

Woodbridge Town News



Woodbridge's Exclusive Newspaper

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2017



B'Nai Jacob's Cantor, Malachi Kanfer, offered a hopeful song at a recent interfaith service in Woodbridge.

RABBI: 'DON'T GIVE DESPAIR A SEAT AT THE TABLE'

**Interfaith Service Emphasizes
Hope for Humanity**

By Bettina Thiel - Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

The First Church of Christ in Woodbridge last week opened its doors for people of all faiths to come together and pray for the victims and families of the slain in a church mass shooting in Texas. The Sunday before, a man had

entered a small-town church in Sutherland Springs, Tex., during services, and shot and killed more than two dozen people.

See "Humanity" continued on Page 2



The police honor guard includes, from left, Sgt. Ed Thomas, Sgt. AJ Cappiello, Officer Vinny Lynch, Officer Brian Pedalino and Sgt. R.J. Scott.



Ed Bukowski, a World War II Marine veteran who now resides at Coachman Square senior living facility, attended with Coachman's program director Deborah Meehan. He, along with a handful of other veterans in the audience, were honored at the town's Veterans Day ceremony.

TOWN HONORS VETERANS

By Bettina Thiel - Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

Wintry temperatures and a whipping wind moved this year's Veterans Day ceremony indoors, into the warm and sheltered space of the Center Gym. Army Captain Barry Josephs again organized the event, and served as master of cer-

emonies.

He thanked all those who contributed to make the event possible and keep alive the tradition of honoring all those

See "Veterans" continued on Page 17

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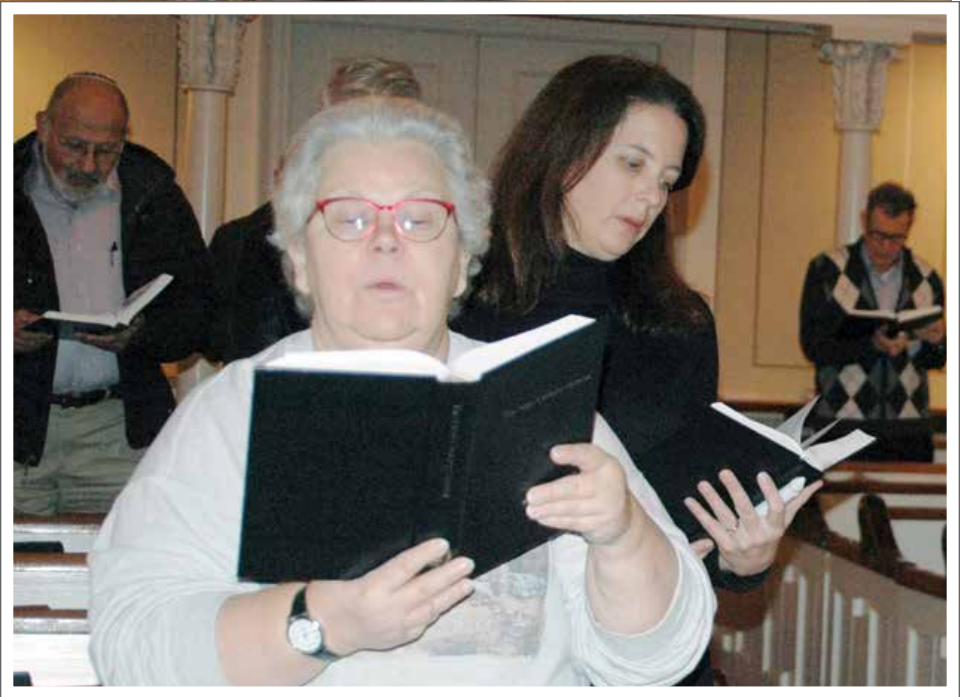
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The Woodbridge clergy jointly offered an interfaith remembrance service for the victims of gun violence after the recent Texas mass shooting

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.....
"Humanity" continued from Page 1

In Woodbridge, some 30 people or so came together for the interfaith service of remembrance and hope, which was led by Rev. Shepard Parsons of First Church, Rev. Myles Ahrens of Trinity Evangelical Free Church and Rabbi Rona Shapiro of Congregation B'Nai Jacob. Rev. Parsons recalled that in protestant tradition, the church often was referred to as "the meetinghouse," where people congregated not only to pray, but to settle the issues of the day. In addition, when there was a crisis people came together at the meetinghouse to console each other. "It is in that tradition that we come together today to honor those who have died, and to praise God," he said.

As for the prayers from those in the pews, their hearts were with the victims and their families, they prayed for the medical community dealing with the fallout; and for leaders of this country who will consider how to prevent future gun violence. B'Nai Jacob's Cantor, Malachi Kanfer, offered a song, "Olam Chesed Yibaneh," a song that promises the world will be built from love. They lit battery-operated candles and kept a moment of silence.

Clergy emphasized the aspect of hope. "I believe that we as religious people are the keepers of hope," said Rabbi Shapiro in her remarks, encouraging people to "not give despair a seat at the table".

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EDUCATION



CHARACTER OF THE 1ST QUARTER AWARD

Amity Middle School in Bethany has a “Character of the Quarter” awards program. Each marking period students are recognized for one of four traits: Accountability, Motivation, Independence, and Trustworthiness. Students from each team are selected to receive this honor. The character trait for the 1st quarter was “Accountability”. These students were presented with their awards certificates at the “Be Amity” pep rally

held in October. The students who recently received the “Character of the Quarter” award are:
Standing left to right: Roberto D’Onofrio, Sean Doron, Grace Gianquinto, Grace Lodewick, Lauren Wasikowski, and Anthony Ciavarella; Kneeling left to right: Ethan Torrens, Jay Thomas, Karishma Bulsara, Nell Grant, Anchal Bahel, and Sam Anastasio. [Photographer, Barbara Cassesse.]

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WOODBIDGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



Amity Regional High School

EMPTY BOWLS BENEFIT & ANNUAL WINTER CONCERT

On December 14th the Amity Regional High School National Art Honor Society will be hosting an Empty Bowls benefit. Students have been working hard to make bowls since the start of school in order to benefit those in need. Community members are invited to come to the Amity Regional High School cafeteria from 5:00-7:00 p.m. to enjoy a selection of soups made by the culinary students, pick out a bowl

of their choice, and enjoy each other's company. A suggested donation of \$10 per person will be sent to the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen in New Haven to help provide meals for the many people that struggle. This event would not be possible without the sponsorship of the Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation. Immediately following dinner will be the Annual Winter Concert in the Brady Center.



Left to right: Marin Korenaga, Nina Carmeli, Kathryn McGonigal (Librarian), Cailin Myatt, and Grace Lupoli. [Photographer: Barbara Cassesse]

SACRED HEART ACADEMY OFFERS DECEMBER 12TH ENTRANCE EXAM

Sacred Heart Academy will offer an Entrance Exam for applicants to grades 9 and 10 on Tuesday, December 12 at the Academy, 265 Benham Street, Hamden. To register for the exam, candidates for admission must submit the Application for Admission online at sacredhearthamden.org with \$60 fee. We ask students to arrive at 9:00 a.m. Testing concludes at noon. For further information or to arrange private tours, "shadow" days, and interviews, please contact Director of Admissions Elaine

Lambole, at 203-288-2309, x307 or elambole@sacredhearthamden.org. Founded in 1946 by the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Sacred Heart successfully prepares young women in grades 9 – 12 for learning, service, and achievement in a global society. Sacred Heart Academy welcomes 500 students from more than 80 schools and 60 towns in Connecticut and is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Visit sacredhearthamden.org to learn more.

2018 NMSQT COMMENDED STUDENTS & SEMI-FINALISTS

Twenty-three Amity Regional High School seniors were recognized by the Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education at the October Board meeting for their performance on the PSAT during their junior year of high school. Sixteen of the students earned "Commended Student" honors, and 7 students are being recognized as National Merit Semi-Finalists. Of the 1.6 million students who took the test nationwide last year, commended students are among the top 34,000 high performers. The following are the Amity Regional High School Commended Students in the 2018 National Merit Scholar Program: Maya Barbieri, Erin Barillier, Sophie Baum, Andrew Burford, Howard

Ding, Jacob Gross, Qingli Hu, Tina Hu, Ananya Kachru, Emily Kilian, Helen Lenski, Eitan Minsky-Fenick, Leah Mongillo, Haegan O'Rourke, Hannah Rappaport, and Colin Roy. The nationwide pool of semi-finalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state and among the top 16,000 scorers nationally. The number of semi-finalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors. The following are the Amity Regional High School semi-finalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholar Program: Weixin Du, Ulada Dubovik, Elizabeth Frieden, Vince Li, Justine Luo, Sally Thach, and Weichu Yu.

LOCAL AUTHOR VISITS AMITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

By Kathryn McGonigal – Amity Middle School Bethany Librarian

Renowned author, Jake Halpern, spoke to the students and staff at Amity Middle School in Bethany on Thursday, November 2nd. Jake recently returned from a trip overseas where he was researching refugee camps. In addition to writing many Young Adult novels, Jake is also a journalist who cares deeply about sharing stories of refugees from all over the world. His latest work is featured in the New York Times and follows a Syrian family who immigrated to New Haven last year. Jake began his presentation with a captivating, true story of a young Colombian man who was attempting to seek refuge in Canada. His unique style immediately caught the attention of the entire room. He has an amazing

ability to turn any story (true or fantasy) into an adventure where the listener is hanging on his every word. He helped to humanize the plight of a young person forced to leave his family and home to find a safer and better life. He transitioned rather seamlessly to speak about his latest fantasy novel Nightfall. Using sound effects and suspense Jake once again had the gymnasium completely transfixed on every word. Halpern took questions from the students and spoke about his other novels, some of which will be piloted into TV shows in the near future. Upon my return back to the school library, I was inundated with requests for his books, which is absolutely the best news for any librarian.

Attention Teachers!

