



Three Weeks In, Amity Reports Its First Infection

By Bettina Thiel Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

Amity School Supt. Dr. Jennifer Byars informed the school community on Friday, September 18, that a member of the community had tested positive for coronavirus. In her letter to parents Dr. Byars did not specify whether the affected person was a student or a teacher. All she said was that the person had been attending school four days prior, on Monday of that week.

"The affected person has been instructed to remain home in self-isolation for 10 days and has been provided with additional instructions to follow prior to returning to school," she wrote. "Family members have also been instructed to self-quarantine and get tested." The students were expected to return to school as of this week. case through a state data site, the Orange Health Department has reached out to anyone considered a "close contact," which typically means people who have been in the vicinity of the infected person for more than 15 minutes. That can be those listed on the sports roster of an athlete, the classmates of a student or similar groups.

"With cohorting [as is being done in the elementary and middle schools] contact tracing is much easier," said Orange Health Director Dr. Amir Mohammad. The younger students are staying together in one classroom for much of the day, while at Amity the

Historical Society and Town Move Forward

BY BETTINA THIEL Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

The removal of dead trees and overgrowth that is about to be performed at the Darling House property may be emblematic for the re-established working relationship between the town and the Amity Woodbridge Historical Society (AWHS). "We are turning a corner with the town," said AWHS president Alexia Belperron. After several months of communication breakdowns, the town agreed to keep the original agreement in place, even extending it to 2030. That agreement makes the Historical Society the agent of the town in the preservation and management of the Thomas Darling House and surrounding property.

In addition, the Historical Society is about to welcome a new caretaker tenant to the apartment that was added in the 1970s to the Thomas Darling House museum for a resident caretaker, putting aside the rancor that had erupted over the previous caretaker. The new tenant is a young couple from Hamden who both work in education and bring some archival experience, Belperron said. "They are interested in being part of something bigger," rather than just looking for a place to live.

The disagreement between the town and the Historical Society had erupted last year over the previous tenant, how remarkable the historical integrity is" of the structures found on the Thomas Darling property, Belperron said. That includes the homestead itself, built in 1775, but even more so the outbuildings, such as the cow barn across Litchfield Turnpike, which was built first. Unlike similar sites in the state, these structures have never been converted into something other than the use they were meant for. "These have existed in relatively good shape for a long time. They are beacons for preservation," she said.

Sometimes the idea of preservation clashes with the idea of making things look attractive. One example of that is landscaping. Where some would like to rid the property of weeds and overgrowth, others demand caution and careful planning. "We are not interested in modifications in landscaping," Belperron said. Even so, she welcomed the removal of the dead trees. But if the soil is disturbed "we may lose historic plantings, that was a big concern with us. All of these things require thoughtful, careful planning."

Advisory Committee: The Board of Selectmen in July put in place an Oversight and Advisory Committee "to advise and assist the Town of Woodbridge in the maintenance, care, preservation, improvement, and usage of the historic outbuildings, their surroundings, and the farming fields of the Thomas Darling National Register of Historic Places. "The "oversight" in the committee's designation has since been removed. Serving on the committee are five

Since they were first alerted to the

students are moving from class to class.

That is one reason why Dr. Mohammad is encouraging the high school to keep operating in the hybrid model, he said, with only a portion of the student

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who developed a successful working farm at the site – the fruits of which many welcomed, but the farm didn't add to the 18th century living experience the Historical Society is trying to preserve for generations to come. "What people don't truly appreciate is

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Selectmen Envision Community Center At Old Firehouse

By Bettina Thiel Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

The Board of Selectmen, at its September meeting, agreed to move forward with plans to renovate the old firehouse at the intersection of Center and Newton roads, and to turn the building into a community center. "It's a lovely building and would make a wonderful gateway to the town center," said First Selectman Beth Heller in a phone conversation after the vote. The vote followed a presentation by Architect David Stein of Silver Petrucelli, in

which he presented potential uses for flex spaces, including meeting space, classroom space, and a fitness center.

The historic building had been damaged in a 2006 fire and had been left unused since. After initial repairs to secure the envelope, the town obtained a STEAP grant last year to upgrade the electric and mechanicals in an otherwise unfinished building. Now they are getting ready to finish the inside.

The decision to turn it into a com-

See "Firehouse" On Page 23

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THE LINDEN

From the First Selectman BY BETH HELLER



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

Additionally, both the Darling House Advisory Committee and the Society agreed to remove the deconstructed pieces of the Lucy Street oneroom schoolhouse, known as "Little Lucy" from the cow barn, which is the large, yellow barn across the street from the Darling House. This must be done in order to provide access, so that the planned state grant-funded Survey and Planning Assessment (including structural assessment) may be achieved. The pieces have been stored by the Town since approximately 1991. We are looking to see if anyone might be interested in taking the pieces of the schoolhouse, but if not, it will be removed and properly disposed of later this fall. If you're interested, please contact me or the Society.

I am aware that many residents are anxious about the upcoming November elections. This is an unprecedented election, due to the pandemic. Please see the separate story 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. Please make every effort to return your absentee ballot application quickly, and then once you receive your ballot from the Town Clerk's office, return it as soon as possible. You can mail it in, but the best way to return it is via the secure ballot box outside of Town Hall.

I am reminded by our Human Services Director Jeanette Glicksman that transportation may be arranged 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. residents and staff. On October 20 there will be a drive-through clinic and on October 26 it will be under the canopy by the Library. Details are on the Town website. For both clinics, you must make a reservation.

Two pieces of good news: The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved two Eagle Scout projects – one from James Cadelina who will build and install a kiosk with a message board, donor wall and bench just outside of the dog park. Secondly, Jack Fortin will build and install low walkways on a section of a Town-owned trail off Sanford Road to allow passage over wet areas. Thank you to both of these young men for making our Town even better!

As you know, we have been working on improving the Old Firehouse. Recently we completed several improvements paid for by insurance proceeds and also a STEAP grant from the state. Several upgrades included new windows, roofing 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 re-locate Fire Department equipment that is 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 Halloween Hoot, organized by the Beecher Road School PTO, and the Volunteer Fire Association's Truck or Treat will both be drive-through events this year. Details will be forthcoming. A lot of hard work has gone into providing fun and safe ways for our children to celebrate Halloween during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finally, as I always do, as 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.

From Across the Aisle WRT

by Chuck Pyne WRTC Chairman



So, What Exactly Are We Doing Here?

Activity, or lack thereof, with respect to some town services has highlighted two issues: what is the "state of the town" since public buildings were shut down in March, and what are the plans going forward – especially when the weather no longer cooperates?

In the category of "or lack thereof," consider the reduced hours of the town library. Browsing is out of the question. Access to the stock of books, movies, etc. is limited. What has all that accomplished? I don't mean to be flippant, but why couldn't the library follow the same rules as, say, a supermarket? In addition to the current on-line order and curbside pick-up, limit the number of people allowed in at one time, enforce social distancing, book (no pun intended) appointments to browse, etc. Our Director of Finance did state a cost saving figure from the reduced library hours, which brings me to my next point.

How is the town doing financially? We believe recreation has taken a huge hit both in projected income and we hope a proportional saving in expenses. We should also expect Public Works is operating at full capacity, not due to the pandemic, but the cleanup from the storm. These are all logical assumptions, but where is the actual information? One potentially major impact on Woodbridge was a state-mandated option for taxpayers to delay property tax payments until October 1. What has that done to our cash flow? I'm not suggesting we publish a list of property owners who took that option, but what percentage did and how much did it delay our expected revenue? And overall, how are we doing vis-à-vis the town budget - which I still maintain was tone-deaf to the financial situation of most Woodbridge taxpayers?

and Events is as skinny as it could be and basically publishes what the First Selectman writes in the Woodbridge Town News. If the Town is going to go to the effort to publish something, let's have real information on how we're doing financially. My guess is most of us have been looking closely at our finances over the last few months, I expect our Finance Director has done likewise for our town's finances, so why not publish that information? Truth be told, it should probably be posted on the town website regularly, pandemic, tropical storm, or not.

Looking ahead, what's the plan for activities centered around Town Hall, and why isn't it open by now? Yes, I know, somewhere in to 70+ executive orders the Governor has issued since March includes keeping Town Halls shut down, but how about a little "intra-party push back" from our First Selectman to the Governor on the issue? Most other entities that have been traditionally open to the public have figured out how to operate in this temporary "new normal," so why is Town Hall still in a Late-March style shut down? Paying taxes through the window next to the front door at Town Hall was fine in July. Might be tougher to do that in January. And with the Governor's recent edict about limiting the number of people who can be in an indoor meeting to 25, doesn't that allow for in-person attendance at Board of Selectmen and other meetings - for at least some of us? Thinking a lot about something on the horizon, why can't the Town Clerk's office accept hand delivered ballots as they have in the past? The "ballot box" now in front of Town Hall does take the Post Office partly out of the chain of custody, but it's not a substitute for good old hand-to-hand transaction of that very important envelope. Life is moving forward, so should Woodbridge.

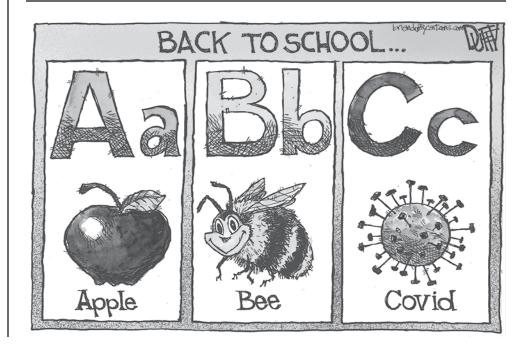
Our Human Services Department has organized two flu shot clinics for

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

Woodbridge Town News

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Below are the next three issue dates and deadlines of the Woodbridge Town News.

Thank you for your submissions to four Home fown	Newspaper.
<u>Upcoming Issue Date</u>	I <u>ssue Deadline</u>
October 30 Election Issue	October 23
November 20 Thanksgiving Issue	November 13
December 11 Holiday Issue	December 4
Note: Copy due by 4:00p m Thank you	



Student Supports Maloney Re-Election

As a student and resident of Milford, I fully support James Maroney's reelection bid for State Senate. Aside from being one of the most friendly and accessible public figures in Hartford, Senator Maroney is passionate about serving his constituents. If you have a question about any aspect of the state politics, Senator Maroney will be sure to send you a genuine response as quickly as possible.

In addition, as chair of the Veteran's Affairs and General Law committees, Senator Maroney has introduced and passed numerous pieces of legislation with overwhelming bipartisan support. In times of severe political polarization, Senator Maroney is exactly what Connecticut needs at the Capitol. It is impossible to find someone in Hartford on either side of the aisle that does not speak highly about James' work ethic.

Senator Maroney is a valued representative of the 14th State Senate district and it is vital that he gets reelected on November 3, 2020. *Matt Zancewicz*

One Party Rule In Connecticut Has Failed

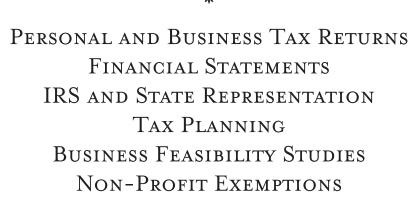
In the aftermath of the Great Recession of 2008, both Barack Obama (2009 to 2017) and Donald Trump (2017 to present) led one of the longest economic recoveries in history. Unfortunately, this recovery was thwarted by the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020. There has been much debate about who deserves credit, but both Presidents deserve some credit for this consistent growth prior to the pandemic and both bear some responsibility for the unprecedented growth in federal deficits generated in fueling this growth. During the period of sustained economic growth from 2009 to 2019, the nation's personal income levels grew annually by an average rate of nearly 2.2%. During this same period of time, Connecticut's personal income

levels grew by slightly more than .7% annually or approximately a third of the national growth rate. The Connecticut personal income growth rate was the lowest in the country (50th). If the personal income levels of our residents had grown at the national average over the aforementioned period of time, incomes would be approximately 16% higher at the end of the period. If Connecticut feels less affordable than it did a decade ago, this is one of the reasons why.

Other indicators such as employment growth and real gross state product during this same period were close to the worst in the country as well. Connecticut simply did not share in the robust economic growth of the rest of the nation. Of course, this is the result of our state's overspending, crushing debt, high taxes, unfriendly business policies and misguided public policy. We simply cannot afford another decade of these harmful policies that have been implemented through "one party" domination of Connecticut.

