As the summer comes to an end, I would like to update you on several activities and initiatives. I continue to welcome your input and ask you to get in touch should you have questions or ideas you would like to share on these or other topics.

**Sustainability and Clean Energy**

Of concern to all communities across America, energy efficiency and sustainability efforts such as recycling are on the minds of many in Woodbridge. Recently, the Ad Hoc Energy Advisory Task Force discussed the need for a new Ad Hoc Committee to focus more broadly on sustainability and goal setting in the areas of Town Building Energy Use; Recycling, Waste and Food Systems; Vehicles and Transportation; and Education and Outreach to the Community. A short-term goal of the Task Force is to measure the impact of what we have achieved so far as a Town. A longer-term effort is to set targets for future achievement in each area. I have asked Jon Gorham to continue in his role as Chair of this group. I would like to hear from others in the community who are interested in getting involved – please contact me.

**State Budget Impact on Woodbridge**

By late summer we usually have a final State budget and a firm understanding of how much funding the State will provide our Town to defray the cost of running local government. As you may be aware, the State budget is not yet settled, and interim funding arrangements have been announced each month since the fiscal year began July 1. At this point, we are waiting for definitive information before making decisions at the Town level. Preliminary indications are that Woodbridge will not receive as much funding from the State as we have in the past. I will keep citizens informed as this situation develops.

**August Meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

At our August 9 meeting, the Board of Selectmen made note of the expected report from an environmental consultant regarding preliminary management recommendations for the former country club property. The Board of Selectmen will review the report and decide how to maintain and care for the property until voters decide on the ultimate future of the property.

**Coming in October! Fallapalooza events all month long.**

The Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Association’s Truck or Treat is October 31, 5 to 8 pm.

**Police Department Safety Initiatives**

Safety initiatives with focus on prescription drug disposal and speed awareness were put in place by the Woodbridge Police Department.  

**Drug Take-Back Box**

Unwanted prescription and over-the-counter drugs may now be dropped off at the drug take-back receptacle conveniently, yet securely, located in the Woodbridge Police Department lobby. The receptacle is operational 24 hours.

Together with the Woodbridge Rotary Club and the Bethany Orange Woodbridge Drug and Alcohol Awareness Committee, the Police Department purchased and installed the receptacle. This collaborative, community project offers a safe and easy way for residents to properly rid their home of unwanted and expired medications, without affecting the environment, while at the same time prevents misuse.

Residents may dispose the following items in the box: prescription medications, ointments or patches, over-the-counter medication and pet medications. Not accepted are syringes, thermometers, inhalers, lotions, liquids, aerosol cans or medications discarded from businesses or clinics.

**Speed Trailer**

In the Police Department’s commitment to traffic safety, a new Speed Awareness Monitoring Trailer is being used. This portable unit clocks and displays motorists’ current speed, along with a reminder of the prevailing speed limit. It is battery and solar powered and easily transported which enables it to be placed at various locations.

Police remind motorists that speeding endangers not only the life of the speeder, but all people on the road around them. Additionally, the severity of crash injuries increases dramatically with vehicle speed.

Motorists are urged to drive safely and responsibly.
End of Summer Update - continued from page 1

As before, any resident wishing to volunteer at the property (gardening, weeding, etc.) must first receive permission from Woodbridge Town Hall. We welcome your contributions. Please understand that there are serious liability concerns for the Town if we permit unauthorized persons to cut grass or operate heavy machinery on the property. This requirement protects the Town from financial risk and also protects the safety of our citizens.

Many residents have visited me at Town Hall in the past two months to express their ideas for the former country club property. The Board of Selectmen is considering conducting a survey in the near future, to be sent to all property owners (both residents and out of town property owners).

