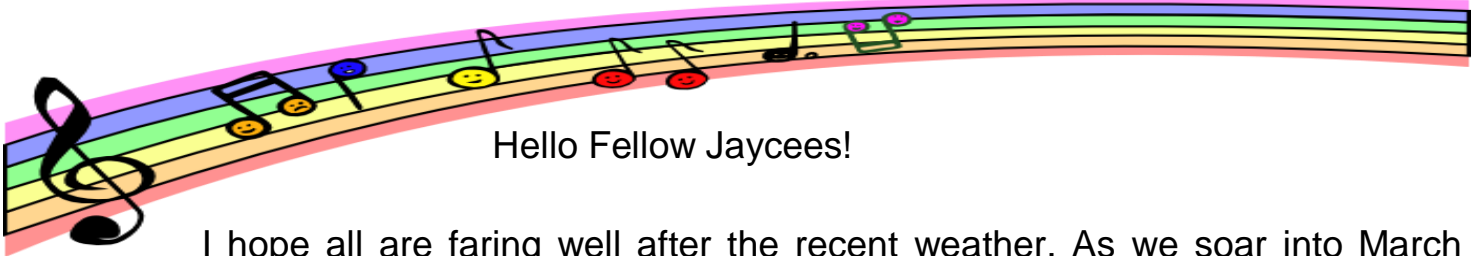




Wise Fox

A Monthly Publication of the Foxboro Jaycees – March 2018



Hello Fellow Jaycees!

I hope all are faring well after the recent weather. As we soar into March (already!?), we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt on the 24th, preceded by an egg stuffing party. Please stay tuned for details! Preparations for the Spring Fair are underway, as well as for the Summer Concert Series! That's right, I said "SUMMER!"

I was contacted by an Emerson College graduate student, and Foxboro resident, Anna Ladd. She is collecting Foxboro artifacts for her thesis, a community art project. Her "end goal is to create an entirely community sourced museum at The Orpheum, kind of like a living time capsule for the area." Anna will be collecting items for the museum via workshops where community members will present and discuss their submission. She has invited the Jaycees and the community to attend any of the below workshops at the Marilyn Rodman Performing Art Center (formerly the Foxboro Orpheum). If anyone has suggestions or would like to attend, please let me know!

March 8th, 2:30-4:30pm

March 18th, 2:00-4:00pm

March 12th, 4:00-6:00pm

March 29th, 7:00-9:00pm



I encourage everyone to join in on the Spring fun, get out of the winter funk and get involved! Our next GM is **March 14**, where we will be having a **St. Patrick's Day themed meeting** with refreshments, fun, and friends! Please glam up with green and remember, everyone is Irish for St. Patrick's Day!

Happy Spring Everyone!
Mary Sorensen

I ♥
Book
Club



For March 1st, We had an amazing conversation about Elizabeth Berg's "The Story of Arthur Truluv" at the home of Sandy Daniels over an array of teas, "lemon blossom cookies" (a la Lucille from the novel), creme

filled pies and treats, and crunchy treats while the fire warmed the cozy living room! The novel was also a delicious treat: (From the publisher) a "moving novel about three people who find their way back from loss and loneliness to a different kind of happiness. Arthur, a widow, meets Maddy, a troubled teenage girl who is avoiding school by hiding out at the cemetery, where Arthur goes every day for lunch to have imaginary conversations with his late wife, and think about the lives of others. The two strike up a friendship that draws them out of isolation. Maddy gives Arthur the name Truluv, for his loving and positive responses to every outrageous thing she says or does. With Arthur's nosy neighbor Lucille, they create a loving and unconventional family, proving that life's most precious moments are sweeter when shared."

