

April Initiatives and Events

Many initiatives are underway in the Town and we continue to plan for the future. I'd like to keep you informed and as always, I ask you to continue providing me with your feedback.

Next Steps for the Former Country Club Property

At the April 11 meeting of the Board of Selectmen, we plan to hear the results of the recent Public Opinion Survey on future options for the former Country Club of Woodbridge property. Then, once we have had time to think about these findings, the Board is planning to meet again on Wednesday, April 25 to discuss and hear public comment. I am very pleased that we will have an opportunity to take an in-depth look as we consider what to do with this beautiful piece of property. Please visit the Town website at WoodbridgeCT.org for further information as it becomes available.

Join Us for Rid Litter Day

Another wonderful tradition that is springing back to life in April is Rid Litter Day, on Sunday, April 22 from

9 am to noon, which is also Earth Day. The event will kick-off at the Fitzgerald Tract, where residents may check-in, receive a trash bag, and be assigned a map indicating the roadside areas in need of clean up. This will be a great way to show how much we all care about our Town. I will be there with my work gloves in hand and I'd like to encourage everyone to join in and take part! Please visit the Town website for details as we get closer to Earth Day.

Increasing Communication Opportunities

To help keep you informed regarding the issues and initiatives of YOUR Town government, I have begun to send out a monthly update by email, called "News from Town Hall." In it I will recap what takes place at all of the Board of Selectmen meetings with brief write-ups and links to further information available at our Town website. I hope you will take the opportunity to learn more about the topics that interest you – please be sure you are signed up to receive these emails by visiting the Town website today!

—First Selectman Beth Heller

Save the Dates

and

Plan to Join Us

- April 6, 10 am: Conservation Commission monthly guided hike. Commission member Traci Cipriano will host this month's walk at the Racebrook Tract.
 - April 23, 7:30 pm: Preliminary Budget Hearing at the Center Gym.
 - April 29 & May 6: Woodbridge Outdoor Pool Open House at the former Country Club of Woodbridge, times to be announced.
- Visit the Town website for more event details: WoodbridgeCT.org

Read Across America

First Selectman Beth Heller and more than a dozen community leaders read to almost every classroom at Beecher Road School during the annual "Read Across America" event in March.

Read Across America is a national event to commemorate Dr. Seuss's birthday. During the event, community members are invited to read a Dr. Seuss book to students as a fun way to promote reading. Superintendent Bob Gilbert thanked volunteers for their time and for helping to model a love of literature.



Town News

Be Bear Aware



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To advertise in future issues,
contact Toni Belenski at 203-389-3489 or
TBelenski@WoodbridgeCT.org



A black bear was recently spotted in Woodbridge and the Police Dept. anticipate additional sightings as warmer weather approaches. While bear aggression towards humans is rare, be reminded of the CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection tips below:

- Remove bird feeders between late March through Nov.
- Do not leave bird, pet or livestock food outdoors overnight.
- Do not intentionally feed bears as they will return, and may become a nuisance/problem.
- Keep BBQ grills clean and stored in a garage or shed after

use. (Propane cylinders should be stored outside.)

- Keep dogs leashed—a roaming dog may be perceived as a threat to a bear or its cubs.
- Enjoy a bear sighting from a distance—do not approach it or try to get closer for a photo.
- If a bear is seen while hiking, let your presence be known by making noise and waving your arms.
- Back away slowly if a bear is encountered and surprised.
- Do not run or climb a tree—if possible, wait in a vehicle or building until the bear leaves.

Report concerns to: Woodbridge Police, 203-387-2511; Woodbridge Animal Control, 203-389-5991; or “911” in the event of an emergency.

The CT DEEP monitors black bear activity statewide. Routine sighting report forms and additional information can be found online at ct.gov/deep/blackbear.

