VOL. 6 - ISSUE 1

CIRCULATION 3604

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2017

JCC RECOVERING FROM FIRE... LOOKING TOWARDS FUTURE

By Bettina Thiel – Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

Just over a month after a fire on the lower level of the Jewish Community Center closed the facility for several months, the organization has managed to find temporary locations for most of its regular activities. "It truly was a gargantuan effort," said Chief Executive Officer Judy Diamondstein looking back. She had nothing but praise for staff and volunteers, for the public officials and many organizations that jumped in to help them get on their feet.

Finding temporary homes — As of the beginning of January, most of the ongoing activities offered at the JCC — daycare, gym, pool, basketball, racquetball — have been shifted to area facilities to ensure ongoing service. A fitness

studio opened in what was once laboratory space on 4 Research Drive, now fully outfitted with weights and machines, aerobics room, TRX frame, spinning, group classes and more. The building on Research Drive has no showers,

but there are private changing areas and there will be lockers in the near future.

•For swimming, the Recreation departments in Orange and Woodbridge made room on their busy pool schedules to accommodate swim lessons and lap swimmers; the Blue Marlins swim team meets at Albertus Magnus College. Albertus Magnus also opened its racquet ball courts.

• Open Gym groups, including basketball, meet at Hopkins School; Biddys Basketball and basketball for 2nd-6th

> grade girls will be held at Beecher Road School.

> • Children enrolled in Yeladim Early Learning Center found a temporary home at Congregation B'nai Jacob.

• The Jewish Federation offices have been moved into an

office suite on Litchfield Turnpike. For weeks staff had to work using personal cell phones. The phone system was scheduled to be operational by the end

See "JCC" continued on Page 2







Amity Regional Middle School - Orange Campus First Marking Period Honor Roll - Page 8



AMITY CHEERLEADERS ARE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Team Takes Top Score of the Day with 70 Other Teams

By Melissa Nicefaro – Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

The Amity Pop Warner Varsity Cheerleaders won first place in the 2016 National Cheer and Dance Championship in Orlando, Florida on Friday, December 9, marking the second consecutive win for the Pop Warner cheer organization. Though it could appear from the outside that the same team that took first place in their division last year went back this year and did it again, this year's team was made of girls from last year's Pee Wee and Junior Midget teams and two new members. Under the coaching of Alicia Soderquist, a new team was built from the ground up—literally and figuratively, beginning August 1, when the girls met for practice five nights a week until school began.

Made up of 20 girls ranging in age from 11 to 15, the girls cheered for the Amity Unlimited Pop Warner football team, which also had a milestone season, winning the top spot in its league and playing for the first time ever in the state championship. Soderquist, who has been coaching Amity Pop Warner Cheerleading for 5 years, admits that 2016 was one of the most trying seasons as a coach and also one of the most rewarding, but she doesn't only mean by bringing home three trophies. "We've tackled several obstacles on the way to Nationals, but there is no greater accomplishment than to see a team that is so dedicated

See "Cheerleaders" continued on Page 4





"JCC" continued from Page 1

of last week.

Looking toward the future — "We're back!" Diamondstein announced with enthusiasm. She said when the temporary gym opened last week members were hugging each other as they came in to check out the newly outfitted facility. Seeing how people truly embraced each other, it made her realize that "the JCC truly was the center of life for so many people," she said. It was palpable how much they had missed the JCC and each other. Officials expect to be in the temporary locations for several months, maybe up to a year. Now that most of the immediate needs have been met, the JCC leadership is turning its attention toward the future of the Amity Road facility. They anticipate rebuilding of the "Mother Ship" to start in March.

The building, which opened in 1995, is 22 years old. The hope is to renovate it in a way that will meet not just the needs of the current community, but people ten, 20 years from now, Diamondstein said. Committees have been formed to work on issues such as a needs assessment; the facility design; considering future technology needs, including security issues; looking at demographics and the need for services; also marketing, legal and financial issues.

Remembering the fire — Judy Diamondstein was in a meeting back on that Monday afternoon, December 5, when the fire alarm went off at 3:45 p.m. She knew immediately that this was not a training situation, but "the real deal".

As luck would have it, JCC officials had been assessing their security and safety protocols, including evacuation plans, in prior months, and people were prepared. There were more than 300 people in the building at the time, including babies in cribs and swimmers in the pool. All were ushered out - in various stages of dress - into the parking lot on one of the coldest December days. JCC neighbor Brookdale, a senior living facility several hundred feet away, took them in, including the children and babies. They got PJs out for the swimmers. "Everybody pulled together," Diamondstein said.

She was a designated "sweeper," making sure people left the building without delay. One barefooted man who came up the staircase wouldn't leave, much to her frustration, but it turned out that he was a member of the local volunteer fire department. He had seen

the flames downstairs and called the fire department.

Diamondstein had nothing but praise for the local emergency personnel. "The first responders were unreal," she said. Thanks to their help, there was no loss of life or injury among those in the building at the time. However, two fire fighters ended up in the hospital for non-life threatening injuries. Woodbridge Fire Marshal Joseph Cappucci said he was not sure what the nature of their injuries was.

The event turned out to be a fouralarm fire. Orange and Bethany firefighters assisted in the operation, while Seymour and Prospect covered for Woodbridge. Late that night, Diamondstein, as well as JCC Executive Director Scott Cohen and President Scott Hurwitz, after hours of running back and forth between the JCC and Brookdale, stopped at Brookdale to warm up. The chefs were just getting ready to go home, she said, when they recognized them. They went back to the kitchen and prepared them dinner, and she remembers it fondly. "We were feeling the love — and it hasn't stopped since then," she said.

Woodbridge Fire Marshal Joseph Cap-

pucci said the cause of the fire has not been determined as of January 5. Fire officials did rule out that it was intentionally set, he said. "We believe it started in the sauna in the men's locker room. We are still working on the investigation."

Cleanup — The fire itself only affected a small area on the lower level of the building, however, the smoke gets into every porous surface, including the HVAC pipes. Black soot penetrated through the tiniest holes and settled in different parts of the structure. "It's just a nightmare," Diamondstein said. The building was equipped with a sprinkler system, which was set off and left a lot of the floors damaged. "At this point, the whole downstairs is down to studs," she said, except for the pool and the racquetball courts. A video on the JCCGNH Facebook page illustrates the extent of the cleanup vividly.

As for Diamondstein, she celebrated the first anniversary on the job in early January. "It's been a heck of a year," she said, with a smile. And, "walking through the corridors and rooms is heartbreaking," she wrote on one of the updates to the community. But, "as painful as this process is, the promise of what may come soothes the soul."

"You can be clumsy yet clever. You can be classy yet poor. It's not tearing a leaf off a calendar which will make you a better or a worse man but the attitude that you have from dusk till dawn every day." — INDEEWARA JAYAWARDANE

Our Orange office was very busy in 2016! This is just a sampling of what our Orange agents sold in 2016. whout all of Southern Connecticut, we sold a total of 408 properties. We have no limit

Throughout all of Southern Connecticut, we sold a total of 400 properties. We have no infiltation					illilliations:				
	BETHANY		MILFORD	SOLD	28 Perkins St, New Haven	SOLD	140 Farren Ave, New Haven *	SOLD	108 Lee St, West Haven
SOLD	190-192 Schaffer Road, Bethany	SOLD	1 Bittersweet Ave, Milford	SOLD	231 Greene #2, New Haven	SOLD	32 Sheffield Ave, New Haven *	SOLD	330 Savin Ave #4, West Haven
SOLD	93 Beacon Rd, Bethany	SOLD	20 Twin Oaks Ter, Milford	SOLD	43 Chestnut St #205, New Haven	SOLD	16 Rockview Ter, New Haven *	SOLD	657 West Main, West Haven
SOLD	5 Oak Ridge Dr, Bethany	SOLD	35 Gibson Rd, Milford	SOLD	35 Beverly Rd, New Haven	SOLD	49 Porter Street, New Haven *	SOLD	19 Wenham St, West Haven
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SOLD	357 Longmeadow Rd, Orange	SOLD
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SOLD	256 Peck Ln, Orange	SOLD
SOLD	444 Taulman Rd, Orange	SOLD
SOLD	334 Narrow Ln, Orange	SOLD
SOLD	996 Old Coach Road, Orange	SOLD
SOLD	537 Derby Ave, Orange	SOLD
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285 Pond Point Ave, Milford	
5 Mansfield Rd, Milford	
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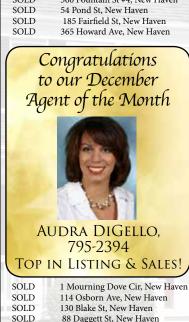
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SOLD	50 Wood St, West Haven
SOLD	48 Forest Hills Rd, West Haven
SOLD	96 Canton, West Haven
SOLD	63 Cooper Rd, West Haven
SOLD	5 Treat St #4B, West Haven
SOLD	113 Gilbert St, West Haven
SOLD	416 Ocean Avenue, West Haven
SOLD	64 Norfolk St, West Haven
SOLD	110 South St, West Haven

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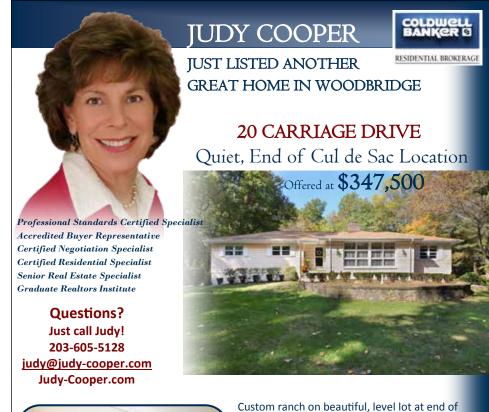
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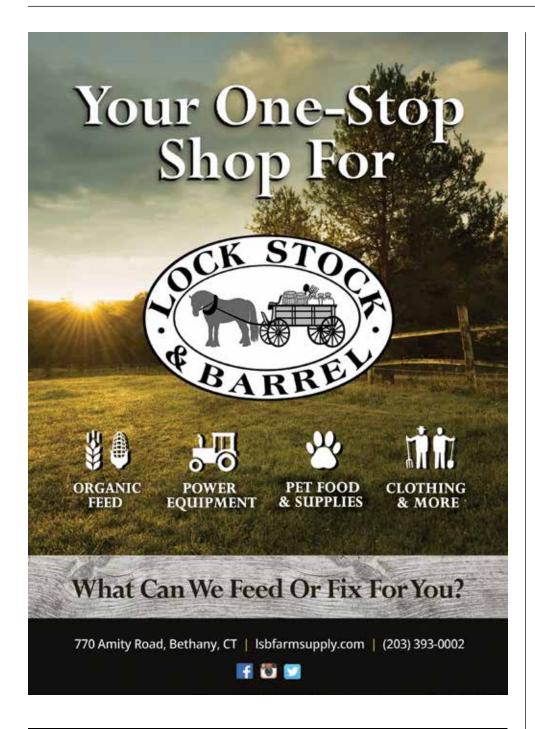


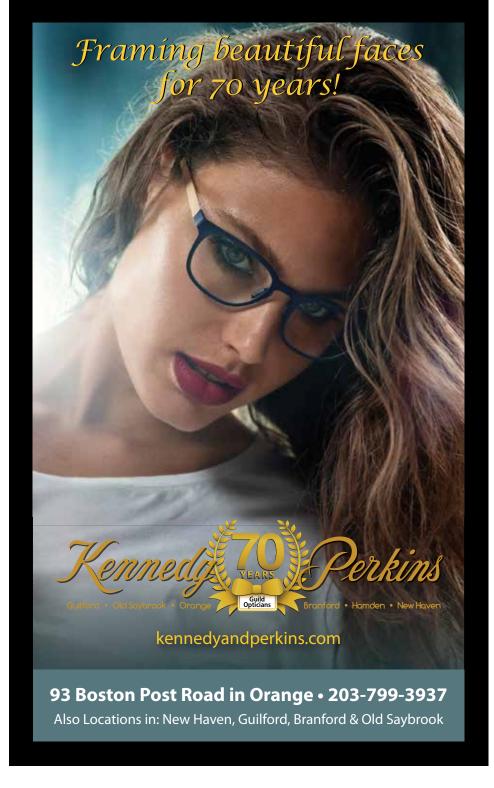
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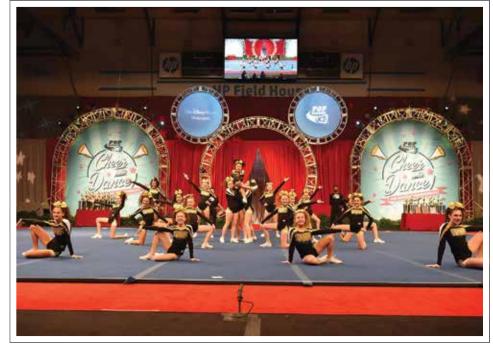




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"Cheerleaders" continued from Page 1

to this sport and so supportive of one another even through our most difficult times." The cheerleaders competed in the national competition against 12 other teams from across the country, with some of the toughest competition coming from right here in New England and the northeast.

Assistant Coach Tina Zito credits Cheer Coordinator, Alicia Soderquist. "She is an incredibly talented coach with the ability to bring out the best in all of her athletes. At the beginning of the season, she starts building her cheer routine around the potential she sees in the athletes; and she teaches, trains, and inspires her girls to get the best out of them. It's a lot of hard work but the rewards are tremendous."

Soderquist agrees, "It takes a village. If I did not have the incredible support of the parents we would be nowhere, and not to mention my phenomenal assistant, Tina. She helps me keep this program afloat and Amity Pop Warner would not be as successful as it has been if I did not have her by my side."

Moving up from Level One to Level Two meant the girls could do a more complicated routine with higher lifts in their stunts and tumbling such as back handsprings. Moving up also meant that the competition would be more intense than it has ever been.

The team's competitive season began October 8, where they took first place in the Southern Connecticut Pop Warner league, and qualified for the New England Regional Competition in No-

vember. On October 15, the team also won first place in the State Competition and in November, the team placed second, earning it a spot to compete for the national title at Disney's ESPN Wide World of Sports.

Competing against 12 other teams, the Amity girls' score of 87.78% landed the very top spot, not only in their divisional competition, but of the day's 70 performances. The team also received the highest score of the day for stunts. The team came in ninth overall of the 300+ teams that competed in the weeklong event.

As many of these girls have been Pop Warner cheerleaders for as many as eight years, the win is bittersweet to a handful who are aging out of the program. "This National Championship represents their last cheer competition," says Zito. "It is especially bittersweet because Amity High School is the only school in the area that doesn't have a Varsity Cheer Team. A group of dedicated moms is working with the administration at Amity High School to try and reintroduce High School Cheer at Amity, so that these girls can continue to participate in the sport that they love."

The high school had a cheerleading team until 2008, when the coach left her position and school administration deemed there was not enough interest in cheerleading to sustain a program. With renewed interest apparent, the group of parents is hopeful to see cheer back at the high school soon. In the meantime, the girls who are coming back to Pop Warner next year are already counting down the days until August 1.



TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES



Employees and Partners of Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer, Proto donated \$1,000 to purchase gift certificates which were distributed to families thru the Woodbridge Human Services Adopt a Family Holiday Program.



Aileen DeFeo, Vice President/Branch Manager and Julia Kanevsky, Sale Administrator of Coldwell Banker Woodbridge presented a \$1,065 check to Mary Ellen LaRocca, Director of Human Services for the Holiday Adopt a Family Program. In addition the employees of Coldwell Banker sponsored adopted a family and provided a holiday food basket.



Carolyn Chapman and Karen Buckley of the Children's House of Montessori presented food, hats, scarves and mittens to Nancy Pfund, Woodbridge Youth Services Director to distribute for the holidays.

FROM THE YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

By Nancy Pfund



Documentary & Panel on Opioid Epidemic at Amity Regional High School

"Chasing the Dragon" documentary film and a panel to discuss the Opioid Epidemic will be held at Amity Regional High School, 25 Newton Road on January 11th at 6:00 p.m. Parents and community members are invited to educate themselves about the cycle of addiction. The film includes strong language and content, and is not appropriate for younger viewers.

January 20, 2017 For Bethany & Woodridge 7th & 8th Grade Residents Only Big Daddy's Racing And Entertainment Unlimited 7:00-9:30 PM Woodbridge Center Building

Race the remote control cars on the high speed track! Participate in the interactive DJ games like pool noodle jousting, Hippity Hop basketball, and sumo wrestling! Professional dancer will lead line dances!

This program is sponsored by Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany, and is open to Woodbridge and Bethany 7th and 8th grade residents only. The fee is \$5.00, raffle ticket included.

Volunteers needed! Parents, grand-parents, college students, high school juniors and seniors are encouraged to help. It's a great way to support our young teens, and create a safe, fun way to meet friends. Please call 203-389-3429 for more information or to volunteer.

www.WoodbridgeTownNews.com

TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2017

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



Town Hall

1/14	Inland Wetland Site Inspection8:00am	Town Hall
1/17	Library Commission	Library Town Hall
1/18	Inland Wetlands Agency7:30pm	Town Hall
1/19	Conservation Commission7:30pm	Town Hall
1/23	Fire Commission	Fire Station Beecher Rd School So.
1/24	Joint Boards of Selectmen/Finance6:00pm Government Access TV7:15pm	Town Hall Town Hall
1/26	Joint Boards of Selectmen/Finance6:00pm	Town Hall
1/31	Joint Boards of Selectmen/Finance6:00pm	Town Hall





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Circulation of 3,604.

Phone: 203-298-4399 | Fax: 203-298-9818

Published by Orange Town Newspapers, LLC

Publisher	Rocky Salperto
Editor	Marlene Silverstein
Production & Design	J. Michael Kriz
Correspondents	Laura Fantarella
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	Bettina Theil
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All articles, photographs and letters must include your name, address and daytime telephone number for confirmation. The Woodbridge Town News reserves the right to reject any advertisement, article, photograph or letter. Letters to the editor must be unique to the Woodbridge Town News.

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Coachman's Square	21 Bradley Road	
Coldwell Banker		
First Niagara Bank	211 Amity Road	
Katz's Deli Restaurant10	358 Litchfield Turnpike	
Lock, Stock & Barrel		
Solun Restaurant	10 Selden Street	
Thai House Restaurant		
The UPS Store	176 Amity Road	
Tobacco Land	164 Amity Road	
Today's Clothing	22 Selden Street	
Westville Seafood		
Wheelers Restaurant	180 Amity Road	
Woodbridge Senior Center	4 Meetinghouse Lane	
Woodbridge Tae Kwon Do		
Woodbridge Town Hall	11 Meetinghouse Lane	
Woodbridge Town Library		

If you would like to have additional copies of the **Woodbridge Town News** available at your organization or business, please call 203-298-4399.



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

Thank you for your submissions to Your Home Town Newspaper.

