Elections and Events this Month

Every two years on the first Monday in May, we hold our Municipal Elections, when we elect our town government officials who serve our residents. This year we will be voting on Monday, May 3. Additionally, the annual Amity Regional District 5 Budget Referendum is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, and on Monday, May 17 the Town will hold our Annual Town Meeting where residents have a chance to vote on the Annual Town Budget. This year the meeting will be virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Details will be on the Town website (www.woodbridgetct.org) soon. I encourage everyone to participate.

Once again the Town has earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the national nonprofit Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). Please join me in congratulating our Finance Department and Board of Finance. I must also thank all our town departments for their efforts to balance Town services while being fiscally responsible.

On May 3 and 5, you may vote in person or absentee. To vote absentee, you must fill out an absentee ballot application (online or call the Town Clerk at 203-389-3424) by April 30 for the May 3 election and May 4 for May 5. Completed ballots may be dropped in the Ballot Box in front of Town Hall up to 8 pm the day of the election. More details are on the Town website.

Other ways to participate in Town life this month include the outdoor “Woodbridge Unplugged” concert series at the Library and the “Second Saturday” series. The “Second Saturday” series runs from May through September and is hosted by the Human Services, Library, and Recreation Departments. These outdoor events will offer free, family fun in the center of Town. Events include a chalk art party, a tag sale, book sale, art event and a craft fair. More details are on the Town website, including how to sign up to be a tag sale or craft fair vendor. I hope to see you at some of the events!

Lastly, the Town will resume its annual Memorial Day ceremony — last year’s was unfortunately canceled due to the pandemic. In addition to this ceremony, please visit the calendar on the Town website to see upcoming community events or post your own event if it is open to the public. You can see calendar highlights on page 5.

Although the Governor is lifting the outdoor mask mandate on May 1, I encourage residents to wear masks outside when you are near others and to practice social distancing.

At our recent meeting, the Board of Selectmen approved a local vendor, Café Rebelde, to sell coffee in the Grove. For many years residents have requested a coffee vendor in the center of Town and I hope that this will be another opportunity to bring residents together. Café Rebelde is run by local couple Carissa and Mauriel Vega and they import and roast single-origin fair trade coffee. They will begin to brew and sell coffee sometime in May and will also have pastries for sale.

Community events and the addition of coffee are part of my Town Center Beautification Plan to make the Town Center Campus a more active and attractive place. If you would like to help beautify our Town Center you may donate a flowering crabapple tree to line Fitzgerald Field along Center Road. These trees will replace some removed due to United Illuminating’s vegetation management program. There is also a bench donation program. To learn more or donate, please visit the Recreation page on the Town website.

Even apart due to the pandemic, we remain TOGETHER. May is Mental Health Month — we have all been through a very difficult time. Please prioritize your mental health and know that its okay to not be okay. Take care of yourself, check in on your neighbors and friends and be safe! If you feel you may need assistance please reach out to Town social worker Judi Young, 203-389-3459.

I wish to express my thanks and gratitude to all Woodbridge residents who have taken the time over the past year to reach out to me by phone, text or email. I have and will continue to listen to your opinions and suggestions. By working together, we can solve problems and enhance the quality of life in our wonderful Town. Please feel free to reach out to me at 203-389-3401 or bheller@woodbridgetct.org.

—First Selectman Beth Heller

Mark Your Calendars!

- **May 3:** Town Election — Remember to vote! Polls are open 6 am - 8 pm at the Center Building gym, 4 Meetinghouse Lane.
- **May 5:** Amity Regional School District Budget Referendum — Vote 6 am - 8 pm at the Center Building gym, 4 Meetinghouse Lane.
- **May 17:** Virtual Annual Town Meeting, 7:30 pm — Details will be on the Town website, woodbridgetct.org, soon.
- **May 31:** Woodbridge Town Offices, Library & Transfer Station will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.
Interest-free loans for certain home repairs are available to qualified Woodbridge residents. The State of Connecticut Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program provides interest-free loans to replace furnaces, roofs, windows, and septic systems as well as ADA modifications for items such as entrance ramps and bathrooms.