In a post-COVID-19 environment, we all should hope for another period of economic growth regardless of who is elected President in the November election. If we have learned anything in the past decade though, Connecticut's one party-controlled state legislature has proven to be inept regardless of which party occupies the White House. As residents of Connecticut, we shouldn't expect different results if we continue to elect the same party to majority rule of our state.

Before it is too late, Connecticut needs to reduce wasteful spending, eliminate fraud and abuse, solve our crushing health care costs, do away with crippling regulations and stop the seemingly never-ending pandering to special interests. We must also strategically reduce taxes wherever and whenever possible in harmony with getting our long-term debt burden un-





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Woodbridge Town News

WTN LETTERS POLICY

Submit your letters for our **"From Our Readers"** section to: Woodbridge Town News, P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 or email: letters@woodbridgetownnews.com. Please limit letters to 500 words and include a daytime phone number in

case we have any questions. Letters must be exclusive to the Woodbridge Town News for publication. We reserve the right to reject any letter. Page 6

WOODBRIDGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP

Mishkan Israel Nursery School Accepting Fall Registrations

The Mishkan Israel Nursery School is taking registrations for the 2020-2021 School Year. The program is known for its wonderful curriculum and teachers, diversity of students, competitive rates, flexible schedule particularly suited for working parents and unique enrichment classes including Spanish and music.

The School serves infants 6 weeks to 5 years. Both part day and full day options are available. The school is multi-cultural and open to the community.

The Mishkan Israel Nursery School is conveniently located at 785 Ridge Road in Hamden. Some classes are already full so call now. For more information and to arrange a tour, contact Early Childhood Director Susan Witten Nason at (203) 288-2375 or sperry@ cmihamden.org.

Bethany Nursery Group is Open

Bethany Nursery Group located at 511 Amity Road in Bethany is a preschool program for children ages 3 to 5 years old that has operated in Bethany for over 50 years. Our nurturing and dedicated staff provide a program rich with literature and learning opportunities while still leaving ample time to play, create and explore! Children receive an abundance of academic, social, fine and gross motor skills as they investigate their world. The design of our program provides an appropriate balance of structured and self-initiated activities allowing students to develop self-esteem and independence. We carefully refine our program so that it not only appropriately meets the specific developmental needs of each of our students, but also follows the guidelines set up by NAEYC and the

"Coronavirus" From Page 1

body in school at a time. With fewer students in the building, the school can reduce the risk of the virus ripping through the community. He said the high school will probably have to keep teaching in the hybrid model until a vaccination is widely available. The health department did not require the school to close as a result of that one case, and Dr. Muhammad was not aware that any other cases had occurred since then. "I hope we can prolong in-person learning as long as possible," he said. A few parents, after receiving the information, decided to pull their students from in-person learning and join the remote learning group instead. "We had a handful of additional requests at the high school," Dr. Byars said.

Bethany Board of Education. Our goal is to develop a strong social and academic foundation and use a child's natural curiosity and thirst for knowledge to create a life-long love of learning.

We are currently open and following all COVID-19 guidelines and precautions. We have added a new outdoor classroom and have a large indoor classroom as well. We have added new centers and materials that allow our students and staff to practice social distancing and safety measures.

Two, three, four and five-day programs, with varied hours, are available as we aim to meet each family's individual needs. Families and children are encouraged to come see our school. Call 203-393-3032 or email bethanynurserygroup@gmail.com to schedule a visit.

forward. "We must all participate in this," he said. The adults should model responsible behavior, and the students should understand that they cannot party or congregate without putting the whole community in jeopardy. "Don't send them to school when they are not feeling well," he advised parents. "And when they test positive, please inform the school immediately." The faster they can start contact tracing, the better the chance of reducing the spread.

Woodbridge Board of Education Superintendent Search Update

At a special meeting held on Thursday, September 3, 2020, unanimous action was taken by the Woodbridge Board of Education to engage the JE Consulting firm in the search for the next Woodbridge superintendent of schools. JE Consulting is represented by Dr. Joseph Erardi, who has been responsible for over twenty superintendent searches in the past three years. Dr. Erardi, in partnership with the Woodbridge Board of Education, will coordinate a local, regional, and national search with the application process coming to close on Saturday, October 17, 2020.

The Woodbridge Board of Education strongly encourages the community voice in the process and further encourages any interested community member to participate in one of two community forums that will be provided within a virtual format. Community forums will be held on Tuesday, October 6 and Tuesday, October 13 with a start time of 7:00 p.m. Log-in information will be available on the Woodbridge Board of Education website starting on Tuesday, September 29. Community members are also encouraged to contact Dr. Erardi at 571- 480-0313 to personalize any information that may assist the hiring committee.

The projected timeline within the search is to complete the interview process in October and to name the new superintendent in November 2020.

In the meantime, Ms. Christine Syriac continues to serve the Woodbridge community as the Interim Superintendent.

Volunteer As English Language Tutor To Local Immigrants

Make a difference in someone else's life! Did you know there are more than 15,000 people in Milford and Stratford without a high school diploma? Did you know there are more than 1,600 adults who are not fluent in English? Did you know there are 46 non-English languages spoken in these cities? (Data taken from the Milford and Stratford School District Strategic School Profile, 2012-2013.)

TUTOR TRAINING classes will be held in person and on ZOOM. Classes will be held in the FALL, 2020. Call for dates!

Volunteer tutors will learn techniques to assist ESL students with dialogue, listening comprehension, oral fluency, phonics, reading comprehension and writing skills. No previous teaching experience required! All prospective tutors will be interviewed in advance. For further information, call The Literacy office between the hours of 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at 203-878-4800.

Literacy Volunteers is part of the ProLiteracy network of adult basic education and literacy programs. ProLiteracy is working with its member programs to raise awareness of available ESL services. "Non-English speakers in the U.S. can fall behind in education or employment in an already challenging job market," said David C. Harvey, president and CEO of ProLiteracy. "Language barriers can also prevent them from understanding important financial, educational, health care, employment or legal rights issues. By raising awareness of our members' ESL programs, adults in need will know where to find resources that can help them gain skills to address everyday matters." For more information on Literacy Volunteers of Southern CT's ESL and other volunteer programs, visit www.lvsct.org or call 203-878-4800.

Dr. Muhammad emphasized the responsibility of every individual to help keep the community at large moving In her letter Dr. Byars reiterated common symptoms that occur with COVID 19:

- ✓ Fever of 100.4 F;
- Chills or shaking chills;
- Uncontrolled new cough (not due to chronic condition);
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath;
- ✓ New loss of taste or smell.

People need to remember that we are dealing with a highly contagious virus, Dr. Muhammad said.

Attention Teachers!

We want to know what's going on in your classroom! Let us know about any fun activities or holiday projects. You can also send us your pictures. (Parental consent required) Woodbridge Town News P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 • edit@WoodbridgeTownNews.com

"Historical Society" From Page 1

members, namely Chairman Dick Blackwell, an interested citizen; Town Clerk Stephanie Ciarleglio, keeper of town records; Don Menzies, past president of the Historical Society; farmer and former Selectman Chris Sorensen; and Leland Torrence, a member of the Conservation Commission. Sandy Stein is the Board of Selectmen liaison to the group. Richard Weis, a preservation architect, is advising the committee pro bono.

"The overriding goal is to create an immersive experience, for all visitors to the Darling House, providing an understanding of what it was like to live and farm in 18th and early 19th century Woodbridge," said First Selectman Beth Heller when the board created the committee back in July.

Preservation is its priority, and in that sense the committee and the Historical Society are working hand in hand. However, the committee is also charged with developing an overall strategy "for stabilization, repairs, development, priorities, timetables and budgets," which the Historical Society already did and presented to the Board of Selectmen earlier this year. The committee also is charged with developing specific grounds keeping duties and responsibilities of the caretaker, which traditionally has been the purview of the Historical Society.

"It overlaps with what we are doing," Belperron said. When Blackwell presented a first report to the Board of Selectmen, she said the Historical Society had no input. "We were left out of the decision making. It's a recipe for conflict."

The Advisory Committee members meanwhile have been immersing themselves with the tasks at hand. They've had about six meetings and a site visit.

Dick Blackwell, who moved to Woodbridge to be close to his children and grandchildren, said he took a tour of the property with his family last year and was enchanted. "It's a wonderful legacy to have," he said. Growing up in Alabama, he could not fathom to behold a building that is older than the country itself.

"The goal is to make people from Woodbridge and surrounding areas understand what it took to survive," he said. "We have to appreciate the sacrifices our ancestors made, living without running water, without electricity." He emphasized that the committee's work is done in conjunction with, and with input from the Historical Society. "I am happy we are working together," he said.

At the September Board of Selectmen meeting Blackwell presented the three most urgent projects the committee identified, the preservation of the old cow barn, an environmental study to review the grounds and outbuildings for hazardous materials; and the dead trees that need to be removed.

The Historical Society has applied for a grant to engage a preservation expert in early 19th century construction to assess the cow barn and the horse barn, and to provide a plan that focuses on the preservation of the building.

Currently the remnants of a oneroom schoolhouse, lovingly dubbed "Little Lucy" are stored in the cow barn. If they cannot find an interested taker, the pieces will be appropriately disposed of by November 1. They do contain lead paint and asbestos.

Both the cow barn and the horse barn are filled with other historic items, such as a wooden sleigh, a carriage and farm implements. "The schoolhouse needs to be removed and the antiques protected," Blackwell said.

On the way to Great? In addition, the Historical Society has applied for, and was granted, a Good to Great grant for non-profit organizations. The

grant is for \$48,000, to be matched by \$16,000 from the Historical Society, for improvements at the homestead. The Historical Society has maintained all along that in order for them to receive the money they must be in control of the property and be in control for the foreseeable future.

Despite the town signing its agreement with the Historical Society, and extending it to 2030, the State Historic Preservation Office has not released the grant yet, and the project is in limbo. "The project won't start until SHPO is confident the Historical Society has the agency described in our agreement," Belperron said.

Fall event: In the meantime, the Historical Society is planning to welcome the public at an outdoor fall event Sunday, October 18 from 2-4 p.m. at the Darling House. A hike in the trails behind the Darling House will be offered starting at 1:30 p.m.

The horse barn may be open for people to walk through, in small groups and socially distanced. Farm tools and items from the collection will be on view.

A Beecher librarian will present a story time with young visitors. For details, check out the website at http:// www.woodbridgehistory.org/.

"Color Fun Run" From Page 3

the consideration of all the COVID-19 safety concerns as well as with the Quinnipiac Valley Health Department guidelines. The Color Fun Run is the large PTSO fundraising event of the year, and all proceeds, after the cost of the run essentials, benefit the school. Sponsors of \$100 or more will get their logo or names on the custom t-shirt each participant will receive.

This is a neighborhood non-timed course in a quiet Bethany area around AMSB led by the State Police. There will be a safely separated color powder throw at the start of the race, and then there will be several times throughout the course where participants will be sprayed with a natural color dye and color powder thrown at them as they go past. Every participant who signs up by the October 4th deadline will receive a custom mask and T-shirt. A DJ will provide music, and light refreshments (individually wrapped) will be provided. Please join us for this fun day! For more information, to register, or become a sponsor, please visit amsb. ptboard.com. Participation is \$40 per person, and please register by October 4th to guarantee your t-shirt and mask.



Achievements Hamilton College

Clinton, NY - Deniz Tek, of Woodbridge, recently matriculated as a firstyear student at Hamilton College. Tek, a graduate of Hopkins School, was selected from a pool of 7,443 applicants to the college, and joins a class of 470.

University of Iowa

Iowa City, IA - Tyler Roy of Wood-

bridge, CT is a member of the incoming undergraduate class at the University of Iowa that has topped previous records in achievement with a higher average high school grade-point average (GPA), at 3.78, than any previous class. The average high school GPA for the classes of 2023 and 2022 were 3.76 and 3.71, respectively. Roy is classified as an Undergraduate - First Year and a student in the College of Engineering.

Woodbridge Town News

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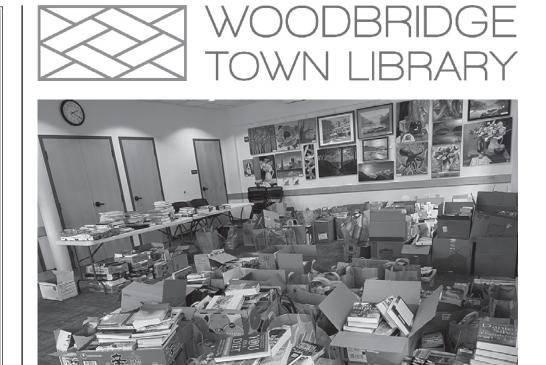
Did You Know? There's More Than One Kind of Trust

You may find this surprising! There are different types of trusts for different types of goals.

