I encourage all residents to attend the Town’s Annual Meeting on Monday May 16 at 7:30 pm where residents will have a chance to make comments and ask questions on the Town’s annual budget. More details will be on the Town website (www.woodbridgetct.org) soon. Additionally, I strongly urge everyone to view the Town’s new interactive online budget tool on the Finance Department’s page on the Town website.

Our Town’s annual budget reflects our shared values, and is a balancing act of our commitments to provide excellent education for our children and show our mutual respect to taxpayers by careful budgeting and responsible spending on Town services.

This year’s budget process has been extremely challenging. Our budget issues are caused by a long-term revenue problem. Expenses continue to grow, yet our grand list remains stagnant. These challenges stem from decisions made over many, many years to restrict residential and commercial zoning and to conserve open space, which has left us little room for any growth. Also, this was the first year in a decade that our grand list grew by more than 1%. New and diverse revenue remains critical to continue to fund our high-quality education and other important Town services.

The 2030 Task Force is about to start working with a planning consultant to do placemaking work in our business district. The goal is to make the area more attractive and pedestrian friendly. I’m hopeful these updates can help attract more businesses. Once the Task Force has some ideas, they will hold a community meeting and ask for resident feedback.

Our Board of Selectmen Strategic Plan subcommittee (Sheila McCreven and David Vogel) is hard at work outlining the Town’s priorities for the future. Financial stability is a major pillar of that plan. I anticipate sharing a draft plan at the Annual Town Meeting. This plan may also direct some spending priorities for the $2.6 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding the Town has received. I would like to see an HVAC system installed in the Center Building gym, which will allow us to safely and comfortably resume holding large community gatherings there. ARPA is a once-in-a-generation funding opportunity, and I strongly believe it should be used for once-in-a-generation, transformational projects.

In addition to adding ventilation, I would like to use ARPA funding to add a pavilion to the Library lawn for outdoor events to have a covered space. We should also upgrade our aging playgrounds and make investments to the aging irrigation systems at our ballfields. It is important that we use this funding to improve ALL residents’ quality of life.

Most importantly, we have been focusing on funding quality-of-life improvements without increasing the tax burden. This year I have secured more than $3 million in State grant funding — $2 million to renovate the Old Firehouse into a Community Center, $425,000 for Senior Center renovations and $600,000 for sidewalks and pedestrian improvements in the Town Center. These improvements, combined with our successful community events, will make our Town Center Campus the beautiful, welcoming, safe and pedestrian-friendly space that our residents want and deserve.

As a reminder, we have two coming community event this month: On May 14 the Community Council is hosting a Bike Ride to celebrate the Town’s new bike route. We will also hold our always beautiful Memorial Day Ceremony, led by veteran Dr. Barry Josephs.

—First Selectman Beth Heller

Community Bike Fun Ride — Sat., May 14 at 10 am

Celebrate National Bike Month with Woodbridge’s first Community Bike Fun Ride, Sat., May 14. This non-competitive bike ride is organized by the Woodbridge ad hoc Community Council. The free event will start and end on the Library lawn—enjoy either a short or long ride. The Town’s bike route was made possible by generous resident donations and a matching grant from Sustainable CT. The route connects several center of town destinations.

Families joining the short ride will be treated to an entertainment break at Beecher Road School, thanks to the PTO. Before the ride, there will be time to decorate bikes and do safety checks. Helmets are required. Following the ride, stay to enjoy live music, lawn games and food.

More details and the event registration link are on the Town’s website, woodbridgetct.org.

