As the Summer of 2022 comes to a close, and the beautiful changes of fall begin, there are also many wonderful, significant changes coming to Woodbridge’s Town Center Campus. Three major projects will improve the way our municipal center looks, feels and operates. The Center Building Renovation Committee is envisioning how the Center Building can be modernized. Our Community Center Building Committee is working to convert the Old Firehouse into a Community Center, and the Senior Center renovations will begin soon. Our new Sidewalk Project is starting soon as well.

These initiatives are directly related to the Board of Selectmen’s Strategic Plan, a goal of which is to “Maintain and Invest in Infrastructure and Facilities.” They also support the “Enhance Quality of Life” goal.

Creating community has always been important to me. Investing in our Town Center Campus will create friendly, welcoming places for our residents to interact with each other and build stronger ties to one another and to OUR Town.

The Board of Selectmen set the Senior Center renovation budget, utilizing mostly grant money, and designated Olympus Construction Company as the winning bidder. This project will include a high-quality, air filtration HVAC and many other finishes, with expected completion by late winter or early spring. I am very excited our seniors will finally have a space that is as thoughtful, welcoming and matching the excellent quality of the programming that happens inside!

Creating a Community Center in the Old Firehouse Building with surrounding outdoor spaces has the potential to be transformational for ALL residents. Redesigned spaces will provide multiple venues to gather for events, impromptu get-togethers, art and historic exhibitions, performances, fitness, etc. The newly-appointed Community Center Building Committee will oversee this Community & Cultural Center project.

The Center Building project is more long term. I created a Center Building Renovation Committee tasked with planning, designing, constructing and recommending financing (through state and perhaps federal funding) to update the Center Building space for offices, classrooms and programs as well as modernize the police department. The project includes the Gym, Police Department, Human Services offices, and daycare rooms — the Senior Center is currently under renovation. Once the project scope is finalized, we can begin to seek funding which may be a combination of bonding and grants.

The Sidewalk Project will begin soon. Woodbridge received close to $600,000 in Connecticut State grant funding to complete the Sidewalk Project from the high school to the Town Center. In February 2022 when we knew we were receiving these funds, we were in communication with First Church of Christ officials regarding this project. Sidewalks are necessary for the safety of many residents who walk on Newton Road, as well as Amity High School students who regularly cross Newton Road to access the library, and Town Center. Sidewalks will make the Town Center a pedestrian-friendly place. One crosswalk is included in the project. The Town has been in contact with the State Historic Preservation Office as well.

Finally, the Board of Selectmen is working to make our business district more attractive and welcoming. To accomplish this, the 2030 Task Force is working with a consultant to grow the Town’s Grand List. To gather feedback and ideas from residents, property-owners and business-owners, a public information session will take place Thursday, September 15 at 6 pm at the New England Brewing Company.

As always, feel free to reach out to me with questions or concerns at 203-389-3401 or bheller@woodbridgect.org. Enjoy the rest of your summer and please stay safe!

—First Selectman Beth Heller

2022 Living Treasure—September 22

The 2022 Living Treasure Award winners are Dwight Rowland, Susan Jacobs, Richard Jeynes, and the Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Association—for 90+ years of volunteerism. Congratulations to these outstanding community members who embody the spirit of volunteerism. You may honor their contributions by attending the event on September 22.

Contact the Human Services Department to purchase tickets. Congratulatory ads, business ads, and memorial contributions are welcome. Please visit the town website for the ad form at www.woodbridgect.org/505/living-treasure-awards.

Mark Your Calendars!
- Sept. 5, Mon.: Woodbridge Town Offices, Library and Transfer Station will be closed for the Labor Day holiday.
- Sept. 10, Sat.: Shredding & HazWaste Collection at the Transfer & Recycling Center, 9 am - noon.
- September 20, Tue.: Woodbridge Reading in the Community, 6:30 pm. See details on page 2.
- October 9, Sun.: 2nd annual Woodbridge Like Me Day. Stay tuned for more details Organizations and performers wishing to participate should email woodbridgedei@gmail.com
- November 11, Fri., Veteran’s Day Ceremony, 11 am. Location details to be announced.
Back to School Driving Safety Tips

With the start of the school year, plan on increased traffic. The Woodbridge Police Dept. encourages drivers to be patient, slow down and pay attention. Please remember to:

• Know the school’s drop-off/pick up procedures and protocol.
• Look out for children near schools, playgrounds, parks and bus stops.
• Put down the phone—driving and cellphones don’t mix!
• Follow buses at a distance to ensure you can stop—traffic must stop when yellow or red lights flash and the stop arm is extended.
• Allow children space to safely enter and exit the bus. Ten feet around a school bus is the most dangerous.
• Remain alert at all times!
New Online Card Registration to Celebrate Library Card Sign-up Month!