We want to know what's going on in your classroom!
Let us know about any fun activities or holiday projects.
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Woodbridge Town News
P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 • edit@WoodbridgeTownNews.com

FROM THE FIRST SELECTMAN'S DESK

By Beth Heller



Woodbridge First Selectman Beth Heller greets Veteran's Day Master of Ceremony Barry Josephs, US Army Captain, Vietnam War Veteran. The Ceremony took place in the Center Gym on Friday, November 10th.

RADIO SYSTEM UPGRADE MOVING FORWARD

I'm pleased to report recent progress on efforts to upgrade the Town's Public Safety Radio System and would like to keep you apprised of the next steps we plan to take. As I described in my last column, the time has come to re-invest in this vital infrastructure. The current Radio System was installed in 2003 and at that time had an expected lifespan of 12- to 15-years. Due to the age of the equipment and shortage of replacement parts, the unreliability of the current system makes the upgrade a high priority. A Public Safety Simulcast Radio System consists of towers throughout town and a console that is used to send the data to these towers. It does not include the radios themselves – our current Police, Fire and EMS portable radio devices will continue to operate with a new Radio System.

The Boards of Selectmen and Finance met jointly on November 8th to receive a detailed presentation on the recommended Radio System replacement. I want to thank our two Chiefs, Police Chief Frank Cappiello and Fire Chief Sean Rowland, for their work in putting together a very informative overview of where we stand today and why this upgrade is crucial to ensure the continuance of our Town's vital public safety services.

The aim of the upgrade will be to increase the coverage and reliability of the system as well as to improve the interoperability between Police, Fire, and EMS -- and to bring Public Works employees into the same system as well. The improved interoperability between all departments will be critical in all kinds of emergency conditions, including the increasingly occurring extreme weather conditions we face.

Following the presentation of the proposed Radio System, Town Administrative Officer Tony Genovese presented detailed financial data regarding the Town's current bonded debt and expect-

ed future obligations. This information enabled Board members to see how the Radio System upgrade project will fit into our long-term financial picture.

Members of the two Boards asked some important questions and the answers we received helped to clarify the situation and bring the group to consensus by the conclusion of the meeting. Both presentations as well as the question and answer session that followed were recorded by our Government Access cameras and should be available for the public to view online by the time this column is published. Please visit the town website at woodbridgeCT.org for a link to this meeting video.

As I submit my column, we are expecting to take the next steps for the Radio System upgrade at a pair of meetings on Thursday, November 16th. A Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen will take place immediately prior to the Board of Finance Regular Meeting. In the event that both the Selectmen and the Board of Finance approve the necessary motions, we will then set a date for a Special Town Meeting for the purpose of authorizing the expenditure.

I am hoping this Special Town Meeting can be scheduled for early December, and I will be sure to keep the public informed as we move forward. As I have said, I believe it is vital that we see this project through to funding as soon as possible and I deeply appreciate the cooperation and spirit of collegiality we are experiencing as we work together to invest in our public safety infrastructure.

As always, I continue to look forward to ongoing feedback from the public and encourage you to contact me to share your thoughts on these as well as other matters of concern to you.

Beth Heller is Woodbridge First Selectman. She may be reached by phone at Town Hall, 203-389-3401, or by email to bheller@woodbridgect.org.

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Fire Chief Sean Rowland, left, and Police Chief Frank Cappiello are making the case for a new radio system for emergency responders.

EMERGENCY RADIO SYSTEM NEEDS IMPROVEMENTS

Spotty Coverage, Static Lead to Communication Break-Downs

By Bettina Thiel Woodbridge Town News Correspondent

Woodbridge residents will be asked to approve the purchase of a new radio system for emergency responders. Given the \$2.1 million price tag, the expenditure will be brought to residents for approval at a special town meeting. The Boards of Finance and Selectmen were expected to meet in a joint meeting November 16 to formally recommend the project and set a date for the public vote.

This meeting is a follow-up to a similar joint meeting November 8, at which the chiefs of the police and fire departments jointly addressed town leaders laying out the need for a new radio communication system for the town. They were accompanied by Paul Zito, a consultant with New England Radio Consultants.

The current simulcast radio system has reached the end of its useful life, said First Selectman Beth Heller when she welcomed the chiefs to the joint meeting. To underscore the point that the old system can compromise the safety not only of the residents it serves but the first responders themselves, Fire Chief Sean Rowland played back recordings of real-life situations during which the communication between the dispatcher and the first responders broke down due to static. From “Can you repeat,” to “I can barely hear you,” and “I can’t copy anything you said” and finally, “I am going to call you on your cell,” the recording clearly showed how difficult the communication can be.

Police Chief Frank Cappiello described a recent attempted burglary situation, where officers had to use their cell phones to get the target’s description. “Officers could see each other, but not talk on the [hand-held] phone,” he said. There are areas in town where communication is close to impossible, mainly along the Route 67 corridor, also near the intersection of Rimmon Road and Racebrook, and along the Merritt Parkway.

The new system will increase the communication reliability throughout

the area, not only in dead spots, they said. It would facilitate communication between all first responders and add the Public Works employees into the loop. The Public Works system dates from the 1970s, Chief Rowland said. Public Works employees don’t have hand-held radios, even when they are out plowing the roads in snowstorms. The current police radios and those of the fire department are compatible with the new system and need not be replaced, he said.

The suggested package involves five transmission antennas, a new dispatch console with software, as well as hand-held radios for the Public Works employees. The cost of about \$2.1 million dollars also includes site work and needed equipment. Time is of the essence, since the Motorola company is offering a \$100,000-\$150,000 discount if the system is ordered before mid-December. Even if ordered soon, it could be a year before the new system is fully operational, they said.

Currently the radio communication relies on three towers that are placed at the police station on Center Road, at Bradley Road and near the Transfer Station. This leaves large parts along the northern town line uncovered, as well as a wide swath along Peck Hill Road and an area west of Racebrook Road along the southern town line. Another antenna at Oak Lane Country Club is a receiver only.

The town’s topography requires additional antennas. The new system would abandon the transfer station site and instead hook onto a higher tower located in Seymour; it would add an antenna to a water company tank near the western town line; it would update the Oak Lane site to receive and transmit data; and it would hook onto the AT&T tower currently located off of Litchfield Turnpike in addition to the police department site and the existing antenna on Bradley Road.

See “Radio System” continued on Page 9



RSVP ETIQUETTE FOR ANY GATHERING

It's exciting to be invited to a party any time during the year, but the rate of invites seems to increase come the holiday season. According to party planning resource Punchbowl, holiday party invitations reach their peak in mid- to late-November, but continue to be sent through December. The first Monday in December is the day when the most online holiday party invitations are sent.

Hosting a party involves a lot of coordination. Party hosts rely on an accurate head count in order to plan accordingly. This is only achieved if invitations reach their intended recipients, and invited guests respond in a timely manner.

Anyone who has ever hosted a party understands the feeling of having to wait for everyone to RSVP. And in an era of immediate digital gratification, party host patience may be lacking. Failure to RSVP is a failure of party etiquette, and hosts may feel as though their efforts are not appreciated if guests fail to RSVP on time.

To avoid a manners mishap — and even worse, miss the party altogether — practice this RSVP etiquette for each and every event.

Avoid Laziness

RSVP is an abbreviation for the French phrase “repondez s’il vous plait.” This means to “please respond.” Until roughly 50 years ago, RSVP was not commonly included on invitations because it was implied that guests would do the right thing and respond of their own accord to the hospitality extended. Everyone is guilty from time to time of getting a little

forgetful. But when hosts are counting on your response to plan their events, it pays to make responding a priority, and doing so within 24 hours is best.

Recognize The RSVP’s Importance To The Host

Put yourself in the place of the host. He or she is counting on receiving responses to invitations. Failure to respond in a timely manner adds additional work to the party host. This person has to track you down. Or he or she may misinterpret a lack of response as lack of interest.

Regrets Only? Only If The Invitation States That

Some people think they don't have to respond unless they're not coming to the party. The fact is, unless the invitation specifically says to RSVP for "regrets only," assume that you have to respond one way or another.

Rescinding Your Response

It is improper etiquette to agree to attend a party only to cancel at the last minute if a better invitation comes along. Unless it is an emergency situation or someone is sick, canceling an RSVP without a good reason is rude.

Etiquette For Hosts

Send invites out several weeks in advance so people can check their schedules. As the date approaches, it is fine to reach out to guests who didn't RSVP. Be polite and ask nicely if that person will be able to join you.

DOLLAR\$ AND \$EN\$E

CAREGIVERS, OUR
UNSUNG HEROES

By Roberta L. Nestor

November is the month we traditionally give our thanks for the many blessings we have in our lives. National Caregivers Month is also in November and dedicated to acknowledge and honor our nation's caregivers. It is estimated that over 40 million individuals provide a staggering \$470 billion dollars annually in unpaid care for their loved ones. That is almost twice as much as is actually spent on homecare and nursing home services combined.

According to the National Alliance for Caregiving, it is estimated that 43.5 million people age 18 and older are providing unpaid care for others who are over age 50. This would amount to 19% of all American adults. The profile of the average caregiver is a 50 plus year old female that is taking care of a 77 year old woman, and that is usually her mother.

We all know someone who is caregiver and this is the month to thank them for all that they do.

Caregiving has gone through extremes over the last decade and providing care for aging parents is more common than not. Our caregivers sacrifice more than just their time. They sacrifice their own families, their own health, and in many cases they devastate their own finances. If the average age of the caregiver is 50 plus, then that individual will be rewarded with less in social security benefits, smaller retirement accounts and, depending on the situation, they could be at risk to lose their own health coverage.

Should someone be expected to provide unpaid care for family members? In any family that question will spark much debate, especially amongst siblings. While families may all agree that they want to keep mom or dad at home for as long as possible, it is rare that the caregiving is equally divided. Utilizing a Personal Care Agreements (also known as Long Term Care Support Services Agreement, Elder Care Contract or Family Care Contracts) is one way to protect the caregiver as well as the person who is receiving care. This is a binding agreement that clarifies for a family what tasks are expected in return for a stated and agreed upon compensation.

