November 2019

Fall Fun and CCW Proposal Q & A Information

Please join me as we celebrate “All Things Woodbridge” with Fallapalooza, a series of fun fall events during October. It kicks off with the Living Treasure Award Dinner on Oct. 2 and ends with a bang at the Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Association’s annual Truck or Treat event with safe, fun trick or treating at the Fire House and spooktacular fireworks on Halloween.

Recreation will again run their annual Road Race on Oct. 5, and the Massaro Community Farm will host a Shakespeare play on Oct. 5 and 6. The JCC invites everyone to an open house with crafts, farm animals, open swim and an open climb on Oct. 6. The Woodbridge Town Library gets creepy with a ghost hunter on Oct. 8 and a live reptile show on Oct. 26.

Over the weekend of October 18-20, the First Church of Christ will host the second annual Arts and Music Festival with an art show, live music, dance and crafts for kids during the day and a square dance at night in the Center Building gym. Woodbridge Trails Day is also on Saturday Oct. 19: There will be a short Family Hike with a ceremonial tree planting at Fitzgerald Field and a more challenging hike. Both hikes start at 9 am. There will also be a shredding truck at the Center Building parking lot on this day.

Progressions Salon’s annual Pampered in Pink fundraiser is Oct. 26. Details for all these wonderful events are on the Town website at WoodbridgeCT.org/Fallapalooza.

Also this month residents will be invited to get answers to their questions about the proposal to develop a portion of the former Country Club of Woodbridge.

I have asked Insite Design and their new partner, Wernert Construction, to visit many of the Town’s boards and commissions during October to do a Q & A presentation for members and the public. Once the schedule is finalized we will post it on the Town website.

I believe this is an important and worthy project for the Town. Every year it costs the Town almost half a million dollars to repay the money we borrowed to buy the former Country Club property. In these tight financial times that money could be used elsewhere.

The proposal is for the Town to sell approximately 60 of the 155 acres for $5.4 million for construction by Insite/Wernert of no more than 120 units of free-standing active adult (55+) housing. Additionally, Insite/Wernert will remove the old clubhouse, renovate the Town pool and build a new pool house, both for Town use. The Town will retain approximately 95+- acres for residents use.

Proceeds from the sale will pay off the debt, saving $500k every year, and the housing will generate $1.5M in additional property taxes once the project is finished. That’s real money that could reduce our mill rate and bring relief to taxpayers.

I will ask the Board of Selectmen to schedule a Special Town Meeting for late October or early November and I anticipate a referendum will be scheduled shortly thereafter.

As I have stated many times, I believe this important matter should be decided at referendum so everyone will have the opportunity to vote. Let’s let the voters decide!

Lastly I’d like to congratulate Administrative Officer and Director of Finance Tony Genovese whose office has once again earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the national nonprofit Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for fiscal year 2018.

— First Selectman Beth Heller

Woodbridge Business News

New Business Moves to Woodbridge

Lifetouch recently moved to Woodbridge from Seymour. Lifetouch focuses on school photos and is a national company with offices in every state and Canada. During the school photo season, which runs September through November, the local office employs 60-65, and there are 10 full-time, year-round employees.

Lifetouch works with about half of the K-8 schools in the state. Lifetouch’s previous office was in a house in Seymour and Territory Sales Manager Peter Wright says the company needed more space, wanted to be in a one-story office and needed convenient highway access.

Crest Breaks Ground on New Design

First Selectman Beth Heller visited the Crest Lincoln of Woodbridge dealership recently to see plans for the dealership’s new showroom.

The building will be modified to Lincoln Motor Company’s new design standards. Local architect Jay Alpert created the plans. The dealership will remain open during construction.

“Once we’re done this will be a leading-edge showroom, almost a museum space,” said owner Dick Fitzpatrick. It is expected that the project will be completed in late winter/early spring of 2020.

Find more business news at WoodbridgeCT.org/business.
**Reminders from the Assessor**

**October is Motor Vehicle Inspection Month:** The Assessor’s office will inspect motor vehicles felt to have high mileage and/or poor body condition. The vehicle must be registered in Woodbridge as of Oct. 1, 2019. Documented vehicle information will be taken into consideration when pricing the vehicle for the Oct. 2019 Grand List. Bring your car to Town Hall between 9 am - 4 pm, Mon. - Fri. October is the only time mileage and vehicle condition will be considered.

