

Woodbridge Town News



Woodbridge's Exclusive Newspaper

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CIRCULATION 3654

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023

Proposed Mill Rate Up By 2.9 Percent

BY BETTINA THIEL

WOODBRIDGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Woodbridge Board of Finance, at the preliminary budget hearing on April 24, presented a budget for a total of \$56.2 million for the 2023-24 fiscal year. If approved, it will bring the mill rate to 45.08, which represents a 2.99% increase over this year's mill rate of 43.77. For the taxpayers, that would mean the average tax bill for a property with a market value of approximately \$400,000 would increase by some \$378 in the upcoming fiscal year.

The budget includes a 3.62% increase for Beecher Road School and a 4.48% increase for Woodbridge's share of the Amity budget. The total Amity budget, which is adopted by voters in a separate referendum, shows an increase of 2.25 %. The Amity referendum was scheduled to be held May 2, past this paper's press time.

The town side of the proposed 2023-24 spending plan is for \$21.2 million, a \$1 million increase over this year's budget, an increase of 5.26%. Budget drivers included increased funds for salaries and benefits, also costs for utilities, gas and gasoline, and for technology, with cyber security updates being required by the town's insurance carrier.

Some 30 or so residents were in attendance at the preliminary hearing, with some five or so speaking up and providing pushback to a number of budget items. Many of those in the audience were Town Hall employees who could offer background information when requested.

Veterinarian and local resident

Michael Broderick pointed out that the town of Easton has a mill rate of 28.3. But others pointed out that the home prices in that Fairfield County town are substantially higher than in Woodbridge. The tax bill is determined by both factors, the mill rate and the assessment. Among other topics Broderick complained that the town spends millions on the old firehouse, and to renovate the senior center, rather than move the Seniors to the former Country Club building.

Bob Hill, a former member of the Recreation Commission, remembered the late First Selectman Ed Sheehy, who passed away unexpectedly 10 years ago right after the preliminary hearing. Hill thanked the members of the commission for their volunteer work, but then proceeded to challenge them to find reductions in each of the departments that saw increases. He also requested a Charter revision to have the budget voted on by referendum rather than an in-person vote.

Recreation Director John Adamovich asked to have \$10,000 reinstated of a \$24,000 cut to his department budget.

Chuck Pyne was not happy to hear that the Beecher Road School roof, which has been leaking for years, will not be fixed until the summer of 2024. "To have our kids literally rained on is crazy," he said.

Reena Seltzer, an outspoken critic of the Amity administration and its initiatives, read from a letter, touching on subjects such as the surplus, the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

See "Mill Rate" On Page 16

'Experiencing Woodbridge' Committee Survey Results

BY BETTINA THIEL

WOODBRIDGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Woodbridge ad hoc committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) on April 26 shared and discussed the results of last year's survey, "Experiencing Woodbridge," in a community get-together in the JCC auditorium.

What shone through was that while diversity may be increasing in the still predominantly white town, equity and inclusion, at least from a minority perspective – continue to lag. The survey also invited respondents to look at diversity not only from a racial perspective, but included gender identity, disabilities, religious and socio-economic differences.

Steven Lawrence, a member of the committee who spearheaded the survey, presented a brief synopsis of responses, followed by lively conversation of the 25 or so in attendance.

Lawrence said they received 634 responses, which represents about 22% of all households. About one in three respondents are home to at least one person of color (2/3 are exclusively white); close to 1 in 4 have at least one immigrant and one in three have a family member with a disability. One in five reported having a family member who identifies as LGBTQ.

The results, though reflective of official demographic data, cannot be interpreted as being representative of

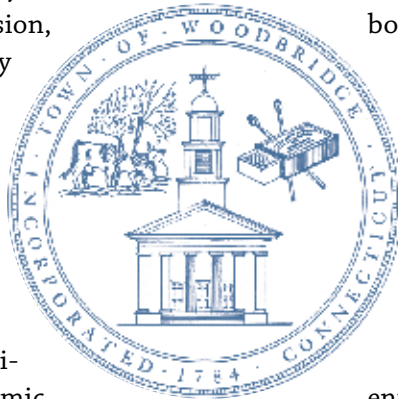
the community, Lawrence said. Even so, the responses received can be considered "suggestive of trends."

By and large, Woodbridge residents are comfortable participating in town events, and are comfortable engaging with town and school employees and in everyday life, he said. However, one in four reported feeling "somewhat or very" uncomfortable when engaging with town or Amity school leadership, including school board members. Persons of color and low-income households are most likely to report feeling uncomfortable when engaging with officials.

Despite a general sense of comfort, one in six of the respondents said they experienced discrimination. Close to half of those experiences were based on ethnic or racial identity. Examples: a person of color jogging along the streets was met with suspicion; a person of color at the dog park was greeted with "welcome to Woodbridge," even though they grew up here. (Would a white person be addressed the same way?)

Most notably, one in five indicated feeling excluded based on economic factors. A person living in the town's commercial district – also sometimes called The Flats, although that itself is considered discriminatory – feel that people from "upper Woodbridge" look down on them.

See "Survey Results" On Page 5



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Please accept my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who has reached out with kind expressions of sympathy following the recent passing of my mother.

Board of Selectmen Update

The April meeting of the Board of Selectmen featured a presentation by the 2030 Task Force and consultant Pirie Associates to outline a preliminary vision and place-making plan for the business/commercial district. I encourage you to view the WGATV recording of this portion of the meeting on YouTube to learn more. The Selectmen voted unanimously to endorse the concepts presented and asked the Task Force to schedule presentations to Town boards and commissions to begin rolling out this preliminary vision for transformation of this area, with the goal of growing and ensuring a healthier Grand List by 2030 and maximizing grant opportunities. The Task Force previously gave a presentation to interested residents and business owners regarding connectivity in the business district. Please stay tuned for more information on this exciting work.

Also at the meeting, the Selectmen received an update regarding the work of the Town Building Committee for Beecher Capital Projects which is in the process of advertising for and hiring architectural and civil engineering services. The committee is overseeing the replacement of portions of the roof and exterior grounds work to address water incursion at the school among other needs. It is important to keep in mind the timeframe for this project which is slated for completion during the summer of 2024. Please see a more complete update below under Beecher Road School Roof Update.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update

In 2022, the Town of Woodbridge received notice of a \$2.6 million distribution of federal funds through the Biden American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Through deliberate and careful consideration by Town officials, plans for these funds have been developed and incorporated into the 6-year Capital Budget plan. The Board of Selectmen approved this Capital budget proposal unanimously and forwarded this recommendation to the Board of Finance.

From the First Selectman BY BETH HELLER



A portion of the ARPA funds have already been put to an approved use, with an earlier distribution of \$275,000 to assist with the costs for a much needed HVAC system within the current Senior Center project. \$1.3 million of this award has been earmarked for improvements to the business/commercial district. The Town has made a commitment to increasing the Grand List, and the ad hoc 2030 Task Force is leading this important work. Qualifying for grants to both rejuvenate and improve the business district requires professional planning and engineering studies. That work is currently underway so the Town will be eligible to participate fully in the grant process.

Plans for the other portion of the ARPA funds include \$333,000 to supplement a \$500,000 STEAP grant (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) already received by the Town to renovate the Center Building gym. Another \$333,000 is planned to create outdoor space for an outdoor pavilion and other amenities to improve community connections and provide a safe open-air location for seniors, library programming and all other local groups. The final \$334,000 has been allocated to help defray construction costs on the renovation of the Old Firehouse into a Community and Cultural Center and add to the \$2 million in grant funds already in place for that project.

Town Budget Update

The budget process is always challenging and requires difficult decisions to arrive at a budget that balances support for valued services with tax levels that are fair and reasonable. Thank you to the residents who participated in the budget process to date, especially to those who attended the April 24 Preliminary Budget Hearing. We now look forward to the Annual Town Meeting, which will take place at the John Brady Auditorium at Amity High School on Monday, May 15 at 7:30 pm.

Beecher Road School Roof Update

The Woodbridge School District has been experiencing delays in a roof replacement project due to administra-

tive turnover and pandemic-related disruptions. Please keep in mind the district has had three superintendents and three business managers from mid-2020 to 2023 (three years). The district had initially proposed refurbishing the roof under the administration of Superintendent Robert Gilbert, who left the district in 2020. The project was reviewed and then proposed again as a roof replacement project by the next Superintendent Dr. Jonathan Budd. However, the option to include funding for the project in a multi-project bonding process was ultimately not pursued. When the Town was informed by Interim Superintendent Christine Syriac that full replacement of portions of the roof was required, in September 2022 a Building Committee was formed – a necessary step to receive a state-funded School Construction grant, which is anticipated. The Town is currently working with the new Superintendent Vonda Tencza and the Board of Education to finally get this done. The Building Committee is following a process that includes issuing an RFQ for professional architectural and engineering services (which has been sent out), followed by five phases of contracted A&E work and a referendum for approval to bond the project costs. We have been informed by the WBOE that the project cannot disrupt academic activities, and as a result the earliest the roofing and other improvements can be started is summer 2024.

Despite the delays, the Woodbridge School District and the Town have been working together in harmony to address the identified building issues as expeditiously as possible, and the Building Committee has been keeping the public informed of the project details and scheduling timeline, and noted that the delays in the district’s participation in the necessary partnership between the WBOE and the Town that may have occurred in the past have now been rectified by the current district administration. The Building Committee also acknowledged the importance of respecting the taxpayer investment in the building, which includes a \$13.7 million Renovation Project completed in January 2017 and scheduled for bond repayment

in full by 2037.

In the meantime, the Building Committee has continued to urge the Woodbridge Board of Education to take the necessary interim steps to correct leaks and limit water damage to the greatest extent possible between now and the start of capital project work in mid-2024, and have been assured this is happening. You may keep up to date on the work of this committee by reviewing meeting agendas and minutes at the Town website.

