

# Wise Fox

A Monthly Publication of the  
Foxboro Jaycees – November 2023



With the gratitude and optimism of the month of giving and serving, I am filled with deep appreciation for all the support and help after months of Fall Vendor Fair preparation and hard work that so many people put forth. Despite the rain delay, October 22nd was tremendously lively: the Common bubbled with voices and excitement; vendors were grateful for the opportunity to celebrate their business; and raffles were thrilling. And the Patriots won their game that day!

Most importantly, the day would not have been as successful had it not been for the amazing Jaycees who embraced important roles: Andrea Johnstone managed vendor placements and vendor check in; Amy LaBrache promoted the Jaycees prior to our event and supported a variety of needs, both planned and unplanned, the day of the fair; Kenny Wills was the inventory rockstar who collected tents and supplies during numerous trips to storage; Alicia Bryant masterfully led the Raffle Booth to great success; and Marc Rivard, Pam Warren, and Bob Gillis kept our Social Media and website up to date for our vendors! I am also grateful to the many others who supported the event in a variety of ways: Kevin Mack, Lisa Jolicoeur, Dave Jolicoeur, and Jordan Cummings Dee. Thank you, all!

After a short pause to reflect on this success, we must look ahead to the opportunities for our good work through our much-loved and important projects: Turkeys for Veterans and Nativity Set Up as well as the amazing Jaycees holiday projects, such as Fruit Baskets, Gifts for Seniors, Gifts for Kids, and Santa on the Common. ID projects are also in full swing! Take time out of your busy schedule for some trivia, book talks, or dinner with friends.

Many hands make light work! Jaycee friends, please reach out and support our efforts to continue our good work as we head into what promises to be a busy season!

In Jaycee Spirit,

*Deena Cummings*



# Secretary's Report

**Pam Warren**

November is coming in with a BRRRR... The Vendor Fair is completed and now it's time to start preparing for the year-end Holiday season. So much to do in the next two months – we will need many hands to make the lights work (pun intended). The Knights of Columbus are on board to help with the Nativity set up, but we still need as many people as we can get to put lights and garland on all the poles and to decorate the bushes and the iconic Foxboro Sign. Take a break from shopping and come out to “Light up the Town”. Our November meeting will be back on Zoom this month. If you want to chair any open project, but cannot attend the meeting, reach out to the area VP or to me and we can add you to the list. As always, if you are unable to attend our meetings, but would like to know what happened, or what was discussed about a particular project, you can request a copy of the minutes. You can also ask to add any new ideas to the agenda. Send me an e-mail [locgazette@yahoo.com](mailto:locgazette@yahoo.com) and I will assist.

**Sunshine** – We send our sympathies to member and MA Senator Mellyssa #71755 & John Coutinho on the passing of her father Donald "Don" Dewsnap who passed away on October 19, 2023. If anyone wants to send some Sunshine – let me know. It can be a Congratulations, get well, sympathy, thank you - Get me the details. **“Shared Joy is Multiplied; Shared Grief is Diminished”** Please Share!

**Wise Fox** - If you would like to have something posted in the Wise Fox, email me at [wisefox@foxborojaycees.org](mailto:wisefox@foxborojaycees.org) and I will get it included – ANYONE can add to the Wise fox – not just the board. I highly encourage Project leaders to post about events and would love to give a “Shout Out” to members who have made a difference – in the chapter or on their own.

## Our Award Winners from the October GMM:

**September Jaycee: Caitlin Pignone:** Caitlin took it upon herself to create an amazing basket for our Donation to the BIT Auction. Thank you, Caitlin, for a great Job!