Freedom of Information (FOI) Forum

On Tuesday, September 12 at 6 pm at Woodbridge Town Hall we will have a public forum on Freedom of Information. Tom Hennick, Public Information Officer of the State’s FOI Commission, will address the community. Members of our Town Boards and Commissions will have the opportunity to learn about their FOI obligations and best practices. All are welcome. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to our Woodbridge Town Clerk Stephanie Ciarleglio by calling 203-389-3448 or sending an email to: townclerk@woodbridgect.org. - Beth Heller, First Selectman

Bulk Pick-Up and More!

Throughout October and November, the Dept. of Public Works provides Bulk Pick-Up services for large household items each Tuesday between 7:30 am - 3:30 pm. Appointments for pick-up are now being accepted. Please call 203-389-3420 to schedule an appointment.

Paper Shredding is available Sept. 9, 9 am - noon. Dispose of papers in a secure fashion at the Transfer Station, 85 Acorn Hill Rd., Ext. Services available to households, no businesses please.

Household Hazardous Waste will be collected at the Transfer Station, 85 Acorn Hill Rd., Ext. on Oct. 21, 9 am - noon. For chemicals accepted, view Household Hazardous Waste Program on the Dept. of Public Works page on the Town website, woodbridgect.org.

Board of Assessment Appeals

Notice of September Meeting for Motor Vehicle Appeals

The Board of Assessment Appeals will meet at Woodbridge Town Hall in open session on September 26, 6 - 9 pm, to hear appeals relating to assessments for motor vehicles on the October 1, 2016 Grand List. Motor vehicle owners must appeal vehicle assessments made by the Assessor in person or by a duly authorized representative who must bring evidence of authorization and their personal identification. Please bring the vehicle, if drivable.

An application must be filed out prior to your appeal and returned to the Assessor’s Office no later than September 22. Call the Assessor’s Office at 203-389-3416 to schedule an appointment.
For two days in November, the Woodbridge Town Library will be transformed into an 18-hole miniature golf course! This event is presented by the Friends of the Woodbridge Library and all proceeds will go towards library programs and technology.

On Friday, November 3, attend the Adult Par-Tee (18-plus). Putt your way through the library after hours from 6 - 9 pm while enjoying music, appetizers, beer and wine. Cost to participate is $25 per person or $40 per couple. This includes unlimited games of mini-golf.

An Evening of Jazz

Join us for a night of smooth jazz and classic songs from the big screen at the library. The Jim Clark Quartet features Jim on tenor and soprano saxophones, Chris Coogan on piano, John Mobillo on upright bass and Jim Royle on drums. In addition to jazz favorites and American standards, they will play a few original compositions modeled in the style of the Great American Songbook. Expect a performance with music that is energetic, melodic and inventive. Refreshments will be served and registration is required by calling the Circulation Desk at 203-389-3433 or visiting woodbridge.lioninc.org. This program is sponsored by the Eckhart Fund.

New! Online Museum Passes

Reserving a museum pass is about to become a lot easier for Woodbridge Town Library patrons! On September 1, the library is introducing Library Insight, a new online reservation system for museum passes that allows patrons to reserve and print out museum passes from the comfort of their own home. Patrons will now have the option to book museum passes up to 60 days in advance with a maximum of five bookings per month. Passes will only be able to be booked under Adult cards.

Online registrations will not be available for Long Wharf Theatre, the Shoreline Trolley Museum, the Maritime Aquarium or Mystic Aquarium passes. Also, we have two new museum passes for you to check out - the Florence Griswold Museum and the Mark Twain House! Please contact the Information Desk at 203-389-3434.

Did you know you can support the Friends of the Library just by shopping on Amazon? When you shop via smile.amazon.com and choose Friends of the Woodbridge Library as your designated charity, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Friends of Woodbridge Library.

Go to smile.amazon.com and search for Friends of the Woodbridge Library or bookmark the link, smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7373701. For questions, please contact the Library Information Desk at 203-389-3434.

Saturday, November 4, is Fore! Families from 10 am - 4 pm. It will be a “hole” lot of fun for folks of all ages! Cost per game is $5 per adult, $3 per child and $15 for a family of up to two adults and 5 children.