Are you a Woodbridge resident? You can now sign up for a library card online! To help celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month, we’ve introduced a way for you to register for a Woodbridge Library Card through our website at woodbridgetownlibrary.org. After registering, you will immediately be able to use your new account to place holds on items for pick up at the library.

We will then contact you via email within two business days with your new library card number. At this time, you will get full access to our electronic resources, including downloadable books and magazines.

Please note that this is a temporary registration that will expire in 30 days. Before the 30 days is up, please visit the Woodbridge Town Library in person to verify your name and address. At that time, you will receive a permanent library card.

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, when libraries nationwide join the American Library Association (ALA) to remind parents, caregivers, and students that signing up for a library card is the first step on the path to academic achievement and lifelong learning.

Libraries play a crucial role in the education and development of children, offering a variety of programs to spark creativity and stimulate an interest in reading and learning. Through access to technology, media resources and educational programs, a library card gives students the tools to succeed in the classroom and provides people of all ages opportunities to pursue their dreams, explore new passions and interests, and find their voice.

“Libraries play an important role in the education and development of children,” says Library Director Eric Werthmann. “We’ve recently introduced a 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program, and we also have programs that serve students of all ages and backgrounds.”

Music of Ireland: Songs of Love & Rebellion

Join us on the half-way to St. Patrick’s Day! Guitarist/vocalist Gil McLean performs Irish songs ranging from the 1800’s or so to more modern times and tells you the stories behind them. Save the date—Saturday September 17 at 2 pm in the Meeting Room. Please register online or at the library.

James Webb Space Telescope Images

Enjoy watching several short videos that compare images from the James Webb telescope to those taken by previous telescopes. Hosted by Astronomer David Butler, we will analyze and explain images of nebulae, galaxies and deep field pictures of the universe. Join us Thursday, September 22 at 2 pm. Please register online or at the library.

Adult Happenings

Woodbridge Scrabble Group, Every Wednesday from 11 am to 1 pm in the Meeting Room. Play scrabble against your friends and neighbors! Registration is not required.

Woodbridge Writer’s Workshop, Tuesday September 27 in the Meeting Room from 3 pm to 5 pm. Join area writers as we read and critique our works in a friendly atmosphere. Please register online or at the library. Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month.

Notary Services are now available at the Library by appointment or by chance! Please contact the Reference Desk for more information (stop by or call 203-389-3434) or email Bill at warmstrong@woodbridgetownlibrary.org.

Stay in the Loop with the Library!

Sign up for our email newsletters to receive notifications about events, new offerings, and library hours/closings. We typically only send one email a week. Join our mailing list by visiting our website and entering your email address in the form provided. That’s it! (You can also give us your email address while in the building.)
**Woodbridge Happenings**

*For event details & registration information, go to the Community Event Calendar at woodbridgect.org.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/1</td>
<td><strong>VNA Caregiver Support Group</strong>, 2 pm  &lt;br&gt;Coachman Square of Woodbridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/7</td>
<td><strong>Walk to End Alzheimer’s</strong>, 12 pm  &lt;br&gt;meet at Town Hall for local Town Center walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td><strong>Dinner on the Farm</strong>, 4:30 pm  &lt;br&gt;farm-to-table dinner at Massaro Community Farm</td>
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<td>9/13</td>
<td><strong>Annual Town Picnic at The Grove</strong>, 12 pm  &lt;br&gt;sponsored by Coachman Square at Woodbridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td><strong>Beekeeping Workshop</strong>, 9 am  &lt;br&gt;Massaro Community Farm</td>
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<td>9/17</td>
<td><strong>Music of Ireland with Gil McLean</strong>, 2 pm  &lt;br&gt;Woodbridge Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td><strong>Live Music at Massaro Community Farm</strong>, 7 pm  &lt;br&gt;The Jolly Beggars</td>
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<td>9/20</td>
<td><strong>Woodbridge Reading in Community</strong>, 6:30 pm  &lt;br&gt;Center Building lawn</td>
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<td>9/21</td>
<td><strong>Lunch and Learn Workshop</strong>, 11:30 am  &lt;br&gt;Library Meeting Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/22</td>
<td><strong>Living Treasure Awards Ceremony</strong>, 5:30 pm  &lt;br&gt;tickets on sale through 9/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/24</td>
<td><strong>Jr. Beekeeping Workshop</strong>, 10:15 am  &lt;br&gt;Massaro Community Farm</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/26</td>
<td><strong>AAA Driver Improvement Class for 55+</strong>, 9 am  &lt;br&gt;Center Building gym</td>
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Interested in placing an ad in this newsletter?  <br>Call 203-389-3489 or email tbelenski@woodbridgect.org.

