



# The Laurel News and Notes

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

*December 2024*



**The next meeting of the Women's Club of Madison will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, 6:00 p.m., at the American Legion Hall.** This will also be our Holiday Dinner.

Board Meetings will continue to be held via Zoom on the third Monday of each month (with the exception of December and July) at 5:30 p.m. Watch for emails from President Liz Early. Remember to send Liz any agenda items or committee information for both the Membership and Board Meetings. Liz's email address is [ack.girl@hotmail.com](mailto:ack.girl@hotmail.com).

**Reminder:** The **GFWC/CT Executive Board Meeting** is scheduled for December 7, 2024 at Cafe Fiore in Cromwell. Reservations are due by November 26.

**Liz Early** and **Kathy DeBurra** are working on an updated yearbook. Once available, the yearbook will be distributed to members.

If you have information for the newsletter, please email me at [patriciathal@aim.com](mailto:patriciathal@aim.com).



## COMMUNITY IMPACT PROJECT

Every two years the Women's Club of Madison selects a project designed to improve the lives of the Madison community. The Club raises money through events and activities to fund the project. **All** members serve on this committee.

Several great ideas were presented to members. The Club has selected the renovation of the downtown kiosk as it's Community Impact Project. Stay tuned for updates and fundraising events.

Past CIPs include:

- Donated \$7,781.61 for new benches, grills and bocce court resurfacing at the Surf Club;
- Donated \$5,015.00 to Madison Conservation Trust for building walkways on the Shoreline Train. Also donated \$1,300.00 to Shoreline Greenway Trail;
- Furnished a room at the new Madison Ambulance Center (\$5,000.00);
- Furnished a room in the new Madison Senior Center (\$5,000.00); and
- Established a computer/study center at the Madison Arts Barn.





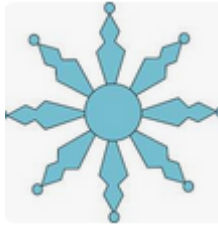
The Women's Club of Madison has launched a brand new Facebook page. It's where we will share news and updates about our events and activities, including photos from all of our events. Please "like" and follow our new page. Share the page with friends and invite them to like and follow as well. Use the link below to login into Facebook and follow our new page:

<https://facebook.com/womensclubmadisonct>



The Women's Club of Madison also has a great website. Here you will find loads of information about the Club, supporting our community, activities, events, photos., and membership information. Thank you, Barbara Cervoni!

Check it out at <https://womensclubmadisonct.com/>



**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 Phyllis' house, 8 Runnymede Lane. **Thank you to Donna and Phyllis for bringing in the donations and thank you to all members who have donated!**



**Book Club** – The Book Club has now grown to 27 members!!! 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 or at 203-245-0706. Meetings take place on the Third Wednesday of every other month starting in September. This year the Club will be meeting at the Scranton Memorial Library in the Life Long Learning Room at 3:00 p.m. The Hostess will bring cups, napkins, etc. and organizing three members to bring snacks and one to bring ice. Everyone should bring her own refreshments. This year the members will be reading the following books:

**January 15<sup>th</sup>: After You're Gone by Maggie Farrell**

**March 19<sup>th</sup>: Rise and Shine by Anna Quindlen**

**May 21<sup>st</sup>: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt**

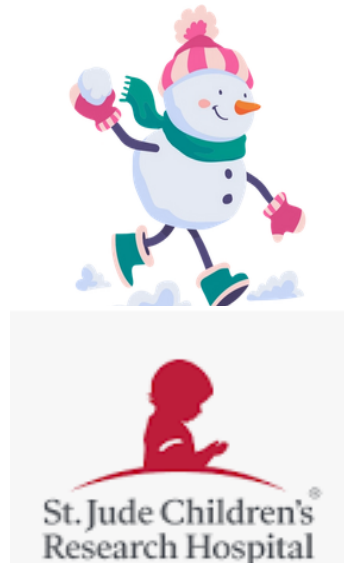
**July 16<sup>th</sup>: James by Percival Everett**



If you know of a member who is ill, in need of a bit of cheer, or is celebrating a special event, please contact **Sue Hermonat, Corresponding Secretary**. She will send a card from the Club, letting our member know that we are all thinking about her. Sue's email address is [shermo1981@att.net](mailto:shermo1981@att.net).



**Attention All Walkers –** Our Walking 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. Enjoy some time with your Women's Club of Madison friends. The holidays are coming so it's a great time to get in shape!



**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) . **Thank you Josephine!**



**Gail Lennox** is collecting empty plastic prescription bottles for Doctor's Without Borders. Please remove the labels from the bottle prior to giving them to **Gail**. Bottles may be brought to the meetings or contact **Gail** for drop off information. These containers are not recyclable so here is a way to put them to good use. **Thank you Gail!**



**Pat Sangster** is collecting tabs from soda and beer cans – just the tab, not the whole can or top. Please start collecting them. They will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House in New Haven. Please bring the tabs to a meeting or contact **Pat Sangster**. Ronald McDonald house will receive all of the recycling money. **Thank you, Pat!**



**Knitting Club** – Starting December 3, the Knitting Club will be meeting at the Library on the first Tuesday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. No experience needed as lessons will be provided.

Complete afghans were delivered to the Madison Police Department on November 20. In addition, 18 afghans will be delivered to the Ronald McDonald House.





- December 5 – **Joan Power's House** – 3:30 p.m.
- December 19 – **Maryanne's House** – 3:30 p.m.

A collection of various winter clothing items laid out on a dark blue background. The items include: a white sweater with a red heart; a striped scarf; a red knit hat; a yellow sweater with red hearts; a pair of light blue gloves; a pink jacket; a teal quilted jacket; a brown patterned jacket; a pair of red socks; a pair of orange boots; a pair of grey socks; a pair of brown boots; a pair of blue mittens; a pair of red pants; a green jacket with yellow stars; a pair of yellow boots; a tan jacket; a red hoodie; and a tan knit hat.

The final tally is in – 212 coats were collected – 77 women’s coats, 82 men’s coats, 26 boys’ coats, and 27 girls’ coats. Fantastic results! Pictured below are Melissa Simone, Development Coordinator for the Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services for BH Care and our own **Sara Welch** as well as all the bags of donated coats. Thank you, **Sara** for all your hard work on this project.







## WHIST FUND RAISER



**Betty King** and her committee are hard at work planning our Whist Fund Raiser. Whist is planned for Friday, April 11, 2025 at the First Congregational Church. Mark your calendars!



The first meeting of the Fundraising Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Thank you **Sheila Kinscherf** for Chairing this important committee. Remember our fundraising efforts support our CIP and disbursements. Looking forward to a busy, fun filled 2025.



At the November General Membership Meeting, members “stuffed” Christmas stockings with lots of goodies for the children at the Ronald McDonald House. Toys, coloring books, crayons, socks, and other items were donated by members. Representatives of the Ronald McDonald House made a short presentation to the group. Thank you **Kathy DeBurra** for coordinating.





## **DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**12/10/2024 – General Membership Meeting and Holiday Dinner**

**12/24/2024 – Christmas Eve**

**12/25/2024 – Christmas Day**

**12/25/2024 – First Night of Hanukkah**

**12/26/2024 – First Day of Kwanzaa**

**12/31/2024 – New Year's Eve**

**JUST FOR FUN:**

**12/01/2024 – National Women Support Women Day**

**12/04/2024 – National Cookie Day**

**12/16/2024 – National Chocolate Covered Anything Day**

**12/28/2024 – National Call a Friend Day**

**12/30/2024 – National Resolution Planning Day**

**Wishing everyone a joyous holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year!**

