights in many settings. Jai works at McPherson Senior Center and is organizing against racism on Cape Ann. She leads, in everything, with a loving heart and passion for justice. *Presented by Mary Benard, Cape Ann Pride Coalition*

Gwen Cochran-Hadden, for her outstanding contributions to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), especially for women. She has developed workforce training and cultural education grounded in extensive personal experience. She addresses equity, race, and diversity areas without judging, creating a safe environment for individuals to confront and overcome unconscious biases. She's helped *The Open Door* move DEI training from a checkbox to everyday action and awareness and is an example of a strong woman-led business impacting organizations and this community. *Presented by Julie LaFontaine, President and CEO, The Open Door.*

Nan Andrew: *The League of Women Voters* is recognizing Nan for her 57 years of service in the league. Nan has served as our secretary for many years. She also runs our monthly study on the Constitution and the Supreme Court. Nan has registered countless high school students to vote and organizes our poll workers. She is a shining example of someone who not only empowers voters, but works to protect and expand voting rights and ensure that everyone is represented in our democracy. *Presented by Hannah Kimberley, League of Women Voters*

Elizabeth Nunez, a Social Worker for Pathways for Children. As a dedicated family advocate, she shines as a beacon of empowerment and motivation. With deep commitment to nurturing family resilience, she provides unwavering support and practical guidance to families. Her approach is compassionate and strategic, collaborating closely with families to identify strengths and problem-solve. Her collaboration extends beyond, to supporting program initiatives and advocating for systemic improvements that benefit the broader community. She strengthens family unites and fosters a supportive network that uplifts and empowers every family she touches. *Presented by Laura O'Neill, Director of Development, Pathways for Children.*

Carole Sharoff is a business owner and civic leader who cares about social justice. She founded the Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity group at the Chamber of Commerce. As a member of *Action Inc.'s* Board of Directors and DEI Committee, and various civic and business groups, she understands that the presence of diverse voices, identities, and experiences lead to innovative ideas, stronger partnerships, and greater sense of pride and belonging. Through her life and work, Carole has had meaningful impact in the Cape Ann Community. *Presented by Peggy Hegarty-Steck, for Action Inc.*

Amy Donnelly: The Gloucester Education Foundation is a longtime enthusiastic supporter of Amy's efforts in the O'Maley Innovation Middle School that resulted in exposing many girls to possible careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Amy was instrumental in creating the Science Center, a multi-lab facility that enables students to work together on hands-on projects, designed to enhance lab skills and critical thinking. In her new role as Science Center Director, Amy is overseeing its expansion as a resource to strengthen STEM instruction for students in grades 3 to 8. *Presented by Maggie Rosa, the Gloucester Education Foundation*

Toni Waldron, a dedicated community organizer, has been pivotal in establishing Gloucester's Juneteenth Festival, now in its fourth year. As a Black woman, immigrant and mother, Toni's commitment to social justice stems from her passion for amplifying stories of Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities. Wellspring engaged Toni in 2022 for her expertise in shaping our History Lives Here initiative. As an experienced