



News and Events

October 2020

Fall Highlights

Last month the Board of Selectmen agreed to extend the lease with the Amity Woodbridge Historical Society to 2030. I am happy to report the Society is also completing the necessary code compliant items at the apartment which will allow a caretaker to move in. As you know the Town owns the buildings at the Darling House property, and the Historical Society owns the collections within.

Additionally, both the Thomas Darling House Advisory Committee and the Society agreed to remove the deconstructed Lucy Street one-room schoolhouse from the yellow cow barn across the street from the Darling House. This will provide access for a grant-funded Survey and Planning Assessment (including structural assessment). The pieces have been stored by the Town since approximately 1991. If no one is interested in taking the pieces of the schoolhouse, it will be removed and properly disposed of later this fall. If you're interested please contact me or the Society.

I am aware residents are anxious about the upcoming November elections. Please see the story below for details about what voting at the polls and absentee voting will look like. Our Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerks, and Registrars of Voters are doing an amazing job of trying to make this all work successfully. It is a very difficult and time-consuming process.

Human Services may arrange transportation for seniors or disabled residents to return both absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots to the ballot box outside Town Hall prior to Election Day. Call 203-389-3430 to arrange transportation at least 24 hours in advance.

Human Services Department has organized two flu shot clinics for residents and staff. On Oct. 20 there will be a drive-through clinic and on Oct. 26 it will be under the canopy by



the Library. Details are on the Town website. For both clinics, you must make a reservation.

As you know, we have been working on improving the Old Firehouse. Recently we completed several improvements, paid for by insurance proceeds and a STEAP grant from the state, including new windows, a roof replacement and mechanical and electrical work. Most recently, the Board of Selectmen voted that the entire building be used for Town use, such as multi-use meeting room space, and perhaps a

new fitness center. This project will include finishing the Fire Department storage facility behind the new firehouse, to relocate equipment still in the Old Firehouse. We also hope to move forward with Amity Regional High School to eventually have the Amity Transition program rent the upper level.

Due to the pandemic, our normal Halloween plans will be modified. The usual Halloween Hoot, organized by the Beecher Road School PTO, and the Volunteer Fire Association's Truck or Treat, will both be drive-through events due to COVID-19 safety precautions. As soon as I have details about those events I will share them with you. I can assure you that we are all working hard to make sure that we can continue to provide fun and safe ways for our children to celebrate Halloween.

Finally, as I always do, a reminder to everyone: out of respect for each other and to keep each other safe, please continue to wear masks, and practice safe social distancing. When we work together, there's nothing we in Woodbridge cannot do.

As always, please reach out to me with concerns or questions. You can reach me at 203-389-3401 or email me at bheller@woodbridgect.org.

— First Selectman Beth Heller



Election 101: Voting in Person or Absentee



The method you choose to vote this November is not an easy choice.

In Person: Woodbridge will have in-person voting on November 3 at the Center Gym at 4 Meetinghouse Lane from 6 am to 8 pm.

CDC guidelines will be followed to provide staff and voters as safe an environment as possible including masks, social distancing requirements and additional cleaning.

Social distancing may create longer lines. There will be three lines at the polls—one for the 14th district, one for

the 17th district and one for Election Day Registration. Please know the district you reside in—see the Town website for details.

Absentee: Due to the pandemic, active registered voters in Connecticut are eligible to vote by absentee ballot this year. If you vote absentee please do the following to ensure your vote is counted: Complete your voter application early and submit it to the Town Clerk via the drop box at Town Hall (please put it in the return envelope first).

When you receive your ballot there

will be instructions included. If you do not follow them, your ballot may be rejected. Put ONLY your ballot in the inner envelope (if two ballots are in the inner envelope, one will be rejected!) Seal and sign the inner envelope and put it in the outer envelope. Mail it or drop it in the Absentee Ballot Drop Box at Town Hall. Please return your ballot as soon as you can!

See the Town's website for full story, including details on Election Day Registration and a list of streets in each voting district, www.woodbridgect.org.

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Reminder to File Personal Property Declarations

**The Annual Personal Property
 Declarations are due Nov. 2,
 2020.**

Businesses, professionals and farmers are reminded to complete and return forms to the Assessor's Office by November 2. 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 the Assessor's Office at 203-389-3416 if a Declaration Form was not received.

Scouts Collect for the Food Pantry on October 24

On Saturday October 24 the Woodbridge Boy Scout Troop 63, along with help from Troop 907, will be collecting food and hygiene products to benefit the Woodbridge Food Pantry. Donations should be placed in a bag and left by your mailbox. Bags should be outside by 9 am, and will be picked up by noon the same day. The Woodbridge Food Pantry



can benefit from canned chicken, canned fruits, pasta sauce, canned stews, rice, instant potatoes, peanut butter, jams, breakfast cereal, snacks, coffee, detergent and personal hygiene care products. Please, **NO EXPIRED ITEMS, NO perishables and NO glass containers.** For additional information, please contact Human Services at 203-389-3429.