Regional Water Authority Update

In December of 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency revised the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) with new regulations intended to protect public health. Based on those revisions, the Regional Water Authority (RWA) will launch a new project in the coming months as it begins to look at water connections from RWA mains onto private properties. They will reach out to residents who utilize the public water system via mailings. This project will not involve those who utilize wells. RWA has already begun to inventory accounts and will, with homeowners’ assistance, evaluate infrastructure on private properties. Stay tuned for more information as the RWA rolls out this new program.

Memorial Day Ceremony

The annual Woodbridge Memorial Day ceremony will be held Monday, May 29 at 11 am at the VFW monument in front of the Center Building on Meetinghouse Lane. The keynote speaker this year will be Major General Thomas R. Bouchard, Deputy Commander for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs, United States Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, Florida. The program, led by Dr. Barry Josephs, will also include patriotic music, a memorial wreath presentation, the Woodbridge Police Department Honor Guard, and remarks by state and local elected officials. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the Center Building gym. Another item for your calendars is an event planned by the Governor’s office to honor Vietnam Veterans. This ceremony will be held in Woodbridge on July 17 and will feature special citations to all residents who are Vietnam veterans.

Please feel free, as always, to reach out to me at 203-389-3401 or bheller@woodbridgect.org.

“Mama was my greatest teacher, a teacher of compassion, love and fearlessness. If love is sweet as a flower, then my mother is that sweet flower of love.” — STEVIE WONDER

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Woodbridge Town News

Below are the next three issue dates & deadlines of the Woodbridge Town News.
Thank you for your submissions to Your Home Town Newspaper.

Upcoming Issue Date	Issue Deadline
May 26 Memorial Day Issue	May 19
June 23 Independence Day Issue.....	June 16
September 1 Labor Day & Back to School Issue.....	August 25

Note: Copy due by 4:00p.m. Thank you.

“Survey Results” From Page 1

Political affiliation was also cited as a discriminatory issue, with Republicans feeling excluded from the life of the town, which at least one respondent felt is being run by “virtually all Democrats or left-leaning independents.”

“We have real goodwill in this community,” Lawrence told the Board of Selectmen when he presented the results of the survey back at its November 2022 meeting. “But there is a subset that isn’t feeling as comfortable. Maybe it needs to be made feel more welcomed more intentionally than has been the case.”

The response among the group that came out for “Experiencing Woodbridge” had differing reactions on the issues that were brought up in the survey.

One Town Hall employee was surprised to hear that people were uneasy engaging with officials. She had always considered it a welcoming place. Another was surprised at the socioeconomic differences that could contribute to microaggressions. “I was blind to that,” he said.

Another found the results “sobering, but not surprising.” They talked about the importance of continuing the conversations, especially in a town

like Woodbridge where neighbors sometimes barely know each other. And they all agreed that getting involved helped them find connection.

Robert Reed, who is Black and a member of the ad-hoc committee, said Blacks need to be more involved in the town. He admitted that he himself was working hard for many years and traveling for work which prevented him from getting involved in the town he called home. “But now I am here,” he said.

More minority people willing to get involved in groups at all levels, that is what is needed to galvanize change, he said. “Over time we will have more representation.”

Mica Cardozo, a former Selectman, remembered when growing up he did not want to drive through Woodbridge because he and his friends were concerned about racial profiling. Ironically, he now serves on the Police Commission.

Participants encouraged the ad hoc committee to continue creating opportunities for conversation. “We have a richer community when we have a diverse community,” said Steven Lawrence in closing. And, referring to the shared experience of dealing with the sometimes destructive work of pesky woodpeckers, “we all have woodpeckers on our house.”

Woodbridge Town News

WTN LETTERS POLICY

Submit your letters for our "From Our Readers" section to:
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OPINION

From the Democratic
Town Committee

BY ELLEN SCALETTAR
WDTC CHAIRMAN



Making Connections

The Woodbridge Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI), which I have the privilege to co-chair with Tahera Parvez, has sponsored a variety of events designed to bring our community together by heightening our awareness of, and sensitivity to, the experiences of our neighbors. One way the Committee has done this is through an ongoing book talk series. Residents have thus far had the opportunity to discuss issues focusing on the experiences of Black, Asian, and Jewish communities in America.

The DEI Committee has also sponsored and organized the now annual Woodbridge Like Me Day, which last year attracted over 300 participants. Woodbridge Like Me Day highlights and celebrates the many communities that make up our increasingly diverse Town. The next Woodbridge Like Me Day will be held on September 30; you may want to mark your calendar now.

The Committee also conducted the Experiencing Woodbridge Survey as a “temperature check” of how well we as a community are creating a welcoming environment. It offers a window into how our experiences may mirror or differ from those of our neighbors. And last month, the Committee hosted a Community Conversation at the JCC to discuss the results of the survey. About 30 people participated in this discussion, expressing their love of Woodbridge, their appreciation for our outstanding schools, abundant open space, and natural beauty, and their desire to find more ways to engage with a broader cross section of Town residents.

This desire for greater connection is especially timely as we consider the recent experience of 16-year-old Ralph Yarl, who was shot in Kansas City because he accidentally went to

the wrong house to pick up his siblings. This is something that should never happen anywhere. Let’s protect against it in Woodbridge by getting to know and appreciate our neighbors and the many ways our values and goals for our families and our community align.

As we learn more about the experiences of others in our community, we become better neighbors. We also recognize that here, as in any other community, there is much to be done to become more welcoming and connected. Woodbridge can be proud that we recognize these goals and that we are committed to a sustained effort to achieve them.

For those thinking about ways to become more engaged, it is helpful to know that this is the first year that Woodbridge municipal elections will be held in November, rather than May. Now is an ideal time to start thinking about whether you would like to get involved in campaigns or otherwise engage in Town activities. In addition to elected offices, the Town depends heavily upon appointed volunteer board and commission members. This year, the terms of several of our board and commission members will expire at the end of the year, consistent with our new election schedule. You can find descriptions of the Town boards and commissions here: ecode360.com/10519279.

If you have an interest in running for office or in filling an appointed position, the Woodbridge Democratic Town Committee would like to hear from you. Please contact us at: communications@woodbridgedems.org. To learn more about the Woodbridge Democratic Town Committee, please visit our website: [http:// www.woodbridgedems.org](http://www.woodbridgedems.org). We look forward to connecting with you!

Examining Rise in Assaults
on Judeo-Christian Values

The Connecticut premiere of award-winning Gloria Z. Greenfield’s latest documentary, “Civilization in the Danger Zone,” will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at the Woodbridge Library. Victor Davis Hanson, Ruth Wisse, Larry Arnn, Heather Mac Donald, Rich Lowry, Christopher Rufo, Carol Swain, Eric Cohen, and Kenneth Marcus are among the 23 renown scholars and culture critics in the film.

The 65-minute documentary exposes the divisive political and cul-

tural agendas and how they subvert Western values and liberties like family, faith, and national pride and identity. The documentary offers insights into how to reverse the tide of our civilization decline.

The event will begin at 6:15pm. Following the screening of the film, the filmmaker will be present for Q&A with the audience. The Woodbridge Library is located at 10 Newton Road. Admission is free, but your RSVP is required via email: rnl525ct@gmail.com.

From Across the Aisle

BY CHUCK PYNE
WRTC CHAIRMAN



How Bad Is Bad, And How
Do We Make It Better?

The Country Club of Woodbridge/ Roger Sherman farm/golf course – whatever you call it – has been the top challenge facing our town since we bought it over thirteen years ago. Early attempts to subcontract management of the property to continue golf operations ended for a variety of reasons. The Democrat majority has promoted three different large-scale proposals to build housing on the property, the first one defeated by voters and the other two yanked in response to voter concerns. It’s a painful history but lamenting mistakes won’t help us figure out what use of the property will be supported by a majority of Woodbridge residents.

Where are we today? First, let’s look at the condition of the grounds and clubhouse, as that’s the starting point for any effort to resolve the situation. We know the grounds are overgrown, at least in part because volunteer offers to address the overgrowth were rejected by Town leadership. As for the clubhouse, few residents know how significantly the building has been allowed to deteriorate. We have recorded video, taken in March of this year, that documents how bad things really are. That video can be found at WoodbridgeGOP.com and on our Facebook page. If you have ever attended a function at the club, the video will break your heart. If you’re a taxpayer, you should be outraged by how this asset has been handled – or more accurately mishandled – by both the Scalettar and Heller administrations. We encourage everyone to watch the video and assess for yourselves if the Democrat leadership has done a good job managing this town asset. Be advised the conditions and some of the graffiti are shocking.

Where do we go from here? The Board of Selectmen is currently making moves to issue an RFP for consultant advice on possible uses for the property. Sounds good – but the devil is always in the details. In 2013 the Republican Selectmen candidates suggested hiring a consultant – but were specific in proposing we engage a company specializing in golf course repurposing. Hiring a consultant is still the right approach ten years later. But since that time, town residents have offered multiple

ideas for the property. Some want to re-establish the golf course and clubhouse, some propose leasing acreage for a solar farm, others would carve out the clubhouse acreage for development while preserving most of the land as open space, still others want to build affordable housing. The point is that Woodbridge residents have multiple visions for the property – so what we need now is analysis of those ideas. The RFP should be focused on expert analysis of each idea including feasibility, tax consequences, the impact on our schools, traffic and public services, housing considerations and population changes. Additional possibilities may emerge after this analysis is complete, but we first need to give residents the benefit of analyzing the ideas that they have repeatedly offered. And to be clear, what we DON’T need is an RFP that steers the consultant toward the same, tired proposal for large-scale housing development that the Democrat leadership has repeatedly promoted.