Pictured is Chief Frank Cappiello (R) and Police Commission Chairman Robert Berke (L) congratulating Officer Karl Rodriguez-Perez (middle) and welcoming him to the Woodbridge Police Dept. The new bilingual patrol officer is a 2017 University of New Haven graduate and was sworn-in at the February Police Board of Commissioner's meeting.



Renter's Rebate Program

Applications for the Renter's Rebate Program may be filed with the Town's Assessor between April 2 and Sept. 28, 2018. To be eligible for this program, Woodbridge residents must:

- have turned age 65 on or before Dec. 31, 2017 (Individuals receiving Social Security Disability are age requirement exempt.)
- be full time Woodbridge residents
- earn income not greater than \$35,300 for a single person or \$43,000 for a married couple.

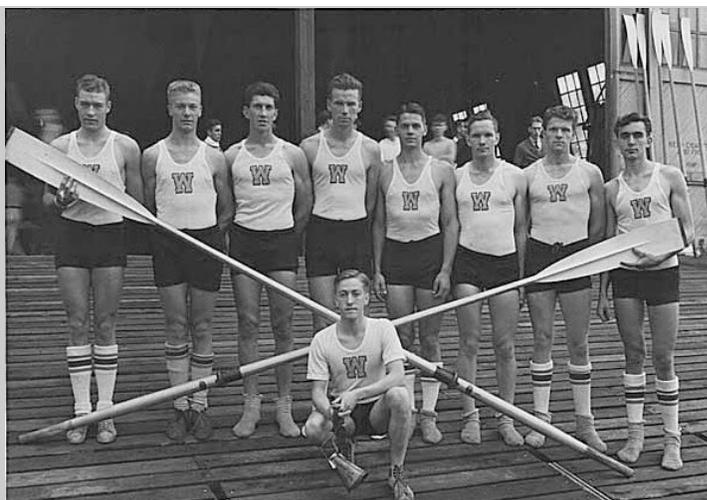
Proof of 2017 income and Social Security earnings is required along with copies of receipts or cancelled checks for all rent and utilities (excluding phone & cable) paid in 2017.

Applications will be mailed in April to all Woodbridge residents that applied to the Renter's Rebate Program in 2017. Please bring completed applications to the Assessor's Office at 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Mon. through Fri. between 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Contact the Assessor's Office with questions at 203-389-3416.

Regular Library hours are Mon. through Thu., 10 am - 8 pm and Fri. & Sat., 10am - 5 pm.
Visit the library website 24/7 to access digital resources - www.woodbridge.lioninc.org

2018 One Book, One Town

The Boys in the Boat Event Schedule



Register for these events by calling the Circulation Desk at 203-389-3433 or online at woodbridge.lioninc.org

Thu., April 5 - 7 pm Film Screening: American Experience: *The Boys of '36*

The thrilling story of the American Olympic rowing team that triumphed against all odds in Nazi Germany. Featuring interviews with Brown, historians and surviving children of the 1936 Washington team, the film recounts their unexpected victory and the obstacles they overcame to achieve it, giving hope to a nation struggling to emerge from the depths of the Great Depression.

Tue., April 10 - 7 pm: 150 Years of Women's Rowing with Tom Weil and Anne Boucher

The story of women's rowing goes back over a century, a fact that many do not know. Join Woodbridge residents Tom Weil and Anne Boucher as they discuss the history of women's rowing. Tom will cover 1860 to 1970, and Anne will speak about 1970 to the present day, including her own personal memories of the time period and rowing for Yale.

Mon., April 16 - 7 pm: *The Boys in the Boat...The Rest of the Story* with Jim Pocock

George Pocock's great-nephew Jim Pocock will speak about his personal memories of his great uncle, as well as his grandfather Dick who built boats exclusively for Yale for 46 years. He will include many interesting stories not included in the book, and fill in some colorful background on others.

Tue., April 17 - 7 pm: Depression-Era Food Demonstration with Robin Glowa, *The Conscious Cook*

Travel back in time to talk about and taste the foods of America during the Great Depression. Samples and recipes will be provided.

