

# Woodbridge Town News



## Woodbridge's Exclusive Newspaper

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VOL. 8 – ISSUE 11

CIRCULATION 3790

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2019

## Selectmen Postpone Country Club Vote

BY BETTINA THIEL

WOODBRIDGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Board of Selectmen on October 21 cancelled the special Town Meeting and referendum it had scheduled just a week earlier regarding the sale of a portion of the Country Club of Woodbridge property to a developer. Instead, the board unanimously decided to work out a sales agreement with the developer before they turn to the public for a vote. "It is very important to me, and I believe the entire Board of Selectmen, to have a completed sales agreement prior to the referendum so residents are made aware of the terms of sale prior to voting," First Selectman Beth Heller wrote in an announcement.

Throughout the month of October, the developers — architect Brian St. Pierre of Insite Development and Max and Bruce Wernert of Wernert Construction — have been presenting their proposal to several town boards and commissions on an informal basis. They look to purchase about 60 acres of the property to build up to 120 single family homes on small lots along two private roads. These homes would be restricted to people age 55 and over, and allow no children under the age of 18 to live there.

The sales price would be \$5.4 million.

The presentations at the Board of Finance, the Police Commission, the Economic Development Commission, the Conservation Commission, the Commission on the Use of Publicly Owned Properties (CUPOP) and the Fire Commission, afforded the public a chance to ask questions, and, in

some cases, comment in support of or against the proposal. The Recreation Commission heard the proposal on October 28 and the Human Services is the last presentation on November 4.

It became clear during the Q&A sessions that many of the details had not been worked out yet, which is not uncommon in these situations. Developers have to apply for town and state permits, including a traffic study, environmental impact study and more, a process that might require changes to the original proposal. Those studies are typically not done until the developer can be sure that he has a committed seller, much like a home inspection is not being done until the basic sales agreement is "under contract."

Thus, the land survey of the property is yet to be done and the exact layout of the homes on the property to be determined. Yet St. Pierre assured the audience, that a selling point of this development is its location amid mature trees, which he is committed to keeping as much as possible. But details will be hashed out when the development is under consideration of the Inland-Wetland agency and the Zoning Commission. That is also the reason the developers did not present at those agencies at this time.

St. Pierre has set up a Facebook page and a website at <https://www.woodvalleyestates.com/development> with a Q&A tab. So far however, he had just posted the market research report on that site, in response to comments that at the upper \$400,000 the units

See "Country Club" On Page 7

## Woodbridge Superintendent On Medical Leave

*Gilbert Out While Search For New Principal Is Under Way*

BY BETTINA THIEL

WOODBRIDGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Woodbridge School Supt. Robert Gilbert is out on medical leave this fall. Filling in for him in an interim capacity is Director of Special Services Cheryl Mammen.

In an email to the Beecher Road School community Gilbert wrote that the Board of Education, in a special meeting on September 27, granted him medical leave starting on or about October 9 until approximately December 1. He wrote he would be undergoing cardiac surgery and that his doctors anticipate a full and successful recovery.

Board of Education Chairman Steven Fleischman in an email last week said Mr. Gilbert's procedure was a success, and his recovery is going well and on schedule.

Meanwhile the school is also launching a search for a new principal. The public is invited to participate in focus groups on the qualities, experiences, and characteristics desired in a new leader. These focus groups meet on Wednesday, November 13, in the South Assembly Room at Beecher Road School, 4-7p.m.

A survey is being conducted to allow all stakeholders input into the principal search. It is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Beecher-Principal> until November 15.

The current principal, Analisa Sherman, and assistant principal, Doreen Merrill, also serve in an interim capacity until a new principal has been appointed. Fleischman said he expects the new principal to be in place by July 2020.

## Amity Looks To Improve Its Athletics Facilities

BY BETTINA THIEL

WOODBRIDGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Amity Board of Education is asking taxpayers to approve a \$6.7 million bonding request for several improvements to buildings and grounds, including, but not limited to, an all-weather field. The referendum is to be held Wednesday, December 4, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the usual polling locations in the three member

towns.

Two sets of questions are being presented to the voters. The first set is for building improvements at the high and two middle schools; the second question regards the athletic facilities. A public hearing on the proposal had been scheduled for October 29 at the high school.

See "Amity Athletics" On Page 25

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(Chinese)

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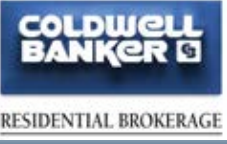


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Woodbridge Town News

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

Thank you for your submissions to Your Home Town Newspaper.

Upcoming Issue Date

Issue Deadline

November 22

| Thanksgiving Issue.....

November 15

December 13

| Holiday Issue .....

December 6

January 10

| New Year's Issue .....

January 3

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

## FROM OUR READERS

### Amity Superintendents Issue "Weather Advisory"

Once again, we are facing the time of year when New England weather can be very unpredictable and severe. Area superintendents of schools must ensure that each district meets the state mandated number of school days and number of instructional hours in a safe and secure manner.

The Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge, and Amity (BOWA) school districts will continue to participate in a regional school transportation collaborative. This arrangement allows elementary schools to dismiss at similar times and the Orange and Bethany Middle Schools to open and dismiss at the same time in coordination with Amity Regional High School.

When one BOWA school district closes, delays the opening of school, or dismisses early due to inclement weather, all BOWA school districts will also close, delay, or dismiss early. A delayed opening for elementary, middle, and high school is typically two (2) hours. In the case of extreme weather conditions, the delayed opening time might change. The BOWA superintendents try to make a decision to close or delay the opening of school by 5:30 a.m., based upon what is expected to happen in the following two to eight hours. Notifications will be distributed by district automated messaging services (SwiftK12), radio, television, and designated Internet-based sites. Stay tuned when a delay has been announced since it may turn into a cancellation if weather conditions do not improve.

Although early dismissals are avoided whenever possible, it may be occasionally necessary to dismiss school early due to the unexpected deterioration of weather conditions or in an individual school because of an emergency. In these situations, an announcement will be issued by 10:30 a.m. Weather-related early dismissal for middle school and high school stu-

dents will be at 11:45 a.m. Bethany and Woodbridge elementary school students will be dismissed at 1:10 p.m. Orange elementary school students will be dismissed at 1:00 p.m., and the Orange kindergarten students will be dismissed at 12:50 p.m. and will go to their respective schools to take their neighborhood buses at 1:00 p.m. In the case of more extreme weather conditions, early dismissal times may change. Families should always refer to district notifications and websites, as well as local news reports for updated information on school delays, dismissals, and closures.

Families should have an emergency back-up plan in place in the event of an early dismissal. Please make sure that children understand where they should go in the event of an early dismissal from school. Child care arrangements at home or on the same bus route should be made in advance of the early dismissal day since it will be impossible for the school staff to personally contact each parent. On days when the weather may be problematic, in addition to announcements on local radio and/or television stations, parents can expect notification from district automated messaging services. As alternate drop-off and pick-up procedures vary from school to school, parents should follow the established procedure.

Unless otherwise indicated, when school is delayed, all morning activities and meetings are cancelled. Additionally, unless otherwise indicated, when school is cancelled or dismissed early, all afternoon/evening activities and meetings are also cancelled. The school buildings will be closed.

The decision to delay, close school, or dismiss early is often a difficult one. During inclement weather when an administrative decision to open school has been made, this is not meant to preclude a family's choice to keep their

See "From Our Readers" On Page 24

Woodbridge Town News

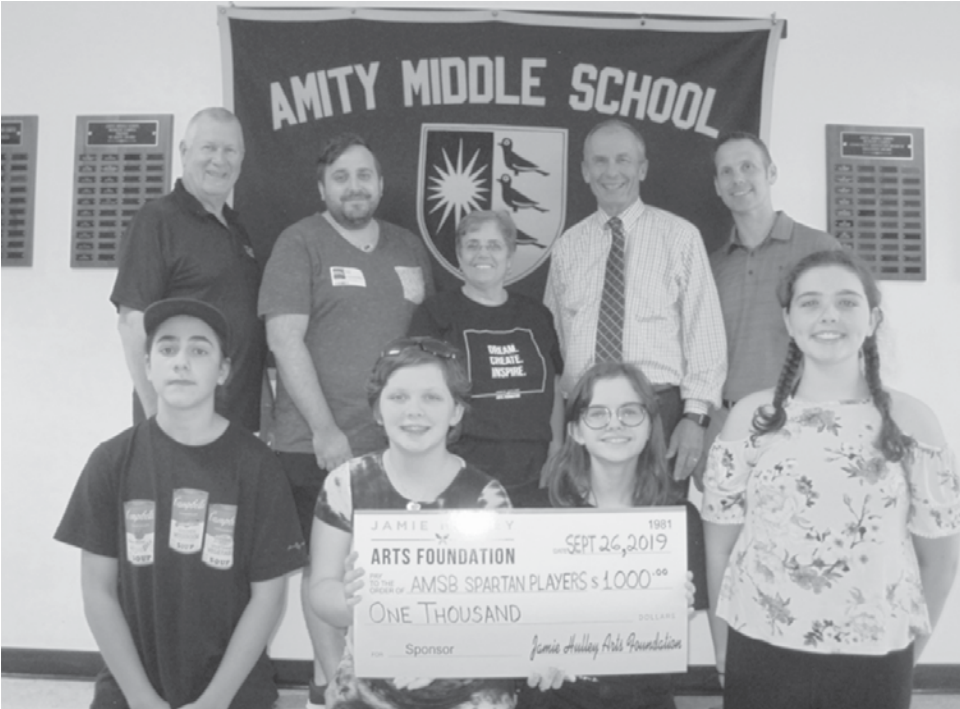
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or email: [letters@woodbridgetownnews.com](mailto:letters@woodbridgetownnews.com)

Please limit letters to 500 words and include a daytime phone number in case we have any questions. Letters must be exclusive to the Woodbridge Town News for publication. We reserve the right to reject any letter.



WOODBRIDGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



Front row (left to right): Benjamin Aviad, Forest Vandeflor, Luna Lipnickas, and Lillian Parady. Back row (left to right): Fred Hulley, sponsor; Patrick Laffin, Square Foot Theatre Company; Judy Primavera, sponsor; Dr. Richard Dellinger, principal; Dr. Keith Smolinski, musical director. [Photograph by Barbara Cassesse]

# The Spartan Players Announce Fall Musical Production

With a generous grant from their headlining sponsor, The Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation ([www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org](http://www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org)), The Spartan Players at Amity Middle School in Bethany are pleased to announce its production of Aladdin Jr. on Friday, November 8th, and Saturday, November 9th, at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 10th, at 2:00

p.m. The Spartan Players look forward to bringing this timeless story to life! The Squarefoot Theatre Company’s Patrick Laffin has teamed up with Amity staff members, Keith Smolinski, Robert Fragione, and Marissa Nall, to bring this amazing show to the stage! Tickets are \$10 and will be on sale at the door for all performances.

# CAC Area 2 Announces Howard Jacobson Scholarship Award

Cable Advisory Council Area 2 will bestow two scholarships in memory of former longtime Chairperson Howard Jacobson. One high school and one college student studying film, mass communications, and television or media studies will receive \$500 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 Cable Area 2 with the support of Altice/Cablevision. Scholarship Qualifications & Criteria - Applicants must be able to prove:

- They are residents of one of the six CAC area towns – Fairfield, Bridgeport, Stratford, Milford, Orange or Woodbridge – currently attending a high school, community college,

- college or university.
- 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.
- They 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.

The two winners will be selected on the basis of their overall academic performance, portfolio and their personal statement. Deadline to apply is December 31, 2019. To apply, please email [postmaster@cacarea2.com](mailto:postmaster@cacarea2.com).



Superintendent Robert Gilbert, Beecher Road School Principal, Analisa Sherman; Mary Vincitorio, State Representative Themis Klarides and State Senator George Logan.

# Mary Vincitorio Selected as Woodbridge Teacher of the Year

Mary started her career with Beecher in 1999/00 as a Grade 6 substitute teacher. Mary gives generously of her time and talents in the service of others and has a work ethic that is second to none. She is one of the first to volunteer and to help in getting something done and serves on numerous school committees and is actively involved in summer curriculum writing. Mary is a teacher who loves her work and her passion for children and teaching is apparent in everything she does. She is kind, respectful, nurturing and genuinely adored by her students. Among her other strengths, Mary is a team player, dedicated professional and re-

spected by administrators, colleagues, children and parents alike. In every school there are the stalwarts who are the backbone of a professional faculty. They seek not fame or glory but only to do their job in the most professional and responsible manner. Mary is such a person. She models the wonderful qualities and practices of those teachers whom children will remember long after they complete their schooling. No school or district is at its best without those who, like Mary, lead in a personal, caring and dedicated way. Mary has earned the recognition and the honor of this distinction as the Woodbridge Teacher of the Year for 2019/20.

# Community Encouraged to Help in Beecher Principal Search

The Woodbridge Board of Education invites the community to participate in the search process for a new Beecher Road Principal. On Wednesday, November 13th, Mary Broderick, CABA Search Services Consultant working with the Woodbridge Search Committee, will conduct a series of focus groups to hear from the community on the qualities, experiences, and characteristics desired in a new leader. Town officials, teachers, administrators, other staff, parents, students, and community members will participate in focus groups. Members of the general public are invited to participate from 4:30 to 7:00 PM in the Beecher Road School South Assembly Room. All are also welcome to participate in a survey to help clarify the qualities and characteristics desired in our next principal: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BeecherPrincipal>.

The survey will be open until November 15, 2019. “We are hoping to get the thinking of the community to help us in this important process,” Steven Fleischman, Chair of the Woodbridge Board of Education, stated. “We invite everyone to participate.” Feedback from the focus groups and survey will be incorporated into a leadership profile that will help to identify candidates who best fit the needs of the Beecher Road School and the Woodbridge community. The Board anticipates the start date for this new leader to be July 2020. “We have a sound process that should identify a high-quality leader for our schools,” Dr. Fleischman added. “We are looking forward to attracting a talented pool of candidates from which to select our next leader.”



“Country Club” From Page 1

were priced way too high. The report finds that the average price of comparable properties in this area of the state is \$504,000.

These were some take-aways from the conversations at committee meetings:

Police commissioners asked whether the developers were looking to establish a gated community – which St. Pierre left open. He said at this point he wasn’t planning to put a security gate at the entrance, but that he would be willing to add one if that was requested.

Traffic came up, with one neighbor talking about recent accidents at the intersection with Ansonia Road. Deputy Police Chief Ray Stuart said the state police will commission a study and determine what can be done to ensure safe travel conditions.

The developer was asked why he had given up on providing a golf course. St. Pierre said there are plenty of opportunities to play golf in the immediate vicinity. “There are six courses in a four-mile radius,” he said, adding “it was a business decision.”

At the Economic Development Commission meeting, St. Pierre said the price for the homes would start “in the high 400,000s”. Homes would range between 2,000 and 2,500 square feet on half-acre lots or smaller. He expects to start with putting in the roads, then add ten model homes, then build out in phases. In all, it could take 3-4 phases of about a year each to build out.

Paul Herrigan, a resident in the audience, questioned whether an asking price of \$250 per square foot was appropriate for the Woodbridge market, where most houses sell much lower. St. Pierre responded saying the hottest market in the US is for those age 55 and over. He expects about 70% of the people buying these houses to come from outside, mainly Fairfield County, and about 30% from within Woodbridge.

Herrigan argued that if Woodbridge couples purchase one of those units, and sell their home to a family with children, it would cost the taxpayers more to educate those children than the new development would generate in revenue. Selectman Mica Cardozo said those couples would move anyway, if that is what they were planning to do. He said a number of Woodbridge residents moved to Fieldstone Village and are now paying taxes in Orange. “We hope to retain that tax revenue,” he said.

Economic Development Commission Chairman Jeremy Rosner said he expects the residents in those 120 new units to be frequenting local and area restaurants and stores and have an impact on commercial development.

Cheryl Lipson pointed out that St. Pierre was not a licensed architect and not authorized to sign off on designs. He assured the audience that the designs would be legally signed off on.

Members of the Board of Finance were interested in the public buildings currently on the property. The club-

house, which has been shuttered, will be demolished at the developer’s expense. He said he would refurbish the existing outdoor pool for the benefit of the town, and set up a smaller pool house with lockers and snack bar. He said the maintenance shed left over from the former golf operation was not part of the property he was planning to purchase and would remain the responsibility of the town.

The question whether the remaining land would be placed under a conservation easement became a burning question for some. First Selectman Beth Heller did not rule it out. “We can talk about it,” she said. The Fitzgerald property also is not protected by a conservation easement. The selectmen at the time decided to leave the use of the property open to future generations. “My intent is to hire a land-use analyst,” to guide the town in making that decision, she said. Heller has talked about turning the remaining property into a town park for everybody to enjoy.

Board of Finance member Ellen Scalettar asked St. Pierre about the legal entity that would sign the agreement with the town. St. Pierre said it will be an LLC with two members – himself and the Wernerts. She also emphasized that there would be no clear-cutting on the property to facilitate the construction. St. Pierre assured the board that “mature trees are the charm of that community.”

Cathy Wick, a member in the audience, warned that it was unlikely the revenue from the development

was going to bring the mill rate down. She showed in a graph how per capita taxes in Orange and Woodbridge had increased at the same rate in the last ten years, even if Woodbridge taxes are higher than those in Orange. Fieldstone did not slow that increase, she said. Even so, the development has moved up to the top taxpayers in Orange, according to Orange First Selectman Jim Zeoli.

The Conservation Commission members brought up sustainable development concepts that would make the development more acceptable to them, such as solar panels and rain gardens, LED lighting and electric car chargers. “We want to support green development,” said Leland Torrence, a member of the commission.

“You are thinking of scarring the land and we have to be sure there is some benefit,” said Sharon DeKadt.

The developers were open to incorporating some of these ideas in their plans. St. Pierre assured them that sustainability was an important factor in his work, and that his design had won two awards for passive solar.