Upcoming Issue Deadline	Upcoming Issue Dates
February 3rd	Valentine's Issue February 10th
March 3rd	.St. Patrick's Day Issue March 10th
March 31st	Easter & Passover Issue April 7th
Note: Conv due by 4:00n m. Thank you	

FROM OUR READERS

Dear Editor,

It's the most wonderful time of the year! As we travel through the various cities and towns in Connecticut, we see tastefully done holiday displays featuring Christmas trees, menorahs, and other decorations that symbolize this holiday season. Except Woodbridge. Sadly, the tree that greets visitors in the center of town remained dark this year. Ironically on Christmas day, a menorah was put up and lit, but it is barely visible.

Every year for as long as I can remember, the Christmas tree was decorated and lit by the Volunteer Fire Department, but this year they didn't light it, nor did they inform anyone that they wouldn't so that the town could have made alternative plans. It's not that difficult a task.

I know the Fire Department is capable of such a simple job, since they raise thousands of dollars for their Truck or Treat Halloween event, highlighted by a fireworks display, which takes a lot of planning.

So this year Woodbridge has a massive fireworks display on Halloween lasting 30 minutes, but is not capable of lighting a Christmas tree which all residents and visitors can enjoy for the entire holiday season. That's truly embarrassing.

It is my hope that in the future, the town will see to it that our display once again celebrates the holiday season as it should.

Matthew T. Giglietti

Dear Editor,

The Amity Teen Center would like to thank the Friends of the Orange Library for a recent donation of books suitable for teens. We are in the process of establishing another book club this year.

We had a book club last year and it was a big success. Through this donation of books, we received several books of the same title. This will enable the teens who want to participate in the club to begin reading the book at the same time. They will be loaned out to the teens and returned after they have been read.

Also, through this donation, the Teen Center will have our own "library" where teens can browse through our books and borrow them as they like. We currently have a room with computers that have been donated, but we have always wanted to have a "library" of our own. Now, thanks to the Friends of the Orange Library, we are on our way to reaching this goal!

Jane Opper, Linda Cohen and Jennifer DiBlanda.

To the Editor,

Thanks to the generosity and support from the community, the holidays were made brighter for Woodbridge seniors and families who received food baskets and gifts. The Staff of the Human Services Department sincerely thanks the Woodbridge Rotary Club for hosting the annual holiday party for the seniors at the Woodbridge Senior Center.

We also sincerely thank the students and faculty of the Alternative High School, the Beecher Road School Social Action Committee, Amity Middle School-Bethany Campus PTO, Bethany Community School, Woodbridge Library employees, Woodbridge Child Day Care Center, Amity Teen Center, Woodbridge Moms, employees of Woodbridge Town Hall, Christ Episcopal Church, Girl Scout Troop 60164, One of a Kind Foundation, Amity High School SADD Group, New England Young at Heart, Coldwell Banker of Woodbridge, employees and partners of Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto, LLP, and Surreybrook

See "Letters" continued on Page 25



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.



WOODBRIDGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



BARNES & NOBLE LAUNCHES 7TH "MY FAVORITE TEACHER CONTEST"

Middle & High School Students Can Nominate Their Teachers for National, Regional and Local Awards

Barnes & Noble, Inc. (NYSE: BKS), the nation's largest retail bookseller and a leading retailer of content, digital media and educational products, announced the start of the 2017 "Barnes & Noble My Favorite Teacher Contest," which for the past seven years has provided middle and high school students the opportunity to tell their communities how much they appreciate their teachers.

Students can nominate their teacher by writing BARNES & NOBLE essays, poems or thankyou letters that My favorite share how their teacher has influenced their life and why they CONTEST appreciate and admire them. Participating schools collect the essays and submit them to their local Barnes & Noble store, including Barnes & Noble, 1375 Boston Post Road, Milford, CT, for consideration. Entries are judged on the compelling nature of the teacher's inspiring qualities, the sincerity of the student's appreciation and the quality of expression and writing.

The local winning teacher will be recognized in spring 2017 at an event held at Barnes & Noble in Milford, CT, where they will receive a special award acknowledging their achievement as well as additional recognition and praise from their community. The student who wrote the winning essay or poem will receive a certificate of recognition and will also be honored at the ceremony.

Teachers from grades 1 through 12 are eligible for nomination. Awards for winning teachers, schools and students include cash prizes, NOOK® devices and more. The contest is broken down into local and regional winners, from which the "Barnes & Noble National

Teacher of the Year" will be chosen. The National Winner and their school will split \$10,000 in cash [rizes and more.

Each regional winner will receive a \$500 Barnes & Noble Gift Card and a NOOK by Samsung device. From the pool of regional winners, Barnes & Noble will name one teacher the "Barnes & Noble National Teacher of

"Barnes & Noble National Teacher of the Year". The winning teacher will receive \$5,000 and the title of "Barnes & Noble Nation-

al Teacher of the Year".
The national winner will be recognized

at a special community celebration at their local Barnes &

Noble store, and the winning teacher's school will receive \$5,000. The student who writes

the national winning essay, poem or thank-you letter will win a \$500 Barnes & Noble Gift Card and a NOOK. Barnes & Noble has long supported teachers through Educator Appreciation Weeks, special discounts, personalized service, in-store events, bookfairs, store tours for classrooms, and, since 2011, through the My Favorite Teacher Contest.

The Barnes & Noble My Favorite Teacher Contest submission period begins January 4, 2017, and ends March 1, 2017. Students who want to participate must submit their essay or poem to Barnes & Noble, 1375 Boston Post Road, Milford CT 06460, by March 1. Only middle and high school students and active teachers employed in elementary, middle or high schools in the United States are eligible to win. More details on the contest rules, and photos and the winning essay from the 2016 Contest, can be found at www.bn.com/myfavoriteteacher.

DO YOU KNOW AN OUTSTANDING WOODBRIDGE STUDENT?

Woodbridge Youth Services, in collaboration with First Selectman Ellen Scalettar, is seeking nominations for the First Selectman's Youth Award. The annual award will be presented to a deserving young Woodbridge resident who has made a significant contribution to a Woodbridge community member, organization, or the Town itself. The

presentation will be made at the Human Services Department's Annual Volunteer Tea on Thursday, April 6, 2017. Call 203-389-3429 for more information or visit the Town website. Please submit nominations to Woodbridge Youth Services at 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT 06525, by Friday, March 3, 2017

BOARD SUPPORTS 4.7% INCREASE FOR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

By Bettina Thiel - Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

The Woodbridge Board of Education, at its December meeting, unanimously supported a proposed 4.7% spending increase for the 2017-18 school year over the current budget. The total budget as presented by School Supt. Robert Gilbert is for \$14,418,502, up from this year's \$13.8 million.

The increase reflects, in large part, contractual salary increases (2.6%) and rising outplacement costs, both traditional budget drivers. But the budget also absorbs an accounting shift, which moves the money for computer replacements at Beecher Road School from the capital and non-recurring

budget to the district's operating budget.

Other than that, the proposed budget is flat. It maintains services and does not add any teachers or other staff, in spite of projected enrollment increases, according to Supt. Gilbert. He pointed out that most classrooms will reach the upper limit of the board-set class-size guidelines, a few may even exceed it by one student, but he felt that it was within reasonable range. The guidelines suggest limiting class sizes to 17-19 students in the younger grades up to third grade; and 19-21 students for grades 4 to 6. Should the enrollment in Woodbridge continue to increase as predicted, however, the district will have to add classrooms in future years. Currently, there are 776 students enrolled in the elementary school; for 2017-18, that number is expected to jump to 811 and from there to 831.

Gilbert held onto the budget "mantra" of his predecessor, Dr. Guy Stella, to "improve the quality of education that supports the mission, vision and goals" of the board and to develop a budget that "respects the taxpayer".

As for the \$100,000 technology request — which is based on a 5-year replacement plan — it is not any more than in past years. However, the town asked the school district to show it in their operating budget, as it cannot be considered a one-time expenditure. It includes \$57,000 for student iPads and printer replacements; \$30,000 for faculty laptop and iPad replacements and \$10,000 for document cameras and projector replacements and \$3,000 for office computers.

Outplacement costs have been rising in the past 10 years or so, both at the state and at the national level, Gilbert said, calling it "a growing trend". If, despite the district's best effort to meet the needs of all students, it cannot provide for the education of a student, that student is placed in specialized schools where their needs can be met. Reasons can be behavioral, academic, or social-emotional, or a mix of those issues. In Woodbridge, there are a handful of such outplacements. The cost is projected to jump from \$762,000 to \$873,000, and reflects both a slight increase in kids serviced and a cost increase from the providers.

Salaries and benefits make up about half of the budget increase (43%), but constitute 77% of the total

trict tuition causes about a third of the increase (31%), but makes up only 4.2% of the budget; the computers represent 15% of the increase, but are part of the furniture and equipment line item,

budget. Out-of dis-

which makes up less than 1% of the total budget. The rest of the increases are caused by utility increases, professional services, and miscellaneous others.

Board of Education members congratulated the superintendent on his budget presentation. Some wondered if the district should plan for an additional classroom given projected enrollment increases. In the end the board voted unanimously to keep current staffing, as the superintendent felt confident it would work out for the upcoming year.

As for the total increase as presented, there are obvious reasons and a rationale for that, said board member Nancy Maasbach. Board Chairman Margaret Hamilton pointed to the "Return on investment," which lists the district's achievements that were funded by the taxpayers.

Those include recent state-wide assessment results, such as the science Connecticut Mastery Test, where the local fifth graders placed first in the state. Beecher Road School students also placed in the top 10% in language arts and math assessments. The use of technology is an important 21st century learning tool and teaches students to use it responsibly and creatively. Gilbert also praised the music and art programs at the school. Overall, many of the school's programs have attracted attention, both from within the state and the nation. For example, the New Hampshire State Department of Education selected the local Multi Age Program as one of two sites in the nation for further study and professional learning.





AMITY MIDDLE SCHOOL - BETHANY CAMPUS



First Marking Period Honor Roll

First Honors 7th Grade

Hanin Anwer Joshua Baitch Abigail Ball Emma Beloin McAllister Burke Christina Burland Paul Canalori Samantha Cantalupo Kelly Chow Sandra Correya Ariana Cortes Michael Coyne LeNing Cui Gabriella Dellacroce Kyle Derienzo Taylor Dillon Grace Ding Ashlev Dorais Sean Doron Robert Farbman Adam Florkiewicz Johnathan Fortin Olivia Frankiewicz Maxine Franklin Natalie Furst Zachary Garfinkle Andrew Gilbride Eva Gordon Ava Gross Nicole Grosso Grace Ha Madeleine Key Jada Kranz Charlotte Lindskog Emma Lindskog Julia Luciani Alvin Luo Sofia Magliocco Isabella Mahabir Audrey Marin Ellina Medovnikov Felicia Mendez Dan Modiano Natalie Modiano Camila Mowerman Madeline Nugent Sage Paglia Parker Paragas Mia Pedigo Michael Popel Anastasia Prentiss Kaitlyn Pryor Max Raffin Abigail Ressler Carsyn Rizzuti Amanda Robinson Juan Rodriguez Emma Schaffer Karli Scianna Julia Snow Dylan Speranzini Jonathan Speranzini Jeffrey Tafuto Mayee Walsh Lauren Wasikowski Adithi Wijesekera Gabrielle Wincherhern Anna Youtz

Eleanor Youtz

First Honors 8th Grade

Eesha Acharya

Rhian Alsgaard

Tiana Amendola

Oren Aviad

Elisabeth Barbieri

Daelyn boscarino

Caroline Cadelina

Jack Cadelina

Alanna Carlson

Laci Carpenos

Jillian Ciccarelli

Sophie Cohen Sydney Cohen Allyson Cooper Antonia D'hue Faith Desarbo Magan Ding Mcallister Dixon Aliya Dworkin Jonathan Fischman Joshua Foote Christian Giordano Ian Glassman Alicia Gopal Evan Gorelick Samuel Green Madison Grieger Christopher Hill Kathleen Inclima Benjamin Iwaszkiewicz Lily Johnson Sage Johnson Simon Khairallah Mahabat Khanji Kabir Khwaja Andrew Kim Lily Koorejian Brittany Kupcho Savannah Kusnitz Esel Lee Chloe Lenski Arielle Likier Jenny Liu William Livesay Kevin Lu Cameron Luciano Margaret Luo Aamnah Malik Abigail Maoz Caleb Marcin Benjamin Martin Victoria Mcnelis Arnav Paliwal Rose Parady Isabella Pfannenbecker Austin Rowland Julia Ryack Abigail Sauberman Peter Savelyev Peter Scully Sara Shanbrom Jacob silbert Hanna Skiba Allyson Skolnick Matthew Sturtevant Allison Su Grace Swain Leah Tobin Julia Turski Gabriella Urbano Natasha Vonbeeden Tam Vu Jonathan Wang Natalie Wang Michelle Ward Cole WissinkJennifer Xu Philip Yang Claire Yuan Weiss Yuan Jenna Zamkov Hope Zhang Mason Zhang

Wendy Zhang

Second Honors 7th Grade

Alex Anderson

Hannah Benanto Abigail Cerritelli Anthony Ciavarella Reuben Clemens Bronwyn Couch Connor Hallstrom Julia Hogan Victoria Hoyos Aidan Keylock Jiahao Li Jingju Martin Nikolas Matejek Laurel Manus James Nichol William O'Brien Joseph Przybyloski Emma Ressler **Emily Sax** Konstantinos Spanolios John Stiber Aiden Tischer

Second Honors 8th Grade

Jason Benard Sarah Bernier Daniel Carlson John Emanuel Juan Garcia Melanie Iwaniw Ryan Kennedy Olivea Kosh Nicholas Lanese Rachel Levine Dylan Raver Justin Roche **Emily Sexton** Jack Vincent Emma Waldron Vivian Wincherhern Alexander Zavatkay Juliette Zito Zachary Zunski

Citizenship Recognition - 7th Grade

Emma Beloin Robert Farbman Carsyn rizzuti Nicolette Bucci Wincy Lin Amanda Robinson Samantha Cantalupo Isabella Mahabir Mayee Walsh Lauren Wasikowski Sandra Correya Jingju Martin Taylor Dillon Camila Mowerman Alice Youtz Ashley Dorais Madeline Nugent Anna Youtz

Citizenship Recognition - 8th Grade

Samuel Green Eesah Acharya Peter Savelyev Madison Grieger Rhian Alsgaard Peter Scully Oren Aviad Benjamin Iwaskiewicz Jacob Silbert Caroline Cadelina Sage Johnson Hanna Skiba Megan Ding Andrew Kim Allison Su Macallister Dixon William Livesay Grace Swain Kevin Lu Aliya Dworkin Gabriella Urbano Aamnah Malik Natasha Vonbeeden Jonathan Fischman Benjamin Martin Claire Yuan Chantal Gibson Rose Parady Weiss Yuan Ian Glassman Julia Ryack Wendy Zhang Alicia Gopal



Letters From Our Customers

Please extend our thanks to your serviceman - who made his way up our unplowed street after the Blizzard, to fix our furnace. We really appreciated his coming in such conditions.

We have been contacted by several other oil companies who offered everything from free furnace checks to lower prices. I WOULDN'T DREAM OF SWITCHING ... although I am usually ready to save ##, it's because you made such a good impression on me twice. The first time you came to my home you were pleasant, unrushed, friendly, and trustworthy. The second time, you recongzed me and remembered me by name at the Shell station. A small detail? Not by my standards.

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Dear Pete,

I came home from vacation Saturday night about II o'clock & the first thing I did was turn up the heat. Guess what? No heat — the furnace was off & a big pool of water surrounded it. I immediately called Tamaro Oil and talked to Dave. He was here to rescue me in 20 MINUTES! No one can get better service than that and I just want to say "Thank You" for being there for me when I really needed you.

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FROM THE FIRST SELECTMAN'S DESK

By Ellen Scalettar



Very Happy New Year to you and your families! As we look back on 2016, I am pleased to report that our Town maintained its solid financial footing and its commitment to high quality services. I want to celebrate with you the very productive year this was for us in Woodbridge and thank the dedicated Town employees and volunteers who made it all happen.

First and foremost, we kept close watch on Town spending and passed a budget in a difficult situation including a significant increase in spending outside of our control (our share of the Amity school budget). Despite all that, we kept tax increases to a minimum and created a budget that reflected the values and priorities of our Town: providing award-winning education, assuring public safety and maintaining and investing in the Town's infrastructure.

The outstanding professionalism of our Finance Department and Board of Finance was once again recognized with a Aaa bond rating, a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

At Beecher Road School, we completed the energy-focused renovations and saw a smooth transition to a new superintendent, Bob Gilbert.

There was another major staffing change: this spring we welcomed Frank Cappiello to serve as our new Chief of Police.

We continued to promote clean energy and going green. The fuel cell that will power the Town center microgrid has been installed at Amity Regional High School and construction of the microgrid (to be powered by the fuel cell) is to begin this spring. Three of our municipal buildings earned the "Energy Star" certification; the Woodbridge Energy Challenge earned us free solar panels that will be installed on the Library roof; and we continued to pursue a solar installation on the capped landfill.

We also maintained our commitment to strengthen communication between

Town Hall and Town residents and to promote our sense of community. This included: the Recreation Department's summer concerts, the Farmers' Market, the Library's partnership with Long Wharf Theatre; the One Book/One Town community read; the Conservation Commission's monthly guided hikes; an expanded Woodbridge Day; and a very popular local version of the Antiques Roadshow.

We continue to grow our email newsletter (sign up at tinyurl.com/WoodbridgeEnews) to let you know about community news and events and we regularly post on Facebook and on our new Town website www.woodbridgect.org, which now includes a community events calendar.

Economic development continues to be an important priority. We hosted Business After Hours networking opportunities; invited local businesses to speak at the Economic Development Commission's monthly televised meetings; held the second annual Restaurant Week; designated a committee to create a signage plan to guide visitors around the Town's business district; and continued First Selectman's visits to promote local businesses.

We made important decisions about the future of the Country Club of Woodbridge property. The Board of Selectmen did not have sufficient support to send the Toll Brothers proposal (to purchase approximately 1/3 of the property for \$5M and build 80 homes) to the residents for a vote. The more popular proposal to purchase the entire property for \$3.5M and create a new golf course in conjunction with the Yale Golf Course was rejected by Yale. At this time, the Board of Selectmen is exploring how to convert the property to open space with enormous potential as a Town park that over time could include walking and biking trails, an ice skating rink, wildflower gardens

Thank you to everyone who made 2016 a great year for Woodbridge. In 2017, working together, we can do even more!

FROM ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW

By Selectman Maria Cruz Kayne



Woodbridge is unique as the only town in Connecticut that borders a major city but feels like a rural community. Our open space is a precious, finite resource that supports the value of our properties. It is central to the quality of life in our Town. I believe that our open space must be preserved and protected, not frittered away to satisfy short term finances. Unfortunately the Board of Selectmen is currently contemplating selling off an important part of our Greenway trail system that was previously purchased with Open Space funds.