The library is looking for local businesses and families to sponsor each of the 18 holes and each sponsor is invited to decorate their hole. If interested, contact Katherine Ward at 203-389-3466 or kward@woodbridgect.org.

Amazon Purchases Support the Friends of the Library

Swinging Through the Stacks
Library Hours

Beginning September 5, Library hours are Monday through Thursday from 10 am - 8 pm and Friday & Saturday from 10 am - 5 pm.

Book Lecture & Signing

Connecticut Characters Book Lecture and Signing with Lennie Grimaldi, Sept. 14, 7 pm:

Lennie Grimaldi’s book chronicles forty years of covering spicy personalities: political chili peppers such as John Rowland and Joe Ganim, pop culture cloves Linda Blair and the Warrens, hahaha Hells Angels and mobsters, even the FBI and Donald Trump, too. Getting these interviews was not easy; hear Lennie’s stories about how exactly he used his skills and savvy to score interviews with the colorful characters who have added to Connecticut’s history.

Lennie Grimaldi is an award-winning journalist, whose work has appeared in hundreds of newspapers and magazines, including The New York Times, TV Guide, Yankee Magazine and Connecticut Magazine. He also served as media consultant to Donald Trump in the mid to late 1990s. He is the founder and host of the website Only in Bridgeport, devoted to government and politics in Connecticut’s most populous city.

September Programs

Back to School Craft: (Grades 5 and up) Thursday, Sept. 7, 4:30 - 6:30 pm. Drop in and decorate a notebook and pencil for school!

Family Maker Challenge: Popsicle Stick Catapult Engineering Challenge (Ages 7 and up with an adult) Saturday, Sept. 9, 2 pm. Create a Popsicle stick catapult that launches a marshmallow the farthest distance. Registration required.

Great Authors Book Club: Suzy Kline (Grades 2 - 4) Thursday, Sept. 14, 4:30 pm. Join us to discuss Suzy Kline’s books. We will play games; do a craft and much more. Registration required.

Ongoing Activities

Babies (0 - 18 months) Wednesdays from 10:30 - 11 am. Join us for songs rhymes, fun for little ones.

Storycraft (Ages 3 - 5) Saturdays from 11 - 11:30 am. Join us for a literature based program and art project!

Storycraft (Grades K - 3) Mondays from 6:30 - 7:15 pm. (excluding the last Monday of the month) Join us for a literature based program and art project!

Ready to Read (18 - 36 months) Thursdays from 10:30 - 11 am. Find out how talking, singing and reading build vocabulary and a love of books!

NEW! Make It and Take it Tuesdays (Ages 4 & older) 4 - 4:30 pm. Drop in and make something new each week!

Eager Readers Book Group (Grades K - 2) Meets last Monday of every month at 6:30 pm. Stop by the Children’s Desk to pick up a copy of this month’s book selection. Read the book at home and then stop by for a book discussion and craft.

Thursday Night Film Screenings at 7 pm

September 7: Paris Can Wait

September 14: Connecticut Characters with Lennie Grimaldi (see above). No film screening.

September 21: The Dinner

September 28: The Circle
From the Director

The new school year means alarm clocks, early breakfast and homework for many families, but for those of us now living without school-aged children, it means school buses, more traffic and cooler weather. All of us have to watch out for changing conditions while traveling about as the season begins to change. Here at the Center there’s a full month of activities ahead - make your plans to join us!

“My favorite poem is the one that starts ‘Thirty days hath September’ because it actually tells you something.” - Groucho Marx

-Jeanette Glicksman

Check Out New Classes!

There are a series of new classes offered through Institute of Learning in Retirement (ILR). Check out what is available through their website, irlalbertus.org. Contact Joan Murphy at 203-314-6352 for additional information and membership details.

September Lunch
Lunch is served Tuesdays and Fridays at the Center Cafè at 12:15 pm. The cost is $3 for dine-in meals and $4 for take-out. Reservations are requested. Meals include bread, juice, coffee/tea and dessert.