Woodbridge businesses and organizations are encouraged to add events to the Community Event Calendar at woodbridgect.org.

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**From the Children’s Room**

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

**Baby Group:**  <br>Mondays @ 10:30 am. Ages newborn -18 months.  <br>Songs, rhymes, and finger plays.

**Wednesday Storytime:**  <br>Wednesdays @ 10:30 am. Ages infant - 3 years.  <br>Fun stories, music, and props.

**Thursday Crafts:**  <br>Thursdays @ 4 pm. Ages 3 and up.  <br>New make and take craft every week.

**Animal Facts Club:**  <br>Monday, Sept. 12 @ 6:30 pm. Ages 7+.  <br>Registration required. Meets monthly.

**Teen Advisory Board:**  <br>Wednesday, Sept. 21 @ 3:30 pm. Ages 13+.  <br>Registration required.

**Creative Writing Club:**  <br>Wednesday, Sept. 21 @ 6:30pm. Ages 9+.  <br>Registration required.

**Graphic Novel Club:**  <br>Tuesday, Sept. 27 @ 6:30 pm. Ages 9+.  <br>Registration required. Meets monthly.
**Human Services News**

To reach Woodbridge Human Services call 203-389-3429 or 203-389-3415 or email humanservices@woodbridgect.org

**Flu Clinics:** Human Services will host two flu clinics this fall on Oct. 18 from 12-3 pm and Oct. 25, 11 am - 1 pm in the Center Building gymnasium. Both high-dose and regular quadrivalent vaccines will be available. Preregistration is required for each clinic. Please call for more information on participating insurance.

**Alzheimer’s Walk:** Each year Human Services and The Woodbridge Center sponsor a walk for the Walk to End Alzheimer’s. This year’s Greater New Haven walk will be at Lighthouse Point Park on Sept. 25. Please visit the Team’s page if you would like to donate, [http://act.alz.org/goto/woodbridgecenterALZ](http://act.alz.org/goto/woodbridgecenterALZ) or you may send a check to The Woodbridge Center.

**Food Pantry:** Residents in need may call for access to non-perishable food each month. The food pantry needs donations of peanut butter, jams, canola/olive oils, shelf stable milk, coffee, hot and cold cereal, mac and cheese, snack foods, salad dressing, dish soap, deodorant, paper towels, cleaning sprays, laundry detergent, and gift cards for groceries. Kindly check expiration dates prior to donating.

**Sept. is National Emergency Preparedness Month:** If you receive treatments administered by a clinic or hospital, find out their emergency plans to identify back-up services. Put together a disaster supplies kit containing basic items you may need in the event of an emergency including food and water. Don’t forget your pets’ or service animals’ supplies. In the event of a weather emergency or power outage, elderly residents and those with disabilities are encouraged to register for the Emergency Call List at 203-389-3429.

**Energy Assistance Program:** Beginning Sept. 12, qualifying residents may schedule an appointment to apply for the 2022 - 23 CT Energy Assistance Program administered by TEAM, INC. For more program information, please call the Human Service Dept. social worker, Judi Young, at 203-389-3429.

**COVID Test Kits:** For those who have the iHealth in home COVID-19 test kits with expiration dates posted in June, the FDA extended dates to Dec. You can look up your kit’s new expiration date at [https://ihealthlabs.com/pages/news/expiration](https://ihealthlabs.com/pages/news/expiration). You can order free at-home COVID-19 test kits by going to [www.COVID.gov](http://www.COVID.gov) or calling 1-800-232-0233.