Important Reminder

- May 16 (Monday): Annual Town Meeting, 7:30 pm.
- May 30 (Monday): Town Offices, the Library and Transfer Station will be closed for Memorial Day.
- Residents may dispose of HazWaste at the Regional Water Authority from May 21 - Oct. 29, Saturdays only, 9 am-noon. RWA preregistration required, rwater.com/hazwaste or 203-401-2712.
Rental property owners are reminded that Income and Expense Reports are due to the Assessor’s Office by June 1, 2022. Connecticut General Statute 12-63c requires all owners of rental real property to annually file this report. The information filed and furnished related to the actual rental and operating expenses shall not be a public record and is not subject to the provisions of Section 1-19 (Freedom of Information) of the Connecticut General Statutes. All properties that are rented or leased, including commercial, retail, industrial and residential properties, except “such property used for residential purposes, containing not more than six dwelling units and in which the owner resides” must complete this form. If a non-residential property is partially rented and partially owner-occupied this report must be filed.

Income and Expense Reports not received by June 1, 2022 are subject to a ten percent (10%) penalty.

Forms are available on the Town website or at the Assessor’s Office Mon. - Fri., 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Call 230-389-3416 with questions.

Woodbridge Police Officer Joseph Kubik reached out to his friend, Woodbridge resident Yuriy Faryna, to identify how to help the people of Ukraine. Faryna, born in Ukraine, moved to the US in 2001. He has many family members and friends that still reside there. Faryna noted that the Ukrainians are in dire need of ballistic vests and medical supplies.

To offer support to the Ukrainian community, the Woodbridge Police Dept. donated numerous ballistic vests along with medical supplies including tourniquets. Members of the Police Dept. hope their small gesture encourages others to lend support. According to Faryna, Ukrainians need additional equipment with special emphasis on ballistic vests, level 4 ballistic vests and helmets.

Anyone interested in donating additional supplies should contact Ofc. Joseph Kubik at jkubik@woodbridgepd.com or Sgt. Brian Pedalino at bpedalino@woodbridgepd.com.

During National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week, the dedicated Dispatchers of the Woodbridge Police Dept. were recognized. Dispatch staff are the vital link to gathering critical information, dispatching appropriate resources, and ensuring the safety of the “caller” as well as the town’s Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Service First Responders.
May Adult Events

All adult events are held in the Library’s Meeting Room and registration is required.

**The History of White House Entertainment with Alan DeValerio**
Friday, May 6 at 11 am
Join former White House butler, Alan DeValerio, as he recounts his experience with White House entertaining and how it has evolved over the years. Alan will also display many of the White House artifacts that he has collected, and retell stories from those who have taken care of the First Families since FDR!

**Free In-Person Virtual Art Tour Series from the Wadsworth Atheneum: Impressionists**
Tuesday, May 11 at 1 pm
Experience art history via the oldest public art museum in the US. View the Wadsworth Virtual Art Tour on Impressionists, lead by a museum docent. Save time and gas by coming to the library, versus driving to Hartford.

**Woodbridge Writers Workshop**
Tuesday, May 24 at 3 pm
Held every fourth Tuesday of the month, area writers are welcome to share their works and receive constructive criticism in a friendly atmosphere.

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**Save the Date!**

**Celebrating the Music of Thelonious Monk with the Shoreline Jazz Quartet**
Thursday, June 2 at 7 pm
Enjoy The Shoreline Jazz Quartet as they celebrate the music of jazz pianist and composer, Thelonious Monk.

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**Important Things to Remember**

In case you missed it: **we are now fine free**, and patrons will no longer be charged fines for overdue items! All existing overdue fines for Woodbridge Town Library items have also been removed; this does not include replacement fees for missing or damaged items. Items still have due dates, and patrons are still responsible for returning books, movies and other borrowed items. Overdue museum passes will have a $5 per day late fee.

**Passports to Connecticut Libraries participants:** Please return your passports to the reference desk by **May 6**. You must have visited at least five libraries to enter into the drawing for the $150 Visa gift card ($100 for children).

Did you know we have **book club sets** of discussion-worthy titles for lending to your book club? Ask at the Reference Desk.

We also have **museum passes to area attractions**, everything from The Beardsley Zoo in Bridgeport to the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, providing you with free or discounted admission. Reserve your passes online then print out at home (when allowed) or pick up at the library. We can also print them here for you. For more details, visit [https://woodbridge.lioninc.org/museum-passes/](https://woodbridge.lioninc.org/museum-passes/) Please note that every attraction has its own policies for pass usage and availability may be limited.

