



News and Events

December 2020 / January 2021

Covid & Housing Update; Town Goes Solar

Coronavirus numbers in our town continue to grow, and as a result I am asking all residents to PLEASE wear a mask at all times on Town property, including walking trails and playgrounds (unless you have a medical exemption or are under age 2). If you have been exposed to COVID-19 or have symptoms, please call your doctor. Additionally, Griffin Hospital in Derby is offering “community” tests without a required doctors note — call 203-437-6815 to make an appointment. Other test sites are available here: www.211ct.org/covidtesting.

The Board of Selectmen recently approved a contract with the Connecticut Green Bank to put a solar array on the Fire House and Public Works roofs. This contract will stabilize our electric rates and is anticipated to save the Town \$94,000 over 20 years!

Despite the pandemic, wonderful things are happening in the business district! Our Town Plan & Zoning Commission is considering an application from New England Brewing Company to move and expand to the corner of Litchfield Turnpike and Bradley Road. They had been courted by New Haven and other towns. Over the course of many months, I met several times with the owner and developer, and I am so pleased that they have agreed to stay and invest in Woodbridge. There is a separate proposal to build active adult (over 55) housing units at the northern corner of Litchfield and Bradley. Additionally, an upscale wine store will hopefully open soon at 245 Amity Road. We all hope that these projects will draw more customers to our existing businesses.

On November 30, the Woodbridge Town Plan and Zoning Commission met to consider an application which proposes to amend the Town’s Zoning Regulations and the Town’s



Plan of Conservation and Development to permit multi-family housing in most of the Town’s residential districts, with affordable units.

You may view the application, other documents, and video of the Public Hearing on the Town Plan & Zoning Commission page on the Town website (woodbridgect.org) in the “Government” section. The Public Hearing has been continued to January 4 and details about how you can watch or participate are on our website. I am confident the Com-

mission will conduct a thorough, thoughtful, and fair process before making a decision, consistent with the law.

We continue to work against the proposal to construct a cell tower in a residential neighborhood. This is a private transaction between a resident and Verizon/Cellco. The Board of Selectmen hired an attorney and an engineering consultant to further advise the Town. The Board is not opposed to a new cell tower in Woodbridge, but believe it should NOT be constructed in a residential neighborhood. The final decision rests with the Connecticut Siting Council.

Despite the pandemic, Town departments remain busy. Our employees have done an amazing job of taking care of our residents. The Covid-19 Pandemic has brought out the best in many people, especially in the Town of Woodbridge. I have seen friends and neighbors who have shown compassion and empathy, and those who have offered a helping hand to others during this extraordinary time.

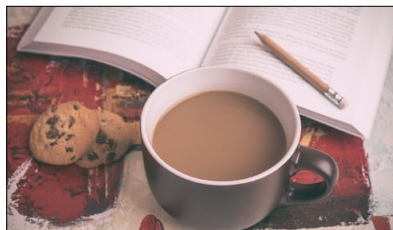
Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season and a better 2021! As always, my door is virtually open to you. I can be reached via email at bheller@woodbridgect.org or at 203-389-3401.

—First Selectman Beth Heller

New Resident Welcome Coffee—January 29 at 9:30 am

New residents are invited to a virtual Welcome Coffee on Friday Jan. 29 at 9:30 am organized by the Community Council.

First Selectman Beth Heller created the ad hoc Community Council to organize events and other opportunities for residents to interact, learn about each other’s culture, cre-



ate community and celebrate Woodbridge.

Woodbridge has many new residents. If you moved to town within the past few years, please attend this welcome coffee and review the “new resident” welcome guide – visit the Town’s website or Facebook page for the links.

Holiday Schedule

- Christmas Day (Fri., Dec. 25), New Years Day (Fri., Jan. 1) & Martin Luther King’s Day (Mon., Jan. 18): Town Offices, the Library and Transfer Station will be closed.
- The Transfer Station will operate a half-day on Christmas Eve (Thu., Dec. 24), 8:30 am - noon and regular hours on both Saturdays following the holidays (Dec. 26 & Jan. 2), 8:30 am - 3:30 pm.

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Town News

Legal Notice to Woodbridge Taxpayers

The second installment of the Woodbridge real estate and personal property taxes and the full amount of the supplemental motor vehicle tax become due and payable Friday, January 1, 2021.

Monday, February 1, 2021 is the last day to pay taxes without interest. Interest will be calculated from the due date of January 1, 2021 at the rate of 1.5 % per month or 18 % per annum. Minimum interest charge is \$2. In accordance with State Statute Sec. 12-130, failure to receive a bill does not exempt you from payment of taxes, interest charges and fees.

