April Activities & Events

As April arrives, our thoughts turn naturally to the season of renewal. Woodbridge has so many outdoor experiences to enjoy! I hope you and your family will have a chance to get out and about as the weather begins to warm up.

Below you will see information about our annual Rid Litter Day celebration – I hope to see you there! We are also preparing information regarding changes that will be coming to our Transfer Station this summer – please stay tuned.

Another annual occurrence, Bethwood Baseball League recently made a donation to the Town to help cover the cost of maintaining ball fields. We are thankful for this continued community-funded support, and look forward to the start of the spring sports season for the boys and girls of Woodbridge. As our athletic fields come alive with activity, please be mindful of traffic entering and exiting field areas on Center Road, Pease Road, Acorn Hill Road and in the West River Fields area.

Flooding Concerns in the West River Neighborhood

The saying “April showers bring May flowers” reminds us that Spring is also a season of increased rain storms. Due to global weather patterns, we have experienced more intense storms and must build resiliency to protect against this increasing risk for storm-related damage. We are making progress in pursuing federal and state funding to address flooding conditions especially in the West River area of Town.

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro visited Woodbridge on March 20 to discuss our Hazard Mitigation plan and tour flood-affected areas. We have now followed up with the Army Corps of Engineers to request a study of this area and I have asked both our federal and state delegations to support this request.

I am grateful that area residents, business owners, and members of local environmental groups (the West River Watershed Coalition and Save The Sound) were on hand to talk with us at the river’s Bradley Road crossing. Community input and support is so important as we pursue funding to cover costs of both the planning phase and the work that might be done to alleviate flood-related hazard conditions impacting our Town. I will continue to keep everyone informed and welcome your thoughts, as always.

- First Selectman Beth Heller

Save the Dates!

• April 22, 7:30 pm: Preliminary Budget Hearing at the Center Building gym.
• April 27, 10 am - 12 pm: Prescription “Drug Take-Back” Day at the Woodbridge Police Dept.

Rid Litter Day

Join your neighbors to help celebrate Earth Day at the annual Rid Litter Day event on Sunday April 28 from 11 am to 1 pm at the Town Green (opposite Town Hall).

You’re invited to stop by the Green to pick up a trash bag and map for an area of town where roadside litter can be collected. Pick a road or intersection of your choice, or we will assign you a location the day of the event. All trash bags will then be picked up by Woodbridge DPW crews and disposed of at the Transfer Station.

There will also be informational tables to help you learn how to reduce, reuse and recycle. More information will also be available about changes coming to the Woodbridge Transfer Station this summer.

Get a jump on your spring cleaning and plan to bring your household’s obsolete confidential/financial papers for secure disposal at a Paper Shredding truck we will have at the event (for residents only, no businesses, please). You can also do your part to help prevent prescription drug abuse by cleaning out your medicine cabinet and bringing your expired, unused or unwanted medications to the prescription drug take-back box which will also be available the day of the event in the Police Department’s lobby (entrance off the Town Green).

“I’d like to thank the Ad Hoc Community Council and Sustainability Committee for organizing an expansion of this important community event to beautify our town and help the environment,” said First Selectman Beth Heller.

We ask that drivers be extra careful while driving in Woodbridge on Sunday April 28 since there will be people picking up trash on the side of the road. Participants are asked to wear bright colors and wear their own work gloves.

The ProAct Prescription Discount Card Program: The ProAct Prescription Drug Discount Card Program helps residents save money on their prescription medications any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance. Extra discount cards are available at Town Hall and may be used at any participating retail pharmacy. Town residents may also print a card by visiting CTRxDiscountCard.com.
Applications for the Renter's Rebate Program may be filed with the Town’s Assessor between April 1 and Oct. 1, 2019. To be eligible for this program, Woodbridge residents must:

• have turned age 65 on or before Dec. 31, 2018 (Individuals receiving Social Security Disability are age requirement exempt.)
• be full time Woodbridge residents
• earn income not greater than $36,000 for a single person or $43,900 for a married couple.