Fri., April 20 - 7 pm: Bedlam Brothers' String Band Concert

The Bedlam Brothers play an eclectic mix of old time

American roots music, fiddle tunes, country music from the 1920's and 30's, and a mix of folk music. Four musicians with great vocal harmonies play a variety of instruments: banjo, fiddle, guitar, bass, hammered dulcimer, mountain dulcimer, accordion and more.

Mon., April 23 - 7 pm: Entertainment During the Great Depression with Hamish Lutris

While the Great Depression was a time of sadness and despair, Americans still found ways to divert themselves and have fun. Hamish Lutris, professor at Capitol Community College, will discuss how sports, movies, music and other new media helped the nation cope with events out of their control.

Mon., April 30 - 8 pm: *The Boys in the Boat* Book Discussion with Dr. Mark Schenker

Join us to discuss our One Book title. Dr. Mark Schenker, Senior Associate Dean of Yale College and Dean of Academic Affairs, returns to the library to lead the lively conversation.

Thu., May 3 - 7 pm Film Screening: *A Hero for Daisy* and discussion with Mary O'Connor

The film chronicles the story of Title IX pioneer and two-time Olympian Chris Ernst, who galvanized her rowing team to storm the Yale athletic director's office in 1976, protesting the lack of athletic facilities for women. Nineteen athletes stripped, exposing the phrase "Title IX" in blue marker (referring to legislation enacted in 1972, mandating gender equity for all institutions receiving federal aid). The impact was immediate and national in scope. Mary O'Connor who took part in the protest at Yale will talk about the experience and impact it had on women's sports.

April Adult Events

Craft Workshop: Spring Wreaths

Wed., April 4 from 6 to 8 pm

Spruce up your door with a new grapevine wreath! We'll use ribbons, buttons, flowers and other fun things. All materials supplied, but feel free to bring anything with you. Teens and tweens welcome—fourth grade and up, please. Space and materials are limited, please register.

Teen Tech

Wed., April 25 at 7 pm

Let our teen tech experts help you with your technology troubles. From smartphones, tablets, laptop help and more. Please register for this event and bring your device fully charged with any necessary user names and passwords.



Special Children's Events

Middle School Book Club

Tue., April 24, 6-7 pm

Middle schoolers, join us to discuss *The Knife of Never Letting Go* by Patrick Ness and have some snacks! Register online and we'll put a copy of the book on hold for you to pick up.

Graphic Novel Club

Thu., April 26, 5:30-6:30 pm

Kids in grades 3-4 can join us for a fun out-of-this-world discussion of *Zita the Spacegirl*, to have a snack, and make galaxy slime! Register online and check out a copy of the book at the Children's Desk.

Eager Readers K-2 Book Group

Mon., April 30, 6:30 pm

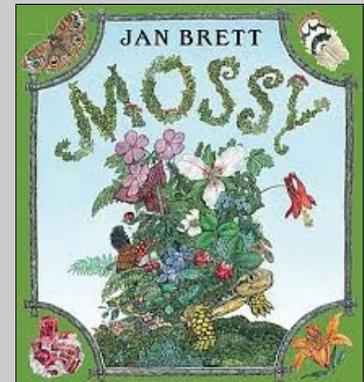
Who says a garden has to grow in the ground? Read Jan Brett's *Mossy*, and see what happens when a garden begins to grow in the most unlikely place! Join us for a book discussion and an amazing garden craft! Register at the Children's Desk when you pick up a copy of the book.

Sneak Peek Book Club

Thu., May 3, 5:30-6:30 pm

Kids in grades 5-6 can learn more about different time periods with an old-fashioned craft and snack, and of course,

a highlight of some great historical fiction books. Register online or at the Children's Desk.



