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Woodbridge Youth Services Newsletter

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Mission Statement:

Woodbridge Youth Services is committed to providing youth with opportunities to develop healthy relationships and connections to family, school, peers, and community through positive youth development programs.

Woodbridge Youth Services provides information, referrals, and advocacy, identifies gaps in services, and assesses community needs to design, plan, and implement programs collaboratively with schools, agencies, and organizations.

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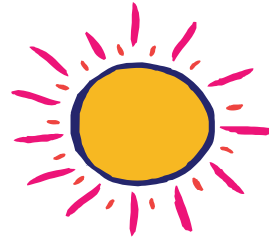
Youth Evening Program

The Youth Evening Program provides a safe, fun-filled event on a Friday evening that appeals to a cross-section of teenagers. Sponsored by Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany, the Youth Evening Program is for all 7th & 8th grade Woodbridge and Bethany residents.

Activities always include a D.J., games, refreshments, raffle prizes, and a special monthly event at each program.

All programs begin at

7:00 p.m. and end promptly at 9:30 p.m. The price of admission is only



\$4.00 a person and includes everything!

Our parent chaperones are vital to the success of the Youth Evening Program, so please join us and enjoy the festivities with the students. The

2009 programs are held in the gym at Bethany Town Hall or Woodbridge Center Building.

Call Woodbridge Youth Services at 389-3429 for more information.

SAVE THESE DATES

January 9, 2009

February 6, 2009

March 6, 2009

April 24, 2009

May 15, 2009

Seeking Outstanding Youth

Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 First Selectman's Youth Award

The award recognizes any Woodbridge youth (age 18 or under) who, individually or as a group, has demonstrated positive actions to improve Woodbridge or assist Woodbridge residents. Areas of involvement may include group, community, or volunteer work aimed at improving the quality of life in the Woodbridge community. This award is geared toward acknowledging a youth who has contributed his/her time to enhance the community. Last year's recipient received a \$200 U.S. Savings Bond courtesy of NewAlliance Bank, a plaque, and a written commendation from Senator Joseph Crisco.

Who Can Nominate? Teachers, principals, volunteer agencies, neighbors, group leaders, and fellow students are among those who may nominate a youth for consideration. Parents and family members may not nominate a relative. The deadline for nominations is March 7, 2008.

Now is the Time! Submit nominations to Woodbridge Youth Services, 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT 06525. For more information and/or nomination forms, contact Woodbridge Youth Services at 389-3429 or go to www.woodbridgedct.org

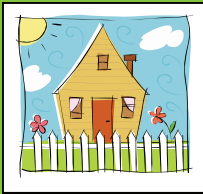


Babysitters Training Course

Home Alone Course

Woodbridge Youth Services is sponsoring a Home Alone Course for children ages 9 - 11 on Thursday, February 19th from 2:00 to 4:00 p. m. Students will learn skills and information to help them feel comfortable when they are home alone.

The curriculum in-



cludes how to prevent accidents, handle emergencies, use the telephone in an emergency, internet safety, and what to do if they lose their house key. Students will participate in fun, interactive activities while learning about responsibility and safety precautions.

Students will learn when and why to call 911.

The cost of the program is \$5.00 (includes a snack).

For more information or to register call 389-3429. Space is limited.

Leadership How do you have fun with the kids - but stay in control? Find out the best ways to negotiate, settle arguments, and encourage positive behavior.

Basic Care Feeding and diaper changing can be kind of messy. Learn how to handle these situations, and other babysitting basics, like a pro!

STOP! Think Safety Learn how to find a safety-related problem, remove or limit it, then report it.

Safety and Safe Play Recognize how to guide children in safe play. Learn to choose toys and activities that are age-appropriate and safe.

Basic First Aid Every babysitter needs to know what to do if an accident happens. Get straight-forward advice on how to manage everything from scrapes and bruises to life-threatening emergencies.



Babysitter's Training Course

The two-day Babysitter's Training Class, taught by an American Red Cross-trained facilitator, has been sponsored by Woodbridge Youth Services for over 10 years.

The course is offered to Woodbridge students 12 years old and up. The two-

day class will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 18th and Thursday, Feb. 19th from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The cost of the course is \$37. In addition to the training, students will receive an American Red Cross Babysitter's Handbook, a DVD, a first-aid

booklet, and a Certificate of Completion. The sessions will be held in the Center Building in Woodbridge. Snacks will be provided. Space is limited.

For more information and to register contact:

Woodbridge Youth Services: 389-3429.

Energy Assistance



*Woodbridge residents may apply for assistance to help defray heating costs through the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program.

Appointments for applications began in October and will continue through March 2009. CEAP is de-

signed to help low-income households pay a portion of their heating bills during the winter months. For appointments and/or information call 389-3429.

*Woodbridge Human Services Commission is organizing their **Second Annual Wine Tasting and**

Live Auction fundraiser on Thursday, April 2, 2009 at Coachman Square in Woodbridge. All proceeds will benefit the Woodbridge Human Services Fuel and Food Fund. These funds will provide qualified Woodbridge residents with emergency assistance with their primary heating

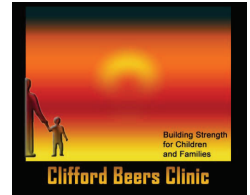
Clifford Beers Clinic Provides Family Services to Woodbridge Residents

The Clifford Beers Clinic was awarded a contract by the Town of Woodbridge three years ago to better serve the behavioral and mental health needs of the children and families in the Woodbridge community.

Founded in 1913, The Clinic is dedicated to the prevention, evaluation, and treatment of mental illness in children, adolescents, and their families.

The Clinic provides a broad range of mental health services, from outpatient therapeutic interventions to emergency crisis intervention services.

For more information contact Woodbridge Youth Services or Woodbridge Human Services at 389-3429.



Job Bank

Are you a Woodbridge resident between the ages of 12 and 16 who would like to make some extra money? The Job Bank may be just what you are looking for.

The Job Bank is a year-round program that refers Woodbridge students to Woodbridge residents. After going through an interview process, the students are placed on the Job Bank employee list.

Job Bank members gain practical experience by applying and interviewing for a job and having an actual paid work experience. Most of the positions available involve gardening, yard work, babysitting, animal care, computers, and light office work.

Students interested in becoming a member should call 389-3429 to set up an interview.

P.A.C.T. (Parents And Children Together)

Woodbridge Youth Services is pleased to announce the 13th Annual P.A.C.T. Series for Woodbridge 6th graders. This parent-child "Rite of Passage" communication workshop is sponsored by Woodbridge Youth Services.

The P.A.C.T. workshop will meet on three Wednesday evenings at Beecher Road School: March 4, 11, and 18, 2009

Refreshments and babysitting are provided.

For more information contact Dr. Kris Kaloides, Beecher Road School at 389-2195 or Jayne Percy, Woodbridge Youth Services at 389-3429.



2009 Youth Evening Programs

Save These Dates!

January 9, 2009 -Bethany Town Hall Gym - Bungee Challenge

February 6, 2009 -Bethany Town Hall Gym - Big Daddy's Racing

March 6, 2009 -Woodbridge Center Building Gym - Laser Tag

April 24, 2009 -Woodbridge Center Building Gym - TBA

May 15, 2009 -Bethany Town Hall Gym - Obstacle Course



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