Proof of 2018 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 2018.

Applications will be mailed in April to all Woodbridge residents that applied to the Renter’s Rebate Program in 2018. 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.

Register to Vote

Remember to register to vote for the May 6 Town Election! Register online at VoterRegistration.CT.gov or visit the Office of the Registrars on Wednesdays, 9 am - 1 pm or the Town Clerk’s Office any weekday between 8:30 am - 4:30 pm through April 29 for advance registration.

Residents already registered to vote do not need to re-register. Registration status may be checked at: www.dir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx

Mon., April 29: Special Voter Registration Session  
(9 am - 8 pm)
• Deadline for in-person advance registration
• Online registration closes 11:59 pm

Fri., May 3: Limited Registration Session  
(9 am - 5 pm)
• For voters whose age, citizenship or residence qualifications changed since April 29
• For voters with physical disabilities, servicemen and residents out of the country

Mon., May 6: Election Day  
(6 am - 8 pm)
• Polls open at Center Building gym
• Election Day registration at Senior Center

Volunteer Tea

During National Volunteer Week in April, Woodbridge Human Services will be honoring 141 volunteers at the 31st Annual Volunteer Tea. Sharon Bender, Jennifer DiBlanda and Kristy Moriarty will be honored as Outstanding Volunteers and Tony Anastasio and Chris Sorensen will be the recipients of Human Services Special Recognition Awards. Carolyn DeGennaro will receive The Woodbridge Center Award for her lifetime achievement. Community Volunteer Business Awards will be presented to Amity Gardens, Bender, and Joyce Printers. Samuel Martin will receive this year’s First Selectman Youth Award. The attitude of compassion and commitment of all the volunteers brings so much to Woodbridge. The Human Services Commission and staff appreciate and are grateful for the hard work and dedication given so generously by the volunteers.

Renter’s Rebate Program

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Library News

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

The Library will be closed on April 19 in observance of Good Friday.
It will be open on Saturday, April 20 from 10 am to 5 pm.

A Letter from the Library and the Friends of the Library

Dear Woodbridge Community,

Thank you for all of the support over the past few months as we prepared for another Mini-Golf event. The Library staff and Friends were amazed with the response from the community—both residents and businesses. We feel fortunate to be working and/or living in a town that supports and cares about its library—and it showed in so many ways.

Thank you to all of the hole sponsors who made playing the game itself possible! Thank you to the businesses that gave food and drink—Friday night was a blast especially because of the celebratory atmosphere at the “Nineteenth Hole.” Thank you to the volunteers—those who gave their time and their labor to decorate, set up, run errands...and so much more!

The biggest thank you goes to all of the Mini-Golf players. We could not have had such a successful weekend without those who came out and spent time here. Whether it was as a date night or following your kids around the building, your presence and enthusiasm were enjoyed.

We hope to see you again in the months to come. Your support is always welcome—whether through book donations for the Friends’ Bookstore Alley, attending programs, checking out items in person or digitally, or just stopping in to flip through a magazine—all of these things matter.

With appreciation and gratitude,

-The Staff of the Woodbridge Town Library
-The Friends of the Woodbridge Library

P.S. Save the dates for the book sale! May 30 - June 3

Amazing April Adult Programs

Registration is required for all programs in order for Library staff and the presenters to know the number of people to expect for each event. Online or in person registration is appreciated. Thank you!

Stephen King, American Master with Stephen Spignesi
Monday, April 15 at 7 pm

Enjoy an illustrated lecture by Stephen Spignesi, author of six books about Stephen King. This lecture looks at the life and work of America’s most popular writer and the undeniable Master of the Macabre. The program covers all of King’s writings—novels, novellas, short stories, nonfiction, screenplays, poetry and more. Illustrated with dozens of rare photos from King’s life and career and interspersed with comments from King colleagues, experts, and co-authors, this presentation is an entertaining and informative look at one of the world’s most significant and popular writers. The presentation is followed by a Q&A.