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**Winners of the 7th Annual Peeps in the Library Contest** will be announced in June’s newsletter. Thanks for all of the entries!
### Woodbridge Happenings

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<tr>
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<th>Event Details</th>
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<td>5/5</td>
<td><strong>Mother’s Day Drive-thru Lunch</strong>, 12 pm for ages 60+, The Woodbridge Center</td>
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<td>5/5</td>
<td><strong>National Day of Prayer</strong>, 6:30 pm hosted by Trinity Church, in person or stream live</td>
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<td>5/6</td>
<td><strong>History of White House Entertainment</strong>, 11 am Library Meeting Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/11</td>
<td><strong>Senior Center Social</strong>, 10 am for resident 55+, The Grove</td>
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<td>5/11</td>
<td><strong>Art Tour Viewing</strong>, 1 pm Library Meeting Room</td>
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<td>5/13</td>
<td><strong>End of Year Party at AMSB</strong>, 6:30 pm for 7th &amp; 8th Graders</td>
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<td>5/14</td>
<td><strong>Community Bike Fun Ride</strong>, 10 am meet at Library Lawn</td>
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<td>5/15</td>
<td><strong>Healthy You 2022!</strong>, 10 am - 4pm hosted by the JCC, 360 Amity Road</td>
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<td>5/16</td>
<td><strong>AAA Driver Improvement Class</strong>, 9 am for 55+, Library Meeting Room</td>
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<td>5/20</td>
<td><strong>Tag Sale at the Darling House</strong>, 8 am &amp; 21 hosted by the AWHS, 1907 Litchfield Tpke.</td>
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<td>5/21</td>
<td><strong>Celebrate Spring at the Farm</strong>, 1-5 pm Massaro Community Farm, 41 Ford Road</td>
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<td>5/22</td>
<td><strong>Sunday Breakfast-OLOA fundraiser</strong>, 10:30 am Our Lady of Assumption Church, 81 Center Road</td>
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<td>5/25</td>
<td><strong>Medicare Uncomplicated</strong>, 6:30 pm Library Meeting Room</td>
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<td>5/26</td>
<td><strong>Mosaic: Community Reading</strong>, 7 pm book discussion, Center Building lawn</td>
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<td>5/30</td>
<td><strong>Memorial Day Ceremony</strong>, Center Bldg., 11 am Veteran of Foreign Wars Monument</td>
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From the Children’s Room

For more information and registration where necessary, please visit our website.

**Indoor Story Time Has Returned!**
Join us on the carpet in the children’s room for fun stories, music, and props! Every Wednesday at 10:30 am, for infants to age 3 and their caregivers. Registration is not necessary.

**In-person Story Craft Has ALSO Returned!**
A special story time session for children ages 3-5, Saturdays at 10:30 am. We will gather in the craft room for stories followed by a simple craft. Registration is not necessary; come every week or when you can!

**Singer-Songwriter Steve Elci: Saturday, May 14 at noon**
Live performance at the Woodbridge town-wide bike event! Fun for the whole family! Takes place on library grounds—bring chairs or a blanket. In the event of rain, concert will be in the meeting room.

**Marble Run Building Challenge: Wednesday, May 18 at 4 pm**
Use all kinds of materials to make and test your own marble run—"free-build" style. For ages 5 and up. Registration required.

**Theater for Kids with Ingrid Schaeffer on Saturday, May 21**
Two participatory theater programs for kids to act out classic children’s stories, followed by a craft. The 1 pm program is for ages 3 to 5; the 2 pm program is for ages 5 to 10. More details on our website—registration is required.

**May Graphic Novel Book Discussion: Wednesday, May 25 at 6:30 pm**
For ages 9 and up. Read the Graphic Novel *The Tea Dragon Society* before coming to the program (copies of the book will be available at the library). On the night of the program we’ll chat about our favorite parts of the book while using paint-markers to design fancy tea mugs. Registration is required; supplies and books are limited.