To be eligible, homeowners must meet the following requirements: (1) gross annual income cannot exceed $54,950 for a single household or $78,500 for a household of four; (2) have at least 10% equity in the home; (3) be up to date on municipal taxes; and (4) have homeowners insurance.

A key program benefit is that there is no out-of-pocket expense for this 0% interest loan and payment is not due until the house changes title. The program also allows the Town to establish a revolving loan fund in perpetuity to provide assistance to additional residents who need home repairs.

For additional loan information, please call Tax Collector Pat Crisco at 203-389-3425.

**Household Hazardous Waste**

Beginning May 22, HazWaste Central at the Regional Water Authority (90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT) will open for household hazardous waste collections. Household hazardous waste may be brought to this collection site on Saturday’s between 9 am - noon. Woodbridge residents are encouraged to look around their homes for any hazardous chemicals and/or cleaners requiring proper disposal.

The Woodbridge Public Works Dept. will host a Household Hazardous Waste satellite collection on Sat., Sept 11, from 9 am - noon at the Woodbridge Transfer Station located at 85 Acorn Hill Road Extension. This collection will be a great opportunity to clear your home and garage of unwanted chemicals.

For details about the Town’s Hazardous Waste Program go to the Town website or call the Dept. of Public Works, 203-389-3420.

**Fire Department Reminders**

Steps have been take throughout the pandemic to prevent exposure/spread to not only our frontline firefighters but also to the citizens we protect. Response to calls continue 24/7. Below are a few reminders.

- Don’t be alarmed if we respond to a medical call dressed in personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, mask, googles, gown, and face shields. This is strictly precautionary.
- 911 dispatchers will ask callers COVID -19 related questions.
- Out of an abundance of caution, PPE may be used in all response situations.
- Callers may be asked to wear a face mask.

Again, these measures are out of an abundance of caution while we limit potential exposure. Please continue to follow recommendations from our local, state, and federal officials along with the CDC guidelines. If you have any questions, please call the Fire Department’s non-emergency number, 203-389-3441.

Thank you for your patience, cooperation, and sense of community as we work together to maintain a safe and healthy environment.
The Library reopened its doors on Monday, April 5. We’ve missed you and look forward to seeing you! Please continue to wear masks while inside and limit visits to 30 minutes.

The Library hours are:
- Mon., & Thu., 3-6 pm;
- Tue., Wed., & Fri., 10 am - 1 pm.

During your visit, here’s what will be available:
- In-person browsing: come see all of the new books, audiobooks, and DVDs!
- Computers: one hour per user; no appointment needed.
- Printing, copying, faxing, and scanning.
- Periodicals: recent newspapers, plus catch up on the past year’s magazines!
- Reference help: including getting started/troubleshooting our digital library services ( hoopla, Kanopy, Libby)

At this time, the Study Room and the Woodbridge Room are closed. Park & Pickup is still available in the Meeting Room; it cannot be used for any events or programs. Seating throughout the Library is extremely limited. Puzzles and children's toys are not available.

Park & Pickup hours will continue as noted below. Please wait for an email or phone call to let you know your items are ready for pickup.
- Mon., & Thu., 10 am - 7 pm;
- Tue., Wed., & Fri., 10 am - 5 pm.

Not ready to come inside? Call or email to place holds, ask questions, find out information, and more. Department emails are highlighted below. After each department name, all email addresses end with the following: woodbridgetownlibrary.org.
- Adult Services/Reference: 203-389-3434
  Email: reference@woodbridgetownlibrary.org
- Children’s Department: 203-389-3439
  Email: childrens@woodbridgetownlibrary.org
- Circulation/General Info: 203-389-3433
  Email: circulation@woodbridgetownlibrary.org

Not sure who you need? Simply send us a note via our general email at askus@woodbridgetownlibrary.org.