Dr. Siegfried Kra
Tuesday, April 23 at 7 pm

Meet local author Dr. Siegfried Kra as he reads from his latest book, *Twilight in Danzig*. Based on a true story, the novel is told through the childlike, naïve, but mature eyes of a young boy whose family, because of their wealth and friendship with the nobility of Danzig, is buffered against the rising power of Hitler. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Experience Aloha with Tiare Kahana
Tuesday, April 30 at 7 pm

Tiare Kahana will be your personal tour guide through Hawaii’s past and present, with the oral language tradition of hula. Learn the origin and history of hula, along with the customs, traditions, and language of the Hawaiian people. Audience will have the opportunity to participate and learn the hula as well. Learn the true meaning of the word "Aloha" and experience the Spirit of Aloha!
**Children’s Events**

**Earth Day Craft**

Celebrate Earth Day and make an up-cycled, self-watering planter. Soil and seeds provided. This event is for ages 5 and up, with an adult. Registration is not required—just drop by on Sat., April 20, 2 to 3 pm.

**April Film Screenings**

All film screenings are on Thursdays at 7 pm in the Library’s meeting room. No registration required.

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<tr>
<td>If Beale Street Could Talk</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Favourite</td>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>119 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Wife</td>
<td>April 25</td>
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**Comedy Juggler Visits Vacation Week**

Join the fun with Bryson Lang! His comedy juggling show has lots of energy and audience participation, with ball spinning, upside down bounce juggling, flying sombreros, magic and more. For ages 4 and up. Online registration is required—space is limited for this event, Wed., April 17 at 2 pm.

**Sneak Peek Book Club**

Get first dibs on new books at the Library, make a very cool dragon egg, and enjoy a snack on Thu., April 11 at 5:30 pm, grades 4 to 6. Please register online or at the Children’s Desk and let staff know of any food allergies.

**National Poetry Month Crafts**

April is National Poetry Month! Visit the Children’s Room every Wednesday in April, from 4 to 6 pm, for a different poetry-related craft. All ages welcome; no registration required.

**Changes to hoopla**

As of April 1, the number of items available per patron, per month will change to five (5). Please contact the Reference Desk with any questions: in person, by phone 203-389-3434, or via email wbrstaff@lioninc.org.
Breakfast at 10
Lecture Series

Remember to mark your calendars for the breakfast lecture series held in the Center Building, Room 11 at 10 am.

April 24: Diabetes: How to Manage It If You Have It & How To Prevent It If You Don’t with Mary Swansiger, BSN, MPH, CDE, Outreach Coordinator Griffin Hospital Community Outreach & Parish Nursing.

May 22: Estate Planning and Asset Protection with Guertin and Guertin, LLC in The Center lounge. This program was created to help people learn how they can protect their most valuable assets (like a home) from financial devastation of a long-term stay in a nursing home, creditor issues, and/or lawsuits, by utilizing an irrevocable Asset Protection Trust. Forty percent of older Americans will need nursing home care at some point in their lives!

A Farewell to Mel

Mary Ellen “Mel” Lucuk will retire from The Woodbridge Center at the end of April. Reserve a spot for her farewell lunch on Tue., April 23 at 12:15 in The Center café.

We look forward to seeing the great things she does in this new chapter of her life. She will be sorely missed!

April Lunch Menu

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

4/2 Chicken enchiladas with rice
4/5 Seafood casserole
4/9 Lasagna and salad
4/12 Assorted sandwiches, potato salad
4/15 BBQ pulled pork with rice and beans
4/19 Closed Good Friday
4/23 Roast Beef, mashed potatoes and gravy
4/26 Chicken oregano with rice
4/30 Stuffed cabbage

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

Town officials and guests celebrate the grand opening of The Woodbridge Center’s new ADA compliant restroom. From left are Human Services Director Mary Ellen LaRocca, David Bender, owner of Bender, First Selectman Beth Heller, Tax Collector Pat Crisco, Selectman Joe Crisco and Dan Pino of Olympus Construction.