Well, we found the characters absolutely delightful and relatable, and the writing was beautifully balanced. Arthur reminded us very much of A.J. Fikry (from "The Stories Life of A.J. Fikry") and Ove (from "A Man Called Ove") in that, despite their personal loss, each of these men becomes a catalyst in creating a new circle of friendships that become a family, showing that people move past their loss in offering kindness, compassion, traditions, and hope to those also suffering. Those moments are found where least expected. Arthur is delightful in his appreciation of his wife's "neighbors" - the other members in the cemetery - and we loved his conversations with them; Lucille is quirky but relatable, and we desperately wanted to taste her food; Maddy suffered in many ways - the loss of her mom but also her dad's inability to cope with the loss and be the stable father Maddy so desperately needed, and the way she was treated in school left us wondering what was going on there. She seeks the wrong kind of relationship with Anderson, but in the end, creates a new family that allows her to achieve her goals and help her father find a new hope as well. Despite the challenges in her life, she is mature beyond her years. Her teacher at school sees her potential and helps her, and at times Maddy reminds readers to "look for helpers," words she remembers and words that make us think about our own lives.

The first meeting between Arthur and Maddy is touching. He has lunch at his wife's grave each day while Maddy finds respite from daily bullying in school. Nothing about their friendship appeared uncomfortable to us because of the vivid little details: Mr. and Mrs. Hamburger, Gordon the Cat, the nose ring that looked like a booger, the bus rides, Lucille's pastries, etc. Little understated details made us a bit ver klempt at times, but nothing was uncomfortable. Lucille offers levity as well as her own loss, but she moves along and brings Maddy and Arthur with her. Maddy names Arthur Moses "Arthur Truluv" because of his daily cemetery visits to Nola, his wife, and the dedication he shows after her death when in contrast, her own father can't even speak about her mother, who had died when Maddy was a baby in a car accident on the way to a doctor visit.

Even though we all agree that the ending was satisfying, it was definitely not expected and not "schmaltzy," which we would have ruined it for us! LOL Additionally, we discussed the style: there are no chapters. Instead, there is a little break, and the writer then moves the focus to the next of

the three characters, almost in a "Meanwhile....." kind of way. We all liked this because it was clear that some things were happening, but we did not have to suffer through the little minutia of how little details were worked out. This style kept the novel moving and got us to the heart of the story. It was a quick, pleasant read, and the book earned all 1's and 1.5's on a rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being "drop everything, turn off the phone, and read," 2 being "good but leave the phone on," 3 being "glad I bought it and read it but....," 4 being "wish I had not bought it and would not recommend it to others," and 5 being "wish I had not read it." So, this very tough crowd gave this book high marks and engaged in some fabulous conversation!

For April 5th Book Club Meeting, we will be reading "One Perfect Lie" by Lisa Scottoline (Hostess Monica Rigamonti). The following is from the publisher:

"On paper, Chris Brennan looks perfect. He's applying for a job as a high school government teacher, he's ready to step in as an assistant baseball coach, and his references are impeccable.

But everything about Chris Brennan is a lie.

Susan Sematov is proud of her son Raz, a high school pitcher so athletically talented that he's being recruited for a full-ride scholarship to a Division I college, with a future in major-league baseball. But Raz's father died only a few months ago, leaving her son in a vulnerable place where any new father figure might influence him for good, or evil.

Heather Larkin is a struggling single mother who lives for her son Jordan's baseball games. But Jordan is shy, and Heather fears he is being lured down a dark path by one of his teammates, a young man from an affluent family whose fun-loving manner might possibly conceal his violent plans.

Mindy Kostis succumbs to the pressure of being a surgeon's wife by filling her days with social events and too many gin and tonics. But she doesn't know that her husband and her son, Evan, are keeping secrets from her – secrets that might destroy all of them.

At the center of all of them is Chris Brennan. Why is he there? What does he want? And what is he willing to do to get it?"

For May 3rd Book Club Meeting, we will be reading "Caleb's Crossing" by (Hostess TBA). The following is from the publisher: "*Caleb's Crossing* follows Bethia and Caleb from Grand Harbor to Cambridge and beyond, charting not only their crossing of the stretch of ocean between island and mainland but of the vast—and sometimes unbridgeable—expanse between Native American and white settler, between pagan and Christian, and between male and female. Brooks has built a world of emotion, struggle, and natural beauty in which the balance between the traditions of the past and the potential of the future are captured in the lives of two young friends."

