Update on August Activities

At our August 8th meeting, the Board of Selectmen approved a long-awaited renovation project that will add a ramp and ADA lavatory for the Senior Center. Construction will begin soon and when completed, will provide our seniors with the enhancements and services they deserve.

The draft of a Town Center Beautification Plan was shared with the Selectmen. I would like to invite interested community members and organizations to get in touch to find out how they can volunteer to help complete some of the projects outlined in the Plan.

The Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee recently acted to establish a “Complete Streets Team” to look into options the Town might explore to make our streets safer and more accessible for all. The public is invited to come get involved!

The Selectmen also voted to authorize me as First Selectman to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding the establishment of a Dog Park at the Fitzgerald Property, 100 Center Road. As I said at the meeting, I believe this is a compromise solution that will enable the Dog Park group to move forward with their fundraising and efforts to obtain the approvals as outlined in the MOU. The MOU is available on the Town website at: WoodbridgeCT.org/496/Current-Issues-Projects

Also at our August Board meeting we received a presentation regarding a proposal for the Town-owned former country club property. It can also be viewed online at the link above. Any proposal for this property will of course ultimately be considered by voters at referendum. I will keep the public informed of all developments along the way.

Just a reminder to PLEASE see information about the October 3rd Living Treasure Awards on page 5.

Remember that as your First Selectman, my door is always open and I am eager to hear your thoughts and ideas about our Town!

— First Selectman Beth Heller

Mark Your Calendar
(Residential Households Only)

- 9/8: Paper Shredding, 9 am - noon, Transfer Station, 85 Acorn Hill Rd., Ext.
- 9/17: Begin to schedule bulk pick-up appointments for Tuesdays in Oct. and Nov. (203-389-3420)

Visit the Town website for a full line up of Woodbridge events: WoodbridgeCT.org

School Year Kicks Off

Beecher Road School students began classes on Aug. 27.

Over the summer, planning, student programs, professional learning, hiring and facility preparations provided for a successful start to the year. Many BRS students participated in Summer School Programs to extend their learning. BRS teachers and administrators engaged in summer workshops, professional development days and summer curriculum work in a variety of areas with extensive work completed in mathematics and science. We also welcomed new teachers to our staff.

This year our Strategic Development Plan will continue to provide direction to meet goals in our five focus areas: academic preparation, professional learning, student centered/personalized learning, community/diversity and maximizing efficiencies.

Fallapalooza - Coming in October

Save the date for Fallapalooza, the annual month-long celebration of Woodbridge.

The celebration, which occurs throughout October, is anchored by the Recreation Dept. Road Race and wraps up with the Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Association’s Truck or Treat and Spooktacular Fireworks on Halloween.

Other events include an interactive performance of Charlotte’s Web at Massaro Community Farm, the JCC’s International Festival, the Thomas Darling House open house and hearth cooking, Progressive Salon’s Pampered in Pink and events at New England Brewing.

Event details will soon be available on the Town website, WoodbridgeCT.org/Fallapalooza and flyers that will be distributed around town.

This year, the series of events is being organized by the new ad hoc Community Council. First Selectman Beth Heller appointed the members—Co-chairs Sandy Stein and Debbie Brander, Tahera Pervez, Denise Rock and Carissa Vega—to organize events and other opportunities for Woodbridge residents to interact, learn about each other’s culture, create community and celebrate Woodbridge.
Fire Department - Fall Mulching Tips

When mulching this fall, be aware fires can start when the weather is hot with little or no rain for an extended time. Below are some safety tips.

• Store mulch in small piles. Mulch stored in huge piles, 10 to 20 feet deep, may build up enough heat from internal decomposition to start a fire.
• Provide a minimum 18-inch clearance between landscaped mulch beds and combustible building materials.
• Provide proper clearance for electric devices such as decorative lights by following the manufacturer’s instructions.
• Keep landscaped mulch beds moist, if possible.
• Consider replacing landscaping mulch with decorative stone and use rock or pea gravel around the gas meter.
• Use only manufacturer’s recommended size/wattage for yard light bulbs and use electrical devices and cords listed for outdoor use.