We Woodbridge residents are fortunate to have a remarkable network of hiking trails throughout Town. Many of these trails are part of the Woodbridge Greenway system, a continuous network of trails maintained by the Woodbridge Land Trust that encircles the entire Town. The Greenway has been built over many years through the hard work and dedication of prior Town administrations, and of volunteers who have served on the town's Conservation Commission and on the boards of the town's Land Trusts.

In 1999, the Town purchased a small (six acre) parcel at 31 Enoch Drive, a private road off Spring Valley Road. This parcel was purchased with Open Space funds, for the important purpose of connecting the Woodbridge Greenway to the vast trail system maintained by the Regional Water Authority on the east side of Amity Road, stretching up through Bethany to Lake Chamberlain. Before the purchase of 31 Enoch, the Greenway trail used a narrow, steep easement on a natural gas line. The problem with this easement, in addition to its being so steep as to be virtually impassable, was that it passed right through the backyard of a Woodbridge residence, very close to the house. This situation was uncomfortable both for the residents and for the hikers using the trail. The problem was solved in 1999 by moving the trail off the gas line easement and onto the adjoining 31 Enoch parcel.

When the Town purchased 31 Enoch, the Town became a member of a neighborhood association, since Enoch Drive is a private road. Therefore, like each of the neighbors in the association, the Town has been obligated to pay a share of the maintenance costs of the road each year. Two years ago, when the road needed re-paving, the Scalettar administration balked at paying its share of the cost and proposed selling the land instead.

When the sale was proposed in October 2014, Town Attorney Gerald Weiner was under the mistaken impression that the Greenway trail actually did not use the 31 Enoch parcel. He said at the time he believed the trail still used the original gas line easement. The trail has since been re-blazed by Town Trailmaster Mike Walter and carefully mapped to reflect the reality that the trail uses 31 Enoch extensively.

Notwithstanding this new information about the actual trail location, the Scalettar administration brought the proposed sale of this land to the Board of Selectmen last week. I oppose the sale of this land. It provides an important link in our continuous system of hiking trails, a system that is a tangible asset of our Town. Only by owning the land can the town assure complete control of this crucial portion of the trail into the future. Even if a sale required an easement allowing trail use, there would be increased potential for conflict with future owners of the land. Further, I am concerned about the sale of any property that was purchased with dedicated Open Space funds. A sale would be a breach of trust, and would set a dangerous precedent. The potential gain to the town - a tiny amount of money - is insignificant compared to what we risk losing by selling this land.

SHUIDINHINIMAS

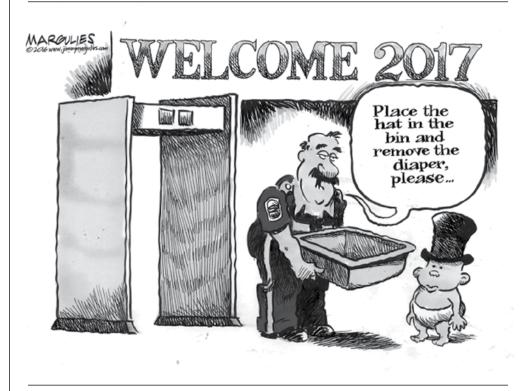
Dean's List

Local Students Named To The Dean's List At The University Of New Haven

West Haven, CT - The following Woodbridge students were named to the Dean's List at the University of New Haven for the Fall 2016 semester: Margaret Anne Blum, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences; Margaret Anne Blum, Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice, Lee College of CJ & Forensics; Andrew Louis Colabella, Non-Degree, Non-Degree, No College Designated; Mark A. Dutka, Associate in Science, Criminal Justice, Lee College of

CJ & Forensics; Mark A. Dutka, Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice, Lee College of CJ & Forensics; Cara Anne Einbinder, Non-Degree, Non-Degree, No College Designated; and Justin Michael Parker, Bachelor of Science, Business Management, College of Business.

The dean's list honors undergraduate students who demonstrate excellence in their academic performance. Full-time undergraduate students who earn a grade point average (G.P.A.) of 3.50 or better in any one semester will be appointed to the dean's list for that semester.



www.WoodbridgeTownNews.com



SOCIAL MEDIA RESOLUTIONS

The Internet and social media have revolutionized the way people spend their time. In the not-so-distant past, the sharing of information took considerable time. But now the instant a thought pops into a person's head, it can immediately be broadcast and shared with the world.

According to the marketing and media resource Brandwatch, there were 2.3 billion active social media users as of 2015, and those users averaged 5.54 social media accounts apiece. A new social user is added every 12 seconds. Facebook says it adds 500,000 new users every day and six new profiles every second. In addition, 500 million people visit Twitter each month.

Social media and Internet usage has become pervasive, so much so that some people have become addicted to it. Cornell Information Science has even published research that looked at the difficulty some people have in quitting Facebook and other social networks. Professed "social media addicts" have described the need for social media as being as strong as a cigarette craving. Some people use social media at the expense of sleep, work and family. But even those who can control their social media habits may want to cut back on their usage, and the following are a handful of ways to do just that.

Start cleaning out friend and follow lists. It won't be social suicide if you begin streamlining your social media feeds. Go through friend lists or who you are following and cut out the people with whom you do not regularly converse. Keep it to only the people with whom

you care to remain updated.

Think before you "tweet," "post" or "snap." Spend a few minutes really considering if the information you plan to share is worth sharing. Chances are you can reserve social media use for a more important purpose than sharing another photo of your lunch. And although everyone is entitled to his or her opinions, before commenting consider if a comment has the potential to ignite an argument or lead to a lengthy discussion you don't have the time or the desire to get involved with.

Schedule social media time. Instead of routinely checking your phone or tablet for social media updates, set up a time once or twice per day to check in. This way you control how and when you use the information. Similarly, turn off notifications so that you will not be tempted to look at your mobile device each time a tone is sounded.

Keep some things a mystery. Do not share locations or provide updates on vacations or travel plans in real time. This can be a security issue. Always exercise caution regarding the information you share. Making use of the privacy settings available to you may help you achieve your goal of reducing time spent on social media.

Live in the moment. Put down phones and experience situations as they happen, rather than through a screen.

Cutting down on social media usage or using platforms more intelligently are common resolutions. A little diligence can make it possible to break the cycle of constant use.



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MICHAEL J. PAOLINI, CPA



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Wine Talk

With Ray Spaziani



SPANISH REDS

On cold Winter nights big red wines are always a good idea. They match quite well with hearty meat and pasta dishes. Rather than the usual suspects, how about trying some of the wonderful big reds from Spain? Spain is an ancient wine-producing country that vies with France and Italy as the number-one wine producer in the world. Spain's wine heritage is at least three thousand years old; vineyards in today's Sherry region were planted by the Phoenicians around 1,100 BC. Wines from vines grown along the sunny Mediterranean coast and the cooler Atlantic coast were traded and consumed by the Romans. But the arrival of the teetotaler Islamic Moors in 711 AD put an end to Spanish wine commerce until the Moors' final defeat in 1492. With the Iberian Peninsula freed from Islamic rule, wine returned with a vengeance.

But with the limited exception of Sherry, only Rioja enjoyed much international awareness until the late twentieth century. Wealthy producers such as the Marqués de Riscal, Marqués de Murrieta and Vega Sicilia had the wherewithal to produce wines that brought international attention, but Spain mostly operated under the radar, ruled as it was by a military dictatorship until the mid - 1970s. Until the end of the Franco regime, winemaking was sometimes typical of a pre-modern age. Grapes might be picked unripe, and red and white grapes could be thrown together into the fermenting pit. Barrels, stainless steel and even sterile wineries were innovations only sparingly used. Leading minds like Miguel Torres pushed the industry forward, but to turn the ship in another direction altogether required time and the efforts of many.

But since the reemergence of democracy, Spain has grabbed a larger and larger share of the international spotlight. Competing on the world stage has necessitated embracing the most sophisticated techniques both in the vineyards and the wineries, but certain iconoclasts haven't abandoned the old ways altogether. Indeed, some still produce traditional; both modernists and traditionalists are making great wines.

There are 7 major types of red wines produced in Spain. They are Young Tempranillo, Aged Tempranillo, Granacha, High End Granacha, Monastrell, Mencia, Bobal. Young Tempranillo has tasting notes of sour cherry, plum, spicy black pepper and bay leaf. This is a juicy and spicy style of Tempranillo that typically receives less than a year of aging. The wines

generally cost \$10-15.

Aged Tempranillo costs \$25-\$35 per bottle and it has tasting notes of Cherry, Dried Fog, Vanilla and Cedar. Garnacha is known as Grenache in France, but the grape originated in Spain. This fresh and juicy style of Garnacha is a bouquet of sweet red fruit and a smooth iced tea-like finish. You'll find this style of Garnacha in Northern Spain close to the border of France in the encompassing regions of Argon and Navarra. Costs run \$10-\$15 per bottle.

High end Garnachas are bold and complex with high Tannin and dark raspberry flavors. These wines are aged longer and typically come from older vineyards. You can find single varietal Garnacha around Madrid, where old vines in high elevation vineyards produce concentrated wines. In Spain, blended Granacha is matched with Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cariñena and delivers bolder styles with blackberry and licorice. \$25-35 per bottle. Monastrellis the same wine as Movadre in France, but it's actually a wine of Spanish origin. Wines are intensely bold with high tannin, black fruit and black pepper flavors. This wine is primarily produced in central Spain from the Mediterranean coast in Valencia to inland to La Mancha on the central plateau. Most wines are produced in affordable style and offer excellent value. The more aged in oak, the more mocha, chocolate and vanilla notes the wine will have.

Mencía (pronounced Men-THEE-ah) is a unique medium bodied wine that grows in Spain and Portugal. Wine collectors have likened Mencía to Grand Cru Burgundy because of its layers of red fruit, floral aromas and moderate mouth-drying tannins. The wines are made in Northwest Spain and costs range \$20-\$30.

A relatively unknown grape to the US is Bobal. It is produced in central Spain where it's prized for its deep opaque purple color, high tannins and black fruit flavor. So one of these cold winter nights try some hearty big Spanish Red Wines. You will be glad you did! Have a great New Year!

Ray Spaziani is the Chapter Director of the New Haven Chapter of the American Wine Society. He teaches wine appreciation classes at Gateway comunity College, and the Milford Board of Education as well as Maltose wine and beer making suppliers, and is a member of the International Tasting Panel of Amenti Del Vino and Wine Maker Magazine. He is an award winning home wine maker. Email Ray with your wine questions and wine events at realestatepro1000@gmail.com.



WOODBRID CHE LIBRAIRY

Adult Events

Adult Winter Reading Program

Now through February 24

Challenge yourself to read more or try a different genre! Share what you've read with us and enter to win a prize each week! Stop by the Information Desk for details and to sign up. Anyone 18 years or over is welcome to participate.

Film Screening: The Girl on the Train

Thursday, January 19 @ 7 PM

A recent divorcée fantasizes about a couple whose house she passes each day on her commuter train ride. Soon, she becomes entangled in a mystery involving not only the couple, but her former husband and his new family. This psychological thriller was adapted from the 2015 best-selling novel by Paula Hawkins. Rated R | Drama, Mystery, Thriller | 112 min. No registration required.

Banish the Winter Gloom & Brighten Your Home: A Floral Arrangement Workshop with Donna Rapino of Diva Fiore

Tuesday, January 24 @ 6:30 PM

Donna Rapino's background stems from being an artist and a gardener. She has also studied floral design in London with Paula Pryke, one of the world's renowned floral designers. Her ambition behind her workshops is to educate about the joy, care, and handling for flowers. Space and supplies limited! Please bring your own container to this workshop, along with a good pair of scissors, knife, or small pruners. There is a \$15 materials fee (cash) due to the instructor at this class. You will leave the workshop with a completed floral arrangement!

Drop-in Tech Help

Wednesday, January 25 @ 2:45pm

Do you have a question about your laptop, smartphone or other device? Let our Teen Tech Team help! They will be available the fourth Wednesday of every month to help you troubleshoot technology.

Film Screening: The Light Between Oceans

Thursday, January 26 @ 7 PM

An Australian World War I veteran takes a job as a lighthouse keeper on an isolated island. He meets his future wife at the nearest coastal town, and the two begin their new life alone at the lighthouse. Once settled, a lifeboat washes ashore with a newborn inside, and the couple raise the infant as their own. Rated PG-13 | Drama, Romance | 132 min. No registration required.

Connecticut Made: Homegrown Products by Local Craftsmen, Artisans, and Purveyors with author Cynthia Parzych

Wednesday, February 1 @ 7 PM

Join us for a presentation of all things made in Connecticut—and all places you can shop and/or tour! Cynthia Parzych has written a unique guidebook and local resource full of hundreds of things to find and buy, crafts to discover, factories to explore, and history to uncover. Together, these homegrown establishments help make up the identity of the Nutmeg State and are part of the larger fabric of what is distinctively New England. Books will be available for signing.

Film Screening: Sully

Thursday, February 2 @ 7 PM

A thrilling portrait of heroic airline pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, re-enacting his incredible, successful emergency landing of an Airbus A320 full of passengers on the Hudson River. Rated PG-13 | Biography, Drama | 96 min. No registration required.

Film Screening: The Accountant

Thursday, February 9 @ 7 PM

Christian Wolff is a math savant with more affinity for numbers than people. Behind the cover of a small-town CPA office, he works as a freelance accountant for some of the world's most dangerous criminal organizations. With the Treasury Department's Crime Enforcement Division, run by Ray King, starting to close in, Christian takes on a legitimate client: a state-of-the-art robotics company where an accounting clerk has discovered a discrepancy involving millions of dollars. But as Christian uncooks the books and gets closer to the truth, it is the body count that starts to rise. Rated R | Action, Crime, Drama | 128 min. No registration required.

Film Screening: The Magnificent Seven

Thursday, February 16 @ 7 PM

With the town of Rose Creek under the deadly control of industrialist Bartholomew Bogue, the desperate townspeople employ protection from seven outlaws, bounty hunters, gamblers and hired guns. As they prepare the town for the violent showdown that they know is coming, these seven mercenaries find themselves fighting for more than money. Rated PG-13 | Action, Adventure, Western | 133 min. No registration required.

Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame Presents Talks on the Road: Celebrating 300 Years of Connecticut's Remarkable Women

Wednesday, February 22 @ 7 PM

An interactive multi-media program where you will learn about some of our state's most remarkable women! Be inspired as you learn about well-known figures like Ella Grasso, Katharine Hepburn and Marian Anderson and lesser known heroines like Maria Sanchez, Barbara McClintock and Hannah Watson. This presentation will introduce you to the Hall, its mission and programs, and give you a panoramic view of some of its 109 Inductees from across all fields of endeavor, from politics and sports to the arts and sciences.

Film Screening: War Dogs

Thursday, February 23 @ 7 PM $\,$

War Dogs follows two friends in their early 20s living in Miami Beach during the Iraq War who exploit a little-known government initiative that allows small businesses to bid on U.S. Military contracts. Starting small, they begin raking in big money and are living the high life. But the pair gets in over their heads when they land a \$300 million deal to arm the Afghan Military—a deal that puts them in business with some very shady people, not the least of which turns out to be the U.S. Government. Rated R | Comedy, Crime, Drama | 116 min. No registration required.

Children and Teen Events

Crazy 8's Math Club: Got Rhythm

Saturday, January 14 @ 1pm

Discover the math in music by making your own music with wacky instruments. Grades K-2. Space is limited to 12 participants. Register online.

Series Book Club: Secrets of the Droon (Grades 2-4)

Thursday, January 19 @ 6:30 pm

Come sample the magic at our

monthly book club. No need to have read the books, we'll have some available to check out at the program. Join the fun with crafts, games, and snacks! Space is limited to 12 participants. Register online.

ACT Practice Tests

ACT Practice Test – Saturday, January 21 from 10:30am -2:30pm

The Woodbridge Town Library is partnering with Princeton Review to offer free full-length practice tests for the ACT® and SAT® for area high school students. How will you score? Find out by taking a full-length practice test given under the same testing conditions as the actual exams. You'll learn about the endurance and skill needed, and you'll get a personalized score report that shows your strengths and weaknesses. Students will receive detailed feedback from Princeton Review within 3 weeks. Seating is limited. Please register online at www. woodbridgetownlibrary.org.

Chinese New year Program

Saturday, January 28 @ 3pm for ages K and up

Join us for a Chinese New Year Program to commemorate the Year of the Rooster featuring a story, craft, and more. Please register online.

Teen Tech Help

Wednesday, January 25 from 2:45-3:45 @ the Woodbridge Town Library Meeting Room.

Teens fulfill your community service hours and help local patrons in the community troubleshoot their various means of technology including smartphones, tablets, laptops, and more. You must attend a 30 minute training session with one of our staff to participate. Contact Katherine Ward at kward@ woodbridgect.org to learn more.

Bubbleology

Saturday, February 4 @ 2pm grades K-5

Come learn about the science of bubbles. Investigate how to make bubbles, find out why they are round, and why they float! Please Register online, space is limited.

Save the Date: Valentine's Family and Adult Craft

Monday, February 13 @ 6:30pm

Save the date for an evening Valentine's craft for families and adults. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

"What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year." — VERN McLELLAN

LOCAL BUSINESS ROUNDUP

MEGGIE KE AFFILIATES WITH COLDWELL BANKER

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut and Westchester County, N.Y. is pleased to announce that Woodbridge resident Meggie Ke, formally from Calcagni Real Estate, has

affiliated with the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Woodbridge. As a sales associate, Ke will provide residential real estate services in Woodbridge as well as the surrounding communities in New Haven County.

Ke has extensive experience in residential real estate sales. She has been

a sales associate since 2000. "We are very pleased that Meggie has chosen to affiliate with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. With a solid understanding of the local real estate market and a focus on providing superior service, Meggie will continue to be successful," said Aileen DeFeo, Branch Vice President and Brokerage Manager of the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "I

look forward to working with Meggie to achieve and exceed her goals." "Joining a Company with great technology and Number 1 Market Share will best serve my clients" said Ke.

Meggie grew up in China and then relocated to New Zealand for 7 years, and then in 2008 to the United States. Meggie can be reached at Coldwell Banker at 203-589-7162 or Meggie.ke@cbmoves.com.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, a leading residential real estate brokerage company in Connecticut and

Westchester County, N.Y., operates approximately 51 offices with more than 2,200 affiliated sales associates serving the communities of Connecticut and Westchester County, N.Y. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is part of NRT LLC, the nation's largest residential real estate brokerage company. For more information, please visit ColdwellBankerHomes.com.



Maggie Ke



Stephanie and Mario Cabral of Progressions Salon and Wig Boutique present Judi Young, Senior Service Social Worker with the Town of Woodbridge, with socks collected from their Annual Sock Drive. The donations collected help provide warm socks for needy families in Woodbridge.