Coming Soon — Summer Reading 2021
This year’s theme is “Tails and Tales” and kickoff is June 22. Stay tuned to see what is being planned for all ages—even the adults!
**Woodbridge Happenings**

*Check out the Town’s calendar for event details!*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/1</td>
<td>Live Outside Concert at 10selden, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/1</td>
<td>Boy Scout Troop 907 Garden Sale, 10 am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Old Woodbridge Fire Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/2</td>
<td>Trail Maintenance &amp; Clean Up, 9:15 am</td>
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<td>Fitzgerald Tract, Beecher Road</td>
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<td>5/6</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Drive-thru Lunch, 12 pm</td>
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<td>For 60+ at The Center-RSV by May 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Home Alone Class for ages 9-12, 4 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Center Building gym</td>
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<td>5/7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Live Outside Concert at 10selden, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/8</td>
<td>Second Saturday-Chalk Art Party, 10 am</td>
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<td>Library Lawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/8</td>
<td>Growing Woodbridge at Gazebo, 11 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Food Pantry Fundraiser, reserve space 11-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/13</td>
<td>Woodbridge Unplugged at Library, 6 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Meacham and Hutch, outdoor acoustics</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/14 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Live Outside Concert at 10selden, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/15</td>
<td>Live Concert at Massaro Farm, 7 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Jolly Beggars</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/17</td>
<td>Hooked on Llamas at Library, 4 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>with Friends of the Library mini book sale</td>
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<td>5/21 &amp; 22</td>
<td>Live Outside Concert at 10selden, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/27</td>
<td>Woodbridge Unplugged at Library, 6 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steven Bettencourt, outdoor acoustics</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/28 &amp; 29</td>
<td>Live Outside Concert at 10selden, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/31</td>
<td>Memorial Day Ceremony, 11 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Center Building at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Monument</td>
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**Events posted to the Town Calendar will be highlighted here. Woodbridge organizations are encouraged to add their events at woodbridgect.org/calendar. Questions? Call 203-389-3489.**

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**Library News**

**Toddler & Children’s Corner**

**Animal Alley:** Every Thursday, 4-4:30 pm. Make a different animal craft each week, outside at the picnic tables. This craft is for ages 3 and up. Registration is required. No program if raining.

**Outdoor Storytime:** Every Wednesday, 10:30 - 11 am. Meet at the picnic tables; no registration required. Some chairs provided, feel free to bring your own or a blanket. Suitable for babies through Pre-K. No program if below 50 degrees or raining.

**Hooked on Llamas:** Monday, May 17 at 4 pm. Meet a llama from Country Quilt Farm, hear a story, and take home a fun llama craft! Please register online. If raining, this event will not take place.

**Peeps Diorama Contest**

Thanks to everyone—adults, teens, and children—who entered our Annual Peeps in the Library Diorama Contest! By the time you read this, the winners will have been notified. Be sure to check our website and social media channels to see which dioramas won—or look in June’s newsletter.

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**Massaro Community Farm**

**Summer Concert Series**

Saturdays, May 15 & June 19, 2021

- **The Jolly Beggars:** 7 PM
- **The Mike Collins Band:** 7 PM
- **Out the Box:** 7 PM
- **Thabisa:** 7 PM
- **The Bargain:** 7 PM
- **Hubinger Street:** 7 PM

For tickets and info visit MassaroFarm.org

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**Visiting Angels**

**America’s Choice in Home Care**

Specializing in Live-In and 24 Hour Care!

Flexible Hourly Care Available

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www.visitingangels.com/woodbridge
The Human Services Department social worker, Judi Young, is available to those in need of assistance due to isolation and other issues associated with long-term quarantine and social distancing.

Assistance with COVID-19 vaccine appointments is available through the Human Services Dept. For links and phone numbers to access vaccination appointments at area locations, Woodbridge residents 18+ may email jglicksman@woodbridgect.org. Human Services is no longer booking new appointments for North Haven Clinics in partnership with Quinnipiac Valley Health District.

Homebound residents in need of a vaccine may contact Human Services to complete a Department of Public Health assessment and submit a form. Other residents, unable to drive or find a ride to their vaccination appointment, may call The Center for transportation at 203-389-3430.

