As we head into the summer months there are several project updates I would like to share with you. First, you may have noticed as you drive through our Town Center area that the Town Green entrance (diagonally across Meetinghouse Lane from Town Hall) has seen some recent enhancements. Arden’s Garden, a public-private partnership, has now been completed with the addition of four handsome park benches and new plantings to supplement the shrubs and trees that established the garden this past autumn.

These four benches represent the first dedicated benches laid out in the Town Center Beautification Plan. If you’d like to also donate a bench with a dedication plaque, we have identified locations not only in the Town Center but also at our various ball fields, Pease Place Playground, and the Fitzgerald Fitness Tract. To learn more, or place an order by filling out an online form, please visit the Town website (or access the form directly at: bit.ly/2YKVTUn).

As you may recall, the Beautification Plan is designed to make the Town Center Campus a place that invites residents to linger and interact in our community. The Town Center Campus is the center of official Town business and its appearance is a reflection of our pride and values as a Town. Arden’s Garden is already making a positive impact on people as they visit Town Center – my thanks again to the family and friends of Arden Clark Gordon for making this garden a reality.

Events in the Town Center Saturday, June 1st
I hope you will join with your neighbors on Saturday, June 1st as we celebrate Rid Litter Day in front of the Library, as well as the Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale, the Garden Club’s plant sale and the Dog Park Cooperative’s first Mutt Strutt – all taking place that day on the Town Center Campus. Please stop by and say hello!

Tree Donations for the Center and Fitzgerald Tract
The Beautification Plan also calls for replacing three trees that were removed from the Green. Two replacement trees have been purchased and will soon be planted with memorial plaques. A third location is available for tree donation on the Green and another is available in front of the Library.

Decorative flowering trees will also be planted on Center Road at the Fitzgerald Tract where trees were recently removed during United Illuminating’s vegetation management program. New trees have been selected to increase the natural beauty of the area and for their short stature so that they will remain clear of the wires in the future. If you’re interested in purchasing any of these trees, please use the form available at the Town website (or access the form directly at: bit.ly/2VObkA2).

- First Selectman Beth Heller
Town News

Notice from the Tax Office

Woodbridge taxpayers are reminded that real estate, motor vehicle and personal property taxes are due July 1, 2019.

Real estate and personal property taxes over $100 are due in two installments. The first installment is due July 1, 2019 and becomes delinquent August 2, 2019. The second installment is due January 1, 2020 and becomes delinquent February 4, 2020.

Taxes $100 or less and all motor vehicle taxes are due and payable in one single installment on July 1, 2019 and becomes delinquent August 2, 2019. For delinquent payment, interest will be charged on the unpaid installment balance at the rate of 1.5% per month from the due date. The minimum interest charge is $2.

The Tax Office is open 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday (closed July 4). For your convenience, the office will be open Saturday, July 27, 9 am - noon and Thursday, August 1, 8:30 am - 7 pm. If making payment in person, bring your entire bill so it may be stapled as your receipt. For mail payments, enclose your check, the entire bill and a self-addressed stamped envelope for a return receipt. Credit card payments may now be made online (only) through the Town website at WoodbridgeCT.org. There is a fee charged for this service. Please read the online information carefully.

Failure to receive a bill does not exempt you from payment of tax or penalty, per Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-130, 12-146.

Please call Woodbridge Tax Collector Pat Crisco with any questions at 203-389-3425.

Paolo Ristorante Opens

Paolo and Elena Iannaconne opened Paolo Ristorante, at 208 Amity Road, in early May. The couple spent the last 11 years working at his aunt’s restaurant, Bin 100 in Milford.

Paolo says that he learned to cook from Elena who learned to cook from her father. “He doesn’t work in a restaurant but he’s the best chef I know,” says Paolo. She plans to run the front of the house but will also be involved in the kitchen.

“Opening a restaurant has been his dream forever,” Elena says of Paolo. “Being Italian and having lived in Italy for so long food is a passion and a lifestyle for me,” he adds.

Paolo was born in Connecticut but his family moved back to Italy when he was 5 years old and he spent the next 25 years in Naples. He met Elena there and they moved to Connecticut shortly after having their first child.
New England Legends
with Jeff Belanger

For over 20 years, Jeff Belanger has been exploring the unexplained. He seeks out history, folklore, ghosts, monsters, and legends all over the world and in backyards. Come enjoy New England Legends on Tuesday, June 11, at 7 pm which offers a tour of haunts, monsters, aliens, and weird history from around New England. Based on Jeff’s popular weekly podcast and his television series on PBS and Amazon Prime, the program presents highlights from his own adventures, his work, plus a look at the investigation process. Jeff’s presentation will delve into the reasons behind the legends. Jeff is a New England native, author, adventurer, and one of the most visible and prolific explorers of the unknown out there today. Since 1997, the journalist has interviewed thousands of eyewitnesses to unusual occurrences. He is the author of more than a dozen books on the paranormal, including four best sellers. Additionally, Jeff has written for newspapers like The Boston Globe and is the series writer and researcher for Ghost Adventures on the Travel Channel. Register online or at the Library. Space is limited.