Amy Nix

AMY NIX JOINS LEVEY MILLER MARETZ

Levey Miller Maretz is pleased to welcome to our team Amy Nix, who recently joined the company as a property manager and commercial Realtor. Nix, a Bethany resident, previously worked in residential real estate in Denver, Colobefore relocating to Connecticut. In addition to her job at Levey Miller Maretz, she serves on the board of the Beginning

Over Foundation, which helps battered women and families.

Levey Miller Maretz is a full-service commercial real estate firm based in Woodbridge, Connecticut, that specializes in the sale and leasing of industrial, office, retail and investment properties, as well as property management. Visit www.lmmre.com.

BROOKSIDE DEVELOPMENT RECEIVES BEST GREEN AWARDS

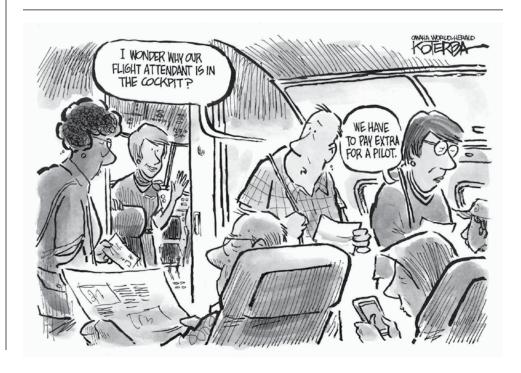
Brookside Development of Woodbridge has been recognized and selected to receive two 2016 Home Building Industry (HOBI) Awards from the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Connecticut (HBRA) for its development at Singer Village in Derby, Connecticut. The HBRA of Connecticut HOBI Awards are the most prestigious awards presented in Connecticut for excellence in design, construction, sales and marketing, and financing by members of the organization.

The awards are for: Best Green Energy-Efficient Single Family Community - Singer Village and Best Green Energy-Efficient Home - 5 Singer Village, Derby.

"We are honored and delighted to

have been selected for these awards. Our vision and commitment to energy efficiency for the future has been recognized by our peers, so this is a very special and meaningful acknowledgement," said Mark Nuzzolo and DJ Collins, principals of Brookside Development.

HBRA is a statewide professional trade organization representing home builders, remodelers, developers and many subcontractors, suppliers and professionals that provide services to this diverse industry. The organization has 800 member companies statewide. Awards were presented at the HBRACT HOBI Awards Banquet on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at the Aqua Turf Country Club in Southington, CT.



LOCAL BUSINESS ROUNDUP



DR. YANAGISAWA RECEIVES AWARD

Dr. Eiji Yanagisawa (right) was awarded the Practitioner Excellence Award from the Board of Governors, American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery(AAO-HNS) at the recent Annual Meeting in San Diego, California. The award recognizes the prototypical clinical Otolaryngologist one wishes to emulate, and highlights a practitioner who has demonstrated exemplary practice, civic leadership, charitable activity, and community education. Dr. Ken Yanagisawa (left), Secretary of the Board of Governors, AAO-HNS, participated in the presentation of this prestigious award.

Ken Yanagisawa, MD, FACS is the Managing Partner, Southern New

England Ear Nose Throat & Facial Plastic Surgery Group, LLP; Section Chief of Otolaryngology, Saint Raphael Campus, Yale New Haven Hospital; Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery, Yale University School of Medicine; Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery, Frank H Netter MD School of Medicine, Quinnipiac University; Secretary, Board of Governors, American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery/ Foundation; Executive Committee, Board of Governors, American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery/Foundation; Past President of Connecticut Ear Nose & Throat Society, and Past President of New England Otolaryngological Society.



PECAAG CELEBRATES 8 YEARS

Pinnacle Educational Center Admissions Advisors Group (PECAAG) has reached a milestone this January, celebrating 8 years of business. PECAAG is a subsidiary of BHA Education Consultants which was started in 1997 by Dr. Lowe.

The company has grown from the dreams of founder/CEO, Dr. Paul Lowe to a company headquartered in Woodbridge, Connecticut with additional offices in Greenwich, CT; Mid-town Manhattan; White Plains, NY; Fort Lee and Princeton, NJ, Boston, MA and Wilmington, DE. PEC/AAG also has international affiliate partners in London, Beijing, Delhi, Paris, Sao Paulo, Moscow, Kuala Lumpur and Lagos.

"It gives me great pride in joining clients and business partners in celebrating the company's 8th anniversary. We have come a long way since the business was started in 2009, in the midst of a recession, and are very excited about our future as the company continues to thrive," said Dr. Lowe when discussing

the celebration. "We chose Woodbridge as our headquarters because the developers/owners of the 245 Amity Office and Retail Complex had a positive vision and we had a positive vision which ultimately led to our success."

Dr. Lowe and his team of advisors specialize in providing exclusive concierge-type admissions advisory and educational services for families and students who are interested in applying to and experiencing the unique educational environment and communities of Ivy League and highly selective colleges and elite private day and boarding schools; BS/MD programs; graduate, law and business school programs. PE-CAAG's ability to provide personalized, concierge-type services and in-home consultations based on clients' specific needs and its admissions success rates have helped the company to continually grow over the past 8 years, and offers promise for future growth. Visit their website: www.pinnacleeducationalcenteradmissionsadvisorsgroup.com.



FIRST SELECTMAN GIVES MATHNASIUM A +

Mathnasium, a franchise math tutoring business, opened in Woodbridge's Selden Plaza about a year ago. First Selectman Ellen Scalettar recently visited the business.

Mathnasium tutors generally work with students from first through twelfth grade. In Woodbridge, because of the owner's background, they also work with college students.

Owner Y. Mohie-Eldin is a retired professor, having most recently taught computer science at Southern Connecticut State University. He previously taught at M.I.T. and Tufts and is currently an adjunct at Quinnipiac University and the University of New Haven.

"How did you decide to open this business?" asked First Selectman Scalettar. "When I retired I knew I had to keep teaching," he said adding, "I'm not a business person". He heard about the Mathnasium business model and went to Los Angeles to meet the founder and learn more. Many of the techniques, theories and plans Mathnasium employs "make sense to anyone's who taught and they are things I've been thinking about for years".

Scalettar also asked about the process for new students. When students first come to Mathnasium they take an assessment to help tutors understand what the student knows and what they need to learn. Then, students receive

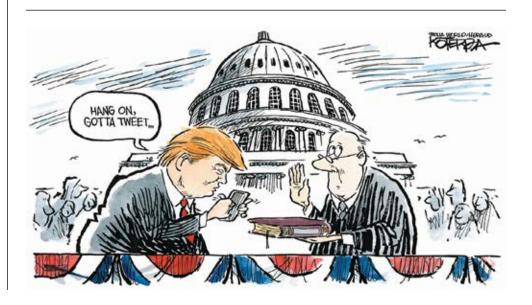
a customized learning plan to tackle the current math topics they are struggling with and help to shore up any missing foundational skills and knowledge. "If you just focus on the new task but neglect the gap it will come back to haunt them," says Mohie-Eldin, explaining the two-pronged process.

Mathnasium isn't only for students who struggle with math; there are also opportunities to support and expand skills for students who already like and succeed at math.

Mathnasium's walls are red and white and decorated with cheery math-related stickers that resemble line drawings. There aren't any computers in sight – students are expected to work with pencil and paper and are coached on how to enhance their mental math capabilities.

In addition to tutoring, Mathnasium offers homework assistance and ACT and SAT test prep. Currently there are three instructors on staff with a fourth to join soon. Each instructor works with up to three students during a session, but within each session students receive individual attention. Usually, students will come in for a one-hour session, up to three times a week. "More than that and the student will get burnt out on math," Mohie-Eldin says.

To learn more about Mathnasium, visit mathnasium.com/NewHaven.







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'TIS THE SEASON

Forty-five students from grades 3 to 6 who participates in the Beecher Road school choir led by Mrs. Marroquin performed a variety of lively holiday songs at the Woodbridge Senior Center as part of their first community service outreach. They eagerly spread cheer as they sang songs in English, Spanish, Hebrew, and Ladino - a language derived from Spanish, preserved by the Jews who were exiled from Spain in the 15th century. Students performed a Santa song in the style of be-bop jazz and a slow, beautiful piece set to Robert Frost's famous poem, "Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening". The choir was especially honored to have Michale Thalberg (a former Beecher

music teacher) and Bob Gilbert (the new Superintendent) accompany the choir on the piano.

When the students in Mrs. Don, Mrs. Lavigne, Ms. Reizfeld, Mrs. Shepard and Mrs. Waldron's fourth grade at Beecher Road School heard the school chorus was performing at the senior center on December 6, 2016, they too wanted to do something special for the seniors. Each class chose a color background and then every student wrote a personal message and decorated a card to help the seniors celebrate the holidays represented during the month of December. All of the students learned how doing small random acts of kindness makes everyone feel happier.



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DINING WITH SUSAN

By Susan Noonan



SUSAN WILL BE BACK SOON!



PRIME 16 ROLLS OUT NEW BBQ & BRUNCH MENU

By Melissa Nicefaro

Known best for its offering of gourmet burgers and craft beers, Prime 16 has become a reliably popular spot in town since its opening in 2013. While the burgers, salads and appetizers on the existing menu continue to be well-enjoyed, the restaurant recently added a selection of barbequed meats to its menu. Ribs by the rack or half-rack, beef brisket, pulled pork and jalapeno cheddar sausage each come with a sweet Texas, tangy Carolina or smoky peak chipotle sauce. The meat, smoked over hickory wood, is cooked on-site at the restaurant.

"BBQ is something people are looking for now, and it seemed like a natural addition to our menu," explained co-owner Bob Potter. To him, a 'natural addition' has more than one meaning. Prime 16 uses only all natural meats raised by a family of farmers committed to sustainable and humane practices. There are no added hormones, no antibiotics and are fed all-vegetarian feeds. "Our burgers are a proprietary blend met with our purveyors. The special blend not only adds to the flavor profile, but also meets humane requirements."

Barbeque sides include jalapeno corn bread, macaroni and cheese, barbeque baked beans, coleslaw, fries and Cajun fries. "I think people will be surprised with how good our smoked meats are. We smoke them for 14 hours to give the best flavor of meat and smoke," said Potter.

Earlier this month, the restaurant began to offer brunch on Saturdays and Sundays from 10-2. The menu offers a variety of salads, small plates such as ahi tuna tacos, marinated beets or avocado toast, salads, breakfast sandwiches (of course, there is a brunch burger), and for the heartier appetites, baked French toast, sausage and grits, brisket hash and eggs or a traditional breakfast platter of two eggs, apple wood smoked bacon, home fries and multi-grain toast. In consistency with Prime 16's other menus, the focus is on satisfying and nutritional food for a good value. A brunch bacon, sausage or ham, egg and cheese sandwich with

a side of fries, home fries or a salad is \$6.95.

"For adults at brunch, we have mimosas with fresh-squeezed orange juice or Bloody Marys—cucumber infused, bacon infused or traditional—that are each made with 15 different natural ingredients. It's a great Saturday or Sunday wake-up!" says co-owner Jonathan Bara. Keeping the all-natural theme across the menu, the bar does not use powders or artificial syrups in drinks.

For happy hour, the bar offers discounted beers, wines and craft cocktails. Each Wednesday Prime 16 holds Trivia Night, and on weekends there is usually live music at the bar, which offers 30 different craft brews, many from local and regional breweries. Selections vary by the day, according to Bara. "We try to deal with as many local brewers as we can, whether they are local like New England Brewery or more regional," Bara said. Potter agreed, "Most of what we use across the menu is local. We have Foxon Park soda from East Haven, our rolls are from local bakers in New Haven and Branford."

The restaurant has a nice sized bar area that is a hot spot among many local adults, and Potter considers the Prime 16 a family-oriented restaurant, with something that is likely to appeal to anyone on the menu. The best-selling burgers are the Smoker (smoked gouda, smoked apple wood bacon, sautéed onions, sautéed crimini mushrooms, lettuce, tomato and garlic aioli); the Cowboy (cheddar, Canadian bacon, fried egg, lettuce and pico de gallo) and the Maui (pepper jack cheese, bacon, maui onion, grilled pineapple, lettuce and tropical mayo). Potter says the halfbacon stuffed burger is also among the best-sellers and he is confident that soon items on the barbeque menu will be added to that list as well.

Prime 16 has a private room to accommodate up to 32 people and accepts reservations for parties of six or more. The barbeque menu is available for catering with meats served by the pound.



DIFFERENT WAYS TO HELP RESOLUTIONS STICK THIS YEAR

In the heat of the New Year's Eve countdown, fueled by enthusiasm and possibly a few glasses of champagne, resolutions may roll off of the tongue. But come the morning of January 1, such resolutions may not hold the same appeal.

Between 40 and 45 percent of the American population will make a New Year's Resolution, according to polling by researchers at the University of Scranton. Research suggests that only about 8 percent of people stick with those resolutions and achieve their goals. The outlook is similar for Canadians, 31 percent of whom set New Year's resolutions. Among those that do, three-quarters will break them, according to a poll from Ipsos. A survey of online shoppers who visited the website FreeDeliveryLand. co.uk revealed that the average length of time a person can expect to pursue their New Year's resolution is around three and a half weeks, or 24 days.

Maintaining resolutions can be a resolution in and of itself. For those who want to push through the fail point this year — and stay strong in the face of tempting desserts and the craving to light up a cigarette — these suggestions may help resolutions stick.

Start small when picking resolutions. Rather than resolving to lose 50 pounds, start with a more manageable goal, such as losing 10 pounds. When you reach the goal, you will feel more confident and then you can up the ante.

Set a reasonable time frame. Be realistic when determining how long it will take to achieve your goal. Achieving a difficult goal can take time, so don't expect overnight success.

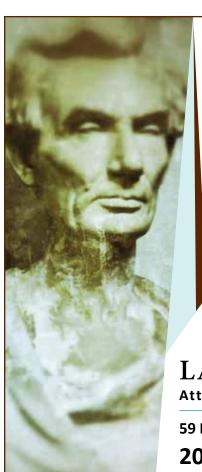
Practice self-control in all aspects of life. Some researchers believe that the self-control necessary to help people maintain their resolutions is like a muscle that needs to be exercised. When self-control is revved up across many different activities, it's easy to realize one particular resolution. For example, in an experiment at the University of Albany, researchers asked 122 smokers who were trying to quit to practice extra self-control for two weeks, either by avoiding sweets or by squeezing on a grip strengthener for as long as they could twice a day. Twenty-seven percent of those who were diligent about practicing their self-control exercise successfully kicked their cigarette habit in the following month, compared with just 12 percent of volunteers who didn't maximize self-control.

Get support or talk it out. Speaking about what you are going through and getting reassurance from other people can work wonders to strengthen resilience. When the desire to quit sneaks up, you can consult with a friend or consider a support group. For example, taking a group class at the gym may be a more effective motivational tool than working out solo.

Set up an accountability system. Institute a rewards system for your success. You might even use a monetary system as a double-bonus. When you stick to a resolution over a predetermined period, put a dollar in a jar. If you fall off course, take a dollar away. Find the incentive that works for you.

Resolutions are made and broken every year. Make this the year you realize your resolution.





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Sen. Heather Somers (R-Groton) and Sen. George Logan (R-Ansonia) take the oath of office in the Connecticut State Senate Chamber at the State Capitol on January 4 as Somers' daughter Grace (far left) looks on. Logan (www.SenatorLogan. com) represents Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Hamden, Naugatuck and Woodbridge. Logan can be reached at 800-842-1421 and at George.Logan@cga.ct.gov.

www.WoodbridgeTownNews.com



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Q: I am in such suspense from that

winter finale for "**Designated Survivor**"! Will it be back in January so we can see who was shot by the sniper?
-- Marian E., via email

A: You'll have to wait just a little longer to see who took the bullet. From the promotional trailer, we know that it wasn't Aaron Shore, Emily Rhodes or Mike Ritter. We'll find out who that is on the operating table come Wednesday, March 8, at 10/9c.

Who do you think got shot? I'll place \$5 on the victim being Alex Kirkman (played by **Natascha McElhone**), although I don't think she'll die -- it's just enough to hit home for President Tom Kirkman and get him really fired up to figure out the conspiracy behind the Capitol bombing.

I realize this isn't "24" and **Kiefer Sutherland** can't go all vigilante since he's the president of the United States, but I still would like to see more fire and outrage from his character, and this definitely would do the trick! And they have plenty of time to explore every possibility, since ABC granted the popular series a full-season, 22-episode pickup almost as soon as it came out of the gate.

Q: Is it true that there is going to be a **"Blade Runner"** sequel? If so, will **Harrison Ford** return? -- Lee T., Baton Rouge, Louisiana

A: Yes and yes. **Ridley Scott** has followed up his cult-hit 1982 science-fiction film with "**Blade Runner 2049**," which is due Oct. 6. The sequel stars **Ryan Gosling**, and yes, Harrison Ford, who is reprising his role of Rick Deckard. Fans are always hesitant when it comes to reboots and sequels, so the stars have



Natascha McElhone [ABC/Bob D'Amico]

to be aligned for something like this to work, and I think that because Ridley and Harrison are back, and Ryan has been added to the cast, that we'll have another blockbuster phenomenon on our hands this fall. I can't wait to see it!

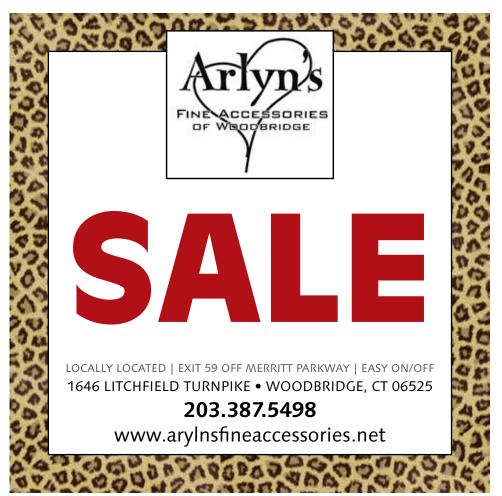
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Q: Can you tell me what **Joseph Fiennes** has been up to lately? I haven't seen him in anything in a while. -- Felicity F., via Facebook

A: You can catch **Ralph Fiennes**' baby brother in **"The Handmaid's Tale,"** which is coming to Hulu this April. The 10-episode series follows the **Margaret Atwood** book of the same name, centering on life in the dystopia of Gilead, a totalitarian society in what was formerly part of the United States.

Facing environmental disasters and a plunging birthrate, Gilead is ruled by a twisted fundamentalist regime that treats women as property of the state. As one of the few remaining fertile women, Offred (played by **Elisabeth Moss**), is a handmaid in household of Commander Fred Waterford (played by Joseph), one of the caste of women forced into sexual servitude as a last desperate attempt to repopulate a devastated world. The series also stars **Yvonne Strahovski**, **Samira Wiley** and **Max Minghella**.

Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; or e-mail her at letters@cindyelavsky.com.



A Feast for the Senses

An afternoon with Chef Chris



Wednesday, January 25 ● 3:00pm

COACHMAN SQUARE AT WOODBRIDGE 21 Bradley Road • Woodbridge

Relax and enjoy as our Johnson & Wales-trained chef teaches us all how to stick to our resolutions without sacrificing flavor. Watch as Chef Chris Raymond prepares his signature pan-seared scallops in a lemon beurre blanc sauce, and pick up pro tips you can use to impress family and friends at home.

Take a seat at the chef's table and see how our passion for making a difference is reflected in our dining.

RSVP to Jennifer DiBiase at 203-397-7544.

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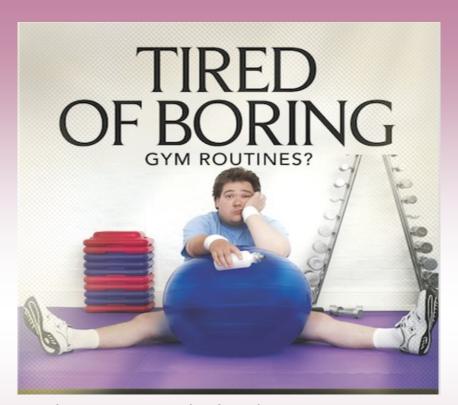
www.CoachmanSquareAtWoodbridge.com

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THE WOODBRIDGE TOWN NEWS ONLINE

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Join us at Fred Astaire Orange Dance Boot camp

Dance off those unwanted pounds by joining our "Biggest Looser Weight Loss" challenge.

(January 23rd-February 27th, 2017) 6 weeks to kick start your Metabolism Contest includes— Weigh in with measurements, Diet Sample, 6 Zumba classes (Mondays) 4 groups (Thursdays), and two private lessons for only \$200.00

WINNER OF THE CHALLENGE RECEIVES
3 PRIVATE LESSONS & 3 ZUMBA LESSONS



ARTS & LIPISURE

ANSONIA NATURE CENTER EVENTS

PET LOSS GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesdays, February 14, March 14, 1 pm

Losing a beloved animal can be tragic and a very emotional time for humans. There are numerous resources to turn to for the loss of a human loved one; however, there are limited options for when we lose an animal. Susan Wilson has created this support group for those who have lost an animal or have one in the process of moving on. While these sessions are free, donations are accepted.

KARATE CLUB

Tuesdays, January 10 – February 7, 5:00–5:45 pm

In this dynamic and energetic afterschool program at the Nature Center for children in grades K-6, students will engage in various martial arts techniques and activities while learning important skills such as discipline, focus, self-control, and confidence. They will have the opportunity to earn higher-ranking belts as their participation continues. TUITION: \$45 per 5-week session (cash or check payable to AMAA), which includes a Karate Club T-shirt and white belt. For more information, please call Chief Instructor Adam Rylski at (203) 671-6903 or (203) 931-1979, or the Ansonia Nature Center at (203) 736-1053.

YOGA FOR A HEALTHY MIND AND BODY

Thursdays, 6:30 pm

Our seasoned Hatha Yoga instructor and practitioner, Pam Mellitz, will lead us into a healthier lifestyle through stretching, breath control and gentle exercise. The full 1.5 hour classes require a mat or thick towel; dress for easy movement. Class is limited to 12 students. \$7 per class. Please call Pam to register at 203-888-4124.

21ST ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S LEGACY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Sunday, January 15, 12 noon–4 pm; Monday, January 16, 10 am–4 pm

Join the Nature Center at the Yale Peabody Museum, 170 Whitney Avenue, New Haven. The Peabody will once again offer world-class performances and educational activities for visitors of all ages in honor of Dr. King and his efforts to ensure justice for all people.

BACK TO BASICS: Natural Lip Balms

Saturday, January 21, 1:30 pm

Soothe your lips with your own homemade lip balm! Join Ranger Dawn and learn how to make lip balm with natural ingredients such as beeswax and essential oils in this easy and fun workshop. Take home a sample! MATERIALS FEE: \$10 per person. Please register in advance, as space is limited.

GRANDMOTHER TURTLE: An Iroquois Tale

Sunday, January 22, 2 pm

Storyteller Leslie Elias will tell us the Iroquois creation myth, a story of sky people and water animals and how the earth came to rest on Grandmother Turtle's back. During this workshop, children will create a mask and perform the creation myth for their families. MATERIALS FEE: \$10 per person.

FIELD TRIP: Behind the Scenes at the Peabody Museum

Tuesday, January 24, 3:30 – 4:30 pm (meet at the museum at 2:45 pm)

From Anthropology to Zoology, the 13 million objects and specimens in the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History's collections represent a worldclass record of the history of the Earth and its cultures. Less than one percent is on display in the public galleries! In this tour a guide will take you to visit two different curatorial divisions; you'll learn how the collections are stored and organized, and have the opportunity to glimpse some hidden treasures that rarely see the light of day! Tours are not open to children under 12. Register in advance; space is limited. \$15 per person. All participants will meet at the museum at 2:45 pm.

SPECIAL EDITION OF PLAYGROUND MOUSE

Saturday, January 28, 2 pm

A true story from the Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center, told by Ranger Amie Ziner. Come hear the adventure of Playground Mouse, who was found at our beloved old playground. This is the fun story of a local mouse growing, meeting some friends, and his release back into the great outdoors. We will create a Playground Mouse of your own to take home and care for. Donate \$10 and you will receive a copy of the adventures of Playground Mouse. All donations will help feed the animals at the Nature Center.

ONGOING PROGRAMS Sundays: Guided Hikes, 1 pm

Thursdays: Yoga for a Healthy Mind and Body, 6:30 pm—call Pam, 203-888-4124

 $Saturdays: Creature \ Features, 12\ noon$

THINGS TO COME (Spring 2017)

- Hidden Landscapes Celebration
- Family Organic Garden
- Nature Explorers
- Spring Junior Rangers

Please check our website for updates: www.ansonianaturecenter.org; find us on Facebook.



PUBLIC TALK BY PAUL R. FLEISCHMAN, M.D. – YALE UNIV.

Yale Chaplain's Office, Wellbeing Program at Yale and Yale Program for Medicine, Spirituality and Religion are pleased to host a public talk by Dr. Paul R. Fleischman, MD entitled "Stepping Stones of Meditation: A Path Through a World of Uncertainty". The talk will be on Monday, January 16, 2017, at 3:30pm (Martin Luther King Day). It is free and open to the public. The venue is Yale School of Medicine, Mary S. Harkness Auditorium, 333 Cedar Street, New Haven, CT 06510.

Dr. Fleischman trained at Yale University and practiced psychiatry for over thirty years, and was appointed a teacher of Vipassana by S.N. Goenka. In the recent past he has lectured at numerous universities in the US as well as in many countries around the world. In

this year's third annual lecture at Yale, he will discuss simple and practical methods leading to a good life. He is the author of "Wonder: When and Why the World Appears Radiant" and many other books. See www.pariyatti.org for a collection of his writings, many of which can be accessed for free.

The talk is co-sponsored by: Yale Chaplain's Office, Wellbeing Program at Yale, South Asian Studies Council, Hindu Students Council, South Asian Graduate and Professional Association, Yale Program for Medicine, Spirituality and Religion, and New Haven Meditation Sangha. For more details and to register, go to https://meditation-talk-yale.eventbrite.com.

In the event of cancellation due to inclement weather, the event will be held on Saturday, January 21st, at 4pm.





ARTS & LIFISURE



A BAROQUE JOURNEY THROUGH THE ENLIGHTENMENT CONCERT

The Orange Congregational Church will host its next "Music on the Green" Concert on Sunday, January 29, 2017 at 4:00 pm. Marina Fragoulis, violin, and Aymeric Dupre de la Tour, harpsichord, will perform a concert of early music. Works by Corelli, Scarlatti, Chevalier de Saint-George, J. S. Bach and his sons will be played on historic instruments.

It will be a beautiful afternoon of music fitting the Federal era Meeting House room.

Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door. The Church is located on Meeting House Lane at Orange Center Road on the town green. For more information, visit www.orangecongregationalchurch.org.

www.WoodbridgeTownNews.com

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TRAVEL TALK WITH LESLIE MARSH



Welcome to Travel Talk, the place to get all the answers to your travel questions. From cruises to land vacations, tours, all-inclusive resorts, let's talk travel! Wondering which cruise line is best for multi-generational families or what is the best time of the year to go on that bucket list African safari or how is travel documentation changing? It's easy to get your question answered, just send an email to leslie@getreadytocruise.com and watch for a response here!

I'm excited to be back in Connecticut after being away for about two and a half years. I love to travel and have been on close to 100 cruises with every cruise line from Carnival to Silversea to Viking and Uniworld, sailing to the Caribbean, Baltic, South America, Mediterranean, Alaska, Canada, the Danube and the Rhine Rivers. My other great passion is photography which goes hand in hand with travel!

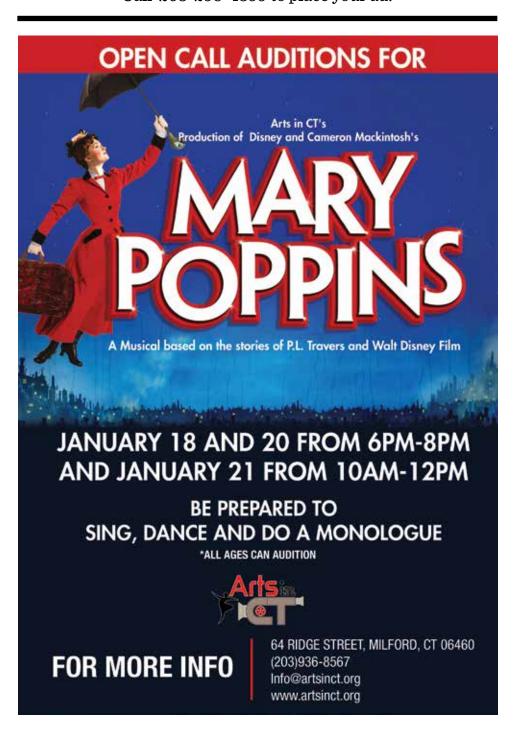
I've owned and operated Cruise Planners since 2003, but don't let the name fool you, Cruise Planners is a full-service travel agency specializing in all vacations from cruises to tours to all-inclusive resorts and more. We're top producers with every major cruise line and tour company and that along with our status as an American Express Travel Services Representative ensures that our clients always receive preferred pricing and amenities. In addition, my focus is always on providing the best value, service and expertise to my clients. I'm a Cruise Lines International Association Elite Cruise Counselor, Luxury Cruise Specialist and a certified specialist with most cruise lines and many tour companies.

I'm looking forward to sharing my experience and knowledge with you. Again, please submit your questions to me at leslie@getreadytocruise.com. I look forward to hearing from you!



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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS







Woodbridge Scouts complete several local service projects over the holidays. As 2016 holiday projects, Woodbridge scouts from Boy Scout Troop 63, Girl Scout Troop 60164 and Cub Scout Pack 902 collected over 2,000 lbs. of food for the Woodbridge and New Haven FISH food pantries, new toys for the Woodbridge Fire Department Toy Drive benefitting the Toy Closet at Yale, used toys for Bridgeport Toy Closet, and books for Halle's Hope. The girl scouts also visited Brookdale Woodbridge and led some caroling!



WOODBRIDGE RESIDENTS!

Have an Upcoming Birth Announcement,
Anniversary, Engagement or Wedding?
Send it to us with a photo and we will publish it FREE.
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Email: edit@woodbridgetownnews.com



Recently the Amity Teen Center received a check for \$7,709.28 from the UI, SCG AND CNG through the Neighborhood Assistance Act. This money can only be used for energy conservation at the Teen Center building. Pictured are Jane Opper, ATC President, and Eileen Lopez Cordone from the United Illuminating Company.



ROTARY INSTALLS NEW MEMBERS

The Woodbridge Rotary Club recently installed Dr. Neelima Kaushal, Dr. Charles "Chip "Dumais, and Colleen Murray as its newest members into the Club.

Dr. Charles Dumais is the Superintendent of Schools for the Amity Regional School District in Woodbridge. Dr. Dumais began his career in education nearly three decades ago as a science teacher in Higganum, CT. He has proudly taught physics and calculus to thousands of students, chaired a science department, served as an assistant principal in Westport and Principal of Newtown High School in Sandy Hook. He has earned bachelor's and master's degrees in physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a doctorate in educational leadership from Central Connecticut State University.

Mrs. Colleen Murray was named Bethany Superintendent of Schools in October 2015. Mrs. Murray came to Bethany after a 30-year career in elementary education, largely in Milford and Orange, and has taught at all elementary grade levels, from kindergarten through grade six. She has served as a Dean of Students in Monroe and as an Assistant Principal in Trumbull before taking on a Principal's role in Orange at Turkey Hill School and Mary L. Tracy School. These experiences laid the foundation for a

district-level leadership role as Director of Curriculum in Orange prior to becoming Superintendent of Schools.

Dr. Neelima Kaushal, a resident of Woodbridge is an Ob/Gyn Physician in private practice for 16 years. Dr. Kaushal was born in India and attended medical school in New Delhi, India. After working for a few years in India, she moved to England in 1989. She completed her Boards in Ob/Gyn and achieved the membership of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In 1993, she came to the United States and did her residency at Queens Hospital Center and Mount Sanai Hospital from 1993 to 1997. She worked for a large practice in Fairfield, and also with a 3 physician group practice prior to her own solo practice in 2000.

Rotary President Chris Lovejoy sponsored Dr. Neelima Kaushal and Rotarian Dr. Guy Stella was the sponsor of Dr. Dumais and Mrs. Murray.

The Woodbridge Rotary Club meets the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 7:30 a.m. for a breakfast meeting at the Country corner Diner, 756 Amity Road, Bethany and the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at 12:15 p.m. for a luncheon meeting at Woodbridge Social, 12 Selden Street, Woodbridge. For information on membership, contact Anna Dickerson at 203-710-0223.



SENIORCENTER

By Jeanette Glicksman

The Woodbridge Senior Center provides a program of health, wellness, nutrition, education & social activities for residents 60 years of age and older. The Center offers a luncheon program as well as a transportation program. Call us to find out more or sign up to receive our newsletter by mail or email. Please contact us at 203-389-3430 or jglicksman@woodbridgect.org.

We are pleased to announce the return of our chef Elaine Marcucio to our Nutrition Program. Elaine will be planning and executing a wonderful array of healthy, nutritious and delicious meals on Tuesdays & Fridays at 12:15p.m. Join us for entrees like Vegetable Lasagna on Tuesday, January 17th or Mediterranean Baked Tilapia on Tuesday, January 24th.

We will be hosting 'Coffee, Cookies & Conversation'—about Elder Care with CareMatch America—on January 17th, 12:30-1:30p.m. and on February 8th, 6-7p.m. This is a free service and not a referral agency and is designed to help in the search for the appropriate and individualized care for you or a family member.

Dr. Susann Verano, Geriatrician, will offer a wonderful program called 'Has Your Get Up and Go – Got Up and Left?' following our lunch program on Friday, January 20th.

On Monday, January 30th the Center will offer "Diabetes 101" from 6-7p.m. The class will be taught by Certified Diabetes Instructor Mary Swansiger,

BSN, MPH from Griffin Hospital's Community Outreach and Parish Nursing Department. This discussion will cover different types of Diabetes, symptoms, risk factors, treatment options as well as prevention. Please RSVP– 203-389-3430.

Pickleball begins January 27th at 2pm in the Center Gym. This will be an ongoing exercise program with a yearly fee of \$20.00. Join us for exercise and a load of fun!

Low Vision Specialist Michele Tarantino, OT, of Brookdale Home Health Services will be joining us for a free program in the Senior Center Cafeteria following lunch at 12:45p.m. Do you know the answers to these questions? What size print can you now read? Can you read the newspaper? Can you read your watch? Can you do household tasks? Can you read your bills? Can you care for your personal grooming needs such as shaving or applying make-up? Have you used low vision devises in the past such as magnifiers and do you still use them? Join us for an informative talk.

Sign up now for the February 23rd trip to the CT Flower Show. The cost is \$80.00 per person and includes transportation, lunch at the Chowder Pot in Hartford and entrance to the 36th Annual CT Flower Show.

For more information about any of our programs, please call the Senior Center at 203-389-3430. All programs are at the Woodbridge Senior Center unless otherwise noted.

FRIENDLY VISITOR PROGRAM

Seniors often experience limitations in their ability to get out and about as they age. Make a difference and become a friendly visitor to elderly members of our community. If you are interested

in volunteering, please contact Judi Young, Senior Service Social Worker with the Town of Woodbridge, at (203) 389-3429 for information about our training program.



DOLLAR\$ AND \$EN\$E

NEW YEAR, NEW RULES

By Roberta I. Nestor

What is in store for investors in 2017? If you take the markets, interest rates and politics out of the equation, it might seem like the same status quo. Contribution levels to retirement plans did not increase (same maximum limits as 2016); there are no real changes in our tax bracket structure; there are no changes in long term capital gains tax and there are no changes with taxation of estates. However, there is one change that still hasn't been talked about and it is one of the most unprecedented changes in the financial services industry. The new "Department of Labor (DOL) Fiduciary Rule" takes effect April 10th, 2017 and is poised to change the landscape for financial advisors, and investors who own retirement accounts.

This rule expands upon the already existing Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The 1,000 plus page regulation automatically elevates all financial professionals who work with retirement plans or provide advice on retirement planning to the level of a fiduciary. The new rules will impact most all advisors, however, it is expected that those advisors who are commission based, such as brokers and insurance agents, will see the most impact. ERISA was originally intended to protect employees from their employers when it came to the management of pensions and 401k plans. The change to ERISA is that it now includes all individual retirement accounts (IRAs) whether they are SEPs, Simples, ROTHs, inherited, spousal, traditional IRAs or rollover IRAs.

Fiduciary is a much higher level of accountability than the "suitability" standards that exist today for financial planners and insurance agents. Suitability rules were based on a client's risk and investment objectives. For example, selling a high risk investment to an 80 year old who only has social security income would not be considered suitable. Now, financial professionals are legally obligated to put their client's best interests' first rather than simply finding "suitable" investments. The new rule could therefore eliminate many commission structures that govern the industry today.

Advisors who wish to continue working on commission will need to

provide clients with a disclosure agreement, called a Best Interest Contract Exemption, in circumstances where a conflict of interest could exist (such as, the advisor receiving a higher commission or special bonus for selling a certain product). This is to guarantee that the advisor is working unconditionally in the best interest of the client. All compensation that is paid to the fiduciary must be clearly spelled out as well.