The analysis of each option should be presented to the Woodbridge residents in a public forum with ample opportunity to ask questions and offer comments. Multiple forums would likely be required. Our residents’ ideas deserve a thorough review with data, facts and figures.

Once we’ve received the analysis and given residents plenty of time for input, there may be opportunity to combine some of the ideas for further public vetting. Through this process, the BOS will be able to identify what option(s) are acceptable to a majority of voters. Armed with that info, the BOS could develop specific plans for the property’s future that would be put to voters by referendum.

Woodbridge voters should know that local Republicans are focused on solutions to the challenges facing our town. Republican creativity and leadership can strengthen our town as we present practical ways to keep Woodbridge the great town it is in many ways and protect it for future generations. The golf course is our biggest long-term challenge and the path we propose here for the golf course is an option voters should seriously consider. We can and will do better for Woodbridge.

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EDUCATION

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Former Amity students who were born between 1998-2000 and/or having graduated in 2017 who have received special services at the Amity Middle School, Orange; Amity Middle School, Bethany; or Amity Regional High School

may obtain their special education records. You must call 203-397-4820 prior to claiming records in order to allow sufficient time to retrieve your records from our archives and schedule a time for pick up.

If you wish to obtain records, please call 203-397-4820 and leave a detailed message with student name, date of birth and a phone number.

If records are not claimed by June 30, 2023, they will be destroyed.

CAC Area 2 Announces Three New Scholarships

The Cable Advisory Council of Area 2 (CAC) will bestow three new \$1000 scholarships in memory of former longtime Chairperson Howard Jacobson. In order to apply, you must be a high school or college student studying film, mass communications, television or media studies. The selected students will each receive these scholarships to help further their studies.

The Cable Advisory Council of Area 2, which serves the towns of Fairfield, Bridgeport, Stratford, Milford, Orange and Woodbridge promotes quality Community Access Television. The Council is an ongoing asset for CAC 2 with the support of Altice/Cablevision.

Scholarship Qualifications & Criteria - Applicants must be able to prove: They currently reside, and/or are students attending high school, community college, college, or university in

one of the six CAC area towns: Fairfield, Bridgeport, Stratford, Milford, Orange or Woodbridge.

They have a declared a major in the mass communications, or media studies. Along with pursuing a career in this field, they are taking classes or engaged in independent studies.

They are in good standing with their academic institution.

Entry rules: Entrants must submit a short essay under 500 words describing their creative coursework, portfolio or project and how it relates to this scholarship award. Supplemental links to media projects are welcome. Winners will be selected on the basis of their overall academic performance, portfolio and their personal statement.

Deadline to apply is September 15, 2023. To apply, please email: info@cacarea2.com.

STUDENT NEWS

Achievements
Woodbridge Student Recognized On 2023 ALL IN Student Voting Honor Roll

Harrisonburg, VA - James Madison University student William McKeon of Woodbridge has been recognized as part of the 2023 ALL IN Student Voting Honor Roll. The ALL IN Student Voting Honor Roll awards college students doing outstanding work to advance nonpartisan democratic engagement at participating campuses. McKeon joins a group of 175 students recognized for their voter registration, education and turnout efforts ahead of last year's historic midterm elections. The 2022 midterm elections saw one of the high-

est youth turnout rates for a midterm election in the past 40 years - an estimated 23 percent of young people ages 18 to 29 turned out to vote.

Dean's List
Washington University in St. Louis

St Louis, MO - Jacob Silbert, of Bethany, CT is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2022 semester at Washington University in St. Louis. To qualify for the Dean's List in the College of Arts & Sciences, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 14 graded units.

LOCAL BUSINESS

Claudia M. Sklar Joins Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity Board

Claudia M. Sklar, principal with the law firm of Neubert, Pepe & Monteith, P.C., has been appointed to the Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity (LCD) Board of Directors. The Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity was formed to unite the resources, energy and commitment of the region's leading corporations, public sector entities, law firms, law schools and state bar associations to advance diversity in the legal profession.

LCD's mission is to support the efforts of its members to identify, recruit, advance and retain attorneys of color and women in Connecticut, Westchester County and Western Massachusetts and to make the community a more attractive place to practice law and find satisfying professional opportunities.



Claudia M. Sklar

Claudia M. Sklar has been engaged in the litigation of general civil and commercial matters, with an emphasis on creditors' rights including commercial and residential foreclosures, commercial law, and title insurance litigation for over 45 years. Another major focus of Claudia's practice centers around protecting and preserving the rights of same sex couples, LGBTQIA clients and their families. Attorney Sklar is a graduate of Adelphi University and the University of Connecticut School of Law. She is admitted to practice before

the courts of the State of Connecticut and the U.S. District Court, Bankruptcy Court, and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

Neubert, Pepe & Monteith, P.C. is a general practice law firm in New Haven and Hartford, Connecticut with offices in Fairfield, Connecticut and White Plains, New York (npmlaw.com). Our team of attorneys possesses the exceptional legal and professional skills required to meet clients' objectives. The team's depth, talent, and dedication to client success allow Neubert, Pepe & Monteith to better serve clients locally and nationally.

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TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

Youth Services

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Woodbridge First Selectman's Youth Award Winner

Jack Morrison is the 2023 recipient of the First Selectman's Youth Award. He is an Amity High School junior who has performed community service making "We Care Kits" for the homeless, "Gratitude Baskets" for school staff during Covid, trimming and leveling a path at a local farm, and assisting at local events. He works through the Job Bank repeatedly doing much physical labor for residents.

An elderly gentleman, who moved into a home where the outdoor space had been neglected, nominated Jack for his willingness to volunteer his efforts. Jack "converted the deterioration into pristine surroundings." This man was also impressed by Jack's many abilities and unsung talents. Jack is involved with his high school orchestra which provides music for concerts and award-winning musicals. He competes for his school on the math team within the greater New Haven Area, sings with their a cappella group, and plays trombone in the jazz band. Jack also provides music instruction to students in Bridgeport who do not have access to music. His award will be presented at a Volunteer Celebration in May.

Spring Fling Party for 7th & 8th Graders with Big Daddy's Racing

On Friday, May 19, 6-8pm, behind Amity Middle School-Bethany, teens will enjoy RC cars, a DJ, refreshments, games, and the free raffle for fun prizes. AMSB students and all 7th and 8th grade residents of Bethany and Woodbridge are invited. Fee is only \$7. Challenge your friends while you steer your RC car to win the race. Dance, play cornhole, and munch on snacks. Rain brings program inside to the gym. Check out our Facebook for the flyer. Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany sponsor the evening programs.

Volunteers Needed: Adults, college students, and older high school students are needed to help between 5:30 and 8:15 pm. Email Youthone@Woodbridgect.org. Call 203-389-3429 to help.

Spring Paint Party

Youth Services is planning an after-school paint party for Amity Mid-

dle School-Bethany students on May 25 from 2:30 – 4:00 pm in the school's West Cafeteria. Check our Facebook and the AMSB newsletter for details. No artistic talent is needed. Fee is \$15 and includes materials and refreshments. Call Youth Services to register.

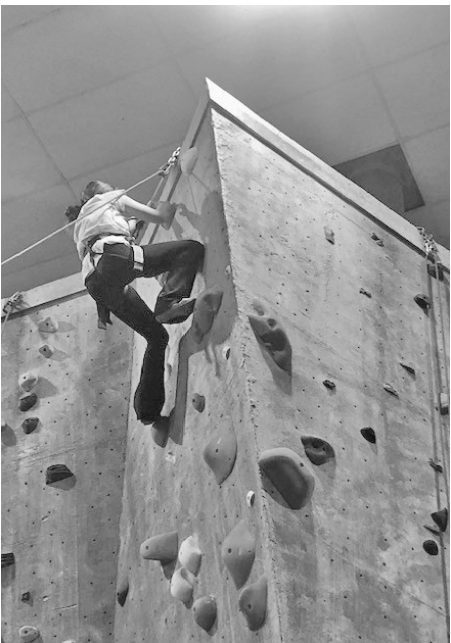
Woodbridge Job Bank Seeks Teens Who Want Work

The Job Bank in Woodbridge offers occasional jobs to teen residents (ages 13 – 18) who would like to work for Woodbridge residents to earn money. Youth Services provides an opportunity to learn about the interview process, safety on the job, and how to negotiate pay. Improve your communication skills and gain experience. Do snow shoveling, yard work, spring clean-up, babysitting, dog walking, etc. Call for an interview at 203-389-3464 or e-mail npfund@woodbridgect.org. Masks and social distancing may be required.

Teens Need Jobs

Woodbridge residents who wish to hire someone for odd jobs like babysitting, yard work, moving boxes, animal care, etc. Save your energy and keep teens working to gain experience. Call 203-389-3464 for more information.

Amity Connections Climbs to New Heights



Amity Connections Field Trip to Climbing Walls at Rock Spot

Students at Amity High School join Amity Connections to mentor and be supported and supportive. Their actions did not go unnoticed when students visited Rock Spot to do some climbing in Wallingford. Teens cheered each other on to climb walls of many heights. Woodbridge and Orange Youth Services funded the trip on April 19th and sponsored a pizza lunch and snacks.

Recreation News



Memberships Available!

The Health & Wellness Fitness Center is available to those over the age of 16. Equipment available: 3 Treadmills, 1 Recumbent Bike, 3 Ellipticals, 1 Nu Step cross trainer machine, 2 Upright bikes, Lat Pull Down machine, Leg press Machine, Leg Extension machine, Flat bench with dumbbells, Incline bench with dumbbells. The Center is now open: Monday-Friday: 9:00am-12:00pm;

- › Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 4:00pm-9:00pm;
- › Tuesday & Thursday: 6:00pm-8:45pm;
- › Saturday & Sunday: 8:00am-12:00pm.

For membership rates, call the Recreation Office at 203-389-3446.