- A **Testamentary Trust** is a Trust created in a Will. Although you create it when you sign your Will, it is not activated until after you have died. Management and administration of a Testamentary Trust is supervised by the Probate Court.
- A **Revocable Trust**, also called a Living Trust, is activated when you sign it. Management and supervision is handled privately. The Probate Court is not involved unless Court intervention is requested by a beneficiary or other party in interest. Because it is revocable, you can change it any time you choose.
- An **Irrevocable Trust** is also activated when you sign it and is a separate taxpayer. Since that is the case, putting an asset into an Irrevocable Trust gets it out of your name. This is done for tax planning or asset protection purposes. As the name suggests, an Irrevocable Trust cannot be changed any time you choose, which allows it to accomplish tax and asset protection goals.
- A trust for young children or grandchildren is created to allow a more experienced and more sophisticated person to make investment and spending decisions for young children or grandchildren until they are at least 18, but more typically until they are 25, 30, 35, or even older.
- A **Special Needs Trust (SNT)** is created for a person with a disability. Assets in the SNT can be used for the disabled beneficiary to supplement what he/she receives from a government benefit program such as SSI or Medicaid (Ti-tle XIX). The assets in the SNT are not deemed owned by or available to the beneficiary.

If you have questions about Trusts, we would be happy to speak with you during a no-charge initial consultation, no matter how long it lasts.





From the Friends of the Library: Thank you for the huge haul of donations! We are thrilled to boost our inventory both in the mini outdoor bookstore in front of the library and at our Amazon "shop." We are also accepting PayPal for donations—find out more on the library's homepage, about halfway down.

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. You can also call the library and we'll update your account for you.

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 us to remove charges.

Are you on our email list? Sign up to get alerts about our events, new offerings, and any updates about reopening. Go to our website: woodbridgetownlibrary.org and scroll to the very bottom. Enter your email address and you'll start receiving our emails! We typically only send one email per week. 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: Meets near the picnic area outside the Library. Mondays for ages 4+ & Wednesdays for 18 months to 3 years. Both start at 10:30 am; siblings welcome!

After School Outdoor Program - Leaf Art: Join us outside at the Library picnic tables each Monday from 3:30-4:30 pm to collect leaves, create crayon leaf rubbings, and turn them into a beautiful piece of art! For ages 4+. No registration required, just meet us outside. Typically held on a Monday or Tuesday; 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: Tuesday, October 13 or Thursday, October 15, 4-5:30 pm.



Steven P. Floman, Allison M. DePaola-Drozd, and Nicole Camporeale of the law firm Floman De-Paola, LLC are the authors of this article. This article has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute legal advice or to create an attorney client relationship. Readers should not act upon the information contained in this article without seeking advice from an attorney regarding the specific facts and circumstances of your case.



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P.O. Drawer 966 | 378 Boston Post Road | Orange, CT 06477 P: (203) 795-1211 • F: (203) 795-1215 www.flomandepaola.com • office@flomandepaola.com Halloween Costume Parade for kids of all ages, Monday, October 26 at 4 pm. Rain date: Tuesday, October 27. Come in costume (mask required) to parade around the Library!

Woodbridge Town News

WOODBRIDGE RESIDENTS!

Have an Upcoming Birth Announcement, Anniversary, Engagement or Wedding? Send it to us with a photo and we will publish it FREE. Woodbridge Town News, P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 Email: edit@woodbridgetownnews.com

"Letters" From Page 5

der control. This is not an impossible task if we elect the right individuals. There are numerous historical examples of states that have reversed course and gotten their state economies back on track. It won't happen overnight but the alternative is another decade of failure like the last one and no one can afford this regardless of what political party one traditionally supports. Dan DeBarba

Editors Note: Dan DeBarba is the Republican Party and Independent Party endorsed candidate for the Connecticut House of Representatives from the 114th district.

Woodbridge Residents Should Support Democrat Ticket

Woodbridge voters who prefer 'law and order' candidates must consider the recent Republican record in that area and that of the GOP standard-bearer, Donald Trump. They must then consider the trustworthiness of candidates and others campaigning under the Republican banner for their refusal to condemn such defiant disrespect for the rule of law.

Quite honestly, with Trump at the helm, the Republican brand now stands for the opposite of law and order. Criminality and chaos are now that party's stock-in-trade.

Consider the evidence: at least eight high-level Trump associates are guilty of criminal activity that took place during or since Trump's 2016 campaign. One of them, Roger Stone, was found guilty of seven felonies by a jury of his peers but was then pardoned by Trump simply because they are old friends.

Attorney General Barr is systematically and perversely converting the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) into a politically motivated, selective enforcement tool to the specific benefit of Trump's interests. Peaceful, law-abiding protests are violently quashed by federal police under the direction of the DOJ.

And just last week, on consecutive days, Trump would not commit to the lawful, peaceful transfer of power – an idea previously unthinkable in the and equal opportunity under the law, with no person above the law.

Republicans Logan, DeBarba, Streicker, and Southworth, willing to campaign under Trump's banner and share line B with him on the ballot, repeatedly refuse to defend these time-honored, American ideals. Their resulting acceptance of Trump's un-American ideology renders them unworthy of our votes.

Laurence Grotheer

Cabrera is a Steadfast and Resolute Leader

Jorge Cabrera has proven that he has what it takes to bring authentic leadership to the 17th State Senate District. Bethany and Woodbridge families need someone who is willing to fight for bold solutions to real problems, and Jorge Cabrera will do that for us. Jorge has been highly visible in our community, taking the time to get to know us, to talk with us, and to understand our needs and concerns. He is not a candidate who simply shows up for photo opportunities when politically convenient.

Bethany and Woodbridge are home to just under 15,000 residents. We deserve a legislator who is responsive to the needs and concerns of our small community. Jorge, as a father of two children, husband to an educator and a union organizer, understands the importance of adequately funded education, high quality affordable healthcare, and the opportunity for retirement with dignity.

The foundation of a strong community comes from steadfast and resolute leadership that is able to apply enlightened perspectives to leverage the potential and enhance the aspirations of small towns across the state of Connecticut. We need to be heard. Now is the time to elect an individual who knows what it takes to achieve meaningful representation for the constituents of the 17th State Senate District.

We urge you to Vote for Jorge Cabrera (Row 3A) on or before November 3rd!

Beth Heller, Woodbridge First Selectman

Carol R. Goldberg, Bethany Democratic Town Committee Member ures and the funding to back up these critical programs.

Most recently, she worked tirelessly to implement a very successful school reopening in Orange as a member of Orange's reopening committee. If you've had the pleasure of meeting and talking with Mary, you know that her current service and desire to serve as our State Rep. comes from her good heart and sincere desire to help her community. Mary exemplifies honesty, fairness, and thoughtfulness. Mary will use those qualities to work across the aisle in the State House to achieve results. Simply put, Woodbridge needs Mary to represent us in Hartford. Join me in supporting Mary Welander for the 114th District in the Connecticut House of Representatives.

Claire Coleman Vice-Chair Woodbridge Democratic Town Committee Former Member, Woodbridge Board of Education

Response to Lessons Learned from National Conventions

I don't think I learned much that was new from the Republican or Democrat national conventions. Both clearly represented their core values, and, in very different ways, surpassed my expectations. The larger questions are which party best represents our Republic and will defend our Constitution, the supreme law and framework of our government. Which party will best protect our constitutional rights? To freely speak, work, live, worship, raise our children, care for our elders, respect those who risk and have lost their lives in service to others, and honor our great country?

In order to best answer these critical questions, we must purposefully seek alternate viewpoints with an open mind. We must thoughtfully form our own opinions through analysis of all available facts, not just from a curated subset of data filtered through groupthink. Most of us rely on our few favorite platforms to keep up on current events, whether via TV, internet, and decreasingly, newspapers and magazines. Unfortunately, we are poorly served by our very lopsided partisan rising nation—whether shameful or heroic, both sins and blessings—as our history is the forge of our common purpose, as well as our shared identity and integrity as Americans.

We can talk about the many shapes of discrimination, the grace of forgiveness, and the paths to redemption. We can calmly reason together with respect, not anger, always working toward equal rights and opportunity for all, but with the understanding that equal results can never be mandated within a free society. We can all consider good news the fact that the US Census reports the 2019 poverty rate is the lowest rate observed since estimates were initially published in 1959. Then we can work together to build on that success. We can all agree that blocking emergency room entrances is reprehensible.

I hope we can eventually agree that school choice benefits our children, that zoning decisions are best left to local residents, that justice requires safety, that we must support those who risk all to keep us safe with every tool they need to continually improve in service and mutual safety, and that patriotism can eclipse politics. There is power in agreement, in peaceful solutions, and in the wisdom that whispers.

They say we can't always choose our circumstances, but we can choose our response. Search for the truth, listen to all sides of an argument, separate opinion from fact, and come to your own conclusions with the Golden Rule as a guide. Be thankful for everything good, often so easily taken for granted. Bethany's got it right—Be Kind. And vote in person. It's fun. *Randi Fiorello*

Awareness & Opposition to Proposed Cell Tower on Newton Road

We are writing to alert you of a proposal for building a cell phone tower in the middle of a residential neighborhood at 118 Newton Road with the access road point entering through the Soundview Drive cul-de-sac. While the final say is dependent on the CT Siting Council's decision, we hope to prevent the application from ever getting to them by raising awareness in our town and gaining support from fellow residents. As you know, it takes a village. Sadly, we learned of this tower not from our town officials but from a red balloon lingering 140 feet above the end of our cul-de-sac which signifies where the tower will be built. In a grass roots effort, we spread the word from neighbor to neighbor and decided to band together to fight this tower for the preservation of our neighborhood and the safety of our children. One resident on Newton road who owns a beautiful New England farmhouse was not allowed to build an extension on his house because it was higher than 20 feet and yet the town is okay with a 140 foot cell tower being built just 3 doors down from him? Further, the

nation's history – should he lose the November election.

This list goes on to include flagrant violations of the Hatch Act, illegally steering federal monies to Trump's private, for-profit businesses, and ongoing criminal investigations into Trump's family business practices.

As egregious and deeply disturbing as these Presidential offenses are, the urgent question for Republican candidates Logan, DeBarba, Streicker, and Southworth is why they steadfastly refuse to condemn this rampant, ongoing lawlessness.

Woodbridge voters should instead elect Jorge Cabrera, Mary Welander, Rosa DeLauro, and James Maroney, each of whom is consistently respectful of the fundamental building blocks of this state and this nation: equal justice

Welander Supports Strong Education

If you chose to live in Woodbridge because of the strong school system, then Mary Welander is your candidate for the $114^{\rm th}\,\rm District.$ Mary is in every sense of the term, "an education candidate". Mary will work tirelessly to support safe and quality public education in our town and across the state. Mary has served on the Orange Board of Education since 2017, and as Co-President of the Racebrook School Parent Teacher Association. She serves as a Connecticut Ambassador for Sandy Hook Promise, bringing education-based violence prevention programs to schools and organizations. She has advocated at the state and national level for school safety measmedia, which has largely abandoned their job to objectively inform in favor of dramatically and dangerously engaging our attention in prejudicial service of one party and their own wallets.

In our short history, Americans abolished the abhorrent practice of slavery when over 400,000 Union soldiers fought to their death to secure justice for all and preserve our nation. Our country has made tremendous strides forward in ensuring our citizens' civil and political rights. Together we can acknowledge this vast progress with gratitude and appreciate our immense good fortune to live in this beautiful young land. People are far from perfect, and our history and world reflect that fact. But we must always remember everything that has happened throughout the past of our

See "Letters" On Page 12

Woodbridge Town News



Turn your food scraps into compost!

The Town of Woodbridge

Great for your garden, your wallet, and our environment!

COMPOST WITH US!

DETAILS:

This program is limited to the first 40 residents who express interest.

Please email Betsy Yagla at byagla@woodbridgect.org by October 16th to:

purchase a bin for \$50

enter the raffle for a FREE bin (5 available)

apply for a scholarship for a discounted bin

Bins are anticipated to arrive by the beginning of Nov We will email recipients to schedule pickup.