How will the Fiduciary Rule effect investors with retirement accounts? That might depend on what brokerage firm your advisor is affiliated with. For example, Merrill Lynch has stated that as of 04/10/2017 they will no longer allow their advisors to sell any commission based investments for retirement accounts. Whereas, LPL (an independent broker/dealer) announced that they will continue to offer commission based investments for retirement funds and will utilize the "Best Interest Contract Exemption" (BICE) that the DOL has made available.

What should you be doing? At a minimum, having a conversation with your advisor just to see what changes, if any, will be made to your existing retirement accounts, or if you will be able to continue adding to these accounts in the future. And, it's time to learn more about fee-based plans that your advisor may have available. Fee based seems to be the direction the industry is moving toward and fee based plans also satisfy the majority of the new DOL regulations.

Roberta L. Nestor is a financial advisor practicing at 491 New Haven Avenue in Milford, CT offering retirement, long term care, investment and tax planning services. She also offers securities and advisory services as an Investment Adviser Representative of Commonwealth Financial Network - a member FINRA/SIPC and a Registered Investment Adviser. Fixed insurance products offered through Nestor Financial Network are separate and unrelated to Commonwealth. Commonwealth Financial Network or Nestor Financial Network does not provide legal or tax advice. You should consult a legal or tax professional regarding your individual situation. Roberta can be reached at Nestor Financial Network, 203-876-8066 or roberta@nestorfinancial.com.



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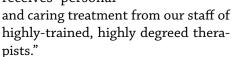


PAIN DIAGNOSIS RELIEF

Much, More than Joint & Muscle Therapy

When Michael Dow, CEO/Director, first opened his practice twelve years ago, he envisioned a physical therapy facility that would offer a comprehensive environment of healing for his patients. "First, I wanted to create an atmosphere

that was not clinical: no white walls and white uniforms, but a warm and compassionate setting where our staff could make each patient feel special, comfortable, and never pressed for time. There are no clocks here. Every patient, no matter how complex his/her injury or ailment, receives personal

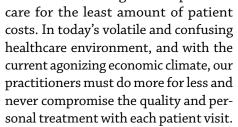


The interiors of Michael Dow's treatment centers in Woodbridge, Hamden and Branford highlight his approach to therapy practice. Large, sweeping rooms are appointed with personally designed interior architectural treatments, recessed lighting, warm contemporary graphics, marble counters, large patient restrooms, private treatment rooms and dozens of therapy workout devices every square foot is devoted to superb patient care. "I wanted to avoid the quick fix-and-release, turnstile approach to physical therapy. Patients know they're in an unusual, caring setting from the moment they walk through the doors. Every member of our large staff is committed to thoughtful, personal treatment and pool their knowledge and experience relative to each case."

Michael Dow and clinical partner, Kyle Branday, view themselves as "gatekeepers" to the entire local medical community. "Every injury or pain complaint is intensely diagnosed, and if the problem is beyond physical therapy, we quickly refer the patient to a cadre of medical practitioners with whom we work closely. In turn, orthopedic practices send post-surgical patients to us, knowing our proven ability is to bring patients back to normal mobility and activity with pragmatic care.

"Patient care is not dictated by visit limitations, deductibles and copayments. The individual needs of the patient are at the core of our practice;

> health insurance should not mandate quality of care, rather each patient should receive the most effective, expeditious, and best quality care for their insurance premiums, regardless of their insurance plan. We have one focus: maximize the finest therapeutics possible and address the intangibles of personal



"Patients trust us to provide the best care and guidance throughout their rehabilitation process. We value that at Amity Physical Therapy. That bond of trust transcends the challenges of healthcare reform and insurance limitations. We will never reduce our commitment to guide each patient in reaching their personal goals in rehab. They deserve the best and they receive just that at Amity Physical Therapy. There simply is no compromise in our practice. Our mission is to set the standard in how all physical therapy patients are treated."

Michael Dow MSPT received his degree from Sacred Heart University in Fairfield CT. In addition to being the founder of Amity Physical Therapy (locations in Woodbridge, Branford and Hamden), he has been recognized by the US Dept of Health and Human Services for his work with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. He works with patients of all ages, pediatrics to geriatrics, as well as local high school and college athletes. Michael can be reached at (203) 389-4593 in his Woodbridge office or visit amitypt.com.



Michael Dow

Woodbridge Town News

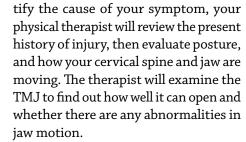
WOODBRIDGE RESIDENTS!

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ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM TMJ PROBLEMS?

A common issue that people suffer from is TMJ dysfunctions. The temporomandibular joint (TMJ) allows your jaw to open and shut. TMJ disorder is very common; more than 10 million people

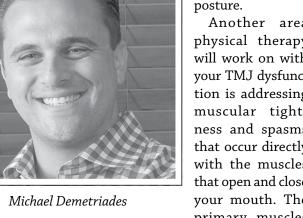
are affected in the United States. Some of the symptoms include difficulty opening or closing your mouth and severe pain with eating. There can be several issues that can cause this such as: bad posture or cervical spine issues, clenching or grinding teeth, after oral or facial surgery and trismus (lockjaw). To iden-



Postural control plays a large role in neck and jaw pain. Fixing or improving posture can help eliminate symptoms. Typically, poor posture is defined as forward head, rounded shoulders, and increased thoracic kyphosis (rounding of the mid-back). This is caused by tightened structures in the chest, poor muscular strength in the neck and mid-back muscles, and decreased joint mobility. The "forward head position" puts a strain on the muscles, disc, and ligaments of the TMJ. The jaw is forced to "rest" in an opened position, and the chewing muscles become overused. To help correct these issues therapy will administer specific joint mobilizations to improve the joint mobility allowing the patient to extend their mid-back and improve thoracic kyphosis. There are specific stretches that will lengthen tight chest muscles in order to reverse a rounded shoulder posture. After regaining this new range of motion, strength-

ening thoracic and cervical muscles are the last component of improving poor posture.

Another area physical therapy will work on with your TMJ dysfunction is addressing muscular tightness and spasms that occur directly with the muscles that open and close your mouth. The primary muscles



that are usually affected with TMJ are the masseter, temporalis, and pterygoid muscles. Physical therapists use specific manual therapy techniques to increase movement and relieve pain in tissues and joints. Your therapist will use muscle spasm release techniques and massage to help break up scar tissue "adhesions" that sometimes develop when there is constant injury.

TMJ cases require contact with your dentist in order to define the best device to apply at night in order to stop grinding or help correct joint alignment.

Michael Demetriades DPT received his doctorate degree from Quinnipiac University and is a therapist with Amity Physical Therapy. He has experience in working with all ages and injuries. Michael is a previous varsity hockey and baseball player well versed in injuries plaguing the modern athlete. Amity Physical Therapy was founded by Michael Dow MSPT and CEO/Director of the practice. For more information, contact Michael Demetriades in the Branford office at 203-433-4683 or visit www.amitypt.com.



IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM - PROTECTING BABIES

Cases of pertussis (whooping cough) still exist in our district. This illness in an infant is frightening and can have devastating results. It is very important to protect infants from this disease as they are not fully protected until they are one year old. QVHD offers the pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine (in the form of Tdap-tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) to parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, babysitters and other caregivers or contacts of newborns and infants 12 months and younger. If you are over age 18 and have never had a Tdap vaccine,

(a combined booster immunization containing tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis protection) you are eligible to receive this vaccine. A \$10.00 administration fee is requested. No one will be turned away for lack of ability to pay. Clinics are held monthly from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the QVHD district office, 1151 Hartford Turnpike, North Haven. Appointments are required; however, you can get an appointment for the same day as a scheduled clinic if you call by 1:00 p.m. Call QVHD, 203 248-4528 for the next clinic date.



"AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION"

Another Silent Killer

Radon is a colorless, odorless, naturally-occurring radioactive gas that may threaten health when it is present in high concentrations. It is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. Any home in any community may have elevated levels of radon, even if other homes in the neighborhood do not. Testing for radon is simple and inexpensive. Once a radon problem has been identified, it can be fixed. Because radon is invisible and odorless, the only sure way of knowing if your home contains excessive levels of radon is to TEST for radon.

Radon occurs naturally in the environ-

ment. It is formed by the breakdown of natural uranium in rocks and soil. In the open air, radon is so highly diluted that it poses no danger. When it seeps into homes, it becomes trapped and can build to levels of concern. The risk of developing lung cancer from exposure to radon depends upon the concentration of radon and the length of time you are exposed. Smokers increase this risk ten-fold. Most radon-related health issues are caused from radon that circulates in the air. Wells can also be tested for radon, although this is a less common source of health-related

issues. If your home tests high for radon, you might consider having your water tested

The CT Department of Public Health (DPH) recommends that all Connecticut homes be tested for radon. Testing is recommended in the winter months. Connecticut residents may obtain a free radon test kit by completing an online form on the DPH Radon Program website. Test kits will be available only during the month of January while supplies last. Test kits can also be purchased from the American Lung Association of New England by

calling 1-800-LUNG-USA or at your local hardware store.

To learn more about radon and to obtain a list of qualified radon mitigation contractors, please visit the DPH Radon Program website at www.ct.gov/dph/radon. If you do not have internet access, you can call the DPH Radon Program, 860-509-7299. Quinnipiack Valley Health District residents (Bethany, Hamden, North Haven and Woodbridge) can call 203 248-4528 for written information. (Information from the DPH press release is incorporated into this article.)

"Letters" continued from Page 6

School and patrons of Woodbridge Town Library for their generous contributions of holiday food baskets. We thank the Children's House of Montessori for hats, mittens and scarves items. Thanks also to Progressions Salon for sponsoring a sock drive, Boy Scout Troops 41, 63 and 907 and Pack 902 Webelos, for bountiful donations of non-perishable foods for the holiday food baskets and emergency food closet. Special thanks to Arti Dixson Productions for the bountiful toys donated.

Several dedicated members of the Woodbridge Fire Department delivered toys to children in need in Woodbridge. They brightened the holidays for several families with a visit from Santa, Mrs. Claus and their elves. These committed volunteers from the Fire Department generously volunteer their time each year to bring cheer and joy to these children and their families. For all they do, we are grateful.

In addition, we would like to thank the many residents who donated toys in the collection boxes at the Woodbridge Library and Senior Center for TEAM, Inc. Also, to the many individuals who donated, we are thankful. On behalf of the Staff and Members of the Human Services Commission, we wish everyone a very, Happy and Joyous New Year.

Mary Ellen LaRocca Director of Human Services

To the Editor

In January of 2017 the future of the Country Club of Woodbridge (CCW) still remains unsettled. With the departure of Billy Casper Golf in December, the course stands empty, and plans for open space are uncertain. Now is the time to give this exceptional 155 acres the vision

and care it should have received over the past seven years.

In 2009 the residents of Woodbridge voted (435-34) to purchase the property to keep it from development. A 2011 proposal by Toll Brothers to build 54 townhouses on 17 acres of the golf course was soundly rejected by the townspeople. Since then Toll Brothers has been invited back by the administration with proposals ranging from 69 units on 36 acres to 170 units on 70 acres. In public comment at countless Board of Selectmen's meetings as well as at special meetings on CCW, residents have spoken out clearly and vehemently against development and the zoning change it would entail. While the First Selectman continues to favor development, it is shameful that she has never acknowledged the @ 400 voters who signed a petition against zoning change on this property.

No matter the acreage or the number of units, condos/cluster housing built by Toll Brothers or any other developer will never be right for CCW. It is the strength of our zoning that has preserved the rural character which is the hallmark of our town. If you break the back of that protection by changing the residential zoning to allow condos on CCW, you will invite vigorous and costly litigation for development on other large parcels of land throughout the town. In 2013 and 2016, Town Attorney Gerry Weiner solicited legal opinions from attorneys Shansky and Grogins on the potential results of zoning change at CCW. Those opinions were essentially useless vague promises. Even the First Selectman said that no attorney can guarantee a particular outcome. Therefore, the best, certain protection for this property and the town's future is to maintain the current residential zoning.

Perhaps, we should go one step further and put a conservation easement on the whole 155 acres. Recently, Ms. Scalettar said she would not consider a proposal for the property that did not include a conservation easement. Roland Betts' 2016 Redan Reserve proposal to purchase and redo the whole property as a "top 100 golf course" included a conservation easement to protect the land in perpetuity. Although Mr. Betts' offer is no longer on the table, residents should be offered the opportunity to vote on a conservation easement to protect this unique property forever from development.

Martha German

To the Editor,

As a Hispanic member of this community and a parent of 2 young children, I am concerned about implicit bias at Beecher Road School (BRS). When I did my student internship a few years ago at BRS, I was asked to assess a bilingual student because of suspected language delays. There was clearly no delay as she was a typical dual language learner, learning to read in her second language. Her teacher already had preconceived notions about her expectations for this child and her ability to succeed in the classroom. Implicit bias is NOT racism. Implicit bias is the way we respond subconsciously to an individual person or group of people based on characteristics of race, sex, gender, socio-economic status, physical appearance, religion etc. It is something we all have and the more we recognize and are aware of our own biases and the impact it has on our work with children, the better we can serve the children in our community (see Harvard Implicit Bias tests online).

Recently, I have heard from parents

in the community who have children of color that have expressed concerns about their children being treated differently than their peers by their teachers. Professional development around implicit bias is essential and should be mandatory for all teachers and school staff. There are excellent professional development resources, such as those from the Southern Poverty Law Center, that exist to ensure that teachers and staff get the training and support they need around implicit bias, thus creating a school community that is equitable and inclusive, which in the end will benefit all children in the classroom.

In 2016, Walter Gilliam's research study at Yale Child Study Center highlighted implicit bias among preschool teachers and found that black children were being watched in the classroom by teachers more than white students and were more likely to be identified with "behavior problems" which led to preschool suspension. Since teachers were looking mostly at the black children, more specifically black boys, they were being singled out for "behavior concerns". Often if you look for something in one place, that's the only place you will most likely find it.

Beecher Road School's mission statement is to prepare our children to become contributing members of an ever-changing global community. If we want to prepare our children to live in a global community, then we need to do a better job respecting, embracing and celebrating our differences. We must all work together to ensure that all children at BRS are treated equitably and supported by teachers who recognize their implicit bias and work consciously to address it.

Carissa Vega

"Let our New Year's resolution be this: we will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word." — GORAN PERSSON

HOUSES OF WORSHIPEVENTS

ORANGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES

Orange Congregational Church at 205 Meeting House Lane, Orange, CT, 203-795-9749, invites you to come to one of our two weekly Sunday Worship Services: at 8 a.m. in the Chapel or 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Every Sunday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. there is a child-care experienced Crib Room Attendant for all birth to Pre-K children whose parents or guardians are attending the 10 a.m. worship service. Church school for K-4th Grade takes place during the 10:00 a.m. service and we have opportunities for older children and teens in our Pilgrim Fellowship.

On January 27 at 5:30 p.m. the youth will have their annual "Freeze Out" spending a night outside in order



Orange Congregational Church

to raise awareness, understanding and funds to help reduce homelessness in Connecticut. We are also hosting a Red Cross Blood drive on Monday, January 30 from 1-6 p.m. in the John Ho Dining Room. If you would like to give blood, please register at redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-733-2767.

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF CT

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut presents "Library Time: Guided Use of JGSCT Resources" on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 1:30 pm at Temple Sinai, 41 West Hartford Road, Newington, CT 06111. This program is free and open to the public, especially those interested in Jewish genealogy.

Janet Carlson, our librarian, will give an overview of our materials and explain how to identify the categories.

JGSCT board members will be available to answer questions and guide users to the resources they need.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut houses its library at Temple Sinai. JGSCT members may borrow items other than reference books and materials, which do not circulate, from the library collection.

For additional information, please visit www.jgsct.org.

261 Derby Ave. Orange

Chabad of Orange Woodbridge 4th Annual Comedy Night Cocktails, Dinner, Laughter!! Saturday Evening January 14th 7:30 Cocktails & Dinner 9:15 Showtime Featuring the comedy of Kenny Gluck, Eli Lebowicz and Mike Fine (NOSHER) KOSHER KONNEDY (VIP SEATING) RSVP 203.795.7095 info@chabadow.org

CONGREGATION OR SHALOM EVENTS

Weekly Services

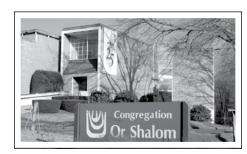
Minyan Services Sunday 9:00 AM; Monday 7:30 AM; Thursday 7:30 AM Healing Circle Wednesday 7:30 AM Shabbat Services Friday 7:00 PM; Saturday 9:30 PM

Coffee and Learn with the Rabbi

Every Wednesday (please call the office for schedule) Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus teaches an hour-long class devoted to the ancient texts of our heritage and the light they shed on the current issues. The class begins at 11:00 am and ends at 12 noon sharp. All Welcome.

ZUMBA GOLD AT OR SHALOM

Congregation Or Shalom announces



Congregation Or Shalom

the continuation of ZUMBA GOLD on Tuesday and Thursday 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 203-799-2341.

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD OFFERS "PRAYING WITH COLOR"

A Workshop In Artful Spirituality In January

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd is pleased to offer Praying with Color: A Workshop in Artful Spirituality on January 21st, 2017.

The intersection of the arts and spirituality is millennia old. From cave drawings, to sand mandalas, to brilliant African masks, to the delicate embroidery of altar linens, to sculpture, painting, beadwork, and the whole kaleidoscope of human expression throughout the centuries, civilizations have sought to communicate with the gods.

Spend a couple of hours learning and playing with art, color, and the Holy Spirit on Saturday morning, January 21st, from 9am to 11am, at The Church of the Good Shepherd. Rev. Diana will lead you through some gentle art/prayer exercises that might change how you think about prayer, and how you approach art. No artistic talent required, just curiosity and a desire to try something new. Bring colored pencils, crayons, markers, if you have them. There will be an assortment of materials to borrow, if you don't.

In the depths of winter, take a vacation from "blah" to explore a spiritual "aha." Please call the church office at 203-795-6577 to register so we know how many tea bags to have on hand. This workshop is open to adults and teens from all walks of life and traditions.

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer its affordable, noninvasive and painless health screenings at The Church of the Good Shepherd on Wednesday, February 15th, 2017. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the

legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis

screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/advantagemembers.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd is located on 680 Racebrook Road, Orange, Connecticut. Sunday service times include Rite II Holy Eucharist without music at 8 a.m. and Rite II Holy Eucharist with music @ 9:30 a.m. For more information about the The Church of the Good Shepherd's many other programs, please call the Parish Office @ (203) 795-6577, email us @ thegoodspheherd@optonline.net, visit our website @ www.thegoodshepherdorangect.org, and, of course, check our Facebook page www.facebook.com/cgsorangect for frequent postings.



HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES NEW PRIEST

Christ Episcopal Church of Bethany is excited to announce the arrival of our new Priest-In-Charge, The Rev. Dr. Robert Peter Clements. He will lead our worship starting on January 15, 2017. All are welcome!