Having a written agreement can help

to avoid family conflicts about who will provide care and how much money will actually change hands. Because of this, it is advisable to discuss this option with family members in advance so that any concerns can be resolved. Another added benefit to these agreements is documentation for the state. Should the person you are providing care for ever need state supported home care (or transitioning to a nursing home), the agreement will also show the state where the money is going and what services are being provided.

Long term care situations are difficult for all family members. Sadly, at one point or another, money becomes a primary focus in the majority of family caregiving situations. Having a Personal Care Agreement can offset potential confusion among family members who are concerned about bequests to heirs as well as avoiding misunderstandings as they relate to the amount of money that will be inherited.

Seek the advice of an elder-care attorney (specializes in planning for long term care). You are creating a contractual agreement between the care recipient (employer) and the caregiver (employee). That relationship will require withholding and taxes as well as consideration of any employee benefits (health insurance, vacation time, etc.). There are great advantages to these agreements for all parties involved and because of the physical and financial demands of caregiving, caregivers should look at all options.

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

"Radio System" continued from Page 8

Woodbridge Finance Director Anthony Genovese had a power point presentation for the selectmen and the finance board members, showing how the added debt would fit into the overall debt service obligations. A graph shows existing debt, with \$9 million of proposed projects added, namely the radio system; old fire house renovations (\$500,000); police station renovation

(\$5 million) and Country Club remediation (\$1.5 million). It would keep overall debt level relatively flat until 2024, at which point it would start to decrease, he said. Current debt service represents about 8.72% of the operating budget.

In addition to the initial investment, the system would require some ongoing maintenance costs (\$25,000 or \$45,000 annually, depending on what's covered) and rental fees for the telephone lines as well as the Seymour tower.



'PILGRIMS' ARE HOLIDAY
MYTH, PROFESSOR SAYS

Thanksgiving has few historical ties to the original 17th-century celebration, according to Dr. Mark Miller, professor of history at Roanoke College in Virginia.

Take the first Thanksgiving celebration in Plymouth, Massachusetts, back in 1621, for instance. It has been depicted as a friendly gathering between the Pilgrims and the Indians. But Miller says the Pilgrims could not possibly have attended the earliest Thanksgiving feast because the term "Pilgrim" was not even invented until the 1830s.

"During the pre-Civil War period, Northerners were in search of a counterpart image to that of the Southern settlers of Jamestown," says Miller. "This led to the name 'Pilgrims,' which described the first group of Englishmen to live in the North."

Contrary to popular belief, Miller says the original guests of the 1621 feast were not "Pilgrims," but more appropriately called "Saints." The relationship between the Saints and the Indians also

has been distorted through the years. The European settlers were really quite frightened of the wild new world, including its native inhabitants.

"The Europeans thought the Native Americans were a lost Israeli tribe that had been blown off course and landed in America," says Miller. "They thought the tribe arrived as civilized men and women, but became savages after living in the wilderness. For fear of contact with the savages, laws were enacted which forbade European settlers to touch or look at the Indians."

The Civil War also played a predominant role in the timing of the celebration, Miller says. The original harvest was likely held in late summer to early fall, following the final rush of fieldwork. However, in 1864, Abraham Lincoln, then president of the North, called for a day of thanksgiving in November. It wasn't until the 20th century that Thanksgiving was celebrated in Southern states.

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TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

FROM THE YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

By Nancy Pfund



Woodbridge students bring blessings to Woodbridge Human Services and residents as they sort the food collected by local boy scouts in Troop 63 with assistance from Troop 907 and Venture Crew 913. Woodbridge and Bethany teens laugh through the Mummy Wrap at the recent Halloween Spooktacular.

Toys 4 Kids

Income eligible Woodbridge residents who need holiday toys for children 12 years of age and under should call Nancy Pfund at 203-389-3429 to set up an appointment to apply to TEAM, Inc. Application deadline is 12/15/17.

Toy Donations Needed as Holidays Approach

Collection boxes for the Toys 4 Kids program are located in the Woodbridge Library and the Woodbridge Center on the lower floor. Please consider donating a toy for a child this holiday season.

Wanted: Woodbridge Teens Who Desire Work for Cash...Need Holiday Money?

Woodbridge teens, ages 13-18, interested in occasional paid jobs for Woodbridge residents should call Youth Services at 203-389-3429. Typical jobs include weeding, gardening, yard clean-up, raking, shoveling snow, babysitting, and animal care. Parent permission re-

quired. The Job Bank conducts an interview, and matches residents with registered teens who gain experience and self-confidence while earning some money. It's a perfect opportunity for young people to learn responsibility with assistance from Youth Services.

THE CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Woodbridge Human Services Department announced appointments are being scheduled for Woodbridge residents for the 2017-2018 Connecticut Energy Assistance Program administered by TEAM, INC. Income eligibility requirements must be met. Verification of income and assets must be submitted with the application. This includes copies of the last bank statement(s) or check(s) for: a) pay stubs (last 4), or income verification from the individual's employer, b) Social Security

benefits notice, c) Supplemental Security Income, d) pension, e) unemployment, f) alimony/child support, g) interest and dividend income, h) and utility bill. In addition, the names, dates of birth, and social security numbers of all members residing with the applicant are required. For more information regarding Energy Assistance Program, or to schedule an appointment, please call Woodbridge Human Services Mary Ellen LaRocca or Judi Young at 203-389-3429.

TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2017

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



Town Hall

12/4	Human Services Commission	7:00pm	Center Building
	Town Plan & Zoning Commission	7:30pm	Town Hall
12/5	Bds of Selectmen/Finance Joint Mtg.	6:00pm	Town Hall
	(Capital Budget Meeting)		
	Police Commission	6:00pm	Police Dept.
12/11	Library Commission	6:00pm	Library
	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30pm	Town Hall
12/12	Government Access TV Commission	7:15pm	Town Hall
12/13	Board of Selectmen	5:00pm	Town Hall
12/18	Fire Commission	6:00pm	Fire Station
	CUPOP	6:30pm	Town Hall
	Recreation Commission	7:00pm	Beecher School South
12/20	Inland/Wetlands Agency	7:30pm	Town Hall
12/21	Board of Finance	6:00pm	Town Hall
	Conservation Commission	7:30pm	Town Hall

WOODBIDGE LIBRARY

Adult Programs

The Library will be closed on Thursday November 23 and Friday November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving. Regular hours resume Saturday, November 25 at 10am.

The Missing Link in Retirement Planning: Why and When to Consider Long-Term Care Insurance

Thursday, November 16, 7 PM

Guest speaker Aldo Pantano, from the State of Connecticut's Partnership for Long Term Care will discuss what you need to know about long term care insurance and how to protect your assets. Please register.

The Annual Holiday Party with Robin Glowa, the Conscious Cook

Tuesday, December 5 at 7 PM

Join us to celebrate the upcoming holidays! Our party will feature a festive cocktail and satisfying hors d'oeuvres you will love to make for your friends and family. Recipes will be provided. This is a very popular program; space fills up quickly. Please register. Due to the alcoholic beverage provided, registration limited to those over 21 years of age.

Gingerbread House Decorating Party

Monday, December 11 from 6-8pm

Join us for our second annual gingerbread house decorating party! A \$20 materials fee includes a pre-built gingerbread house, frosting, candies, and other edible supplies. You must register

in person at the Information Desk and pay the materials fee in cash when registering. Individuals and teams of up to 3 people are welcome. All ages may participate. Children under 12 must work with an adult at all times.

Film Screenings

Every Thursday at 7 PM

11/30—Glass Castle
12/7— Beatriz at Dinner
12/14—Home Again
12/21—Dunkirk
12/28—The Beguiled

Children's Programs

Horizon Wings Raptor Rehabilitation and Education ages 4 and up

Saturday, November 25, 2pm

What are the features all raptors have in common? Meet five different birds and learn their individual stories as well as the characteristics and behaviors of each species. Space is limited. Please register online at www.woodbridge.lioninc.org.

Graphic Novel Club - Squish by Jennifer and Matthew Holm

Thursday Nov. 30, @ 4:30 pm Grades 4 and 5

Meet Squish, a comic book loving grade school amoeba trying to find his place in the world. Woodbridge Library partners with Beecher Road School on this special book discussion for students in fourth and fifth grades. Copies of the books are available at the Children's Desk in the library. Please register online.

Mid December Crafternoon

Saturday, December 16 @3pm ages 4 and up under 12 with an adult

Make a waterless snow globe, enjoy some early winter stories, and a snack too! Space and supplies are limited. Please register online.

John Highby- The Amazing Yo-Yo Guy

Wednesday, December 27 @ 2pm ages 4 and up

John Higby is Yoyo Guy! He's performed in 26 countries and holds 4 Guinness World Records. Join the fun at our interactive performance with yo-yos, a unicycle, and a giant yo-yo that John walks on!

Friends of the Woodbridge Library Holiday Book Fair

The Friends of the Library will be selling some unique books at a Holiday Book Fair, Saturday, December 2, 10 am - 2 pm. The book fair will feature a small collection of books at special prices. The Friends received unusual donations and will price the books at higher than their usual rock-bottom prices. Included will be: leather-bound Franklin Library Classic Books, mint condition, gilt page edges, sewn-in ribbon book marks, \$15; lovingly collected, beautiful art books -- from Edward Hopper to Jasper Johns -- in pristine condition, \$10/hardcover, \$5/paperback; a small number of graphic novels by popular author, Neil Gaiman, excellent condition, \$10; and a historical collection of psychology books from a local psychologist, good condition,

hardcover and paperback, \$1/book. Holiday books as well as all books in the Friends Bookstore Alley will be available at usual prices. Quantities are limited, so come early! The Friends are providing free gift wrapping.

A Big Thank You for Making Swinging Through the Stacks a Success!