**Annual Personal Property Declarations due Nov. 1:** Businesses, professionals and farmers are reminded to complete and return forms to the Assessor’s Office by Nov 1. Declaration forms must also be filed for owners of:
- non-CT or unregistered motor vehicles
- horses, ponies & thoroughbreds
- mobile manufactured homes not assessed as real estate

Call 203-389-3416 if a Declaration form was not received or with vehicle inspections questions.

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**Holiday Baskets, Toys & Fuel**

Woodbridge Human Services is accepting applications through Oct. 31 for holiday food baskets. In addition, families may apply for the Toys for Kids Program Inc. and the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program, both administered by TEAM Inc. Residents can call 203-389-3429 for eligibility guidelines and an appointment to apply for a holiday basket, toys, or fuel assistance.

Sponsors are needed to participate in the Adopt-A-Family Program to provide holiday food baskets to families in need for the December holidays. To adopt a family, please call Human Services at 203-389-3429.

**Halloween Truck or Treat**

The Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Association is holding its 8th Annual Halloween “Truck or Treat” and Spooktacular Fireworks event on Thu., Oct. 31 from 5-8 pm (rain date if needed is Nov. 1). Admission is free.

As always, the fire trucks will be decorated for the holiday and children can “truck or treat” in a fun and safe setting. Donations of candy are appreciated and can be dropped off in the Firehouse lobby, Mon. - Fri., 8 am - 4 pm, leading up to the event. Hot dogs, hamburgers, soup and more will be served. The Fire Association will put on a fireworks display at 7:15 pm.

Due to the popularity of this event, Rt. 114 between Meetinghouse Lane and Newton/Center Rd. will be closed from 4:30-9 pm. Parking will not be allowed on Beecher Rd. between Rt. 114 and Woodside Dr. or on Newton Rd. from Rt. 114 to Burnt Swamp Rd.

Parking is available at: the Old Firehouse, Meetinghouse Lane, Town Hall and Amity Regional High School.

Public access to the Fitzgerald property will close from 2-9 pm to allow for safe set-up of the fireworks demonstration.

The Association is seeking sponsors. For sponsor information and event updates, visit WoodbridgeFire.com or Facebook.com/WoodbridgeFire.
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 Monday, October 14 for Columbus Day.

Ghost Hunters’ Dustin Pari Brings “Spirits of the World”

You may know Dustin Pari from his numerous appearances on such television programs as Ghost Hunters, Ghost Hunters International, and Destination Truth—now he is coming to Woodbridge!

“Spirits of the World,” a special lecture on international ghosts and spirits, will be presented on Tue., Oct. 8 at 7 pm in the meeting room. Dustin has had the good fortune to have been a part of investigations in 26 countries across the globe, conducting research upon 6 of the 7 continents.

At this event, he will share some of his favorite stories from investigations in Irish castles, French chateaus, Australian prisons, and more! Grab your passport and prepare for a fun and frightening journey!

Registration is required. Please register online, by phone 203-389-3434, or in person at the Reference Desk.

Understanding Your Best Friend

Come by the Library on Sat., Oct. 19 at 2 pm for a special program with the Dog Listener, Phil Klein! If you want to gain a much better understanding of your dog and its challenging behaviors, this session is for you. Learn the simple, dog-friendly changes in how to interact with your dog to transform its behavior in a kind and lasting way. In doing so, you will have a calmer, happier dog and a more enjoyable relationship with it. Bring your questions for an informative, fun session! While we would love to see your dogs, this is a humans-only event. Please register online, by phone 203-389-3434, or in person at the Reference Desk.

The Power of Pumpkin with Robin Glowa

One of the most beloved of autumn ingredients, pumpkin is a powerhouse of good nutrition. Come and enjoy some fun ways to prepare perfect pumpkin on Wed., Oct. 23, at 7 pm in the meeting room. Robin Glowa, The Conscious Cook, will be sharing luscious new ways to enjoy the power of pumpkin. Samples and recipes provided. Registration is required; this is a very popular program and space is limited to those ages 14 and up. Register online, by phone at 203-389-3434, or at the Reference Desk.

