



News and Events

July 2020

Summer News

I was honored to be a part of the Black Lives Matters rally and subsequent walk on June 13, 2020 at the Woodbridge Town Green. There were several hundred participants. This was an inspiring event organized by resident Micaela Cardozo with powerful, moving speeches by Micaela, Tobenna Nwangwu, Ryan Rattley, and Zoie Reed. Reverend Shepard Parsons, of the First Church of Christ Congregational, led us in a poignant remembrance of the last minutes of George Floyd's life.



With this event, as I said then, I believe our Town has an opportunity to participate in a new burst of energy, a protest movement across this country and beyond our shores, in cities and towns in all 50 states, a movement that crosses racial, ethnic, political and generational differences, a movement that binds us together by our common humanity, a movement poised to inspire new policies and new legislation. The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." I think Dr. King believed that the arc doesn't bend toward justice on its own. That's our responsibility.

On the coronavirus front, our playgrounds, playing fields, tennis courts and the dog park are now open. Please be sure to wear a mask and stay 6 feet apart from others. Our facilities are not cleaned or sanitized so **please use them at your own risk**.

Woodbridge staff are working full-time on-site and are available to answer your calls or emails. (See page 2 for department phone numbers.) They may also arrange for a curbside drop-off/pick-up of materials if that is something that cannot be accomplished via email or phone. One exception: Our Tax Office will be operating a walk-up window. We encourage everyone to mail their check or use the online payment system. For all others, the Tax Office will be available on the front porch of Town Hall at the window to the right of the main doors. That window will be staffed Monday through Friday beginning July 1st from 9 am to noon and from 1 pm until 3 pm.

Pet adoptions are still available through Animal Control.

All applicants will be screened before making an appointment to visit potential pets outside.

The Building Office is able to make social distanced inspections. Zoning and building permit applications are available online. Records of completed permits, historical documents and as-builts are available for curbside pickup.

Human Services is continuing to provide food for those in need, transportation for medical appointments, transportation for 60+ can be arranged for bank, grocery and pharmacy visits, virtual and televised programming and a mask donation program. Materials are either delivered or dropped off at the bench outside the building.

The Library has begun curbside pickup of materials (see page 3 for details!).

Public Works is able to get Transfer Station permits to residents via the mail. The Transfer Station is open; please **ALWAYS** wear a mask.

Virtual summer camp is being offered through the Recreation Department. There is still time for campers to register.

You may register to vote online at voterregistration.ct.gov. The Registrars of Voters are preparing for the August 11th Presidential Preference Primary to be held at the Center Gym.

The Town Clerk's office is providing land records, birth, marriage and death certificates, dog licenses and more via the mail or curbside pickup.

All board and commission meetings continue to be held virtually. The Town calendar lists all the upcoming meetings and meeting agendas will explain how to participate — either via a link or by watching WGATV channel 79 or YouTube.

We have no immediate plans to open our doors to the public and I am proud that we have continued to provide excellent service to residents from a distance to keep both residents and staff safe.

As always, my door is virtually open to you. If you need to reach me please call 203-389-3401 or email me at bheller@woodbridgect.org.

— First Selectman Beth Heller

Woodbridge businesses are open! Shop, Dine, Try Woodbridge!

For a list of open businesses, visit woodbridgect.org/business. To get your Woodbridge-based business added to the list or to modify your listing, contact Betsy Yagla at byagla@woodbridgect.org or 203-389-3403.

Woodbridge Town Offices & Library will be closed July 3 & 4 in observance of Independence Day.

The Transfer Station will be closed Saturday, July 4.

For your convenience, the Transfer Stations will be open 8:30 am - 3 pm on Friday, July 3 & Monday, July 6.

Town News

Legal Notice to Woodbridge Taxpayers

All persons liable to pay real estate, motor vehicle or personal property taxes in the Town of Woodbridge are hereby notified that the Tax Collector has received the warrant levied by the Board of Finance to collect taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2019, which become due and payable on July 1, 2020.

Real estate and personal property taxes over one hundred dollars (\$100) are due in two installments. The first one-half shall be due on July 1, 2020 and becomes delinquent on August 4, 2020. The second one-half shall be due on January 1, 2021 and delinquent on February 2, 2021. Any tax in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) or less and all taxes on motor vehicles shall be due and payable in one single installment on July 1, 2020 and become delinquent on August 4, 2020. If the installment payment due becomes delinquent, interest will be charged on the installment payment at the rate of 1 ½ % per month from the due date. Minimum interest charge is \$2.

The Office of the Tax Collector will be available Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Town Hall will be closed on July 3, 2020. For your convenience we will be open on Saturday, August 1 from 9 am till 12 pm and on Monday, August 3 from 8:30 am till 7 pm. If you wish to pay in person you must bring your entire bill with you so we may stamp your receipt. Due to COVID-19 we encourage you to pay by mail. You must enclose your check, the entire bill and a self-addressed stamped envelope for a return receipt. Credit card payments may now be made on line (only) at woodbridgect.org under Tax Collector. There is a fee charged for this service; please read all 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 Tax Collector Pat Crisco at 203-389-3425 with any questions.

Need Assistance?

Although Town offices are closed to the public, staff are working and available to assist you. Please call the appropriate office to make arrangements for any files or forms you need to drop off or pick up. Most things can be done electronically, by mail or contact-less pick up or drop off.