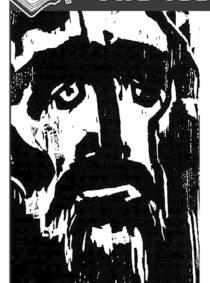
Dr. Clements is married to The Rev. Jenni Matheson, who is a retired priest. He has been the rector of Christ Church in Roxbury, CT since 2009 and prior to that held several positions in parishes and schools in the northeast.

Dr. Clements skills are many. He is a graduate of General Theological Seminary in New York and, among other degrees, holds a doctorate from Princeton Theological Seminary. He has served as an English and Philosophy teacher and as an assistant headmaster in independent schools, as well as an adjunct professor of Christian Education and Spirituality at Hartford Seminary. He has also served as a chaplain for merchant seamen and for two volunteer fire departments. He is a surfer, luthier, and bass guitarist. He is tech-savvy, writing a weblog called The Coracle. These diverse interests nurture and strengthen both his intellect and spirituality. We can look to him to be wise, challenging, creative and forward thinking.

Dr. Clements has a wealth of experience as a rector of churches both large and small. He is particularly drawn to the challenge of a church the size of Christ Church. He states, eloquently, that being present to the community is the most rewarding aspect of his priesthood, as well as a potent form of evangelism. To Dr. Clements, the small parish provides a way to really know "a variety of people, ideas and experiences". He is a joyful and excellent preacher. He speaks without notes and his sermons are lectionary-based using stories and personal experiences as illustrations.

We are looking forward to continuing our journey together with Dr. Clements, and we hope that you will welcome him with open arms to our community. Until you get to know Rob personally, the following web links will take you to some places where you may learn something more: http://thecoracle.blogspot.com/and http://www.countytimes.com/community/roxbury-minister-really-rocks/article_6a1db94b-1295-5bc1-9619-48ebef1b55e8.html.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



My soul languishes for Your salvation; I wait for Your word.
My eyes fail with longing for Your word, while I say, "When will You comfort me?" Though I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, I do not forget Your statutes.

~ Psalm 119:81-83 ∞

"The Prophet" by Emil Nolde (1912)

Support our advertisers! Tell them you saw their ad in the Woodbridge Town News.



THE WHIFFENPOOFS AT TEMPLE EMANUEL

Come out for an incredible afternoon of A Cappella Music! Every year, 14 senior Yale men are selected to be in the Whiffenpoofs, the world's oldest and best-known collegiate a cappella group. Founded in 1909, the "Whiffs" began as a senior quartet that met for weekly concerts at Mory's Temple Bar, the famous Yale tavern. Today, the group has become one of Yale's most celebrated traditions.

And now, the Whiffenpoofs are adding Temple Emanuel to its list of performance venues! Meet the entire group, ask questions, and have your picture taken with them! Don't miss the chance of a lifetime to see this incredibly talented group locally at Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven! Seating is limited, so buy your tickets early! See you there!

Sunday, February 26, 2017, 3:00 pm performance at 150 Derby Avenue, Orange, CT. Admission is \$20 per ticket for Adults and \$10 per ticket for Kids (12 and under).

Join us following the performance for a Meet & Greet with the Whiffs.

For more information or to purchase tickets: Call Temple Emanuel office (203) 397-3000 or order online at www.TempleEmanuel-gnh.org.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SERVICES & EVENTS

Happy 2017. The First Church of Christ invites all members of the community to join us at 5 Meeting House Lane, Woodbridge for the following weekly services and special events:

Sunday Services – 10 a.m. including our Intergenerational Service the first Sunday of each month. Nursery care for small children is available during the Sunday services.

Church School - Sunday at 10 a.m. the second through fifth Sundays during the school year with lessons based on the Lectionary.

Middle School Youth Group for 5th – 8th graders meets the second Sunday of the month.



First Church of Christ

Weekly Bible Study - Wednesday, 10-11 a.m., in the Parish House. We study both Old and New Testament passages based on the Lectionary.

For more information on these events, please contact us at (203) 389-2119 or office@uccw.org.



Attention Churches, Synagogues & 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



ENTERTAINMENT

TOP 10 MOVIES

1. Rogue One: A Star War's Story (PG-13)

Felicity Jones, Diego Luna

2. Sing (PG)

animated

3. Passengers (PG-13)

Jennifer Lawrence, Chris Pratt

4. Why Him (R)

Zoey Deutch, James Franco

5. Assassin's Creed (R)

Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard

6. Moana (PG)

animated

7. Fences (PG-13)

Denzel Washington, Viola Davis

8. La La Land (PG-13)

Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone

9. Office Christmas Party (R)

Jason Bateman, Olivia Munn

10. Collateral Beauty (PG-13)

Will Smith, Edward Norton

TOP 10 VOD

1. Suicide Squad (PG-13)

Will Smith

2. The Secret Life of Pets (PG)

animated

3. Jason Bourne (PG-13)

Matt Damon

4. Miss Peregrine's Home for

Peculiar Children (PG-13) Eva Green

5. Bridget Jones's Baby (R)

Renee Zellweger

6. Ben-Hur (PG-13)

Jack Huston

7. War Dogs (R)

Jonah Hill

8. Florence Foster Jenkins (PG-13)

Meryl Streep

9. Bad Moms (R)

Mila Kunis

)

10. Don't Breathe (R

Stephen Lang





Emily Blunt in "The Girl on the Train" [Universal Pictures]

EDITOR'S NOTE: DVDs reviewed in this column are available in stores the week of January 16, 2017.

PICKS OF THE WEEK

"The Girl on the Train" (R) -- Rachel (Emily Blunt) is an alcoholic and a mess since her divorce, and she rides the commuter train through a little suburb twice a day. A woman goes missing (Haley Bennett) and Rachel thinks she saw something from the train, because she looks at that woman's house from the train every day and idealizes the beautiful couple living there. However, the missing woman was Rachel's ex-husband's nanny, and she looks a lot like Rachel's ex's new wife! Got it? Oh, and everybody is really dreary because of all the suburban angst.

When your plot is so tangled, plot twists just look like regular ol' plot developments. When your characters are so consistently distraught or uptight,

major emotional moments lose their flair. I can't speak to the book, but the film had some complicated narrative threads that weren't woven as intended.

"Keeping Up with the Joneses" **(PG-13)** -- On a quiet cul-de-sac, two unbelievably attractive and stylish people move in, paying cash. Karen (Isla Fisher) keeps an eye on them from across the street, because the kids are at summer camp and she needs something to do while her husband Jeff (Zach Galifinakis) works in human resources. Snooping reveals that these new neighbors (John Hamm and Gal Gadot) are actually spies, pushing the unassuming Jeff and Karen into high-stakes espionage hijinks.

There isn't a bad member of the cast, but every action is stuck in a very tired formula. Jokes come in predictable pacing with expected delivery. You might not be able to call what the misdirect is, but you know what's going to be a misdirect. Galifinakis needs the freedom to be a little weirder, and Hamm shows in some moments that he really does have the timing and tuning for comedy.

"Ouija: Origin of Evil" (R) -- Set in the late 1960s, the prequel bests its predecessor with better suspense and a relish for the old-fashioned scare flicks of its setting. Alice Zander (Elizabeth Reaser) runs a scam psychic business out of her home, with the special effects run by her two daughters: Lina (Annalise Basso), the teen, and Doris (Lulu Wilson), who is whatever age makes the creepiest possessed-little-demon girls. Once they bring a Ouija board into the act, Doris takes a real liking to it, opening up herself and their home to some really bad spirits. As supernatural terrors mount, Father Tom (Henry Thomas) is called in for support.

1. Name the female singer who released "Anyone Who

- Which group released "The Village Green Preservation Society"?
- Who wrote the song "Tin Man"?
- Where did Manhattan Transfer get its name?
- Name the song that contains this lyric: "This time tomorrow, Reckon where I'll be, Hadn't a-been for Grayson, I'd a-been in Tennessee."

same name. 5. "Tom Dooley," by the Kingston Trio, a No. 1 hit in 1958. Tom Dula was convicted of killing his pregnant girlfriend in 1866 in North Carolina and was sentenced to hang. Dula was pronounced "Dooley" at the time, and the song was passed down through generations. film "The Wizard of Oz." Bunnell claimed he never wanted the song recorded, but it went to No. L. 4. From the Dos Passos 1925 novel by the 1. Cilla Blach, in 1964. She was discovered by the Beatles' manager Brian Epstein in 1963. 2. The Kinks, in 1968. The song looks at English country villages and hamlets, compared to modern cities, 3. Dewey Bunnell of America, in 1974. And yes, it references the Tin Man in the

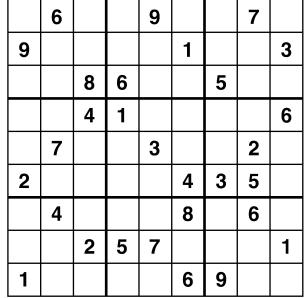
SPORTS QUIZ

- 1. In 2015, pitcher Dallas Keuchel set a Houston Astros record for most strikeouts by a left-hander (216). Who had held the mark?
- Lucas Duda tied a New York Mets record in 2015 for most multi-homer games in a season (seven). Who else did it for the Mets?
- 3. Who holds the Cleveland Browns mark for most passing yards in a regular-season game?
- When was the last time before 2016 that Clemson's men's basketball team beat consecutive ranked opponents?
- With which NHL team did Hall of Fame goalie Rogie Vachon begin his 16-season career?
- 6. Who was the only Robert Yates Racing driver to win NASCAR's Cup championship?
- Who was the last non-European tennis player before Milos Raonic in 2016 to reach the final of men's singles at Wimbledon?

1. Mike Cuellar, with 203 strikeouts in 1967. 2. Dave Kingman (1976) and Carlos Delgado (2008). 3. Josh McCown threw for 457 yards in a game in 2015. 4. It was 1989. 5. Montreal, in 1967. 6. Dale Jarrett, in 1999. 7. Andy Roddick, in 2009.

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

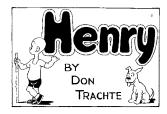
Sudoku answers on



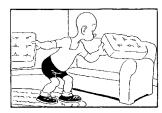
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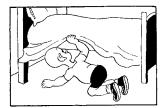


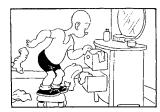
COMICS/CROSSWORD/HOLLYWOOD

























17

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King Crossword

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ACROSS

- Rebuff a
- Whip

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- Rouse 36 Strikingly
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 - 43 Like some excuses
 - Chills and fever
 - Took the shuttle
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HOLLYWOOD

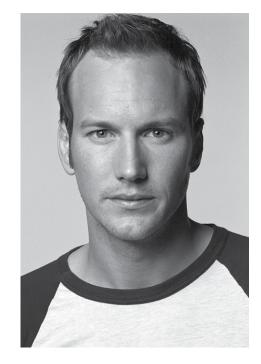
By Tony Rizzo

xHOLLYWOOD -- You can be sure that Daniel Craig will be back for two more Bond films. Craig was quoted not long ago as saying, "I'd rather walk on ground glass than play Bond again." If you need more proof, just look closely at the program of his recent stage turn in "Othello," with David Oyelowo, at the New York Theater Workshop, and you'll see the show was produced by Barbara Broccoli, the same Barbara Broccoli who produces the Bond films. Then there's the \$150 million paycheck being waved in his face to keep drinking martinis "shaken, not stirred"!

Ryan Reynolds' labor of love, "Deadpool," took 11 years to bring to the screen, cost \$58 million to make and broke all records, earning \$782 million in theaters. Next up is the sci-fi film "Life," with Jake Gyllenhaal and Rebecca Ferguson, due March 24, followed by the action comedy "The Hitman's Bodyguard," with Samuel L. Jackson, Gary Oldman and Salma Hayek, hitting screens Aug. 18.

If you're addicted to "Westworld," you'll have to wait more than a year for season two. "Westworld" producers say it takes so much time to prepare the scripts and then shoot the show that they couldn't possibly do it this year. Rumor is that Anthony Hopkins is not hanging around for the second season.

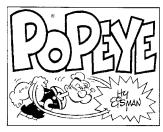
"American Idol" may be gone, but not forgotten, at least not by Michael Simeon Smith, a contestant in December 2014. Just before competing, he was fitted with an earpiece by the sound person, and when it was removed it took part of his eardrum with it. He was moved to another room, where his ear bled for several hours. Now Smith says it affects his ability to perform.



Patrick Wilson [Speakerpedia]

Patrick Wilson, best known to TV audience for "A Gifted Man" (2011-2012), is one of those rare actors who has amassed a small fortune from acting. In 2013, his estimated worth was \$275 million, with \$2 million or more added every year. You'll be seeing a lot of Wilson on movie screens. He recently starred in "The Conjuring 2," with Vera Farmiga (\$40 million cost/\$320 million gross), "The Founder," with Michael Keaton (less than a hit), and the December-released thriller "A Kind of Murder," with Jessica Biel.

Upcoming, Wilson has the action/ thriller "The Commuter," with Liam Neeson, Vera Farmiga and Sam Neill, arriving next October, and he'll play Jason Momoa's half-brother, Orm Marius, in the upcoming "Aquaman" film. Wilson, 43, who starred in "The Phantom of the Opera" film in 2004 (\$70 million cost/\$155 million gross) is blond and doesn't look anything like the dark-haired Momoa. Guess you can make anyone look alike when they're filmed through water ... "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea"!



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— **King** Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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— Weekly SUDOKU —

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All real estate advertising in the Woodbridge Town News is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. The Woodbridge Town News will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law.



by Freddy Groves

CRISIS LINE EXPANSION A LIFESAVER FOR VETS

The Department of Veterans Affairs Crisis Line recently held a ribbon cutting at a facility in Atlanta that will expand by 600 veterans the number it can help each day, doubling its capacity.

The goal of the VA Crisis Line is to be available 24/7 to veterans who are in crisis and are suicidal. The hotline serves an important link in connecting veterans with Suicide Prevention Coordinators in each VA Medical Center.

The stats are impressive. The Crisis Line began with 14 responders and two health-care technicians manning four phones at a New York VA medical center. Since they began in 2007, responders have:

- Answered 2.6 million calls.
- Sent emergency services to 67,000 locations after crisis calls.
- Forwarded 425,000 referrals to suicide prevention coordinators, ensuring continuity of care.
- Talked to 314,000 veterans or family members in the website chat option.

• Answered 63,000 text messages since that option began in 2011.

By the end of 2016, crisis calls are automatically transferred to the hotline if the veteran (or family member) calls the local VA medical center and presses 7 during the automatic greeting.

The biggest bonus of crisis-line expansion: The VA is almost to its goal of having zero calls forwarded to a contract responder when lines are busy. It's also down to roughly nine seconds to have a veteran speak to trained personnel.

The number for the National Suicide Prevention Hotline is 1-800-273-TALK (8255). Veterans press 1 to reach the VA responders. For text messages, call 838255. On the website use the chat feature to talk with someone immediately.

Meanwhile, to be prepared in case you ever know someone who needs the information, check out the website at www.veteranscrisisline.net. See what features and information it has. Maybe even take the Self-Check quiz.



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BULLETIN BOARD



Please Note: If you have an event for the Bulletin Board, please send it alsong no matter how far in advance it is. We will include it in the appropriate issue(s) until the event has taken place.

Boy Scout Troop 63, meetings Monday nights 7:00pm-8:30pm, Our Lady of the Assumption "Mother" Church, 1700 Litchfield Turnpike (Route 63), Woodbridge; September-April and May-June outdoors at Camp Whiting, all boys ages 10 and up or who have completed the fifth grade are welcome to stop by and see what we're all about. For more information, visit http://www.troop963.org or email Troop63CT@gmail.com.

Woodbridge Republican Town Committee Meetings, second Tuesday of each month, 7:30pm, Center Cafeteria. Visitors welcome and we urge you to join us. For information, go to www. woodbridgegop.org.

Alzheimer's Community Caregivers Support Group, 2nd Thursday of the month, 5:00pm, Arden House, Conference Room, 850 Mix Avenue, Hamden. Call Maria Paduano, Program Director to RSVP or for more information at 203-281-3500, ext. 7669; www. genesishcc.com.

Woodbridge Rotary Club Meetings, 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month, 7:30am breakfast meeting, Country Corner Diner, 756 Amity Road, Bethany and the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, 12:15pm luncheon meeting, Woodbridge Social, 12 Selden Street, Woodbridge. Anyone interested in learning more about Rotary should contact Anna Dickerson, 203-710-0223 or annadickerson@yahoo.com.

Trap Falls Kennel Club Obedience

Classes, every level, AKC STAR Puppy (obedience for dogs under 12 months) and Family Manners Classes/Obedience & Canine Good Citizen; Wednesday and Thursday evenings, Pawz for Wellness in Shelton. For registration and/or information, call 203-450-9485 or email tfkctraining@gmail.com. Trap Falls Kennel Club is a non-profit member club of the American Kennel Club (AKC).

Trinity Church, Join us for Sunday School for all ages at 9:10am and Worship Service at 10:30am, 33 Center Road, Woodbridge. Visit www.trinityefc.com or call 203-387-4711 x10 to learn more.

Ansonia Nature Center Events, 10Deerfield Road, Ansonia; call 203-736-1053 to register for all events.

Bethany Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary Valentine Dance,

Saturday, February 11, 2017, 7:00-11:00pm, Lakeview Lodge, Route 42, Bethany. Reserve a table, bring snacks and beverages to enjoy while dancing to the music. Seating is limited, call and reserve your table early. Ticket prices are \$25 per couple/\$15 single/\$125 for a table of 10. Contact Amy at 203-410-2602 or Joan 203-627-8874 for reservations; 21 & over please.

Hearing Loss Association-SW CT Chapter Monthly Meeting, Saturday March 15, 2017, 10:00am, Watermark, 3030 Park Avenue, Bridgeport; subject is information on how you can hear better while watching TV using an inductive loop system; speaker will be Ken Gerety, owner of Hearing Loop Systems of CT. Contact Mike at 203.268-2924 for additional information.



TIPS FOR REALIZING GOALS IN THE YEAR AHEAD

The dawn of a new year represents a chance to start anew and set goals for the months ahead. New Year's resolutions are often made to provide the motivation people need to improve their lives and make a new year as productive and happy as possible.

While people who make New Year's resolutions fully intend to realize those goals, few actually stick to the game plan. According to researchers at the University of Scranton, just 8 percent of people who make their New Year's resolutions actually achieve those resolutions. While that might make it seem like the odds are against men and women who have resolved to improve their lives in the year ahead, the following tips can help adults realize their goals for the new year and beyond.

Emphasize time management. Hectic schedules can quickly derail resolutions. Many people want to eat healthier and exercise more but find their time is stretched pretty thin, which can make it difficult to get to the gym or prepare healthy meals at home. Finding ways to manage time more effectively can make it easier to stay committed to New Year's resolutions. Right down your daily schedule and look for ways to free up time. If you routinely take an hour for lunch each day, use that time to exercise and eat at your desk when you return from your walk, workout or jog. Try to wake up 30 to 60 minutes earlier each morning to exercise, and make use of time before bed by preparing a healthy lunch for the following day.