Riverside Reptiles Presents Jeepers Creepers

Just in time for Halloween, Riverside Reptiles visits the library on Sat., Oct. 26 at 2 pm. Encounter some creepy-looking creatures, including a variety of reptiles, amphibians, arachnids, and insects. Kids (and their adults) will be able to see and touch many of these animals—don’t worry, they won’t bite! Ages 4 and older with an adult. Registration is required—space is limited. Please register online, by phone 203-389-3439, or in person at the Children’s Desk.
**Young Children’s Events**

No registration required for any of these events.

**Baby Rhyme Time (0-18 months)**
Every Wednesday, 10:30-11 am
Songs and rhymes, fun for little ones.

**Rhythm and Rhyme (18-36 months)**
Every Thursday, 10:30-11 am
Find out how talking, singing and reading build vocabulary and a love of books!

**Preschool Storycraft (3-5 years)**
Every Saturday, 11-11:30 am
A literature-based program and art project for this age group.

**Children’s Programs**

Saturday, October 5 at 3 pm
Drop in and create a seasonal fall craft.

Monday, October 7 at 6:30 pm
New Program! Our Read A-Long Book club introduces different chapter book series titles each month (Grades 2 & 3). Register online.

Monday, October 21 at 6:30 pm
Eager Readers Book Group (Grades K-2). Stop by the Children’s Desk to register and check out this month’s book.

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**Docu-tober Returns!** October’s Thursday Night Film Screenings will again become DOCU-TOBER, as the Library screens some recently released documentaries. Join us at 7 pm in the meeting room; registration is not required.

**Biggest Little Farm**
Thursday, October 3 at 7 pm; 91 minutes, PG
A testament to the immense complexity of nature, *The Biggest Little Farm* follows two dreamers and a dog on an odyssey to bring harmony to both their lives and the land. When the barking of their beloved dog Todd leads to an eviction notice from their tiny LA apartment, John and Molly Chester make a choice that takes them out of the city and onto 200 acres in the foothills of Ventura County, naively endeavoring to build one of the most diverse farms of its kind in complete coexistence with nature.

**Pavarotti**
Thursday, October 10 at 7 pm; 114 minutes, PG-13
A riveting film that lifts the curtain on the icon who brought opera to the people. Academy Award winner Ron Howard puts audiences front row center for an exploration of the voice, the man, the legend. Luciano Pavarotti gave his life to the music and a voice to the world. This cinematic event features history-making performances and intimate interviews, including never-before-seen footage and cutting-edge Dolby Atmos technology.

**Framing John DeLorean**
Thursday, October 17 at 7 pm; 109 minutes, NR
*Framing John DeLorean* recount the extraordinary life and legend of the controversial automaker, tracing his meteoric rise through the ranks of General Motors, his obsessive quest to build a sports car that would conquer the world, and his shocking fall from grace on charges of cocaine trafficking. Interweaving a treasure trove of archival footage with dramatic vignettes starring Alec Baldwin, *Framing John DeLorean* is a gripping look at a man who gambled everything in his pursuit of the American Dream.

**Whitney**
Thursday, October 24 at 7 pm; 120 minutes, R
Whitney Houston broke more music industry records than any other female singer in history. With over 200 million album sales worldwide, she was the only artist to chart seven consecutive U.S. No. 1 singles. She also starred in several blockbuster movies before her brilliant career gave way to erratic behavior, scandals and death at age 48. Using never-before-seen archival footage, exclusive demo recordings, rare performances, audio archives and original interviews with the people who knew her best, this film unravels the mystery behind the life of Whitney Houston.

**After Auschwitz**
Thursday, October 31 at 7 pm; 83 minutes, NR
*After Auschwitz* is a "Post-Holocaust" documentary that follows six extraordinary women, capturing what it means to move from tragedy and trauma towards life. These women all moved to Los Angeles, married, raised children and became "Americans" but they never truly found a place to call home. What makes the story so much more fascinating is how these women saw, interpreted and interacted with the changing face of America in the second half of the 20th century. They serve as our guides on an unbelievable journey, sometimes celebratory, sometimes heart breaking but always inspiring.
Nosh & Knowledge Lecture Series

The Woodbridge Center’s Breakfast at 10 Lecture Series launches with a new name and new topics this fall.

Oct. 23: Homecare 101 with Pam Holt of Lifetime Care at Home. Learn about medical versus non-medical in home care — it’s always better to have information before a crisis. Lecture is 10 am in the Library meeting room.