9/1 Chicken cacciatore with whole wheat pasta
9/5 Roast beef with potatoes & vegetable
9/8 Vegetable lasagna with white sauce
9/12 Baked tilapia served with rice palif
9/15 Chicken burritos and rice
9/19 ‘Farm to Chef’ Lunch: eggplant parmesan with spaghetti
9/22 ‘Farm to Chef’ Lunch: homemade cavatelli, broccoli & sausage and fried green tomatoes
9/26 Roast port loin Florentine with sweet potatoes
9/29 Fish tacos and ice cream with toppings

Special Programming

Events are held at The Woodbridge Center unless otherwise noted. To RSVP or for more information, call 203-389-3430 or email jglicksman@woodbridgect.org

Sept. 5: Lunch Program “Are You Prepared?” at 12:15 pm. Quinnipiac Valley Health will address emergency preparedness. Remember – it’s hurricane season! RSVP.

Sept. 12: Lunch program entertainment with Paul Shlien, 12:15 pm. RSVP.

Sept. 13: ‘Farm to Chef’ kick-off at Brookdale of Woodbridge, 1 - 3 pm, with complimentary tasting prepared by Chef David Fein. The CT Dept. of Agriculture launched the Farm-to-Chef Program in 2006 to connect foodservice professionals with CT grown produce.

Sept. 13: Medicare 101, Center lounge, 6 - 7:30 pm. Medicare basics, enrollment opportunities, coverage choices, eligibility requirements and coverage limits will be discussed with Tom Maerklein and David Cowan. Program sponsorship by Legacy Retirement Group, LLC. Light refreshments served.

Sept. 17: Sunday Pancake Breakfast fundraiser for the 2017 Walk to End Alzheimer’s sponsored by The Woodbridge Center and New England Young at Heart. Breakfast is 8 - 10:30 am, Center Cafè. Profits donated to the Alzheimer’s Association. Tickets available at The Woodbridge Center, Tax Office or call Elaine Marcuccio at 203-887-5047. $10 per person (under 5 free).

Sept. 18: AARP Safe Driver Training, 9 am - 1 pm, Center lounge. $15 - members; $20 - non-members.

Sept. 18: ‘Farm to Chef’ Week continues with Lunch Bunch at Masarro Farm with a family style farm meal. Meet there or Center van transportation is $3. RSVP by Sept.14, $8 per person.

Sept. 19: Origami Class hosted by William Martano of Home Instead Senior Care. A beginner origami program to enjoy a portable, creative art form. Participants will fold paper to create a crane and a frog. Materials provided. Center lounge, 11 am - noon.

Sept. 24: 2017 Walk to End Alzheimer’s Disease. Join The Woodbridge Center's team at Lighthouse Point, New Haven or donate to the team. Go to alz.org/walk, search Motrin in Motion - Woodbridge.

Sept. 26: P.R.I.D.E., a free program that enhances seniors’ ability to live safely and independently in their homes by reducing their chances of falls. 11:30 am - 1 pm, Center lounge.

Oct. 12: Vermont Fall Foliage - First stop is Kringle Candle Co. and Chocolate Cottage followed by lunch at the New England House. Last stop is Apple Barn & Country Bake Shop for complimentary pie and ice cream. Cost is $97 per person. Checks payable to Getaway Tours. RSVP soon, trip fills up fast.

Nov. 9: Westchester Broadway Theater - Annie Get Your Gun, with music and lyrics by Irving Berlin. This trip includes transportation, lunch, show and driver’s gratuity for $102 per person. RSVP soon, trip fills up fast.
New! Stay healthy, meet new friends, and enjoy one of Woodbridge’s best walking locations! Walk the Fitzgerald Property cornfield loop at a moderate or gentle pace. The walking group meets Friday promptly at 9:30 am at the parking area on Beecher Road. To join call 203-389-3430 or email Judi Young at srso-socialworker@woodbridgect.org. The walk will be cancelled for weather conditions which may make walking unpleasant such as strong winds, heavy rain, mud and cold temperatures.