> uld be made out to: Town of Woodridge memo: Compost bins

GET A HIGHLY DISCOUNTED COMPOST BIN! The Enviroworld 82 gallon compost bin (with locking (id) is the perfect bin to get started.

si20 s50





Turn Your Food Scraps Into Compost!

The Town of Woodbridge wants to encourage more residents to compost. Why?

Compost is great for your garden, your wallet, and our environment. It is easy to do, especially with the abundance of leaves falling in our yards.

Composting is the process of decomposing organic material, such as food scraps and leaves, into a dark crumbly material containing nutrient and microbes that improves the health and structure of soil, increases moisture and nutrient retention, balances the pH of soil, suppresses disease and pests, and reduces the need for chemical fertilizers. Compost improves soil and everything that grows in it. Healthy soil also sequesters carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. In our present waste management system, our trash, and the food in it, is transported and burned to ash in a "Waste to Energy" facility in Bridgeport. The ash is buried in a landfill in Putnam, CT. These facilities are aging and, in the case of Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority, MIRA, in Hartford, are frequently failing. Consequently, the extra trash is sent to landfills in states as far away as Mississippi. Food in landfills generates methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Food waste accounts for over 20% of our trash by weight. Removing

food scraps from trash decreases the cost of processing and transporting trash, reduces associated emissions and pollution, and conserves nutrients.

There are many ways to rescue these nutrients from landfills. Last year Beecher Road School began a successful food composting program, diverting over 1,000 pounds of food from its waste stream every month. Depending on the day, that was 30%-50% of the weight of cafeteria trash. Food scraps were hauled to Quantum in Southington where their anaerobic digestion process produces compost and methane. Quantum uses the methane to generate electricity, which it then sells. For a number of reasons, Woodbridge cannot collect food scraps at the Transfer and Recycling Station. There are companies such as Blue Earth that could offer subscription hauling services for a fee if enough residents are interested. According to our recent survey, there is not much appetite for paying such a service. However, with a small investment of time and money, you can compost your food scraps in your backyard. Many of our residents already do.

Youth Services

by Nancy Pfund





Outdoor Home Alone Class

Woodbridge Youth Services invites children ages 9 to 12 to learn about being safe and more empowered while home alone. Topics include answering the door or phone, internet caution, fire safety, calling 911, and nutritious snacking. Class will be held outdoors under the canopy by the Woodbridge Library at 10 Newton Road on Thursday, October 8 & October 15 from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Rain date is Monday, October 19.

Masks with social distancing and appropriate clothing for cooler weather are required. Fee is \$15 and includes materials and healthy snacks. Call 203-389-3429 for information and registration.

Woodbridge Job Bank Seeks Teens Who Want Work

The Job Bank in Woodbridge offers occasional jobs to teen residents (ages 13 – 18) who would like to work to earn some extra cash.

The application process provides an opportunity to learn about the interview process, safety on the job, and how to negotiate pay. Due to COVID-19, most jobs are currently outdoors with masks and social distancing as required. Teens can do yard work, dog walking, etc.

Responsible teens who wish to join the Job Bank should call for an interview at 203-389-3429 or e-mail npfund@woodbridgect.org.

Need Yard Cleanup and Leaf Raking? Woodbridge Job Bank Can Help

Woodbridge Job Bank teens will work for Woodbridge residents who wish to hire someone to assist for odd jobs like yard cleanup, raking, planting bulbs, weeding, and moving boxes. Call 203-389-3429 for more information.



To encourage and facilitate composting efforts, the Town of Woodbridge

See "Compost" On Page 17

Recreation News

Join **Zumba** instructor Ali Bailey for virtual Zumba. This 8-week program cost is \$65. Class is available on Tuesday or Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. The Tuesday class begins on October 6 and the Thursday class begins on October 8. Contact the Rec Dept. Office for more details.

Youth Saturday programs. Grades k-2 will meet 9 am to 10 am. Grades 3

See "Rec News" On Page 14



AT THE WOODBRIDGE CENTER



Members of The Woodbridge Center enjoy Targeted Strength Training with Michele Tenney on the lawn next to the Library. Residents can stay fit and keep safe social distance at The Center's outdoor classes.

Flu Clinics

The Woodbridge Center will host a drive-thru Flu Clinic provided by VNA Community Healthcare on October 20 from 11 am - 2 pm, by appointment only. Contact https://connecticuthomecare.org/flu/ or call 866-474-5230 for reservations. Call for information on accepted insurance or if self-paying, cost is \$46. The drive-thru will be in front of the Senior Center/Gym entrance. The second clinic, on October 26, will be hosted by Orange VNA under the white canopy on the Library lawn from 12-2 pm. Reservations are required; please call 203-891-4752 for information on accepted insurance and appointments.

Halloween Drive-Thru Trick Or Treating

In collaboration with the Library on Friday, October 30 from 11:30 am - 1 pm all ages may drive by The Center and the Library to get treats! Costumes are encouraged; masks are required; treats available for first 100 people.

Access To Absentee Voting

Transportation may be arranged for Woodbridge seniors or disabled residents to return both absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots to the ballot box outside Town Hall prior structor is available as needed. Wear a mask and bring a chair cushion or your own lawn chair for additional comfort.

Art Class with Graham Dale meets outside under the white canopy with easels, masks, and social distance. The class runs through October 14 with rain date of October 21, Wednesdays from 10 am -12 pm. Fee for this class is \$5.00 per class.

Transportation for medical appointments and local shopping is available for those 60+ or disabled Monday - Friday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm (with some limited exceptions). Call to arrange transportation for all. For safety reasons, masks are required, a health screening will be completed, and temperatures will be taken. Please know the vehicle is cleaned between each use.

Meals

Seniors may reserve frozen meals (\$5/meal) by noon on Monday for delivery to your home on Tuesday. Minimum order of two lunches please.

Email address

Want to receive weekly updates from The Center? Call or email us with your email address.

Human Services

Call 203-389-3429 for information.



Eighty Woodbridge residents participated in the drive-thru End of Summer Picnic sponsored by Coachman Square of Woodbridge. Many thanks to Carol Davino and Coachman Square for this wonderful effort. Meals were prepared by Jewish Senior Services of Bridgeport.

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 are appreciated. Donations of canned fruit, Parmalat milk, coffee, tea, cereal (hot & cold), tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, cookies, snack foods, baking mixes, oil, bar soap, toilet paper, paper towels and other non-perishable items are welcome. Please make sure all items are not expired. Call 203-389-3429 to arrange a no-contact drop-off appointment.

Masks

Woodbridge residents may call to arrange pick-up or delivery of a cloth mask. Volunteers making masks are invited to contact Woodbridge Human Services to donate. Woodbridge residents may call for an appointment to apply for CT Energy Assistance program administered by TEAM Inc. Income eligibility requirements must be met. Call Social Worker Judi Young at 203-389-3429.

Emergency Call List

Prepare for storms by stocking up on water, canned goods, and batteries. Residents can call the Human Services Department to be added to the Emergency Call List. For those who are elderly, have a health issue, are disabled or know someone who falls into these categories, please sign up for the Human Services' emergency call list. During emergencies, the department calls listed residents to ensure they are safe and to offer help as needed. To be added to the list, please call 203-389-3429.

to Election Day.

Outdoor Classes

Call to RSVP as space is limited. In case of rain, all outdoor activities are cancelled.

Exercise with Laurie meets at 10 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Bocce court. Class has a \$2 drop in fee.

Targeted Strength Training with Michele Tenney meets 4 weeks in October; 9-10 am on Wednesdays. RSVP is required and class fee is \$5 per class.

Craft group meets from 9:30 -11:30 am at the white canopy (just off the Library's side parking lot). An inThe 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.

Scouts Collect For The Food Pantry

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 to families in need for the December holidays. To adopt a family, please contact the Human Services Department at 203 -389 -3429.

Food Pantry

Woodbridge Human Services is available to assist seniors and families in need with non-perishable food items from the food pantry as well as gift cards to Stop & Shop for perishable items. Please call to speak with a member of the staff.

Donations

Monetary donations and gift cards

Call 203-389-3430 or email kmoriarty@ woodbridgect.org for information and registration for all programming.

"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns." — GEORGE ELIOT

"Letters" From Page 9

town has not been forthright in alerting affected neighbors of the tower being built. We are proud to live in this quiet neighborhood and that our children can play in wide-open yards and hike the beautiful trails that line our streets. We are fearful and know that if this is not defeated, our neighborhood will become undesirable. One person's profit should not destroy an entire neighborhood's residential character and beauty. Your neighborhood could become the next proposed location of a cell tower.

As fellow proponents of preserving Woodbridge's rural aesthetic, we hope you will be in support of our opposition for this tower for one or all of the reasons highlighted below:

It is unclear whether the town of Woodbridge actually needs another cell tower when we understand that there are already 5 different cell towers in town, including one only a mile away from this proposed location at the Congregational Church. Many towers already border the town in Ansonia, New Haven, and Seymour. Given current technology, we also understand that providers can share towers and add antennas to existing ones to enhance coverage, networks, and service.

There were many other locations that were being evaluated for this tower that are NOT in the middle of a beautiful and quiet residential neighborhood. If there are other properties that could be potential sites for this tower, then we want the town's help to identify and pursue those locations instead. We actually understand that it is preferred that these towers are built on municipal land as such towers benefit all residents not just those in an immediate vicinity of one particular neighborhood and the town could then benefit from the lease income. The town was alerted of this tower in a letter from Cellco on July 17th. Thus far the town has been reticent to provide support, so we need and are asking for help in raising awareness of this issue.

We are deeply concerned about the devaluation of our properties. Multiple studies have been conducted and show that properties decrease in value at least 10% to 20% once a tower goes up and 90% to 94% of home buyers are not interested in buying near such towers. Per provision of CT Gen. Statutes, towers are not allowed to be built within 250 feet of daycares and schools, etc. Yet, this tower will be within 250 feet, perhaps even closer, to homes, many with families raising small children. Studies show that children living near towers that have prolonged exposure to the radiation emissions are at an increased risk for autism, cancer, headaches, depression, sleeping problems, long term fertility issues, etc.

There is the potential for abandonment of homes in the immediate vicinity of the tower. People move to Woodbridge for its great school system, the understanding and promise of a residential setting, and a serene, quiet environment. Most will not risk their family's health and quality of life residing next to a cell phone tower. We want to preserve our neighborhood and ensure it is a safe place to raise our families.

One must also consider the potential harm to the beautiful, natural surroundings and animals that inhabit them due to noise pollution from the towers and harmful emissions. We should also note that this neighborhood has many trails that are used by fellow residents and that this will truly take away from the beauty of the nature that surrounds us.

If this is allowed to happen, the next tower could very well be in your neighborhood. We have started a petition: www.nocelltowerplease.com. Please sign this petition if you join us in opposing the construction of the tower in a residential neighborhood.

In addition to the petition, please send your email in opposition of this tower to the first selectman, Beth Heller at bheller@woodbridgect.org, our State Reps, your elected Selectman, and Town Officials to raise voices as a whole Woodbridge residents.

The next Board of Selectman meeting is held on October 14th, and it is open to the public via Zoom. A login ID will be provided from the Town Hall website.

Thank you for your consideration and helping to raise awareness of this issue within our town! Rebecca & Damian Dalrymple Kiyoko & Greg Karwowksi Chanmany & Brian Daley Shelly & Mark Greengarden Julienne & Jim Letis Margaret and Andrew Marley



Alex Zibluk Celebrates His 100th

Mr. Alex Zibluk, currently residing at The Linden at Woodbridge, turned 100 years old September 21st! Mr. Zibluk was honored with two proclamations, one from Beth Heller, First Selectman for the Town of Woodbridge and one from U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal. Mr. Zibluk served in the Navy in Pearl Harbor in WWII, after the attack, and belongs to American Legion Emil Senger Post 10 in Seymour where he is the oldest living Veteran in his Post.

Mr. Zibluk owned and operated his own machine shop in Seymour and has three children.

COACH STEVE SOBEL'S HOOP HEAVEN CLINICS

Improve your skills and enhance your love of the game with Coach Sobel to prepare for the return of basketball!







DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2020 TIME: SESSION 1: 9-10:30 AM SESSION 2: 11-12:30 PM SESSION 3: 1-2:30 PM GYM: CT SPORTS CENTER (WOODBRIDGE, CT) AGES: BOYS AND GIRLS GRADES 4-8 (SESSIONS 1 AND 2) BOYS AND GIRLS GRADES 9-12 (SESSION 3- ELITE SHOOTING AND SKILLS)



Dr. Steve Sobel is an accomplished basketball coach, college professor and motivational speaker. Dr. Sobel has been coaching for over 40 years and has helped the careers of many big time players, like Jeremy Lamb (Indiana Pacers-NBA) and Kevin Freeman (former UConn standout).



For registration information, please contact John LaFrance: 475-201-6515 john@johnlafrance.com



Friday, October 2, 2020



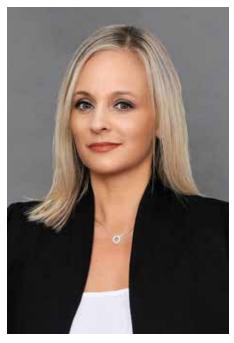


Jessica Scandiffio Affiliates With Coldwell Banker Realty

Coldwell Banker Realty in Connecticut is pleased to announce that Jessica Scandiffio, formerly of Real Living Real Estate, has affiliated with the Coldwell Banker Realty office in Orange. As an affiliated real estate agent, Jessica will provide residential real estate services in New Haven County and the surrounding communities.

"Jessica's passion for real estate, excellent customer service skills and attention to detail perfectly align with the standard of excellence upheld by Coldwell Banker Realty," said Aileen DeFeo, Branch Vice President of the Woodbridge + Orange offices. "We are looking forward to watching Jessica grow her existing business using the tools and technology Coldwell Banker offers its agents."

"Working in the "corporate world" for the past 30 years, I've learned to be persistent while maintaining my personal integrity. I've learned to listen to the questions and concerns of my customers while also working alongside them to accomplish our business goal. In 2017, I decided to pursue my passion of Real Estate. Since then, I've been very successful in closing the sale/ purchase of many homes in the New Haven county area. I love being part of my clients' dream to seek and purchase their dream home. I realize the



Jessica Scandiffio

many challenges that arise in buying/ selling a home. My ultimate goal is to ensure this process is successful and produces minimal stress to my clients. I look forward to working with you," states Scandiffio.

Scandiffio is a member of National Association of Realtors, Member of Connecticut Association of Realtors and a Member of New Haven & Middlesex Board of Realtors.

Jessica Scandiffio can be contacted at jessica.scandiffio@cbrealty.com or at 203-671-6405.

Frank Hoinsky Real Estate Joins **Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio**

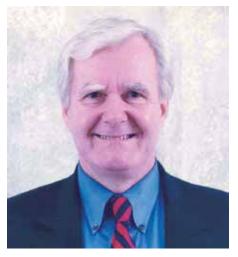
Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio partners John Wareck and Frank D'Ostilio proudly welcome the firm of Frank Hoinsky Real Estate to the company.

"We are delighted to have Frank and his team join our Woodbridge office," said Frank D'Ostilio. "Mr. Hoinsky brings his sons William Hoinsky and Robert Hoinsky along with Realtor Catherine Delgado with him to RLWD. "

"This is a great fit and a logical extension of our marketplace. Frank Hoinsky Real Estate is an incredibly successful company with years of servicing satisfied clients with all their real estate needs," said John Wareck.

Frank Hoinsky has over 35 years of experience in residential and commercial sales and rentals throughout the Valley area and Fairfield County. With his company based in Ansonia, Frank Hoinsky's name has been synonymous with number one customer service for 30 years.

"I wanted to join a company that had



Frank Hoinsky

similar goals. My team and I are excited to be affiliated with this progressive and growing company." said Hoinsky.

Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio has offices in New Haven, Milford, Woodbridge and Branford and is part of the Real Living Network of Home Services of America, a Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate.

Woodbridge Town News

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Woodbridge Town News







Top: Tim Wilkins, Ethan Stewart, Jason Luciani (Eagle Scout) Bottom left: Ethan Stewart, Tim Wilkins, members of the Luciani family (Tony, Thomas, Jason, Roxanne, Scoutmaster Tom and Evelyn) Bottom right: Committee Chair Rich Forselius, Scoutmaster Tom Luciani and nine Troop 907 scouts in front of the veteran's map.

Troop 907 Eagle Scout Luciani Receives SAR Essay Award

On Monday, July 13, a special event was held at the Eastside Cemetery on Pease Road in Woodbridge. This was sponsored by the General David Humphreys Branch #1 of the Sons of the American Revolution and Scout Troop 907. It was held to commend Jason Luciani on his Eagle project and to present him with a recognition certificate, a pin, and a stipend for his essay. Jason is the son of Scoutmaster Tom Luciani and Roxanne Luciani of Woodbridge and has two Eagle Scout brothers and his sister attended. It was attended by approx. 50 SAR members and youth and adult members of Troop 907, past

has been very solid for many years so it is tremendous that Jason chose the depiction of veterans graves in three Woodbridge cemeteries as his Eagle project. Scouts and adults who assisted were also thanked for their support of Jason's Eagle project and assistance with flags every year.

Recognizing there are significant and understandable concerns about gatherings amid the Covid-19 pandemic, not all were comfortable attending. Social distancing rules were adhered to, masks were required and there was no need to shake hands.

This was a very special event and

Woodbridge Historical Society to Host Outdoor Open House

The members of the Amity and Woodbridge Historical Society headquartered at the historic Thomas Darling Museum will host its first Open House this year. While the interior of the Thomas Darling House remains off-limits to visitors, masked AWHS Board members and volunteers have been at work cataloging, filing, and other projects similar to the ones many of our members are probably pursuing in their own attics now.

However, we're anxious to do something for the community during this time, so we've planned an Outdoor Open House! You'll be able to examine some of our interesting collections (with even the mannequins socially distanced), walk through the well-ventilated (aka drafty) Horse Barn with its antique farm implements, see a cider-making demonstration, participate in a site tour, go on a scenic walk. There will even be a Story Time for children and a tag sale table to find a treasure. The event is on Sunday, October 18th from 2 to 4 PM, at 1907 Litchfield Turnpike, Woodbridge CT. For more information and a schedule of events of the day, please visit www.woodbridgehsitory.org. Put it on your Calendar!

Network Of Executive Women Accepting Scholarship Apps

For over 40 years, the Network of Executive Women (NEW) has been dedicated to helping support the educational goals of women in need, and who are returning to school to improve their lives and their financial security. Despite the incredible demands made on these women, they commit themselves to furthering their education in pursuit of a better life for themselves and their families.

To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate a financial need, and have had an interruption of their education. They must be returning, continuing, or commencing undergraduate schooling or other types of training to further their educational goals and/or enhance their job skills. In addition to these requirements, applicants must reside in New Haven or Fairfield Counties. Please note that 2020 high school graduates are not eligible.

The deadline for submitting applications is Tuesday, October 20, 2020. For questions and to request an application, please email Lauren Tropp at NEWscholarship277@gmail.com. Applications are not available online.

Scholarship finalists will be interviewed by the NEW Scholarship Committee, and will be awarded at our December 1st luncheon. Scholarships are funded through NEW sponsored events, member participation and private donations.

To learn more about NEW and the scholarship program, go to: network-ofexecutivewomen.org/scholarships.

"Rec News" From Page 10

programs. Tai Chi is offered by Bill Ban-

and present.

Jason received the State SAR Essay Contest Award for his thoughtful Revolutionary War essay. His Eagle Scout Project was also completed at three Woodbridge cemeteries, researching and locating veterans of all wars. If you visit one of the cemeteries, you will now find a sign listing all veterans graves along with a map to locate these. Every spring, Troop 907 places new flags on the Veterans graves, and along with the signs, new secure flag holders were installed as part of Jason's Eagle project. The event was held at the Eastside Cemetery especially to also honor Patriots of the Revolutionary War buried there.

This brief recognition event also acknowledged the troop's dedication to the cemeteries and veterans which time for Troop 907, Jason, and all of our Eagle Scouts Troop 907 offers solid opportunities for scouts, and viable opportunities for our scouts to advance throughout the program to the Eagle rank and it is important to provide recognition.

Former Troop 907 scoutmaster and Woodbridge resident Tim Wilkins was instrumental with this event and provided the essay recognition. State SAR President Ethan Stewart who is also Gen. David Humphreys Branch #1 President presided with Tim.

Chartered by the First Church of Christ, Woodbridge, Troop 907 has continued to meet on Thursday evenings through the Covid19 pandemic using Zoom video conferencing. The troop has grown in youth members recently; more information at troop907.org. and 4 will meet 10:30 am to 11:30 am, Grades 5 and 6 will meet 12 to 1 pm. Activities include soccer, flag football, and stickball. 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 in the program and will need medical clearance according to CDC guidelines in order to return.

Still time to join **Yoga** sessions already in progress. Join instructors Bill Banick or Diane King for fall yoga ick as well. Call the Recreation Office at 203-389-3446 for times and days available.

The Town Pool to re-open starting weekends in October. Reservations are required. Space is limited to one swimmer per lane. Call the Rec. Dept. Office at 203-389-3446 or email recreation@ woodbridgect.org to make a reservation. Saturdays or Sundays 12:00 – 12:45, 1:00 – 1:45, 2:00-2:45, or 3:00-3:45 pm. Virtual Little Scientist and Little Scientists Coding Club programs coming in October. Call the Recreation Department for dates and times.

www.WoodbridgeTownNews.com





\$281,600 in Emergency Grants for Critical Human Needs

When Covid-19 hit our communities, many faced financial troubles with medical bills, unemployment, and food insecurity. The Jewish Federation along with the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven, responded by supporting the most vulnerable. Through their COVID-19 Response/Maimonides Fund, the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation worked with the local Jewish organizations and synagogues to provide critical aid to many families and individuals in need.

As of September 25, this fund has already distributed \$281,600 in emergency grants to many local Jewish organizations and synagogues.

Rabbis and professionals working directly with people can best convey how the program helped.

Elizabeth Davenport, LMSW, at Jewish Family Services of Greater New Haven (JFS) said "Our clients are dealing with a number of anxieties, including limited access to food, fear of getting sick, and being worried about their loved ones." Her colleague, Rachel Scolnic Dobin, LMSW, adds "People were laid off, or had their hours significantly reduced, and are dealing with a multitude of issues connected to unemployment. We have many new emergencies for those facing 100% loss of income who don't know where to turn" with the grant from COVID-19 Response/Maimonides Fund, JFS provided 197 additional mental health sessions, many of which were to isolated seniors, as well as community members with disabilities. Through their outreach program, they provided 763 hours of case management services to more than 250 individuals and their food pantry has served 500 families. "It is the second time I have used the Maimonides Fund," says Rabbi Michael Farbman from Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven, whose community in Orange includes 180 families. One of Farbman's congregants was struggling with medical bills that had been exacerbated due to the current health crisis. "The Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation answered my request and I was able to pay the bill on behalf of this person," he says. "I have been overwhelmed by the generosity and the thinking that is behind this program;

it recognizes the current and critical needs in our community and brings us together in the deepest way."

Senior citizens were hit especially hard in the pandemic. Jennifer Bayer, Development/Community Relations Director at The Towers at Towers Lane explains "Our residents are already disproportionately affected by COVID due to their age and the congregate housing setting," The Towers offers both affordable housing for those in need and regular priced apartments for over 320 seniors with an average age of 86. "Many of our seniors, whose average annual income is \$15,000, already have trouble paying for and preparing healthy meals--getting groceries is difficult for many of them on a good day, let alone in time of crisis." Thanks to support from the COVID-19 Response/ Maimonides Fund, the Towers was able to deliver three meals a day, seven days a week, regardless of ability to pay, to each of their 320 seniors. This was designed to eliminate the residents' needs to shop and reduce their contact with the outside world during the pandemic. "We went from 200 meals a day to an average of almost 1,000 meals a day. We really believe it was how to protect lives," says Bayer. The Towers also received emergency grants from the COVID-19 Response/Maimonides Fund to purchase PPE for staff, as well as iPads that can be loaned to residents for telehealth and virtual family meetings. Additional emergency grants from the fund have been made to Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy and Ezra Academy for PPE to allow them to open; to the Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement (JCARR) to assist refugees who have lost their jobs; as well as to numerous synagogues, at rabbis' requests to assist individuals and families in need of food, rent and utility monies, and other issues related to unemployment. At this time, the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation continue to see ongoing and increasing needs in our community for mental health services as well as requests for assistance with food and rent. The COVID-19 Response/Maimonides Fund Grants



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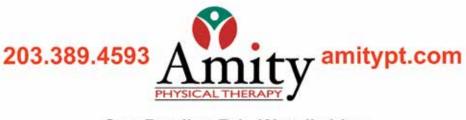
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See "Grants" On Page 17



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Woodbridge Town News



DeBarba Receives Independent Party Nomination

The Independent Party of Connecticut, the third largest political party in the state, has nominated Dan DeBarba for State Representative of the 114th district. DeBarba was also unanimously nominated as the Republican candidate in May. Therefore, he will appear on both the Republican Party and Independent Party lines on the ballot in the November election.