The commission also expressed concerns regarding the developers asking the town to remove the age restriction if the project does not sell as expected. “At what point do you make enough so that you don’t come back to the town to remove the age restriction,” DeKadt asked. Town Counsel Gerald Weiner at an earlier presentation said the town will impose deed restrictions to avoid such a scenario.

STUDENT NEWS

Enrollments

Hamilton College

Clinton, NY -- Brian Seiter, of Woodbridge, recently matriculated as a first-year student at Hamilton College. Seiter, a graduate of Hopkins School, was selected from a pool of 8,339 applicants to the college, and joins a class of 474.

Graduations

University of New Haven

West Haven, CT - The following student from Woodbridge received a degree from the University of New Haven in August: Misheelt Batjargal, School of Health Sciences, a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration with a concentration in Healthcare Admin – General.

Woodbridge Ranked as One of the Safest Cities in CT

- › Easton has the highest safety score in the state.
- › Woodbridge was found to have a score of 86.33 ranking it #22.
- › There is a citizen-to-officer ratio of 2.72 per 1,000 citizens in Woodbridge.

Safety First: Perhaps you’re looking for a change of scenery, or maybe your job has offered you a promotion in a different city. Whatever it is, when considering packing up your life and moving to a different place, safety should be your number one priority. Security-based review, comparison and news site, Security Baron, analyzed FBI rankings of crime rates to find out what the top 50 safest cities are in Connecticut, and what their safety score is.

The analysis found that Woodbridge (with a population of 8,816) emerged

on the list, with an average safety score of 86.33 and a rate of 0.34 violent crimes per 1,000 citizens. The city has a citizen-to-officer ratio of 2.72 per 1,000 people and a rate of 9.3 property crimes per 1,000 citizens.

Security Baron created an infographic where you can view the top 50 safest cities in Connecticut, along with their safety scores and other interesting crime statistics: <https://securitybaron.com/safe-cities/connecticut/>.

‘Theft or violence can occur ‘in the nick of crime’ and no one is immune, says Joe Auer of Security Baron. ‘Although it is difficult to predict when crime will occur, it is vital to ensure the area you are visiting or moving to is secure and not infamous for any sort of criminal behavior. You can use safety scores and rankings to check!’

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**Woodbridge Town News**  
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“On this Veterans Day, let us remember the service of our veterans, and let us renew our national promise to fulfill our sacred obligations to our veterans and their families who have sacrificed so much so that we can live free.” — DAN LIPINSKI



From the First Selectman

BY BETH HELLER



As I was recently driving through the town, I was reminded of what a beautiful, peaceful town we live in. The changing leaves are magnificent. I am also reminded that we all share a love for our town and I am hopeful that everyone will continue to be involved in town issues and share opinions with each other in a respectful and constructive manner.

At the October 15, 2019 Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen, the Board voted to hold a Special Town Meeting in November and a Referendum in December regarding the proposal for the former Country Club of Woodbridge. On October 21, 2019 the Board convened a special meeting to cancel these two dates, until such time as the sales agreement is finalized. We are only postponing those dates, which I hope will be rescheduled in the very near future. It is very important to me, and I believe the entire Board of Selectmen, to have a completed sales agreement prior to the referendum so residents are made aware of the terms of sale prior to voting.

Following some discussion with the Board, I have also decided to retain attorney David Groggins to represent the Town in negotiations. Attorney Groggins has experience in negotiating contracts related to sale of town-owned property for aged restricted housing. Once the contract is completed, it will be available at Town Hall for public inspection.

As I have said many times, I believe strongly that this is an important and worthy project for the Town to consider. Every year it costs our Town almost half a million dollars to repay the money we borrowed to buy the former Country Club property.

The Town purchased this property in 2009 for \$6.9 million. In the past, both the golf course and the swimming pool lost money. It's time to move on. If this project is approved, we will sell approximately 60 acres of the 155 acres for development for over 55 housing for \$5.4 million. We can then use some of the sales proceeds to pay off the debt, saving \$500k every year, keeping 90+/- acres as open space for everyone to enjoy. Once the project is fully completed and certificates of occupancy are issued, it is anticipated that it will generate approximately \$1.5M in additional property taxes annually. This project will give us real money that could be used to reduce our mill rate and most importantly, bring relief to taxpayers.

I have always stated that it is important for us to retain the additional 90 or so acres for passive Town use, much like the Fitzgerald property.

I would like to address several issues that have come up recently:

- It was stated in a recent column in the Woodbridge Town News that the approximately \$900,000

of sales proceeds left after we pay the debt will "be entirely consumed for environmental remediation." The purchaser of the property will assume the cost of all remediation on the property they are buying. The Town already remediated one significant environmental hazard near the maintenance facility and we might choose to remediate other areas depending on decided use. We have been told by our environmental consultant there is no time limit on remediating the portion the Town retains, but it is possible that DEEP may require future remediation. Any additional remediation will cost significantly less than \$900,000, according to our consultants.

- It was also stated in this column that there are plans to "bond an additional \$6.4 million for the old firehouse and police station renovations." No decision has been made regarding that expense - that decision will be made by the Boards of Selectmen and Finance and will need to be approved by taxpayers.
- Lastly, it was brought up in this column that there is some concern that our Town would have to provide "more police, more fire personnel and equipment, and more public works maintenance like plowing and paving of adjacent roads." I telephoned the Orange First Selectman and he reports that Orange did not hire additional police or fire personnel for the Fieldstone project on Route 34 (over 55 housing of approximately 135 homes). The Homeowner's Association fees paid by the owners of the over 55 homes will pay for private plowing, paving of the roads within the complex, and general maintenance. The Town of Woodbridge is already responsible for plowing and paving the adjacent Town roads and will continue to do so.

As you may know, I have asked Insite Design and its partner, Wernert Construction, to visit many of the Town's major boards and commissions during October and early November to do a Q & A presentation and give our board and commission members and the public several opportunities to ask questions about the proposal.

They will be at Human Services on November 4. They have already visited the Board of Police Commissioners, the Economic Development Commission, the Board of Finance, the Conservation Commission, the Board of Fire Commissioners, the Commission on Use of Publicly Owned Properties and the Recreation Commission in October. If you were not able to attend any of these meetings, I suggest you watch the WGATV recordings either on Chan-

See "First Selectman" On Page 9

From the Other Side of the Aisle

BY JANET BARILLARI  
WRTC TREASURER



# Just Do The Math

As the selected developer for 60 acres of the Country Club of Woodbridge property appears before many town boards and commissions to present details of his proposal and answer questions from residents, it has become abundantly clear this plan is not in the town's best financial interest. So, as the primary motivation of this plan was to improve the town's finances, we must ask ourselves "should we do it at all?"

Our administration insists the chief reasons for supporting the plan are the initial receipt of \$5.4M for the sale and an enhanced property tax revenue of about \$ 1.68M annually. These numbers sound good, until you do the math. The bulk of that \$5.4M will go to retire the \$4.5M loan on the property. The rest, at some point, will have to go to remediation of toxic soil on property the town will still own. As of now there is no agreement when that work will be done. Retiring the debt will free up about \$430K annually we now spend on the property (bond payments and minimal maintenance costs), but only if we don't issue new bonds for other capital projects on the horizon. Today that list includes \$5M for Police Station renovation, \$1.4M to complete renovations on the old firehouse and a \$6.7M request from Amity Board of Education for mechanical and athletic facility updates, one third of which will be ours. The impact on our taxes by saving \$430K a year when we are looking at over \$8.5M in possible new bond costs is negligible, so is it worth the permanent change to the property development will bring?

The promise of \$1.68M per year in taxes also fails the math test. The plan anticipates 120 houses being sold with each house paying about \$14K in taxes. The timetable to build that many homes is five years if the project finances go as planned. Therefore, at best it will take five years to reach the projected level of new tax revenue. It's certainly not a serious, immediate injection of cash.

Then there is the expense side. The developer has presented research indicating 30% of new homes of this type are purchased by people currently living in the same town. In our case, that would be 36 of those 120 new homes, not a stretch considering 23% of our

population is age 65 and up. It's also reasonable to expect if a 65-year-old sells his or her current Woodbridge home it would be purchased by a family with two children. A Woodbridge/Amity education costs \$17k/student, so two students would cost \$34K. Compare that with the expected revenue of \$14K in new property taxes and Woodbridge is "in the hole" \$20K each time a 65+ resident sells a home to a family with two children and moves into a new golf course home. Do that for 36 new homes, and the town is short \$720K annually. Beyond the cost of the education aspect, there will be a need for increased police staffing according to the Police Chief. Even one more officer per shift, with four shifts adds four new full-time officers.

We can't ignore the impact more homes will have on an already soft Woodbridge real estate market. If the development is successful and 120 new homes are built, the downward price pressure on existing homes will be intense. Ask anyone trying to sell their home in today's market and they will affirm our high taxes drive the sale price of their home down. So why would we vote to diminish our current home sale prices further?

If the motivator to sell part of the golf course property for the development is financial, a closer look reveals the finances are bad for us. The one-time cash infusion evaporates almost immediately and the savings are gobbled up with so many new capital projects on the "to-do" list. Our taxes aren't going to go down with the sale of the property. There's no guarantee all the homes will be built and the expected new tax revenue will ever materialize. Our costs actually go up every time a neighbor moves into a new home and sells to a young family. And if the new homes are built, the impact is a lower sale price for the current Woodbridge homeowner. Once we do the math, the answer is the deal is a bad one for Woodbridge.

This property has been a beautiful part of our town for years. It would be best for the town to explore other options for this tremendous asset and come up with a plan that both a) stops draining the town financially and b) also allows the taxpayers to have some use of a property we are paying for.



“First Selectman” From Page 8

nel 79 or the YouTube page.  
The proposal is online for inspection at woodbridgect.org on the Board of Selectmen page under the “government” tab. It is important to understand that the Town will retain approximately 90 acres as open space for everyone to enjoy.

Lastly, I was part of a moving ceremony at Town Hall earlier this month to rename part of Route 63 in memory of a local veteran. On June 14, 2011, Woodbridge resident Private First Class Eric Daniel Soufrine was killed in combat by an IED when he was just 20 years old, 16 days before he was due home from his deployment. From a very young age, Eric’s passion was to become an American soldier. He comes from a long line of veterans on both sides of his family. His mother Donna, when addressing the Board of Selectmen last year, said that Eric was so proud to be fighting for our country and the many freedoms Americans get to enjoy. Donna also told us that Eric was so very proud of himself, and our

country, and was honored to be chosen to go to Afghanistan to replace one of the soldiers that had gone home to visit his family. While deployed, Eric earned the Army Achievement Medal and was also honored as the Soldier of the Month in May of 2011.

I was honored to join Eric’s parents, Donna and Michael, and the many members of Eric’s family and his friends, for this very special presentation in Eric’s memory. On behalf of the Board of Selectmen and the Town of Woodbridge, I thanked everyone for Eric’s service and sacrifice. We will never forget Eric Daniel Soufrine.

The Soufrine family is always at the Town’s Veteran’s Day Ceremony, led by veteran Dr. Barry Joseph. I would like to again invite all Woodbridge residents to take a short time out of your busy schedules to honor our veterans at this very moving ceremony. The Town’s ceremony is on Monday November 11, 2019 at 11 am in the Center Gymnasium, 4 Meetinghouse Lane. This is a small way for us to thank and remember the veterans who served our country.



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# WOODBRIDGE LIBRARY

Woodbridge Town Library News and Upcoming Events November 2019

For the latest news and information, visit our website at [www.woodbridge-townlibrary.org](http://www.woodbridge-townlibrary.org), like us on Facebook @woodbridge.town.library, or sign up for our e-newsletter. Don't forget to follow us on Instagram @woodbridge-townlibrary.

We are open Monday – Thursday: 10 am to 8 pm, and Friday and Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm.

The Library will be closed on Monday, November 11 for Veterans Day and Thursday, November 28 & Friday, November 29 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

### Save the Dates for Gingerbread 2019!

Monday, December 2 at 6 pm OR  
Wednesday, December 4 at 2 pm

Our popular gingerbread house decorating program will return; this year, we are offering two sessions to provide options for busy schedules. All ages welcome. More information to come.

### Adult Programs

For more information about our events, or to register, please contact the reference desk at 203-389-3434. Registration is also available on our website.

### Planning for Financial Security with David Quast of Valic Financial Advisors

Monday, November 4 at 6:30 pm

Join us for this informative planning event where you can get tips about retirement planning, cash management, tax planning, risk management, estate planning, investment planning and more!

### Giving Thanks for Healthy Sides with Robin Glowa, The Conscious Cook

Wednesday, November 6 at 7 pm

Time to get ready for Thanksgiving! New ways to prepare some of the traditional Thanksgiving foods will be presented. A particular focus will be on fruits and vegetables that showcase their spectacular flavor and health benefits. Space is limited, registration is required.

### Third Annual Eckhardt Fund Concert: Brazillian Jazz with the Ali Ryerson–Joe Carter Duo

Wednesday, November 13 at 7 pm

Viva Musica Brasileira! The Library is pleased to present the Ali Ryerson–Joe Carter Duo as this year's Eckhardt Fund Concert. This talented pair celebrates the music of Brazil – Samba, Bossa Nova, Choro, Baião and more. Their repertoire features songs by Brazil's classic composers such as



## WOODBRIDGE TOWN LIBRARY

Antonio Carlos Jobim, Moacir Santos, Jacob do Bandolim, Luiz Bonfá, Pixinguinha, Baden Powell, Ary Barroso and others. Using their Jazz backgrounds, the unique duo takes things a step further by adding Jazz improvisation into the tunes, creating a sound that blends the best of both worlds. Experience the best of music from both sides of the equator, with Ali playing C and alto flutes, and Joe playing violão (Brazilian nylon string guitar). Refreshments will be served.

This program is sponsored by the Gerry Hellmann Eckhardt Fund for the Woodbridge Library, an endowed designated fund at the Valley Community Foundation. This Designated Fund supports adult cultural and arts programs that help the library attract more patrons and provide alternatives to other local programs. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to this fund, which will continue to support similar programming at the library, please mail a check to the Valley Community Foundation at 253-A Elizabeth Street, Derby, CT 06418 made out to VCF with the Gerry Hellman Eckhardt Fund in the memo or donate online at [valleyfoundation.org](http://valleyfoundation.org).

### Parisian Lives: Author Event with Deirdre Bair

Saturday, November 16 at 2 pm

In her latest book, local resident and National Book Award-winning biographer Deirdre Bair explores her fifteen remarkable years in Paris with Samuel Beckett and Simone de Beauvoir, painting intimate new portraits of two literary giants and revealing secrets of the biographical art. She will discuss this book, "Parisian Lives," at this year's Friends of the Library Purves Lecture.

The Purves Lecture was established by the Purves Family to memorialize Marjorie Purves, a past Friends member, to perpetuate her love of books, love of great literature and most importantly, to share this love with the Woodbridge community.

Deirdre Bair received the National Book Award for "Samuel Beckett: A Biography." Her biographies of Simone de Beauvoir and Carl Jung were finalists for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and the Simone de Beauvoir biography was chosen by The New York Times as a Best Book of the Year. Her biography of Anaïs Nin and her most recent book, "Saul Steinberg: A Biography," were both New York Times Notable Books.

### Thursday Night Film Screenings

Join us at 7 pm in the meeting room; registration is not required.

### Yesterday (112 minutes; PG-13) Thursday, November 7

Jack Malik is a struggling singer-songwriter in a tiny English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie. Then, after a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed...and he finds himself with a very complicated problem, indeed.

### Ophelia (114 minutes; PG-13) Thursday, November 14

Something is rotten in medieval-era Denmark, where political intrigue swirls around the imperial court like dark magic. Amid it all, the queen's brightest lady-in-waiting, Ophelia, finds herself drawn to Hamlet, the charismatic and elusive crown prince. As their secretive love affair takes flight, betrayal strikes the court, threatening to derail their union and devastate the royal family for good. Caught between her desires and her loyalty, Ophelia has to decide where her devotion will ultimately lie.

### Driven (108 minutes; R) Thursday, November 21

After he's busted for smuggling coke on his plane, Jim Hoffman has a chance to start over in a lush, affluent suburb of San Diego. Jim and his wife, Ellen are surprised to find maverick auto mogul John DeLorean lives in a glamorous house down the street. Soon an unexpected friendship forms between the two men, just as John's new venture--the DeLorean Motor Company--is taking off. But with the FBI pushing Jim to inform on his flashy former dealer, Morgan Hetrick and John's financing falling through the cracks, things are far from idyllic.

### Thanksgiving--no film screening Thursday, November 21

### Children's Activities & Events

For more information on our Children's Events, please visit our website or call 203-389-3439.

### Nonfiction Club (Grades 3-6) Tuesday, November 5 at 5:30 pm

Check out a book about a United States president! Then, fill out a fact sheet and come ready to discuss what you learned! Enjoy a snack and make

a miniature White House. This program is a collaboration between Beecher Road School and the Woodbridge Town Library. Please register online or at the Children's Desk.

### Nutmeg Book Club (Grades 4-7)

Thursday, November 14 at 5:30 pm

Grab a seat at the next meeting of the Nutmeg Book Club! We will discuss "Save Me a Seat," enjoy a snack from the book, and make our own versions of Ravi's tiffin box! Pick up a book at the Children's Desk and come ready to discuss. Please register online or in person.

### Eager Readers K-2 Book Group

This month's read is "A Plump and Perky Turkey" by Teresa Bateman. Books are available at the Children's Desk. When the people of Squawk Valley find themselves without a turkey for their Thanksgiving feast, they plot a way to lure one into town: They'll advertise for a "model" turkey to pose during an arts-and-crafts fair, and gobble the bird when they've finished the artwork. But they don't plan on meeting up with Pete—a turkey so clever, he outsmarts them all!

\*\*Choose one session that works best for you — register online or at the Children's Desk.\*\*

- › Session 1: Monday, November 18 at 4 pm
- › Session 2: Saturday, November 23 at 3 pm

### Don't Try This At Home!

Saturday, November, 30 at 2 pm

Calling all mad scientists!! Get ready for the coolest, hottest, most explosive activities that you can imagine. A special traveling program from the Discovery Museum will stop by the Library that combines common sense with scientific principles and fascinating fun. Please register online, by phone 203-389-3439, or in person at the Children's Desk. Space is limited!

