



## *The Laurel News and Notes*

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



Our next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm. Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Senior Center. As will our September meeting, only 25 people will be able to attend. Please remember to wear a mask, as the town requires everyone to wear masks when entering town buildings. Also, since we do not have anyone for Hospitality, please bring your own beverage to the meeting. The meeting will be available via Zoom, as well.

Board Meetings will continue to be held via Zoom on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. I will forward any updates and/or changes as needed. If you need help with Zoom, please let me know. With regard to Zoom, this is available to Committees and clubs that need to meet, but are unable to do so in-person. Please contact me for more information.

At the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting we will be inducting new members with a special ceremony. Donna Farrell, Membership Chairperson, will be contacting those members who will be inducted that evening. Prior to opening up the meeting to the general membership, I will need a count of those new members who will be attending. Also at the October meeting, our speaker will be Paola Serrecchia, the site manager for the Hope Family Justice Center. There will also be a raffle – more information to follow via email!

As we have two special events that evening, I have asked that Ms. Serrecchia speak for 15 minutes followed by a five minute question and answer period. If the membership

has more questions than time allows, the questions can be emailed to me and I will forward Ms. Serrecchia for her response.

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).



October is **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** and **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. I have contacted the office of First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons regarding a Proclamation, which will be issued on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. **Dawn Tiscia** is coordinating the placement of signs and ribbons in town.

We have the table in the front entry of Essex Savings Bank for the month of October. **Kathy DeBurra** is coordinating this. If you have any items related to Domestic Violence Awareness please drop them off at Kathy's house. We will be decorating the table on Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. If you are available, please stop by the bank to help.

We will be holding another coat drive this year for the benefit of the Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services. In addition to coats, we will also be collecting sweaters, skirts, and other clothing items. **Carol Musante** and **Annie Edwards** will be coordinating this project.

**Thank you Dawn, Kathy, Carol and Annie!**





Meigs Point Nature Center will be holding an event in honor of Dr. Don Rankin, who passed away August 28, 2020. Dr. Rankin was active with Friends of Hammonasset, Habitat for Humanity, Bushy Hill Nature Center, A Place Called Hope and St. Andrews Episcopal Church. The event will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will feature various community organizations. All interested organizations may set up a table, featuring their activities. We have been asked if we would like to participate. If you are able to volunteer, even for an hour, please contact me. Thank you.



We will be doing Trunk or Treat this year. If you would like to donate candy, please bring it to the next meeting. If you are not attending the meeting, please contact **Donna Farrell** for drop off information. **Donna** will provide more information at the October meeting. **Thanks Donna!**



*Hello Autumn!*



In the past, we have supported the Nepal Orphanage. Members have donated school and art supplies, games, books, and clothing. Unfortunately, last year, due to Covid19, we were unable to support this worthwhile program. This year we will again be collecting items for the orphanage and **Liz Early** will be delivering them, hopefully in the Spring. **Liz** will be providing us with a list of needed items and organizing the project. **Thank you Liz!**



**Hope you are enjoying the GFWC News and Notes.** They always contain interesting information. A great way to keep informed about National happenings.

The New England Regional Conference was held September 17 through September 19, 2021. **Kathy DeBurra** has placed some photos on the Women's Club of Madison Facebook page. Check them out.

**A big thank you to Kathy,** who does a great job updating our Facebook page.





**Food Pantry** – Both **Donna Dougherty** and **Phyllis Denton** volunteer at the Food Pantry every Wednesday. You may bring your donations of peanut butter and jelly to the General Membership Meetings or drop off your donations at either Phyllis' house, 8 Runnymede Lane, or Donna's, 38 Aylesbury Circle. **Thank you to Donna and Phyllis for bringing in the donations and thank you to all members who have donated!**



**Book Club** - If you are interested in joining the Book Club or have any suggestions for future books, please contact **Josephine Mokriski**. She may be contacted at either [josephinemokriski@hotmail.com](mailto:josephinemokriski@hotmail.com) or at 203-245-0706. The books for the year include:

**Nov - The Lamplighter - Emma Stonex**

**Jan - The Midnight Library – Matt Haig**

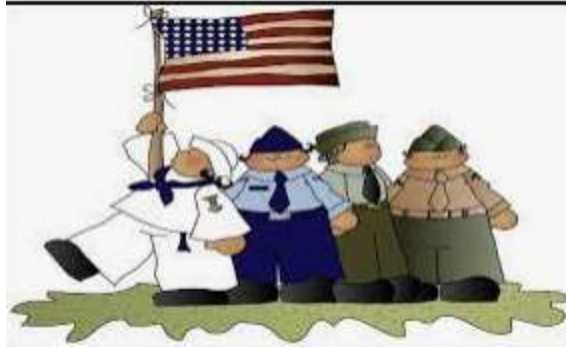
**March- The Hail Mary Project -Andy Weir**

**May - The Book of Lost Friends - Lisa Wingate**

**July - Homefront - Kristin Hannah**







**Dee Mulqueen** will again be organizing the collection for **Homes for the Brave**. Last year we filled several large Rubbermaid containers with toiletries, clothing, and gift cards. **Dee** will be obtaining a list of items needed by the homes. Further details to follow. **Thank you Dee!**



**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).





**St. Jude Fund - Josephine Mokriski** continues to collect money for the St. Jude Fund. She will be collecting at the meetings. If you would like to make a contribution, and are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Josephine at either 203-245-0706 or email her at [josephinemokriski@hotmail.com](mailto:josephinemokriski@hotmail.com) . Josephine also is providing monthly updates about St. Jude's. Watch for them in your email. **Thank you Josephine!**



**Attention All Walkers** – Our group meets Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 9:00 a.m. at East Wharf and Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. at Hammonasset Park.





**Knitting Club** – Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting afghan squares may contact either **Barbara DeRosa** or **Denise Daly** for instructions. Barbara’s email address is [dderosa73@comcast.net](mailto:dderosa73@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!**



**Chairperson Vacancies** – If you are interested in the position of Hospitality Chairperson, please contact me. The position involves coordinating hostesses and planning refreshments for general meetings. You also will be responsible for planning the December Holiday Dinner and the Annual Dinner in June.

There is also a vacancy for Education Chairperson. The purpose of this position is to promote and support local and state primary and higher education, i.e. annual scholarships and awards.







**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.**



#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**October 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup> – Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

**October 1<sup>st</sup> – Table at Essex Savings Bank set-up**

**October 12<sup>th</sup> – General Membership Meetings**

**October 18<sup>th</sup> – Board Meetings**

**October 31<sup>st</sup> – Halloween**

**October 31<sup>st</sup> – Trunk or Treat – Madison Town Green – 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 pm.**