



## *The Laurel News and Notes*

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

*September 2026*



### **Message from WCM President, Melody Wirgau**

I hope everyone had a great summer! A little too much rain for me. There are signs of fall slowly beginning to unfold. It is time to settle in and begin a new year for the Women's Club. The next Women's Club of Madison meeting is Tuesday, September 8th at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. We will have a light dinner with sandwiches, chips, and appetizers. Please come hungry and ready to share your ideas and thoughts for the new. Thank you to everyone who came to the planning meeting and budget meeting. It was great hearing everyone's thoughts. Please remember that just because we have not done something before does not mean we can not do it now. New things keep us engaged.



Board Meetings will continue to be held via Zoom on the third Monday of each month at 5:15 p.m. Remember to send any agenda items or committee information for both the Membership and Board Meetings to **President Melody Wirgau**. Melody's email address is [mwirgau6@gmail.com](mailto:mwirgau6@gmail.com).

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



**GFWC International Day of Service** is September 26, 2026. The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is united in its dedication to volunteer community service. The GFWC International Day of Service brings together clubs from around the world to stand united against domestic and sexual violence.

The GFWC signature program is Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness. The GFWC website notes: "GFWC **creates** and **leads** education, public awareness, and service projects for club members and local citizens at the community level; **collaborates** with national domestic violence networks and organizations; **supports** existing activities and established programs; **advocates** for victims and survivors; and **provides** educational opportunities to survivors. GFWC aims to be a powerful voice for victims and survivors." To learn more, visit the GFWC website.





**Knitting Group** – The Women’s Club of Madison Knitting Group meets the first Tuesday of every month from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Scranton Memorial Library. No experience need – Lesson are provided! This is the group that makes the beautiful afghans which are donated to the Madison Police Department, Ronald McDonald House, and other organizations.



**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!**





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).



### **PURSES WITH A PURPOSE**

**Donna Farrell** is collecting gently used purses and tote bags. They will be available to purchase at various meetings, general and state, for a nominal price. As you clean out your closets, please consider donating the items as the money brought in will go into the Club treasury. **Thank you Donna!**





## **Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry serves approximately 110 families each month. 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 Group** - If you are interested in joining the Book Group, please contact **Josephine Mokriski**, at [josephinemokriski@hotmail.com](mailto:josephinemokriski@hotmail.com) or at **203-245-0706**. The Group meets the third Wednesday of every other month at 3:00 p.m. in the Life-Long Learning Room at the library. The following is a list of books for the coming year.

- September: The Midnight Train by Matt Haig
- November: Time of the Child by Niall Williams
- January: Theo of Golden by Allen Levi
- March: Ride of Her Life by Elizabeth Letts
- Under the Tulip Tree by Michelle Shocklee
- The Truth About Ruby Cooper by Liz Nugent



**Website** – Check out our website at: <https://womensclubmadisonct.com>. Here you will find loads of information about the Club, supporting our community, activities, events, photos., and membership information.

**Facebook** - If you are on Facebook, don't forget to visit and follow our Women's Club page. You'll find reminders about meetings and upcoming events, as well as photos and news. You can then share our posts with your other Facebook friends. Visit the page at <https://www.facebook.com/womensclubmadisonct>. Thank you **Barbara Cervoni!**



**Attention All Walkers** – Fall is on its way. Time to take a walk and enjoy the cool crisp air and foliage. Our Walking Group meets Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 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.





**Dates to Remember:**

- **September 7, 2026 – Labor Day**
- **September 8, 2026 – WCM General Membership Meeting**
- **September 11, 2026 – Remembrance of September 11, 2001**
- **September 11-September 13, 2026 - Rosh Hashanah**
- **September 13, 2026 – National Grandparents Day**
- **September 15, 2026 – National Hispanic Heritage Month Begins**
- **September 16, 2026 – Book Group Meeting at Library**
- **September 17, 2026 – Constitution Day**
- **September 20 – September 21, 2026 – Yom Kippur**
- **September 21, 2026 – WCM Board Meeting**
- **September 22, 2026 – First Day of Fall (Autumn Equinox)**
- **September 24, 2026 - National Senior Center Senior Celebration**
- **Sept. 25-27, 2026 - New England Region Conference in Milford, MA**
- **Sept. 26, 2026 - International Day of Service**



**Happy, Happy Birthday to Margaret Hopkins, Lynne Sarro, and Martha Gay Stewart!**