Peeps in the Library Passport to Connecticut Libraries

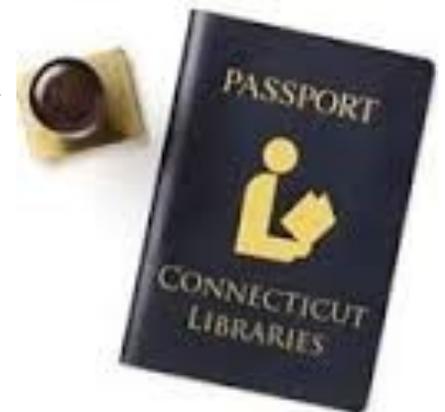


Don't forget to stop in and vote for our Peeps in the Library diorama contest. Voting will be available between April 2 - 20 on the main floor of the library. One voting ballot per patron. Winners will be announced on April 23.

Beginning April 2 through April 30, Libraries all over the state are participating in this exciting library passport program to make people of all ages aware of the power of their library card.

To get started, pick up a passport at any participating library. Take your library card and passport (to get stamped) to at least five libraries that are participating during the month of April to be eligible to win \$150 gift card for adults or \$100 gift card for children. Receive a little token at each library when you have your passport stamped.

Ask for your passport at the Woodbridge Town Library to get started!



This program is an initiative of the Connecticut Library Association.

Volunteer Recognition

This month the Center recognizes the invaluable help it routinely receives from exceptional people and organizations in Town. Coachman Square at Woodbridge is both a community partner and a terrific neighbor. Last summer it hosted a Town-wide picnic next to the bocce courts in appreciation of all first responders, Town employees and residents; more than 100 people enjoyed the barbecue and entertainment. Last fall, Coachman Square also assisted with the annual Harvest and Holly Fair and co-sponsored, along with the Willows and the Woodbridge Police Union, the annual Thanksgiving luncheon.

This year's outstanding volunteers include long-time Woodbridge residents Valerie and Richard Traumer. After former Selectman and good neighbor Chris Sorensen generously used his rototiller in the Center's vegetable garden, Valerie and Richard were on the job! They arranged funding for seeds and plants with the Woodbridge Garden Club and planted a full garden of tomatoes, eggplant,

-continued page 6

Coffee at 10 - Lecture Series A bit of breakfast and a bit of knowledge

April 25 Genealogy Methodology with Sheila McCreven and Mary Ellen Lucuk. Please register for this program by calling 203-389-3430.

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

- 4/3 Salisbury steak and mashed potatoes
- 4/6 Birds nest corned beef hash and eggs
- 4/10 Baked stuffed shrimp over rice pilaf
- 4/13 Baked stuffed shells with meat sauce and salad
- 4/17 Eggplant rollatini and salad
- 4/20 Pork burritos with rice and beans
- 4/24 Lemon chicken with sweet potatoes and vegetable
- 4/27 Assorted sandwiches and soup

Special Programming



St. Patrick's Day at the Center!

Lunch begins at 12:15 pm, reservations are requested one day prior.

April 25: Genealogy Methodology with Sheila McCreven and Mary Ellen Lucuk. Breakfast lecture is in the Center lounge, at 10 am.

April 26: 30th Annual Human Services Volunteer Tea, 2 pm at Center Café, by invitation only. This event honors volunteers for Youth Services, Human Services and the Woodbridge Center.

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

April 3: Audiology lunch program with Dr. Zelda Shleifer, Au.D., CCC-A, 12:15-12:45 pm. Audiological screenings 11 am -12:15 pm and 12:45-2:30 pm **by appointment**.

April 4: New 10-week session Art class! Meets 10 am - 12 pm, Wednesdays in the Café. Call for reservations and payment details.

April 10: Lunch entertainment with Paul Schlein at 12:30 pm. Lunch begins at 12:15 pm, reservations are requested one day prior.

April 16: Lunch Bunch! Join in for lunch with friends at the Playwrite Irish Pub in Hamden. Transportation is provided by the Center van (\$3) or meet us there. Reservations required. Self-pay at the restaurant.

April 17: Jump into Spring with cupcake decorating sponsored by New England Young at Heart. No cost, but reservations are preferred, 11 am - 12 pm.

