



*The Laurel News and Notes*  
*Newsletter of The Women's Club of Madison Member of General Federation of  
Women's Club of Connecticut, Inc*



It was great to welcome First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons to our December General Membership meeting. She provided an update as to happenings in the town, Covid19 response, and answered questions from the group. Peggy encouraged all of us to subscribe to Everbridge and receive Madison Alerts and Updates. You can sign up on the Madison town website. She also let us know about some fun activities planned for Madison during December. Thank you Peggy!

See the Town Website, Beach and Recreation Special Events for specifics on the following events.

**Friday – December 11 – Drive in Movie** – 5:30 p.m. at Salt Meadow Park – Frosty's Winter Wonderland and Home Alone

**December 11 through December 18 – Snowman Scavenger Hunt**

**Friday – December 18** – 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Salt Meadow Park - Holiday Drive-In Concert Featuring the Larry Stevens Band and Santa

**Just a reminder** - All General Membership Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month. Unless otherwise noted, they are at 6:30 p.m. and are via Zoom. If you are new to Zoom meetings, the Guilford Public Library offers assistance. Check out their website for more details. If anyone is aware of a member needing assistance with Zoom, please let me know. Board meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted, and are also via Zoom. I will forward the Zoom access information and agendas prior to both meetings. Board meetings are open to all members. There is no Board Meeting in December.

If you have any items for the agenda or would like to include committee information or information relevant to the Women's Club of Madison in this newsletter, please email me at [patriciathal@aim.com](mailto:patriciathal@aim.com).

**COVID-19 testing** is now available on a first come, first serve basis at Hammonasset State Park, Camping area. The testing site is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Sunday. No appointment needed. Community Health Center opened the new testing center to offer free COVID-19

testing to children and adults of all ages. There is a **COVID-19 Testing Form** that should be completed prior to going to the Park. This will expedite the process.

**Please stay healthy and safe during the upcoming holiday season!**



### **Carol Musante - COAT DRIVE**

Thank you all!!! As a group we have been able to collect and donate coats and jackets for the Umbrella Center of domestic Violence.

We donated seven new children's jacket and gloves, seven gently used children jackets, seven pairs of gloves and hats, and thirty-two women's coats and jackets. Danielle, from the center was overwhelmed and most grateful to you all.

Thank you to Shari and Lynn for helping to collect coats, and a very special thank you to Anne Edwards, who donated items, is sponsoring a child, and helped with the display and packing up all the coats for the center.

Thank you for making this possible.

### **Carol**





**Let's Get Together** – If you have any ideas about ways that we can get together as a group, please let me know. Forward your ideas to Jan Crawford, Social Chairwoman. You may contact Jan at [lincrawlmadison@comcast.net](mailto:lincrawlmadison@comcast.net) or 203-779-5582. Remember any in person get together must follow CDC and local guidelines.



**Food Pantry** – Both **Donna Dougherty** and **Phyllis Denton** volunteer at the Food Pantry every Wednesday. Please drop off your donations at either Phyllis' or Donna's home. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Phyllis' address is 8 Runnymede Lane and Donna's is 38 Aylesbury Circle.

**Thank you to Donna and Phyllis for bringing in the donations and thank you to all members who have donated!**



**Dee Mulqueen** is coordinating donations for Homes for the Brave. Items may be dropped off at Hammonasset Package Store, 1333 Boston Post Road, Madison or contact Dee at 203-530-4608 to arrange to drop items off at her home or to arrange for a pick up. **Thank you Dee!**

If you need a list of the items, please contact me. My email address is [patriciathal@aim.com](mailto:patriciathal@aim.com).

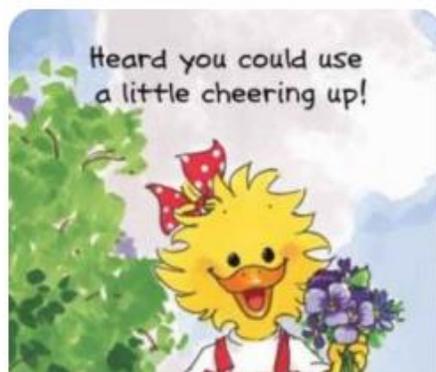
**The American Legion Auxiliary** is selling patriotic and holiday masks. They are \$5 each. They may be purchased at Hammonasset Package Store, 1333 Boston Post Road, Madison. **Donna Farrell and Kathy Nichols** are sewing the masks and will be ready soon. Watch for an update in your email.



**Website – Denise Rose** is doing a great job with our website. She is including a newsletter section, for snippets from meetings regarding upcoming events, news from the State GFWC, information about the book clubs, etc. Check out the website at: <https://womensclubmadisonct.com>. Thank you Denise.



Our **Book Club** meets every other month. In November, the Club met via Zoom. Sounds like it worked out well. All are invited to read the book, attend the meeting, and enjoy the lively discussions. The next meeting of the Book Club is January 20, 2021. The book is **The Furious Hours** by Casey Cep. If you are interested in joining the Book Club, please contact Josephine Mokriski at either [josephinemokriski@hotmail.com](mailto:josephinemokriski@hotmail.com) or at 203-245-0706,



**Pauline Hale** is the Club **Corresponding Secretary**. If you know of a member who is ill, in need of a bit of cheer, or is celebrating a special event, please contact Pauline. She will send a card from the Club, letting our member know that we are all thinking about her. Pauline's email address is [pshmadison@gmail.com](mailto:pshmadison@gmail.com).