The Friends of the Woodbridge Library would like to thank the Swinging Through the Stacks Mini Golf Sponsors for making our first event a success. Thank you to our Hole Sponsors: Allen and Beth Heller, Amity Girl Scouts, Beecher Road Extended Day, George M. Hatch LLC, W.R. Grieger Excavation, Laticrete International, The Princeton Review, Ralph Mann and Sons, Sarah Beth Del Prete of Seabury Hill Realtors, Servpro of Milford, Denise Rock of Social Graces, and Woodbridge International.

The Friends of the Library also want to thank the scorecard sponsors: A1 Toyota, Pat Cardozo of Coldwell Banker, Cofrancesco Chiropractic and Healing Arts, Connecticut Foot and Ankle Associates, Crest Lincoln, Joyce Printers, Legacy Retirement Group, The Red Barn of Woodbridge, Resnik and Resnik, and Teplitsky and Company. Also, a big thank you to the in-kind sponsors: The Amity Meat Center, The Original Antonio's Restaurant, New England Brewing Company, Sally's Apizza, Solun Tapas Bar and Restaurant, and Woodbridge Social. A big thank you to the community members who came out! The Friends of the Library plan to run the event again in winter of 2019!

HOW BEING AN EARLY BIRD CAN BENEFIT HOLIDAY SHOPPERS

Come the end of the often hectic holiday shopping season, many people resolve to begin shopping earlier in the following year. While such resolutions can be hard to keep, shoppers would be wise to consider the myriad ways they can benefit by starting their holiday shopping earlier than they're typically accustomed to doing.

Deals: The more time shoppers give themselves to find gifts for their loved ones, the more time they have to comparison shop and find the best deals. Retailers often offer steep discounts during the holiday season, but such deals may pale in comparison to those that can be had throughout the rest of the year. Holiday shoppers who begin shopping early can always skip buying in late summer or autumn if they think better deals can be had once the holiday season begins.

Shipping: By shopping early, shop-

pers can choose the least expensive shipping option offered by online retailers, potentially saving substantial amounts of money as a result. In addition, shoppers who start early won't have to worry about items failing to arrive on time, a common source of stress for last-minute holiday shoppers.

Credit score: Another advantage to shopping early for holiday gifts is it allows consumers to protect their credit scores by spreading their spending out over several months instead of

doing so in the handful of weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. In a survey examining debt associated with the holiday season, MagnifyMoney found that the average holiday debt in 2016 was slightly more than \$1,000. Credit card debt can negatively affect consumers' credit scores, especially if balances are not paid in full when bills are due. Shoppers can avoid such situations entirely by shopping early using only disposable income to make purchases instead of credit cards. Such



financial flexibility may not be possible for shoppers who wait until the holiday season has begun to start shopping.

Time: Shoppers can save more than money by starting their holiday shopping in advance of the holiday season. In spite of the popularity of online shopping, many people still visit traditional brick and mortar retailers to do their present buying. Such stores can be overwhelmed with shoppers between Thanksgiving and Christmas, leading to long lines and lengthy searches for parking. Shoppers are far less likely to encounter big crowds and crowded parking lots if they get their shopping done before the dawn of the holiday season, saving themselves substantial amounts of time as a result.

Shoppers who commit to getting their holiday shopping done early can save money and time and protect their financial reputations as well.

"I absolutely adore Thanksgiving. It's the only holiday I insist on making myself." — INA GARTEN

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.

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.

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.geneshihcc.com.

Woodbridge Rotary Club Meetings, 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month,

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

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

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

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

Continuum of Care Needs Caregivers, Would you like to make a difference in someone’s life as a caregiver?

Continuum Help at Home is currently looking for individuals to work as a Homemaker, Companion, or Personal Care Attendant. We have full-time, part-time and live-in positions available. Visit www.continuumct.org/ events to register and download an application.

Annual Pumpkin & Holly Bazaar, Friday, November 17, 2017, 4:00-8:00pm and Saturday, November 18, 2017, 9:00am-2:00pm, Christ Church, Amity Road, Bethany (at the blinking light), featuring pies, cookies, raffles, crafts, cookbooks, ornaments, stocking stuffers, Granny’s attic treasures, clothing boutique, café offering light dinner on Friday and lunch on Saturday.

Annual Christmas Bazaar and Craft Fair, Saturday, November 18, 2017, 9:00am-3:00pm, Our Lady of Assumption Church, 81 Center Road, Woodbridge, gift items, white elephant sale, raffles, baked goods, children’s activities, Santa’s visit and more. Proceeds benefit Student Service Award Scholarship and other financial contributions of the ministry.

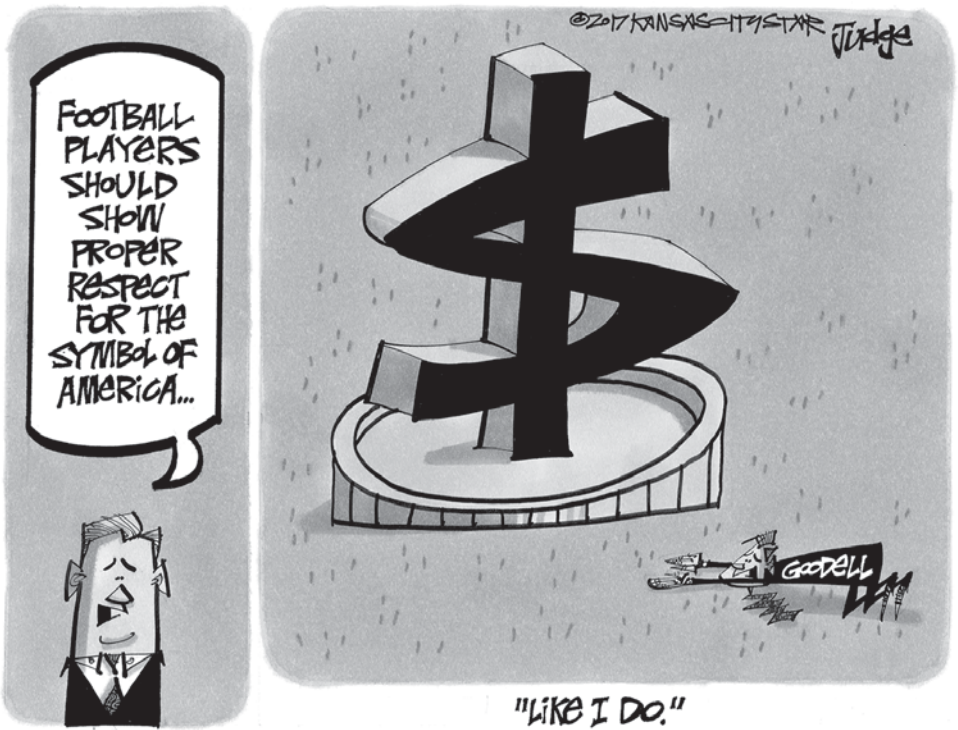
Holiday Fantasy of Trees, November 18 & 19, 2017, 12 noon-8 pm 11/18, 12 noon-6 pm 11/19, Saint Barbara Social Hall, Racebrook Road, sponsored by WoodWinds by Chef Silvio, Milford Bank, Porch & Patio, ABCO The Paper-

man, Liberty Mutual Insurance, and Key Bank, in support of Connecticut Food Bank, attendees please bring a non-perishable food item to help feed our hungry neighbors in Connecticut. Enjoy the beautifully decorated Trees, Wreaths, and Urns, your favorite Greek treats, holiday raffle, Holiday Marketplace, entertainment by area musical and dance groups, enjoy a piece of pastry with coffee or hot chocolate. Santa will be stopping by with Santa’s Workshop on Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Take a photo with Santa. Free parking/Free admission. Raffle Drawing Sunday 4:30 pm. www.saintbarbara.org or 203-795-1347.

Balance Screenings, Thursday, November 30, 2017, 1:30-3:00pm, Coachman Square, at Woodbridge, 21 Bradley Road in Woodbridge. FREE. Balance Screenings performed by licensed Physical Therapists affiliated with Kindred At Home medical home health care services. RSVP to 203-397-7544.

14th Annual JCC Holiday Crafts & Gift Fair, Sunday, December 3, 2017, 10:00am-4:00pm, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge; free admission and free parking. For more information, contact debbieb@jccnh.org or 203-387-2424 x276. Vendor space still available, deadline to register is October 1.

AND NOW A WORD FROM NFL COMMISSIONER ROGER GODDELL:



STUDENT NEWS

Dean’s List/President’s List Michael Berkley Makes Goodwin Dean’s List and President’s List For Summer 2017

East Hartford, CT -- Michael Berkley has earned a spot on the Goodwin College Dean’s List for the Summer 2017. Michael, a student from Woodbridge, is one of 731 students to make the Dean’s List, reserved for those who demonstrate great academic performance. Dean’s List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits to qualify.

Michael Berkley has also achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average at Goodwin College for the Summer 2017 session, earning a spot on the elite President’s List. The List is the highest academic honor roll at Goodwin College. Goodwin College extends its congratulations to Michael for such a tremendous academic achievement. To qualify for the President’s List, a student must be enrolled in at least six credits at Goodwin College and earn perfect marks in all classes.



LOCAL BUSINESS



Grand Opening and Office Open House of Coldwell Banker in Orange on 236 Boston Post Road. The state-of-the-art real estate company is the headquarters for both Orange and Woodbridge agents.