Transgender 101
with Jillian Celentano

What does transgender mean? How do I help someone in my life who is transitioning? What does “preferred pronouns” mean and which ones do I use? How can I be inclusive in my workplace, neighborhood, or organization? Get the answers to these questions and more on June 17 at 7 pm as the Library celebrates LGBTQ Pride Month with an informal, comfortable presentation with Jillian Celentano on what it means to be transgender. Jillian is a 58 year old transgender woman who transitioned three years ago. As an advocate for the transgender community, she speaks throughout the Northeast at venues including conferences, medical centers/hospitals and libraries. Learn from Jillian’s personal journey, including her victories and hardships as well as her coming out process, transition process (G-rated), and acceptance process. Learn terms and definitions as well as right and wrong questions to ask other transgender people. Jillian presents her information in an open and honest setting; all are welcome to attend and ask questions. The event is geared to be safe and judgement-free.

In addition to her public speaking work, Jillian is a Gay Straight Alliance instructor at a New Haven high school, has organized a transgender youth support group and is a member of Stonewall Speakers. She has returned to college to obtain her Master's degree in psychology to become a counselor for primarily trans youth and adults. She is currently interning at the Yale Gender Program in New Haven.

Adult Summer Reading Bingo Starts June 18

Ready for a challenge? Participate this year in the Library’s Adult Summer Reading Bingo Challenge! Read outside (or inside) the box and discover new and different books to enjoy. Starting Tuesday, June 18, participants may pick up bingo boards and start reading!

Once a book is finished, fill out a review card and let Adult Services staff know which challenge was fulfilled on the bingo board. Win a prize for every row completed. Every marked box will give you a chance to win prizes at our Summer Reading Party on Monday, August 19 at 7 pm. See the Information Desk for more details.
**Library News**

**Blast Off with Summer Reading Events**

The 2019 Summer Reading Program, A Universe of Stories, runs June 18 through August 26. Children and teens entering grades K-8 will have lots of opportunities to attend special events, weekly science, math and craft drop in programs, and explore the universe through a collection of specially selected books. Teens entering grades 7 & 8 will be able to check out titles on their summer reading lists plus new Nutmeg Award nominees, and attend an ice cream social in August.

*For any of the special events in June — please register online.*

**June 1, noon: Llama in the Library!** (Ages 3+ with an adult)
Do you love llamas? Join us in the meeting room for a visit from Country Quilt Llama Farm. Stories, fun facts and photo ops.

**June 3, 4 to 6 pm: Early Bird Family Summer Reading Event** (Grades K-2)
Get the scoop on Summer Reading, enjoy crafts and snacks, and sign up for programs.

**June 6, 5 pm: Celebrate National Doughnut Day** (Grades 3 and older)
Make a doughnut keychain and enjoy some fresh baked doughnuts.

**June 11-17, during Library hours:** Early Bird Summer Reading Sign Up
Come to the Children’s Desk, check out a minimum of three books, and get a prize for early bird registration.

**June 18, 3 pm: Animal Embassy** (Ages 4+ with an adult)
Travel around the world with some very unusual live animal ambassadors.

**June 29, 3 pm: Unicorn Party** (Ages 4 and older)
Do you know a child who loves unicorns? We’ll have fun with stories, crafts, and more.

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**Children’s Events**

**Babies Session (0-18 months)**
Every Wednesday, 10:30-11 am
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
A literature based program and art project. No registration required.

**Eager Readers Book Group (Grades K-2)**
Monday, June 17, 6:30 pm
Stop by the Children’s Desk to pick up a copy of this month’s title, and to register. Read the book at home and then come for a book discussion and craft.

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**Reading Together Returns!**

The Library’s sixth annual conversational reading program pairs children with teens in grades 9-12 to make connections with the stories they read and sharpen their reading skills during the summer. Sessions will be held July 11 & 18 and August 8 & 15. Required online registration for children begins on June 15. Teen volunteers will be trained June 21 & 28; one training session is required. Please check the website for details. For more information, contact Mrs. Rabin at 203-389-3439 or jrabin@woodbridgect.org.

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**June Film Screenings**

Film screenings are on Thursdays, 7 pm, in the Library’s meeting room. No registration required.