For more fire safety tips, visit WoodbridgeFire.com and follow us at Facebook.com/WoodbridgeFire.

From the Assessor’s Office

Notice of September Meeting for Motor Vehicle Appeals

The Board of Assessment Appeals will meet at Woodbridge Town Hall in open session on Thu., Sept. 20, 6-9 pm, to hear appeals relating to assessments for motor vehicles on the Oct.1, 2017 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 authori- zation and their own personal identification. Please bring the vehicle, if drivable.

An application must be filled out prior to your appeal and returned to the Assessor’s Office no later than Fri., Sept. 20.

Call the Assessor’s Office at 203-389-3416 to schedule an appointment.

Notice to File Exemptions

Woodbridge residents are reminded to file exemptions by the dates noted below.

• Veterans must file honorable discharge papers (DD-214) by Sept. 28, 2018 with the Town Clerk’s office.
• Veterans with a disability rating from the VA must file paperwork with the Assessor’s Office by Sept. 28, 2018.
• Certificates of Legal Blindness and Social Security Disability Certificates must be filed by Sept. 28, 2018 with the Assessor’s Office.
• Farms, Forest and Open Space applications are available in the Assessor’s Office and must be filed between Sept. 1 through Oct. 31.

Please direct questions to the Assessor’s Office, 203-389-3416.
September is Library Card Sign-Up Month

Every September, the American Library Association celebrates Library Card Sign-Up Month, encouraging everyone to become a member of their local library. The Woodbridge Town Library encourages you to sign up for a card, or stop in to renew an expired card.

Fifty-one percent (51%) of Woodbridge residents have a library card, compared to the statewide average of 41%. This number is fantastic; we would love to see the rate of card holders in town increase.

Getting a card is easy and it’s free. All you need is proof of Woodbridge residency—a driver’s license, a utility bill, or a tax bill. If you don’t live in Woodbridge, you are welcome to check out materials with a library card from the town in which you reside.

To further entice Woodbridge residents, all new and renewed cards in the month of September will be entered into a drawing for a $50 Amazon gift card!

What can you do with your Woodbridge Town Library card, besides check out books? Check out:
- DVDs and Blu-Rays of movies, TV shows, documentaries, instructional videos and more
- music CDs in all genres
- magazines
- audiobooks
- museum passes that can get you into many attractions for free or a reduced rate

The Woodbridge Town Library is a member of the LION consortium, a group of 29 area libraries, which shares materials and delivery services. If we don’t own something, chances are very good that we can borrow what is needed from another LION library and have it here within a week.

The Library card also works when you’re away from the library and Woodbridge. With your card and an internet connection, you can:
- Take classes on a variety of topics with Lynda.com.
- Use Hoopla to check out ebooks, audiobooks, TV shows, movies, music and comics.
- Use Libby (formerly known as OverDrive) to check out ebooks and audiobooks.
- Check out some of our museum passes, send them to your phone and go!
- Use Consumer Reports to get information about your next purchase.

Hope to see you soon!

Get a Library Card in September! Enter to Win a $50 Amazon Gift Card—Drawing in October.

Children’s Activities & Events

Babies Session (0-18 months)
Every Wednesday, 10:30-11 am
Join us for songs and rhymes, fun for little ones.
No registration required.

Ready to Read (18-36 months)
Every Thursday, 10:30-11 am
Find out how talking, singing and reading build vocabulary and a love of books! No registration required.

Preschool Storycraft (3-5 years)
Every Saturday, 11-11:30 am
Join us for a literature based program and art project!
No registration required.

Circle K Petting Zoo
Thursday, Sept. 6 from 4:30-6 pm
Meet some exciting animals as the zoo comes to you! We’ll be outside on the library grounds! No registration required. Rescheduled from our August 14 Farmers’ Market.

Eager Readers Book Group (Grades K-2)
Monday, Sept. 24 at 4:30 pm (Please note the change in event time)
Stop by the Children’s Desk to pick up a copy of each month’s book selection and to register. Read the book at home and then stop by for a book discussion and craft.

Please visit our website for more programming information.
Save the Date!
Swinging Through the Stacks Returns!
The mini-golf fundraiser at the Library is coming back: March 8 and 9, 2019. Stay tuned for more information from the Friends of the Library!