Girls Summer Basketball Camp

Amity girls' basketball Head Coach,

Nick Dottori, in conjunction with the Woodbridge Recreation Department, will be offering a weeklong girls basketball camp this summer from June 19-23 from 9am-12pm at the Amity High School main gym. Register by May 26th for a free T-Shirt. To register online, please scan QR code or for more information on the program, please email nickdottori@gmail.com or recreation@woodbridgect.org

High School Summer Basketball League

Woodbridge Recreation will be offering a High School basketball summer league on Thursday nights from 6:00-8:00pm at the Center Gym from June 22-August 10. The cost is \$50 per player. A minimum of 20 players are needed. To register online, please scan QR code or call the Recreation Office at 203-389-3446 for more information.



HUMAN SERVICES



The Woodbridge Center’s renovation will be completed in just a couple of months. The Center will feature a new reception area, a consultation office, multi-use space for many programming options, and most importantly a modern and healthy ventilation system. Pictured is the new reception area. Stay tuned for information about its opening.

COVID Clinics

In partnership with Griffin Health and the Department of Public Health, there will be two all-age COVID-19 vaccination clinics held in the Center Building gym on May 3 and June 1. No appointments are needed-ages 6 months to 100+ are welcome. Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are available for both the primary series and the bivalent booster. Each clinic will run from 2 pm to 6 pm. Please bring a health insurance card and a photo ID if you have them, but it is not necessary to

have either to receive a vaccine. Check with your physician to see if you are up to date on your vaccines.

May is Better Hearing and Speech month!

According to the CDC this annual event encourages people to think about their own hearing and get their hearing checked. Early identification and intervention for hearing loss is important. Many people live with unidentified hearing loss, often failing to realize that they are missing certain sounds and words. Checking



Ilknur Akdeniz of Woodbridge stands with the collected medical supplies, blankets, baby clothes, hygiene kits, coats, and socks collected by Woodbridge Human Services for earthquake relief. She and her husband, Eser, plan to bring all the collected supplies directly to Iskenderun in Hatay Province on the Mediterranean Coast of Turkey for distribution there.

one’s hearing is the first step toward addressing the issue.

Living Treasure Planning Committee Volunteers Sought

Human Services will hold the 5th annual Living Treasure event this fall. The event will honor 2-3 residents age 60 or over, who have demonstrated positive actions to improve the quality of life in Woodbridge, have contributed and may continue to contribute their time to enhance our community, and have performed this work on a volunteer, unpaid basis. Members of the community are welcome to join the event planning committee which meets during the months of June, July, August, and September. Please call 203-389-3429 to volunteer.

Food Pantry

Residents in need may contact Human Services for access to non-perishable food each month. The food pantry is currently looking for donations of canola/olive oils, ground coffee, baking mixes/snacks, canned chicken, salad dressing, pasta sauce, toothbrushes/

tooth paste, deodorant, and laundry detergent. Kindly check all expiration dates prior to drop-off.

Volunteer Appreciation Event

The Human Services Department will honor volunteers at the 33rd Annual Volunteer Recognition celebration in May. Attendance at this event is by invitation only. Many thanks to all those who support the Department’s mission.

Memorial Day Event

Mark your calendars for the Memorial Day ceremony in front of the Center Building on May 29 at 11 am. Inclement weather will bring the event into the Center Building gym. The keynote speaker this year will be Major General Thomas R. Bouchard, Deputy Commander for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs, United States Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, Florida. The program, led by Dr. Barry Josephs, will also include patriotic music, a memorial wreath presentation, the Woodbridge Police Department Honor Guard, and remarks by state and local elected officials.

Mother's Day

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Woodbridge Rotarians recently delivered thesauruses to Beecher Road School as a gift for third graders. Shown (from left) are teacher Aimee Meacham, Rotarians Karen Bellamy, Buddy DeGennaro and Anna Dickerson, and teachers John Hutchinson, Mary Vincitorio, Nina Triplett and Visna Ngov.

Rotary Donates Thesauruses to Third Graders

The Woodbridge Rotary Club recently donated a thesaurus to 125 third graders at Beecher Road School. In the past, the Club donated dictionaries, but this year Beecher Road School requested a change to a thesaurus instead. Three Rotarians delivered the books and chatted with the students about Rotary and about the meaning of a thesaurus.

It may have come as a surprise to some of the students to find out that a thesaurus is not a new species of dinosaurs, even though they found a list of 792 dinosaurs at the back of the book! Instead, they learned how a thesaurus can help them find other

words with similar meanings.

Teacher Aimee Meacham shared some of the students’ reactions to receiving the book. At least one of the students was excited about the dinosaur cover. “I really liked the dinosaur cover and how there were all the dinosaur facts on the back.”

Another student enjoyed discovering how they can swap a more succinct word for another. “It was so exciting to get a new book. We used it right away in my class to find better ways to say the word ‘said.’ It helped a lot.”

“I like how we get to bring the thesaurus home at the end of the year. They said we could keep it forever.”

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AT THE WOODBRIDGE CENTER



Deb Urso, Hamden Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, Kristy Moriarty and Jessica Esposito, Woodbridge Center, and Rosemary Bilash, The Linden at Woodbridge, helped with distribution at the Spring Drive-thru. The drive-thru was sponsored by The Linden & Woodbridge Center with Hamden Health providing a pansy to attendees. (Not pictured: Jeanette Glicksman, Woodbridge Human Services.)

More information on available programs and services can be found on The Center’s page of the Town Website. Please go to SchedulesPlus <https://schedulesplus.com/woodct> to directly sign-up for most programs. Call 203-389-3430 or email kmoriarty@woodbridgect.org with questions or for more information.

Facebook: Follow us on Facebook (The Woodbridge Center, Woodbridge CT) for current updates, local information, and fun programming photos.

Email blasts: Things change quick-

ly - please make sure you are on our email blast list to receive Woodbridge Center updates. Call The Center at 203-389-3430 to subscribe.

The Woodbridge Center Renovation Update: The Woodbridge Center’s renovation is rapidly progressing forward with a projected ribbon cutting scheduled for mid-June. Stay tuned for more information about this long-awaited return to The Center!

Sponsored Lunch (for Woodbridge residents

60 years of age or over)
Mother’s Day Drive-thru Luncheon

Thursday, May 11, 12-1 pm – In front of main entrance of The Center

Everyone is welcome to celebrate all mothers at the Mother’s Day Drive-thru Luncheon. Enjoy Quiche Lorraine, fresh fruit, and dessert sponsored by Visiting Angels of Woodbridge and Elim Park. Also enjoy a special treat provided by Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. No charge. Please RSVP by May 5.

Upcoming Programs
Lunch Bunch to Gabriele’s Ristorante Italiano

Wednesday, May 10
Van leaves The Center at 11:30 am or meet at Gabriele’s at 12 pm

Join in a social outing to lunch at Gabriele’s Ristorante Italiano in Orange. Self-pay for your meal at the restaurant. \$3 per person for transportation (or meet at the restaurant). Call The Center to RSVP by May 5.

See “Woodbridge Center” On Page 23



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**BRUNCH
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Mother’s Day Grand Buffet

Sunday, May 14th 2023

BRUNCH STATION (10:30am – 1:30pm)
Fresh Omelets Made To Order, Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Oatmeal Encrusted French Toast, Waffles, Smoked Applewood Bacon, Spanish Chorizo, Spanish Frittata, Muffins.

KIDS STATION (ALL DAY)
Pizza, Mac & Cheese, Pasta Butter/Red Sauce, Chicken Nuggets and fries

SALAD STATION (ALL DAY)
Guacamole, Local Mix Green Salad With Gorgonzola, Humus Pita Bread, Display Manchego Cheese, Serrano Ham, Spanish sausages

HOT HORS D’OEUVRES STATION (2:pm – 6:30pm)
Home made Empanadas, Meatball, Ham Croquettes, Chickpeas Spinach, Drunken Mussels

ENTRÉE
Boneless Organic Mediterranean Chicken, Plantain Encrusted Seabass, Paella Valenciana, Beef Stew Pasta, Roasted Vegetables, Roasted Potatoes, Spanish Rice And Beans

CARVING STATION
Slow Cooked Juicy Angus Prime Rib Of Beef, Roasted Country Style Ham

DESSERT STATION
Assortment Of Fresh Fruits, Assortment Of Cookies, Tres Leches Cake, Chocolate Cake, Spanish cheesecake, ice cream kids, Fresh Brewed Coffee And Assortment Of Teas

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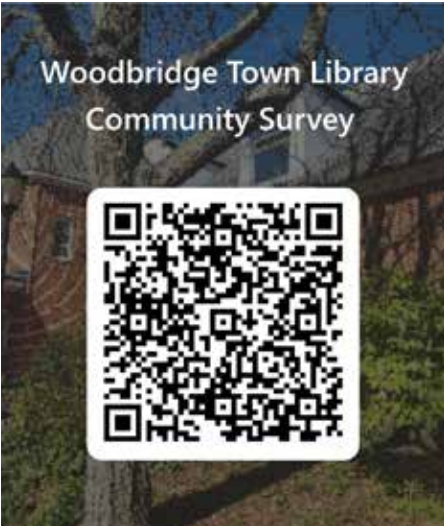
Tween/Teen: Penfield Beach



All information accurate at press time. Be sure to check our website woodbridgetownlibrary.org or call us before your visit for any changes to our hours or events.

Community Survey

We want to figure out the best ways to continue to serve the community, so please take five minutes to complete our survey! You can access it via QR code or by visiting this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/dCMGRQ1kwm>. Thank you for your help.



Library Skywatch on Hiatus until Fall

Due to the increase in daylight hours, the Library Skywatch program will be taking a break until the fall. The Library plans on making the telescope available for checkout and home use—watch for more information!