DeBarba thanked the Independent Party for its nomination. He said, "I plan to make Connecticut a better place for all residents. I will do all I can to be a strong, level-headed, and fiscally responsible public servant. I am grateful that the Independent Party of Connecticut has nominated me for State Representative of the 114th district."

DeBarba is a longtime Orange resident and his three children are graduates of Amity High School. DeBarba is the former president of Norwalk and



Dan DeBarba

Danbury Hospitals and is currently the chief financial officer of a large healthcare system in New York. Additionally, he and his wife own a small business in the area.

Welander Endorsed By Working Families Party, Others

Mary Welander has received several new endorsements in her campaign to become the next State Representative in the 114th Assembly District (which includes the towns of Derby, Orange, and Woodbridge). The following groups and organizations have announced their support for Welander:

- ✓ AFL-CIO;
- American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Connecticut;
- ✓ CSEA SEIU Local 2001;
- ✓ CT Against Gun Violence;
- Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut;





James Maroney Earns Independent Party Endorsement

James Maroney, candidate for the 14th state Senate District has earned the endorsement of Connecticut's Independent Party for the 2020 election. "I am humbled to receive the endorsement of the Independent Party for a second time for the 14th state Senate district," said Maroney. "I was honored two years ago to receive the endorsement and I have worked hard to justify that trust and to be an Independent voice for our community. I pledge to continue to work hard to represent the needs of our community, above partisan politics, in Hartford as your state Senator."

James Maroney was first elected to represent the 14th District in 2018. Before being elected to the Senate, he was a State Representative for the 119th District from 2012-2014, where he served on the Higher Education Committee. Prior to politics, Maroney was a past president and founding member of the Milford Education Foundation and also served on the Milford Board of Education. Maroney founded First Choice College Placement in January of 1999, which aims to make young people's higher edu-



James Maroney

cation dreams come to fruition. First Choice College Placement also makes community service a priority and offers a number of educational seminars, donates to scholarships, and makes practice SAT and ACT tests available to the community.

Maroney is running for a second term to represent the 14th District in the State Senate including the towns of Milford, Orange, West Haven and Woodbridge.

Absentee Ballot or In-Person Voting

From the Registrar of Voters Office

The method you choose to vote this November is not an easy choice. Woodbridge will have in-person voting on November 3rd at The Center Gym at 4 Meetinghouse Lane as usual. Polls open at 6 am and close at 8 pm. CDC guidelines will be followed be prepared to know the district you reside in as Woodbridge has two districts with different ballots. A list of roads in the 14th district (which is on the east side of town near Orange) can be found on the Town's website. All other roads are in the 17th district. A poll worker will greet voters and will also have a street list. If you need

"The decision to endorse [Mary's] candidacy was made because of [her] commitment to working families and advocating for issues that are important to AFT Connecticut's members," said Teri Merisitis, a legislative advocate for AFT Connecticut. "Clearly, this election is very important to the people of Connecticut. We need strong leadership that will help turn this State around."

In addition to her involvement with the non-profit Sandy Hook Promise and the Orange Board of Education, Mary Welander is also a co-president of the Race Brook School PTA. Mary Welander

"I am honored to be the recipient of endorsements from such a diverse group of organizations, particularly from the American Federation of Teachers," said Welander. "Speaking as a member of both the Board of Education for Orange and Sandy Hook Promise, our children's schools have been a major focus of my public life and of this campaign. I know we can create safe, stimulating learning environments for students, and I'm so thankful that I have the support of groups that share that same focus."

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3RD

to provide staff and voters as safe an environment as possible during this COVID epidemic.

Masks are required in line and in the poll rooms. Hand sanitizer will be available and voting booths will be cleaned after every voter. Single use pencils will be provided. You may bring your own black or blue pen if you wish. 6-foot distancing will be the norm which means that fewer voters will be in the polls at one time so there may be longer lines outside. We ask for your patience if this occurs. Peak times in the past were 6 am to 8 am and 5 pm to 8 pm.

There will be three lines at the polls, one for the 14th district, one for the 17th district and one for EDR (Election Day Registration – more information below). To facilitate the lines, please assistance, let the greeter know and you will be helped.

When you enter the poll room and are at the correct checker table, announce **your street, then house number, then last name**. This will speed up the process.

Absentee Ballot Voting: Due to the COVID pandemic, everyone in Connecticut is eligible to vote by absentee ballot this year. You must be an active registered voter. If you choose to vote by absentee ballot, you can do several things to ensure your vote is counted.

Complete your voter application early and submit it to the Town Clerk – you can put this in the drop box at town hall (please put it in the re-

See "Voting" On Page 17

"Voting" From Page 16

turn envelope first). **Ballots will be** available October 2nd and will be mailed to you.

When you receive your ballot there will be instructions included in the packet but here are some simple rules. If you do not follow these steps, your ballot may be rejected.

- 1. Complete your ballot;
- Put ONLY your ballot in the inner envelope (if two ballots are in the inner envelope, one will be rejected;
- 3. Seal the inner envelope;
- 4. SIGN the inner envelope;
- Put the inner envelope in the outer envelope;
- Mail or come to town hall and put your vote in the Absentee Ballot Drop Box.

You may return your ballot in the Drop Box on election day but please return it as soon as you can.

We have had very few ballots rejected in the past, most because they were not in the inner envelope or the voter did not sign the inner envelope.

You can check your registration and the progress of your absentee ballot at myvoter.ct.gov.

The process for handling absentee ballots is very rigid and double checked to ensure your vote is counted. The Town Clerk enters name of the received voter into the Central Voter Registration System and a red A is automatically entered on the checker books that go to the polls. If you decide to vote in person and go to the polls on election day and there is a red A on your name, you already voted and cannot vote again! If you wish to withdraw your absentee ballot and vote in person on Election Day, the CT legislature modified the law and you now must withdraw your absentee ballot before 5 pm on November 2nd. Otherwise, you have voted and cannot vote twice (which is a felony crime).

After the absentee ballot is logged by the Town Clerk, the Registrars staff checks the ballots against the official checker book which goes to the polls and verifies that a red A has been inserted for the voter. On election day, the Town Clerk delivers the ballots to tor who oversees the ballot opening team which is comprised of members of both parties (we anticipate 18 counters this year due to ballot volume). A Registrar will assist the Moderator (again two different parties) in completing the process by inserting votes into a tabulator. All counting processes are done within full view of the counting teams and the public. At the end of the night the tabulator tape is brought to the in-person polls to be read to the public by the election Moderator along with the tape from the in-person tabulator.

Location of the Central Counting will be announced on the Town Website a week before the election.

EDR – Election Day Registration: EDR will be available to Woodbridge residents who are eligible to vote but not yet registered. This will be held in the Senior Cafeteria in The Center, 4 Meetinghouse Lane. To register on election day, you MUST bring:

Proof of Identity (something with your name and signature or your picture and signature) a valid driver's license will be good (any state);

Proof of Woodbridge residency (a utility bill within 30 days, an insurance bill, a tax bill, etc.).

You will complete a voter registration card and your information will be entered into the Central Voter Registration System. You cannot vote until this step is done.

A staff member will call your prior Connecticut Town Registrar to determine if you already voted there. If that town does not answer our call, your vote will be put in a pending box until we have contacted the prior town. If we have not heard back by 8 pm, your vote will be processed as normal and will go to the tabulator in the main poll room.

Anyone **IN LINE by 8 pm** will be processed and will vote (a change to the state statute). If you arrive late, this will hold up the final count of the vote so **please come early or register before election day**!

Remember the last day you can register online is Wednesday October 28th. There will be in-person registration on November 1st at Town Hall by appointment only for anyone who moves to

Town of Woodbridge Meetings for the Month of October 2020



(Subject to Change, Check with Town Clerk's Office, 203-389-3422)

10/5 Human Services Commission7:00 PM Town Plan & Zoning Commission7:30 PM	Center Building Darling Town Hall
10/8 Economic Development Commission7:00 PM	Town Hall
10/13 Police Commission6:15 PM Library Commission6:30 PM	Police Department Library
Zoning Board of Appeals7:30 PM	Town Hall
10/14 Board of Selectmen5:00 PM	Town Hall
10/15 Board of Finance6:00 PM Conservation Commission7:30 PM	Town Hall Town Hall
10/19 Fire Commission6:00 PM CUPOP6:30 PM	Fire House Town Hall
10/21 Inland Wetlands Agency7:30 PM	Town Hall
10/26 Recreation Commission7:00 PM	Beecher Rd Sch So
10/27 Gov't Access TV Commission7:30 PM	Town Hall

"Grants" From Page 15

Committee, together with the Boards of the Jewish Federation and Jewish

Foundation, are assessing next steps to assist local agencies and synagogues so that they may meet these needs going forward.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Tell them you saw their ad in the Woodbridge Town News.

The Law Office of **David Crow**, LLC

the central counting area at 6 am. This counting area has an official Modera-

town, becomes a US citizen, or turns 18 after October 28th.

"Compost" From Page 10

Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee is offering an educational webinar October 14 at 7 PM (visit the Town website for event link) and highly discounted Enviroworld 82-gallon Compost Bins with locking lids. These bins retail around \$120. We are able to sell them for \$50. While the cost is greatly reduced, we recognize that these are difficult times and we do not want cost to be a barrier. Five bins will be raffled for free and scholarships will be available. The supply of bins is limited.

If you are interested in purchasing a composting bin, entering the raffle for a free bin, or applying for a scholarship, please email byagla@woodbridgect. org by October 16. Checks should be made out to "Town of Woodridge" with "Compost Bin" in the memo line. Bins are anticipated to arrive in early November. We will email recipients to coordinate pickup.

Check out our flyer on The Town of Woodbridge home page for links to the webinar and email.

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Document Shredding Event at Temple Beth Sholom

Date: Sunday, October 25, 2020 **Time:** 9am-12pm

Location: Temple Beth Sholom, 1809 Whitney Avenue, Hamden (in the parking lot)

Cost: Small Copy Boxes (18 x 12 x 12 inches or smaller) - \$10 per box; Large Banker Boxes (18 x 18 x 24 inches or larger) - \$20 per box.

Also Available:

Hard Drive Destruction & Computer Recycling - \$20 each;

CRT Computer Monitors - \$20 each; Hard Drive Only - \$10 each.

All items should be in a box that can easily be picked up. Paper items only.

No trash bags, paper bags, etc. No trash or non-paper items. No CDs, X-Rays, etc. Paper clips and staples CAN be shredded.

On-site shredding truck provided



Temple Beth Shalom

by Affordable Solutions, LLC. Questions? Email fundraising@tbshamden.com.

Temple Beth Sholom is an egalitarian conservative synagogue with over 350 member families and singles from the Greater New Haven community. Contact: 1809 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut 06517-1401, 203.288.7748

Congregation Or Shalom Happenings

Weekly Services

Minyan Services

- Sunday 9:00 AM Zoomed
- Monday 8:30 AM Zoomed
- > Thursday 8:30 AM Zoomed

Shabbat Services

- > Friday 7:30 PM Zoomed
- Saturday 9:30 PM Zoomed & in person (must pre-register)

ZUMBA GOLD AT OR SHALOM- Zoomed

Congregation Or Shalom announces the continuation of ZUMBA GOLD on Tuesday nights at 7 PM. ZUMBA Gold is an easy to follow dance movement program that incorporates music from every decade to create an upbeat and fun exercise class. Burn lots of calories, meet new friends, and have a blast. No experience needed and classes are on a drop-in basis. Contact Robin at zumbarobin@gmail.com or call 203-314-8176 or temple office at



Congregation Or Shalom

203-799-2341.