Town Hall

-General Number:

203 389-3400

-Assessor:

203-389-3416

-Building/Zoning

203-389-3419

-Finance:

203-389-3482

-First Selectman's

Office:

203-389-3401

-Registrar of

Voters:

203-389-3408/3409

-Tax Collector:

203-389-3425

-Town Clerk:

203-389-3422/3424

Center Building

-Human Services:

203-389-3429

-Senior Center:

203-389-3430

-Youth Services:

203-389-3464

Animal Control:

203-389-5991

Fire Department:

203-389-3441

Library:

203-389-3433

Police Department:

(non-emergency):

203-387-2511

Public Works:

203-389-3420



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Human Services

The Woodbridge Center

Tune into local access TV Channel 79 for **Exercise with Laurie** on Tue. and Thu., 10 am, repeated at 4 pm and **Accessible Gentle Yoga** with Julie Luciani on Mon. at 11 am, repeated at 4 pm.

Zoom Exercise: Wednesdays Qigong/Tai-Chi at 11 am with Bill Banick. Contact The Center for a Zoom link.

Music Bingo: Runs Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30 pm. This event is accessible via phone or with Zoom on tablet or smartphone. Call The Center for details, 203-389-3430. Prizes include Purell and other fun surprises!

Memoir Writing Project: Contact The Center to get started on your project. Entries will be bound for each participant and a copy of the collection of stories will be available at the Library. Entries must be submitted by Sept. 30.

Transportation for medical appointments is available for those 60+ or disabled. Call to arrange transportation.

Meals: Seniors may reserve frozen

meals (\$4/meal) by noon on Monday for delivery to your home on Tuesday.

Email address: Want to receive weekly updates from The Center? Call with your email address.

AARP Smart Driver online course for those needing to renew car insurance discount. Go to aarpdriversafety.org. There will be a 25% discount on completed courses—use DRIVINGSKILLS as your discount code.

Watch out for Scams: Social isolation is a leading factor for financial exploitation. While financial abuse can happen at any time, perpetrators may strike during times when seniors are more vulnerable. Scammers gather personal details from obituaries and social media posts to target victims. As a precaution, add your phone number to the Do Not Call Registry. Call 888-382-1222 or visit www.donotcall.gov.

Woodbridge Youth Services

Contact Nancy Pfund at 203-389-3429 or npfund@woodbridgect.org for details

on the programs below.

Job Bank: Residents who wish to hire teens for outdoor work (with social distancing), and responsible teens who wish to join the Job Bank should call for more information.

Diversity Conversations: Any teenager interested in a (socially distant) group meeting in July to discuss issues on diversity and acceptance, please contact Youth Services. Those who wish to assist with planning this program should contact Nancy Pfund.

Babysitter Training is planned for August. See the Town of Woodbridge website and Facebook to learn about future programs. Contact Youth Services with questions or suggestions.

Chalk Art Challenge: Deadline is extended to 7/20. Create a colorful chalk masterpiece with your family, and send us the photo to win prizes! See the Town website for details under “Youth Services.”

Congrats to all Woodbridge Grads!

Virtual Camps Offered by the Recreation Department

Remember to register! There is still time to register for virtual summer camp. Virtual summer camp runs June 22 - July 31 from 10 am - 12 pm. Classes include fitness boot camp, photography, drawing, virtual zoo, film, and much more. For registration information, please email wrdvirtualsummercamp@outlook.com or call the Recreation Office at 203-389-3446.



Woodbridge Recreation is now offering a virtual Cooking Camp. Food Explorers Virtual Cooking Camp runs from July 6-10 for ages 7-11. Menu items include focaccia bread, broccoli cheddar melts, pasta from scratch, and much more. Ingredients are available for curbside pickup at the Recreation Office. For more details, call 203-389-3446 or email recreation@woodbridgect.org.

Park & Pickup and Other Library Events

The Library staff has returned to the building and is available by phone and email to assist residents with digital resources, research, and other questions. Phones and emails will be answered Monday-Friday, 10 am to 5 pm.

Park & Pickup of library materials has begun! It's safe, contactless, and convenient. No appointments needed. Request items (5 per day per library card) by phone, email, or via our online catalog. We'll let you know when the items are ready for pick up; they'll be waiting outside the library. Day and evening hours available. Please call the Library or see the website for more details.

At this time, we do not know when the Library will re-open to the public. We need to make sure we have the right plan

in place to limit exposure and keep EVERYONE safe and healthy—all of us and all of you. We are working with limited staff while practicing social distancing, which means we have to re-think how we do our jobs and it can lead to things taking a bit longer. Thank you for your patience!

Information on summer reading programs for kids and teens is available on our website.

See our selection of digital products at: woodbridge.lioninc.org/wtl-at-home-digital-resources

Stay informed by visiting our website at woodbridgetownlibrary.org, signing up for weekly eblast newsletters and following us on Facebook and Instagram.

Children's July Programs: “Join Us” by registering on our website. Invitations to join events will be sent a few days prior to the program.

• **Red, White, and Blue Cupcakes** - Wed., July 1, 10:30 am or 1:30 pm (please choose one session), ages 7+ with adult. Learn how to make cupcakes and frosting from scratch, decorate and top with fresh berries, in your own kitchen! Ingredient list is available on the registration page.

• **Cactushead Puppets: The Magnificent Monster Circus** - Tue., July 14, 11 am. A show for all ages! Visit our website for details on this new show and to register.

Reach Library staff at 203-389-3433 or askus@woodbridgetownlibrary.org.

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