April 24: Lunch entertainment with Katie Devlin at 12:30 pm.

May 4: Cinco De Mayo lunch fiesta with empanadas, enchiladas and flan at 12:15 pm. Reservations are requested one day prior.

May 9: Senior Prom at Aria Banquet Facility, Prospect from 11 am - 3 pm. This event, sponsored by New England Young at Heart, includes appetizers, a 3-course meal, dancing, raffles and transportation for \$30. Reservations and payment are required by May 2.

May 11: Mother's Day high tea with scones, tea sandwiches and petit fours at 12:15 pm. Reservations are requested one day prior.

May 16: Senior Health and Wellness Fair 10 am - 2 pm at the JCC. Hosted by New England Young at Heart and State Senator George Logan. Free lunch will be provided for the first 150 attendees.

Mother's Day 'Mini-Pies' Fundraiser

Order your pie today—\$5! Orders for 6-inch fresh apple crumb pies must be received by Fri., April 27. Pies may be picked up at the Center on Fri., May 11. All proceeds from the fundraiser will go to the Woodbridge Center.

Woodbridge Center News

Ongoing Programming

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 Mon. through Thu., 12:30-2:15 pm. Annual membership is \$20 with a suggested \$5 additional donation. 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 weights if you have them. Class is in the Center Gym, Tue. and Thu., 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 Woodbridge Town Library. The next meeting is April 24. This month's book is *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. New members are always welcome.

Art Class: Class meets each Wed. 10 am - 12 pm in the Center Café. The class is taught by local artist Graham Dale. Call for more information on fees and dates. A month-long art exhibit of class members' work will hang at the Woodbridge Library during the month of May.

Friday Movies: Following lunch in the Center lounge at 1 pm: 4/6 *Boys of '36*, 4/13 *The Greatest Showman*, 4/20 *Phantom Thread*, **Favorite Film Friday** 4/27 *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*

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



Intergenerational Bingo

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

Bridge: The Center's Wednesday bridge group invites new members! Join the group for a friendly card game. No reservations necessary—just come to the Center lounge, 1 pm.

Pinochle: Mon., Wed. and Thu., 1-4 pm, Center lounge. Come any day—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.

Chair Kripalu Yoga: Meets each Wed. through May 16 from 1-2:15 pm in the Center Building, Rm. 16, with instructor Julie Luciani. The class fee will be pro-rated for anyone interested in registering. The classes include seated exercises and simple standing poses using a chair.

New! Center Day Trips

New at the Center—Day Trips to Connecticut's most fascinating locations in the comfort of the Center Van. Many exciting trips are planned for this program including: museums, historic sites, shopping locations and more.



If you have a favorite location you'd like to share with the group, please don't hesitate to make a recommendation. We're looking forward to hearing from you! Our first few trips include: the Grounded Goodwife (hands-on herbal workshops and historical lectures), the Sea Mist Thimble Islands Tour, Bishop's Orchards, Beinecke Rare Book Library, Fascia's Chocolate Tour and the Connecticut Science Center. Give us a call at the Center and let us know your interest!

Volunteer Recognition

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squash, peppers, herbs and more. They tended the garden all summer—weeding, watering, and then harvesting! Many thanks to the Woodbridge Garden Club for providing seeds and plants! Without friends like Valerie and Richard, the Center would be so much less than it is.

Special recognition this year also goes to advisors Teresa Nakouzi, Kayla Widmeyer, Beth Greene, Liz Heagney, Sandy Simowitz and the Beecher Road School Student Council. The Center's Intergenerational partnership with these great kids (and staff members) has been most rewarding. The Council jumped in to help with many tasks at the Harvest and Holly Fair last fall and joined members for a wonderful event in March. They planned games, brought prizes, and, perhaps most importantly, they shared conversation and a meal. They also collected donations for the Town Food and Fuel Fund.