**Adopt-A-Family:** Human Services seeks sponsors for the Adopt-A-Family program. The program provides holiday food baskets for the December holidays to Woodbridge families in need. Distribution of the baskets will take place in early December. If interested, please call the department by Oct. 29. Gift cards are also welcome for this program.

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**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.

**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 charge.

**Transportation** for medical appointments is available for those age 60+ or with a long or short-term disability, Mon.-Fri., 9 am - 4 pm. Transportation for grocery shopping, banking, pharmacy pick-up, and social engagements are also available. Call to arrange car or wheelchair accessible van transportation. Vehicles are cleaned between 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 stuffed flounder, eggplant rollatini, chicken piccata, and fresh Cobb salad with grilled chicken breast. Meals include a roll, fresh fruit, and dessert. Two meal minimum.

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

**Medical Loan Closet:** A wide variety of medical equipment is available for lending. Call for more information.

**Job Bank:** Residents may call Nancy Pfund, Youth Services Director, at 203-389-3429 to hire a student worker. Schedule helpers now for fall 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 Center updates.

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**Needed Donations**

Transport and regular wheelchairs in good condition are needed for the Medical Loan Closet. Please call Human Services 203-389-3429 to arrange donation.
The Center is for everyone 55+! Call 203-389-3430 or email kmoriarty@woodbridgect.org to register or for more details. Masks will be required for all indoor Center programming and events when New Haven County is in a “high” level based on the CDC’s new tool for monitoring COVID-19 in the community. For the safety of others, please stay home if you have symptoms of COVID-19, have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or if you tested positive for COVID-19.

Special & New Activities

New Park added in The American Armchair Adventure - National Park Series: This in-person monthly series is provided by Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. Enjoy simulated tours, interactive discussions, trivia, and more. Added adventure to Acadia National Park—Sept. 9. This program will meet 11 am – 12 pm in the Library Meeting Room. Call 203-389-3430 to sign up. No charge.

New session! Painting for Pleasure with local artist Carole Abbate: Mon., 10 am - 12 pm, in the Library Meeting Room. Find joy in creating your own paintings as Carole helps in-spire beginners to intermediates to paint with acrylics or watercolors. Paint the subject of your choice. Registration is required. Next session begins Sept. 12. Call to sign-up for this 6-week, $36 class.

New! 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 Sept. 16.

Lunch and Learn: Planning for the Future for children and adults with special needs: This workshop, presented by Drazen Rubin Law, provides an overview of the potential risks and pitfalls when planning for the future for individuals with special needs. Explore available benefits for which they qualify. Lunch will be provided. This workshop, offered in collaboration with The Woodbridge Library, will meet Sept. 21 from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm in the Library Meeting Room. No charge. All ages are welcome! Call to register.

AAA Driver Improvement Class: Member and non-members may be able to lower their auto insurance costs by taking this class on September 26 from 9 am - 1 pm in the Center Building gym—space is limited. No charge. Pre-registration is required.

Monthly Drive-thru Lunches

For two years The Center has been offering monthly drive-thru lunches. These drive-thrus are exclusively for Woodbridge residents over the age of 60. They are funded by the generosity of local businesses whose unwavering support has provided The Center the ability to offer these well-attended drive-thrus.

The hundreds of drive-thru participants over the past two years are very appreciative of these luncheons. The drive-thrus provide much more than a “free lunch”. They allow The Center and the Town’s older residents an opportunity to stay connected during a time when social isolation has been at a peak, and reliable community support continues to be a much-needed comfort.

Each drive-thru, Kristy, Jessica, and Jeanette look forward to the smiles and friendly conversations that abound during the hour as well as the relationships that have been established with the local businesses that contribute to the events.

On October 27 from 12-1 pm The Center will have the 2nd annual Spooky Sponsor Social with a to-go lunch which affords the opportunity for participants to learn more about what these local businesses offer and personally thank all of the drive-thru sponsors. Stay tuned for more information.