### ONGOING CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

#### Baby Rhyme Time (0-18 months)

Every Wednesday, 10:30-11 am

Join us for songs and rhymes, fun for little ones. No registration.

#### Rhythm and Rhyme (18-36 months)

Every Thursday, 10:30-11 am

Talking, singing and reading to build vocabulary and a love of books! No registration.

#### Saturday Preschool Storycraft (3-5 years)

Every Saturday, 11-11:30 am

Stories and crafts for ages 3 to 5 with an adult. No registration.



# AT THE WOODBRIDGE CENTER



*First Selectman Beth Heller congratulates the honorees at the 2nd annual Living Treasure Award Dinner. The 2019 Living Treasure Award winners are Ellie Sheehy, Charlie Whiting, Margaret Hamilton and Virginia "Miss Department offers a sincere thank you to all who worked to make the Living Treasure event a successful fundraiser for The Woodbridge Center. Thanks to the committee members, celebrity servers, sponsors, advertisers, donors, staff and volunteers as well as all those who attended. We're already looking forward to next year!*

## Nosh & Knowledge Lecture Series

The Woodbridge Center's Breakfast at 10 Lecture Series continues with a new name and new topics this fall. November's topic will be Home Energy Conservation and Understanding Your Bill presented by United Illuminating, Southern Connecticut Gas and Connecticut Natural Gas Co. 11/20 at 6 pm at the Woodbridge Library.

The Nosh & Knowledge Lecture Series continues in January with Creative Cooking for 1 or 2 with Laurie Van Cleft of Jewish Senior Services of Bridgeport. The lecture is at 10 am in The Center cafeteria.

## CHOICES Counselors Available

Medicare's Open Enrollment Period runs through Saturday, December 7. The Town of Woodbridge has Certified CHOICES Counselors available to provide counseling and information on topics such as Medicare, Medicare Supplemental Insurance, Medicare HMOs, Long-Term Care Insurance and other state and federal benefit programs. Counselors are helpful in selecting or making changes to insurance and making sure you have the right coverage for your needs. Please contact Judi Young, Senior Services Social Worker, or Mary Ellen LaRocca, Director of Human Services, for an appointment at (203)389-3429.

## Special Programming

RSVP is required one day prior unless otherwise noted. Please call 203-389-3430 or email [jglicksman@woodbridge.org](mailto:jglicksman@woodbridge.org)

**November 4:** Planning for Financial Security with David Quast of Valic Financial Advisors at 6:30 pm at the Woodbridge Library. RSVP is requested.

**November 7:** "Ages in Stages" with the Orange Players. The live theater performance will follow lunch at 1 pm.

This comedy has received rave reviews!

**November 11:** Center closed for Veterans Day. Woodbridge Veterans Day commemoration in the Center Gym at 11 am with master of ceremonies Barry Josephs.

**November 12:** Veterans Day Event! The Center hosts a presentation on the services and programs available to veterans through the New Haven Vet Center at 12:15 pm. Veterans and family members are encouraged to attend.

**November 14:** Flu Clinic with Orange VNA, 1 pm - 5 pm. Please bring all insurance cards with you. The CDC recommends annual flu shots. Call for details.

**November 19:** Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon at noon in the Center gym with entertainment by Brian Gilie. This seasonal feast is sponsored by the Woodbridge Police Union, Coachman Square, The Willows - Woodbridge. There is no cost for this luncheon but donations are accepted. RSVP required by November 14. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer take-out meals for this event.

**November 20:** Nosh & Knowledge Home Energy Conservation and Understanding Your Bill presented by United Illuminating, Southern Connecticut Gas and Connecticut Natural Gas at 6 pm in the Library meeting room.

**November 26:** Lunch entertainment with Kayte Devlin, begins 12:15 pm.

**December 2:** Trip! Mini holiday shopping trip to Chrisandra's Country store in Oxford, then lunch at New England Young at Heart with a holiday themed craft of homemade cards! Please RSVP by November 25 - \$20.00 including transportation.

**December 3:** Decluttering Your Home with Lorri Cavaliere, of A Family Affair Estate Liquidation Services, will share her expertise on Tuesday, December 3 at 12:15 pm during the



*Members of The Center's Craft Group show off their exquisite donation to Yale New Haven Hospital's NICU parents. The group made 'preemie' hats and blankets. Another donation of mittens and socks will be donated to Hartford 'Bags of Love' providing for homeless families.*

senior lunch program.

**December 10:** Annual Holiday Luncheon sponsored by the Woodbridge Rotary Club. Lunch is served at 12:15 pm in The Center gym. Entertainment will be provided by Paula Pettinella. There is no cost for this luncheon but reservations are required by December 3 and space is limited. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer take-out meals for this event.

**February 4:** Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) 9 am - 12 pm, Tuesdays through April 14. VITA is a free tax preparation service available to low-income individuals, people who have a disability and those who speak limited English. Call for information on required documents. Call 203-389-3429 for appointments.

## November Lunch Menu

Lunch is served Tuesday and Thursday at The Center café, at 12:15 pm. Cost is \$3 for dine-in meals, \$4 for take-out. RSVP is required by noon one day prior. Meals include bread, juice, coffee/tea and dessert.

11/5 Italian wedding soup, eggplant rollatini, garlic bread and chocolate brownie, 11/7 Butternut squash soup, beef stew with bowtie pasta and chocolate cream pie, 11/12 Five onion soup, honey mustard chicken, mashed sweet potatoes, broccoli, blueberry cobbler, 11/14 Potato leek soup, meatloaf and gravy, mashed potatoes and apple pie, 11/19 Thanksgiving lunch - in The Center gym - no charge, donations accepted, rsvp by 11/14, 11/21 Minestrone soup, spaghetti with meatballs, sautéed zucchini, garlic toast and rice pudding, 11/26 Escarole and bean soup, oven fried chicken, baked potato and mint brownies, 11/28 Closed for Thanksgiving holiday.

Note! If eating in and taking leftovers to-go, please bring a plastic container with you. Charges for to-go containers will begin in December.

## Ongoing Programming

**Calling all poker, canasta and spades players**—call The Center and share your interest 203-389-3430. The Center will put a group or a game together!

**New! Gin Rummy**, Thursdays from 1-3 pm in The Center café.

**T'ai Chi with Bill Banick** for beginner and intermediate levels. Excellent for balance and arthritis. Current class meets each Friday, through November 22, 10-11 am in Center Building, Room 16. New session begins December 6 for 10 weeks - \$50. Class will be prorated for those joining late - please register at 203-389-3430.

**Weekly Craft Group** meets Thursdays, 10 am - 1 pm, in The Center lounge. Calling all knitters and crocheters to join the group. Come for knitting and crocheting and stay for lunch! Don't forget to make a lunch reservation.

**Yoga for Healthy Aging Class** meets Fridays, 11:45 am - 1 pm, in the Center Building, Room 16, with instructor Julie Luciani. Current session runs through November 22—12 weeks for \$75. Class fee will be pro-rated if joined late. Class combines seated and standing postures and is safe for all. New session begins December 6 and runs through February 28, please call or stop by to register.

**Mahjong:** Monday & Friday, 10 am, Center Building, Room 13 advanced, Room 11 beginner, intermediate.

**Exercise with Laurie:** Workout includes a combination of strength training, cardio, flexibility and balance. Bring weights if you have them. Class meets in The Center gym on Tuesday and Thursday, 10-11 am. No need to sign up—just pay a drop-in fee of \$2.

**Book Club:** The book club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, 11 am at the Woodbridge Town Library. The next meeting is November 19 (note

See "Woodbridge Center" On Page 12



# TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

## Town of Woodbridge Meetings for the Month of November 2019



*Town Hall*

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

|       |                                      |         |                      |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------------|
| 11/4  | Emergency Medical Services Comm..... | 7:00 PM | Public Works Bldg    |
|       | Human Services Commission .....      | 7:00 PM | Center Building      |
|       | Town Plan & Zoning Commission.....   | 7:30 PM | Town Hall            |
| 11/12 | Police Commission.....               | 6:15 PM | Police Department    |
|       | Library Commission .....             | 6:30 PM | Library              |
|       | Zoning Board of Appeals .....        | 7:30 PM | Town Hall            |
| 11/13 | Board of Selectmen.....              | 5:00 PM | Town Hall            |
| 11/14 | Economic Development Commission..... | 7:00 PM | Town Hall            |
| 11/18 | CUPOP.....                           | 6:00 PM | Library              |
|       | Fire Commission .....                | 6:00 PM | Firehouse            |
|       | Recreation Commission .....          | 7:00 PM | Beecher Rd School So |
| 11/20 | Inland Wetlands Agency.....          | 7:30 PM | Town Hall            |
| 11/21 | Investment Committee.....            | 5:30 PM | Town Hall            |
|       | Board of Finance.....                | 6:00 PM | Town Hall            |
|       | Conservation Commission.....         | 7:30 PM | Town Hall            |
| 11/26 | Gov't Access TV Commission .....     | 7:15 PM | Town Hall            |

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## Pancake Breakfast for Danielle (McSherry) Esposito

Sponsored by the Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange Volunteer Fire Departments

**Sunday, November 3, 2019**

**8:00am—12:00pm**

Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Department  
100 Center Road, Woodbridge

**\$9 for adults**  
**\$7 for children (kids under 6 are free)**

*All proceeds will go to help pay for handicap accessible home renovation expense*

Tickets available at the Woodbridge Fire Dept. or by contacting Tina O'Connor at 203-389-3441/tdellavalle@woodbridgefire.com



Pancakes donated by Chip's Family Restaurant

## Youth Services

BY NANCY PFUND



### Let's Get Cooking

Youth Services will hold a Turkey Taco Tuesday cooking class at Amity Middle School-Bethany in the Cafeteria for 7th and 8th grade students on Tuesday, November 12th, 2:25 - 3:55 pm with instructor Michelle Wachsmann. The class is \$12 per student with advance payment required. Please register online at the Town of Woodbridge website or call 203-389-3429.

### Woodbridge Job Bank Accepting New Members/ Offers Help to Residents

Woodbridge residents between the ages of 14 and 18 are eligible to join the Job Bank to earn some money and help residents with housework, yardwork, babysitting, or tutoring. Sign up for your interview before the leaves start falling. Contact Nancy Pfund at npfund@woodbridgect.org or call 203-389-3429 for an application and permission form and to schedule an interview.

Woodbridge residents may call 203-389-3429 to hire Job Bank members to get some help with garden work, raking, housework, babysitting or party assistance.

### Thanksgiving & Sharing

While many of us enjoy the season

with an abundance of food, there are local families who rely on assistance to make ends meet. We are humbled each year as the Boy Scouts from Troop 63 and Troop 907 collect food for the Woodbridge food pantry. We are also grateful to the schools, donors, and volunteers who make our programs possible.

### Volunteers Are Now Needed To Sort And Shelve Food

Students can earn community service hours. Call 203-389-3429 or email npfund@woodbridgect.org to help.

### Adopt a Family Program

Offers holiday meal baskets to Woodbridge families in need. Please call 203-389-3429 if you would like to provide a basket or financial assistance.

### Toys 4 Kids

Toys may be donated for TEAM at the Woodbridge Library between November 13 and December 13 to make a child's holiday a little brighter.

Income eligible Woodbridge residents in need of toys for children ages 12 and under should call Youth Services at 203-389-3429 for assistance. Applications are accepted through December 13.

**"Woodbridge Center" From Page 10**

3rd Tuesday due to holiday) and the book will be "The Secrets We Kept" by Lara Prescott. New members are welcome.

**Art Class:** The 10-week class meets each Wednesday, 10 am - 12 pm, in The Center café. The class is taught by local artist Graham Dale. Call to register. Fee is \$60 and will be pro-rated for those joining late. Call for details.

**Tuesday Movies:** Following lunch in The Center lounge at 1 pm: 11/5 "Yesterday", 11/12 "Ophelia," 11/19 "Driven", 11/26 Silver Screen Selection: "Grumpy Old Men" (1993).

**Thursday Movies:** Oldies, musicals, classics following lunch in The Center lounge at 1pm. Note, no movie on November 7.

**Ask the Nurse:** 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, 11 am - 12:30 pm, blood pressure screenings, weight and conversation with a registered VNA Community Healthcare Nurse in The Center lounge.

**Duplicate Bridge:** Mondays, 9:30 am—12:30 pm, in The Center café.

**Bridge:** The Center's Wednesday bridge group invites new members! Join in for a friendly card game 1-4 pm, no reservations—just come to The Center café.

**Pinochle:** Monday, Wednesday or Thursday, 1-4 pm, in The Center lounge. Come any day—the group looks for new players and is willing to bring rusty players up to speed!

**Pickleball:** Meets Monday-Thursday in the Center gym for group play, 12:30-2:30 pm and Friday, 12:30-3:30 pm. Paid annual members may arrange playing times with others. Annual membership is \$20 for Woodbridge residents and \$25 for non-residents and is due in January. Stop by the office to make payment. Equipment is available on a first come, first served basis.

**Shuffleboard, bocce and billiard equipment** are available during business hours. Stop by with your group and play on a first come first served basis.

Find us and "Like us" on Facebook at The Woodbridge Center, Woodbridge, CT

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# TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES



## Woodbridge Tree Plantings

This fall, the Connecticut Tree Protective Association will plant a white oak tree in all 169 Connecticut cities and towns in honor of the 100th anniversary of the state's Arborist Law which requires that arborists are licensed. The law was passed at a time when the gypsy moth and chestnut blight were major tree problems and unqualified people were marketing themselves as tree experts. The new law requires that anyone selling service as a tree expert must be licensed through a rigorous examining process.

Richard H. Lewis III and daughter Katie Lewis, second and third generation arborists, of Woodbridge Estate planted the Woodbridge white oak tree as part of this program at the Fitzgerald property near the community gardens. Lewis is a member of the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, which was created to train people who sought the arborist license.

First Selectman Beth Heller and participants in a Woodbridge Trails Day hike attended the tree planting.

Heller told attendees that the CTPA white oak is just one of several trees planted in Woodbridge recently, including six on the Town Center Campus and ten at Fitzgerald Field along Center Road, many of which were made possible through donations.

"I would like to thank Richard Lewis and the Connecticut Tree Protective Association and all our other donors for giving trees to the Town of Woodbridge recently," said First Selectman

Heller. "The Town will benefit environmentally –and aesthetically—for decades to come because of these thoughtful donations. I'd also like to thank Public Works Foreman Adam Parsons for coordinating this tree planting plan and identifying the location and type of tree to be planted."

At Town Center Campus, two dogwood trees were planted to accompany Arden's Garden. One tree was donated by the Garden Club of Woodbridge and one by the Board of Selectmen, both in 2018. This year a white oak on the Town Green was planted in memory of Kathy Gartland, a sweet gum was planted in memory of Robert Schulz, and a dawn redwood will be planted by the Vine family in honor of their daughters, Ilana and Glenna.

A beech tree will be planted at the library, thanks to a donation by Ana MacDowell to honor her brother Samuel W. MacDowell, Jr. and at the Fitzgerald Tract, two of the five dogwood trees planted were donated -- one by Gordon Sanford in memory of his parents, Elsie and Frederick Sanford and the other by Dr. Nathan Kruger.

In the spring, the Town plans to plant five more crab apples and another five dogwoods will be planted in fall 2020. Residents interested in contributing to the remaining needed trees on Center Road may express interest through a form on the Town's website under the Recreation or Public Works Department pages.

## Connecticut Recycles Day, November 15

Reducing the amount of stuff sent to Waste to Energy facilities, where trash is burned, reduces air and water of pollutants such as dioxin, heavy metals, and carcinogens, and conserves resources by reducing the waste and pollution associated with the extraction of raw materials.

In recognition of Connecticut Recycles Day, November 15, here is some more useful information about what can be recycled in Woodbridge. Most recycling happens at the Transfer Station at 85 Acorn Hill Road. There are containers for demolition, scrap metal, mixed recycling (go to RecycleCT.com for specifics on allowable paper, plastic, glass, and metals), electronics recycling (such as computers, TVs, computer monitors, and microwaves). In addition, they accept paint, motor oil, and fluorescent light bulbs, tires, appliances containing refrigerants, and brush. Remember to stop by Public Works to get your permit sticker before driving to the Transfer Station.

There are also collections for specific items in town. Inside the Town Hall

doorway, there are boxes for eyeglasses and cell phones. The Police Station accepts medications in a secure bin in its foyer. The Friends of Woodbridge Town Library accepts books, DVDs, CDs and jigsaw puzzles, all in good condition, at the front desk.

It is worth mentioning two categories of items not recycled in Woodbridge that are easily recycled locally: plastic wrap and textiles. Plastic wrap is flexible; the stretchy plastic such as newspaper bags, bread bags, and the plastic that surrounds paper towels and toilet paper. Many big box stores accept wrap including Walmart. To find a convenient drop off location and a list of acceptable items, visit [www.plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org). Clothing, shoes and linens can be donated to Goodwill. However, consider saving your donations for student/team/club run donations and fund-raising drives during the school year.

Our efforts to properly dispose of trash and recycle help to keep the air and waterways safe for all organisms in our environment.



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# LOCAL BUSINESS ROUNDUP



## Smoothie Shop Opens In Woodbridge

Rise & Grind Nutrition opened in mid-October at 1652 Litchfield Turnpike and the public is invited to a Grand Opening on Sunday, November 10 from 8:30am-4:00pm. The first 25 people in line will receive a free swag bag of goodies and there will be raffles, music, samples, and giveaways.

Owner Krystal Fortier is an Amity Regional High School and SCSU graduate, so bringing Rise & Grind to this area is like being right back at home in the community. She is a former special education teacher who loves helping the community. The mission at Rise & Grind is to make the community healthier and happier by fueling customers with daily nutrition and a positive mindset.

About three years ago she started teaching fitness classes and began focusing more on her own health. “I wanted to go all in and help others,” she said. She previously taught at a gym in Seymour, where she lives, and a dance studio in West Haven.