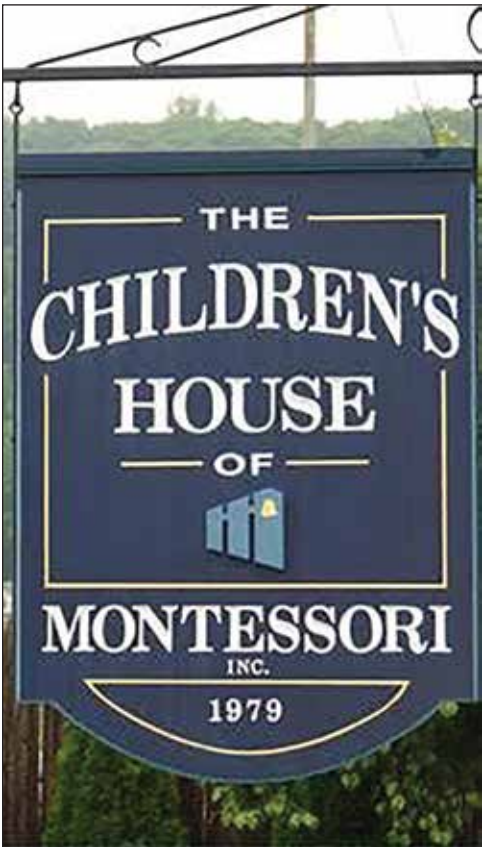
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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

14TH ANNUAL JCC CRAFT & GIFT FAIR SUNDAY

Over 50 Vendors Showcase Their Goods – Free Admission

Over 50 vendors will be setting up shop at the JCC on Sunday, December 3rd! Need the perfect gift for the holidays? Or indulge in something special for yourself! Join us at the JCC of Greater New Haven for our most popular 14th Annual Holiday Craft & Gift Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Craft & Gift Fair features artisans, crafters and vendors from our local area and from all over New England. The selection includes pottery, art work, accessories, home décor, jewelry, glass works, skin care, clothing, and much more! Many new vendors this year plus returning favorites!

The JCC is back open so bring the whole family to the Fair! Free crafts for kids and face painting. New this year is a free movie with babysitting from 1

p.m. to 4 p.m. for kids ages 5 and up so parents can “drop and shop”! Free admission for all, and plenty of free parking. The Holiday Craft & Gift Fair is not to be missed!

WHAT: 14th Annual JCC Craft and Gift Fair

WHEN: Sunday, December 3 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

WHERE:
JCC of Greater New Haven
360 Amity Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525
(203) 387-2424

The JCC of Greater New Haven provides a warm, friendly atmosphere for health, thought, learning and values. Our mission is to facilitate total wellness through programs that stimulate mind, body and spirit.



BOY SCOUTS SCOUTING FOR FOOD ANNUAL DRIVE A SUCCESS

Boy Scouts in Troop 63, with the assistance from Troop 907 and Venture Crew 913, have achieved their goal for the 5th consecutive year! This year, 2500 pounds of food and toiletries were collected. All non-expired donations are given to Woodbridge Human Services to fill its pantry and allow them to provide nourishment and toiletries to families in our Town through the Holiday season and into the new year. Ben Inclima, Scouting For Food Chair, has consistently set a higher goal each year after consulting with Human Services concerning its annual needs.

“The Town of Woodbridge has been very instrumental in the success of the program by making the 4,000 flyers for us and paying for the copy paper. This donation allows us to ensure that every residence receives a flyer,” stated Ben Inclima. Ben has chaired the program for the last 5 years, starting when he was a 7th grader at AMSB, to ensure that the program continues as the most successful food drive for our Town’s Human Services department.

The Scouts, with their parents’ assistance, work to distribute 200+ flyers per Boy Scout and then commit to drive along their assigned routes to pick up all the food and toiletry donations left bagged near residences’ mailboxes. This requires each Scout to commit to allocating 2 consecutive weekends for

the Drive. Each year, Ben stated that he tries to streamline the program to ensure easier participation from his fellow Scouts. “This is just one community service event that my fellow Scouts assist with so I want to ensure that this is successful, but isn’t too time consuming to diminish participation.” The Scouts collected all sorts of food items this year, in addition to toiletry items and paper goods. “Please remember that Human Services will accept any donation of usable food and toiletry items anytime throughout the year, not just during our Drive. My fellow Scouts and I are quite pleased that we can make a difference for the families in town that have these needs. This is the main reason that we embrace this food drive for our Town.”

Boy Scout Troop 63, founded in 1963, is one of the oldest Troops in the Connecticut Yankee Council. The Troop’s Scoutmaster, John Turski, states that the Troop’s objective is to bring scouting to boys in the Woodbridge, Bethany, and surrounding communities. The troop is known as the “outdoor troop” and is active all year. Outings include all types of camping, hiking, backpacking, skiing, canoe trips, white water rafting, as well as cultural events such as visits to historical parks, monuments, and much more. The Troop also actively participates in many community service projects throughout the year.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 63 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Boy Scout Troop 63 will be holding its annual Christmas Tree Sale. For over 50 years Troop 63 has been selling trees, wreaths, kissing balls and other fresh holiday decorations. The sale will be located behind the old firehouse in Woodbridge on Center Road, the troop will sell fresh balsam pine trees beginning Saturday, November 25th. The sales run Wednesday through Friday from 4-8PM and Saturday and Sunday from 9AM-8PM and closed on Mondays and Tuesdays through Christmas Eve. Various size trees and prices are available to meet your needs and include limited free local delivery.

Boy Scout Troop 63 founded in 1963, is one of the oldest Troops in the Connecticut Yankee Council. Our objective is to bring scouting to the boys in Woodbridge, Bethany and surrounding communities. Known as an “outdoor troop”

we are active all year. Our outings include all types of camping, hiking, backpacking, skiing, canoe trips, whitewater rafting as well as cultural events such as visits to historical parks and monuments and much more. We also plan and participate in many community events and service projects throughout the year.

Join our adventure, join the fun and see what scouting is all about. Meetings are held at our Lady of Assumption “Mother” church located at 1700 Litchfield Turnpike (RTE 69) in Woodbridge on Monday nights from 7-8:30 PM weekly. All Boys ages 10-18 or boys that have completed the fifth grade along with their parents are encouraged to visit our meeting and join us for the fun.

For more information about the tree sales or questions about joining, you can contact Ted Pocwierz at (203) 927-4460 or Tpocwierz@sbcglobal.net.



WOODBIDGE RESIDENTS!

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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



The Woodbridge Rotary Club recently had a presentation at its luncheon meeting on the Special Olympics. The Rotary Club has established an affiliation with Special Olympics to assist them in the future. Pictured from left to right is Angie D'Amico, Assistant, Health & Wellness and Special Olympics Athlete, Tony Anastasio, President of the Woodbridge Rotary Club, and Sharon Rozum, Senior Director, Partnerships & Corporate Relations, Special Olympics.

5 WAYS FOR SHOPPERS TO SCORE GREAT DEALS

Saving money is important throughout the year, but can be especially important around the holidays, when spending on gifts, decor and entertaining stretches budgets.

According to the Deloitte 2016 Holiday Survey, the total expected holiday sales for that year were expected to exceed \$1 trillion. The average American adult planned to spend \$419 on holiday-related items, states the International Council of Shopping Centers.

So how can the average shopper save without becoming an extreme couponer or bargain-basement buyer? The following are five ways for shoppers to score great deals this holiday season.

1. Opt in for promotional emails. Choose the option to follow favorite stores and keep abreast of their deals and other news. Although it may be a slight hassle to have your inbox filled with dozens of promotional emails, such communications alert shoppers to coupons, discounts and other deals before the discounts are shared with the general public. Set up a separate email account strictly for retailer emails or activate filters so that promotional deals automatically go to a particular folder or tab.

2. Use your mobile device. Mobile devices enable you to comparison shop

while on the go, easily seeing if prices on a certain item are lower elsewhere. Mobile apps also give you immediate access to discount codes or coupons through various retailers and companies like Groupon or Retail Me Not.

3. Enable cookies. Internet cookies are small bits of data that a computer's hard disk stores to remember what users do online, including their preferences and browsing histories. Cookies help make browsing faster and may enable web servers to send you more targeted product information that fits your browsing history.

4. Set up browser alerts. Various services enable users to set up alerts based on keywords that can be emailed to you at various points of the day. This can help you track changes in products you may be looking to buy. Google Alerts is one such service.

5. Become a rewards customer. If a cashier asks if you'd like to sign up for the free rewards program, answer in the affirmative. Even though these cards gather demographic information, they can be handy for identifying repeat customers and sending them deals they can use.

There are plenty of ways for shoppers to save money around the holidays and year-round.

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ARTS & LEISURE

HELP SUPPORT THE JAMIE A. HULLEY ARTS FOUNDATION

Enjoy some these upcoming shows at Square Foot Theatre & support the Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation at the same time. Square Foot Theatre in Wallingford is offering special “preview night” fundraisers for Jamie’s Foundation. Your donation is the cost of admission!!!

See Annie on Thursday evening, November 30, 2017. Email Kathleen Kilian

at kmkcpa@optonline.net for reservations.

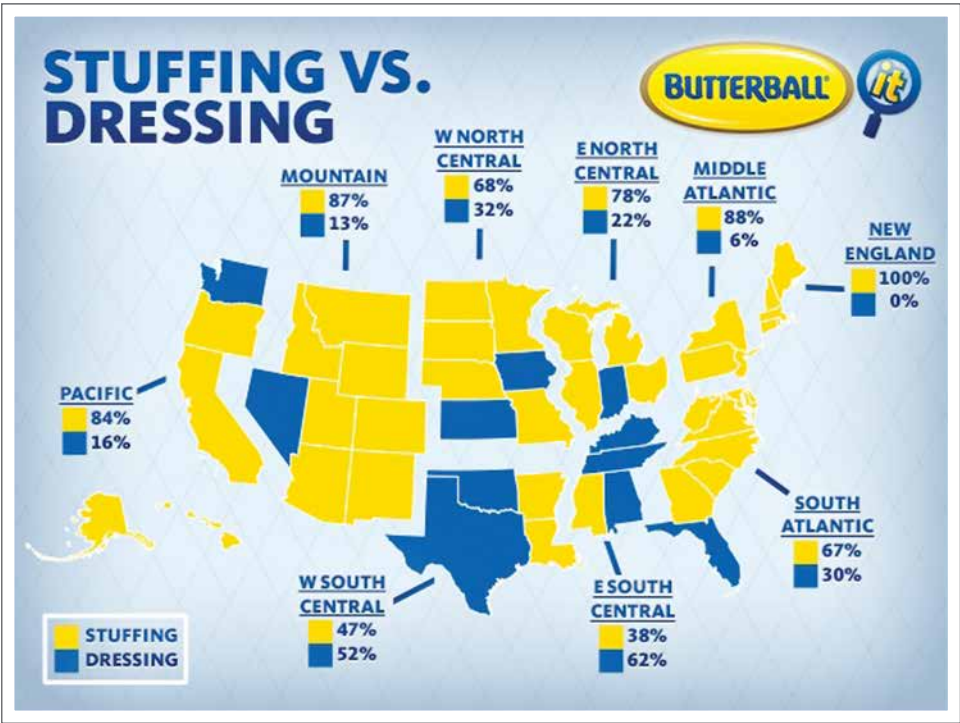
Square Foot Theatre is located at 950 Yale Ave. in Wallingford directly off Merritt Parkway Exit 66. It is an intimate BYO cabaret style venue so bring your favorite food and drinks to enjoy before & during the show. Doors open at 6:30 pm; performance begins at 7:30 pm.