October 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>10/1</td>
<td>Beef barley soup, herb roasted turkey, roasted potatoes, fresh green beans, peach crisp</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>Mushroom soup, stuffed cabbage and garlic roasted mashed potatoes</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>Turkey noodle soup, baked ziti with meat sauce, squash, garlic toast</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>Cream of broccoli soup, roast beef, baked potato, lemon cupcakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>Home style chicken soup, beef pepper steak, brown rice, angel food cake</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/17</td>
<td>Carrot apple soup, margarita chicken pasta, tiramisu cupcake</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/22</td>
<td>Ravioli marinara, garlic green beans, garlic bread, chocolate brownies</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/24</td>
<td>Closed for Center painting</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/29</td>
<td>Halloween party! Turkey rice soup, garlic herb meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peach crisp</td>
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If eating in and taking left overs to go, please bring a plastic container with you. Charges for to-go containers will begin in December.

RSVP is required one day prior unless otherwise noted.

Oct. 1: The ABC’s of Medicare, 7-8 pm at the Woodbridge Library with Jessalyn Pito, Independent Licensed Insurance Agent. Class covers the who, what, where and how of Medicare.

October 2: Living Treasure Award Dinner—5:30-8:30 pm. Support The Woodbridge Center!

Oct. 8: Flu Clinic sponsored by the VNA, 11 am - 2 pm in The Woodbridge Center café. Please bring all insurance cards with you. The CDC recommends annual flu shots.

Oct. 14: Center closed for Columbus Day holiday.

Oct. 15: Lunch entertainment with Pierce Campbell begins at 12:15 pm.

Oct. 16: Health Fair hosted by State Senator George Logan at Warsaw Park, Ansonia from 11 am to 2 pm. Lunch will be provided. Transportation available—must RSVP for a ride by 10/11.


Oct. 16: Art Class begins (see details page 6).

Oct. 17: Audiology Awareness Month! American Speech and Hearing Association recommends hearing screenings for adults 50+. Hearing screenings with Acuity Hearing Solutions from 10 am-1pm at The Center. No charge.

Oct. 21: Lunch Bunch! Join in for lunch with friends at Lasse’s Restaurant in Milford. Transportation is provided by The Center ($3) or meet us. Self-pay at the restaurant.


Oct. 23: Nosh & Knowledge lecture Homecare 101 with Pam Holt at 10 am in the Library.

Oct. 28: AARP Safe Driver Training class, 9 am-1 pm in Rm. 11. $15-members; $20-non-members.

Oct. 29: Halloween Party! Entertainment with Larry Batter begins at 12:15 pm. Wear your costume!

Nov. 7: “Ages in Stages” with the Orange Players. Performance will follow lunch at 1 pm.

Nov. 14: Flu Clinic with Orange VNA, 1-5 pm. Call for details.

Improvements to The Woodbridge Center can be seen both outside and in! The Center’s ADA compliant restroom and ramp projects are near completion with a few minor details to be finished. The new wayfinding signs outside and in are up and the lounge is freshly painted. Later this month, new carpet will be installed in the lounge and the café and entrance will be painted. The Center also has a new hand sink in the kitchen and will be installing a gallery molding to facilitate on-going art exhibits. Most of the funding for these projects was provided by a State Dept. of Housing grant, a One of Kind Foundation grant, an Area Agency on Aging grant, and The Woodbridge Center’s fund-raising dollars. Upgrades to The Center are already improving access, convenience and comfort for residents. Stop by to see for yourself!

Calling all bocce, 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 between 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. Current session runs Sept. 6 through Nov. 22—12 weeks for $75. Class fee will be pro-rated if joined late. Class combines seated and standing postures and is safe for all.

**Mahjong**: Mon. & Fri., 10 am in the Center Building, Rm. 13 for advanced players, Rm. 11 for beginner and intermediate.

**Exercise with Laurie**: Workout includes a combination of strength training, cardio, flexibility and balance. Bring weights if you have them. Class meets in the Center Building gym on 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 October 22 and the book will be *When All is Said* by Anne Griffin. New members are 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 to register. A new ten week class begins October 16. Fee is $60 and will be pro-rated for those joining late.


**New! Thursday Movies**: Oldies, musicals, classics following lunch in The Center lounge, 1 pm.

**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, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, in The Center Café.

**Bridge**: The Center’s Wednesday bridge group invites new members! Join in for a friendly card game 1-4 pm, no reservations—just come to The Center café.

