

News from Around the Table



Take Hunger off the Table

Take Hunger Off the Table

The holiday season is a time of celebration and cherished traditions. For some of your neighbors however, it can be hard to feel festive when you are balancing which bills to pay and trying to ensure your children have healthy food. Your donation can help lift their spirits and **Take Hunger off the Table**. Neighbors like Heidi in Harvard told us:

"Honestly I could not manage without Open Table to get me through the month. It has been a life saver for me and my son."

You can make the holiday season brighter for families like Heidi's.

Donate Today!

Remember: \$75,000 in donations will be generously matched by the Gilson Family Foundation, doubling your impact!



Family-to-Family Drop Off

Thank you to everyone who participated in making holiday gift bags.

Completed gift bags may be dropped off curbside at 33 Main Street, Maynard, on **Friday, December 15th** between 2pm and 6pm, or at Open Table's Food Donation Center, 40 Beharrell Street, West Concord on **Saturday, December 16th** between 10am and 1pm. Volunteers will be on hand, rain or shine, to assist you! Thank you for spreading More Love, Less Hunger for the holidays!

Learn More



Our festive winter wonderland windows were designed and painted by a wonderful team of volunteers from Apellis Pharmaceuticals

December Schedule Changes

It's the holiday season, and we hope everyone is able to enjoy this time with family and friends. Open Table will close on Friday, December 22nd and reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd. There will be no online or phone orders for the first week of January. We will offer pre-packed bags only. Online and phone orders will resume on January 4th for the following week. Volunteer shifts are canceled from December 23rd through January 1st unless otherwise notified. Please contact us at info@opentable.org with any questions. And Happy Holidays!

December Events

Wet weather and low ticket sales have resulted in some changes to the December event schedule:

- The 57th Annual **Maynard Holiday Parade** has been rescheduled to Sunday December 17th at 1:00pm. The parade begins with a food drive collection for Open Table and Maynard Food Pantry. [Learn more](#)
- Unfortunately the **New Years Eve Party** has been canceled. We are investigating other options for a party during a less hectic time of year.



Food donations collection at the 2022 parade



Sharing Love with Wagons and More

We are immensely grateful for the many families, organizations, and groups that hosted food drives and fundraisers in support of our mission in the past month.

The annual Nashoba Red Wagon neighborhood food drive brought in over 1700 pounds of food this year! This seems very apropos considering they have been doing this drive for 17 years! A special Thank You to organizers Pamela Callahan, Joan DiGiovanni-D'Arcy, and Wendy Krayer for upholding this meaningful tradition.

In addition, we'd like to thank our regular farm and grocery store partners, all of whom have contributed to our Annual Appeal, and these wonderful donors:

- Alcott School - Turkey Trot
- Avidia Bank Charitable Foundation
- Carly Bari
- Ben's Raclette
- Bolton Cub Scouts
- The Children's Meetinghouse
- Coldwell Banker - Concord
- Concord Carlisle High School
- Concord Carlisle Community Chest
- Concord Park
- Copper Penny Flowers
- Design 1 Kitchen & Bath
- e2 engineers
- Emerson Health
- Scimone Farm
- First Parish in Concord
- Girl Scout Troop 70536
- Karla Gwinn
- Hair in Harmony
- Halstead Maynard Crossing
- Hopkinton Country Club Charitable Foundation
- Hutchins Farm
- Just Team Pi
- KAYAK
- Metrowest Kung Fu
- Powder Mill Animal Hospital
- Kara Rice
- Roots Homeschool Coop
- Sudbury Troop 65
- Thoreau Elementary School
- TriCon Church
- Verrill Farm
- Welch Foods
- Willard Elementary School
- Winstanley Enterprises
- Will Young

Fun Food Facts: Almonds



Did you know that almond trees can produce two types of almonds. Bitter almonds contain the substance amygdalin which makes them poisonous. Luckily, the almonds we enjoy are the safe, sweet counterparts.

Due to their long shelf life and high nutritional value, almonds have long been a cherished winter food in Scandinavia (they came up from the Mediterranean through ancient trade routes). A unique Swedish tradition involves hiding a whole almond in holiday rice pudding. The finder is said to be destined for marriage within the next year. It adds a playful twist to a winter treat, turning a simple almond into a symbol of love.

Open Table Board member Norma Frye shares her family's holiday almond tradition with a recipe for delicious Scandinavian Almond Bars.

Get Recipe



Donate Now

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

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