**September Project: Website – Bob Gillis:** Bob has been very busy maintaining our Website with the many updates for Vendor Fair. He kept the Registration form available to our potential vendors and kept up with the ever-growing list of confirmed vendors to bring attention to the event. Thanks Bob! (Also nominated were the Wise Fox and Book Club)

**If you want to see your name here – volunteer to run a project or come to help at one!**

## Something worth Celebrating...

### November Birthdays:

<b>Lindsay Hobart</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Andy Gallo</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Carl Bertolino</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Bob Gillis</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Grayson Franc</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Mary Suttie Sorensen</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Robert Reid</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>

### November Anniversaries:

<b>Paul O'Sullivan</b>	<b>1989</b>
<b>Jim Philbin</b>	<b>1994</b>
<b>Cindy McCann</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Sharon Hall</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Stephen Strickland</b>	<b>2014</b>

Be sure to let us know if we don't have your birthdate (Month & Day) so we can recognize you here!



Left: The fabulous gift Basket created by our Jaycee of the Month, Caitlin Pignone, for the BIT Auction

Right: Project of the Month winner, Webmaster Bob Gillis, shows off his Halloween Spirit and has "Just one Candy Bar" for his Trick-or-Treat haul.





# Individual Development

**Vice President: Marc Rivard**

As I write this (ok, type it!), it is 76 degrees! New England weather does not disappoint!!! Just when you put the shorts away.....

It is hard to think about the fall season on unseasonably hot days, but it is fast approaching and with it the holidays. Next up, Thanksgiving!

## Thanksgiving Fun Facts:

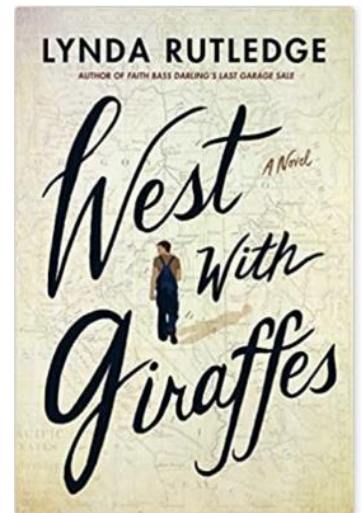
- 1) Did you know that only male turkeys make the well-known "gobble, gobble" sound that has come to be associated with the holiday. In fact, male turkeys are even known as "gobblers." Females make other noises, such as purring and cackling.
- 2) Famous for writing "Mary Had a Little Lamb," Sarah Josepha Hale was a 19th-century writer and editor who was nicknamed the Mother (or Godmother) of Thanksgiving. She wrote a letter to President Abraham Lincoln and Secretary of State William Seward in 1863 calling for the declaration of Thanksgiving as a national holiday. Her hope was that the holiday would help the nation heal from the trauma of the Civil War.

And now back to our regularly scheduled project updates.....

## Book Club – Lisa Jolicoeur – November Meeting will be Thursday 11/2

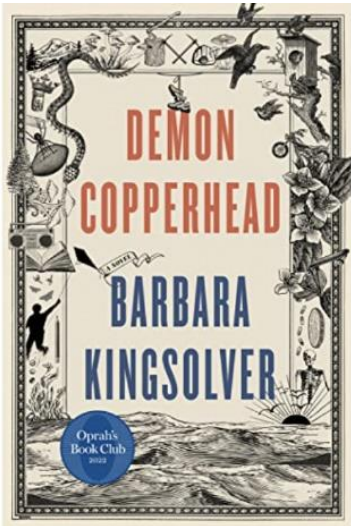
On Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, Book Club members met at Lisa's house for some sweet treats and an array of cheese and crackers (Thank you, Martha!) to discuss *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. Based on the incredible true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America in 1938, the story follows the journey in a truck from NY to the San Diego Zoo. The novel blends fictional and real characters: Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away. But when he learns giraffes are going extinct, he finds himself recalling the unforgettable experience he cannot take to his grave.

He tells his story before it's too late: It's 1938. The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic. What follows is a twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to deliver Southern California's first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. Inspired by true events, the tale weaves real-life figures with fictional ones, including the world's first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and the teen-aged young Dust Bowl rowdy Woodrow.