The Woodbridge Food Pantry is available to seniors and families in need with non-perishable food items as well as gift cards to Stop & Shop for perishable items for qualifying families. Items needed for donation to the Food Pantry include coffee, tea, spaghetti sauce, shampoo, hair conditioner, body wash, and deodorant.

The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program has ended but there are options for assistance. If you are able to take photos of your documents with a phone and upload them to a website, then you will be able to complete your return with a VITA preparer online. To begin, please go to http://www.getyourrefund.org/NHWL-CT. VITA volunteers will be available to assist you.

If you require in-person assistance, Emanuel Lutheran Church in New Haven at 280 Humphrey Street has a walk-in tax site on Wed., 10 am - 2 pm and Sun., 12-4 pm. You must call 203-562-2965 from the parking lot and ask to be added to the VITA list. There is limited availability.

FEMA Coronavirus Funeral Assistance is available to qualifying individuals who have lost a loved one to COVID-19 since January 2020. For more information please call the help-line at 1-844-6333 or online at FEMA.gov/funeral-assistance/faq.

Mother’s Day Drive-thru Luncheon: Celebrate all moms at the next drive-thru luncheon on Thursday, May 6 from 12-1 pm. This delicious lunch of quiche Lorraine, fresh fruit and a special dessert is generously provided and sponsored by Elaine Maruccio of New England Young at Heart, Whitney Rehab, and Artis Senior Living. RSVP by Tuesday, May 4.

Transportation for medical appointments is available for those 60+ or with disabilities Monday - Friday from 9 am - 2:30 pm with limited exceptions. Transportation for grocery shopping and pharmacy pick-up is also available. Call to arrange transportation via car or wheelchair accessible van. For safety reasons, masks are required, and temperatures will be taken. Please know the vehicle is cleaned between each use.

Meals: Seniors may reserve flash frozen meals ($5/meal) by noon on Monday for delivery to your home on Tuesday. Choose from a wide variety of options including chicken parmesan, stuffed chicken breast with broccoli and cheese, meatloaf, and cranberry, ginger salmon. Meals include a vegetable, roll and dessert. There is a minimum order of two meals please.

New! Flash frozen soups are now available for $1 per 12 oz. container. Varieties include: matzah ball, mushroom, carrot ginger, Tuscan bean and more. Call 203-389-3430 to place your order! Soup must be ordered with meals or a minimum of five soups must be ordered at a time.

Boredom Busters: Puzzles and brain games (word searches/crossword puzzles) are available. Call The Center to arrange for pick-up.

Monthly drive-thru lunches continue! Stay tuned for delicious details on the Father’s Day drive-thru lunch coming in June.

Looking for company? Call Judi Young, senior social worker at 203-389-3429 to arrange for a friendly visitor.
COVID guidelines for in-person programming have been established to help protect all clients and provide for gatherings in the safest way possible. These guidelines will be distributed to each person before or at the start of the first class. Preregistration and masks are required for all classes. All classes (except Pickleball) will be held outdoors. During inclement weather, classes will be inside the Center Building with social distancing. Please call (203-389-3430) to sign-up or for more information.

The programs below will meet under the Newton Road Canopy. For added comfort, bring your own lawn chair. During inclement weather, programs will meet in The Center cafeteria.

**Craft Group** meets Thursdays, 10 am - 12 pm. Bring your current knitting or crocheting project and enjoy some long over-due social time. Instructor available if needed.

**Painting for Pleasure with Graham Dale:** All levels are welcome, Wednesdays, 10 am - 12 pm. Come paint your choice of subject with acrylics or watercolors. Call for materials list. The ten-week session fee is $60—prorated for latecomers. There will be no class on May 5.

The programs below will meet in the Grove Canopy. During inclement weather, programs will meet in the Center Building gym.

**Exercise with Laurie** continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10-11 am. Enjoy an aerobic, cardio and strength training (bring your own 1 to 2 pound hand weights) workout to upbeat music; $2 per class fee.