**CTGFWC State Advocate for Children – Donna Farrell** is putting together little bags with school items for children. Items include glue sticks, crayons, pencils, Elmer's glue, and safety scissors. Donna's letter to the club is included on our website. A copy of the letter also has been sent to each Club member. Donna would like to have everything ready to go for December.



**Santa Letters** – Santa Letter Mailboxes have been placed at Robert's and Stop and Shop. Volunteers are needed to help get the letters to Santa and his elves. Please contact **Sue Hermonat** to volunteer. Sue will have sample letters, paper, and envelopes available and Santa's helpers will be able to complete their tasks in time for Christmas from the comfort of their own homes. Thank you Sue for coordinating this. Sue's email is **Shermo1981@att.net** or you may contact her at 203-245-1114.



**Fundraising** – If you have any ideas regarding fundraising projects that will be in line with the Covid19 guidelines, please forward to me. There are lots of ideas on line, many of which we could do while staying safe and healthy.



**Babysitting Seminar – Have you volunteered to help with the Babysitting Seminar?** This is a major fundraising project. **Kathy DeBurra** has been in contact with the Beach and Rec Department and the program will be on-line. **Kathy will need lots of assistance with this – publicity, organization of speakers, class set-up, etc. While she will be available for consultation, a committee is needed in order for this to be successful.** Otherwise, we will be extremely limited with regard to any funds available in the Spring for disbursement to community organizations.



**Christmas Tree – Our beautiful Christmas Tree has been sold! Mary Davis** is now the proud owner of this lovely, table top tree. Enjoy!





**Shopping During Covid19** – During the pandemic, several of our local merchants offer delivery, curbside pickup, and special senior hours. Contact your favorite locals for details. Local restaurants offer take-out service. Think of ways that you can help support our local businesses during this time. Maybe a gift certificate? Remember to **Love your locals!**

We are very fortunate to have Hammonasset State Park in our town. It's a great place to walk, sit on the beach and relax, go for a swim, or enjoy the beautiful nature center. **The Friends of Hammonasset** now have a website. Check out their new web store at <https://hammonasset.org/store>. This is a great way to support Hammonasset.



**St. Jude Fund - Josephine Mokriski** continues to collect money for the St. Jude Fund. If you would like to make a contribution, please contact Josephine at [josephinemokriski@hotmail.com](mailto:josephinemokriski@hotmail.com) or call her at 203-245-0706. **Thank you Josephine!**



**Knitting Club** – This year our **Knitting Club's "Putting Together" Parties** are taking on a slightly different look. Usually, **Barbara DeRosa** hosts a "Putting Together Party" at her home to sew the afghan rectangles together. However, this year, due to Covid19, **Barbara and her co-chairperson Denise Daly** have put together kits, consisting of several 7" x 9" rectangles, along with some yarn. Please contact either Barbara or Denise to obtain a kit and help put together these lovely afghans. Barbara's email address is [dderosa72@comcast.net](mailto:dderosa72@comcast.net) or call her at 203-245-6063. Denise's email address is [ddaly524@gmail.com](mailto:ddaly524@gmail.com) or call her at 203-458-3309.

**Thank you to Barbara, Denise, and all the Knitters!**



**Attention All Walkers** – Did you know we have a very active **Walking Club**? Members walk every day at 9:00 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday they meet at East Wharf and on Wednesday at Hammonasset Park. For more information contact **Donna Dougherty at 203-605-4841.**



**GFWC has launched its five new community service programs.** The following information was taken from the GFWC’s website. Moving forward, I will be hi-lighting both the Community Service Programs and Special Programs.

“The Community Service Programs and Special Programs have been re-structured to help clubs light a path for the future and better address the current and upcoming needs of its communities.”

### **“Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program**

The GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program reminds GFWC members that each of us is a part of a larger society and is responsible for undertaking actions that will create a better quality of life and foster a sense of community—locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. This Community Service Program highlights and encourages citizenship; crime prevention, safety, and disaster preparedness; the needy, hungry, and homeless; and our military personnel and veterans.”

Please visit the GFWC website at <https://www.gfwc.org/> for more information.



**Conservation – Margaret Hopkins and Carol Musante, Co-chairpersons.**

I was finally able to get a speaker for our March meeting. Jennifer Marlon, from Yale School of Climate Change Communication, will explain what climate change is, how it affects our environment, and how we can help.

Carol



**Mark your calendars and cross your fingers.... Southeast District Day is scheduled for Sunday, April 11, 2021 at the Pine Orchard Club in Branford.** This is a great opportunity to meet members of other clubs, have a great luncheon with friends, and be involved!

**DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**December 10<sup>th</sup> – Hanukkah begins**

**December 12<sup>th</sup> – GFWC/CT December Board Meeting and Holiday Party – 10:00 a.m. via Zoom**

**December 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Day**

**December 31<sup>st</sup> – New Year's Eve**