Peeps in the Library Diorama Contest

Our 2023 Peeps in the Library Diorama Contest had 15 entries—nearly double the amount entered in 2022. Thank you to all who participated. Hope to see you back next Spring! Congratulations to our Peeps in the Library Diorama Contest winners!!!

Now For Sale: Totes and Books! Totes with Notable Quotes!

Support the Library by purchasing a tote bag—\$20 each, or two for \$35. Choose from five different bags, each with a different quote. For example: “A book must be the axe for the frozen

sea within us,” Franz Kafka. “No need to hurry. No need to sparkle. No need to be anybody but one-self,” Virginia Woolf. Thanks to the Friends of the Woodbridge Library for their support.

Historic Woodbridge, 2nd Edition!

Enjoy pages filled with details about the history of Woodbridge. Historic homes, community buildings, and the people of ‘olden days’ come alive in this book—on sale for \$30 (from \$45). Stop by the Library to purchase. ***Cash or check payment are accepted for both items. Card payment accepted only for tote purchase.

The Friends of the Library Seek Student Volunteers

Woodbridge resident Richard Blackwell recently endowed an annual Volunteer Scholarship for graduating Amity High School seniors who have volunteered at the Friends of the Library bookstore. Mr. Blackwell values the spirit of volunteerism in young people; he is an enthusiastic supporter of the library and is also on the Library Commission. If you are an Amity student and you are interested in volunteering at the Friends of the Library, email the Friends with your contact information and the times you would be available at woodbridgetcfriends@gmail.com.

Online Card Registration Available

Are you a Woodbridge resident? You can sign up for a library card online! Visit our website, woodbridgetownlibrary.org. After registering, you will immediately be able to use your new account to place holds on items for pick up at the library. We will then contact you via email within 2 business days with your new library card number. At this time, you will get full access to our electronic resources, including downloadable books and magazines. Please note that this is a temporary registration that will expire in 30 days. Before the 30 days is up, please visit the Woodbridge Town Library in person to verify your name and address. At that time, you will receive a permanent

library card.

Do we have your email address?

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

Need a Notary?

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

Library Information

We are open Monday through Thursday, 10 am to 8 pm and Friday and Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. Visit the Library website 24/7 to access digital resources - woodbridgetownlibrary.org. We are fine-free and have automatic renewals on most items. Call or email to place holds, ask questions, find out information, and more.

Department phones and emails

- Adult Services/Reference: 203-389-3434; reference@woodbridgetownlibrary.org;
 - Children’s Department: 203-389-3439; childrens@woodbridgetownlibrary.org;
 - Circulation/General info: 203-389-3433; circulation@woodbridgetownlibrary.org.
- Not sure who you need? Email ask-us@woodbridgetownlibrary.org.

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From Adult Services 4 Critical Components to a Successful Retirement Tuesday, May 9 at 6 PM

Learn how to get the most out of your retirement with these 4 critical components: Inflation, Social Security,

Taxes Now & In Retirement, and Market Volatility & Income Needs. This workshop is presented by USA Financial. Please register online or at the library.

The Shoreline Jazz Quintet: Celebrating the Music of Bill Evans Saturday, June 3 at 2 PM

Join the Shoreline Jazz Quintet for their program about American jazz pianist and composer Bill Evans! Featuring Mike Bimonte on drums, (Deepak) Cyril D’Souza on saxophones, Rich Meyers on vibraphone, Steve Roane on acoustic bass, and Stephen Wood on electric guitar. Please register online or at the library.

Woodbridge Writers Workshop

Every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, from 3 to 5 pm. Gather with area writers as we read and critique our works in a friendly atmosphere. Register online or at the library. More information on our website or call the reference desk.

Woodbridge Scrabble Group

Wednesdays at 11 AM Meet with friends and neighbors for friendly games of Scrabble every week in the Meeting Room. No registration required.

Indoor Film Screenings

Thursdays at 7 PM Join us on Thursday evenings for a movie screening in our Meeting Room. No registration is required to attend, but seating is first come, first serve.

Saturday Morning Meditation

Every Saturday at 10:15 am, one hour of silent Vipassana (mindfulness) meditation is hosted by experienced meditation instructors. Registration suggested, but walk-ins welcome too!

Especially For Teens Teen Volunteers needed!

Check out our teen page on our website to see what volunteer opportunities are available, or email Emily Cantor, Head of Children’s: ecantor@woodbridgetownlibrary.org.





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DEATH NOTICES



Patricia Ann Cooper
Patricia Ann Cooper, age 81, beloved wife of Wesley S. Cooper of Bethany, died peacefully on June 7, 2022 at Griffin Hospital with her family by her side. Born in Bridgeport on November 14, 1940, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Genevieve Sojka Kubik. Mrs. Cooper was a longtime resident of Bethany and worked for many years as a private duty, licensed practical nurse. In addition to her husband, she will be greatly missed by her devoted daughters, Robin McLaughlin, Dawn (Mike) Bethke, and Christy (Phil) Maiorano; a brother Joseph Kubik, a sister, Sharon Chormanski; six cherished grandchildren, Amy Cooper, Philip Cooper, William McLaughlin, Jennifer Coop-

er, Philip Maiorano and Mak Bethke; three cherished great-grandchildren, as well as many loving cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.
A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at 12:30 PM in the Wakelee Memorial Funeral Home, 167 Wakelee Avenue, Ansonia. Interment will be private. Family and friends may call on Saturday morning from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM, prior to the service. Online condolences may be made at www.wakeleememorial.com.

Michael Luther
Michael Luther of Woodbridge, Connecticut passed away peacefully on April 9, 2023. He was 94 years old. Michael moved to Woodbridge in 1957. His wife Imogene Rhodes Pratt Luther joined him in 1964 and they raised their daughter Sarah there. Michael loved the town and served it in many capacities including 8 years on the Amity Regional Board of Education, 12 years on the Amity Regional Building Committee, 11 years on the Woodbridge Board of Finance and 5 years as Woodbridge Town Treasurer. Michael and his wife Imogene, who died in 2021, were devoted members for many decades of Christ Episcopal Church (526 Amity Road, Bethany CT). A celebration of both their lives will be held there on June 10th at 11:00 a.m.

Woodbridge Town News

DEATH NOTICES

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

“Library” From Page 14

From The Children’s Department
Book Chat & Craft: Learn About Rock Climber Ashima Shiraishi

Saturday, May 6 at 2 pm. Ages 5-8.
Celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month! Read a picture book by the famous American rock climber Ashima Shiraishi. Join us to chat about the book and make a mountain craft.

Teen Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, May 8 at 2:30 pm. Ages 13+
Last meeting of the school year! Come with ideas for summer reading and share your thoughts on the future of TAB! Snacks will be provided. For more info, email ecantor@woodbridgetownlibrary.org.

Graphic Novel Club
Tuesday, May 16 at 6:30 pm, Ages 9+

Chat about the graphic novel El Deafo by Cece Bell, share ideas, and have fun. A craft, game, or snack will be incorporated. Online registration required.

Animal Facts Club
Monday, May 18 at 6:30 pm, Ages 8+
Registration required; meets monthly. This month’s theme is nocturnal animals!

Recurring Programs
No registration required, come as often as you’d like! Please bring an adult with you!
› Mondays at 10:30 am: Baby Group (newborns to 18 months);
› Wednesdays at 10:30 am: Storytime (infants to age 3);
› Thursdays at 4 pm: Afternoon Craft Time (Ages 3+);
› Fridays at 11:30 am, ending promptly at noon: Morning Craft Time (Ages 3 to 5, perfect for preschoolers and homeschoolers!)

“Mill Rate” From Page 1

coach, and more.
Capital projects: The proposed budget for 2023-24 has \$1.3 million earmarked for Capital and non-recurring projects, almost half of it for road maintenance. The total amount of \$650,000 for road repair would be funded largely by the operating budget (\$585,000) and supported by \$65,000 in state LOCIP funds (Local Capital Improvement Program).
Other, smaller capital expenses that appear in the five-year Capital Plan for 2024 include:

- › painting the Old South School, a historic one-room schoolhouse (\$13,000);
 - › fire truck reserve (\$175, 528);
 - › fire department air packs (\$35,000);
 - › fire hose (\$25,000);
 - › radio communications upgrade (\$103,000);
- For the Parks Department, \$14,500 in machinery upgrades;
- › for Police, one vehicle replacement (\$68,000);
 - › body-worn and dashboard cameras (\$51,000);
 - › a training room projector (\$8,000);
 - › door locking system (\$12,250);
- For Public Works, a truck replacement (\$40,000);
- › equipment replacement (65,000);
 - › Bridge and Waterways reserve (\$20,000);

Thomas Darling House – a chimney rebuild; and completion of the cow barn project (\$72,000).
Building projects: The Beecher Road School Capital Projects Building Committee is working to prepare a bond proposal for roof replacement at Beecher, in areas that were not included in the last building upgrade; also drainage remediation in areas where rain water tends to pool or flow towards the building; resurfacing of parking lot and sidewalks; and security updates. The preliminary amount in the Capital Plan for Beecher bonding is \$2.3 million, and will be brought to referendum.

