



## Table of Plenty in Chelmsford Newsletter

### World Book Night Celebrated at Table of Plenty



***Bonnie Rankin, Librarian at MacKay Library in North Chelmsford, passes out the book, The Language of Flowers, at World Book Night.***

World Book Night is an annual celebration dedicated to spreading the love of reading, person to person. Each year in April, tens of thousands of people go out into their communities and give half a million free World Book Night paperbacks to light and non-readers. In 2013, World Book Night was celebrated in the US, the UK, and Ireland.

For the second year in a row, Bonnie Rankin, Librarian at the MacKay Library in North Chelmsford, shared her love of reading with the guests of Table of Plenty. This year, the

book of choice was Vanessa Diffenbaugh's, *The Language of Flowers*, a *New York Times* best-seller about a girl who spent her childhood in the foster care system whose only connection to the world is through flowers and their meanings.

World Book Night is about more than reading though - it's about people, communities, and connections. It's about reaching out to others and touching lives in the simplest of ways—through the sharing of stories.

For more information, visit:  
[www.us.worldbooknight.org](http://www.us.worldbooknight.org)

### August 2013

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## On the Road with Table of Plenty

Have you seen Table of Plenty around town lately? In order to spread the word, board members have set up displays and answered questions at the Chelmsford Volunteer Fair held at the Senior Center, at the booths on the Common on July 3rd, at Farmer's Markets, and at Sunday morning services at various places of worship. On July 3rd alone we signed up 145 new friends to our mailing list with our free raffle, and at the Farmer's Market we made connections with groups who have offered to donate vegetables to us. If you see us out and about, please stop by and say hi!



Treasurer Debbie Kendrick speaks with Chelmsford Telemedia at the Volunteer Fair held at the Senior Center.

## Greater Lowell Community Foundation Grant



Since its inception in 1997, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) has focused on improving the quality of life for the people in the communities they serve. Today, they are the leading philanthropic organization in the Greater Lowell/Merrimack Valley area providing leadership, education, and fi-

nancial support through their vast donor network. **Table of Plenty is pleased to be the recipient of a \$1000 grant from the Joann Weber Charitable Fund of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation.** This Fund honors the memory of Joann Weber, whose selfless generosity in serving the needs of the community has become a lasting charitable legacy. The Fund invests in the future of Greater Lowell communities by supporting local nonprofit organizations with an emphasis on serving youth and individuals facing hardship, organizations that may be “under the radar” of traditional funding sources, and organizations for whom a small donation can make a big difference in achieving their mission to serve those in need.

## Thank You to Our Meal Sponsors

- ◇ *All Saints/Trinity Lutheran Churches*
- ◇ *Century 21*
- ◇ *Carolyn Clancy—In Honor of Ellie Clancy*
- ◇ *Tim and Heather Clark*
- ◇ *The Cutting Edge*
- ◇ *Bill Dalton*
- ◇ *Herman Dean*
- ◇ *R. M. DiBacco, Inc.*
- ◇ *Dominos*
- ◇ *Enterprise Bank*
- ◇ *Finest Builders*
- ◇ *Dr. Mark Gilchrist*
- ◇ *Mike and Denise Gormley*
- ◇ *Hardy Doric, Inc.*
- ◇ *David and Fran L'Hussier*
- ◇ *Marchand Oil*
- ◇ *Stop and Shop*
- ◇ *Law Offices of Kevin Sullivan*

**Why do they sponsor?** For some, it is to give back to their community. For others, it is in memory of a loved one. Some sponsor as a gift - a birthday present, Mother's or Father's Day, Christmas.

## Sponsoring a Meal



If you or your business are interested in sponsoring a meal, contact Table of Plenty at 978-710-8EAT(8328).

## Partnering with Panera

At the end of each day, Panera donates all unsold bread and baked goods to local charities as part of its **Day-End Dough-Nation Program**. In 2010, they donated approximately \$100 million in goods to help neighbors in need. Each Monday night, one of our TOPIC volunteers goes to the Westford Panera for a bread pick up which is then given to guests each Tuesday. Many thanks to Panera and to our team of volunteers who pick up!