In addition to smoothies, Fortier is also offering fitness classes in the evenings at Rise & Grind in order to offer a variety of wellness options including nutrition and fitness. She teaches Pound Fitness, which is cardio and weight training exercise that uses drumsticks, and she’ll also have other instructors offering yoga. Classes are announced on the company’s Facebook page, [facebook.com/riseandgrindnutrition/](https://facebook.com/riseandgrindnutrition/).

Fortier hopes to also host other community events related to nutrition. She is also looking to support the community through partnerships and fundraisers through Project R&G: Raise & Give at Rise & Grind. Local schools or sports teams that are looking to host fundraisers can set up events at Rise & Grind. After working

in a school for many years, she knows first-hand how much schools can benefit from this.

The smoothies are meal replacement smoothies that range from 200-250 calories and have about 24 grams of protein. There are approximately 50 flavors. Some are specifically designed to be recovery smoothies for after a workout and others are vegan and use a pea, quinoa and rice protein. The regular smoothies are made with soy protein. “We have many different options in order to accommodate different dietary needs,” says Fortier. The energizing teas are made with a green tea base and some have a boost of vitamin b12.

“They don’t taste like protein shakes. They taste like dessert!” says Fortier, noting that some people don’t like the way protein powder alters the flavor of other shakes. Her smoothies taste more like milkshakes.

“I realized I needed to get healthier a few years ago,” she says and that’s when she started drinking the shakes as breakfast. She lost 25 pounds in the process and has been able to maintain that weight loss for over a year by continually fueling her body with good nutrition.

Smoothies, she says, are a quick and healthy meal option instead of grabbing fast food from a drive-through.

Her smoothies come with environmentally friendly paper straws and customers who bring their own reusable cup get a \$1 discount. The same discount applies to Amity students, first responders, Fitpro customers and anyone who checks in or tags Rise & Grind on social media.

Rise & Grind is open Monday – Thursday 7 am – 6 pm, Friday 7 am – 4 pm, Saturday 10-4 and Sunday 10-2. For more details, visit [www.riseandgrindnutrition.com](http://www.riseandgrindnutrition.com).



Woodbridge Running Company owner Chris Dickerson knows everything about running and running shoes.

## Woodbridge Running Company Celebrates 20 Years!

In 1999, Woodbridge native and lifelong runner Chris Dickerson was named New Haven Register Cross Country Coach of the Year. He was the Head Girls Cross Country Coach and Assistant Girls Track & Field Coach at Amity Regional High School. That year, Chris opened Woodbridge Running Company, a specialty running store stocked with footwear, apparel and all other items related to the sport of running.

There was no other specialty running store in New Haven County – the closest was over an hour drive, and with so many runners in this community, Chris saw the need to fill that void. This fall, Woodbridge Running Company celebrates its 20th Anniversary.

“It has been a great 20 years,” said Dickerson, who is currently Assistant Coach for Women’s Cross Country and Track & Field at Quinnipiac University. “The best part is helping someone who wants to get into running, helping people with injuries get into the right shoes and continue running, helping people accomplish their goals.”

Dickerson, who has made a living helping people run better as a coach and store owner, has won numerous awards, including Amity Coaches Association Coach of the Year in 2002 and was a 2010 finalist for National Girls Cross Country Coach of the Year. His philosophy focuses on service. The number one goal is to assist the customer. And this goal has served the store well. Other similar stores

have come and gone over the years, but Woodbridge Running Company has weathered the recessions and kept going – at full speed.

Woodbridge Running Company employees, all seasoned and experienced runners, pride themselves on being open-minded to different trends and ideas about running shoe technology. All staffers are trained to analyze the customers gait and they take time to ask important questions about their needs, history, habits, and goals. They maintain that there’s not one correct answer when it comes to footwear choices, and the store offers a wide range of shoe types to accommodate many different runners and many different feet. Over the years they have helped fit thousands of runners and have watched them train happily, consistently and successfully.

“Customers are always the most important aspect,” Dickerson said. “We work very hard to do the best. Our staff is awesome, they care about other runners. Woodbridge Running Company is nothing without the staff, they are the most important part of what we do.”

Stop in, look around, get expert advice from the staff, and learn how to become a runner or a better runner!

Woodbridge Running Company is located at 7 Landin Street in Woodbridge. It is open Monday-Friday, 10am-7pm; Saturday, 10am- 6pm; Sunday, 12-4pm. The entrance is in the back and there is plenty of parking.



LOCAL BUSINESS

# Kristin DiFonzo Joins Press/Cuozzo Realtors

Stephen Press and John M. Cuozzo, Jr., Principals of Press/Cuozzo Realtors, are proud to announce the addition of Kristin DiFonzo to their sales team.

Kristin developed an interest in real estate through her decades of work in the construction industry. During the 20+ years she managed her family’s contracting business, she has developed a wealth of experience in the structural and mechanical aspects of real estate.

Her close work with sub-contractors, property managers, home inspectors and homeowners has prepared her for overseeing all aspects of the home buying and selling process. Her vast knowledge of financing, home renovations, and maintenance issues has given her a unique insight into each home’s potential.

Kristin has also worked in multiple educational settings, juggling student needs and administration. Her diverse work experiences combine to create an exceptional skillset – attention to detail, organizational expertise, active listening and strategic negotiation. Her diverse job history has also refined her top priority: to develop trust, understand her clients’ needs, and advocate on their behalf.

She is a member of the National Association of Realtors, Connecticut Association of Realtors, and the New Haven Middlesex Association of Realtors.



Kristin DiFonzo

Kristin was born and raised in Hamden and graduated from Hamden High School. She also graduated from the Professional Business Institute in Hamden. She resides in Wallingford with her husband, Ralph, and their two dogs.

*Press/Cuozzo Realtors, with offices at 2751 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT, has been serving the Greater New Haven area since 1990. Press/Cuozzo is known throughout New Haven County as an innovative and aggressive force successfully marketing all types of properties. Press/Cuozzo Realtors provides the services of a Commercial/Industrial Division as well as Residential Brokerage Services, Relocation Services, and Senior Real Estate Services.*

# Here We Grow Again!

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is pleased to announce that, Bethany resident, Sandra McSherry has affiliated with the company’s Coldwell Banker office in Woodbridge. As an affiliated agent, McSherry will provide residential real estate services in New Haven and Fairfield counties, specializing residential sales and purchases.

With Sandra’s extensive experience in the industry, her resume includes assisting first time home buyers, investors, renters, as well as, assisting sellers with a strategic marketing plan.

“Sandra’s passion for real estate and dedication to her clients perfectly align with Coldwell Banker’s standard of excellence,” said Aileen DeFeo, Vice President of the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices in Woodbridge and Orange. “We are looking forward to watching Sandra grow her existing



Sandra McSherry

business in new and strategic ways.”  
*Sandra McSherry can be contacted at Sandra.mcsherry@cbmoves.com or 203-415-2102.*

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# Combine Food And Fun To Raise Funds For Charity

Few things are as effective at bringing people together as food. A good meal shared with others is an invitation many people simply can't pass up, making food a perfect thing to partner with charitable endeavors.

Charitable organizations can always benefit from a little financial help, and well-intentioned men and women can raise funds for their favorite charities in various ways. The following are some food-friendly ways to lend a hand to a favorite charity while also enjoying a good meal.

### Fundraising food fight

Decorum tends to dictate how to behave at the dinner table. But even the most well-mannered men, women and children might welcome the chance to leave decorum at the door if they're doing so for a good cause. Mix a little fun with your food and fundraising by organizing a food fight. Encourage everyone to wear white and then serve an especially messy dish like spaghetti and meatballs. Host the meal on the grass in the backyard so any shrapnel left behind gets cleaned up by pets or local wildlife. A post-meal pie throwing contest can make the food fight that much more fun.

### Pay-per-plate pig roast

Pig roasts are traditionally laid back affairs where everyone has a good time.

A pay-per-plate neighborhood pig roast with friends, family and neighbors can be a great way to mingle with loved ones, meet new people, enjoy great food, and raise money for charity.

### Communal cooking

Another great way to use food to raise funds for charity is to organize a communal cooking event. Encourage friends, family, neighbors, or fellow members of local religious and/or civic organizations to gather and prepare an assortment of dishes together. The resulting dishes can then be sold bake sale-style with all of the proceeds going to a local charity.

### Food truck block party

The food truck industry is booming, and just about any type of cuisine can be prepared on a truck. Combine people's love of food trucks with a neighborhood block party. Work with food truck vendors, who may be eligible for tax breaks by offering free or discounted rates for the day of the party. Encourage neighbors to pitch in for the trucks and organize a 50/50 raffle with the proceeds going to a local charity. Before spreading the word about the party, contact your local government to confirm if any permits are necessary for special events.

Combining food with fundraising is a great way to raise money for local charities.

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# CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



Left to right: Superintendent of Bethany School District/Rotarian Ms. Colleen Murray, Rotarian Dr. Guy Stella, Rotary President Diane Millan, father of Student of the Month, Eric Green, Eve Green, Woodbridge Rotary Student of the Month, Mother Dena Schulman-Green, Amity Administrator, Monica Kruezer, Amity Counseling Department Head, Jill LaPlante, Amity District Superintendent/Rotarian, Dr. Jennifer Byars, and Amity High School Counselor Courtney Campbell

## Rotary September Student of the Month

Woodbridge resident Eve Green, a senior at Amity High School was named Woodbridge Rotary Student of the Month for September. Each month, the Woodbridge Rotary Club partners with Solun Tapas Restaurant to honor an Amity High School student. “Eve is a self-starter, always getting the job done and doing an amazing job efficiently, always positive and smiling,” stated Amity High School Counselor Courtney Campbell who nominated Eve as student of the Month.

Throughout, her high school career, Eve has taken a high level course load and early on she discovered her passion for business. She exhausted all of the business course offerings and

this year is conducting an honor Level Independent Study focusing on obtaining a comprehensive knowledge of accounting that expands well beyond what she learned in Accounting I.

Eve’s extra-curricular activities include being a member of the Phi Kappa Social Studies National Honor Society, and a member of the Amity Varsity Track Team which she serves as one of the captains. In addition, she is a Link Crew Leader, which is a program where the students help incoming freshmen acclimate to the high school.

Rotarian Dr. Guy Stella presented Ms. Green with a certificate of recognition.

## Woodbridge Happiness Club Meeting

Join Bernie Siegel, M.D. & Lionel Ketchian for a discussion on Happiness for our well-being. Lionel Ketchian is the co-host with Dr. Bernie Siegel on Mind Health Matters radio programs. Lionel is also the co-host on “The Happiness Show,” broadcast on TV by Cablevision of Connecticut.

Take part in getting valuable tools and techniques for making your life the best it can be. Suffered enough? Do you really need to suffer anymore? Are you ready to learn to Be Happy? Being Happy will help you, suffer less and evolve spiritually. External events are difficult for us without the right tools to deal with the turbulence that

we all experience in life. Master these strategies to lessen your suffering. Your happiness can empower you and keep you on track. Learn to have the peace of mind you need and experience happiness now.

Everyone is welcome; meetings are free and no reservations are required. Meet some wonderful people using happiness in their lives.

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, November 19th from 6:00 to 7:45 PM.

**Place:** The Woodbridge Town Library located at 10 Newton Road, Woodbridge.

For further info, e-mail PrintLRK@aol.com, call 203-258-7777 or www.HappinessClub.com.

## Daily Workshops Offered at New England Young at Heart

### Here is How it Works:

1. Choose dates in November, December or January or ALL THREE Monday - Friday
2. Choose a Time 10:00 to 1 pm includes a light Lunch at NE Young at Heart or 2:00-4:30 includes Tea, Coffee and desserts served
3. Choose a Craft
4. Book with Elaine
5. Pricing is \$25 pp \*please note there is a minimum of 10 people per group unless we can combine with another group!

This is a great day trip for ALL AGES and groups. I can hold 16 comfortably. I am next door (walking) to Chrisandra’s Country Store, a lovely place to shop, Market 32 Plaza has a Dollar tree, Market 32, Ice Cream Shop, Nail salon, and many more stores

### Crafts We are Currently Offering:

- Jewelry** - We will re-purpose your old jewelry or we can provide some to use. This is fun and you will be surprised at the lovely New jewelry you will make!
- Wine Glass painting** - Paint two wine glasses. These make great gifts for the holidays or just as a hostess gift.
- Cards** - Make three Cards. These

- cards are so special and look beautiful when they are handmade
- Mini Lamp** - These are so cute and you can put holiday shades on them, and they make a great night light.
- Signs** - Wooden signs we will have two to choose from for Fall & Winter
- Wreath** - Wreaths for your door two to choose from for Fall & Winter
- Ornaments** - We will Make 2 ornaments
- Recipe Book** - This is my favorite! You will bring a few of your old recipes & pictures and we will put together a great recipe book. This is a wonderful way to share your family favorites with loved ones as a gift.
- Gingerbread House** - This is a fun project for the holidays for your table. (small gingerbread house to decorate)
- Fall or Winter Centerpiece arrangement**
- Mini Wine Bottle Wind Chime**
- Please email me or call me with the dates you are interested in. Please have a few dates so we can try to accommodate everyone.
- This is open to ALL groups and Ages. If you would like an evening time, we can accommodate you.
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## WOODBIDGE RESIDENTS!

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Christmas is only 3 months away! Give a gift of memories on DVDs transferred from those old videotapes ageing in a box somewhere.

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celebrity  
extra  
by Dana Jackson

**Q:** I recently saw some episodes of “**The Day I Picked My Parents**” on the A&E channel about the foster care system. Will it be returning? If so, when? -- B.H.

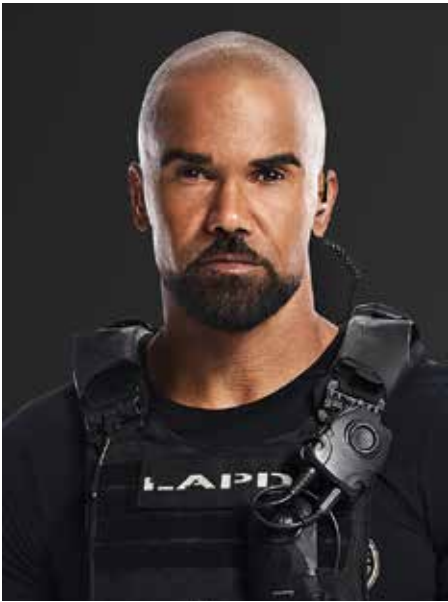
**A:** I hadn’t heard of this series until just now, but I’m going to have to put it on my must-see list. For those who don’t know, “The Day I Picked My Parents” is a documentary series about 10 foster kids who are given the chance to choose their forever families through an organization called Kidsave.

Older children, ages 9 through 18, statistically are harder to place, and many age out of the foster care system without ever having been adopted. Partnering up with the Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services, Kidsave aims to “turn the adoption process on its head” by giving these kids the chance to find parents who are the right fit for them. I would imagine you have to keep a box of Kleenex handy while watching this show.

Since there has been only one season so far, I’ll keep my fingers crossed that there will be a second, but as of yet an official renewal hasn’t been announced. If you can’t find episodes in your local guide, be sure to check them out online at [www.aetv.com/shows/the-day-i-picked-my-parents](http://www.aetv.com/shows/the-day-i-picked-my-parents).

**Q:** Has “**Criminal Minds**” been canceled? I haven’t seen any new episodes since the fall season premiered. -- M.M.

**A:** CBS’ “Criminal Minds” has had a very successful run. It began in 2005 with **Mandy Patinkin** in the lead, but he left after two seasons due to creative differences. He famously stated at one time: “CBS is very clear about their formula for success with these kinds of shows. One doesn’t want to throw the baby out with the bathwater. But it is important for this baby to have a



Shemar Moore in “S.W.A.T.”  
[Smallz + Raskind/Sony Pictures Television]

certain kind of food to make me stay interested.”

The crime series survived for a long time with several cast changes over the years. However, last season CBS decided to renew “Criminal Minds” for one final season of 10 episodes. It’s not on the fall schedule but will return sometime during the winter or spring of 2020.

In the meantime, “**S.W.A.T.**” currently occupies the 10 p.m. timeslot on Wednesday nights and stars another former “Criminal Minds” cast member, **Shemar Moore**.

\*\*\*

**Q:** What is **Alison Sweeney** doing now that she’s not hosting “**The Biggest Loser**”? -- T.B.

**A:** Sweeney still pops up occasionally on “**Days of Our Lives**” as Sami, the role she grew up playing on the NBC soap. She became known outside of the daytime soap world for hosting “The Biggest Loser” for eight years, but stepped down in 2015. The busy star also has done many TV movies over the years, and next up she’ll play a widow opposite Lucas Bryant in “**Time for You to Come Home for Christmas**” on Hallmark Movies & Mysteries. It’s being produced by country singer **Blake Shelton**.

Send me your questions at [NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com](mailto:NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com), or write me at KFWs, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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# How Small Businesses Improve The Consumer Experience

Small business is big business. Though it's easy and not necessarily inaccurate to associate small businesses with Main Street, small- and medium-size companies are players in the international trade arena as well.

A 2015 report from the U.S. Census Bureau found that small- and medium-sized companies comprised 97.6 percent of all identified exporters and 97.2 percent of all identified importers.

Small businesses can compete in both the domestic and international trade arenas for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is the experience they provide for their customers. While they may not have the marketing muscle to compete with large corporations, many small businesses have perfected the art of providing top-notch experiences for their customers by embracing several strategies that make consumers feel appreciated.

## Improved customer service

Nearly every consumer has had to contact a retailer or service provider regarding a purchase at one point or another. Contacting a large corporation can be a difficult experience for consumers, who often must answer



several telephone prompts before they can be connected to a human being. Small businesses typically do not ask customers to clear such hurdles before they can get in touch with an actual person. That makes the process of contacting customer service less time-consuming and aggravating and more enjoyable for customers.