The Beecher pool filter repairs are performed in the current year’s budget, Finance Director Tony Genovese said in a conversation before the hearing. It cost some \$61,000 and was paid for through the savings of closing the pool over several months. The question of whether or not the school might need the pool space for classrooms in the future may be determined by a separate school space needs assessment. It is not part of this budget.
Selectmen decided to use funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to supplement renovations planned at the old firehouse, which will be turned into a Community and Cultural Center. ARPA funds were also dedicated to pay for improvements in the Grove – the treed area between the library and the old firehouse, to turn it into an outdoor space for a variety of outdoor programming. The town had previously received \$2 million in

state bond funds toward the conversion of the community center.
The town plans to use a portion of the ARPA funds (\$333,000) to upgrade the Center gym, where typically Town Meetings and elections are held. Separately, they also earmarked \$275,000 for Senior Center renovations.
The Police Department renovation is listed in the Capital plan as a bonding issue for 2024 and 2025. The town has hired a design and engineering firm to come up with a master plan for the Center Building.
American Rescue Plan funds: The town received a total of \$2.6 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds, in three installments. As mentioned above, they will be used toward the Community and Cultural Center, the Grove for outdoor space; also, renovations of the Center gym and the Senior Center. In addition, Selectmen earmarked \$1.3 million for capital improvements in the business district. A planner is working with the 2030 Task Force to develop streetscape and “place-making” improvements that they hope will make the district more attractive.
What happened to the Amity surplus?: During the heated public discussion of the Amity surplus last year, the chairman of the Amity Board of Education encountered a state law that speaks to regional districts applying surplus funds to the next year’s budget rather than sending it back to the member towns. To comply with that law, the Amity district has lowered the amount it bills to the member towns for the month of March.
The amount has two components, namely, the surplus left after the end of the 2022 fiscal year divided between the three member towns; and the budget reduction Amity enacted after two defeated budget votes, when voters had already approved the town budgets with a higher number earmarked for education.
For Woodbridge, Amity reduced its bill by \$134,000 as a result of the Amity budget reductions in two failed referendums; and \$229,000 as Woodbridge’s share of the surplus.
The Board of Finance, sensitive to the high mill rate, in the proposed budget has transferred \$800,000 from the General Fund to the budget, rather than the \$400,000 which it has transferred in past years.
Finance board Chairman Matt Giglietti also pointed out that the budget does not reflect any salary increases, as two of the employee contracts are about to expire before the end of the current fiscal year. Instead, the board has set aside a higher contingency, to make sure the town will be able to meet its payroll obligations.
The Annual Town Meeting where the vote is taken, is scheduled for Monday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m., again at the Brady Auditorium. Per town charter, the quorum at the meeting is 250 eligible voters. If there are not enough voters in the audience, the Board of Finance passes the budget and sets a mill rate.

HEALTH & FITNESS

CAES Seeking Residents for Tick Management Study

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is seeking residents in the Town of Woodbridge to be involved in a 5-year Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded tick management study at no cost to them. We are testing the effectiveness of an extremely low-dose treated bait for white-tailed deer and white-footed mice in killing ticks feeding on them (a similar strategy to treating your pets for fleas and ticks) and impacts to tick reduction and tick bite exposure in your yards. As far as resident participation, we are seeking your permission to:

- › Distribute treated bait on your properties;
- › Remove ticks from your property to test treatment effectiveness and test for pathogens;
- › Live trap and gather data from small rodents on your properties;
- › Capture deer in fall/winter (if your property configuration permits);
- › Conduct surveys on your exposure to ticks and tick-borne diseases.

We will keep cooperating residents informed (via email) about study progress and ticks found/removed from your properties. There is no cost to

being involved, you will just have to permit us access to your yards once a week/every other week from May-September, and maybe longer on deer-treated properties (residents need not be present when we visit unless you would like to). Residents who have participated in our studies previously (Canaan, Guilford, North Branford, Redding, Salisbury, Westport, Weston) have very much enjoyed being a part of

a large, science-based, federally-funded tick management study that will aid in reducing health risks to the public while receiving free tick treatment for many years in a row. Landowners who have not previously treated their properties for ticks are eligible for participation. For any further questions about the project or to get involved, please contact Dr. Scott Williams at Scott.Williams@ct.gov.

Management of Acute Sports Injuries

BY KYLE BRANDAY, MSPT

There are few things more gut wrenching than lying on the court or field of play, writhing in pain from an injury just sustained during practice or a game. The swelling, the pain, an inability to get yourself off the field. Most athletes, whether professional, collegiate, or recreational have been in this position at one point or another. Oftentimes we are able to bounce right back up, take a quick rest, and get right back to playing. However, what happens when we can't get right back in the game?

The conventional approach has always been RICE: Rest, Ice, Compression, and Elevation. The reason for this is that in most acute injuries, the damage to soft tissue (ligaments, tendons, and muscles) as well as involved joints can create swelling and inflammation. By resting, we reduce the further strain put on the injured area. Icing assists with reducing the inflammatory response and creating vasoconstriction (narrowing of the blood vessels) to reduce swelling. Compression also reduces swelling by preventing the fluid in the affected area to pool and expand. Elevation allows for a natural flow of the fluid in the injured area to work its way back to the heart passively. Contraction of our muscles prevents pooling of fluid normally, however in injured areas, our muscles often are too painful to contraction and creating that normal pumping effect to drive fluid out of the injured area.

Research has shown that acute treatment of injuries sustained on the field will lead to significantly less time on the sidelines. Take one of the most common of field injuries, an ankle sprain. Generally speaking, a sprain of the ankle involves injury to both ligaments and tendons and can create significant swelling, pain, and difficulty



Kyle Branday

with walking and certainly in performing sports related activities. Treatment of an acute ankle sprain to manage swelling and pain within the first 24-48 hours can lead to potential rehab time of 2-4 visits, whereas chronic treatment begun 72 hours or later post injury can lead to treatment time up to 3-5 weeks.

The results speak for themselves. While younger athletes always tend to rebound faster than those of us who still try and be weekend warriors, we all need acute treatment of our injuries in order to get back on that playing field quickly. Don't let a simple sprain keep you off the field.

Kyle Branday, MSPT is a licensed physical therapist and partner at Amity Physical Therapy. Kyle is a graduate of Quinnipiac University with years of experience treating a wide variety of injuries including orthopedics, sports related injuries, and neurological rehabilitation while working with patients of all ages and ability levels. Amity Physical Therapy is in its 17th year as a practice and now maintains 5 offices in Woodbridge, Hamden, Branford, Milford and Wallingford. Kyle can be seen at his Woodbridge location at 1 Bradley Road and can be reached at (203) 389-4593 or visit amitypt.com

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ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023, 7:30 P.M. DST

AMITY HIGH SCHOOL – BRADY CENTER AUDITORIUM

25 NEWTON ROAD, WOODBRIDGE, CT

Electors and citizens qualified to vote in a Town Meeting of the Town of Woodbridge are hereby notified and warned that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 15, 2023 at 7:30 P.M. DST in the Amity High School – Brady Center Auditorium, 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT to consider and take action on the following:

I. To Act on the FY2024 Budget as recommended by the Board of Finance in the total amount of \$56,278,395. The Board of Finance recommendations are those presented at the Preliminary Budget Hearing on April 24, 2023, with the following exceptions:

Account	Account #	Preliminary Recommendation	Final Recommendation
Fire	1230-00	\$1,113,204	\$1,124,204
Benefits	1710-00	\$5,133,010	\$5,099,010
Capital	1950-00	\$1,322,084	\$1,370,084
Interest Income	1-4-1500	\$ 435,000	\$ 460,000

II. Other business as proper to come before the meeting.

Dated at Woodbridge CT this 28th day of April 2023

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Beth Heller

Joseph Crisco

Paul Kuriakose

David A. Lober

Sheila McCreven

David Vogel

NOTICE

Section 6-2(h) of the Charter of the Town of Woodbridge provides that each and every recommended budget item shall be considered and that the budget as recommended by the Board of Finance shall be deemed to have been appropriated unless the sum is increased, decreased, or eliminated by 1) a vote of the Town meeting with not less than 250 eligible voters present and voting; 2) the votes in favor of the motion to increase, decrease, or eliminate constitute not less than 60% of the total number of votes cast; 3) no recommended budget item may be increased to an amount greater than the original request for appropriation filed pursuant to Section 6-2.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

Chabad of Orange
Woodbridge News

Real People Real Talk

Join Chabad of Orange/Woodbridge for a Shabbat together with Scholar in Residence, Professor David Imbo.

Dovid Yehuda Imbo was born and raised on the Near West Side of Chicago. He received his Ph.D. in theoretical physics from the University of Texas at Austin in 1988, and did his post-doctoral work at Harvard University as a member of the Harvard Society of Fellows. He has been a professor in the Department of Physics at the University of Illinois at Chicago since 1992, where he is also the Director of the newly formed "Laboratory for Quantum Theory at the Extremes". His research focuses on the connections between quantum physics, pure mathematics, formal logic, and pure philosophy. He converted to Judaism in March 2017.

Hear his fascinating story from Ghetto to Quantum Physics to Judaism on May 12/13 at Chabad! For more information, www.chabad.org/realpeople.

Pre Shavuot Family Fun!

Chabad of Orange/Woodbridge invites all families to join us for Pre-Shavuot Family Fun! Featuring the Torah Unwrapped Workshop! Watch how a Torah is written from start to finish! Stuff your own Torah! Create a Shavuot food craft!

If you have been to our past kid's events, you know you are in for a good time! If you haven't yet, we welcome

you to join in the fun together with other young Jewish families! www.chabad.org/shavuotkids

Shavuot with Chabad

Services. Lavish garden kiddush. Reading of the 10 Commandments. Yizkor. Shavuot falls out on Friday, May 26 & Saturday, May 27.

Jewish Women's Circle Cheese Board Creations

Design and create a show-stopping delicious cheese board! Wednesday, May 21 @ Chabad, www.chabad.org/jwc. Bring a friend or meet some new ones!

Chabad of Orange/Woodbridge's Jewish Women's Circle is a vibrant, ever-growing group designed for the contemporary Jewish woman. It provides innovative and enriching events, including various hands-on activities, discussions, and workshops.

Our Women's Circle events and classes are open to all. No affiliation or background is necessary, so feel free to stop by at any event that may interest you.

JLI- Adult Education Spring Course- Jewpernatural!

Discover Judaism's take on the supernatural. For more info, email info@chabad.org.