**June 6:** *Fighting with My Family*
107 minutes; PG-13

**June 13:** *Instant Family*
117 minutes; PG-13

**June 20:** *The Upside*
126 minutes; PG-13

**June 27:** *What Men Want*
117 minutes; R

**Coming in August:** Outdoor movies on Tuesday nights. Stay tuned for details, including polls where you get to pick each film!
Thursday Lunches?

The Center’s Friday lunch program will move to Thursdays beginning June 6 at 12:15 pm in The Center’s cafeteria.

Friday movies will move to Tuesdays at 1:15 pm starting June 4 in The Center lounge. On Tuesdays, come for exercise at 10 am and stay for lunch and a movie! On Thursdays come for exercise or craft group and stay for lunch!

Join in and make new friends or reconnect with old friends.

Transportation Info

The Town provides transportation for residents, weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm. Any resident 60 years or older, or permanently or temporarily disabled, may schedule transportation on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information call The Center 8:30 am - 4 pm weekdays. Rides to medical appointments to Woodbridge, Ansonia, Bethany, Derby, Hamden, New Haven, Orange, Oxford, Seymour, Shelton, Branford, East Haven, Milford, North Haven, Wallingford, and West Haven are available. Rides for grocery shopping, banking and the pharmacy are available on Wednesdays and daily rides to The Center’s activities are available. Reservations must be made at least 24 hours in advance of all appointments.

June Lunch Menu

Lunch is served Tue. and Thu. 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Menu</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/4</td>
<td>Chicken burritos, rice and beans</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/6</td>
<td>Eggplant parmesan over pasta</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/11</td>
<td>Father’s Day Lunch! Pulled pork, coleslaw and root beer floats!</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/13</td>
<td>Shrimp with vegetables over pasta</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/18</td>
<td>Roast beef, mashed potatoes, vegetable</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/20</td>
<td>Broccoli &amp; bacon quiche with garden vegetable soup</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/25</td>
<td>Chicken cacciatore with pasta and Farewell cake for Elaine and Shauna!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/27</td>
<td>Japanese onion soup, General Tso’s chicken, blueberry and lemon trifle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Local residents stay fit playing Pickleball at The Woodbridge Center. Call to schedule a training class if you are new to the game or just come and enjoy this fun fitness phenomenon. See next page for more information.

RSVP is required one day prior unless otherwise noted.

June 4: Keeping Strong: An Introduction to Food & Fitness with VNA Community Healthcare & Hospice begins 12:20 pm in The Center café. The presentation focuses on ways to improve your health through making better diet choices and becoming more active. RSVP for lunch ($3/12:15 pm).

June 10: AAA Roadwise Driver program, 9 am - 1 pm in The Center lounge. This nationally recognized defensive driving course may qualify attendees for a discount on auto-insurance. Check with your insurance company to verify discount eligibility. The class is offered at no charge. RSVP is required.

June 11: Lunch entertainment with Kayte Devlin begins at 12:15 pm. RSVP required.

June 12: Tech Wednesday at 3 pm, iPhone open house in Library meeting room. If you have questions about using your iPhone or other smart phones, drop by — no reservations required.

June 13: Reuse, Recycle! Alicia Mulvihill, MPH, from the Quinnipiac Valley Health District will teach how to make a T-shirt tote bag. This craft turns old T-shirts into reusable shopping bags. Bring an old t-shirt! Craft runs from 11 am - 12 pm in The Center lounge, no fee.

June 17: Lunch Bunch — Join in for lunch with friends at Dockside in Branford. Transportation is provided by The Center ($3) or meet there. Self-pay at the restaurant.

June 18: Lunch entertainment with Larry Batter begins at 12:15 pm. RSVP required.


July 2: Independence Day lunch and holiday craft. American flag mason jar craft with Kristy Moriarty, 11 am - 12 pm in The Center café.

July 7 (Sunday): Boston Pops at Tanglewood performing Across the Stars: Music of John Williams with violinist Ann-Sophie Mutter. Trip includes transportation, lunch (with entrée choice) and concert ticket (in the covered area of “The Shed”) for $145. RSVP is required by June 7.

October 2: Living Treasure Award Dinner — Save the date!
Living Treasure Committee
Meets June 25

Here’s a chance to get involved with the 2nd annual Living Treasure Awards (LTA) event. The planning committee is up and running and still looking for new members who would like to build on last year’s success, which raised funds to help pay for the ADA compliant restroom and new way-finding signs for The Center. The LTA event 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 also includes a silent auction, a program and a delicious dinner. Donations of silent auction items, purchase of ads in the program book and table sponsorships are available by calling The Center at 203-389-3430 or emailing jglicksman@woodbridgect.org.

Calling all gin rummy, poker, canasta and spades players — call The Center and share your interest. The Center will put a group or a game together!