## Responses

Small businesses are in better position to respond to negative experiences

or reviews, particularly online reviews, because they have fewer customers than large companies who field hundreds if not thousands of complaints per day. Studies have shown that customers appreciate responses from businesses they patronize. A 2018 online reviews survey from Review Trackers found that 53 percent of consumers expect a response to negative reviews within a week of posting their reviews and are disappointed when they do not receive a response. Unfor-

tunately, the same survey found that 63 percent of reviewers have never received a response to a review. Small businesses are in a unique position to respond to online reviews, and providing such responses can turn a potentially negative consumer experience into a positive one. What's more, because online reviews and responses are public, prospective customers can read a company's response and know that owners want their customers to have as positive an experience as possible.

## Personalization

Many large companies won't customize their products, as their financial success is typically rooted in how effectively they can scale to thousands of customers per day, if not more. So large companies have less incentive to work one-on-one with customers. Small businesses are not beholden to scale, which gives them the flexibility offer more unique products, including customized items.

The consumer experience is often more customer-friendly with small businesses than large corporations. That well-earned reputation is just one of many reasons why small businesses are thriving in today's economy.

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# How Local Businesses Give Back To Their Communities

Small businesses are booming. Information from the Small Business Administration and the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs says that small businesses, or firms with fewer than 500 workers, accounted for 99.7 of businesses in 2016, the most recent year for data. Firms with fewer than 100 workers accounted for 98.2 percent of companies. In Canada, 97.9 percent of businesses were small as of 2017, with more than half concentrated in the Ontario and Quebec provinces.

Thanks to their influence and reach, small businesses have the potential to impact local communities in numerous ways.

Small businesses employ local residents. The Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey indicates companies with fewer than 100 employees employed 69.7 of the population in 2017. According to the SBA's Office of Advocacy, small businesses accounted for 61.8 percent of net new jobs in the United States between 1993 and 2016.



Small businesses are innovative. The SBA notes that small businesses represent about 96 percent of employer firms in high-patenting manufacturing industries. That suggests that small businesses are full of new ideas.

Small businesses support local charities. Many local businesses give

to charity, particularly local charities. Some donate money while others may offer their professional services or event spaces, each of which can be particularly helpful to local communities.

Small businesses contribute to community identity. Small businesses con-

tribute to the charm and character of a town or city. Many local businesses make up the fabric of Main Street, and towns are known and loved for the businesses that have endured.

Small businesses help the environment. Shopping locally means consumers do not have to travel far to get their goods and services. The United States Environmental Protection Agency's research report on walkable downtown centers found small businesses encourage walking and cycling, helping to reduce air pollution from vehicles.

Small businesses keep money in communities. Local businesses keep disposable income and tax money within their communities. Business tax money remains local and can support schools, roads and municipal services.

Local small businesses are the life force that keeps cities and towns prosperous and humming along. Such establishments help build a sense of community and forge lasting relationships.

**“While only one day of the year is dedicated solely to honoring our veterans, Americans must never forget the sacrifices that many of our fellow countrymen have made to defend our country and protect our freedoms.” — RANDY NEUGEBAUER**



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# ARTS & LEISURE



Left to right: Fred Hulley, sponsor; Kathy Burke, principal Amity Middle School Orange; Patrick Laffin, Square Foot Theatre Company; Judy Primavera, sponsor; Dr. Richard Dellinger, principal, Amity Middle School Bethany; Dr. Keith Smolinski, musical director. [Photograph by Barbara Cassesse]

## Amity Drama Departments Earn Microphone Grant

The Amity Middle School Spartan Players Earn \$4,500 Grant from Jamie Hulley Foundation

Amity Middle School Bethany and Amity Middle School Orange Spartan Players already have a group of talented thespians, a supportive administration, teachers, and parents. Now they will have their own set of microphones!

Last year the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation offered to match funds raised by both schools.

The Spartan Players came through and raised the needed funds to purchase a new wireless microphone system that will be enjoyed by the casts at both the Orange and Bethany campuses of Amity Middle School!



## Local Dancer To Perform In The New York City Ballet's Nutcracker

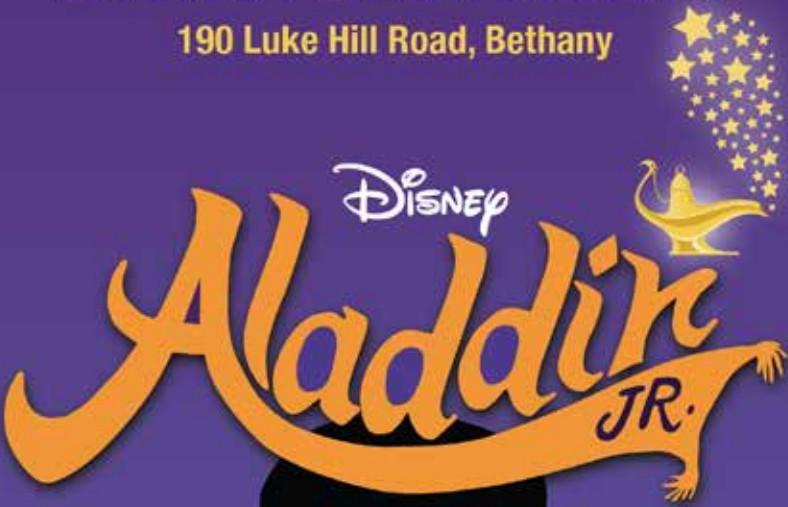
Charlotte Walls, age ten, will perform in the New York City Ballet's acclaimed production of Balanchine's "The Nutcracker". Charlotte is in fifth grade at Beecher Road elementary School in Woodbridge. She studies ballet in Manhattan at The School of American Ballet (SAB).

The New York City ballet uses children from SAB for roles in various productions, including the Nutcracker. Charlotte has been dancing with SAB since she was seven years old. Charlotte will be playing the role of a Soldier and will be dancing in 24 performances at the David H. Koch Theatre in Lincoln Center.

For showtimes and information about the NYC Ballet, please visit <https://www.nycballet.com>.

AMITY MIDDLE SCHOOL BETHANY  
SPARTAN PLAYERS PRESENTS

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Friday November 8 - 6:30PM  
Saturday November 9 - 6:30PM  
Sunday November 10 - 2PM

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(can also be purchased at the door)

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# Fall on the Farm

Fall is a wonderful time of transition at Massaro Community Farm. Cool weather-loving crops sown by farm staff in August are being harvested in abundance in October and November. At a time when most backyard gardens have been put to bed, the farm continues to harvest lettuce, kale, spinach, beets, turnips, potatoes, carrots, radishes and even a few lingering tomatoes from the farm’s high tunnels.

In addition to our continuing harvest, these months offer up beautiful colors, birds in migration to warmer places, and preparations for winter. As the days get shorter, farm staffers plant and cover crops that will over-winter in the fields (think strawberries!), remove field irrigation hoses, pack away trellises, and clean and sharpen equipment. Honey is harvested and the beehives are tested for health and fed extra to get them through the colder months. Chicken and rabbit housing are prepared for wintry weather.

In spite of cooler days, these activities present continuing opportunities for learning and engagement. Group field trips will continue to visit the farm until mid- November. And the fall harvest has been so robust that we’ve been able to extend our CSA subscription by an additional three weeks, making produce for sale on the farm each Friday afternoon through November 22.

Once we turn the clocks back and revert to observing Eastern Standard

Time, the field harvest at Massaro Community Farm will slow even further. Thanks to six high tunnels on the farm (the structures often thought to be greenhouses), the weekly harvest of cold-hardy greens will continue on a smaller scale through the colder and shorter days of winter. Temperatures under the plastic enclosure of the high tunnels – often misunderstood to be greenhouses – can reach into the mid-60s in January and February! Winter harvested produce is sold primarily to area restaurants or used for nutrition education.

## Tickets on sale for Decade Dinners in area homes

To culminate the celebration of our tenth season of farming, we hope you’ll join us for one of our Decade Dinners, Saturday, November 16. Choose from a series of intimate dinners hosted by friends of the farm. Each of the nine dinner hosts will have a unique guest speaker who will present a topic related to sustainability, food and/or farming. All guests are invited to an opening reception beginning at 6:00pm at Parish Hall, First Church of Christ on Meetinghouse Lane in Woodbridge center. Each location will offer a series of farm-themed dishes; vegetarian and vegan options available. Once you purchase tickets, directions to the exact address of your host will be provided. Help us celebrate this milestone year by joining us for one of

these dinners. \$80/pp. Tickets can be purchased on Eventbrite.com.

## New Winter Ranger program for children

Massaro Community Farm will host a new Winter Ranger program for children in grades K-5. Children will be able to connect with a winter landscape during a time when they are usually inclined to stay indoors. Every Sunday from January 12 through March 1, 2020, children will spend three hours learning wilderness survival skills and forest ecology. They’ll learn how to build a fire by hand, how to build a shelter from nearby materials, how to tap maple trees to make maple syrup, and how to track winter animals. Registration forms and details will be posted to the farm’s website November 1, 2019.

## Screening of the Christmas comedy “Elf” and photos with Santa, Friday, Dec. 20, from 5 to 9 pm.

Massaro Farm invites families to attend a free screening of the PG Christmas comedy “Elf” in the farm’s dairy barn on Friday, December 20 at 5:00pm and again at 7:00pm. Dress warmly, as the barn is not heated, and enjoy hot chocolate and sugar cookies. The 2003 movie about a human raised by elves stars Will Ferrell, James Caan, Zooey Deschanel, Mary Steenburgen, Daniel Tay, Ed Asner and Bob Newhart.

Children or families can also pose for photos with Santa, at \$8/digital image. Sign up for a photo timeslot on our website at MassaroFarm.org.

## Other farm news

Goats are coming to Massaro Community Farm! After several years of planning, we’ll shortly be introducing goats to our farm operation. These goats will be instrumental in keeping periphery zones of the farm from becoming overgrown and will be integral to our farm education programming. We are very excited and hope you will visit the farm and our new goats in the coming months.

Sign up to receive our newsletter on our website to receive details about Massaro Community Farm’s winter gatherings and winter ranger program for children. At the winter gatherings, we will share in a potluck, screen a film and share some skills with you. And keep an eye out for our 2019 Annual Report, coming to your inbox or mailbox by Thanksgiving.

Massaro Community Farm is a non-profit, certified-organic farm on the border of Woodbridge and Ansonia, CT. It is committed to supporting the legacy of farming, feeding neighbors in need, and building community through events and hands-on education for all ages. More information can be found by calling the farm office at (203) 736-8618 or visiting the farm’s website at [www.MassaroFarm.org](http://www.MassaroFarm.org).

# Ansonia Nature Center November Calendar Of Events 2019

## A PASSION FOR BIRDS WITH HENRY LAPPEN

Saturday, November 2, 2 pm

This unique interpretive program for families helps people understand and connect with birds and other wildlife. Using masks, comedy, and loads of audience participation, artist Henry Lappen explores how and why birds have adapted to their environment. He explains the science while demonstrating how the birds move and act. Participants get to try on the masks and soar as eagles, stalk as herons, and swim as puffins. FEE: \$6 per person; please call to register. For all ages.

## FALL FOLIAGE HIKE

Sunday, November 3, 1 pm

Join the Nature Center naturalist for a stroll through our woodlands, old fields, and wetlands. Enjoy the beauty and the crisp fall air while learning about New England’s flora and fauna. Wear appropriate shoes for this moderate hike. FREE. Please register.

NATURE EXPLORERS – Wednesday, November 6, 13, 10–11:30 am

Join us for this 4-week pre-school/toddler program for children ages 2-5 with their adult explorer. Participants will have fun exploring nature every week in these outdoor classes, which are loosely structured, influenced by the seasons and the interests of the children. We will go outside to explore nature every class so please dress for the weather. Classes will end with a light snack and conversation. TUITION: \$40 for all 4 weeks. Class is limited to 10 children. Please call to register.

## WESTERN CT ORIENTEERING CLUB EVENT

Saturday, November 9, 10 am–2 pm

Come try the fun and adventurous sport of orienteering at this event hosted by the Western CT Orienteering Club. Using a map and compass, navigate to locations marked on a detailed map of the Nature Center. Courses suitable for beginners through advanced participants with free training provided. Start any time from 10

am to noon and finish by 2 pm. FEE: \$10 for individuals, \$15 for families. For more information, see [wcocorienteering.org](http://wcocorienteering.org) or email [wrde Witt@snet.net](mailto:wrde Witt@snet.net).

## December 2019 WINTER WREATH WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 7, 10 am

Celebrate winter and the festive season as you create a wreath from fresh locally grown greens, then decorate your masterpiece with natural trimmings. Enjoy some warm mulled cider and a cookie too! Wreath frames and wire will be provided. Please bring your own hand clippers. MATERIALS FEE: \$15. Please call to register.

## NEEDLE FELTING FOR BEGINNERS

Saturday, December 7, 2 pm

Join in this fun class and learn the art of needle felting. With just one barbed needle you can create some wonderful 3D animals. All supplies will be provided. MATERIALS FEE: \$15.

Class size is limited to 12, so please register in advance. Ages 12 and up.

## Ongoing Programs Creature Features

Saturdays, 12 noon

Come to meet our furry, scaly, and feathery animal ambassadors. You’ll have the chance to touch and hold them in this FREE family program for all ages.

## Sunday Guided Hikes

Sundays, 1 pm

Join a Nature Center guide on Sunday afternoons for fun, exercise, and learning about our trails! See the above listings for hikes with a specific theme.

## Fiber Arts Group

Tuesdays, 6 pm

Get together with others to work on your fiber arts projects! Bring any kind of fiber work—knitting, felting, crocheting, etc. A great way to dedicate time to your handiwork and socialize too. FREE.



“From Our Readers” From Page 5

student(s) home. Families are encouraged to exercise their own judgment in such cases.

Colleen Murray, Bethany Superintendent  
Dr. Vince Scarpetti, Orange Superintendent  
Robert Gilbert, Woodbridge Superintendent  
Dr. Jennifer P. Byars, Amity Superintendent

Woodbridge Soon to Face an \$883,000 Question

Our town will soon face an \$883,000 question: Do we change zoning to permit a dense residential development? Our First Selectman is right to press the need to pay down debt and reduce property taxes. But the current proposal will not do it. And the \$883,000 question is part of the reason why.

How many of us knew when the CCW was originally purchased that nearly \$1 Million was added to the cost to pay off the country club’s unsecured debt holders? We overwhelmingly approved buying the real estate, but who knew an \$883,000 check was cut to the seller’s attorney, with no records to document how the money was distributed? That’s our tax money, and that’s crazy! So crazy that we should all be suspicious of the current deal, given that the same folks involved with the \$883,000 question are behind this package. We have to wonder, what Trojan Horse lies within?

It’s common knowledge that a right granted to one landowner is precedent for another. Good lawyers know how to wrangle an approval, and we have many large town parcels that would qualify for dense development. That’s the slippery slope that’s befallen many of our neighboring towns whose New England character has been obliterated by suburban sprawl.

Beth Heller should be commended for pressing a resolution to the CCW financial fiasco. But we need to balance the financial fix with quality of life protections. Protecting the open space without addressing debt and tax issues is as wrong as allowing the zoning change. But we can have a win-win. The 10-12 acres that include the clubhouse are already developed. That piece has real commercial value as a banquet, conference, recreational and restaurant facility --all uses consistent with the former country club use. Sell it as we do in the private sector. Hire a commercial realtor, or let the Economic Development Commission craft a Request for Proposals, in a transparent process. Seek the best deal. The remaining 140 acres should be protected for perpetuity, for trails, recreation, open space and agriculture.

Beth, give us a win-win: pay down debt, add to the grand list, reduce taxes, and protect what should be another jewel in the town’s crown of open space.

Jim Urbano

Beware the Bait & Switch

The current proposal for the Country Club of Woodbridge, a sale of ap-

proximately 60 acres for cluster housing, indicates that the remaining land, nearly 100 acres, will be turned into a town park. Voters are being presented with a Faustian bargain; they are being asked to sacrifice 60 acres in exchange for preserving the remaining 100 acres.

In August, I spoke at the Board of Selectmen meeting, suggesting that a conservation restriction be placed on the remaining acreage, and that approval of such a restriction be made part of the referendum process. But I was ignored; the referendum question makes no mention of preserving the 100 acres. If preservation truly is the intent, why won’t they put it in writing?

Unless the remaining 100 acres are legally protected with a conservation restriction as part of the upcoming referendum, the promise of a park is meaningless and unenforceable. As we all know, promises have a way of being forgotten or ignored by future administrations. If the voters are being asked to sacrifice 60 acres to development in exchange for preserving 100 acres, we deserve an ironclad, legally enforceable guarantee that the bargain will be kept, that the 100 acres will not be sold off piece by piece in the future.

Beware the bait and switch!

Cathy Wick

Why Your Taxes Won’t Fall If Development Goes Forward

Sometime in the near future you may be asked to vote up or down the sale of 60 acres of the old CCW for development. The reason put forth is money, \$5.4 million to pay off the debt and create a new revenue stream of \$1.7 million in taxes. That’s not the whole story, it leaves out essential facts to bolster the argument for sale.

First, the sale will generate \$5.4 million, but \$4.2 million will go to pay off the debt. Remediation will cost an estimated \$800K, leaving about \$400K net. Curiously, Ellen Scalletar, hand-picked by the First Selectman for the Board of Finance, remarked at their last BOF meeting that that money would not have to be used to pay off that debt. What are the administration’s plans for that money?

The tax stream will take years to reach \$1.7 million as the homes will be built in stages over five years, according to developer’s projections. But at \$250/square foot, and Woodbridge homes selling at \$155 a square foot, has the market been misjudged? How long will it really take to build out and sell? What happens if the developer cannot complete the project because of poor sales? Our Town Attorney wants to have right of first refusal to buy back the property. Does the Town really want to be in the real estate business? Where would the buy-back cash come from - another bond issue?

Furthermore, an estimated 30% of the golf course homes will be sold to Woodbridge residents, freeing up 40 resale homes to families with school children. Each child costs the school

system at least \$17K to educate, most homes will have 2 children, or 80 children for a total of \$1.36 million. So, \$1.7 less \$1.36 nets \$340K. Furthermore, there are \$6.4 million in capital projects in the pipeline, plus another \$6.7M wanted by the Amity School district. These numbers don’t look good for lower taxes.