RSVP is required one day prior unless otherwise noted.

Apr. 2: Intergenerational Program with Beecher Road School student council and the Korean Spirit and Culture program, begins at 10:45 am in the lounge.

Apr. 2 & 9: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), 9 am - 12 pm. VITA is a free tax preparation service available to low-income individuals, people who have a disability or those who speak limited English. Appointments are available 9 am - noon on Tue., April 2 or 9. Call for information on required documents and to make an appointment.

Apr. 9: Lunch entertainment with Pierce Campbell begins at 12:15 pm. RSVP required.

Apr. 11: 31st Annual Volunteer Tea at 2 pm in café—by invitation only. This event honors volunteers for Youth Services, Human Services and The Woodbridge Center.

Apr. 15: Lunch Bunch! Join in for lunch with friends at Luce in Hamden. Transportation is provided by The Center van ($3) or meet there. Self-pay at the restaurant.

Apr. 16: Lunch entertainment with Paula Pettinella begins at 12:15 pm. RSVP required.

Apr. 23: Lunch entertainment with Brian Gillie begins at 12:15 pm. RSVP required.

Apr. 25: 9 am - 1 pm, Spring Fling Health and Wellness Fair sponsored by New England Young at Heart in the Center Building gym.

Apr. 30: First Selectman Beth Heller and the Democratic candidates for municipal office speak and serve lunch, 12-1 pm in the café.

May 3: Cinco De Mayo lunch celebration!

May 3: Campaign visit: The Woodbridge Republican slate for municipal office will speak and serve lunch.

May 6: Center Closed for Municipal Elections—Vote! 6 am – 8pm

May 8: Center Open—Amity Referendum.
**Living Treasure Committee Meets in May**

Here’s a chance to get involved with the 2nd annual Living Treasure Awards event. The first meeting of the planning committee will be held May 9 at 9 am in The Center lounge, 4 Meetinghouse Lane, lower level. We’re looking for individuals who would like to build on last year’s success.

The Living Treasure Award dinner is a fundraiser for The Woodbridge Center which honors community-minded Woodbridge residents for their dedication to the Town and for their years of community service. The event includes a silent auction, a program and a delicious dinner.

Donations of silent auction items, purchase of program book ads and table sponsorships are available by calling The Woodbridge Center at 203-389-3430 or emailing jglicksman@woodbridgect.org.

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**Got Questions??**

Senior Services Social Worker, Judi Young, is available to help seniors with their questions. Inquiries regarding Medicare, Medicare Supplemental Insurance, Medicare HMO’s and other state and federal benefit programs are welcome. Information is also available on homecare needs and Woodbridge Human Services programs such as the Energy Assistance Program and the Friendly Visitor Program.

If you are in need of an advocate or any of these services, please contact Judi Young for an appointment at (203) 389-3429.

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**Ongoing Programming**

**Bocce:** Begins again April 9, Tuesdays from 11 am - 12 pm at the bocce court in the picnic grove behind the Old Firehouse.

**New! Weekly Craft Group**

Thursdays, 10 am - 1 pm, in The Center lounge. Calling all knitters and crocheters to join the group. No RSVP necessary.

**Yoga for Healthy Aging Class**

meets Fridays, 11:45 am - 1 pm, in the Center Building, Rm. 16, with instructor Julie Luciani. Class combines seated and standing postures and is safe for all. The class fee will be pro-rated if joined late (12 sessions for $75).

**Tai Chi** with VNA Instructor Gabriella Connolly, R.N.

Wednesdays, 10-11 am for beginners, 11 am - 12 pm for intermediate, $15 for 12 weeks through May 29.

**Mahjong:** Mon. & Fri., 10 am, Center Building, Rm. 11.

**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:** The book club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, 11 am at the Woodbridge Town Library. The next meeting is Apr. 23 and the book will be Educated: a Memoir by Tara Westover. New members are welcome.

**Art Class:** Class meets each Wed., 10 am - 12 pm, in The Center café. Class is taught by local artist Graham Dale. Call to register. The ten week class is $60 and will be pro-rated for those joining late. New session begins May 8.