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**Say YES to you. Say YES to tomorrow. Say YES to the JCC**

Become a Member TODAY! No commitment or enrollment fee. The time to join our family is NOW.

Take advantage of all the J has to offer. Contact membership today at membership@jccnh.org or call (203) 387-2424.

**America’s Choice in Home Care**
Specializing in Live-In and 24 Hour Care!

- Meal Preparation
- Light Housekeeping
- Hygiene Assistance
- Errands & Shopping
- Respite Care for Families
- Personal Care

**203.298.9700**
www.visitingangels.com/woodbridge
May is National Dental Health Awareness Month! Many older Americans do not have dental insurance due to lost benefits at retirement or no routine coverage through Medicare. If you need dental care but don’t have insurance, there are options for free dental clinics and providers offering a sliding scale available through the Area Agency on Aging South-Central Region’s Resource Center at 203-785-8533 (option 4).

Living Treasure Committee Volunteers Sought: Human Services will hold the 4th annual Living Treasure event this fall. The event will honor residents age 60 or over, who have demonstrated positive actions to improve the quality of life in Woodbridge, have contributed and may continue to contribute their time to enhance our community, and have performed this work on a volunteer, unpaid basis. Members of the community are welcome to join the event planning committee which meets frequently during the months of June, July, August, and September. Please call 203-389-3429 to volunteer.

Food Pantry: Residents in need may contact Human Services for access to non-perishable food each month. The food pantry is currently looking for donations of canola/olive oils, ground coffee, baking mixes/snacks, salad dressing, deodorants, and laundry detergent. Kindly check all expiration dates prior to drop-off.

Volunteer Appreciation Event: The Human Services Dept. will honor volunteers at the 32nd Annual Volunteer Recognition celebration. Many thanks to all receiving certificates of appreciation.

Ask the Pharmacist: Human Services will partner with the Quinnipiac Valley Health District (QVHD) & the Connecticut Cut Pharmacists Association (CPA) to host individual Medication Review Sessions with residents on Thursday, June 9, 10 am to 3 pm at the library. A pharmacist will be available to answer questions and address concerns through a personal medication review. These recommendations can be further discussed with your doctor. All information will be kept confidential. To RSVP, please contact 203-389-3429.

Woodbridge Center News

The Center is for everyone 55+!
Please call 203-389-3430 or email kmoriarty@woodbridgect.org with any questions or to register for programs.

Woodbridge Center’s Jessica Esposito and Director Kristy Moriarty distribute meals to attendees of the Spring Drive-thru. The beautiful weather and upbeat music added to the enjoyment of the drive-thru generously sponsored by the law firm of Resnik and Resnik, and The Linden at Woodbridge.

Drive-thru Luncheons for those over 60 years of age:

Mother’s Day Drive-thru Luncheon: A reminder if you signed-up, the Mother’s Day Drive-thru Luncheon will be on Thursday, May 5 from 12-1pm. This drive-thru is sponsored by Visiting Angels of Woodbridge and Elim Park Health Care and Rehabilitation. Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center will also provide a fun treat.

Services:
Tech Tue. and Thu., 2:45-4:15 pm: Need some help navigating your computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone? Call to sign-up for a 1:1 session in The Center’s computer lab with patient, knowledgeable, Amity High School student volunteers. No fee.
Transportation for medical appointments is available for those age 60+ or with a long-term or short-term disability, Mon. - Fri. from 9 am - 4 pm. Transportation for local grocery shopping, banking, and pharmacy pick-up is also available. Call to arrange car or wheelchair accessible van transportation. Vehicles are cleaned between each use.

Meals: Healthy, well balanced, flash frozen meals are available for $5.25/meal. Order by noon on Mon. for delivery to your home on Tue. Choose from a wide variety of options including chicken parmesan, crab meat stuffed fish, eggplant rollatini, chicken pot pie, vegetable frittata, and fresh Cobb salad with grilled chicken breast. Meals include a roll, fresh fruit, and dessert. Two meal minimum. Frozen soups are available for $1.50 per 10 oz. container. Varieties include: Italian wedding, beef orzo, chicken noodle, and many more. Call 203-389-3430 to place your order.