The Office of the Tax Collector is available by phone at 203-389-3425, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The office will be closed, Friday, January 1 and Monday, January 18, 2021.

For your convenience, during

December 2020 and January 2021, we will open the window to the right of the front doors, on the front porch of Town Hall, Monday through Friday from 9 am to noon. We will also be available February 1, 2021, the last day to pay without penalty, from 8:30 am to 7 pm.

Checks and appropriate bills may be mailed to: Tax Collector, Woodbridge Town Hall 11 Meetinghouse Lane Woodbridge, CT 06525.

If a receipt is desired, please enclose the correct bill and a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Credit card payments may now be made online (only) at woodbridgect.org. There is a fee involved with using this service; be sure you understand the fee before you finish the transaction.

Questions may be directed to Tax Collector Pat Crisco at 203-389-3425.

Winter Safety Tips

Members of the Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Association wish residents safe, healthy holidays. Throughout the winter months, please follow these safety tips:

- Choose flame resistant or flame retardant holiday decorations.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns. Blow out lit candles when leaving a room or going to bed.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home

or going to bed.

- If you put up a Christmas tree, be sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights. Be sure to water a live tree daily.
- Heat your home safely. Keep anything that can burn 3 feet away from a fireplace, wood stove or space heater.

Visit woodbridgefire.com and facebook.com/WoodbridgeFire.

EDC Wants Your Opinion

The Economic Development Commission wants your opinion!

The EDC developed a short 10-question survey for Woodbridge residents and area consumers. The questions ask about residents' shopping and dining habits and what kinds of businesses are de-

sirable in Woodbridge. Survey results will help to inform the commission's future work.

Visit the Town's website (woodbridgect.org) and click on "Business" to take the survey.

A separate survey will be mailed to Woodbridge businesses.

Human Services

The Woodbridge Center

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



100 plus seniors enjoyed The Woodbridge Center's drive-thru Thanksgiving luncheon sponsored by Coachman Square, the Woodbridge Police Union, The Linden and Bailey, Moore, Schaefer, Glazer & Proto, LLC.

Drive-Thru Holidays Party: Come Ground Hog Day, Feb. 2 from 12-1 pm, to celebrate 'Super mask-car-ade New Year party with love'. This drive-thru event celebrates the super bowl, Mardi Gras, Chinese New Year, and Valentine's Day. RSVP for this special winter pick-me-up including soup and chocolate by 1/15.

Zoom Exercise: Sign up for a weekly Targeted Strength Training zoom class. This 8-week class begins Dec. 7 on

Mondays, 8:30-9:30 am. Call for details.

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.

Human Services



Woodbridge Rotary Club members and Human Services gather with pies and gift cards for families in need.

Appointments are being accepted for residents to apply for **CT Energy Assistance Program** administered by TEAM Inc. Income eligibility requirements must be met. Call department social worker Judi Young at 203-389-3429.

Youth Services

Contact Nancy Pfund at 203-389-3429 for information or email:

npfund@woodbridgect.org

Job Bank: The Job Bank offers jobs to residents (ages 13-18) who would like to earn some extra cash. Most jobs are currently outdoors due to COVID-19. To join the Job Bank call 203-389-3464 or email npfund@woodbridgect.org.

Residents who wish to hire teens for outdoor work (with social distancing), may call for more information.

"We Care" Kits to Aid Homeless/Community Service Project: Youth Services invites teens to help the homeless this holiday season by making kits of essentials to donate to shelters. Visit our website for more information. Please feel free to decorate your bag letting someone know you are thinking of them. We will approve community service for every kit made.

Virtual Cooking & Town Pool Open Weekends

Virtual Cooking Class will take place Tuesdays, Feb. 2-23, 4:30-5:30 pm; \$60 per child. Join Miss Carla, Registered Dietitian from Food Explorers for some after-school baking! Learn how to make chocolate chip cinnamon rolls, winter fruit cobbler, apple pie pop-tarts and 30-minute dinner rolls...all from scratch! A detailed grocery list will be provided each week, all recipes are nut free and many ingredients can be substituted.



Youth Saturday Basketball and Gymnastics are planned to tentatively begin in January: **Basketball** - Grades K-3, 12-1 pm & Grades 4-8, 1:30-3 pm; **Gymnastics** - Grades PreK-1, 8:30-9:15 am & Grades 2-6; 10-11 am. Space is limited to 16.

COVID-19 rules and regulations for activities will be followed. Temperatures will be taken; those with over a 99.9° temperature will not be allowed to participate and will need medical clearance according to CDC guidelines to return.

The **Town Pool** is open weekends for adult swim to Woodbridge residents or members by reservation only; drop ins are not accepted. Call Mon.-Fri. for a reservation, 203-389-3446.