September Adult Events

Film Screening: Book Club
Thursday, Sept. 6 at 7 pm
Four lifelong friends' lives are turned upside down to hilarious ends when their book club tackles the infamous Fifty Shades of Grey. From discovering new romance to rekindling old flames, they inspire each other to make their next chapter the best chapter. No registration required. (Comedy-PG-13, 104 minutes)

A Terrific, Tasty Tailgate with Robin Glowa, The Conscious Cook
Thursday, Sept. 13 at 7 pm
Prepare to impress your friends and family with tasty, yet super healthy recipes. Grains, vegetables, fruits and dairy ingredients will be transformed into easy to transport dishes that will tantalize your teams’ taste buds. Samples and recipes provided. Space limited, registration required. Due to an alcoholic beverage that will be served, participants must be age 21 and up.

Film Screening: Finding Your Feet
Thursday, Sept. 27 at 7 pm
When Sandra Abbott discovers that her husband of 40 years is having an affair with her best friend she seeks refuge in London with her estranged, older sister Bif. The two could not be more different—Sandra is a fish out of water next to her outspoken, serial dating, free-spirited sibling. But different is just what Sandra needs at the moment, and she reluctantly lets Bif drag her along to a community dance class, where gradually she starts finding her feet and romance as she meets her sister's friends. No registration required. (Comedy, Drama, Romance-PG-13, 111 minutes)

Clutter, Clutter Everywhere—What Do I Do With It?
Presented by Anita Taylor
Thursday, Sept. 20 at 7 pm
Fall is a great time to pare down your things and put order into your life. The days are cooler, and the winter holiday rush has yet to start. Professional organizer Anita Taylor will show you the how and why of organizing all your stuff. Systems are the answer! Find easy solutions and simplify your life with Anita’s help. Anita has been helping clients for over 20 years. Copies of her workbook, “Anita’s Book” will be available to purchase for $40 (cash or check) after the presentation. Please register.

Saturday Hours Return!
The Library will be open on Saturdays starting September 8.
Saturday hours are 10 am to 5 pm.
Woodbridge Center News

Living Treasure Award Winners Announced

Woodbridge Human Services announces the winners of the inaugural Living Treasure Awards: Robert Conniff, Dorothy J. Martino, Louisa E. Cunningham and Leland Torrence, Sr.

Each of these four individuals has contributed years of volunteer service to the town and will be honored at the Living Treasure Award Dinner on October 3 at the Woodbridge Center Gymnasium at 4 Meetinghouse Lane. Proceeds from the dinner benefit the Woodbridge Center. We are grateful for all nominations and congratulate the winners!

We invite the community to purchase tickets to the dinner by Sept. 26 at the Woodbridge Human Services Dept. For information on congratulatory messages, ads, sponsorships and silent auction visit WoodbridgeCT.org, email HumanServices@WoodbridgeCT.org or call Human Services at 203-389-3429.

Special Programming

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

Breakfast at 10—Lecture Series

September 27: Stress Management, Mindfulness & Hurry Sickness with Dr. Jennifer Botwick of New Haven Naturopathic Center, LLC. Keeping busy? Too busy? Hurry sickness is a global phenomenon, which is why mindfulness and stress reduction are taking hold. Learn the latest in research and techniques and how you might find calm and hurry less.

RSVP is required one day prior unless otherwise noted.

Sept. 7: Yoga for Healthy Aging: New Date and Time! Meets Fridays through Nov. 16, 11:45 am - 1 pm in the Center Building, Rm. 16, with instructor Julie Luciani. Reserve your spot—11 sessions for $75.

Sept. 11: Lunch entertainment with Kayte Devlin at 12:30 pm. Lunch begins at 12:15 pm.

Sept. 13 and Sept. 20: Pickleball demonstrations and lessons for beginners—2 sessions, 12:30-2:30 pm, with Fred Butterfield and Les Rosenbaum in the Center gym. No fee. Please RSVP.

Sept. 17: Lunch Bunch! Join in for lunch with friends at The Ole Dog Tavern in Oxford. Transportation is provided by the Center van ($3) or meet us there at noon. Self-pay at the restaurant.