Friendly Visitor Program: Call Judi Young, Human Services Social Worker, at 203-389-3429 to arrange for a friendly visitor.

Medical Loan Closet: Medical equipment is available for lending, including walkers, wheelchairs, knee rollers, shower chairs, and more.

Job Bank: Residents may call Nancy Pfund, Youth Services, 203-389-3429, to hire a student worker. Schedule helpers now for spring clean-up and more.

Updates:
Facebook/e-blasts: Follow us on Facebook (The Woodbridge Center, Woodbridge CT) and call to sign-up for email blasts for The Center updates.
Woodbridge Center News

The American Armchair Adventure - National Park Series: This in-person monthly series, sponsored by Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, will take you to six National Parks in six months. Each month you will explore one of the most breathtaking parks in the United States. Enjoy simulated tours, interactive discussions, trivia, and more. Adventures include: Glacier National Park - May 13, Grand Canyon - June 10, Zion - July 8, and Grand Teton - August 12. 11 am – 12 pm in the Library’s Meeting Room. Call to sign-up.

AAA Driver Improvement Class: Member and non-members may be able to lower their auto insurance costs by taking this class free of charge on May 16, 9 am - 1 pm in The Woodbridge Library’s Meeting Room. Space is limited; pre-registration is required.

We Are Celebrating YOU!

Come to this fun outdoor social on May 11 from 10 am - 12 pm! Have a free muffin courtesy of Coachman Square at Woodbridge and cup of coffee or tea in the Grove. Play a game of BINGO with prizes, corn hole, bocce, or shuffleboard. All to celebrate Older American Month! Please call 203-389-3430 to register.

Ongoing Activities

**Hobbies/Social:**
- **Bridge:** Wed., 1-4 pm in the Library’s Meeting Room.
- **Computer Lab** is open Mon.- Fri., 10 am - 2 pm. Two-person limit in computer lab. Printing is available (first 5 pages free). Preregistration is required.
- **Craft Group:** Tue. and Thu., 10 am - 12 pm, in the Library’s Meeting Room. Bring your current knitting, crocheting, or needlepoint project to work on while enjoying a lovely time socializing.
- **Painting for Pleasure with local artist Carole Abbate:** Mon., 10 am - 12 pm, in The Center café. You will find joy in creating your own paintings as Carole helps inspire beginners to intermediates to paint with acrylics or watercolors. Paint the subject of your choice; bring a note card or photo for inspiration. Sessions are consecutive—join anytime. Call to sign-up for this 6-week, $36 class.
- **Pinochle:** Mon. & Wed., 1-4 pm & Thu., 1:30-4 pm in the Center Building, Room 16.
- **Exercise:** Not sure if an exercise class is a good fit? Try a complimentary class first.
- **Aerobics Class with Laura Richling:** Tue. and Thu., 10-11 am in the Center Building gym. Enjoy a complete aerobic, cardio, and strength training workout to a variety of music. Bring your own 1 or 2 pound hand weights, if you have them, to use during the class. There is a $3 fee payable at the start of class.
- **Pickleball:** Mon. through Fri., 12:30-3:30 pm, in the Center Building gym. All levels are welcome. New players please call to register.
- **Zumba Gold with Amanda Aranzullo:** Fri., 9-9:45 am, in the Center Building gym. Who says exercise can’t be fun? This fun “dance party” focuses on all elements of cardiovascular health, muscular conditioning, flexibility, and balance. No prior Zumba experience required. The fee is $30 for a 6-week session. The next session will begin after the mask requirement is lifted.