What will be the effect on the resale market? Adding homes to the market will increase supply which typically lowers prices. The Woodbridge market is already depressed, especially in the \$500K to \$600K range where houses are languishing on the market, or selling at prices below market value. These lowered prices will generate less tax money, and will also help push up the mill rate, since taxes equal valuation times mill rate.

Finally, the First Selectman announced at the October Board of Selectmen meeting that there would be no conservation easement on the remaining 100 acres, because it would interfere with a skating rink, dog park, or other recreation use. Conservation easements are designed to prevent sub division and development; exceptions can be carved out for recreation, and we have such properties in Woodbridge. It is more likely that further sales are contemplated and a conservation easement would prevent that.

So, think carefully how you vote; you’re not voting for lower taxes.

David A Lober , M.D.

Let’s Keep the Woodbridge We Know & Love

I am dismayed that we are facing another referendum to develop the beautiful Woodbridge Country Club property with a senior cluster condo community that most people don’t want on that unique, lovely parcel. The Weiner/Heller/Scalett regime continues to foist this unwanted development on our municipality. As a former member of the Town Plan and Zoning Commission, I am disturbed that allowing this dense development in a residential A zone could change the character of our town forever. Woodbridge’s semi-rural character was created overtime with our careful zoning. Zoning is based on precedent, so allowing our zoning to radically change to allow this “Spot” development threatens large parcels of undeveloped property all over town with similar condo projects. Town Attorney Weiner seems to like to use development of our town to enrich himself. When I was on the Planning and Zoning Commission and he was the head of the Democratic Town Committee, he used his political position to solicit business from developers trying to build in Woodbridge often against the greater interests of the townspeople. Weiner also maintained that changing the zoning at the WCC won’t jeopardize other parcels, but other land-use lawyers disagree. The selected developer of the WCC plans to pay the town only \$5.4 million for 60 acres, a low price of only 90,000/

acre, not a fair price for the taxpayers of the town.

Demolishing the WCC clubhouse is also a misguided idea. It is an architecturally significant, mid-century modern structure worthy of preservation. Tearing down the clubhouse is Woodbridge’s equivalent of NYC’s destruction of Penn Station.

The WCC clubhouse, clay tennis courts and pool could be restored with a state grant for residents to use. The Senior Center and the town weight room could be moved to one of the clubhouse’s lovely, light-filled rooms. The facility could have its ballrooms rented for weddings, bar/bat-mitzvahs, lectures, etc. to generate revenue for the town. Many other towns such as Trumbull and Westport have done this with similar facilities.

The Town of Woodbridge already has an approved senior housing district on either side of Bradley road in the village district. Elegant senior housing should be located there because it would enhance our village district with a mixture of age-restricted housing and shops. The town should not be competing with a private developer who already owns the property along Bradley Road. The Bradley road senior development could generate far more tax dollars than the WCC tract. The Heller administration hasn’t worked at all with the developer to bring that project to fruition, but instead myopically focuses on the WCC project. The Bradley road property already has public sewer, public water, bus service, and gas lines present and doesn’t isolate seniors in a less developed part of town. Senior residents could walk around on the sidewalks in the village district improving the business climate in that part of town. If you want to keep the Woodbridge we know and love, vote “NO” on the WCC development proposal.

Michael D. Broderick D.V.M

Country Club of Woodbridge – A Recurring Nightmare

I have worked hard for the essential preservation of open space in Woodbridge for many years as a lifelong Woodbridge resident. In the Woodbridge Town News of October 4, we were informed that the Board of Selectmen are bringing the clustered development proposal for more than 1/3 of the former Country Club of Woodbridge parcel to the voters. This will occur soon either via voice vote or via referendum.

It was envisioned that the preservation of the open space of this very historically significant “crown jewel” property was assured in 2009 when residents voted to purchase the 153 acres. This has been brought back time and time again by your selectmen.

This is a flawed proposal for the following reasons:

- › This is a considerable precedent; a zoning change for this property



“Amity Athletics” From Page 1

Amity Finance Director Terry Loomis and Athletic Director Ernie Goodwin have been talking to parent groups and to the selectmen of the three towns to explain the need for the projects, saying their request is a need, not a want. A detailed description of the projects is also available on the district website, <https://www.amityregion5.org/district-information/district-news/post-details/~board/news/post/amity-school-board-moves-december-referendum-forward>.

At the high school, for instance, the project would replace air handlers that have outlived their normal life expectancy and refurbish chillers. The high school has experienced a couple of unexpected failures, Loomis said when she addressed the Woodbridge Board of Selectmen. Also, part of this upgrade is to add air conditioning in the small gym, the last space in the building that currently is not air-conditioned.

At the middle schools, the district seeks to improve the acoustics in large gathering spaces, where it is difficult to hear announcements, Loomis said. “We want to make sure announcements come through, in particular for safety reasons,” she said. Affected are the gym and the cafeterias.

Also, part of question 1 is the last part of paving the parking lot at the high school. These building improvements would cost \$3.2 million.

The second question on the ballot is for improvements to the athletic fields, namely installation of a new track; also turning the football field into a multi-sport stadium with all-weather surface; install LED lighting to replace the old field lights; and an LED scoreboard at the stadium as well as for Field 3. It also includes new permanent bleachers with an ADA compliant access way on Field 3. The cost for the athletic component is \$3.5 million.

In all, this is a \$6.7 million bond request, for a ten-year bond. The flagship of this project would be the re-furbished stadium, with a new track, a new all-weather field, new lights and a new scoreboard.

The lights and the scoreboard are both LED technology based. In addition to being more efficient, the new lights are much more focused than the old ones, and avoid “spillage” — the lights beaming out into the night. Woodbridge zoning has limited the high school lights to ten nights. In spite of improved lighting, they are planning to stick to that stipulation, Ernie Goodman said. The new lights come attached to metal poles rather than the telephone poles used for the current lights.

The proposed new scoreboards also use LED technology, and are a lot more efficient than the old one. They can be reprogrammed for any sport, Loomis said, which would be an important feature for a multi-sport field. They also have video streaming capability.

The current track was constructed 20 years ago and is worn. It would be replaced by a concrete base with a rubber layer on top.

The all-weather surface would allow the high school to use the new stadium field not only for football, but also field hockey, soccer and lacrosse. It would also allow PE classes to use the field during the day, rain or shine. Baseball, softball, cheer, dance and marching band also benefit. Even after nine inches of rain, the field would be ready to play within an hour, Goodwin said.

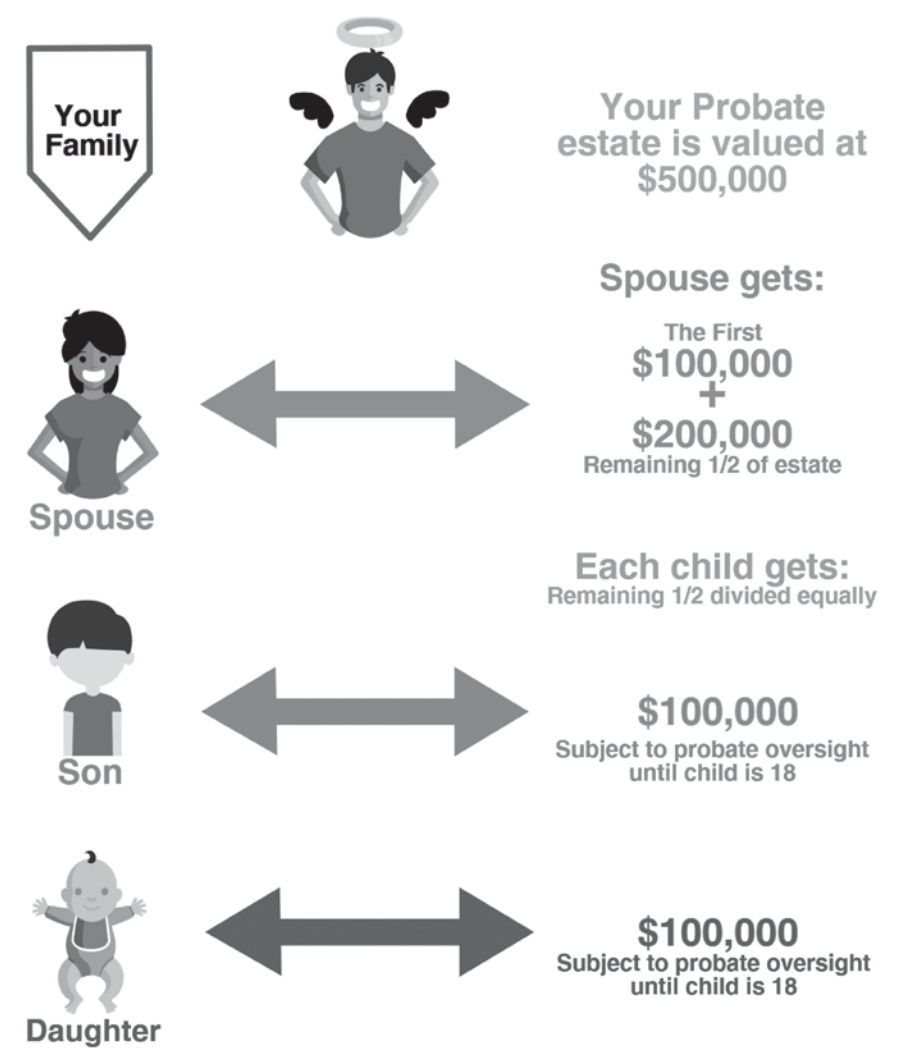
Loomis said Amity is the only town in its DERG (Economic Reference Group) that does not have an all-weather field. No tournaments are scheduled here due to the turf field. In fact, the district has to rent playtime in other towns to allow its athletes training time on these surfaces.

The surface for the suggested field would be made of cryogenic rubber, which according to Loomis, passes the European safety standard for toys. A study by the Department of Health did not find a significant health risk associated with this material. In fact, it decreases the risk for injuries.

When asked about the maintenance required for the new field, she said the district would purchase grooming equipment for ongoing maintenance. In addition, it would contract with a company to deep-clean the rubber surface every few years. Even so, the man-made field would require much less ongoing maintenance than a traditional turf field.

# Did You Know?

## If You Die Intestate in Connecticut



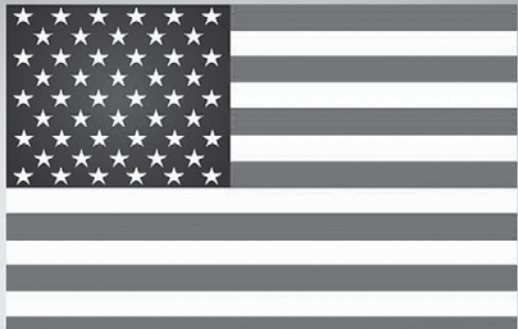
Steven P. Floman, Allison M. DePaola-Drozdz, and Nicole Camporeale of the law firm Floman DePaola, LLC are the authors of this article. This article has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute legal advice or to create an attorney client relationship. Readers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

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# VETERANS DAY

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# HEALTH & FITNESS

## It's All In The Hips

On a daily basis, I see it all. Knee pain. Ankle and foot pain. Back pain. General difficulty moving. You know what all those issues have in common... your hips. If you walk into my office, I guarantee you, any lower body or core issues you complain of will require us to take a look at your hips. "But its not my hips that hurt it's my knee!!, I hear constantly. How could dysfunction of your hips cause that nagging knee pain that just won't quit during your 5k's, marathon training, or simply that dreaded 1 mile run on the treadmill at the gym after a long day sitting behind your desk at the office?

The answer is simpler than you think. When we run, walk, or even stand, our hips are engaging constantly in order to stabilize our entire leg. The pressure of our heel and foot hitting the ground is known as a ground reaction force. That force translates up through our foot, to the ankle, through the calf, up to the knee, into the thigh and then ending at the hip. When that force comes up the leg it forces our entire leg to stabilize itself, in particular from rotating the leg. Most of our legs muscles only propel us forward to back. But our foot and ankle muscles can only control minimal rotation. Our calves generally only push off the ground or clear our feet so our toes don't drag. Our quadriceps and hamstrings only have the ability to flex or extend our leg and can't control that rotation. So that leaves us with one last resort... our hips.

The force through our leg at heel strike forces rotation that translates all the way up to our over neglected hips. Our hip internal and external rotators are left to fend for ultimate control of the leg. They stabilize our femur, the long bone of the thigh, and prevent excessive rotation from overloading our knee and creating dreaded conditions like patellofemoral syndrome or quad tendon or patellar tendinitis. Too much rotation of femur can also put athletes and weekend warriors at a far greater risk of ACL and meniscal tears, as well as hamstring and quadriceps strains.

What about our ankle and foot? With that same excessive rotation of the femur and knee comes an increased load through structures like our gastroc and soleus (the 2 main calf muscles) and the Achilles tendon.



Kyle Brandy, MSPT/CDN

Forced to change the way we push off and propel ourselves, our muscles strain and work much harder to try and prevent excessive movement. In addition, the dreaded plantar fasciitis can be a crippling result of weak hips when our foot and ankle are dragged into poor mechanical faults.

With our runners in particular, repetitive movements in a forward to back manner lead to lack of proper strength of our hip rotators and glutes. And without proper cross training to strengthen these muscles, all of the injuries can be ticking time bombs ready to rear their ugly heads at any point. Problem is, even for the people who run consistently and head to the gym often overlook these muscles. Find me one...just one machine at the gym that directly performs hip rotator strengthening. If you find one, let me know. As a physical therapist and a geek in body mechanics, I teach people the proper way to dynamically strengthen these muscles on a daily basis. It's of the utmost importance that people of all ages and athletic abilities learn these basic and dynamic exercises to help keep a strong core and lower body. Whether you are a 15-year old soccer player, a 30-year old runner, or a 70-year old just trying to stay healthy and in good shape...it's all in the hips.

*Kyle Brandy, MSPT/CDN, is a Physical Therapist and partner at Amity Physical Therapy with locations in Woodbridge, Hamden, and Branford. He is certified in dry needling, and has 14 years of experience treating a broad spectrum of orthopedic and neurological conditions. To reach Kyle for a consultation, call (203) 389-4593, [www.amitypt.com](http://www.amitypt.com).*



Protect yourself, protect your family this flu season! Influenza (flu) viruses are most common during the fall and winter seasons. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "the exact timing and duration of flu seasons can vary, but influenza activity often begins to increase in October. Most of the time flu activity peaks between December and February, although activity can last as late as May." Now (by the end of October) is the recommended time to get your flu vaccine. Don't wait!

The best way to prevent getting the flu is to get a flu vaccine each year. The CDC recommends that everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine. It is important to note that the flu vaccine cannot give you the flu. To find a convenient location near you that provides flu vaccines, visit: <https://vaccinefinder.org/> and select flu vaccine.

QVHD also recommends the following tips to avoid the flu and stay healthy all winter long:

- › Avoid close contact with those who are sick;
- › Stay home when you are sick;
- › Cover your mouth when sneezing

or coughing;

- › Frequently washing your hands; and
- › Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

If you suspect you or a loved one has the flu, go to your doctor. Getting treatment early is very important. There are antivirals you can take to lessen symptoms and shorten the time you are sick by 1 or 2 days. They can also prevent serious flu complications, like pneumonia.

Flu is different from a cold and symptoms usually come on suddenly. People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms:

- › fever\* or feeling feverish/chills;
- › cough;
- › sore throat;
- › runny or stuffy nose;
- › muscle or body aches;
- › headaches;
- › fatigue (tiredness); or
- › some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

\*It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.

For more information, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/>.

## DEATH NOTICES

Woodbridge Town News

### DEATH NOTICES

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

## Apartments For Rent

### Woodbridge:

Thank you ! We're accepting names for our waiting list. Applicants must be 62 or older or disabled. One Bdrm-\$1063/mo; Two Bdrm-\$1112/mo incl utilities. On-site laundry, patios with garden area, off-street parking, handicapped accessible. CHFA Financed. EHO. Gibson Assoc., Inc. 175 East Mitchell Ave, Cheshire, CT 06410. Ph: 203-272-3781. TDD 1-800-545-1833 Ext 165

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Woodbridge Town News

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

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

**Shelton Art League** (formerly Bridgeport Art League), meetings on the 3rd Monday of the month, noon, Shelton Community Center, 41 Church Street, Shelton, CT, 2nd floor, room #2, a diverse group of artists, future meetings include acrylic landscape, watercolor and oil painting demos. Visit <http://www.sheltonartleague.org> for additional information. Guests are always welcome.

**Bereavement Support Groups**, Tuesdays 4:00-5:30pm and Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm, Griffin Hospital, 130 Division Street, Derby, support groups for anyone experiencing the loss of a loved one. Contact Janice Lautier at 203-732-1100 or [jlautier@griffinhealth.org](mailto:jlautier@griffinhealth.org) to register.

**Networking Opportunity**, Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30am, Solun Tapas Bar Restaurant, 245 Amity Road. Do you

want more hot referrals? Come as our guest; unlimited free coffee; bring business cards. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Elyce Siegel at 203-668-3019 or [Elyce.siegel@hibu.com](mailto:Elyce.siegel@hibu.com).

**Woodbridge Republican Town Committee Meetings**, second Tuesday of each month, 7:30pm, Center Cafeteria. Visitors welcome and we urge you to join us. For information, go to [www.woodbridgeregop.org](http://www.woodbridgeregop.org).

**Cancer Support Group**, meets the second and fourth Tuesday afternoons of the month at Coachman’s Square, 21 Bradley Road, Woodbridge. If interested contact: Lucille Rancia to [lrancia2@yahoo.com](mailto:lrancia2@yahoo.com) or Bernie Siegel, MD [bugsysiegel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bugsysiegel@sbcglobal.net) for details.

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

**Boy Scout Troop 907**, Come find out why Troop 907 has been Making a Difference in the Life of Scouts since 1968. Meetings Thursday nights 7:00-8:30PM at the First Church of Christ in the Parish House (enter via back parking lot), 5 Meetinghouse Lane,

Woodbridge next to Town Hall. Boys aged 10 and older or who have completed 5th grade are invited to visit an upcoming meeting and join the adventure of scouting. For more information, visit our website [Troop907.org](http://Troop907.org) or use the website “contact us” link to communicate directly with troop leadership.