2017 MUSIC IN MOTION AT AMITY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

During the weekend of October 27th and 28th over 140 members of the Amity Regional High School Band performed for 2 nights in the annual Music in Motion show. This year’s show, directed by Amity Regional High School Band Director, Phil Dolan, focused around the theme of “Grammy Night”. The show featured renditions of various artists including Led Zepplin, Adele,

Santana, and many more. Members of the award-winning Amity Regional High School Color Guard also performed.

Keep an eye out for more upcoming performing arts events, such as the fall play of The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later on December 8th and 9th and the Amity Regional High School Winter Concert on December 14th.



STUFFING VS. DRESSING

Does your turkey have the right stuff? Does your Thanksgiving table dress to impress? In different regions of the country, families tend to call that delicious bread-and-fruit-and-spice-and-sausage side dish either dressing or stuffing. What does your family call it?

If you call it dressing, odds are that you cook it separately from the turkey -- and you live in the southern region of the United States. Otherwise, you’re a stuffing family, and you cook it in the turkey. Whatever you call it, we can all agree it’s delicious.

Woodbridge Town News

THE WOODBRIDGE TOWN NEWS ONLINE

Online Version of the Woodbridge Town News

www.WoodbridgeTownNews.com

ANSONIA NATURE CENTER EVENTS

10 Deerfield Road, Ansonia, CT 06401. To register for all events please call 203 736 1053.

December

WINTER WREATH WORKSHOP
Saturday, December 2, 10 am

Space is limited to 20 wreaths SO PLEASE CALL SOON TO REGISTER. 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. 203 736-1053

PRINCIPLES OF FIRECRAFT
Saturday, December 9, 1 pm

Basic firecraft principles are very important to know. Whether or not you’re the family camp-out fire starter, knowing how fire works is paramount to safety. Join Ranger Dan in learning about wood-gathering, fire safety, and fire starting with only one match! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Dress for the outdoors. FREE. Please call to register 203 736-1053

CROCHET 101
Sunday, December 10, 2 pm

Join Ranger Jess to learn the skill of crochet. She will teach you the basics so you can create a snowman. It’s a great time of the year to create unique gifts for family and friends! MATERIALS FEE: \$7. Please call to register.

118TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT
Saturday, December 16, 12:30 pm

This annual survey provides important data to assess the increase or decline of avian populations worldwide. After an early morning start, the New Haven Bird Club will stop at the Nature Center for its lunch at 12:30. Be ready to join members of the club to look and listen along the park’s trails. For adults only. FREE. Please call to register.

January 2018

NEW YEAR’S DAY HIKE
Monday, January 1, 2018, 10 am

Bring a healthy start to your new year at the Nature Center. Our ranger will conduct this brisk walk while you learn a little natural history trivia along the way. FREE. Please call to register. Inclement weather cancels.

“Milford Connecticut Post Mall”

1201 Boston Post Rd., Milford, Conn
“Presents”

Joe Neumann

Sat., December 16th and Sat., December 23rd
12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Performing Traditional Christmas Songs
Including: Rockin’ Around The Christmas Tree,
I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Clause,
Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer, Jingle Bells,
Jingle Bell Rock, Frosty The Snowman,
The Little Drummer Boy, What Child Is This,
Blue Christmas, Silver Bells and more...

Performing by the food court

Website:
www.joeneumannmusician.com

Merry Christmas



Robbie Scott and his mom Meagan Scott join in the reading of "In Flanders Field". Robbie is the son of Police Sergeant R.J. Scott.



Michael Soufrine lays a wreath as part of the Veterans Day ceremony.

.....
"Veterans" continued from Page 1
who served. Among them was Michael Soufrine who sponsored and presented a wreath in memory of his son Eric; also town hall employees, the police honor guard and Anthony Forto, a custodian of town buildings, who led with emotion in the singing of the national anthem as

well as other patriotic songs. Reverend Shepard Parsons, pastor at First Church of Christ, offered the invocation and benediction.
Capt. Josephs remembered those who have passed away this year, namely Charles McCowan, a Korean conflict veteran, and Robert E. Martin, who had served with Special Forces in Iraq and

Afghanistan.
State Rep. Themis Klarides in her remarks marked the 100th anniversary of the United States entering the first World War in 1917. At the time, it was thought to be the "war to end all wars," she said, but that was not to be and many have served since then. She encouraged people to not walk by when veterans

are asking for contributions. "Say thank you," she said.
First Selectman Beth Heller also touched on that anniversary, saying that World War I was begun in hope for lasting peace. "I hope that our children will get us there," she added.

"I love Thanksgiving because it's a holiday that is centered around food and family, two things that are of utmost importance to me." — MARCUS SAMUELSSON



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DAILY SPECIALS

MONDAY
1/2 PRICE MARGARITAS

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1/2 PRICE BOTTLES OF WINE

WEDNESDAY
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THURSDAY
\$6 MARTINIS

FRIDAY/SATURDAY
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SUNDAY
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SUNDAY BRUNCH
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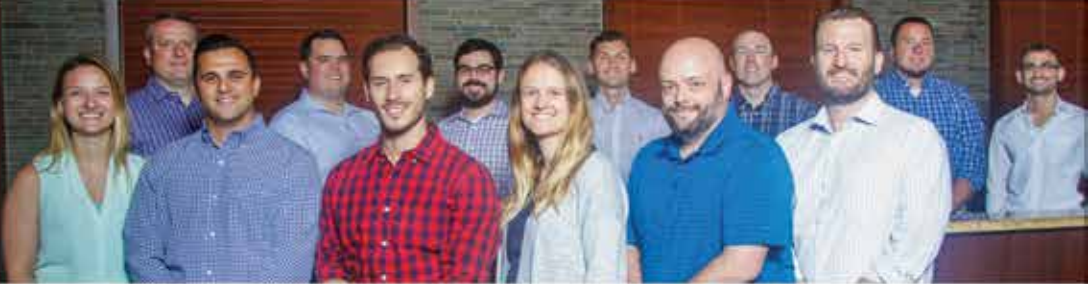
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celebrity extra

by cindy elavsky

Q: Can you give me any news about “Nashville”? It will be back for another season, correct? -- Damian R., via email

A: “Nashville” will indeed return to TNT this coming January for its sixth season (no exact date as yet). And don’t forget, if you don’t have TNT, you can catch each new episode of the show the day after air on Hulu.

I also have some casting news: **Josh Stamberg** has been cast in the recurring role of Darius, the extremely charismatic founder of a self-actualization movement that has transformed many lives. Also, musician/songwriter and acting newcomer **Jake Etheridge** has been cast in the recurring role of Sean, who is a recent military veteran suffering from severe PTSD who has yet to embrace his talent and passion for music. Also of note, in season five, Jake co-wrote six songs featured on the show, including “Burn to Dark” and “As the Crow Flies.”

Rainee Lyleson has been cast in the recurring role of Alannah, a beautiful singer-songwriter who starts out as a backup singer but soon will be discovered for the star she is meant to be. **Nic Luken** has been cast in the recurring role of Jonah Ford. Jonah is a famous male pop star who’s handsome, extremely confident and charming, exuding all the qualities of a superstar. And finally, **Dylan Arnold** has been cast in the recurring role of Twig, a childhood friend/entourage member to Jonah. Twig navigates this lifestyle by guarding his anxiety and pain with a caustic, brilliant sense of humor.

Q: Now that “The Catch” has been canceled, can you tell me what **Mireille Enos** is up to? -- Christina M., via Facebook



Peter Dinklage [Depositphotos]

A: Mireille has been cast as War, one the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, in **Neil Gaiman’s** upcoming television adaptation of his novel “**Good Omens.**” There’s a boatload of talent already on board for this project, including **Michael Sheen, David Tennant** and **Jon Hamm**. The series, which is now shooting in the U.K., is set for a 2019 premiere on Amazon Prime.

The versatile actress also is filming the HBO movie “**My Dinner with Herve,**” with **Peter Dinklage, Jamie Dornan, David Strathairn** and **Andy Garcia**. Peter portrays Herve Villechaize, co-star of “**Fantasy Island,**” the hit fantasy/drama series that ran on ABC from 1977 to 1984. Mireille plays Kathy Self, Herve’s longtime girlfriend.

READERS: A few weeks back, I mentioned the date for the season premiere of TNT’s “**The Librarians,**” which was supposed to be a two-episode premiere on Wednesday, Dec. 20. Well, the network is moving the launch date of the hugely popular fantasy series. Season four now will have a ONE-episode premiere on Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m. (ET/PT), with episode two making its debut the following Wednesday, and so on. Looks like Christmas will be coming even earlier for “The Librarians” fans.