**Renovation Update**

As the long-awaited Senior Center renovation begins, all programs that previously met in The Center café have been relocated to other Town building areas as noted under their description. Offices have been temporarily moved to Room 13 of the Center Building. Please call with any questions.
**Youth Services News**

Call Youth Services for information: 203-389-3429. Email npfund@woodbridgect.org or youthone@woodbridgect.org. Like us on Facebook: Woodbridge-Youth-Services-Woodbridge-CT

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**Beth-Wood 7th & 8th Grade Party**

Come celebrate the school year coming to an end. Youth Services invites all AMSB students and Woodbridge/Bethany residents in Grades 7 & 8 to the next youth evening program on Fri., May 13 at Amity Middle School in Bethany. Party will be on the back field 6:30-8:30 pm. Rain brings the party indoors to the gym. Ticket cost is $7. Those who register will receive an extra raffle ticket. Tickets can also be purchased at the door. Please call 203-389-3429 to sign up or email youthone@woodbridgect.org

**Adult Volunteers Needed:**
Register students, chaperone, or help with food. Contact Youth Services to help.

**Chocolate Dipping for Mother’s Day**

Stay after school on Friday, May 6 and make your mom, grandma, or someone special a gift they’ll love! Woodbridge Youth Services will be holding a chocolate dipping activity after school at Amity Middle School from 2:30-4 pm. Cost is $15 and must be paid in advance. Permission form required. Last day to sign up is Monday, 5/2. Call 203-389-3429 to sign up or email: youthone@woodbridgect.org

Space is limited.

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**6th Grade Meet & Greet a Hit**

Woodbridge and Bethany 6th graders had a blast at the Meet & Greet hosted by Youth Services and the Town of Bethany. The evening offered great music, dancing, and an obstacle course. This group looks forward to their 7th Grade Picnic in August.

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**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.

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**2022 Summer Concerts**

Concerts will be held Tuesday evenings in July, 6-8 pm, on the Woodbridge Town Green. July 5 spotlights the Beatles tribute band Britishmania. July 12 features “Boogie Chillun” with country, jazz blues, rock and soul music. July 19 offers a night of jazz with “Abe Ovadia Trio”. July 26 features classic rock with Rumrunners.

In case of inclement weather, check the Town website for rain date information, woodbridgect.org.

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**Logan Testa Memorial Triathlon**

The Woodbridge Recreation Dept. will hold its 2nd Annual Logan Testa Memorial Kid’s Triathlon on Saturday, June 11 at 9 am. Join this family event where children compete in three timed events: swimming, biking and running.

Logan was a longtime participant of the Woodbridge Recreation programs. We are excited to be honoring Logan’s life and his family’s commitment to our programming.

Awards will be given to all participants. It is recognized that all athletes are winners for their stamina and spirit to compete regardless of time! We’d like to thank our main sponsors: Amity Physical Therapy, LLC and SERVPRO, CKG Associates, LLC.

Registration deadline (online or in person at the Woodbridge Recreation Dept.) is Friday, May 20, noon. Due to the amount of preparation for this event, registrations will not be accepted after May 20.

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**Pickleball & Tennis Permits**

Permits are needed to play pickleball or tennis on Town-owned public courts. Permits are free of charge and available to Woodbridge residents and registered nonresident pickleball players.

To reserve a court date and time, call the Recreation Dept. at 203-389-3446, Mon. - Fri., 8 am - 4 pm. Multiple days and times may be reserved up to three weeks in advance.

Permits will be emailed and must be with you while using a court as proof of reservation. Permits will be available through Nov. 1.

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**Job Bank**

Residents may hire teens for odd jobs. Teens who want paid work should contact Youth Services to help.

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**Beth Wood 7th & 8th Grade Party**

Come celebrate the school year coming to an end. Youth Services invites all AMSB students and Woodbridge/Bethany residents in Grades 7 & 8 to the next youth evening program on Fri., May 13 at Amity Middle School in Bethany. Party will be on the back field 6:30-8:30 pm. Rain brings the party indoors to the gym. Ticket cost is $7. Those who register will receive an extra raffle ticket. Tickets can also be purchased at the door. Please call 203-389-3429 to sign up or email youthone@woodbridgect.org

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Space is limited.