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” - Winston Churchill

Red Cross Babysitters Training

A two-day class will be held Wed., April 18 from 9 am - 2 pm and Thu., April 19 from 9 am until noon at the Woodbridge Town Library Meeting Room, 10 Newton Road.

Students must attend both days to earn their certificates of attendance, and plan to bring their own lunches on April 18. Healthy snacks are provided.

Red Cross Instructor Anna Maria Mauhs covers all the basics to get teens ready to babysit: leadership, basic care, safety and basic first aid. Class is offered to teens, 12-17 years old.

To register, print the permission form from the Town website at: WoodbridgeCT.org/160/Youth-Services. Send the completed form with a \$60 check payable to Woodbridge Youth Services to 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT. Sibling discounts are available. Non-residents will be held on a wait list until a week before the class. Space is limited! Call 203-389-3429 for additional information.



Kindness Klub

Students at Amity Middle School in Bethany can join the Kindness Klub after school on Tue., April 3. Make a craft to be donated to a charity or a humanitarian group. Recently, personalized treasure boxes were decorated and donated to Connecticut foster children.

To register your middle school student at no charge, complete the online permission form at WoodbridgeCT.org/160/Youth-Services. Snacks are provided. Call 203-389-3429 for more information.

Teens Needed for Yard Work

As spring begins and temperatures warm, yards will need some clean-up. Woodbridge teens, 12-18, can join the Job Bank to earn some cash and help our residents. Call 203-389-3429 to set up an interview.

Hire a Teen

Residents who need to hire someone for odd jobs can call 203-389-3429.

Recreation News

For more information, call Recreation at 203-389-3446. Registration is available at [Woodbridge CT.org](http://WoodbridgeCT.org). Click Recreation Registration at the bottom of the Town website to register for summer camp and review program options.

Recreation Summer and Pre-school Camps

Registration begins April 2 for Woodbridge Recreation Summer Camps which run six weeks from June 25 through Aug. 3, 9 am to noon. Call the Recreation Dept. at 203-389-3446 for multi-child discounts or register online at WoodbridgeCT.org.

For campers entering Grades 1 through 8, a wide range of activities are offered including arts and crafts, drama, athletics, game room and swimming. For this age group, summer camp is located at Beecher Road School-South.

	<u>Residents</u>	<u>Non-Residents</u>
6 Weeks:	\$465	\$575
5 Weeks:	\$425	\$525
4 Weeks:	\$365	\$455
3 Weeks:	\$300	\$375
2 Weeks:	\$220	\$295
1 Week:	\$130	\$195
Counselor in Training: (students entering Grade 9)	\$510	\$610

Pre-school Summer Camp is available for campers ages 3½ to 5 year olds who are toilet trained. The camp includes arts and crafts, music, drama, physical fitness, outdoor play and swimming. Pre-school camp is located at Beecher Road School-North.



<u>Pre-school Camp</u>	<u>Residents</u>	<u>Non-Residents</u>
6 Weeks:	\$525	\$640
5 Weeks:	\$465	\$580
4 Weeks:	\$410	\$530
3 Weeks:	\$350	\$470
2 Weeks:	\$300	\$430
1 Week:	\$240	\$360

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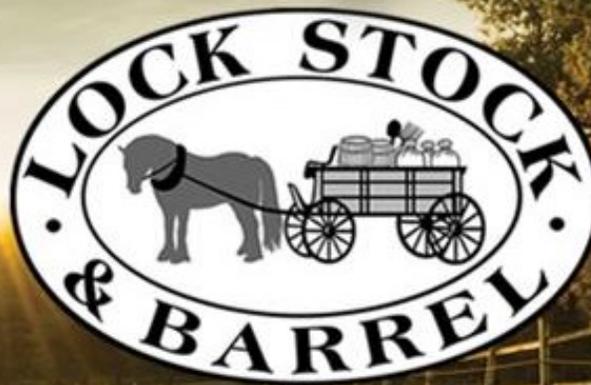
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