Sept. 25: Lunch entertainment with Pierce Campbell at 12:30 pm. Lunch begins at 12:15 pm.

Sept 26: Living Well with Diabetes or Prediabetes - Come for an information session with Mary Swansiger, BSN, MPH, from Griffin Hospital, 10-11 am in The Center’s lounge. According to the American Diabetes Association 50% of people over 65 in the U.S. have prediabetes, but most are unaware. Risk factors, treatment options and prevention will be discussed. Ongoing disease prevention or management programs will be offered.

Sept. 26 - Dec. 12: Tai Chi with Instructor Gabriella Connolly, R.N., 10-11 am. Class is offered by VNA Community Healthcare and Hospice and is part of their grant for fall prevention which reduces the cost to $15 for 12 classes! Class is designed to increase balance, stability, prevent falls and help manage arthritis.

Sept. 26: Art Class! Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) Art Class with Graham Dale begins—3 weeks, Wednesdays from 10 am -12 pm. Call for details.

Sept. 30; SUNDAY–2017 Walk to End Alzheimer’s–New Haven. Join or donate to The Woodbridge Center's team at Lighthouse Point in New Haven. Go to alz.org/walk and search team ‘Motrin in Motion - Woodbridge’.

October 17: Fall Ball with New England Young at Heart 11 am - 3 pm at Aria in Prospect. Tickets are $22. RSVP by Sept. 30.

October 24: Trip! To Broadway with lunch at Carmines and choice of show: Wicked or My Fair Lady. Includes transportation, tickets to show, luncheon and gratuity, $259.

September Lunch Menu

Lunch is served Tue. and Fri. at The Center Café at 12:15 pm. Cost is $3 - dine-in meals, $4 - take-out. RSVP is required. Meals include bread, juice, coffee/tea and dessert.

9/4 Lasagna and salad
9/7 Pulled pork
9/11 Chicken cacciatore and pasta
9/14 Shrimp with vegetables
9/18 Farm to Table Week: Eggplant Parm
9/21 Farm to Table Week: Cavatelli with broccoli and sausage
9/25 Stuffed chicken breast with rice
9/28 Seafood Newburg

The Meetinghouse Café is now open—see details on p. 6
Fuel Assistance Available

On Sept. 10, the Woodbridge Human Services Department will begin scheduling appointments for Woodbridge residents for the 2018-2019 Connecticut Energy Assistance Program administered by TEAM, Inc. Income eligibility requirements must be met.

Verification of income and assets must be submitted with the application. Additionally, names, birth dates and social security numbers of all those residing with the applicant are required.

For fuel assistance information, or to schedule an appointment, call Mary Ellen LaRocca, Director of Woodbridge Human Services Dept., or Judi Young at 203-389-3429.

Meetinghouse Café Open to All Ages

Ever in the center of town looking for a quick and delicious bite? Look no further than the new Meetinghouse Café located at 4 Meetinghouse Lane on the lower level. The café is open from 8 am to 2 pm, Mon.-Fri., and serves everything from breakfast sandwiches, muffins, and coffee to salads, sandwiches, soups, cookies and beverages.

Although the café is in The Woodbridge Center, all ages are welcome. For delicious choices and prices, please visit WoodbridgeCT.org or come in and check out the menu! If you’d like to receive weekly specials in your inbox please provide us with your email address.

Additionally, vendor Elaine Marucio provides in-home meal delivery five days per week. For more information and to sign up, please call 203-887-5047, 203-389-3491 or email neyoungatheart.com.

Ongoing Programming

New! Tai Chi with Instructor Gabriella Connolly, R.N. Wednesdays, 10-11 am, 9/26-12/12.

Bocce: Tuesdays 11 am - 12 pm at the Bocce court in the picnic grove behind the Old Firehouse.

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.

Book Club: Note new time! The book club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, 2 pm at the Woodbridge Town Library. The next meeting is Sept. 25. This month’s book is Bar Harbor Retirement Home for Famous Writers (and their muses): a novel by Terri-Lynne DeFino. New members are welcome.