Make your goals public. By publicly declaring your intention to improve your life, you're putting some positive pressure on yourself to fully commit to your goal. Friends and loved ones can

be great sources of support, and once they're aware of your efforts, you likely won't want to let them down. Once you have decided on a resolution, post your short-term and long-term goals to your Facebook page or let your immediate family and closest friends know of your goals in person. Their encouragement can help you stay on track, and they may even offer to help you realize your goals.

Keep track of your progress. Keep a resolutions journal or start a blog that allows you to write about your efforts. If your goal is to pay down debt, make a spreadsheet that tracks your progress. That spreadsheet might be more motivational than simply seeing a loan or credit card balance gradually reduce on your monthly statement. Writing about your trials and errors can help others and also provide a great way for you to explore your approach and tinker with it to ensure your ultimate success.

Expect setbacks. If realizing resolutions was easy, the success rate would be greater than 8 percent. Setbacks are inevitable, so don't allow them to derail your efforts. Even if setbacks occur when you're well on your way to success, regroup and get back on track without getting down on yourself.

Reward yourself. Don't hesitate to reward yourself as you realize your short-term goals and draw closer to making your long-term goal a reality. For example, if weight loss is your goal and you've adhered to your diet and lost some weight, reward yourself with a favorite meal eaten in moderation.

New Year's resolutions may be difficult to realize, but a few simple strategies can help you achieve your goals and enjoy the fruits of your hard work.

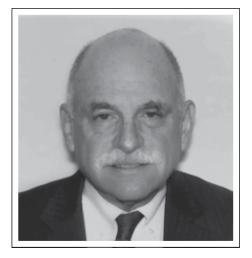
TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE **LEGAL NOTICE**

Pursuant to Section 7-394 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, notice is hereby given that an audit of the books and accounts and state financial and compliance report of the Town of Woodbridge for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016 has been made by an independent auditor.

Such audit is now on file in the office of the Town Clerk, 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT and is available for inspection.

Dated at Woodbridge, CT this 30th day of December, 2016. Stephanie Ciarleglio Town Clerk

DEATH NOTICES



David King

David King died November 15, at his Woodbridge home, following a long bout with cancer. He was born November 24, 1946, in Cleveland, Ohio, graduated from Dartmouth College in 1968, and was soon drafted into the US Army where he served in Vietnam. He was an editor of the Law Review at Cleveland State University School of Law, and after practicing for a few years, in 1977 he obtained an LLM from Harvard Law School. Since 1978, he was a faculty member of Quinnipiac Law School and its predecessor Bridgeport School of

Law. He served as Associate Dean for 27 years, and twice as interim Dean of the Law School. He was a highly respected professor, best known for teaching his students to be prepared, and he was able to guide students to understand the most complex issues of the many courses he taught.

Serving the Town of Woodbridge was high on David's list of priorities. He was a current member of the Board of Finance, but had also served many years on Planning and Zoning, was a member of the Firehouse Building and first Beecher Road building committees, as well as various sub-committees. He also served on the boards of New Haven Legal Assistance Association and the Connecticut Law Tribune.

David is survived by his wife, Diane King, children Rachel and Dan, step-children Claire Coleman and Jenifer Gorin, 8 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, his beloved golden retriever, as well as a group of lifelong friends.

As a veteran, he will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery. He requests that any donations in his memory be made to New Haven Legal Assistance Association.



DEATH NOTICES

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

www.WoodbridgeTownNews.com

TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE

NOTICE OF BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals of the Town of Woodbridge will be holding their annual appeal meetings on Wednesday March 1, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Saturday March 11, 2017 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. and Wednesday March 15, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The meetings will be held at the Town Hall to hear appeals relating to assessments for Real Property & Business Personal Property on the Grand List of October 1, 2016. All persons claiming to be aggrieved by the actions of the Assessor on said list are hereby warned to make their <u>written</u> appeal to said Board by Monday February 20th.

Written applications are **MANDATORY**, no appeal will be heard without one. Applications may be obtained from the Assessor's office Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or online at woodbridgect.org and go to the Assessor's page. All original applications must be filled out and returned to the Assessor's office <u>NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM FEBRUARY 20, 2017</u>. All persons filing proper applications shall be notified by February 24th of the day, time & place of their appeal hearing.

You must appear in person or you must send a duly authorized representative who must bring evidence of authorization & their own personal identification. If you are appealing the assessed value of your property you must present documents as evidence in support of your claim or an appraiser's analysis of your property value based on 2014 (the revaluation year) comparable sales. Comparable sales are those of similar style, size and location and must be from the year 2014.

If you have any questions concerning the Board of Assessment Appeals, please call the Assessor's office at 203-389-3416.



LOCAL SPORTS

BETH-WOOD BASEBALL LEAGUE 2017 ONLINE REGISTRATION

Beth–Wood Baseball League is proud to once again offer online Registration for the 2017 Season – our 45th Anniversary – for Tee Ballers through Majors (Baseball ages 4 – 12 as of April 30th). If you legally reside in the Towns of Bethany, Woodbridge, Orange, New Haven, Beacon Falls and/or Hamden, your children are eligible to register to participate in our League.

Last year Babe Ruth League Inc. adopted a new School Boundary Rule that now allows those children who attend classes during the traditional academic year at School(s) that fall within the boundaries of Beth – Wood Baseball (Woodbridge, Bethany, Orange, New Haven, Beacon Falls and Hamden) to register and participate with us as well. Substantiating documentation will need to be provided when so requested to confirm this.

The Registration period for Beth – Wood Baseball (ages 4 – 12) begins on Monday, January 9th and ends on Sunday, February 5th (we will continue to take/accept online Registrations after the February 5th deadline up to April 1st, but be advised there will be an automatic late fee of \$25 assessed to each Registrant accordingly).

For Amity Babe Ruth (ages 13 – 15), there will be a separate online Registration process this year -- details to follow when it is available. If you have any questions pertaining to this program, kindly use the Contact Us icon on the Home Page to send us an email so we may promptly address them. Beth -Wood Baseball League will be taking Registrations as well for girls between the ages of 6 – 12. You may visit their website at www.bethwoodsoftball.org or contact Adam Forstrom, BW Softball President at adcy13@gmail.com for additional information and details. Girls may still register and participate in the Beth - Wood Baseball Program if they so elect.

For your convenience, parents will be able to register multiple children at a single time and once again this year there will be a maximum charge per Family of \$375 as long as you register ON OR BEFORE the February 5th deadline. (Registration costs only – does NOT

include Ad Patron or other donations). As our online Registration format will not automatically take this discount if the maximum amount of \$375 per Family is exceeded, a credit card refund will be issued accordingly via PayPal.

If registering for the first time, kindly have all the pertinent information available when registering your children (dates of birth, doctor contact information, email addresses, cell phone numbers, etc.) that will help facilitate the Registration process. League Registration costs are as follows, for the Spring Season of 2017 (note this year we have included the cost for a complimentary ticket for each Player who registers to the New Britain Bees game on Saturday evening, June 10th, which will be Beth – Wood Family Night at the Bees):

- 4's Tee Ball \$ 110.00;
- Tee Ball \$ 120.00;
- Rookies \$ 155.00;
- Minors \$ 195.00;
- Majors \$ 210.00 Beth Wood Baseball League.

Note: These fees are just for the Spring Recreation Season and do NOT include any applicable fees for All Stars, Travel Baseball during the Spring and/or Fall Ball – these Fees will be in addition to the Fees noted above should you wish to participate in same.

Should refunds be necessary, these will be sent out directly by the League in the form of a credit card refund via PayPal. However, note that there will be NO refunds once the Teams have been drafted (which will be the first week in March) – NO exceptions will be allowed!! This specific requirement will be acknowledged when you formally submit the Registration online to the League.

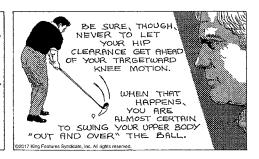
Also note that Beth–Wood Baseball also offers scholarships to those who financially cannot afford to register their children due to economic reasons. Beth – Wood has NEVER, EVER turned away any child who wants to learn and play this great game of baseball. For additional information and to learn more about this, please contact B – W President Dwight Rowland at drowland@tcco.com.



The Blades, Amity/North Haven/Cheshire, girls hockey team held a fundraiser at Amity Stop & Shop on November 19. The girls are a co-op that works very hard together. Despite the fact that they are from 3 different schools, they have come together as a team and won the SCC division II championship last season.

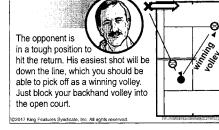
Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

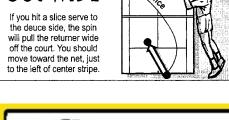




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QUESTIONS? Contact John Coughlin, AYL President at jtcoughlin@optonline.net or 646-460-4166.



Woodbridge Town News

SUBMIT YOUR LOCAL SPORTS PHOTOS, ARTICLES & SCHEDULES

Email edit@woodbridgetownnews.com







ORANGE LITTLE LEAGUE OFFERS NEW CHALLENGER LEAGUE

By Melissa Nicefaro – Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

This spring, Orange Little League is offering an opportunity for children with special needs to play on a baseball team, the Challenger League. In the past, those young boys and girls wishing to play on a team tailored for their special needs had to travel to Milford or other neighboring towns until a group of local parents decided it was time to offer a team of their own here in Orange.

The team will be open to boys and girls ages 6-18 years old who live in or attends school in Orange, Woodbridge and Bethany. They'll practice one day a week and have a two-inning game each weekend where each player will be at bat and play the field. The intent is to give boys and girls with physical and mental challenges the opportunity to enjoy the game of baseball.

John Porto has taken on the role of vice president for the Challenger team. He looks forward to giving kids the chance to 'play baseball in a relaxed environment'. "It will be great to give these kids a chance to be on a team and learn the great game of baseball," Porto said. He'll work with Kathy Haughton on organizing the team and scheduling games with surrounding towns.

"The division is growing, there's much more competition and many more teams then there were before," Haughton said. Her son Christopher, 12, has played on the Milford Challenger team for the past couple of years, but she thought that Orange should have a team of its own. She felt the demographics and population support fielding a team of our own.

As adaptive sports are becoming more common at the middle and high school levels, Haughton thought Little League presented the perfect opportunity to let children with special needs do as their brothers and sisters do each weekend: play ball. "The important part of this is getting kids out to exercise and socialize. It's a great opportunity for kids to be a part of a community activity. It's just good for them," she said.

Porto will be looking for mentor baseball players to help out at games and practices. "They have a lot of knowledge to pass on," he said. The team will play on OT2, the softball team at Old Tavern Field. The program will last for 6-8 weeks.

For more information or to sign up, please contact John Porto: jpbosox14@gmail.com or Kathy Haughton: kfh812@Yahoo.com.



BARK BYTES...

By Vicki & Richard Horowitz





BRRR...IT'S COLD OUT THERE!!

By Richard and Vicki Horowitz

There's much talk during the summer months about the importance of protecting your dog from the blazing sun and how to keep it from suffering the ill effects of heat stroke, dehydration or worse. However, it is equally important to keep your dog warm during the freezing winter months. Frostbite, hypothermia and even death are real dangers to your dog as the snow piles up and the mercury drops.

While many dogs with proper shelter can be safe in outside temperatures down to 20 degrees Fahrenheit, puppies, smaller dogs and older dogs should not be left outdoors when temperatures fall below 40 degrees. A shorthaired dog can quickly become chilled after leaving a warm house, so dress him in a sweater before heading outside. Older, arthritic dogs should not be left outdoors under any circumstances. Escort the older dog outside for toileting. If the yard has snow or ice, use a leash since he can easily slip and hurt himself. In all cases don't leave your pet in a vehicle during cold weather. A car in winter is like a refrigerator, holding in the cold and possibly causing the dog to freeze to death.

If you have any concern, seek medical attention but you should watch for:

- Frostbite occurs when a dog's ears, paws or tail get cold enough that ice crystals form in the tissue and causes damage. If you think your dog has frostbite, bring him into a warm area and soak the affected areas with warm water for about 20 minutes.
- Hypothermia, which occurs when the dog's body temperature goes below normal as a result of prolonged exposure to cold temperatures, is another very real danger during the cold winter months. Symptoms of hypothermia typically include shivering, lethargy, a low heart rate, slow breathing and unresponsiveness. If you notice any of these symptoms, warm the dog immediately.
- Nutritional needs. Like humans, a dog's internal system works extra hard in the cold to maintain appropriate body temperatures. As such, he needs extra fuel to burn and generate heat. Also, remember to provide plenty of fresh drinking water and keep it from freezing. It

is just as easy to get dehydrated in the winter as it is in the summer if proper amounts of water are not consumed.

All dogs need exercise, even when there is inclement weather or you just don't feel like going outside.

- Obedience training is one great way to exercise your dog's brain and tire them out mentally. He will need to concentrate on what you are asking him to do.
- Try playing some of these indoor games with your dog to keep him healthy and happy. In addition, playing with your dog, like training him, enhances the bond you share and helps him keep his focus on you!
- Call your dog to COME, put him in a SIT/STAY, and then move away from him. After a minute or so, call him to COME again, and repeat. Try to increase the distance you move away and the length of time you wait before calling your dog to you. This game is great for dogs with attention-seeking behaviors, as it teaches them to wait for your commands.
- Hide and Seek...This old standby is still loads of fun for you and your dog. Have your dog STAY in one room. Go into another room and hide. Call your dog. Try not to give away your location by laughing! Kids love to play this game with the family dog.
- Work For Your Dinner...Remember that dogs use about the same amount of energy when they are challenged mentally as physically!
 Treat-rewarding puzzles, such as the GameChanger by Bark Busters, Canine Genius connectable toys, or the Wobbler by KONG, make your dog work for his treats—or you can use kibble with the toys to feed your dog his entire meal.

The more you exercise your dog's brain, the happier and calmer he will be. Dogs that are bored are more likely to get into trouble. A tired dog is a good dog.

Vicki and Richard Horowitz, of Woodbridge, are dog behavioral therapists and trainers with Bark Busters, the world's largest dog training company. For more information, call 1-877-500-BARK (2275) or visit www.dog-training-new-haven-ct.com.





ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your batteries should be fully recharged by now, making you more than eager to get back into the swing of things full time. Try to stay focused so that you don't dissipate your energies.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're eager to charge straight ahead into your new responsibilities. But you'll have to paw the ground a little longer, until a surprise complication is worked out.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Rival factions are pressuring you to take a stand favoring one side or the other. But this isn't the time to play judge. Bow out as gracefully as possible, without committing yourself to any position.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Reassure a longtime, trusted confidante that you appreciate his or her words of advice. But at this time, you need to act on what you perceive to be your own sense of self-interest.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You need to let your warm Leonine heart fire up that new relationship if you hope to see it move from the "just friends" level to one that will be as romantic as you could hope for.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) There's still time to repair a misunderstanding with an honest explanation and a heartfelt apology. The sooner you do, the sooner you can get on with other matters.

LIBRA (September 23 to October

22) Expect a temporary setback as you progress toward your goal. Use this time to re-examine your plans and see where you might need to make some significant changes.

SCORPIO (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) Some missteps are revealed as the cause of current problems in a personal or professional partnership. Make the necessary adjustments and then move on.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to De**cember 21)** Jupiter's influence helps you work through a pesky problem, allowing your naturally jovial attitude to re-emerge stronger than ever. Enjoy your success.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Set aside your usual reluctance to change, and consider reassessing your financial situation so that you can build on its strengths and minimize its weaknesses.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Some recently acquired information helps open up a dark part of the past. Resolve to put what you've learned to good use. Travel plans continue to be favored.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)

Act on your own keen instincts. Your strong Piscean backbone will support you as someone attempts to pressure you into a decision you're not ready to make.

BORN THIS WEEK: You embody a love for traditional values combined with an appreciation of what's new and challenging.

WHEN IS IT TIME TO SAY GOODBYE?

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: As my dog gets older, I've been thinking more about when the time comes that we'll lose her. She doesn't have serious health issues now, just a little arthritis, but I wonder what I would do if

she approached the end of her life and were suffering. How do you know when it's "time"? There is always such love and trust toward us humans, how do we know when the lack of quality of life outweighs our desire to care for and protect man's best friend?

Lack of control over bowel seems like a good marker, as does difficulty standing and lethargy. What guidelines do you suggest? -- Amy M., via

DEAR AMY: There are few clear guidelines for when it's time to make that final trip to the veterinarian and That is always a discussion you'll want to have with the vet and with the other members of your family.

A number of factors come into play when determining end-of-life care for your pet. Their general physical con-

> dition and behavior; the disease(s) they're suffering from; their symptoms (and whether they're treatable); and more.

I've heard many anecdotes from pet owners about their dog or cat or Guinea pig's last

days. Each loss is different. And while there are some signs that a dog's time is approaching, as you outlined, often a pet has many more days and even years left.

So, I don't have an easy answer. I do have a wish for your dog, that she has a happy and illness-free senior life for as long as possible.

say our goodbyes to a beloved pet.

Send your questions or comments to ask@pawscorner.com.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps ARE YOU KIDDING? WHEN I BOUGHT THIS ON OUR LAST TRIP DON'T YOU REMEMBER ALL THE



LAFF-A-DAY



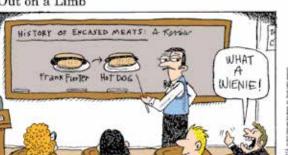
"I don't want tonight's company staying late. so be ready to play around 10."

THE CASHIER

BY RICARDO GALVÃO



Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

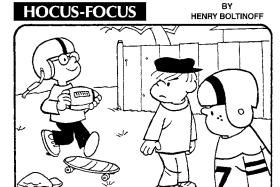
THE ONE DAY THAT LARRY MULROONEY WASN'T SENT TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE FOR YELLING OUT INSULTS AT MR. FERNICK IN CLASS.



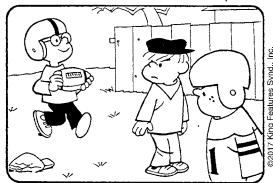
Highest Wine Prices

- 1. Ecuador
- 2. Switzerland
- 3. Norway
- 4. Thailand
- 5. Indonesia
- 6. Venezuela
- 7. South Korea
- 8. Israel
- 9. Singapore
- 10. United Arab
- **Emirates**

Source: SHAREaCAMPER.com



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Soil in

winter

Biological activity continues within soil throughout winter, even below freezing. Up to 70% of gases from the breakdown of plant

material, fertilizers, manure and microorganisms occurs in winter. The amount of gas released is affected by the soil temperature, which depends on how much snow is on the ground. This also affects phosphorus and carbon levels available in the soil

for spring growth. — Brenda Weaver



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