



Wise Fox

A Monthly Publication of the Foxboro Jaycees – February 2018

Dear Foxboro Jaycees,

It has been a difficult few months for the chapter, but the sense of relief after our last GM has settled into a confident resolve that the work we do in this community, the friendships we have built, the creed we live by, all will persevere for decades to come.

We are getting organized! We are relying on the passion we share, the network we have built, and our combined wisdom to create a plan for the future. The new Exploration Committee (EC) will relieve the anxiety and chaos we face yearly at the possibility of being forced to close, by providing multiple fully researched plans for properly closing the chapter. If and when the chapter is forced to close, we will review the options together, vote, and begin the process in an orderly fashion.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the January GM, your love of the chapter shined that night, and I'm so grateful for the ideas, the guidance, and participation, we all are! Despite our differences, the mutual respect and camaraderie was evident amongst us. I have such appreciation for the bonds that tie us together. I believe wholeheartedly that we will do the Jaycee creed justice in any future capacity our members pursue.

Now that plans are in place to prepare for the future, we go on serving as usual. We have opportunities for you to join in chapter projects. Please step up and get involved! Our Patriots Rally is coming up, please see the other Wise Fox reports for details. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered already and to those who participated in holiday decor take down!

As always, it's an honor to serve as your President, and I look forward to continuing our work together, serving our community, fostering our relationships and personal growth.

GO Patriots!

Yours in Jaycee Spirit,
Mary Sorensen

Individual Development

VP: Max Loew

Hello Jaycees!

January was a quiet month for Individual Development. While there were no “major” events, we did still have some great stuff for the month.

Individual Development has some fun projects currently running.

On Thursday, January 11, 2018, Book Club members enjoyed fabulous treats at the home of Monica Rigamonti. Our meeting had to be postponed a week due to the blizzard, so Monica's flexibility was so greatly appreciated! Thank you for such a wonderful evening of food, drinks, and conversation!

Jodi Piccoult's "Small Great Things" inspired some amazing conversation about medicine, race, gender roles, education, media, language, and personal experiences.

From the author's website: "Ruth Jefferson is a labor and delivery nurse at a Connecticut hospital with more than twenty years' experience. During her shift, Ruth begins a routine checkup on a newborn, only to be told a few minutes later that she's been reassigned to another patient. The parents are white supremacists and don't want Ruth, who is African American, to touch their child. The hospital complies with their request, but the next day, the baby goes into cardiac distress while Ruth is alone in the nursery. Does she obey orders or does she intervene?"

I ♥
Book
Club



Ruth hesitates before performing CPR and, as a result, is charged with a serious crime. Kennedy McQuarrie, a white public defender, takes her case but gives unexpected advice: Kennedy insists that mentioning race in the courtroom is not a

winning strategy. Conflicted by Kennedy's counsel, Ruth tries to keep life as normal as possible for her family—especially her teenage son—as the case becomes a media sensation. As the trial moves forward, Ruth and Kennedy must gain each other's trust, and come to see that what they've been taught their whole lives about others—and themselves—might be wrong."

We used some of Piccoult's questions to jumpstart conversations. For example, we reflected upon personal experiences with racism, stereotypes, discrimination of any kind, and whether we were aware of it at the time. We reflected on experiences from our childhood that we had forgotten about or perhaps with adult experiences, were able to understand in a different way. We discussed tv shows and movies that deal with issues relating to race, gender, and medical practices. Jodi Piccoult's website has questions that ask readers to consider if Ruth would have been charged with neglect or murder if she had not been black. We then examined how the incident unfolded and realized that comments made by the doctor may have been misinterpreted due to the emotion of the moment, but because the white supremacists were so passionate for "justice," the truth got overlooked. We also discussed the medical mystery part of it and examined how the circumstances contributed to the child's death: blood tests were done so late Friday afternoon that the results were not obtained from the lab in a timely manner

because the lab was closed for the weekend. As a result, important information was never addressed because it was not relevant once the baby died. We enjoyed examining how the lawyer was able to put some of the mysterious pieces together. We loved talking about Ruth and her family, especially her sister and mother. All the characters were enjoyable to discuss, and we were satisfied with the ending. We decided that while some parts were too neatly tied up at the end, we did not mind it.

The title of the book comes from a Martin Luther King, Jr. quote: "If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way." Coincidentally, we had our meeting a few days before MLK Day, and Monica has been teaching students about King in her classroom, so that was enjoyable to hear about that in context of some of the important issues that resonated in the novel.

On a rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being "close the door and don't bother me until I have finished," 2 being "so glad I read it and own it and spent hours of my life reading it," 3 being "glad I read it," 4 being "it was okay but not for everyone and wish I had not purchased it," and 5 being "oye, did I really spend hours of my life on that?", the book earned all 2's, including from one member who had to participate electronically from Florida!!

We will be reading Eugenia Kim's "The Calligrapher's Daughter" for February at the home of Lisa Jolicoeur. From the publisher:

"One bizarre image tends to dominate Americans' impressions of Korea: that of dictator Kim Jong Il, whose catastrophic reign overshadows centuries of a rich, complex culture.