Ongoing Activities

**Hobbies/Social:**

**Bridge:** Wed. and Fri., 1-4 pm in the Library Meeting Room.

**Computer lab:** Mon.- Fri., 10 am - 2 pm in the Center Building Rm. 13. Printing is available (first 5 pages free).

**Craft Group:** Tue. and Thu., 10 am - 12 pm, in the Woodbridge Room of the Library. Bring your current knitting, crocheting, or needlepoint project to work on while enjoying a lovely time socializing.

**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.

**Hybrid Aerobics Class with Laura Richling:** Tue. and Thu., 10-11 am in the Center Building gym and on Zoom. Enjoy a complete aerobic, cardio, and strength training work-out 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, or invoiced monthly for Zoom participants. Please call for the class link.

**Pickleball:** Mon. through Fri., 12:30-3:30 pm, in the Center Building gym, and 7 days/week at the Town’s Tennis Courts. All levels are welcome. Please call to register.
New Recreation Office Location & New Online Registration!

The Recreation Department Office has moved. Visit us at our new location at the lower level of Town Hall, 11 Meetinghouse Lane. Our phone number has not changed—you may still reach us at 203-389-3446 or stop by to see us.

For your convenience, the Recreation Department has a new online registration website. Simply, follow the link from woodbridgect.org. Clients will need to create a new account. Not only will you be able to register for activities and memberships, it will be used for field reservations, tennis permits and room reservations. Please call with any questions.

Fall Registration Begins

It is time to register for Recreation fall youth programs including basketball, bowling, ChessWizards, cooking, flag football, gymnastics, Little Scientist, Hip Hop Dance, Running Club, stickball, tennis, and Taekwondo. For registration information, please contact the Recreation Office at 203-389-3446, or register online at www.woodbridgect.org.

The annual Pool Shut will begin September 3. Current members may use the Orange Town Pool or JCC pool during the shutdown. Until then, General Swim Hours are: Mon & Wed. evenings from 7-9 pm, Tue.& Thu. from 3-6 pm, and Saturday & Sunday from 12-4 pm. Please check the Recreation page on the website for the pool reopening date.

40th Annual Road Race

This is a reminder to join the Woodbridge Recreation Department for the 40th annual 5K Road Race and Children’s Fun Run on Saturday, October 1, 2022.

The Children’s Fun Run is at 9 am at the Beecher Road/Fitzgerald Cornfield. The Fun Run cost is $20.

The 5K Road Race is at 10:30 am at the Woodbridge Town Center at Meetinghouse Lane. Race day registration begins at 8 am; the cost is $40. If you register before September 16, the cost is $30. Proceeds will benefit the Woodbridge Resident Assistance Fund as well as programs to benefit community enhancement.

Register exclusively online at runsignup.com or scan the above QR code. Registration can no longer be accepted in the Recreation Office. Call 203-389-3446 with questions.

Youth Services News

Call Youth Services for information: 203-389-3429. Email npfund@woodbridgect.org or youthonete@woodbridgect.org.

Like us on Facebook: Woodbridge-Youth-Services-Woodbridge-CT

Harlem Wizards Bring Smiles

Youth Services partnered with the Woodbridge Recreation Department to bring Big J of the Harlem Wizards to summer camp last month. Big J performed some great basketball and dance moves while kids watched in awe. Campers were thrilled to participate in the program, and many received posters, basketballs, backpacks, and other souvenir items which Big J autographed after the show. He reminded the youths to “Stay in school,” and posed with them for photos.

Opportunities in Youth Services

Please see the Town website for job opportunities in Youth Services for part-time Program Coordinator and per diem Program Assistant. Resumes are due by Sept. 7.

The Youth Advisory Board makes recommendations for Youth Services programming list for the next class. Interested residents may join the Job Bank to earn some cash and build your resume. Call now to schedule your interview. Jobs may include yardwork, raking, babysitting, housework, and animal care. Parent permission is required.

Residents may hire a teen by calling Youth Services.

Newly Trained Babysitters

Teens practiced diapering and dressing “babies” at the recent Red Cross Babysitter Training. Basics include child safety, first aid, emergencies, and setting up your babysitting jobs.

For future classes. Call to get on the notification list for the next class.

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.

Join the Job Bank to earn some cash and build your resume. Call now to schedule your interview.

Jobs may include yardwork, raking, babysitting, housework, and animal care. Parent permission is required.

Residents may hire a teen by calling Youth Services.

Teen Job Bank

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