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

**Woodbridge Rotary Club Meetings**, 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month, New Members wanted! The Woodbridge Rotary Club has changed its meeting places. Please go to the website to see current meeting dates and event dates: <https://woodbridgerotary.org/> Contact the Club President Diane Milan or Secretary Karen Bellamy for any updates.

**Goat Yoga**, every Saturday at 9am, 10:15am and 11:30am, Locket’s Meadow Farm, Bethany, \$25.00. Stretch and pose with our sweet baby goats (and pigs and puppies and who knows who else will wander through) and learn what the goat hype is about! All funds from our programs go directly to support the rescued animals of Locket’s Meadow as well as to help fund our programs for special needs individuals. Please bring your own yoga mat, but if you forget, we have

a few extra.

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

**Donate Your Car, Truck or Van**, help raise funds for a local private school; FREE, FAST, TOW AWAY; Running or Not Running; Can be used for a charitable tax deduction. Call Charter Oak Education DBA Sterling Education at 860-643-1100.

**Autumn Tavern Night**, Saturday, October 12, 2019, 5pm–9pm, Derby Historical Society, 37 Elm Street, Ansonia; enjoy fare piled high and authentic desserts baked before you in our fireplace; artist on location for live-action sketches, music, cash raffles, best outfit prize, and more! \*21 and over - drinks are on us\* Tickets: \$20.00/pp. For Tickets call 203-735-1908. \*Rain date – October 13th

**Free Baby and Kid’s Item Swap**, October 20, 2019, 12:00-3:00pm, First Church of Christ, Bethany, 511 Amity Road, Bethany. Bring clean gently used clothing, shoes, toys, accessories, Halloween costumes, books, baby furniture/outdoor toys and maternity items to donate, then, pick up new to you items! No need to bring items to pick up items! Feel free to donate your gently used items even if you do not want to swap out for any items! For more detailed information on when to drop off donations, and what items we allow, call 203-393-3116 and speak to Karolina! 100% free event, food and beverages will be served!

“From Our Readers” From Page 24

will have consequences regarding the potential for clustered development elsewhere where we presently have 1½ acre zoning, making Woodbridge no different than many towns with town homes and clustered development throughout.

- › Who wants to live that close to the Wilbur Cross Parkway with the constant noise of traffic day or night?
- › The price for these town homes will be excessive.
- › “Build them as they go” many years of construction will ensue; look at other similar projects in neighboring towns.
- › Traffic will increase significantly as

this site is not near any facilities such as grocery and drug stores, etc.

- › Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) green building certification always suggests locating clustered development near accessible facilities.
- › Woodbridge has a unique character thanks to our forefather leaders.
- › The history of the property is unique and extremely significant, deeds indicate one-time owners were:
  - » Captain John Beecher whose family’s presence on this parcel prior to the incorporation of the Town of Woodbridge takes us back as far as the founding of New Haven and the original Beecher family in America.

- › Patriot & Statesman & signer of four articles of independence, Roger Sherman owned this parcel as Clover Hill Farm during the time he served as mayor of New Haven.
- › James Hillhouse, Revolutionary War Commander, Representative and Senator.
- › A viable formal process was not followed to encourage use within present zoning regulations, and also a request for proposals to renovate the country club buildings and pool, and resurrect the golf course. The article states “the developer...brought the proposal for an active adult community to the town.”
- › “Once built out” property tax revenue is nebulous and years away.

- › Short term financial motivations should not out-weigh for-ever consequences of development, and the positive effect on Woodbridge taxpayers will be minimal as additional services will be needed by these new residents. A breakeven financial model could be developed to satisfy Woodbridge taxpayers and to pay off the debt.
- › Many questions to the construction and development firms remain unanswered.

If Woodbridge residents have any interest in history, open space, preservation, or maintaining Woodbridge zoning, it is incumbent to not allow the development of 120 age-restricted homes on the parcel for reasons stated and many more.

Richard J. Forselius

“Duty, Honor, Country. Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be.” — DOUGLAS MACARTHUR



# HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

## Congregation Beth El – Keser Israel Events

### Daily Services

- › Sunday 9:00 am and 5:45 pm
- › Monday 7:00 am and 5:45 pm
- › Tuesday 7:00 am and 5:45 pm
- › Wednesday 7:00 am and 5:45 pm
- › Thursday 8:15 am and 5:45 pm
- › Friday 7:00 am

### Shabbat Services

- › Friday 6:00 pm
- › Saturday Morning 9:15 am
- › Saturday Children’s Services 10:45 am
- › Saturday Afternoon 1:00 pm

### Jewish Book Fair

The event, featuring books for both children and adults, will be Sunday, November 17 from 10 am to 2 pm. The variety of books will include cookbooks, baby books, activity books, fiction and non-fiction, as well as religious texts. Titles will be available from Kar-Ben Publishing, an award-winning publisher providing a growing Jewish library for children; the Jewish Publication Society; Harcourt; and Workman Publishing. The event, which will include story time for small children and food, is open to the community.

### Thanksgiving Pies

BEKI USY is taking orders through November 6 for kosher pareve frozen pumpkin or apple pies. Pies can be picked up on November 20 or donated to the Connecticut Food Bank. All profits will support the Jewish Family Service Food Pantry.



### Paintings about the Binding of Isaac

“Akeidah Verbs and Others,” paintings by Richard McBee, will be on exhibition from November 3 through January 11. “Akeidah Verbs” is a series of 30 paintings that attempt to plumb the mystery of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac’s terrifying final encounter with their God. In contrast, “Urban Akeidah Diptych” focuses on the Angel of Death coming for the soul of Isaac; thwarted, the Angel of Death is forced to turn his icy gaze to the matriarch Sarah.

McBee is a founding member of the Jewish Art Salon. His website richard-mcbee.com exhibits over 300 of his artworks.

85 Harrison Street (corner of Whalley Avenue – Route 63 – in Westville)



## Jazz Trio Performs at Orange Congregational Church

The first concert in the Music on the Green series at the Orange Congregational Church will be on Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 4 p.m. Mimi & the Podd Brothers are a fresh take on early jazz with classical trimmings and soulful underpinnings. They pride themselves on re-inventing the classics

and retrograding the contemporary. Feisty, fun, soulful and honkey-tonk all at once. See and hear more at mimijazz.com. Tickets are available at the door, \$10 adults, children free. For more information call 203-795-9749 or visit [www.orangecongregationalchurch.org](http://www.orangecongregationalchurch.org).

## Chinmaya Ashram To Host Gita Gnana Yajna

Chinmaya Saraswati Ashram at 393 Derby Avenue, Orange will host its annual Gita Jnana Yajna by beloved guru Swami Shantananda ji. The discourse is on ‘The Path of Bhakti or Devotion’ – Chapter 12. It will be held on Friday, November 1 (7:30PM - 9PM)

and Saturday, November 2 (9:30AM-1PM). Samashti Bhiksha or Pot Luck Lunch, 1PM-2PM. This is a FREE event. All are invited. Kindly RSVP Venkat (venkatgade1@yahoo.com) or Mahabala (mabal\_salian@yahoo.com) for Samashti Bhiksha.

## Hadassah Wepawaug-CT Valley-West Rock Chapter

The Wepawaug-CT Valley-West Rock Hadassah presents “Visions and Voices: Writers at Work”, Tuesday, November 12th at 2 pm at Case Memorial Library, 176 Tyler City Rd, Orange. Featured guest speaker is Rebecca Freimann, author of “Family Tree: Rooted in Survival.” The book tells the never-before-told, true story of three family branches and their struggles to survive the horrors of the Holocaust. Separated from one another, family members must find the will to survive on their own. Author

Rebecca Freimann is happy to return to her hometown of Orange to share her family’s story and how it came to be written. Hadassah, the Women’s Zionist Organization of America, Inc. is the largest Jewish women’s organization in the United States. With 300,000 members, associates and supporters, Hadassah brings Jewish women together to effect change and advocate on critical issues such as medical care, research and women’s empowerment.

### ATTENTION CHURCHES, SYNAGOGUES, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP!

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

Woodbridge Town News – P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477  
[edit@woodbridgetownnews.com](mailto:edit@woodbridgetownnews.com)



# HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

## The First Church of Christ Happenings

First Church would like to thank the Woodbridge community for helping make our Arts and Music weekend in October a success. Special thanks to those artists in the community who donated artwork that graced the walls of both our Meetinghouse and our Parish House during the weekend. Our next special event will be our annual Community Carol Sing on Sunday, December 15th at 3 p.m.

As always, we invite all members of the community to join us at 5 Meeting House Lane, Woodbridge for our regular weekly services and special events:

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

**Church School** – Sunday at 10 a.m. the second through fifth Sundays during the school year, presently with children aged 3-6 with older children helping with the younger children until



The First Church of Christ

we hire a new Director of Christian Education.

**Middle School Youth Group** for 5th – 8th graders will be reforming later in the school year.

**Boy Scout Troop 907** – meets weekly on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

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

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

## Congregation B'nai Jacob Adult Education Fall 2019

### Learning and Prayer Bread & Torah

Every Shabbat Morning Before Services, 9:00 – 9:45am

Rabbi Shapiro explores the weekly Torah portion and how its story relates to our own. Lively discussion over bagels and coffee. No experience necessary.

### Learn to Daven Cantor Malachi Kanfer

Cantor Malachi teaches davening (reciting the prayers): Learn the modes and maneuvers of traditional Ashkenazi Shabbat nusachot (the beautiful, meaningful melodies of our rich liturgical tradition). Fall 2019. Contact the Cantor for more information and to register.

### Ongoing Learning Pirkei Avot, The Ethics of the Fathers

Rabbi Rona Shapiro  
Monday nights, 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm  
November 4, 11, 18; December 2, 9; January 6, 27

Using the new Rabbinical Assembly edition, with commentary by Raba Tamar Elad-Appelbaum and Rabbi Gordon Tucker, we will explore this foundational text in the Jewish canon. Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary. Nonmembers \$100.



Congregation B'nai Jacob

### Special Events Day trip to NYC's Museum of Jewish Heritage Special Exhibit

**"Auschwitz: Not Long Ago. Not Far Away"**

Sunday, November 10

"For the first time... a traveling exhibition dedicated to the historic (importance) of 'the most significant site of the Holocaust' is being presented to a US audience."

We will travel on a comfortable coach from CBJ to the museum and back. We will have both audio recordings and special exhibition docents to guide our visit. Explore this enriching, difficult memorial with the support of Rabbi Shapiro and our community. Reservations are limited. Priority for members and their guests. Payment Before 10/10: Per person - \$54 Includ-

See "B'nai Jacob" On Page 33

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Kristallnacht Community Commemoration

On August 9th, 1940, a ship called the S.S. Quanza left Portugal, filled with Jewish refugees frantically trying to escape Nazi-occupied Europe. The ship docked at Vera Cruz, Mexico, where their visas indicated that they would be allowed to land. The Mexican authorities, however, questioned the validity of the visas of 86 of the refugees and prohibited them from coming ashore. One of the passengers, a teenager, said in a telegram to his family, "...We are trapped on this boat and we must now go back to hell." Before heading back to Europe, the SS Quanza anchored briefly at Norfolk harbor, Virginia, to load up on coal. That refueling stop reversed the fate of the refugees: A Virginian maritime lawyer by the name of Jacob Morewitz, upon learning of their plight, worked feverishly to find a way to enable their rescue. He succeeded. And those 86 refugees never forgot what he did for them.

How were the passengers of the SS Quanza saved? Come, learn and discuss! On Sunday morning November 17, 2019, 9 AM, Congregation Or Shalom, 205 Old Grassy Hill Road, Orange

will honor the courageous activism of Jacob Morewitz at its 13th Annual Kristallnacht Community Commemoration.

The highlight of the morning's program will take place when members of the Morewitz family receive a U.S. Senate Commendation from Senator Richard Blumenthal on behalf of their late father & grandfather. Guest speakers will include: Michael Dobbs of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and author of the new book, "The Unwanted"; Victoria Redel, daughter of a Quanza survivor, and author of a book based on the ship's story. In addition, the new and acclaimed documentary on the story of the SS Quanza, "Nobody Wants Us", will be screened by its filmmaker Laura Seltzer-Duny. All are welcome. Free and open to the public. This program is made possible by a generous donation from the Men's Club Yellow Candle Fund. Please join us for this exciting community event! Free parking and shuttle bus will be available at High Plains Community Center.

For more information: 203-799-2341; Email: info@orshalomct.org • website: orshalomct.org.

## Shir Magic 2019 at Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven

On Saturday, November 16 at 7:30, Temple Emanuel presents the 4th annual musical celebration honoring the memory of our late Rabbi Emeritus, Jerry Brieger, z"l. Shira "ShirLaLa" Kline will headline the concert, accompanied by the Temple Emanuel Band. Tickets, which can be purchased on the TE website, www.tegnh.org, or at the door, are \$18 in advance for adults (\$20 at the door), \$10 for teens and free for kids 12 and under.

Shira Kline, an award-winning performer and music educator based in New York, blends words, song and stories to creating an experience that touches both the heart and soul. Her concerts are a rich musical journey through contemporary and traditional, local and world Jewish music. She has performed in hundreds of venues throughout the U.S. and Canada, England, Italy, Australia and New Zealand. In addition to performing, Shira is a worship leader, presenting engaging programs for children and adults. She is on the faculty of the

HUC-JIR Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music Cantorial Certification Program as well as Hava Nashira, URJ Jewish Music Institute. She is a founding member of StorahTelling and Lab/Shul.

Established in 2009, the TE Band has become an integral part of the musical fabric of Temple Emanuel. The musicians, ranging in age from middle school to retired folks, and ranging in ability from intermediate students to professionals, represent a wonderful cross section of the TE community. The band, directed by Laurel Shader, plays at Kabbalat Shabbat services several times each year and at various special events and celebrations. The band's repertoire includes traditional melodies and contemporary tunes.

For more information about Shir Magic and all events, celebrations and services at Temple Emanuel, please go to the TE website, www.tegnh.org, or call the temple office at 203-397-3000. Temple Emanuel is located at 150 Derby Avenue in Orange.

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ENTERTAINMENT

TOP 10 MOVIES

1. **Joker (R)**  
Joaquin Phoenix, Robert De Niro
2. **The Addams Family (PG)**  
animated
3. **Gemini Man (PG-13)**  
Will Smith, Mary Elizabeth Winstead
4. **Abominable (PG)**  
animated
5. **Downton Abbey (PG)**  
Michelle Dockery,  
Tuppence Middleton
6. **Hustlers (R)**  
Constance Wu, Jennifer Lopez
7. **Judy (PG-13)**  
Renee Zellweger, Jessie Buckley
8. **It Chapter Two (R)**  
Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy
9. **Jexi (R)**  
Adam Devine, Alexandra Shipp
10. **Ad Astra (PG-13)**  
Brad Pitt, Tommy Lee Jones

TOP 10 V.O.D.

1. **Spider-Man: Far From Home (PG-13)**  
Tom Holland
2. **Yesterday (PG-13)**  
Himesh Patel
3. **Aladdin (PG)**  
Will Smith
4. **John Wick: Chapter 3 -- Parabellum (R)**  
Keanu Reeves
5. **X-Men: Dark Phoenix (PG-13)**  
James McAvoy
6. **Shaft (R)**  
Samuel L. Jackson
7. **Rocketman (R)**  
Taron Egerton
8. **Anna (R)**  
Sasha Luss
9. **The Secret Life of Pets 2 (PG)**  
animated
10. **Child's Play (R)**  
Aubrey Plaza



Dave Bautista, Kumail Nanjani  
in “Stuber” [20th Century Fox]

PICKS OF THE WEEK

**“Stuber” (R)** -- How far would you go for a five-star rating? Stu (Kumail Nanjani) -- an Uber driver, hence the “Stuber” -- will go pretty dang far. He’s a timid, keep-the-boat steady type who’s desperate to keep his rating in the clear. Stu picks up a fare in the form of physically intimidating but unfortunately visually impaired cop Vic (Dave Bautista). He’s furiously running down a killer, but can’t do the driving himself. So naturally, he blackmails Stu into being his wingman using that coveted driver rating -- and if you ask me, the results were hilarious. Where Stu is apprehensive and uptight, Vic is brash and ballsy -- and the foil works. Director Michael Dowse’s idea of humor is a two-by-four to the face, so expect limits to be pushed.

**“Crawl” (R)** -- Haley (Kay Scodelario) is a small-town Florida girl sitting in the track of a monster hurricane. She

goes to check in on her dad (Barry Pepper) under evacuation orders and finds him trapped in the crawlspace of his home. Injured and vulnerable, the rising waters threaten their lives -- but that’s not even the worst thing. There, in the brackish maelstrom, lurk giant alligators. You’d think a movie about being trapped in a crawlspace with gruesome gators on the front lines of a Cat 5 hurricane would be camp, a la “Snakes on a Plane.” But no. This rousing creature horror has forever scarred this Southern lady, and I’m not ashamed to admit it.

**“The Art of Self-Defense” (R)** -- Another quirky comedy notch in Jesse Eisenberg’s belt, “The Art of Self-Defense” centers around an aggressively macho karate dojo to which extreme beta male Casey (Eisenberg) turns after being bullied and brutally beaten in the streets. At the dojo, Casey’s confidence increases, and he steps up to attend the rawer, more violent night classes. Here, he is enveloped in a downward spiral of belligerence and mayhem alongside other students, including Imogene Poots as the lone female fighter, Anna.

**“Night Hunter” (R)** -- Henry Cavill stars as detective Walter Marshall, who is investigating the disappearance and death of some young women, suspected to be a part of a human trafficking scheme. Michael Cooper (Ben Kingsley) is a former judge turned vigilante who lures pedophiles to their own castration by working with a young partner. When their stories intersect with a psychopathic killer named Simon (Brendan Fletcher), whose depraved reach seems to extend beyond the interrogation room, it leads them all to a massive set of cliches that are both ludicrous and predictable.