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Chabad of Orange Woodbridge is located at 261 Derby Avenue, Orange, CT 06477

Document Shredding Event
at Temple Beth Sholom

Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023
Time: 9am-12pm
Location: Temple Beth Sholom, 1809 Whitney Avenue, Hamden (in the parking lot)
Cost: Small Copy Boxes (18 x 12 x 12 inches or smaller) - \$10 per box; Large Banker Boxes (18 x 18 x 24 inches or larger) - \$20 per box
Also Available:

- Hard Drive Destruction & Computer Recycling - \$20 each
- CRT Computer Monitors - \$20 each
- Hard Drive Only - \$10 each

All items should be in a box that can easily be picked up. Paper items only. No trash bags, paper bags, etc. No trash or non-paper items. No CDs, X-Rays, etc. Paper clips and staples CAN be shredded.

On-site shredding truck provided by Affordable Solutions, LLC. Questions? Email fundraising@tbshamden.com.

Temple Beth Sholom is an egalitarian conservative synagogue with over 350 member families and singles from the Greater New Haven community.

Happening at
B'nai Jacob

Weekly services
Daily Minyan Services

- Monday - Friday 7:45am
- Sunday - Thursday 6:00pm (on ZOOM only)
- Sunday 9:00am
- National Holidays: Times vary

Weekly Shabbat Services

- Friday Eve 6:00pm
- Saturday 10:00am

Upcoming Events
Bread & Torah
Saturday Mornings 9:00am-9:45am

Meet in the B'nai Jacob Library to explore the weekly Torah portion and the way in which its story relates to our own. Be prepared for a lively discussion over bagels and coffee. No experience necessary. Taught by Rabbi Rona Shapiro.

Shir Hadash
Saturday, May 6, 9am

This is a songful, prayerful, soulful service led by Cantorial Intern, Kochava Munro, and Rabbi Shapiro. We use the power of our music and kavanah of our words and hearts to make God's presence manifest.

Shabbat Lunch & Learn
Saturday, May 6 after kiddush at 1:00pm in the library
Elizabeth Edelglass

Elizabeth will lead us in a discussion of her own story in the book, "Frankly Feminist", along with several other stories.

Geniza Ceremony
Sunday, May 7 at 11:15am

We will conduct a Geniza ceremony in the yard at B'nai Jacob, to bury our shemot (papers and/or books that we



Congregation B'nai Jacob

want to dispose of that have God's name written in Hebrew). Because God's name is holy, we don't throw away paper on which it is written; rather, we save those books and papers in a geniza and we bury them in the earth as a sign of respect.

YAHAD

YAHAD, the combined religious school for Congregation B'nai Jacob and Congregation Or Shalom, is gearing up for another vibrant year of education for students in grades K-7.

Gan Hayered Sundays
Open to all Jewish 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds in the community!

Play-based Jewish curriculum, offered Sunday mornings, provides a warm, caring environment in which children can develop social skills while also learning about Jewish holidays, traditions, and values.

For more information about any of the listed events, programs, or inquiries about becoming a member of B'nai Jacob:

- Call 203-389-2111;
- Email: office@bnaijacob.org;
- Visit our website, bnaijacob.org.

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Congregation B'nai Jacob is a conservative synagogue located at 75 Rimmon Road, Woodbridge, CT. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Woodbridge Town News

ATTENTION CHURCHES, SYNAGOGUES,
AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP!

Send us your organizations events listings and items of interest.
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Woodbridge Town News – P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477
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Woodbridge Town News

THE WOODBRIDGE TOWN NEWS

Online Version of the Woodbridge Town News

www.WoodbridgeTownNews.com

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

The First Church of Christ, Woodbridge

The First Church of Christ welcomes you to our Worship Service every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Meetinghouse. Kid's Church every Sunday morning at 10:10.

Interim Minister

The Rev. Susan Murtha is the Interim Minister at FCCW and has made quite an impact. Plan a visit to see what is "happening." You can also read about her on our website.

Kid's Church has begun again at First Church!

Families meet at the church at 10:00 and at 10:10 the children are walked over to the Parish House for Kid's Church by Forest Vandeflor, our project leader for children's ministries, along with an adult volunteer. This is a great time for the children while their parents are at the worship service!

Weekly Bible Study

Bible Study meets at the Parish House each Wednesday, 11 am. All are invited!

Boy Scout Troop 907

Troop 907 has been very active in the last month, and will continue to be, from sales to campouts, and much more.

On March 16th the troop planned for the West Point campout, making sure the menus are how they should be, and finding the proper gear that they will need for the campout. There were also checks to make sure that bags for West Point are properly packed, as this is a backpacking trip, and gear packing is very important. And on March 23rd the troop made final gear pulls and plans for the upcoming campout, including the shopping list organization, and gear checks. After this, we go shopping for our food, which takes longer than wanted and prepare for the weather ahead of us.

March 24-26th: On this less than pleasant weekend, the troop traveled to the local North Haven Camp Wa-Wa-Taysee. The troop boiled tree sap into pure, maple syrup, which was all taken straight from the camp maple trees and divided between the troop and camp. Scouts performed a service pro-



ject and after all of the hard work, the boys played a strategic game of capture the flag through the relentless rain. Even though the poor weather was a challenge, the campout was a success.

On April 2nd the scouts planning on going to West Point took a moderate hike from Lake Wintergreen in Hamden to the Darling House near Camp Whiting in Woodbridge. This was key to making sure that everyone could handle the long trip that West Point will give the scouts. Everyone was able to complete the hike, and they are on track for West Point.

On April 6th the meeting was focused on continuing to organize the scout room and preparing for our Flower Sale by making phone calls to our recent customers. This was a simple meeting, but effective.

For the month of April, our Flower Sale has continued. Thanks to all who supported the sole fundraiser, which is entirely scout-led. The dates were every Saturday from the 8th to the 30th in April at the old firehouse on Center Road. Looking ahead, scouts and scout leaders will be assisting First Church with the annual Strawberry Festival on June 9. As always, there is more info on our troop website, at <http://www.troop907.org/index.htm>.

[troop907.org/index.htm](http://www.troop907.org/index.htm).

Best wishes,
Rich Forselius
Committee Chair/Chartered
Organization Representative

Upcoming Events Farm Petting Zoo for Mother's Day

Sunday, May 14 – 1:00 -2 :30 p.m.
All are welcome for this family event

on the lawn of the Parish House. There will be baby goats, bunnies, llamas, donkeys, sheep and more. Also enjoy the live family music by Rashele and Mother's Day & animal crafts by Forest.

Classical Music Concert in The Afternoon

Featuring Trio Ondata, a New Haven-based classical ensemble, on Saturday, May 20th at 4:00 p.m. at the First Church of Christ, 5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge. Reception to follow. There will be a free will offering. For more information, please contact (203)389-2119. Join the FCCW Choir!

New members are always welcome. Join us for rehearsals each Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Pre-School Space Is Available

Pre-school/day care space is available in the Parish House at 5 Meetinghouse Lane. Three rooms, 1,200 sq. ft., and an outside fenced playground.

First Church of Christ
5 Meetinghouse Lane
Woodbridge, CT 06525
Phone: 203-389-2119
*Email: office@uccw.org
Website: www.uccw.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/uc-woodbridge

*For online or media related questions, please email Lisa Tartaglino at office@uccw.org.

Christ Episcopal Church Tag Sale

It's time for the Annual Humongous Tag Sale at Christ Episcopal Church, Bethany (526 Amity Road, Route 63 at the blinking light).

Mark your calendars: Saturday,

May 13, 9 am-1 pm.

Besides great bargains on gently used merchandise, there will be our fabulous baked goods table, and have lunch-we'll be grilling! See you there!

CLASSICAL CONCERT With A Twist

Saturday, May 20th at 4 pm
FEATURING
TRIO ONDATA



Reception to follow
Free will offering

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(203) 389-2119

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Congregation Beth El - Keser Israel Events

James Berger Poetry

James Berger will read from and discuss his 3rd book of poetry, *The Obvious Poems* and *The Worthless Poems*, on Saturday May 6. Berger, who is a Senior Lecturer in English and American Studies at Yale, published this latest book in November 2022. Details at beki.org.



and non-dairy) desserts. No background knowledge is required, just an interest in Jewish learning. Consult beki.org for Shavuot service information. Yizkor prayers will be included on Saturday, May 27.



Courtyard Campfire

Monday evening May 8 is Lag BaOmer, the 33rd day of the Omer. The folk-custom is to sing around a campfire at a “kumsitz,” meaning “come” and “sit.” BEKI’s program in the courtyard will feature niggunim—which have no words—as well as traditional American songs and Hebrew songs, all led by congregant Max DuBoff. Song sheets will be provided. Details at beki.org.



Children’s Programs

Children’s Havura, K-2 Kehila, and Junior Congregation, all led by parent volunteers, meet in person each Saturday. For more information, consult Education Director Annie Norman-Schiff at anormanschiff@beki.org.



Celebrate and Learn

A celebration of Jay Sokolow and Ina Silverman’s 65th birthdays on Saturday, May 13 will include a study session on Kibud Av V’aim, honoring thy father and mother, led by Shai Sokolow Silverman. Details at beki.org.



Study with the Rabbi

Rabbi Eric Woodward leads a discussion of the weekly Torah portion on Thursdays. Details at beki.org.

Art by Dganit Zauberman

An exhibit by Israeli-born artist Dganit Zauberman, titled “Land in Flux,” is on view in the BEKI Gallery through June 14. Based in a studio at New Haven’s Erector Square since 2016, she has exhibited in galleries located throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, California and Connecticut, including at the Institute Library and ArtSpace in New Haven.

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



How To Create A Greater Work/Life Balance

A more even balance between professional and personal life is a goal for many individuals. The demands of work too often extend beyond traditional working hours, leaving many professionals to confront work-related challenges long after they’ve left the office or left the desks in their home offices. With work never more than a smartphone notification away, it can be hard to create and maintain work-life balance.