Book Club members viewed pictures from the real-life news articles to get a visual. We enjoyed discussing the characters, the newspaper clippings, connections to other Depression era books. The book earned 1.5's and 2's on our rating scale: 1 being "drop everything, turn off the phone, and read; no one should bother me until I am done; I might even be late for work or sunburned if reading outside; " 2 being "good, leave the phone on, recommend to my friends, not good enough to earn a 1 for a potential flaw, but worth reading"; 3 being "glad I bought it and read it, will talk to my book friends about it, but I am not recommending it to all my friends; 4 being "I regret paying money for the book, but it's tolerable if I didn't pay hard earned money for it"; and 5 being "I wish I had not read it and wasted precious hours of my life."

**Bev O. will host the November 2nd Gathering for *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver.**



Set in the mountains of southern Appalachia, *Demon Copperhead* is the story of a boy born to a teenaged single mother in a single-wide trailer, with no assets beyond his dead father's good looks and copper-colored hair, a caustic wit, and a fierce talent for survival. Relayed in his own unsparing voice, Demon braves the modern perils of foster care, child labor, derelict schools, athletic success, addiction, disastrous loves, and crushing losses. Through all of it, he reckons with his own invisibility in a popular culture where even the superheroes have abandoned rural people in favor of generations ago, Charles Dickens wrote *David Copperfield* from his experience as a survivor of institutional poverty and its damages to children in his society. Those problems have yet to be solved in ours. Dickens is not a prerequisite for readers of this novel,

but he provided its inspiration. In transposing a Victorian epic novel to the contemporary American South, Barbara Kingsolver enlists Dickens' anger and compassion, and above all, his faith in the transformative powers of a good story. *Demon Copperhead* speaks for a new generation of lost boys, and all those born into beautiful, cursed places they can't imagine leaving behind. With real-life figures mixed with fictional ones, including the world's first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted reprobates as spotty as the giraffes.

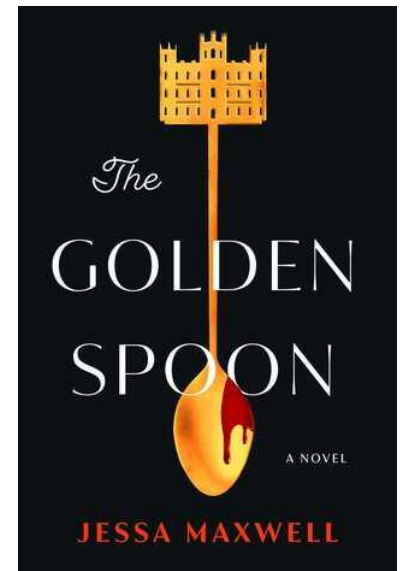
Part adventure, part historical saga, and part coming-of-age love story, *West with Giraffes* explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals, the kindness of strangers, the passing of time, and a story told before it's too late.

**December 7 Book Choice: *The Golden Spoon* by Jessa Maxwell**

Every summer for the past ten years, six awe-struck bakers have descended on the grounds of Grafton, the leafy and imposing Vermont estate that is not only the filming site for "Bake Week" but also the childhood home of the show's famous host, celebrated baker Betsy Martin.

The author of numerous bestselling cookbooks and hailed as "America's Grandmother," Betsy Martin isn't as warm off-screen as on, though no one needs to know that but her. She has always demanded perfection, and gotten it with a smile, but this year something is off. As the baking competition commences, things begin to go awry. At first, it's merely sabotage—sugar replaced with salt, a burner turned to high—but when a body is discovered, everyone is a suspect.

A sharp and suspenseful thriller for mystery buffs and avid bakers alike, *The Golden Spoon* is a brilliant puzzle filled with shocking twists and turns that will keep you reading late into the night until you turn the very last page of this incredible debut.