For June 7th Book Club Meeting, we will be reading "My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry" by Fredrik Backman (Hostess TBA). The following is from the publisher: "*My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry* is told with the same comic accuracy and beating heart as Fredrik Backman's internationally bestselling debut novel, *A Man Called Ove*. It is a story about life and death and an ode to one of the most important human rights: the right to be different."

Community Development



Current /Upcoming Projects:

EASTER EGG HUNT -

The annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Common is scheduled for **Saturday March 24th at 10am. Common is booked for 8am - 12pm.**

We need help scattering eggs, setting up ropes and prepping bunny photo area. Bring the family to this fun annual event

Easter egg 'stuffing' will be Wednesday the 21st location TBD

Rain date is same time on March 25th.



CONCERTS ON THE COMMON (SPR -SUM) - Max and Kelly are co-chairs and have been working hard to get the line up...well...lined up! The concerts kick off June 7th with the High School Jazz Band.

Other 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>

Completed Projects:

PATRIOTS RALLY ON THE COMMON - Thanks to Lynda for taking charge of what was a true community effort! Involvement from the Foxboro Recreation Department to make signs; Foxboro Cable Access for the drone shots; camera work and editing services for the final video; to getting our state senator Paul Feeney to spin tunes. Fans came out to brave the cold and got some really great regional news coverage for Foxboro.

Everything came together nicely and everyone had fun. If only the game results went as well. :(Here's to hoping we have another chance next year!



Ways and Means

Vice President: Lynda Walsh

Spring Vendor Fair – Lynda Walsh

Thank you to **Deena Cummings**, **Andrea Johnstone**, and **Bob Gillis** for stepping up and helping out on this year's Spring Fair. This year's fair will be held from 9 to 2 on May 19th with the rain date of the 20th. If you know someone who would like to sell their wares, please let me know. **WANTED:** I'm also looking for folks to help out the day of. We'll be needing folks to direct vendors to their spots, a couple folks to man the jump house, and folks to give vendors breaks during the day. I will need folks to help set up and take down. More hands make less work for one!

Spring Vendor Fair Concessions – Pam Warren

Thank you Pam Warren for taking on concessions during the Spring Fair. Pam will be looking for help during the day with set up, grillers, cashiers, and runners. If you could maybe lend a hand for an hour or so throughout the day, it will relieve some of the folks that will be grounded to the stand all day.

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.

Founders Day Concessions – CHAIRMAN NEEDED

Founders Day will be held June 9th and once again the townspeople will await our burgers and dogs! If you would like to coordinate this project we would love to have you jump in. **Pam Warren** has run this the past several years and is a wealth of knowledge to share with you.

Founders Day Light Up Sales – CHAIRMAN NEEDED

Once again the Jaycees will light up the field before fireworks with their light-up items. If you'd like to chair this project, we'd love to have you. **Steve Strickland** has run this for the past several years and has done a fantastic job. I'm sure Steve would be willing to discuss the project with you. Basically you need to order items, bring them to the field, set up a selling point and get a few volunteers to help you sell, sell, sell. The Jaycees are the only group licensed to sell these types of items on the field, so kids look for us!

Founders Day Fundraiser – CHAIRMAN NEEDED

Looking for another event to hold on Founders Day to make some cash... make it what you want it, raffle, use our new spinner, sell items, come up with a game... Love to hear some ideas on what you can do to help.

Members, the weather is getting better each and every day, Spring Fair is on May 19th and Founders Day is just around the corner. These are important projects to help keep our coffers full in order to run our long list of Community Development Projects. Please consider running one of the projects that need a chairman or volunteer for an hour or so to help out during these projects. We all want the chapter to survive, but depending on several members to run everything, simply isn't going to work for much longer.

Thanks, Lynda