Work-life balance is rarely discussed in terms of individuals’ overall health, but that could be a mistake. In fact, the organization Mental Health America® notes that when workers’ lives are balanced and workers are happy, they are more productive, take fewer sick days and are more likely to remain in their jobs. Each of those things benefits workers and employers equally.

With so much to gain from creating a greater balance between work and life, professionals can consider these tips to do just that.

Make a concerted effort to be an effective communicator. MHA notes the benefits of being honest with colleagues and superiors when challenges feel overwhelming. Open and effective communication can be a great way to solve work-related problems, but MHA urges professionals to remain calm and suggest practical alternatives when confronting such issues. Simply accepting more work or responsibilities when you already feel overwhelmed can tip the scales even further away from an even work-life balance.

Establish manageable daily goals. MHA reports that research has found

that individuals feel less stressed about work when they feel as though they have more control over it. Setting daily goals is a great way to achieve that sense of control, and this can be as simple as creating a daily to-do list.

Seek alternatives to your working arrangement. Previously unthinkable working arrangements are now possible after companies were forced to confront pandemic-related changes to their operations. If you’ve found it impossible to create an equitable balance between work and life, speak with your supervisor about alternatives to your arrangement. Flex time and hybrid working are some measures that could ensure you have as much time for your personal life as your professional life.

Unplug at the end of the workday. One of the simpler, though not necessarily easier, ways to create and maintain a greater work-life balance is to unplug at the end of the workday. Turn off work-related smartphone notifications at the end of the work day so you aren’t tempted to work during those of times of day that you’ve earmarked for your personal life. Smartphones can be addictive, so unplugging could test your resilience. If possible, block work-related notifications automatically after a certain time each day so you don’t have to turn them off manually. Once the blocking is automated, you might not think twice about all those missed emails.

There’s no secret formula for establishing a healthy work-life balance. But various strategies can help professionals achieve greater balance between their professional and personal lives.

Woodbridge Town News

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Exercising To Promote Healthier Bones

Osteoporosis is a condition that affects both men and women, but aging women are notably more susceptible than men. The Mayo Clinic says osteoporosis causes bones to become brittle or weak, and overall bone loss can occur. While bone tissue is constantly being broken down and replaced, osteoporosis occurs when the creation of bone does not keep up with the loss of old bone. This makes bones susceptible to fractures and breaks more readily, particularly in the event of a fall or injury.

Good nutrition that includes calcium and vitamin D intake through natural foods and sometimes supplementation may help alleviate osteoporosis risk. But exercise is a key component, too.

Harvard Medical School reports that exercise reduces the risk of falling and also fracturing a bone if a fall occurs. According to an analysis published in the journal BMJ, programs of balance, strength and resistance training reduced the odds of falls resulting in fractures by more than 60 percent. The Mayo Clinic says exercise can increase muscle strength and improve balance. It also can maintain



or improve one's posture, all factors that are vital to bone health.

Like muscle, bone is living tissue, so it can be strengthened with exercise. Here's a look at the best bone-building techniques through exercise.

Weight-bearing exercises: While swimming and cycling can build strong muscles and offer cardiovascular benefits, they don't do as

much for the bones because these activities don't involve weight-bearing. Weight-bearing exercises force a person to work against gravity, and include walking, jogging, climbing stairs, dancing, and more, says the NIH Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases National Resource Center.

Muscle-strengthening exercises: Harvard Medical School suggests using the body's own resistance to work

against gravity and to build muscle strength. Using weight machines, free weights, resistance bands, and lifting one's own body weight are some ways to do so.

Flexibility exercises: Engage in activities that help improve flexibility. Yoga has been known to improve flexibility across various age groups. Additional activities that move joints through their full ranges of motion may include acrobatic exercises like gymnastics, Pilates and simple deep stretching. The Mayo Clinic warns against stretches that flex the spine or cause a person to bend at the waist for people who already have been diagnosed with osteoporosis.

Balance exercises: Certain regimens will help improve balance to prevent falls. While yoga also incorporates balance, tai chi is another effective balance strengthening activity. Also, practicing standing on one foot at a time and tilting from side to side can help improve balance.

Osteoporosis does not have to be an inevitable part of aging. Engaging in bone-strengthening exercises can reduce the risk of developing this condition.

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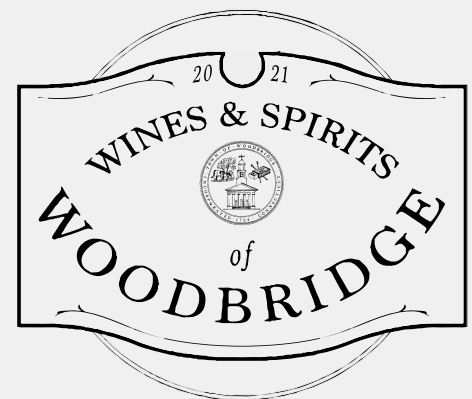
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Left: Sarah Wall, United Illuminating/Southern CT Gas (UI/SCG), shares a wealth of information on how to decrease energy use and save money on utility bills during the Lunch and Learn on April 20. Lunch was provided by UI/SCG. Right: Amity High School students work together with Woodbridge Center clients to create a beautiful mosaic version of Monet’s Bridge. This intergenerational program, complete with a delicious lunch, was a collaboration between Woodbridge and Orange Youth Services and The Center.

“Woodbridge Center” From Page 13

AARP Smart Driver Class

Wednesday, May 17, 9 am – 1 pm

Library Meeting Room

This course teaches proven driving techniques to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road. In addition, it may provide a multi-year discount on your auto insurance. The fee is \$20 for AARP members, \$25 for non-members. Please RSVP.

Marbled Mug Craft

Thursday, May 25, 11 am – 12 pm

Library Meeting Room

Learn the art of nail polish crafting to make marbled designs on a mug to bring home. All materials and instructions are provided by Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. Call The Center to RSVP.

Regular Programs Exercise

Not sure if a class is right for you? Try a complimentary class first!

Aerobics Class with Laura Richling

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10-11 am

Center Building Gymnasium

Come enjoy a complete cardio and strength training workout to a variety of music. Bring your own 1-or 2- pound hand weights, if you have them, to use during the class. Please pay \$3 at the beginning of each class.

Indoor Pickleball

Monday through Friday, 12:30-3:30 pm

Center Building Gymnasium

All levels are welcome. There is an annual fee of \$20 for residents, \$25 for

non-residents. The annual fee includes outdoor play as well. Please make sure your dues are current. Call The Center 203-389-3430 for more information.

Outdoor Pickleball

Every Day

Outdoors on the Town Courts

All levels are welcome. There is an annual fee of \$20 for residents, \$25 for non-residents. The annual fee includes indoor play as well. Please make sure your dues are current. Call The Center 203-389-3430 for more information.

Hobbies/Social Bridge

Wednesdays, 1-4 pm

Library Meeting Room

Seasoned bridge players are welcome to play bridge every Wednesday in the Library Meeting Room. Please call prior to initial play.

Craft Group

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 am – 12 pm

Woodbridge Room of the Library

Bring your current knitting, crocheting, or needlepoint project to work on while having an enjoyable time socializing.

Painting for Pleasure with local artist Carole Abbate

Monday, 10 am – 12 pm

Library Meeting Room

Create your own paintings as Carole helps inspire beginners to intermediates to paint with acrylics or watercolors. Paint the subject of your choice-bring in a note card or photo for inspiration. No experience necessary. Call to sign-up for this 6-week, \$36

class. Class will be prorated. Session will end June 12, and resume in September in The Center cafe.

Pinochle

Thursdays, 1:30-4 pm

Center Building, Room 16

Anyone interested in playing pinochle, or learning to play pinochle, is invited to join the pinochle group on Thursdays from 1:30-4 pm in the Center Building, Room 16. Call 203-389-3430 for more information.

Services offered (for Woodbridge residents only):

Tech Tuesday and Thursday

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:45-4:15 pm

Need help navigating your computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone? Call to sign-up for a 1:1 session in The Center’s computer lab with patient, knowledgeable, Amity High School student volunteers. No charge.

Computer Lab

Multiple computers and laptops are located in room 11 of the Center Building Human Services corridor, which is open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 10 am – 2 pm. Printing is available (first 5 pages free).

Transportation

Those 60 years of age and older, or who are temporarily or permanently disabled, may call to arrange car or wheelchair accessible van transportation to medical appointments to 17 surrounding towns, local grocery shopping, banking, pharmacy pick-up, and social engagements. This service is provided Monday - Friday from 9:00

am - 4:00 pm on a first call, first serve basis. Appointments may be made up to three months in advance. Vehicles are cleaned between each use. Masks are required.

Meals

Healthy, well balanced, flash frozen meals for \$5.25/meal are available. Order by noon on Monday for delivery to your home during the same week. Choose from a wide variety of options including baked ziti, chicken piccata, flounder Florentine, and turkey pot pie. Meals include a roll, fresh fruit, and dessert. Two meal minimum order with a ten-meal limit. See The Center’s page on the Town website for a complete list of offerings.

Frozen soups are available for \$1.50 per 10 oz. container. Varieties include: Italian wedding, beef orzo, minestrone, harvest vegetable, lemon chicken and rice, and many more. Call 203-389-3430 to place your order.

Friendly Visitor Program

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

Medical Loan Closet

Durable medical equipment, including walkers, wheelchairs, knee rollers, shower chairs, and more, is available for lending. Donations of transport chairs are needed. Call for details.

Job Bank

Residents may call Nancy Pfund, Youth Services Director, at 203-389-3429, to hire a student worker. Schedule now for spring clean-up, party assistance, baby-sitting, and more.

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FAMILY DINNER

Wednesday, May 10TH | 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

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