Holiday Baskets, Toys & Fuel

Woodbridge Human Services is accepting applications through October 30 for holiday food baskets.

In addition, families may apply for the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program and Toys for Kids Program Inc., 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 contact the Human Services Department at 203-389-3429.

Human Services October Activities

The Woodbridge Center

Please call 203-389-3430 or email kmoriarty@woodbridgect.org

Halloween Drive-thru trick or treating! In collaboration with the Library on Fri., Oct. 30 from 11:30 am - 1 pm drive by The Center/Library to get your treats! Costumes are encouraged; masks are required; treats available for first 100 cars.



Classes under the canopy: Classes require masks and social distancing. Call for class details.

- Targeted Strength Training
- Exercise with Laurie
- Art Class (see class picture above)

- Craft Group

Access to absentee voting: transportation may be arranged for seniors/disabled residents to return both absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots to the ballot box outside Town Hall prior to Election Day.

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

Meals: Seniors may reserve frozen meals (\$5/meal) by noon on Monday for delivery to your home on Tuesday.

Youth Services

Call Nancy Pfund at 203-389-3429 or email to register & for information: npfund@woodbridgect.org

Outdoor Home Alone: Class for ages 9-12 will meet under Library canopy, Thu., 10/8 & 10/15, 4-5:15 pm. Class fee is \$15. Rain date is 10/19.

Job Bank: Residents who wish to hire

teens for outdoor work (with social distancing), and teens who wish to join the Job Bank should call for more details.

Human Services

Woodbridge residents may begin to apply for the **CT Energy Assistance Program** administered by TEAM Inc. Income eligibility requirements must be met. Call Department Social Worker Judi Young at 203-389-3429.

Two Flu clinics offered: Drive-thru Flu Clinic on Oct. 20, 11 am - 2 pm, by appointment only via online at <https://connecticuthomecare.org/flu/> or call 866-474-5230 for reservations. Call for information on accepted insurance. The drive-thru will be in front of the Senior Center/gym entrance of the Center building. Masks must be worn. Call for information on the 2nd clinic Oct. 26.

Please see page 2 for Human Services articles relating to the Food Pantry and Holiday Baskets, Toys & Fuel.

Recreation Offers Virtual Zumba, Saturday Activities & More



Join Instructor Ali Bailey for a virtual Zumba class. The 8-week, 7:30 -8:30 pm evening class costs \$65 and will take

place Tuesdays, beginning Oct. 6 or Thursdays beginning Oct. 8. Contact the Recreation Office for more details.

Youth Saturday programs will begin including soccer, flag football, and stickball. Grades k-2 will meet 9-10 am; Grades 3 & 4 will meet 10:30-11:30 am; Grades 5 & 6 will meet 12-1 pm.

COVID-19 rules and regulations for outdoor activities will be followed. Temperature will be taken and those with over a

99.9° temperature will not be allowed to participate. Medical clearance according to CDC guidelines will be needed in order to return

Join Little Scientists and the Coding Club for virtual programs. Call for days and time, 203-389-3446.

The **Town Pool** will be open weekends in October by appointment only. Call 203-389-3446 to make a reservation.

Library News & Events

Park & Pickup: You may continue to place holds for library items by phone, email, and online. To be certain we can notify you when your order is ready for pickup, please verify your phone and email are correct in your online account. On the Library's website, log into "My Account" and go to Account Settings to update your information.

Long Overdue Items: Please return outstanding items as soon as possible, even if they are BILLED on your library account. No replacement costs will be charged, but the items need to come back. The book drop is open 24/7; items will be quarantined for 96 hours, in accordance with new guidelines. No fines will be charged for late items. Fines or bills on your account will be waived—

simply call to remove charge.

Staff is here to help: Have a question about digital resources? Need help with research? Looking for your next great read? Phones/emails are answered Monday-Friday, 10 am to 5 pm. Reach us at askus@woodbridgetownlibrary.org or call 203-389-3433. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest happenings!

Join us!... *Outdoor programs will run until temperatures are too cold—dress accordingly and please wear a mask!*

Outside Storytime, near the picnic area outside the library. Mondays: ages 4+; Wednesdays: 18 mos.-3 years. Both start at 10:30 am; siblings welcome!

After School Outdoor Leaf Art - Join us weekly at the outdoor Library picnic

tables to collect leaves, create crayon leaf rubbings, and turn them into a beautiful piece of art! For ages 4+. No registration required, just meet outside. Exact dates are posted on our online events calendar.

Pumpkinpalooza! It's pumpkin season! Join us for creative pumpkin decorating. This outdoor BYOP (Bring Your Own Pumpkin, real or artificial) event is for all ages. Register online as space is limited due to social distancing. Choose **ONE** date: Tue., Oct. 13 or Thu, Oct. 15, 4-5:30 pm.

Halloween Costume Parade for kids of all ages, Mon., Oct. 26, 4 pm. Rain date: Oct. 27. Come in costume (mask required) to parade around the Library!



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