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. Session began May 24, class fee will be pro-rated if joined late (12 sessions for $75). Class combines seated and standing postures and is safe for all.

Mahjong: Mon. & Fri., 10 am, Center Building, Rm. 13. *Note new location.

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.


Retro Movie Night: Wednesday evening is for a ladies movie night. Last week’s selection was The Heat. Call to RSVP.

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

Duplicate Bridge: Mondays, 9:30 am, in the café.

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.

Wednesday bridge and pinochle groups enjoy a great afternoon of card playing.

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.

Bocce: Tuesdays from 11 am - 12 pm at the bocce court in the picnic grove behind the Old Firehouse. Call to RSVP.

Human Services Friendly Visitor Program

Do you know a homebound Senior who would benefit from a friendly visitor? Many adults face the health and wellness risks of social isolation. Friendly visiting programs are a proven way to alleviate isolation and rebuild communities across generations. If you or someone you know would be interested in getting a friendly visitor, volunteering for this program or have any questions, please call Judi Young, Senior Service Social Worker, for further information at 203-389-3429. Friendly visitors are screened and trained locally.

Calling all gin rummy, poker, canasta and spades players — call The Center and share your interest. The Center will put a group or a game together!
The Summer Concert series will take place each Tuesday evening in July, 6-8 pm. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to the Woodbridge Town Green and enjoy an evening of entertainment. Either pack a picnic or food will be available for purchase from local food trucks. There is a rain date for each performance. In the event of inclement weather on the rain date, the performance will move to the Center Building gym (4 Meetinghouse Lane).

Thank you to all the sponsors for their generous contributions that have made the concert series possible for the Woodbridge community to enjoy.

July 2: The Sounds of Frank features Frank Sinatra music. (Rain date: July 3)

July 9: Enjoy folk music with Kenn Morr. (Rain date: July 10)

July 16: Alex Shillo celebrates Bruce Springsteen music. (Rain date: July 17)

July 23: Shaded Soul band performs soul music. (Rain date: July 24)

July 30: West Rock band plays classic rock favorites. (Rain date: July 31)

Youth Services News

Woodbridge Teens: Looking for Work?

The Woodbridge Job Bank needs teens now willing to work on gardens, turning soil, planting, weeding, or mowing. Must be willing to learn. Other jobs in babysitting, moving, packing, and animal care may be available. Earn cash while gaining experience. Help residents and enjoy the outdoors!

Be the first to contact Youth Services for an interview and join the Job Bank. Learn communication skills, and build your resume. For an interview, email Npfund@WoodbridgeCT.org or call 203-389-3429.

Save the Date: 7th Grade Picnic

Incoming Woodbridge and Bethany Seventh Graders:

Be there on August 22, Thursday, 5:30-7:30 pm on the field of Amity Middle School-Bethany to be part of this event.

Our DJ will blast your music, get the games going and challenge your skills. Delicious refreshments, free raffle and more for just $5.

This program will coincide with the distribution of electronic notebooks from Amity Middle School to parents.

Check the Town newsletter and website for more developments as this date gets closer.

Adult Volleyball

Congratulations to the Bump, Set, Spike team for winning the fall/winter volleyball league. Final standings are listed on the Town website.

Join summer volleyball on Monday evenings at Beecher South gym. Register by Mon., June 10. The Recreation Dept. will make teams.

Non-league play will be Wednesday evenings at the outdoor sand court at the former Country Club property, 6-8 pm. There will be ongoing registration.

For details, please call 203-389-3446 or email jfranco@woodbridgeCT.org.

Woodbridge Met Bethany at 6th Grade Meet & Greet

Sixth graders from each town had a blast at Amity Middle School as they played challenging games and jumped over the boom on the inflatable. Great snacks and music made for a fun event.

Recreation News

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

New! Summer Badminton

Join the new summer badminton program on Wednesday evenings, May 22 - July 31, at Beecher South gym, 7-9 pm. There will be ongoing registration or pay a drop-in fee.

If possible, bring your own racket; feather shuttlecocks will be supplied.

Summer Camps

Remember to register! There is still time to register for summer camp, preschool camp or sports camps. Summer & preschool camps run June 24 - August 2. Sports camps run throughout the summer. Register online, stop by the Recreation Office or call 203-389-3446 for multi-child discounts.

June Summer Concerts

The Summer Concert series will take place each Tuesday evening in July, 6-8 pm. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to the Woodbridge Town Green and enjoy an evening of entertainment. Either pack a picnic or food will be available for purchase from local food trucks.

There is a rain date for each performance. In the event of inclement weather on the rain date, the performance will move to the Center Building gym (4 Meetinghouse Lane).

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