Eugenia Kim's sensitive first novel, which depicts 30 years of Korea's modern history in light of its ancient past, is an illuminating prequel to present-day events. Set from 1915 to 1945, it's an intrinsically interesting account of the collisions of cultures: the strict traditions of the aristocratic (yangban) class gradually superseded by the inevitable changes of modernity and the attempted erasure of Korean language and traditions by the occupying Japanese. Against this dark background, Kim recounts a poignant family history, much of it based on her own mother's life.

Najin Han, the daughter of a brilliant classical "literati-scholar-artist" and calligrapher, is the protagonist and narrator of much of the story. Born in 1910 during the initial years of the Japanese annexation of her homeland, she is constricted by her stern, strictly conservative father's ideas about filial respect and the subjugation of women and also by the punitive laws imposed on the Korean people by their conquerors. When Najin's father decides to marry her off at age 14, her mother defies him by sending their spirited, intelligent and ambitious daughter to Seoul, where she becomes a companion to the young Princess Deokhye during the waning days of the centuries-old dynasty."

The Walking Club meets meets at 7:45am on Saturdays at the bike path in Mansfield at Fruit Street.

The **Cinco de Scavenger Hunt** has been moved from March 24 to May 5 from 1-3:30. Following the Hunt, there will be a movie shown at the Orpheum. Movie to be announced.

The **Jaycees Trivia** team did an incredible job this month, winning the night and getting a gift card for free food! Trivia night is the third Wednesday of the month at Game 7 Sports Bar, 60 Man Mar Dive in Plainville.

Have a great February!

Max Loew,

VP Individual Development

Community Development



Special Project:

PATRIOTS RALLY ON THE COMMON - Thanks to Lynda for immediately getting this going again as soon as the clock expired on the AFC championship game. :)

As advertised on Facebook, come show your pride for foxboro and the PATS!



Foxboro Jaycees / Foxboro Recreation Department Patriots Rally Saturday February 3!

For the second year in a row, Foxboro Jaycees will hold a rally to cheer on our hometown new England Patriots as they once again head to the Super Bowl!

For 2017, the Jaycees are teaming up with the Foxboro Recreation Department for the rally. Details so far:

- 10 AM Booth Field for Drone Shot and Poster Making.
- 10:50 AM walk with your poster to common
- 11-12 Rally on Foxboro Common with DJ Feeney and other surprises

BUT...in the meantime, if you have your house, office, etc decorated for the Patriots, PM me and we'll come by on Sunday and video tape it. Jim Devellis and I will be searching the town for interesting Patriot related stories and shots to put a video together for the team. FCA and crew will help us pull it all together.

Let's show our Patriots Pride Foxboro!

More details to come.

Upcoming projects:

EASTER EGG HUNT - The annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Common is scheduled for the weekend before Easter (March 24th). We are looking for a committee to take on this fun annual project. Book the bunny! Fill some eggs! See kids scatter!

CONCERTS ON THE COMMON (SPR -SUM) - Looking for a co-chair and a helper committee for the annual Foxboro favorite. More info to come.

Here are the current projects:

SAND FOR SENIORS - The Jaycees deliver 5 gal buckets of sand and salt mix to senior citizens in and around Foxboro upon request.

TREATS FOR TROOPS – The Jaycees gather and accept donations of “treats” (snacks and food items) to send off to local soldiers deployed overseas

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - The scholarship went to Brown Freshman and FHS alum for 2017-2018. Lisa has been getting the word out to schools and tech institutes to get submissions for 2018-2019. If you know anyone in the Foxboro metro area who could use \$500 for education, let them know. :)

Town Common Bulletin Board Sign Up - not an official Jaycees project. An easy way to help out the town by changing the Common signs out as needed.

Sign up sheet here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4ea5ab22a31-sign>

Downtown Business Association Liaison - for those interested in the small businesses in the Foxboro neighborhood.

Completed projects:

Common Decorations Take Down - Our thanks to those who came out on some very chilly days to remove the lights, garland and decor on a football Sunday as well as the group who came out on MLK day for the nativity removal. Two day team effort and much appreciated. My thanks to Mike Mills, Max Loew, Carl Bertolino, Bob Gillis, Kathy Brady, Mary Suttie Sorenson, Jeanne Suttie Christian, Ed Groh and Bob Hickey for offering warm cocoa in the Orpheum for the kiddies who hung out with us in the cold that day. :)

Also our thanks for Monica Rigamonti for handling the town banners once again.



Ways and Means

Vice President: Lynda Walsh

Spring Vendor Fair – CHAIRMAN NEEDED

Looking for a chairman for this year's Spring Fair! We've already received inquiries from vendors, so we need to get a move on! There is a great Chairmans Planning Guide as well as folks willing to help with details, and be on the committee. Let me know if you can step up to chair. Hoping to hold it May 19th with the rain date of the 20th.

Spring Vendor Fair Concessions – CHAIRMAN NEEDED

The Concessions went so well at the Fall Fair, hoping someone would be interested in chairing this project for our Spring fair. Let me know.

Spring Vendor Fair Raffle – CHAIRMAN NEEDED

Looking for a person willing to coordinate the raffle at the Vendor Fair. The vendors will be giving you gifts to raffle off. Perfect for a newcomers first project. Let me know if you're interested.

Note Cards – Lynda Walsh

We still have plenty of note cards. If you'd like to purchase, just give me a buzz.

Lynda