**Friday Movies:** Following lunch in The Woodbridge Center lounge at 1 pm: 4/5 First Man, 4/12 If Beale Street Could Talk, 4/26 Favorite Film Friday: Love Crazy (1941 – with Myrna Loy and Dick Powell)

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

**Duplicate Bridge:** Mondays in The Center café, 9:30 am.

**Bridge:** The Center’s Wednesday bridge group invites new members! Join in for a friendly card game. No reservations—just come to The Center lounge.

**Pinochle:** Mon., Wed. or Thu., 1-4 pm, in The Center lounge. Come any day—the group looks for new players and is willing to bring rusty players up to speed!

**Pickleball:** Meets Mon-Thu. in the Center gym for group play, 12:30-2:30 pm and Fri., 12:30-3:30 pm. Paid annual members may arrange playing times with other players through the Doodle scheduling tool. Annual membership is $20 for Woodbridge residents and $25 for non-residents. Equipment is available on a first come, first served basis.

**Calling all poker, canasta and spades players**—share your interest and The Center will put a group or a game together!
Red Cross Babysitters Training

A two-day class will be held for teens 12-17 years of age on Wed., April 17 and Thu., April 18 from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm in Room 11 at the Center Building, 4 Meetinghouse Lane. Students must attend both days to earn a certificate. Healthy snacks are provided.

Red Cross Instructor Anna Maria Mauhs covers all the basics to get teens ready to babysit: leadership, basic care, safety, basic first aid.

To register, download the permission form from the Youth Services page on the Town Website at WoodbridgeCT.org/160/Youth-Services. Please send the completed form with a check for $60 ($65 for non-residents) payable to Woodbridge Youth Services, 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT. A discount is available for siblings attending together. Spaces are limited!

Save the Date: Party for 6th graders from Woodbridge and Bethany on Friday, May 3, 6:30-8:30 pm at Amity Middle School-Bethany. There is a $5 entry fee per student. Check the Youth Service page on the Town website for more information or call 203-389-3429.

Home Alone Class

Registration is open for the Home Alone Class on Mon., April 15 for ages 9-12. The course will be held in the Woodbridge Library Meeting Room at 10 Newton Road from 10 am to 12:15 pm. Cost is $15 per child. Healthy snacks will be provided.

Payment and permission form may be mailed to Woodbridge Youth Services, 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT. Space is limited. The permission form is located on the Town website at WoodbridgeCT.org/160/Youth-Services or call 203-389-3429 for information.

First Selectman’s Youth Award 2019 Winner

Samuel Martin is honored for his contribution to the Woodbridge community. Sam, an Eagle Scout, has refurbished numerous trailhead signs for Woodbridge Land Trust and serves as Assistant Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 41. He also is an avid supporter of the Unified Sports program at Amity High School.

Recreation Camps

Woodbridge Recreation Summer camps will run June 24 through Aug. 2, 9 am - noon at Beecher Road South School for campers entering grades 1-8 and Beecher Road North School for pre-school campers ages 3 1/2 - 5 that are toilet trained. Camp offers a wide range of activities including arts and crafts, drama, fitness, swimming and more.

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<th>Camp (Grade 1-8)</th>
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<td>5 Weeks:</td>
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Logan Testa Memorial Triathlon

The Woodbridge Recreation Dept. will hold its inaugural Annual Logan Testa Memorial Kid’s Triathlon on Saturday, June 8, 9 am. Join this family event where children compete in three athletic timed events: swimming, biking and running.

Logan, a longtime participant of the Woodbridge Recreation programs, lost his valiant fight last year. We are excited to be honoring Logan’s life and his family’s commitment to our programming. Awards will be given to all participants. It is recognized that all athletes are winners for their stamina and spirit to compete regardless of time!

Registration deadline (online or in person at the Woodbridge Recreation Dept.) is Friday, May 17. Due to the amount of preparation for this event, registrations will not be accepted after May 17.