## Meet Two of Our Volunteer Teams

*Note: In our last newsletter, and in the next few editions of our newsletter, we will introduce you to our nine wonderful volunteer serving teams at Table of Plenty.*



### **MARY'S TEAM**

*Pictured: Arnie and Joan Kernzer, Jan Dubner, Gerry and Judy Miller, Mary Moriarty (Team Leader), Jim Moriarty, Susan Burgess, Dan Ryan, and Chrissy Ely. Missing from photo: Lyndabeth Abraham, Karen Moriarty, Ellen Moriarty, Sean Moriarty, Katie Harris, Donna Fletcher, Donna Foley, Debbie Soha, Katherine and Rod Gregoire, Susan Miller, Susan and Dennis McHugh, Blair Ely, and Brian Moriarty.*

Mary Moriarty, a teacher at McCarthy Middle School as well as a founding member of Table of Plenty, enlisted family and friends to make up a team. Additionally, they are joined by members of Congregation Shalom who also wanted to serve.

Diane Taylor is joined on her team by her husband, son, mom, sister-in-law, friends from town, and others who contacted Table of Plenty wanting to volunteer with a team.

Each team is scheduled to serve once every two months.

### **DIANE'S TEAM**

*Pictured: Patsy Sullivan, Denise and Tom Marcaurelle, Joe Hehn, Sarah Scrivani, Ellie Clancy, Ann Clancy, Sue Matthews, Donna Birrow, Diane Rega, Sharon Hehn, Maureen Howe, Kelly Boshar, Diane Taylor (Team Leader) and Carol Hanley. Missing: Nancy Aronian, Mary Jane Comeau, Rick Howe, Laura McGuigan, Mark and Ryan Taylor.*



## Cooks' Report

The kitchen crew has some new volunteers who help with cooking every week. It is nice to have new folks join the group. We learn so much from each other. We miss Nancy Grove who has moved to other projects.

As a group, we are getting experience with the new convection ovens that were installed in the middle of July. On the outside they are much smaller than the ovens that were replaced, but they hold as much or more and cook faster at lower heat. How wonderful to have such an upgrade available!

The growing season has offered us many garden fresh items to use in the dinners we pre-



pare, donated from the First Parish gardeners, the Central Congregational Church's community garden, Bonnie Rankin's library garden, and Parlee Farms. All these thoughtful gifts help make our meals tastier and more nutritious.

## The Great Bunny Give-A-Way



Occasionally, around the holidays, Table of Plenty will receive donations of gifts to raffle off during a meal. Our guests look forward to these events, which add a festive atmosphere to the dinner. During the Easter season, a number of donated items were raffled off. One of our guests won a large chocolate Easter bunny. After winning, she noticed a table of young guests eyeing her prize. She immediately got up, walked over to the children's table and made their night by giving them the chocolate bunny.

## Thank Yous

- The Boy Scout Troop and other individual volunteers who set up the tables and chairs each week.
- **Gary's Ice Cream** for providing a variety of flavors of ice cream for desserts this summer.
- **Sugar Bake Shoppe** for providing delicious donations for desserts.
- Phil Jones of **Jones Farm** for spreading the word about TOP at Farmer's Markets outside of Chelmsford.

# President's Message

This spring Table of Plenty in Chelmsford was honored to be nominated for the Enterprise Bank's 2013 Celebration of Excellence Award. Our Board of Directors was humbled to be included in a large group of prestigious non-profits in the Greater Lowell area. We are so grateful to Enterprise Bank for recognizing our small but successful mission in our commu-

nity. Hundreds of volunteers, sponsors, and donors have made this possible.

We also wish to acknowledge our gratitude for the financial support provided by Enterprise Bank and for the willingness of staff members to serve at weekly meals.



Maureen McKeown with Tony Kalil of Enterprise Bank

## Board of Directors

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 Marianne Hutchins

## Contact Us

**Mailing Address:**  
 Table of Plenty in Chelmsford, Inc.  
 18 St. Andrew's Way  
 N. Chelmsford, MA 01863

**Phone:**  
 978-710-8EAT (8328)

**Email:**  
[tableofplentyinchelmsford@gmail.com](mailto:tableofplentyinchelmsford@gmail.com)

**Website:**  
[www.tableofplentyinchelmsford.org](http://www.tableofplentyinchelmsford.org)

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