Pickleball: Meets Fridays in the Center Gym for group play, 12:30 - 3:30 pm. Paid annual members may arrange playing times with other players through the Doodle scheduling tool and drop in Monday through Thursday, 12:30 - 2:15 pm. Equipment is available on a first come, first served basis.

Exercise with Laurie: Workout includes a combination of strength training, cardio, flexibility and balance. Bring your own weights if you have them. Class is at the Center Café, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 - 11 am. No need to sign up - just pay a drop in fee of $2 and stay for a great workout!

Book Club: The book club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, 11 am at the Library. The next meeting is Sept. 26. This month’s book is The Address by Fiona Davis. New members are always welcome. Stop by the library to pick up your copy of the book at the Adult Services desk.

Art Class: This 10-week class, taught by local artist Graham Dale, begins September 27 and meets each Wednesday, 10 am - noon in the Center Cafè. For a list of supplies and to register call 203-389-3430. The class fee is $60.

Friday Movies: Following lunch in the Center lounge at about 1 pm: 9/1 My Cousin Rachel (2017 remake of the 1952 version), 9/8 Paris Can Wait, 9/15 King Arthur, 9/22 Everything Everything, Favorite Film Friday: 9/29 The Graduate

Ask the Nurse: 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, 11 am - 12:30 pm, blood pressure screenings, weight and conversation with a registered nurse from VNA Community Healthcare.

Duplicate Bridge: Mondays, 9:30 am, Center Café.

Bridge: The Center’s Wednesday bridge group invites new members! Join the group for a friendly game of cards. No reservations necessary – just come down to the Center lounge at 1 pm.

Pinochle: Mon., Wed., and Thu., 1 - 4 pm, Center lounge. The group is always looking for new players and is willing to bring rusty players up to speed!

Mah-jong: Mon. & Fri., 10 am, Center Building - Room 11.

Woodbridge Center 24th Annual Harvest & Holly Fair, Sat., Nov. 4, 10 am - 2 pm in the Center Gym & Café: Donations of new and gently used items are being accepted for the tag sale along with handmade items for the craft table. Companies and individuals may donate themed baskets for the Silent Auction or “Take a Chance” raffle items. Event proceeds support the Center programming and needs. Volunteers from the community are needed for outreach, event set-up and the day of the fair. To volunteer, donate items and baskets or for additional information, contact Elaine Marcucio at 203-887-5047 or Emarcucio@gmail.com.

Woodbridge Center News

Ongoing Programming

A bit of breakfast and a bit of knowledge
The Human Services Department will launch a new monthly lecture series beginning Friday, September 29 with Probate Judge Cliff Hoyle speaking on the Myths and Realities of the Court.
Oct. 25: Opiates and Chronic Pain
Nov. 29: Healthy Diet: herbs, anti-inflammatory foods & immune system boosters
Dec. 20: Genealogy Methodology

Jan. 24: Marijuana as Medicine
Feb. 28: Getting your House Ready for Sale
Mar. 28: Woodbridge Garden Club
Apr. 25: Mind Matters – Brain Fitness
May 23: Humor Therapy

Light breakfast served—join us in the Center lounge to whet your curiosity and your appetite. Call to register, 203-389-3430.
Back to School Bash

Woodbridge and Bethany 7th and 8th grade residents only (private school students included) are invited to the Back to School Bash on Friday, Sept. 15 from 7 - 9:30 pm on the Woodbridge Green at 4 Meetinghouse Lane (rain brings the event into the cafeteria at the Center).

Enjoy Big Daddy’s Racing and photo booth, an interactive D.J., hip-hop dancer, games, snacks and raffle prizes. Fee is $5.

Volunteers Needed
Youth Services needs adult volunteers and welcomes donations for raffle prizes. To help, call Youth Services at 203-389-3429. High school seniors and juniors may volunteer for community service hours.

Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany sponsor Bethwood Bash programs.

Job Bank

Teens Wanted
Woodbridge teens, ages 13 - 18, interested in earning extra cash by raking, yard work, animal care, babysitting, housework, etc., should call Youth Services at 203-389-3429.

Teens to Hire
Woodbridge residents may hire local teens for babysitting and odd jobs like raking, yard work, party help, cleaning, tutoring and moving boxes. For details, call 203-389-3429.

Red Cross trained babysitters are available through the Woodbridge Job Bank. Training classes are offered by Youth Services twice a year.

Recreation News

For more information, call Recreation at 203-389-3446. Registration is available online at woodbridgect.org

Road Race & Fun Run

The Woodbridge Recreation Dept. will hold its 36th Annual 5K Road Race and Children’s Fun Run on Saturday, Oct. 7, rain or shine.

The one mile Fun Run for children 12 and under begins at 9 am at the Fitzgerald Tract Trails located off Beecher Road. The 5K Road Race begins at 10:30 am at the Woodbridge Town Center, Meetinghouse Lane. The 5K course winds through quiet, mostly-flat residential neighborhoods.

For a discounted Entry Fee, register no later than September 22 either online through the Town website, woodbridgect.org, or visit the Woodbridge Recreation Dept. at 40 Beecher Road.

Registration the morning of the event begins at 8 am (the Woodbridge Town Center for the 5K Race and the Fitzgerald Tract for the Fun Run). For registration details, call the Recreation Office at 203-389-3446.

Fall Program Registration

It is time to register for Woodbridge Recreation Programs. There is an extensive lineup of fall after-school and Saturday programs with variety to appeal to every student.

Swim lessons, basketball, bowling, flag football, gymnastics, floor hockey, stickball, Taekwondo, tennis, hip hop dance and the Running Club are among activities being offered.

Programs for students interested in music, math and science include guitar and piano lessons, Kumon as well as Little Scientists. Different science topics and themes will be available through the science workshops.

Also available is the recently introduced Bricks4kidz which provides students with fascinating and challenging LEGO components to create dynamic vehicles, inventions, machines and more.

Adult programs this fall include badminton, guitar, yoga and T’ai Chi.

Most programs begin the week of September 10 and will run through mid November.

For registration information, please contact the Woodbridge Recreation Office at 203-389-3446 or visit the Town website, woodbridgect.org. Click Recreation Registration at the bottom of the page to link to the Recreation Department for the lineup of fall program options.
Beecher Kicks Off the New School Year

After a busy season of summer school programs benefitting hundreds of students, Beecher Road School opened for the 2017-18 school year on Monday, August 28.

The Beecher PTO’s annual Ice Cream Social was held during the early evening hours of Wednesday, August 30 on school grounds. Many families attended, along with Beecher faculty and staff members, to celebrate a new year of fun and learning.

The administration and Woodbridge Board of Education thank the people of Woodbridge for their strong support of Beecher Road School’s curricular and before and after-school programs. With a new, three-year strategic development plan in place, we are poised for continued success in the years to come.

For more information, and to read the three-year plan, please visit the Woodbridge School District Beecher Road School website at woodbridge.k12.ct.us.

Energy Assistance Program

Beginning September 1, appointments are being scheduled for the 2017-2018 Connecticut Energy Assistance Program administered by TEAM, INC. Mary Ellen LaRocca, Director of Woodbridge Human Services Department, along with Judi Young will be available to schedule appointments and provide information pertaining to the Energy Assistance Program. Please call 203-389-3429.

The following documentation must be submitted at the appointment to verify income and assets:
* bank statements or pay stubs (last 4) or income verification from the individual’s employer
* Social Security benefits notice
* Supplemental Security Income
* pension
* unemployment
* alimony/child support
* interest and dividend income
* utility bill
* names, birth dates and social security numbers of all family members residing with the applicant.