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

FALL FASHION PREVIEW



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AT THE WOODBRIDGE CENTER

By Jeanette Glicksman



Cousins Olivia Brostrom, left, and Gabi Kline show off their trophy at the 24th Annual Harvest & Holly Fair sponsored by the Woodbridge Center. The third graders were “best overall winners” at the Kids’ Bake-off contest for their contribution of s’more cake.



Members of the Amity Dance Team perform during the 24th Annual Harvest and Holly Fair at the Woodbridge Center.

When we transition from November to December we slip from the ‘season of giving thanks’ to the ‘season of giving’. With that in mind I’d like to extend thanks to all those who helped make the annual Harvest & Holly fair a great community building success. We are grateful for the generosity of so many local businesses and the support of so many volunteers: Beth and Allen Heller, Laticrete International, Inc., Coachman Square - Woodbridge, the Woodbridge Rotary Club, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage - Woodbridge, Holli Shanbrom, Chris Lovejoy, Pat Cardozo, Harriet Cooper, Sheila Saltzman, April Stirling, Dahlia Coleman, and Thai Stories, Sunflower Farm, Pio of Italy Salon, Marjolaine Pastry Shop, Massaro Farm, Spectrum Salon, JCC of Greater New Haven, The Red Barn, Today’s Clothing, Amity Garden Center, D’Aniello’s Amity Bike, Wash & Wag Pet Grooming, Mio Salon, Planet Fitness, The Rinks at Shelton, Traditions Golf Club at Oak Lane, Amity Bowl, Bunny Village Child Development Center, People’s United Bank, North Haven Insurance Group, Evan’s Deli & Grocery, Restopedic, Country Companions Veterinary Services, Bethany Nursery Group, Billy’s Old Fashioned Ice Cream, Robyn Reilly-New York Life, Maplewood at Orange, Marrakech Inc., Perrotti’s, Quality Staffing Homemaker-Home Health Aid Agency, Bender Showrooms, Seabury Care Now, Miya’s Sushi Restaurant, Deli Delish, Planet Fitness, White Silo Farm & Winery, Wadsworth Museum, Stop & Shop, Blue Check Deli, Sam Ash Music Center, Olive Garden, Teddy B’s, Cilantro, Woodbridge Social, Antonio’s, Athenian Diner, Dean’s Salon, Dozo Asian Bistro, Grimaldi’s, Americana Cleaners, Dayton Street Pizza, Katz’s Deli, Orange Hills Golf Course, Silverbrook Wine & Spirits, Safari Stan’s,

Worldwide Fish & Pets, Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Department, Woodbridge Running Company, Hairs 2 You, Blue Sky Nails, The Write Approach, USS Chowder Pot III, Brookdale Woodbridge, Salon 1768, Spectrum Hair Salon, Gusto Trattoria Italian Restaurant, Brookside Market, VNA of South Central CT, The New Haven Symphony Orchestra, Maplewood of Orange., Annitta Ingraham—Realty Advisors of Connecticut, Lock, Stock & Barrel, New England Brewing Company, Sea Mist Thimble Island Boat Tour, AFSCME 1303-100, Dr. Guy Stella, Country Corner Family Restaurant, Bethany Veterinary Hospital and the Woodbridge Democratic Town Committee. Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers, Town employees and local donors who made this event a great success: the Holiday Fair Committee, the Craft Group, Human Services Commission members: Janet Ciarleglio, Susan Davidson, Mary Leigh Sabshin, Nancy Atwood, and Hyla and Barry Vine, Tony Anastasio and Paula Cofrancesco and the Woodbridge Rotary Club, Santa Claus, William Letsch and the Beecher Road School Brass Ensemble, Jen DiBlanda and the Amity Teen Center, The Leo Club, Emily Killian and the Amity Creative Theater Club, Teressa Diaz-Hennessey and Amity Dance Team members, Ms. Toto and Amity High School Photo students Grayson Barret-Carrington and Mallory Leite, Teresa Nakouzi and the Beecher Student Council, The Connecticut College ConnArtists a capella group, Kay and Harry Tuttle, Richard Zambano, Ruth Gibbons, Karen Chartoff, Frank Ciarleglio, Stephanie Ciarleglio, Betsy Quist, Toni Belenski, Mel Lucuk, Ellen McDonald, Human Services Department staff, TechniArt, United Illuminating, New England Conservation Services, the Friends of the Library,

Laurie Luce, Chris Sorenson, Carlos Torres and Anthony Berardasca and many volunteers who helped out on the day of the fair! Special recognition must be given to the outstanding Holiday Fair Chair Elaine Marcucio.

December Lunch Menu

Lunch is served Tuesdays and Fridays at the Center Café at 12:15 pm. The cost is \$3 for dine-in meals and \$4 for take-out. Reservations are requested. Meals include bread, juice, coffee/tea and dessert. Menu items: 12/1 Holiday Luncheon sponsored by the Rotary Club, 12/5 stuffed peppers with potatoes, 12/8 pasta fagioli soup & meatball grinders, 12/12 Hanukkah treats! spinach alfredo with chicken, 12/15 seafood cannoli, 12/19 Gingerbread cookie making, meatloaf with sweet potato and vegetable, 12/22 eggplant rollatini, 12/26 Closed, 12/29 New Year’s Eve Bash with Stuffed Shrimp with rice and other treats!

New! “Coffee at 10:00” Lecture Series - A bit of breakfast and a bit of knowledge!

December 20: Genealogy Methodology with Sheila McCreven and Mary Ellen Lucuk

January 24: Marijuana as Medicine with Southern CT Wellness & Healing Center

February 28: Getting your House Ready for Sale with Realtors Pat Cardozo, Holli Shanbrom and Debbie Schlegel.

Join us in the Center lounge to whet your curiosity and your appetite, RSVP requested.

Special Programming:

Annual Holiday Luncheon— Friday, December 1: Join us for a seasonal feast sponsored by our friends

at the Woodbridge Rotary Club. Lunch will be served at 12:15pm. Entertainment will be provided by Karin Wagner. There is no cost for this luncheon but reservations are required by November 27. Choice of entrée (seafood casserole or baked stuffed chicken breast) must be made at time of reservation.

Center Art Exhibit and Reception—Saturday, December 2 from 1:30 - 3:30 pm at the Woodbridge Library Friends’ Meeting room. The exhibit of watercolor, acrylic and oil paintings by the Woodbridge Center art group members will be in place through the month of December. Join us for wine and hors d’oeuvres.

Money Craft with Ellen McDonald—Wednesday, December 6, 2:30-4:00 pm. Learn how to turn monetary gifts into beautiful pieces of art! Eggnog and cookies will be served. RSVP required.

Bridge Defensive Strategies with Rita Brieger and Linda Chafkin—Thursday, December 7, 6:45-9 pm. RSVP with Center or instructors.

Entertainment with Ralph Sacco—Tuesday, December 12. Lunch program at 12:30 pm. Lunch begins at 12:15 pm, reservations are requested.

Gingerbread Cookie Decorating with New England Young at Heart—Tuesday, December 19 – 11 am- 12noon.

Breakfast Lecture Series: Genealogy Methodology with Sheila McCreven and Mary Ellen Lucuk—Wednesday, December 20 – 10 am in the lounge. Please RSVP.

Healthy Holiday Cooking Demo with Courtney Huggins sponsored by ShopRite—Thursday, December 21 – 1 pm. No cost, RSVP required by 12/14.

December 25 – Closed Christmas Day

See “Center” continued on Page 21

"Center" continued from Page 20

New Year Celebration!—Friday, December 29. Lunch program entertainment with John Paolillo at 12:30 pm. Lunch begins at 12:15 pm and reservations are requested.

To RSVP or for more information, call 203-389-3430 or email jglicksman@woodbridgect.org.

Ongoing Programming:

Pickleball: Meets Fridays in the Center Gym for group play from 12:30-3:30 pm. Self-scheduled hours are available for those who have paid annual fee of \$20. Interested players can make arrangements with other players or use our Doodle scheduling tool and drop in daily from 12:30 pm –2:15 pm Monday thru Thursday.

Exercise with Laurie: No exercise class for month of December. Class will resume on Jan. 2nd.

Kripalu Chair Yoga with Julie Luciani: Wednesdays at 11 am in the Center Gym. Classes include seated exercises, standing balance exercises and simple standing poses using a chair.

Book Club: The next meeting is De-

cember 19. This month's book is The Boat Rocker by Hajim. New members are always welcome-stop by the library to pick up your copy of the book at the Adult Services desk.

Friday Movies: Following lunch in the Center lounge at approximately 1 pm: 12/1 no movie, 12/8 Logan Lucky, 12/15 Viceroy's House, 12/22 Dunkirk, 12/28 Elf!

Ask the Nurse: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month 11 am-12:30 pm, blood pressure screenings, weight and conversation with a registered nurse from VNA Community Healthcare.

Duplicate Bridge: Mondays, 9:30 am, Center Café.

Bridge: The Center's Wednesday bridge group invites new members! Join the group for a friendly game of cards. No reservations necessary—just come down to the Center lounge at 1 pm.

Pinochle: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 1-4 pm, Center lounge. The group is always looking for new players and is willing to bring rusty players up to speed!

Mah-jong: Mondays and Fridays, 10 am, Center Building- room 11.

VOLUNTEERS AGE 55+ NEEDED

The Agency on Aging of South Central CT has volunteer opportunities for adults age 55+. Volunteers can tutor young children in reading in East Haven, Hamden & New Haven schools and afterschool programs (training provided), help frail seniors organize their monthly

bills, read with a child in a North Haven elementary school, or visit with a home-bound senior or a veteran.

For more information, call Cherie at 203-785-8533 x2907 or email volunteer@aoascc.org. Also, visit www.aoascc.org.

SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

Trial Run: Living on Social Security

If you've reached the age where you can collect Social Security and keep working without any reduction in your benefits, at some point you're going to wonder: When is it safe to retire? Before you let go of that paycheck, do a trial run.

