



The Laurel News and Notes

Newsletter of The Women's Club of Madison Member of General Federation of Women's Club of Connecticut, Inc



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. **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.

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.

COVID-19 testing is 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. There is a **COVID-19 Testing Form** that should be completed prior to going to the Park.

Madison Alerts – You may sign up for Madison Alerts at www.madisonct.org/madisonalerts. In order to register, you will need an email address.

Important COVID-19 Vaccine Information – If you know of anyone 75 or older who has not received their Covid 19 vaccination, please call the Senior Center at 203-245-5627. They want to help everyone in this age group get vaccinated. If you get their voicemail, please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

If you have access to a computer and email, please register for the Covid vaccine on the VAMS system. Vaccines are also being offered at CVS, Walgreens, and various health services, such as Yale New Haven Health Services and Stop and Shop will be offering the vaccine in the future. Please check their websites for updates and registration information.

Upcoming General Membership Meetings – The speaker for our March 9th meeting is Jennifer Marlon of the Yale Department of Climate Change. Please email questions that you may have regarding climate change to **Carol Musante**, and she will forward them to Jennifer prior to the meeting. Carol's email address is: Carol.musante@comcast.net.

For our April meeting, **Liz Early** will be working with **Lynne Sarro** to arrange for a speaker to address understanding Covid19 and the vaccine. This should be an interesting and informative meeting, given everything that has transpired over the past year.

Babysitting Seminar Update – Unfortunately, due to Covid19, our Babysitting Seminar will not be held this year.

Homes for the Brave Update – Lynne Sarro delivered the boxes to Bridgeport the first week of February. **Thank you Lynne and thank you Dee Mulqueen for organizing this project.**



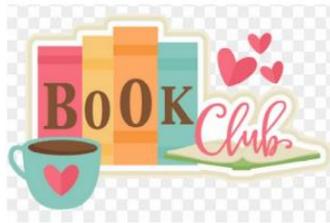
Let's Get Together – If you have any ideas about ways that we can get together as a group, following CDC and local guidelines, please contact **Jan Crawford, Social Chairwoman**, at either lincrawmadison@comcast.net or **203-779-5582**.



Food Pantry – Both **Donna Dougherty** and **Phyllis Denton** volunteer at the Food Pantry every Wednesday. Please drop off your donations at Phyllis' house, as Donna will be away. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Phyllis' address is 8 Runnymede Lane. **Thank you to Donna and Phyllis for bringing in the donations and thank you to all members who have donated!**



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



Book Club - If you are interested in joining the Book Club, please contact **Josephine Mokriski** at either josephinemokriski@hotmail.com or at 203-245-0706. The March meeting will be either March 16th or 18th. Once the date and time are determined, the Zoom invitation will be sent. The book for March is **The Last Flight** by Julie Clark. Betty King is the Facilitator.



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.



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 or call her at 203-245-0706. Josephine also is providing monthly updates about St. Jude's. Watch for them in your email. **Thank you Josephine!**



Knitting Club – Anyone interested in knitting afghan squares may contact either **Barbara DeRosa** or **Denise Daly** for instructions. Barbara's email address is dderosa72@comcast.net or call her at 203-245-6063. Denise's email address is ddaly524@gmail.com or call her at 203-458-3309. Barbara received a Thank You note from Chief Jack Drumm, thanking the Women's Club knitting group for donating 36 afghans to the Madison Police Department.

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



Attention All Walkers – We are heading into Spring and it will be a great time to get out there and exercise. Our **Walking Club** remains committed to staying fit and healthy. 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.**



STATE PROJECT – MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS

Thank you to those who signed up to assist with the NAMI-CT “Caring Cards” project. Tool kits with all the necessary information and instructions will be sent out soon.



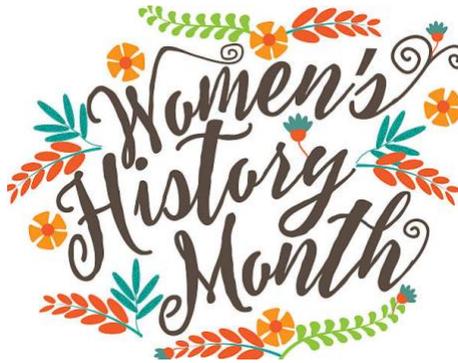
GFWC has launched its five new community service programs. The following information was taken from the GFWC’s website. Moving forward, I will be hi-lighting both the Community Service Programs and Special Programs.

“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.



MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

March was chosen to be National Women's History Month in the United States, declared as such by a biennial Joint Resolution of the U.S. Congress since 1987.

The theme for 2021 National Women's History Month captures the spirit of these **challenging times**. Since most 2020 **women's suffrage** centennial celebrations were curtailed, the National Women's History Alliance is extending the annual theme for 2021 to “Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silenced.”

Check out the Women's Club of Madison Facebook page. **Kathy DeBurra** will be featuring some outstanding women each day for the month of March.



CTGFWC State Advocate for Children – Donna Farrell is putting together the finishing touches on the little bags with school items for children. If you have any ideas as to where to distribute these bags, please contact Donna directly. Her email address is **farrell.donna@gmail.com**.



Conservation – Carol Musante and Margaret Hopkins, Co-Chairpersons

- As our earth continues to warm, scientists say periods of extreme heat will be more frequent and last longer. Wildfires, driven by heat and dry conditions, will be come more likely. Hurricanes will be more destructive, carrying stronger winds and heavier rains.
- Scientists anticipate below average precipitation and worsening drought conditions.

Earth Hour is observed annually on the last Saturday of March. From 8:30 p.m to 9:30 p.m people are encouraged to turn their lights and non-essential appliances off, in an effort to raise awareness about the issues of climate change, and encourage people to do something to protect the planet.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Monday 03/01/2021 – National Peanut Butter Lovers Day

Tuesday 03/09/2021 – General Membership Meeting

Saturday 03/13/2021 – GFWC/CT Executive Board Meeting

Sunday 03/14/2021 – Daylight Savings Time Starts – Spring Ahead!

Monday 03/15/2021 – Board Meeting

Wednesday 03/17/2021 – St. Patrick’s Day

Saturday 03/20/2021 – First Day of Spring

Saturday 03/27/2021 – Earth Hour