Library News

For the latest updates, please visit our website or call us!

We are sorry to report that due to the increased COVID-19 positivity rate the Woodbridge Town Library is once again closed to the public.

Phones and emails are answered by staff Monday-Friday, 10 am to 5 pm. You may place holds, ask questions, find out information, and more! Staff is happy to help with all your needs.

Park & Pickup hours have been extended for patron convenience. The new hours are Monday & Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm, and Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 10 am to 5 pm. Tables are located in the Library Meeting Room.

Enter the library via the side door to find your items. Please remember to wait until you hear from us before coming to the library to pick up your order. Your online account is not always accurate!



The **Children's Department** is delighted to provide materials for homework assignments and pleasure read-

ing/listening via Park & Pickup. Please place holds via your online account, or contact us if you need suggestions or ideas.

Take-home crafts for families are also available in the Park & Pickup area.

Department Phones/Emails:

Adult Services/Reference: 203-389-3434
wbrstaff@lioninc.org

Children's Department: 203-389-3439
childrensprogram@lioninc.org

Circulation/General info: 203-389-3433
askus@woodbridgetownlibrary.org

For digital resources available online, visit woodbridgetownlibrary.org.

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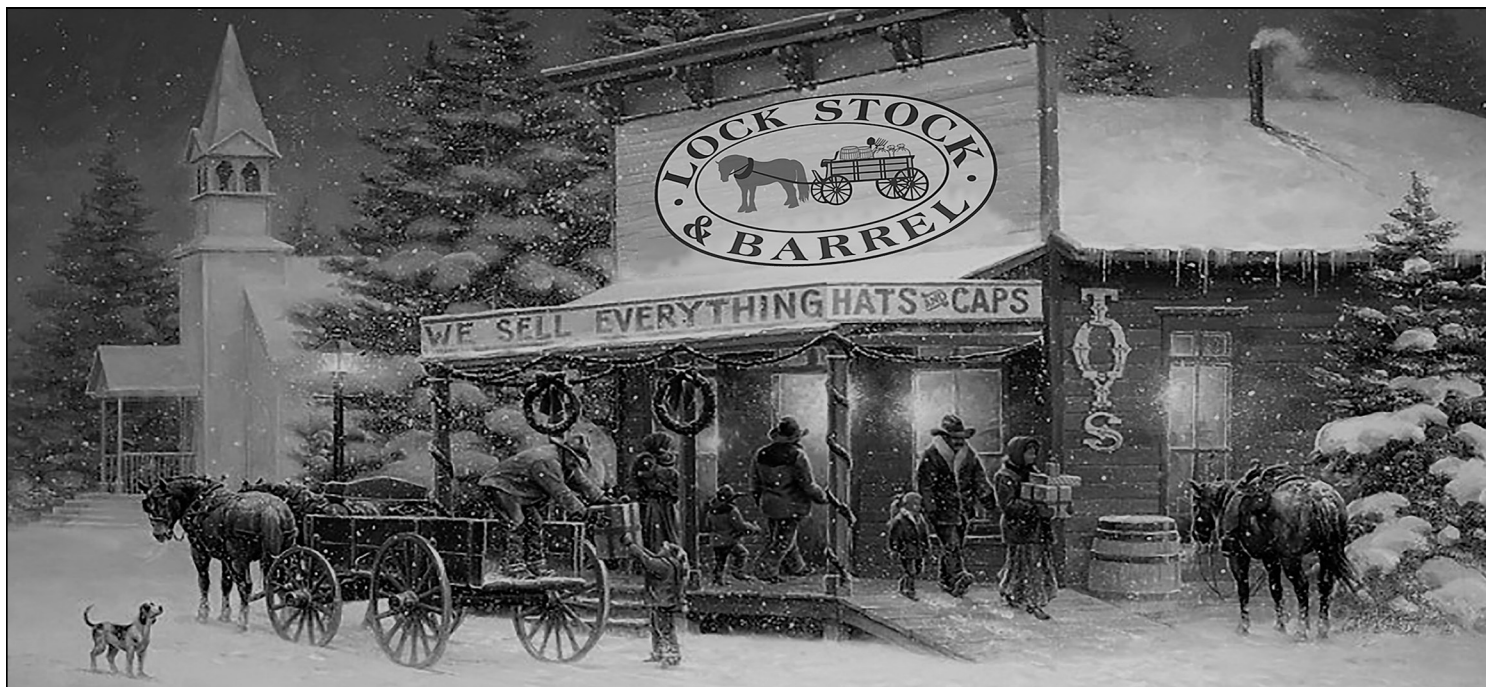
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