## Upcoming Projects:



**Axe Throwing** Crazy Axes – Patriot Place – Foxboro (TBD) Chair: Marian McCabe

Now this sounds right up my alley!! And if you do not know how to do this, don't worry, you may "axe" one of the staff (ugh)

**Music Bingo** Box Seats – North Attleboro or Franklin (Also now available at Rally Point) – TBD Chair: Amy LaBrache

Good tunes, bingo, food, and beverages. What is not to love about this!

**Providence Bruins** Pam Warren will be looking into our annual visit to see the P Bruins. More info to come.

## New Project Ideas (Chairman needed)

These are some project ideas. If anyone would like to chair one of these or if you have any new ideas, please let me know!

- **Scat Night** – Get together at someone's home, eat, drink, and play cards - Anyone interested in bringing back this old Jaycee tradition?
- **Progressive Party** – Apps at one house, Dessert at another? Or perhaps change it up and do a "Theme night" Where everyone brings something that fits the theme... with the holidays approaching, another fun project that has been missing for a while.
- **Team Trivia** – takes place every Monday night at Conrad's
- **Cooking Class Social Night** – Get some folks together and learn how to prepare a favorite dish
- **Go-Kart Racing** – Supercharged in Wrentham – Also Bumper Cars, an Arcade and great Food!



Please see the calendar on the last page for November / December Events



Multi-level Karting Track at Supercharged in Wrentham





# Community Development

**Vice President: Amy LaBrache**

## **Completed Projects:**

**Alzheimer's Walk – Pam Warren, October 15, 9am at Gillette Stadium:**

Pam and her team completed their walk at Gillette stadium. You can still donate to the team on her Facebook Fundraiser: <https://www.facebook.com/donate/209473808514086/> Please support Pam and her efforts.

## **Upcoming Projects:**

**Veterans Day Essay Contest – November- Amy LaBrache:**

Essays and projects have been completed and judged. The winners will read their piece at the Veteran's Day event on November 11th at the High School at 11 AM.

**Thank-you Turkeys for Veterans- Lynda Walsh:**

October 18<sup>th</sup> and the South Foxboro Community Center. More information will be sent out so stay tuned! If you are interested in helping at this community event, please contact Lynda.

**Common Decoration/ Nativity Scene Set Up and Take Down – 11/25- 9 AM**

We will be decorating the lamp poles again this year and the Knights of Columbus are helping with the Nativity set. The more hands we have, the faster it will go!

**Light up the Town – 11/25 Chair Needed:**

Mr and Mrs Claus has been requested to make a visit again this year and they will be attending. Formal pictures will be taken at Barrows Insurance, and they will then ride up to the common with the Fire Department

**Adopt a Kid / Senior- Lindsey Denault Hobart:**

Lindsey will be our elf this year again to brighten the holiday for a child and senior this year!





### **Fruit Basket Assembly - Date and location TBD – Sophia Manos:**

Traditionally, we have partnered with the fine folks at Brigham and Women's to create fruit baskets to be included in the Holiday food baskets in December.

### **Holiday Light Contest- Caitlin Pignone:**

Caitlin is working hard putting together what is to be a very

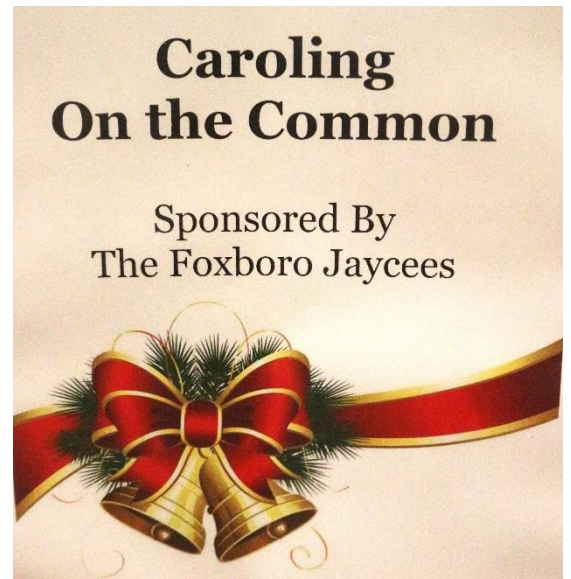
festive contest. Details are going out on November 1<sup>st</sup> on our Social Media sites and website. Many new helpers this year to judge with us!