**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 Building gym for group play, 12:30-2:30 pm and Fri., 12:30-3:30 pm. Paid annual members may arrange playing times with others. Annual membership is $20 for Woodbridge residents and $25 for non-residents. Stop by the office to make payment. Equipment is available on a first come, first served basis.

**Shuffleboard, bocce and billiard** equipment are available during business hours. Stop by with your group and play on a first come first served basis.

**Woodbridge Center News**

**Woodbridge Center Improvements**

**CHOICES Counselors Available**

Medicare’s Open Enrollment Period runs from Tue., Oct. 15, to Sat., Dec. 7, 2019. The Town of Woodbridge has Certified CHOICES Counselors available to provide counseling and information on topics such as Medicare, Medicare Supplemental Insurance, Medicare HMO’s, Long-Term Care Insurance and other state and federal benefit programs. Counselors are helpful in selecting or making changes to insurance and making sure you have the right coverage for your needs.

Please contact Judi Young or Mary Ellen LaRocca for an appointment at (203)389-3429.

**Ongoing Programming**

**Paving** grant, an Area Agency on Aging grant, a State Dept. of Housing grant, a One of Kind Foundation grant, an Area Agency on Aging grant, and The Woodbridge Center’s fund-raising dollars. Upgrades to The Center are already improving access, convenience and comfort for residents. Stop by to see for yourself!

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Camp Hero

In response to parents’ requests for a summer camp for teens with special needs (spearheaded by Meagan Acampora and Clio Nicolakis), the Recreation Department responded with a one-week pilot program. This summer camp was very successful due to the strong leadership and planning by Maria DePalma and Vicki Acampora. Activities included a dance party DJ, petting zoo, swimming with Instructor Anthony Taddei, karate, InTandem bike riding, volleyball, superhero trivia, arts and crafts, games, baking and more!

Recreation Director John Adamovich was so impressed with the professionalism of the directors, counselors and volunteers that he has already planned to expand the program next year to two weeks and from 10 to 15 campers.

Quotes from the campers are as follows: “So much fun!” “I liked riding the bike!” and “I liked swimming and volleyball the best!”

Halloween Spooktacular with Wax Hands

Friday, Oct 25, 6:30-8:30 pm at Amity Middle School-Bethany

This is NOT your Mummy’s Halloween Party! For 7th & 8th grade Woodbridge and Bethany residents (private school students included) and current Amity Middle School students. Scare up your ghoul and guy friends and get your best costume on for this outrageous party.

Costume contest, wax hand molds, mummy wrap, donut eating challenge, DJ, and rousing raffle prizes. Join the hair-raising games, drink some funky punch, and feed your frenzy with fiendish refreshments. All this and more!

Don’t be afraid — fee is only $5. RSVP in advance to receive an extra raffle ticket at 203-389-3429 or email Youthon@WoodbridgeCT.org.

Parents, college students and high school juniors and seniors: Volunteers, raffle prizes and toilet tissue donations needed. Please email Youthon@WoodbridgeCT.org or call 203-389-3429. Woodbridge Youth Services sponsors Youth Evening Programs with assistance from the Town of Bethany.

Woodbridge Teens: Looking for Paid Work?

The Woodbridge Job Bank needs teens willing to work. Jobs include raking, shoveling snow, moving, packing, child or animal care and more. Be the first to contact Youth Services before the leaves start falling. Earn cash, gain experience and help residents. Learn communication skills and build your resume. Call 203-389-3429 or email Youthon@woodbridgect.org.

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.

Fall Programs

There is still time to register for fall programs that have already begun including: basketball, Bricks4kidz, bowling, flag football, gymnastics, Kids Dig Farms, Little Scientist, piano, Running Club, stickball, tennis, and Taekwondo.

Adult programs include badminton (Wed., 7 pm) and T’ai Chi (Wed., 6 pm). Yoga classes are: daily 8:30 am; Mon. & Tue. at 5:30 pm and Wed., 10:30 am. Call 203-389-3446 to register.

5K Race and Children’s Fun Run

Join the Recreation Dept. for their 38th annual 5K Road Race and Fun Run on Sat., Oct. 5. The children’s run begins 9 am at the Fitzgerald Tract. The 5K race begins 10:30 am at the Town Center/Meetinghouse Lane. Race day registration begins at 8 am. Proceeds will benefit the Woodbridge Food & Fuel Fund as well as enhancements to Recreation’s community programs.