We happy to add Zumba Gold with Danielle Pettit. Zumba Gold is perfect for active older adults who are looking to dance and have a good workout. While increasing balance, range of motion and coordination. TUES-DAYS & FRIDAYS 10:15 AM, 10-class punch card \$70/drop in class \$8.00. daniellepettit75@yahoo.com 203-509-3683 (cell).



Congregation Beth El - Keser Israel Events

Outdoor Services

(weather permitting)

- Sundays 9:00 am^{**}
- Mondays 5:45 pm**
- > Fridays 6:00 pm
- Saturdays 9:30 am

** also available via Zoom, like other daily services

In case of bad weather, services move inside. Washrooms are available if needed. So that records can be kept for possible contact tracing, RSVP to bekitefilla@gmail.com or jjtilsen@beki.org.

Children's Services

Children's Havura (up to age 5) and K-2 Kehila hold outdoor Shabbat services in the BEKI courtyard. For more information, consult Youth & Family Programming Director Annie Norman-Schiff, anormanschiff@beki.org.

Family Programs

A Family Sukkot Party will be held Tuesday, October 6, 5:30-7:00 pm in a Woodbridge backyard. Games, room to run around, and individually packaged snacks will be provided. Feel free to bring your own picnic dinner as well. Each family will be able to shake the lulav and say blessings in the sukka one at a time. Email anormanschiff@ beki.org for information.

USY "Sukka Hopscotch" will be at BEKI on Wednesday, October 7, from 4-6 pm. This event is a socially distanced alternative to the usual "Sukka Hop" during which everyone squeezes into small sukka spaces in BEKI backmunity is welcome for holiday services beginning Friday evening, October 2 in the courtyard. Morning services for the First Day of Sukkot will be on Saturday, October 3 in the parking lot and for the Second Day, Sunday, October 4—with lulav & etrog—in the sukka, also starting at 9:30 am.

Yizkor will be recited at Shemini Atseret during the morning service in the parking lot on Saturday, October 10. Simhat Torah services will be in the parking lot at 9:30 am on Sunday morning, October 11.





Yaron Lew

October Schmoozes

Yaron Lew will offer Stories of Growing Up on a Kibbutz on Wednesday, October 21. Executive Vice President at Lauretano Sign Group in Terryville, he is also BEKI's President.

On Wednesday, October 28, Gadiel Robbins will share his Jewish Journey. A BEKI Board member, he is an Associate Professor in the School of Business at Southern Connecticut State University, where his focus is Management and Sustainability. From 8:00 to 9:00 pm on Zoom, BEKI Schmoozes include a presentation and time for questions. To request the link, email

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Woodbridge Town News

ATTENTION CHURCHES, SYNAGOGUES, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP!

Send us your organizations events listings and items of interest. We will publish them for free.

Woodbridge Town News – P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 edit@woodbridgetownnews.com

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yards. All high schoolers are welcome.

Sukkot Festivities

The BEKI sukkah is up, and the com-

office@beki.org.

Located at 85 Harrison Street (corner of Whalley Avenue - Route 63 - in Westville)





DEATH NOTICES

The Woodbridge Town News will publish Death Notices for Woodbridge and Bethany families free of charge as a service to our readers. Family members please email notice (limit 250 words, please) to: edit@woodbridgetownnews.com





Get Ahead Of Chimney Repair This Seasotn

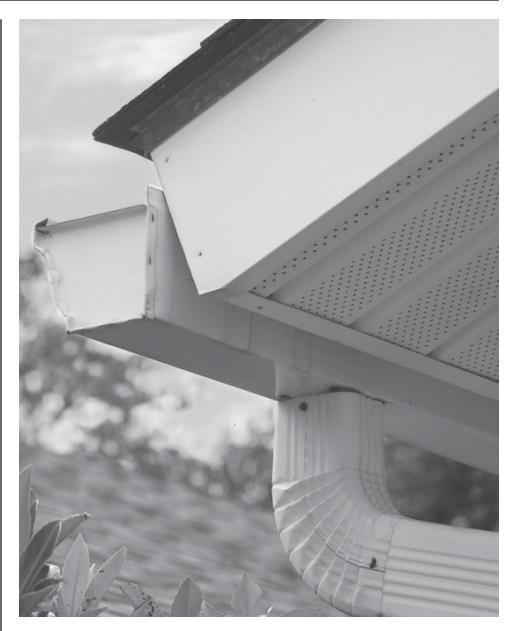
Woodburning fireplaces or fuel stoves can add warmth and ambiance to a home. These appliances are particularly coveted in the cooler months when people spend more time indoors. Maintenance is necessary in order for fireplaces and stoves to function safely, and that upkeep must include paying close attention to the functionality of the chimney.

Chimneys are designed to last for decades. Cracks and spalling in brick chimneys are common concerns that can cause significant damage if left unchecked.

Chimney maintenance involves more than cleaning the flue. Rather than running the risk of costly repairs, spalling. Spalling is the wearing away of masonry due to water, weather and time. If enough of the material erodes, that erosion can adversely affect the structural integrity of the chimney. Some repairs can be made by patching up cracks or replacing missing bricks. Chimney tuckpointing is the process of repairing mortar.

Think about waterproofing the chimney to prevent damage. A water sealant applied to the outside of the chimney can prevent moisture from breaking down the masonry.

Inspect and replace the chimney cap if it is worn out. A chimney cap is a contraption that sits atop the chimney to allow the smoke to vent while also



Signs Your Gutters Are In Need Of Repair

Fall is a great time to tackle projects around the house. The weather each fall allows homeowners to make improvements to their homes' exteriors without worrying about extreme heat or cold, while interior projects like painting are made easier because homeowners can open the windows to allow for proper ventilation.

Fall also marks a great time to prepare for upcoming projects that can make winter work that much easier. For example, fall is a great time to take stock of your gutters so you can address any issues before leaves begin to fall or the first snowstorm touches down. Compromised gutters can contribute to water issues in basements and adversely affect a home's foundaquickly, and it's an inexpensive yet highly effective solution.

Gutter separation: Gutters that are no longer fastened together can leak and contribute to issues that affect the home's foundation, siding and appearance. Clogs and the accumulation of debris can cause gutters to separate because they are not designed to hold too much weight. Replacement of separated gutters may or may not be necessary depending on how big the problem is and the condition of the existing gutters. If replacement is not necessary, separated gutters may be remedied by securing the joints, another relatively simple and inexpensive fix.

Peeling exterior paint: Paint that appears to be peeling off of your home may indicate that water is seeping over the edge of the gutter closest to your home. When that happens, water is coming down the side of the house, causing the paint to peel. In such instances, replacing the gutters is often necessary. Basement flooding: Not all signs of deteriorating gutters are outside a home. Many a homeowner has been flummoxed by flooding in their basements, and such flooding can be caused by aging, ineffective gutters. That's because deteriorating gutters sometimes allow water to leak near the foundation of a home, contributing to basement flooding. Fall is an ideal time to inspect gutters and have any issues fixed before leaves begin to fall or harsh winter weather arrives.

which can cost several thousand dollars, homeowners can take some simple steps to keep their chimneys in tip-top shape. Certain components of chimney maintenance are do-it-yourself tasks, while others may be better left to the professionals.

Start from the inside and ensure that dampers are working properly. When using fireplaces and other appliances, dampers need to be open to allow smoke to vent outside; otherwise, smoke will be trapped in the home and could lead to carbon monoxide buildup. Dampers need to be fixed or replaced if they are not operational. Replacement fireplace dampers should be snug and not have any gaps, states Vertical Chimney Care.

Conduct a visual inspection of the chimney to check for any cracks or

preventing critters and water from going inside the flue, helping to extend the flue life. The chimney cap attaches to the flue liner, so outside dimensions should be taken to ensure the cap is the right size for the chimney.

Have the chimney swept. Sweeping helps remove the soot and debris that clings to the inside of the flue, known as creosote. The amount of time the fireplace is used will determine how often the chimney must be cleaned. Generally speaking, the chimney liner needs to be cleaned if it has 1/8-inch or more of soot.

Regular inspection and maintenance can help keep a chimney working safely for decades. For those who do not like working at such an elevation, leave exterior chimney repair to a certified professional. tion if not addressed immediately, so it behooves homeowners to learn the signs that gutters are in need of repair or replacement.

Gutters hanging off the home: Gutters were once installed predominantly with spikes. However, many industry professionals now install gutters with hanger brackets. Why the change? Spikes loosen over time, leading to the gutters hanging off the home. That can contribute to serious issues if left untreated. Gutters hanging off the home need not necessarily be replaced, but rather secured to the home, ideally with hanger brackets instead of spikes. Brackets hook into the front of the gutter and are then screwed into the fascia of a home. A professional who specializes in gutter repair can perform this task relatively



Surgery On The Horizon? Make Sure You Prehab!

By Kyle Branday, MSPT, CDN

With Connecticut continuing to lead the country in our response to COVID 19, it has allowed many people to feel more comfortable with sched-



uling elective surgeries which may have been pushed off for months by the pandemic. But after months of recurring pain and increasing stiffness and vrestriction, are

you at your best leading into your surgery? Probably not! Enter your best weapon to optimize your surgical outcome: PREHAB.

Prehab is short for preoperative rehabilitation. Studies have shown consistently better outcomes after surgery with less pain and quicker return to function. Prehab can be done for all areas of the body including Total hip and Knee Replacements, Rotator Cuff Repairs, Spinal Surgery, and Ankle/ Foot Surgery.

"But why in the world would I go through PT before I have my hip done?!?! My hip is already so painful. I don't want to make it worse." Here's the truth...leaving an aching, throbbing, stiff, and weak area to rest and avoid movement will only lead to progressively greater weakness, stiffness, and yes...PAIN!!

Ever hear the phrase? That's because it is. Stiffness and tightness of an already irritated joint is only going to compress it further and create additional pain and symptoms. For the sake of argument, let's keep this on the topic of a degenerative hip. If you have 2 arthritic bones (the head of the femur/thigh bone and the acetabulum/hip socket), they rub against each other like 2 pieces of sandpaper rubbing together. Now riddle me this: When was the last time increasing the pressure on 2 pieces of sandpaper that were rubbing against each other made movement easier? Hasn't happened and won't happen. So then why are we so willing to allow our joints to get tighter and stiffer? Your joints are made to move, arthritic or not. So, let them move.

Now let's turn the conversation to strength. Who needs strength to move? (Everyone's hands should be raised here). I don't care if you have a degenerative joint or not; strength within our muscles allows our body to move more naturally AND...decompress the joint. Take those 2 pieces of sandpaper from earlier. Now, create enough strength to allow them a hairline of separation. You might catch the sandpaper like joint together occasionally as you move, but I can guarantee you that it will catch, grind, and create inflammation less consistently. That support with allow for decreased pain because it will support the movement.

We should also not negate the impact that an inflamed joint can have on the surrounding muscles. The musculature around a degenerative joint oftentimes will feel full of trigger points or knots. These pieces of muscle which are bound and tightened without the ability to contract and subsequently relax are unable to assist in the support of the affected area. They also can create tremendous pain both locally around the area, but also refer pain which can be misconstrued as nerve pain.

Let us not assume that Prehab is only good for degenerative joints. Look at the overabundance of rotator cuff tears. A high-level partial tear and certainly complete tears/ruptures of the muscle or tendon are commonly repaired. Someone with a full tear of the rotator cuff will often hold the arm at the side from both pain but also from an inability to activate the muscles needed to create movement. Taking that shoulder and maximizing the movement both actively and passively reduces post-operative tightness and leads to a significantly reduced chance of frozen shoulder (adhesive capsulitis) after surgery. I had a great opportunity to the put the theory of Prehab to the test. A patient of mine had a rotator cuff repair. He saw me for 4 months to get full motion and strength back. A full year after completing his rehab for the right shoulder, he contacted me because he had fallen and injured his left shoulder. Sure enough, he tore the exact same tendon on the other side. We immediately began range of motion and strengthening of the shoulder while I referred him back to his orthopedic surgeon for MRI

to confirm my diagnosis and that he would need surgery.

Upon returning for his post-op therapy, we measured dramatically less initial stiffness, better muscle strength and stability, and substantially less pain and discomfort throughout his rehab. Within 2 months this patient was discharged from my care with full motion and strength and was progressed back to the gym and independent exercise. Following up a full year after his surgery and you wouldn't know he had ever had a shoulder operation. Same Surgeon. Same rehab protocol. Same Physical Therapist. So, what's the difference? Prehab made the difference. See the difference prehab can make in your surgical outcomes.