### **Caroling on the Common – 12/21- Chairman needed:**

Each year we have a wonderful community event on the common (or alternate venue due to weather) where we gather sing some carols accompanied by the High School Brass Band. This is a community favorite!

### **Sand for Seniors- Sophia Manos and Mike Mills**

Sophia and Mike will once again deliver buckets of Salt/Sand to help keep our Seniors safe this winter



If anyone has any questions, new ideas, please feel free to reach out to me at [afoxb1@icloud.com](mailto:afoxb1@icloud.com)

In Jaycee Spirit,

Amy





# Ways and Means

Vice President: Sophia Manos



## Completed Projects:

FALL VENDOR FAIR – Deena

FALL VENDOR FAIR RAFFLE – Alicia Bryant



### Sunday, October 22nd

It was a windy and wild day, but by all accounts, it was a great success! While a good number of vendors could not make the Sunday date change due to the rainy Saturday, there were still plenty of vendors and lots of foot traffic!

Reports were also glowing for the raffle this year! Alicia made a great eye-catching sign, and the top bid prizes were from our own Marc (Taylor Swift item) and Pam (a hand painted Foxboro common mug). Three Jaycees responsible for luring more folks to the raffle tables.

There were also rave reviews for the food truck that offered us 10% of their sales. Very generous of them and we think they had a good day too. They slung the burgers and meats along to the fair goers this time and since the truck was brought in by a vendor more familiar to fair goers for their corgi dog flair, They brought their doggie sensitivities with them by offering doggie drink break bowls near the truck too.

Our thanks to Deena, Andrea, Alicia, Lisa, Amy, Pam, Marc, Kenny, Kevin, Ed, Dave and everyone else for a great day!

Got Project fundraiser ideas? Submit to [wm@foxborojaycees.org](mailto:wm@foxborojaycees.org)



# Membership

## Committee

### **Junior Jaycees – Amy LaBrache & Caitlin Pignone:**

We are working towards launching this by the end of the year. If you are interested in helping, please let me know as Amy will have to run a CORI and have you take Darkness to light. But this is a huge opportunity to revive our membership!

**NY Eve Kid's Party** – Would be a great starter project for the Kid's group. Caitlin & Amy are looking into possible locations and activities. Party would be for Middle School kids.

### **Membership Committee:**

We are always looking for new ideas to recruit new members to keep our chapter running.

### **Jaycees Apparel:**

We still have T-Shirts!! We are still planning to order new ones as well. If you need a T-shirt (or a specific size), please let Amy know. We have also purchased Junior sized t-shirts, so if your child is participating in upcoming events, they will earn a t-shirt as well! Do you have any ideas for something new? Send me an email with your thoughts! If you are interested, send Amy an email at [afoxb1@icloud.com](mailto:afoxb1@icloud.com).



### **Website – Bob Gillis:**

Bob does an amazing job keeping our website current and maintaining the archives! Check out the list of Vendors for the fall fair or take a walk down memory lane with the photo galleries from projects in years past – you might find some inspiration for reviving a classic. Please be sure to send him any pictures or Jaycees-related information you might have for Jaycees events so that he can post them at <http://www.foxborojaycees.org>.

### **Jaycee Photographs:**

If you have any pictures of Jaycees or Jaycee events and would like to share them on the website or social media, please forward them to Bob Gillis or Marc Rivard. You do not need to be on the board to contribute to the website, our social media, or Wise Fox. If you have something to share, please send it to Bob, Marc, or Pam.