**Targeted Strength Training:** Mondays, 9-10 am beginning May 10. Led by Michele Tenney, this exercise class uses exercise bands to focus on strengthening specific muscle groups to help increase balance, stability, and flexibility. Bands are available for purchase through the instructor.

**Pickleball:** Monday through Friday, 12:30-3:30 pm in the Center Building gym. Two sessions each day beginning May 6. Advance court sign-up is required as space is limited. Call for information: 203-389-3430.

The following **virtual classes** will be offered:

**Get to the Point of Health Lecture Series:** Join Christine Buck, Legal Investigator from the State of CT Attorney General’s Office on Friday, May 14 from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm for the next no cost lecture: *Keeping Your Financial Health and Well-being by Avoiding Scams.* This presentation can be accessed via Zoom and WGATV Channel 79. Call 203-389-3430 to register and obtain the Zoom link.

**AAA Defensive Driving Course** is offered virtually May 4, 11, 18, 25, and June 1. This free, four-hour class, taken from the comfort of your own home, may qualify you for an auto insurance discount upon completion. Register at: [www.AAA.COM/DEFENSIVEDRIVING](http://www.AAA.COM/DEFENSIVEDRIVING).

**Does your partner have early stage dementia?**

Yale is conducting a Stress Reduction Study for Partners of Early Stage Dementia. Learn stress reduction techniques. Compensation for participation is offered. To learn more or find out if you are eligible, contact Kathleen Williams at 203-641-5373 or email kathleen.williams@yale.edu.

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**New Faces at the Center**

The Woodbridge Center is excited to announce two additions to its staff. We think you will agree both Jess and Michael are wonderful assets to The Center. Please make sure to give them a warm Woodbridge welcome when you interact with them!

Jessica Esposito is The Center’s new Clerical Program Assistant. Jessica brings with her a masters degree, a diverse employment history working with people, and a kind demeanor.

Michael Arcangelo joins The Center’s Transportation Program as a driver with experience in commercial driving and a patient and warm personality.
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.

Camp Registration & Court Permits

Register now for summer camp! Recreation Summer camp will run June 28 through Aug. 6, 9 am - noon at Beecher Road South School for campers entering grades 1-8. Camp offers a wide range of activities including arts and crafts, drama, fitness, swimming and more. There is a three week registration minimum.

Due to a limited space, residents may register online or in-person at the Rec Dept. Office; mail in registration will not be accepted.

The 2021 summer camp will run differently than past years due to COVID restrictions. Camp will not include a CIT/Volunteer Program and there will not be a camp program for students entering 9th and 10th grade. It is hoped that these programs will resume in 2022.

Cost-free permits to use Town tennis, volleyball, and pickleball courts may be reserved by contacting the Recreation Dept. Multiple times and days can be reserved up to three weeks in advance by Woodbridge residents and registered nonresident pickleball and volleyball players. Call the Recreation Office at 203-389-3446, Mon.- Fri., 8 am to 4 pm to have a reserved permit emailed to you. Permits must be with you during your court time as proof of your reservation date and time.

2021 Summer Concerts

2021 marks the return of the Summer Concert series! Concerts will be held on the Woodbridge Town Green each Tuesday in July, 6-8 pm with distanced seating areas. If rain, the Tuesday concert will be held on Wednesday.

Bring your blanket and enjoy an evening of music.

July 6: Shaded Soul Band features soul music.
July 13: Boogie Chillun offers a variety of country, blues, jazz, rock and soul.
July 20: Center Line Band features rock n' roll music.

Indoor Yoga Returns

Indoor yoga returns with Diane King on May 12. Wednesday classes will resume, 10:30-11:45 am, with class size limited to 7; masks are required.

Learning postures that create strength and ease, and to manage stress through breathing, movement, and guided relaxation are class goals.

Please bring a small pillow or folded blanket (for sitting), a yoga strap or long scarf or necktie, and a tennis or similar size ball. For questions, email yogadiane@gmail.com or call 203 389-3446.