1. Weird Al Yankovic did a parody of the Kinks’ “Lola.” What did he call it?
2. Sam the Sham (of the Pharaohs) changed one of his songs halfway through writing it and instead named it after his cat. Which song?
3. Name the Heart album that came out in 2010.
4. Who penned and released “Just When I Needed You Most”?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: “Take these broken wings and learn to fly, All your life you were only waiting for this moment to arise.”



1. “Lola.” He based it on “The Empire Strikes Back” film. It took five years to get Star Wars creator George Lucas to give permission for its release. 2. “Woolly Bully,” started out as a redo of “Hully Gully” by Sam. Sam riffed his way through multiple versions, including the English-Spanish intro. 3. “Red Velvet Car.” The album contained 10 tracks in the U.S., 12 tracks in Europe, and 13 in Japan. 4. Randy Van Warmer, in 1979. One of the most underrated songwriters of all time, he later moved to Nashville and penned a string of country hits. 5. “Blackbird,” by the Beatles in 1968. Paul McCartney has given multiple reasons over the years for writing the song, one being as a comment on U.S. race relations in the 1960s.

Sports Quiz

BY CHRIS RICHCREEK

1. In 2019, Duke’s Zion Williamson and RJ Barrett became the second set of freshman teammates to make The Associated Press’ All-America First Team for men’s basketball. Who were the first pair?

2. In 2018, the New York Yankees’ Gleyber Torres became the fourth-youngest player (21 years, 163 days) in the modern-era major leagues to homer in four straight games. Name two of the three younger players.

3. Who was the last NFL quarterback before Jacksonville’s Blake Bortles in 2018 to have more rushing yards than passing yards in a playoff game?

4. Name the last school before Florida State in 2017-18 to win the ACC Baseball Tournament two consecutive years.

5. Entering the 2019-20 NHL campaign, in how many seasons has Washington’s Alex Ovechkin recorded at least 50 goals?

6. In 2019, Caeleb Dressel set a record at the world swimming championships for most medals (eight). With whom had he been tied at seven?

7. When was the last time before Brooks Koepka in 2019 that a golfer won the PGA Championship despite a final-round score of at least 74?

1. DeMarcus Cousins and John Wall of Kentucky, in 2010. 2. Miguel Cabrera (20 years, 362 days). Andrew Jones (21 years, 139 days) and Albert Pujols (21 years, 147 days). 3. Atlanta’s Michael Vick did it in 2004. 4. Wake Forest in 1998-99. 5. Eight seasons. 6. Michael Phelps won seven medals in 2007 and 2011. 7. Vijay Singh, with a 76 in 2004 (he won in a three-way playoff).

Sudoku answers on page 32

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | 3 | 8 |   |   | 4 |   |   |
|   | 8 |   |   | 3 |   |   | 5 |   |
| 5 |   |   |   |   | 2 |   |   | 6 |
| 6 |   |   |   | 4 |   |   | 7 |   |
|   |   | 7 |   |   | 8 |   |   | 2 |
|   | 9 |   | 6 |   |   | 3 |   |   |
|   | 6 |   |   | 5 |   |   | 8 | 3 |
|   |   | 1 | 4 |   |   |   |   | 7 |
| 7 |   |   |   |   | 6 | 9 |   |   |

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

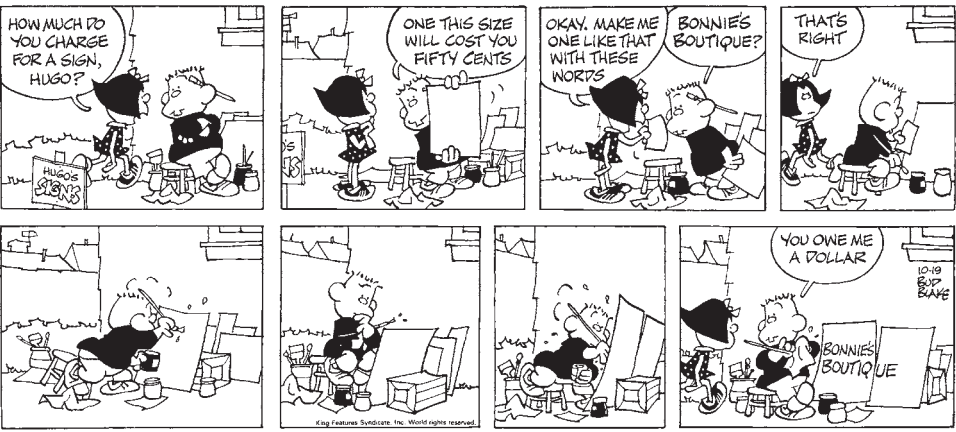
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

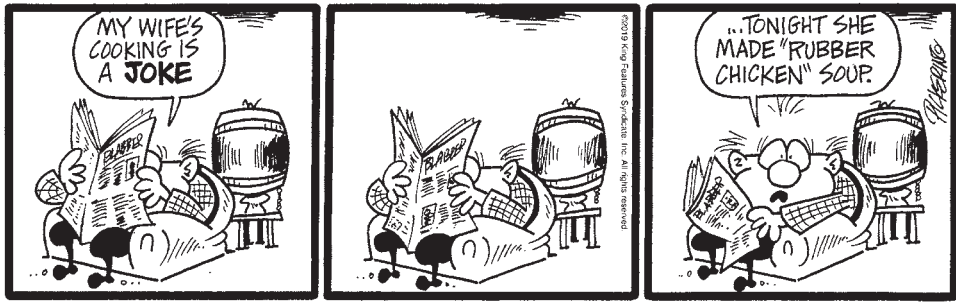


# COMICS/CROSSWORD/HOLLYWOOD

## TIGER



## The Spats



## Amber Waves



## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Lily variety
- 5 Homer's outcry
- 8 Wax-coated cheese
- 12 Bivouac
- 13 Individual
- 14 Field mouse
- 15 Memo acronym
- 16 Series of battles
- 17 Actor McGregor
- 18 Fame
- 20 Easter hat
- 22 Stitch
- 23 Beast of burden
- 24 Commanded
- 27 Human-like

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |    | 14 |    |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    | 16 |    |    | 17 |    |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |    | 19 |    |    | 20 | 21 |    |    |
| 22 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 23 |    |    |    |
| 24 | 25 | 26 |    |    | 27 | 28 | 29 |    | 30 | 31 |
| 32 |    |    |    | 33 |    |    |    | 34 |    |    |
| 35 |    |    | 36 | 37 |    |    |    | 38 |    |    |
| 39 |    |    |    |    |    | 40 | 41 |    |    |    |
| 42 | 43 |    |    | 44 |    | 45 |    | 46 | 47 | 48 |
| 49 |    |    |    | 50 | 51 |    |    | 52 |    |    |
| 53 |    |    |    | 54 |    |    |    | 55 |    |    |
| 56 |    |    |    | 57 |    |    |    | 58 |    |    |

- 32 In olden days
- 33 "No seats" sign
- 34 Pizzazz
- 35 Detective
- 38 Say it isn't so
- 39 Actor Beatty
- 40 Neither mate
- 42 Falling-blocks game
- 45 Wedding-related
- 49 Ms. Brockovich
- 50 Shock and —
- 52 — colada
- 53 Unspeakable
- 9 Fire some folks
- 10 Wings
- 11 Common noun suffix
- 19 1927 Lindbergh book
- 21 Rowing need
- 24 "Humbug!"
- 25 Khan title
- 26 Period of inactivity
- 28 Gun lobby org.
- 29 Pessimistic
- 30 Noise
- 31 Agent
- 36 Bit of grain
- 37 Star Wars inits.
- 38 Raining somewhat
- 41 On the other hand
- 42 Office part-timer
- 43 Great Lake
- 44 1940 Laurel & Hardy film, "— at Sea"
- 46 Tragic
- 47 Unsigned (Abbr.)
- 48 NASCAR circuits
- 51 Teensy

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## HOLLYWOOD

### BY TONY RIZZO

Brandon Routh, star of "Superman Returns" (2006), will return again to play the Man of Steel in The CW's "Crisis on Infinite Earths" crossover event, which unites some famous DC comic book superheroes -- a la "Avengers: Endgame." Routh's Superman, now graying at the temples, will fly through "Supergirl" (Sunday, Dec. 8), "Batwoman" (Dec. 9), "The Flash" (Dec. 10) and "Arrow" (Jan. 14), followed by the finale, "DC's Legends of Tomorrow" (also Jan. 14). Along the way, Tom Welling ("Smallville") and Tyler Hoechlin ("Arrow") also will appear.

\*\*\*

At long last, Glenn Close will re-create her 1994 Tony Award-winning performance as Norma Desmond in Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical "Sunset Boulevard." Close was 47 when she first played the forgotten film star, and 69 when it was revived on Broadway in 2016. Now 72, Close has grown into the role and is "Ready for my close-up, Mr. DeMille." Prior to starting "Sunset Boulevard," Close has completed "Four Good Days," with Mila Kunis, and Ron Howard's Netflix film "Hillbilly Elegy," with Amy Adams.

\*\*\*

Mel Gibson's sequel, "The Passion of the Christ: Resurrection," with Jim Caviezel again as Christ, is due December 2020. Mel should reconsider his release date because director Terrence Malick is shooting "The Last Planet," also about the life of Christ, with Geza Rohrig (of "Son of Saul") as Jesus and Mark Rylance as four versions of Satan, plus Ben Kingsley, Joseph Fiennes and Douglas Booth. Mel has completed shooting the sci-fi thriller "Boss Level," with Frank Grillo and Naomi Watts, playing a man trapped in a never ending time loop, and "Waldo," with Charlie Hunnam.

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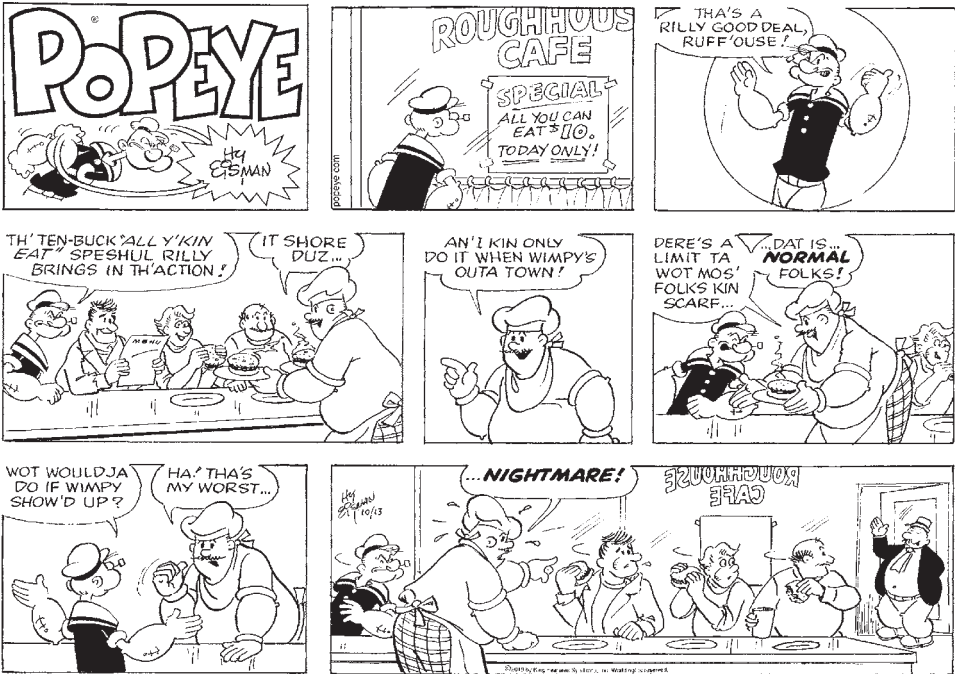


Brandon Routh as Superman  
[Katie Yu/The CW]

Clint Eastwood's latest directorial effort is "Richard Jewell," about the security guard at the Centennial Olympic Park who discovered a plot to bomb the 1996 Olympics. Despite trying to evacuate civilians, he was considered a prime suspect. In the title role is Paul Walter Hauser, an actor and stand-up comedian best known as Shawn in "I, Tonya," Ivanhoe in "BlacKkKlansman" and the TV series "Kingdom." Hauser is aided and abetted by Sam Rockwell, Kathy Bates, Olivia Wilde and Jon Hamm. "Richard Jewell" drops Dec. 13.

\*\*\*

Tom Hanks, already receiving Oscar nomination talk for playing Mr. (Fred) Rogers in "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" (out Nov. 22), also has completed the war film "Greyhound," with Elisabeth Shue (due May 8); "BIOS," a sci-fi film with Hanks as the last man on Earth, who builds a robot for company; and the Wild West drama "News of the World" (opening Dec. 25, 2020). Hanks has starred in 62 films, produced 26 films, written five films, directed three films, won two Oscars, eight Emmys, four Golden Globes, a Kennedy Center Honors, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the French Legion of Honor. What do you do in your spare time? Hanks for the memories.





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STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

  
**SPIN ON THE FOREHAND**  
A semi-western grip is very effective when hitting a heavy topspin forehand. Grip the racket with your palm facing down. As you swing, drop the racket head below the ball's level and swing from low to high.



  
Your racket head should be perpendicular to the court on impact. On your follow-through, your racket should finish above your shoulders.

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

  
**IF YOU PUTT BEST WITH A LONG FLOWING ACTION, GO FOR A LONG-SHAFTED, HEAVY-HEADED CLUB.**

  
**IF YOUR NATURAL STYLE IS A MORE RAPPING OR TAPPING TYPE OF STROKE, YOU'LL ALMOST BEST WITH A FAIRLY SHORT-SHAFTED, LIGHT- OR MEDIUM-WEIGHT CLUB.**

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 9 |
| 5 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 6 |
| 6 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 2 |
| 1 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 3 |
| 8 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 7 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 4 |

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | E | G | O | D | O | H | E | D | A | M |
| C | A | M | P | O | N | E | V | O | L | E |
| A | S | A | P | W | A | R | E | W | A | N |
| R | E | N | O | W | N | B | O | N | N | E |
|   |   | S | E | W |   | A | S | S |   |   |
| B | A | D | E | A | N | D | R | O | I | D |
| A | G | O |   | S | R | O |   | Z | I | P |
| H | A | W | K | S | H | A | W | D | E | N |
|   | N | E | D |   | N | O | R |   |   |   |
| T | E | T | R | I | S | B | R | I | D | A |
| E | R | I | N | A | W | E | P | I | N | A |
| M | I | M | E | P | E | A | P | R | O | P |
| P | E | E | L | S | E | T | Y | E | N | S |

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“B’nai Jacob” From Page 29

ing bus; \$25 museum only. Payment After 10/10: Per person - \$72 including bus; \$36 museum only. RSVP and questions: CBJ office. 203-389-2111 or cbj.receptionist@gmail.com.

CBJ Book Group

Join in a discussion of “The Weight of Ink” by Rachel Kadish  
Wednesday, December 4  
7:30 pm in the library

Winner Of A National Jewish Book Award A Usa Today Bestseller “A gifted writer, astonishingly adept at nuance, narration, and the politics of passion.”—Toni Morrison

Set in London of the 1660s and of the early twenty-first century, “The Weight of Ink” is the interwoven tale of two women of remarkable intellect: Ester Velasquez, an emigrant from Amsterdam who is permitted to scribe for a blind rabbi, just before the plague hits the city; and Helen Watt, an ailing historian with a love of Jewish history. Discussion will be led by Elizabeth Edelglass. Elizabeth Edelglass is an award-winning short story writer, recently published in “New Haven Review,” “Tablet,” and JewishFiction.net. She also reviews Jewish fiction for “Lilith” and Hadassah Magazine. RSVP to 203-389-2111 or cbj.receptionist@gmail.com.

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9:00am- 3:00pm- Free Admission

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Santa for photos (11am – 2pm)

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White Elephant Sale

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# Choose Safe And Durable Chew Toys

Most dogs explore and learn about their world with their noses and mouths. Chewing is a normal part of canine development, and the ASPCA says that dogs will chew in many stages of life.

Young dogs chew to alleviate pain caused by the eruption of adult teeth. Adult dogs chew to keep their jaws strong and their teeth clean. Chewing also can alleviate boredom or tame mild anxiety or frustration. Chewing is a healthy response, but dogs will need to learn which items are appropriate to chew and which ones, such as furniture, are off limits.

To encourage healthy chewing, pet owners should keep plenty of items that are safe to chew around the house. Here are suggestions on picking the best and safest options, courtesy of The Humane Society, Hill's Pet Nutrition and other pet advocacy organizations.

Consider age. A young pup with baby teeth will need soft rubber toys or plush stuffed toys for their delicate teeth. But those same toys can be a hazard when bite strength increases, as parts of the toy can be bitten off and swallowed. As puppies age, their chew toys may need to be replaced with more age-appropriate items.

Consider the size of the dog. A Yorkshire terrier will not have the same bite strength and jaw size as a Labrador retriever. Look for toys that list the

breed size or chewing strength on the package.

Know your dog's personality. Is your dog a "gulper" who bites off large chunks of toys and swallows them fast? Does he or she nibble? What about a dog that seems to destroy every toy in a minute? A dog that bites off hunks of toys or tears them to shreds will need something very durable.

Assess pet preferences. Dogs gravitate to the same types of toys again and again. Some dogs like the feel of rope toys, while others may prefer edible toys and bones that simulate the aromas and flavors of real food. Selecting toys that interest the pet can direct its attention away from furniture and shoes.

Keep safety in mind. Chew toys have their pros and cons. For example, a rawhide bone can provide hours of stimulating chew time, but for dogs who break off large pieces, the rawhide may become lodged in the trachea or intestines. Bully sticks, which are popular chews made from bull pizzle, tend to be expensive and are high in calories, so dogs shouldn't eat too many in a short period of time. Rope toys or less durable items may break apart and cause obstruction hazards.

Chew toys provide stimulation, alleviate pain and can even entertain dogs. When using chew toys with dogs, monitor the pet during play and replace the toy if it becomes dangerous.







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