**Social Media:** Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/FoxboroJaycees>) and follow us on X – Formerly Twitter (@FoxboroJaycees) or find us on Instagram (foxborojaycees) and you can always find the latest updates at [www.foxborojaycees.org](http://www.foxborojaycees.org). Please email the board with any questions or new ideas: [jayceesfoxboro@gmail.com](mailto:jayceesfoxboro@gmail.com)



## November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2 Book Club – 7pm “Demon Copperhead” by Barbara Kingsolver	3	4
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends	6	7 Election Day	8 <i>GM on Zoom 7:30 PM</i>	9	10	11 Veteran’s Day 
12 Diwali 	13	14	15	16	17	18 Turkeys for Vets
19	20	21	22 Board meeting on Zoom	23 Thanksgiving 	24	25 Nativity Set up Common Deco Light Uptown
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

## December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7 Book Club – 7pm “The Golden Spoon” by Jessa Maxwell	8 Hanukkah Begins 	9
10	11	12	13 <i>GM in Person 7:30 PM at SFCC</i>	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Caroling on the Common	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day 	26	27 Board meeting on Zoom	28	29	30
31 New Year’s Eve Kids Party	1 New Year’s Day	2	3	4	5	6



## Attention Foxborough:

In appreciation for our Vets service, we're asking for donations to continue this project.

### Thank You Turkey for our Veteran's

To say THANK YOU to our hometown Veteran's and their families, we are very happy to once again be able to deliver a complimentary Thanksgiving turkey to their home with a homemade dessert, cards made by students and commemorative Foxboro tote bag. Individuals & families look forward to delivering these packages to veterans' doorsteps the Saturday before Thanksgiving (Nov 18th). Our effort is 100% funded by the generosity of our volunteers, businesses and residents.

**SIGN UP:** If you are a veteran or know a veteran to be included, please reach out to us **by Nov 10th**. Our list changes and grows every year, so we ask that you let us know to be on the list even if you were on it last year.

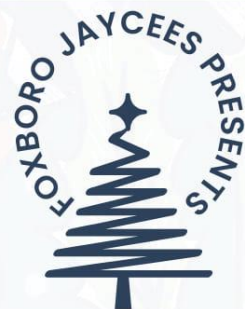
**DONATE:** We do **rely on our community** to make this happen so if you would like to help us make Veterans feel appreciated, please send along your donation to: **The Friends of Foxborough Veterans, PO Box 307 Foxboro MA 02035!** We are happy to be able to keep the tradition going for this year, but **need your help**.

Please reach out any of us to sign up for a turkey delivery.

Jim DeVellis ([jamesdevellis@comcast.net](mailto:jamesdevellis@comcast.net)) (781-771-8104)  
Lynda Walsh ([lynda1061@aol.com](mailto:lynda1061@aol.com)) (774-266-3140)  
Scott Blake ([SBlake@foxboroughma.gov](mailto:SBlake@foxboroughma.gov)) (508-543-1204)







# HOLIDAY *Light Contest*

TO REGISTER EMAIL  
[DECO@FOXBOROJAYCEES.ORG](mailto:DECO@FOXBOROJAYCEES.ORG)  
BY DEC 10

VOTING BEGINS DEC 15  
& CLOSSES DEC 22

## CONTEST CATAGORIES

### **HOMETOWN SPIRIT**

SHOW OFF THE BLUE AND GOLD!

### **MERRY & BRIGHT**

SHOWS THE MOST HOLIDAY SPIRIT

### **MISFIT TOY**

MOST INFLATABLES

### **FAN FAVORITE**

GETS THE PEOPLE TALKIN'

### **FRIEND OF ELECTRIC COMPANY**

MOST USE OF LIGHTS

### **BEST NEIGHBORHOOD EFFORT**

MOST HOUSES DECORATED TOGETHER

### **BUSINESS SHOWCASE**

CURB APPEAL