Art Class: Class begins anew in September and meets each Wed., 10 am - 12 pm, in The Center Café. The class is taught by local artist Graham Dale. Learning in Retirement (ILR) offers 3 classes (9/26, 10/3, 10/10) with Graham—registration is with ILR membership: curriculum@ilralbertus.org. The Woodbridge Center class follows for ten weeks beginning Oct. 31. Registration for the ten week class is through The Center and is $60.

Friday Movies: Following lunch in The Center’s lounge at 1 pm: 9/7 Book Club, 9/14 Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story, 9/21 Finding Your Feet, Favorite Film Friday 9/28 High Society, 1956.

Residents celebrate at the Indoor Summer Picnic
Back to School Blowout

Amity Middle School-Bethany and all 7th and 8th grade residents of Woodbridge and Bethany are encouraged to get out for this awesome Friday evening event in the gym at Amity Middle School-Bethany (190 Luke Hill Road).

No skills required. Dunk a ball, do a hippity-hop challenge, ride a scooter, stack a cup tower or just dance. Watch or play, it’s all laughs. Interactive DJ and free raffle. Cost is $5; pay at the door. Register at 203-389-3429 or email: Youthon@woodbridgect.org

Volunteers Needed: Adults, college students, and high school juniors and seniors may call 203-389-3429 to help. Community Service hours approved.

Fun at Summer Camp

Woodbridge Youth Services collaborated with the Woodbridge Recreation Dept. to support entertaining programs for summer campers.

The energy level was over the top when the Harlem Wizard played games with many of the kids (see photo on right).

Magic was in the air when Illusionist David Garrity maneuvered out of shackles and made a table float in mid-air (see photo on left). The summer events were fun for all!

Yoga, T’ai-Chi and Meditation

There is a thriving community of Yogis and T’ai-Chi practitioners in Woodbridge. Instructor Diane King is trained in integral yoga, bone strength yoga, yin yoga and other styles. Her gentle yoga adult class is a slower-paced, dynamic class offered: Wed., 10:30 am starting Sept. 5; Mon., 10:30 am & 5:30 pm starting Sept. 17. Meditation and Qi Gong, a moving meditation practice, is a new class offered Wed., 8-9 pm, beginning Sept. 26.

Instructor Bill Banick is Ayurvedic Yoga certified and has certifications in the Hatha Tantra tradition. His ongoing yoga classes, designed to suit the mood and abilities of students, begin Sept 4: Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am; Tue., 5:30 pm. A new authentic T’ai-Chi class is offered Wed., 6:30 pm starting Sept 5; Fri., 10 am starting Sept. 7.

Please register online at WoodbridgeCT.org. or call the Recreation Office, 203-389-3446.

Fall Program Registration

It is time to register for Woodbridge Rec. Fall Programs including swim lessons, basketball, bowling, Bricks4Kidz, chess, Clay Date, drawing, flag football, guitar, gymnastics, Kids Dig Farms, Kumon, Little Scientists, majorette, piano, Running Club, taekwondo and tennis. Most programs begin the week of September 11. For registration information, please contact the Woodbridge Recreation Dept. at 203-389-3446, or register online at WoodbridgeCT.org. Click the online registration link.

37th Annual Road Race & Fun

Please join the Woodbridge Recreation Dept. for their 37th annual 5K Road Race and children’s Fun Run on Sat., Oct. 6. The children’s Fun Run begins 9 am at the Fitzgerald Tract. The 5K Road Race starts 10:30 am at the Woodbridge Town Center (Meetinghouse Lane).

The Road Race is the kick-off to the month long Fallapalooza celebration taking place throughout October.

Pre-register online at WoodbridgeCT.org or visit the Recreation Dept. at 40 Beecher Rd. Call the office at 203-389-3446 for more information.

Recreation News

Call Recreation at 203-389-3446 or email Recreation@WoodbridgeCT.org. Register at WoodbridgeCT.org. Select Recreation Registration at the home page on the Town website to register and view the lineup of program options.

Teens Needed for Job Bank/Yard Work

Woodbridge teens, 13-18, can join the Job Bank to earn some cash and help residents. Call 203-389-3429 to join.