Remember, no physician referral is needed for Physical Therapy. If you're interested in Prehab, go to https:// www.amitypt.com/ request your consultation and let's make sure you're at your peak heading into the operating room.

Kyle Branday has been in practice for 12 years and a graduate of Quinnipiac University treating patients of all ages and ability levels. Taking special interest in movement dysfunction, Kyle prides himself on diagnosis of both acute and chronic issues. With training in dry needling, Selective Functional Movement Assessment, as well as Mulligan and McKenzie Techniques, Kyle is able to address your specific needs. He can be reached in the Woodbridge office at (203) 389-4593.

Quarantine 15? Woodbridge Ranked Connecticut's 9th Fittest City In Study

✓ Old Greenwich emerged in 1st place.

commute taking up too much time that could be used to achieve your atfitness score of 81.42. The town has a high rate of exercise opportunities

in outdoor parks, and hiking through stunning forests. Additionally, Wood-

- Contributing factors to fitness scores include exercise opportunities, access to healthy food, air pollution and drinking water quality.
- Infographic showing top cities in Connecticut according to overall fitness score.

With the pandemic restricting our usual exercise regimes due to social distancing regulations, many Americans have had to adapt their fitness goals and align them with at-home workouts. Combined with the fact that many of us are comfort eating while in the midst of a global health crisis, this may have led some to gain the socalled, 'Quarantine 15' without even realizing. However, the good news about working or studying from home is not having to worry about your daily home fitness goals for the day. But what happens if you don't have adequate space in your home and don't live near an open outdoor area in order to work out?

BarBend.com, the world's leading strength training resource and news outlet, compiled a comprehensive list of the top fittest cities across Connecticut, using data backed by studies based on a variety of factors. These were combined to create an overall fitness score out of 100 for each city on the list. Fitness factors in this study include exercise opportunities, access to healthy food, air pollution, drinking water violations, physical inactivity, obesity and smoking, amongst others. It was found that Woodbridge emerged in 9th position with an overall

at 940 (per 1,000 people) suggesting that the surrounding environment can play a key role in determining people's fitness level. According to the CHR's county health ranking model, 'individuals who live closer to sidewalks, parks and gyms are more likely to exercise', therefore access to exercise opportunities is crucial in maintaining a healthy population. Additionally, residents who live in neighborhoods with access to grocery stores that allow them to obtain healthy foods, such as fresh fruit and vegetables, are more likely to have healthier diets than those who do not have access to these kinds of supermarkets. Mild summers and cool winters in the Constitution State create a perfect backdrop for paddle-boarding in calm waters, playing

bridge was found to have comparatively low levels of air pollution, low rates of physical inactivity, obesity and smoking.

"As you can see, there are a variety of external factors that can have an impact on a town's overall fitness, which can be detrimental to the population's health, especially where some don't have access to sufficient space for their at-home workouts,' says Max Whiteside from BarBend. com. 'If this is the case, you can still try and keep fit while going about your work for the day by standing, instead of sitting in front of your laptop, taking frequent breaks in which you can complete some lunges and squats, making mobility work a part of your daily routine. Remember your own bodyweight can also be a useful workout tool!"

Woodbridge Town News

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Blum & Laychak Wed In July

Faith, hope and love surrounded Allie Blum and John Laychak as they united in marriage on July 5, 2020 in the Berkshires.

The bride is the daughter of John and Monica Blum of Woodbridge, CT. The groom is the son of John and Tina Laychak of Milford, CT.

Jeff Rutkowski, uncle of the groom, officiated the ceremony. Maggie Santandreu, sister of the bride and maid of honor along with Nick and Anthony Ferrara, cousins of the groom and best men stood as witnesses for the bride and groom. The bride is a 2019 graduate of Western Connecticut State University. The groom is a 2018 graduate of Point Loma Nazarene University and is currently working on his graduate degree attending Southeastern University. The bride and groom currently reside in San Diego, CA.

Family & friends will come together in the Berkshires in 2021 to celebrate Allie and John when they re-do their I do's.

"Three things will last forever – faith, hope, and love and the greatest of these is love." - 1 Corinthians 13:13









Lots to Enjoy this Fall at Massaro Community Farm

We are pleased to announce the resumption of on-site outdoor programming this fall, providing opportunities for children and adults to enjoy farm activities before winter arrives. Sign up for all programs (unless otherwise indicated) at www. Eventbrite.com.

Youth Explorers Program Returns

The farm's popular Explorers program for children ages 6-11 begins Sunday, October 4. Participants will identify animal tracks on the trail, build a survival shelter, enjoy safe time by the fire, learn about native plant use, observe the change in seasons, and understand how our lives impact the planet's health. Class size is limited to eight (8) participants to enable social distancing. This program will run for eight (8) weeks on Sundays, 11:00am-1:00pm. \$150/child. Inquire at the farm office for pro-rated participation.

Valley Shakespeare presents Snow White

Valley Shakespeare Festival returns to the farm to bring you Snow White like you've never experienced it on Saturday and Sunday, October 10 and 11. The classic tale that features a beautiful princess, her evil queen, a huntsman, one magic mirror, and the legendary seven dwarfs will be brought to life by TWO ACTORS! This live performance stars Eric Bermudez and Andie Lerner, bringing a world to life before your eyes with the vibrant creativity and entertaining theatricality you've come to expect from Valley Shakespeare. All three performances – one on Saturday and two on Sunday – will be held outside on the farm lawn. Chairs/ blankets encouraged. Outdoor restrooms available. Please wear a mask when entering/exiting the farm and be respectful of other attendees. Space is limited to allow for social distancing. Adults \$15; children \$10.

Fall Adult Workshop: Make a Fresh Grapevine Wreath

Registration is open for an in-person two-part workshop series. The first workshop will take place on Saturday, October 18 at 10:00am when participants will walk the farm cutting and collecting wild grape and bittersweet vines to create a wreath. At that time, you can also collect other items from around the farm and the nature trail that can be later added to your wreath after it's dried. The end result will be a lovely piece you can keep or gift over the coming holidays. The date for the second workshop to decorate your wreath is TBA for November. Gloves, clippers and wreath materials are included; masks are required \$15/pp.

Outdoor concert: The Jolly Beggars

Kick up your heels with this regional Irish band as they play classic Celtic tunes, performing live on Friday, October 23 from 6:00-8:00pm. We'll have a couple of fires going and hot cider to keep you warm. You can also bring a picnic or purchase a party box prepared especially for us by Olmo and Ordinary. Party box includes a couple of cocktail mixes, cheese and charcuterie. Chairs/blankets encouraged. Outdoor restrooms available. Tickets: \$15/pp; party box: \$30. Space is limited to allow for social distancing. MassaroFarm.Square.Site.

Get Your Pumpkins at the Farm and Participate in Beecher Road School Pumpkin Display

The farm will be offering pumpkins for sale through its online store beginning Monday, October 5. Support the farm with the purchase of a pumpkin and take your carved creation to Beecher Road School for their drive-through version of the annual Halloween Hoot. Participants are invited to bring their carved pumpkins to the school for a lighted display on the evening of Saturday, October 24. \$15 includes a medium-sized pumpkin (15-20 pounds) and a battery-operated tea light candle. Pumpkins may be picked up at the farm on Tuesday and Friday afternoons between 1:30-6:30pm. If you're attending a performance of Snow White or the Jolly Beggars concert, you can carve your pumpkin at the farm. Purchase pumpkins through our online store: MassaroFarm.Square.Site. Supplies are limited!

Modified Field Trips Return

Reservations are now open for both live and virtual field trips at the farm. As usual, these activities will continue until November, and we anticipate starting again in April 2021. If you're

the bond issue, namely a piece of the Beecher Road School roof that had not been refurbished during the 2014/15 renovation and has been known to leak (\$400,000). In addition, the senior center has been waiting for years to eager to get your home school group, class or 'pod' outside before winter sets in, schedule a small group field trip by calling the farm's education director Corey Thomas at (203) 736-8618 or emailing him at education@ massarofarm.org. The farm's website has a full list of suggested topics; however, we also work with you to customize lesson plans. Sliding scale.

Community Garden News

Earlier this year, Massaro Farm was tapped by Valley United Way to manage 13 community gardens across the towns of Ansonia, Derby, Seymour, Oxford and Shelton. With the generous time and commitment of 25 volunteers helping to maintain these gardens, neighbors enjoyed strawberries and a mix of vegetables throughout July and August. Excess produce was added to the ~3,500 pounds of vegetables donated by the farm to hunger relief organizations thus far this season.

Massaro Community Farm is a nonprofit, certified organic community farm on 57 acres of land whose mission is to keep farming, feed people, and build community. In addition to growing vegetables for seasonal subscribers, the farm donates thousands of pounds each year to hunger relief. The farm serves as a hub of education for all ages and shares its space with the community. The farm's nature trail is open to the public 365 days a year. For more information visit our website at www.MassaroFarm. org or contact Executive Director Caty Poole at 203-736-8618.

But at the time the selectmen were discussing the project, the meeting with the Amity school superintendent hadn't occurred.

"I don't feel comfortable deciding anything until I know where Amity is," said Selectman Joe Dey, explaining his dissent. He said he did not want to vote in support of a project "before we know we can afford it."

"Firehouse" From Page 2

munity center hinged on the decision to move the fire equipment, stored in the building, out and to include a storage shed for the fire department at improvement plan.

According to Stein the estimated price tag for renovating the old firehouse would be just under \$1 million; the storage shed would add another \$557,000. That cost estimate does not

the back of the new firehouse, a project that has been on hold for several years.

Since its move into the new firehouse, the fire department has been storing some rescue equipment as well as a historic fire truck in the old firehouse. The volunteers of the Fire Association had started construction of a large, 42.5x42.5-foot storage shed on the far side of the parking lot, with a concrete pad already poured, and piping for heat and electrical roughed in. The new proposed shed would double that size, for a total of 3,700 square feet.

The project – including the shed and a sidewalk to the high school – has been part of the town's six-year capital include refurbishing the parking lot at the Old Firehouse, nor furniture.

Finance Director Anthony Genovese presented the board with an overview of the town's debt service, saying the town will see a dip in its debt level this year, having paid off a 20-year bond stemming from the 2000 soil remediation at the Public Works garage; and the purchase of open space. This will allow the town to bond for the project without increasing the tax burden. Genovese also said with interest rates being at a historic low, this would be a good time to get projects done.

He said the town is contemplating adding some unrelated projects to update its spaces in the basement of the Center Building. In total the town is contemplating a \$2.5 million bond.

The project details still need to be fleshed out before it can go to referendum, Genovese said.

"What we got tonight is a conceptual estimate," said Selectman Dwight Rowland, whose professional background is in construction. "It still has to be tweaked, and reviewed, including the second floor."

Amity School District has expressed an interest in leasing the second floor of the firehouse for its Transition Program. This could allow the town to generate some income to offset the cost of outfitting the space. Fellow Selectman Dwight Rowland did not agree. He felt the time is right to move ahead with the project. "We've been talking about this forever," he said.

As for keeping the stored fire equipment in the community center to avoid building another structure, Heller said that would not work. "Imagine a class or a meeting happening and then the alarm goes off and the fire trucks drive up to retrieve the equipment. We can't have two uses in the same building," she said.

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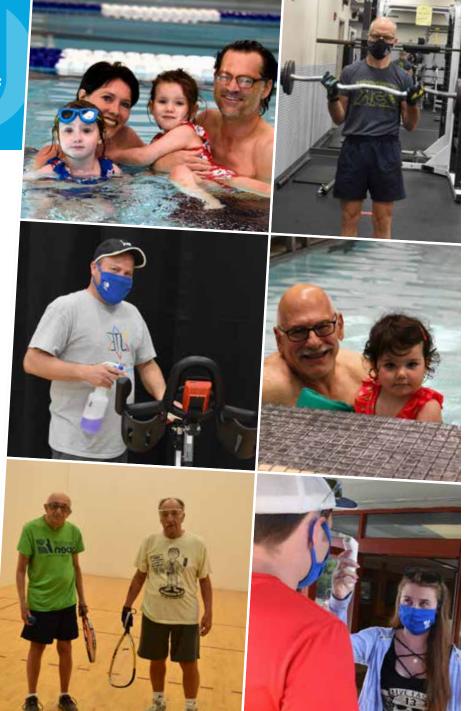
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