Try to live for a period of time (at least six months) on just an amount that would equal your Social Security income should you retire. Use the rest of your work income to pay off all your bills and put some money aside.

To determine if Social Security will be enough, save every receipt and make a list of every single cent you spend. At the end of each month, divide your expenses into categories such as Basics, Fun, Needs, Wants or whatever applies to your lifestyle. Your Social Security should at least pay for basic monthly bills and medical care. Here's how to get started:

- Calculate which parts of your lifestyle you'll be able to continue. Club

membership with dues? Movies twice a month with lunch afterward? Investigate free activities and events in your area.

- Figure a monthly plan for your utilities. Take your last year of bills and divide by twelve to determine your monthly cost.
- Is your vehicle paid for? How about your cellphone? Pay them off with your work money.

- If you switch high-interest-rate credit cards to zero interest, how quickly can you pay off the balances?
- Investigate free services that are available to low-income seniors.
- Do you have enough clothing for the next year? Include winter gear and shoes, which can be big-ticket items. While you're practicing living on only Social Security, stock up.

Many seniors will have only Social Security benefits during retirement. The time to determine if that amount will be livable is before you actually stop working.

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles



Thanksgiving Day Breakfast
100% of the proceeds to benefit



November 23, 2017
6:00 AM-11:00 AM

321 Boston Post Rd
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\$12.00 per person (cash only)
2 pancakes & 2 eggs
Bacon or Sausage
Coffee or Tea

Start your Thanksgiving Day off with family, friends and all of us here at Chips as we help to support those in our community battling cancer and remembering those we love. **Please join us!!** No reservations required.

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HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS



5TH ANNUAL “HOLIDAY FANTASY OF TREES”

Presented By The Ladies Philoptochos Society

The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church announced details regarding the 5th annual HOLIDAY FANTASY OF TREES, to be held November 18 & 19. This 2-day celebration features Holiday treats, music, entertainment, mouthwatering Greek cuisine and a Raffle of beautifully decorated trees, wreaths, urns, and gifts. Get a jump on your shopping at our Holiday Marketplace. Held at the Social Hall of Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, HOLIDAY FANTASY OF TREES offers something for the entire family. This year in support of Connecticut Food Bank, we are asking attendees to bring a non-perishable food item to help feed our hungry neighbors in Connecticut.

A HOLIDAY FANTASY OF TREES includes:

Holiday Raffle – beautifully decorated trees, urns, wreaths, gifts and services sponsored/donated by area businesses (Drawing Sunday, November 19 - 4:30 pm). (Need not be present to win.)

Greek Cuisine – *Spanakopita* (spinach cheese pie), *Pastitsio* (layers of ground beef, macaroni, and a soufflé topping). *Moussaka* (layered eggplant baked with seasoned ground beef, topped with a béchamel sauce), *Avgoleme* (egg lemon chicken) Soup, *Keftedes* (Greek meatballs), *Chicken Souvlaki*, and Greek Salad.

Greek Pastry – *Baklava* (Filo, nuts, and butter topped with syrup), *Kourabiedes* (shortbread dusted with powdered sugar), *Finikia* (light, syrup-dunked walnut cookie), *Koulourakia* (braided cookie topped with sesame seeds). *Ryzogalo* (creamy rice pudding), and more.

Holiday Marketplace – Area Vendors present great gifts for the holidays!

Sweet Shoppe – Find delicious treats, unique ornaments, and gifts to celebrate the season

Dance Performances – “Pine Forest” Nutcracker by Little Wing Dancers, Lee Lund Studio (Saturday), Milford Performing Arts (Sunday)

Music Performances – Suzuki School of Music (Saturday, Sunday), Saint Barbara Choir

Santa’s Workshop – Santa (Rick George) will bring Santa’s Workshop to Saint Barbara Church - Photos with Santa (1:00 to 4:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday)

Food Drive – Drop off site for Connecticut Food Bank food collection

HOURS: 12 NOON to 8 PM on Sat.11/18; 12 NOON to 6 PM on Sun. 11/19. FREE ADMISSION and FREE PARKING (on-site). RAIN OR SHINE

INFO: 203-795-1347 or visit www.saintbarbara.org

HOLY INFANT CHURCH WOMEN’S GUILD EVENTS

The Holy Infant Church Women’s Guild is sponsoring a Family Advent Wreath Workshop on Sunday, December 3 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, in the Parish Center. Bring your family or come by yourself and create a live Advent wreath to take home and celebrate the season. The cost is \$10 per wreath; set of 4 Advent candles, an additional \$5.00. There is a limited quantity so pre-registration is recommended. To register, contact Donna Wesolowski - donnaweso@optimum.net or (203)799-3519.

The Women’s Guild Christmas Party will be on Monday, December 4th from 6:30 - 10:30 pm at Costa Azzura Restaurant in Milford. The cost is \$35 per person which includes a buffet dinner,



Holy Infant Church

wine, tax, and tip. Optional grab bag - \$5.00 limit. Reservations are due by November 27. Make checks payable to Holy Infant Women’s Guild and mail to Holy Infant Church, 450 Racebrook Road, Orange. Call (203)799-2379 for more information. Join us for some holiday fun!

CONGREGATION OR SHALOM SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Weekly Services

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

Coffee and Learn with the Rabbi

Every Wednesday (please call the office for schedule) Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus teaches an hour-long class devoted to the ancient texts of our heritage and the light they shed on the current issues. The class begins at 11:00 am and ends at 12 noon sharp. All Welcome. Starts November 15.

Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service

Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service, November 19th, at 7:00 pm. Congregation Or Shalom is hosting this year’s service. All are Welcome to attend. Clergy from all local Churches and Synagogues participate in the service. The service will be followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Adult Education Movie - Sunday, December 3, 2017, 2:00 pm “The Wedding Plan”

The Wedding Plan is a much-acclaimed Israeli film, opened in the U.S. in May, 2017 to glowing reviews. Its main character has won Best Actress award at a number of film festivals. Runtime: 110 minutes. Subtitles. The first in our winter film-series! Michal, a 32 year-old unwed ultra-Orthodox woman - a “spinster” by the standards of her community - is finally looking forward to



Congregation Or Shalom

marriage, when her fiancé suddenly calls the wedding off a month before the event. Mortified, and adamantly refusing to return to single life, Michal decides to continue with her wedding plan and leave it up to God to find her “bashert”! (destined one) She books a wedding hall, sends out invitations and buys a wedding dress, as her mother and sister look on dumbfoundedly. During Michal’s month-long search for a spouse, she goes on a series of disastrous blind dates while dismissing the pleas of her friends and family members that she reconsiders her misguided plan. As the day of the ceremony grows closer, Michal puts everything on the line to find happiness.

ZUMBA GOLD AT OR SHALOM

Congregation Or Shalom announces the continuation of ZUMBA GOLD on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 7 PM. ZUMBA Gold is an easy to follow dance movement program that incorporates music from every decade to create an upbeat and fun exercise class. Burn lots of calories, meet new friends, and have a blast. No experience needed and classes are on a drop-in basis. Contact Robin at zumbarobin@gmail.com or call 203-314-8176 or temple office at 203-799-2341.

Attention Churches, Synagogues & Houses of Worship!

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

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

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST WELCOMES NEW ORGANIST

We are pleased to announce that Nenad Ivovic joined the Music Ministry of the First Church of Christ Woodbridge as our new Organist on November 1st and we welcomed him to his first service on the 5th. Nenad is from Serbia and is currently doing graduate studies at the Yale School of Music. As well as playing organ, Nenad is an internationally award winning pianist. We look forward to Nenad sharing his many musical gifts with First Church.

Nenad is joining Faye Chen in our Music Ministry. Also an accomplished musician, Faye has shared her musical gifts with First Church for several years, most recently as Director the church's Bell Choir which she has led since 2004. In September of 2016 Faye also began directing the Senior Choir.

We invite everyone to come hear the wonderful music from our Music Ministry during the following Advent Special Events:

Saturday, December 2, Trimming Bee with wreath-making and children's activities beginning at 4 p.m., a potluck supper at 6:00 and lighting of the tree on the Church Green at 6:45 followed by carol singing.

Sunday, December 10, the Bell Choir will bring its special gifts to the 10 a.m. service and at 3 p.m. we open the Meeting House doors for the Annual Community Carol Sing for the entire family, followed by a reception in the Parish House. We are asking people to bring their singing voices to the Carol Sing and a new stuffed toy to be donated to the Toy Closet at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital.

Sunday, December 17, the annual Christmas Pageant will be held during



First Church of Christ

the 10 a.m. service.

Sunday, December 24, In addition to the 10 a.m. service, there will be a Christmas Eve service in the Meeting-house at 7 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 with lessons based on the life and teachings of Jesus.

Middle School Youth Group for 5th – 8th graders – The Youth group generally meets the 2nd Sunday of the month from 4 – 6 pm. In December, the Youth Group will be attending the Community Carol Sing and then gather in the Parish House for a meal & movie.

Confirmation Class for 7th-9th graders meets the first Sunday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the Parish House.

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

ORANGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NOV., DEC. SCHEDULE

Orange Congregational Church, located at 205 Meeting House Lane, welcomes you to join us for our upcoming holiday services. On Sunday, November 19th we will have regular worship services at 8 a.m. in the Chapel and 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary followed by fellowship hour with coffee and snacks.

An Open House for Ten Thousand Villages is being sponsored by the church and will take place at the store's location in New Haven on 1054 Chapel Street. Shopping for gifts there on November 19th from 1-5 p.m. will benefit a charity chosen by our Christian Service and Outreach team.

The annual Orange Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will take place on the evening of November 19th at 7:00 p.m. Our host this year will be Congregation Or Shalom at 205 Old Grassy Hill Road. Orange Congregational's junior choir director, Cynthia Chandler, will be leading a combined youth choir and the service will be led with joint participation from the Orange clergy.

Orange Congregational Church will begin Advent on Sunday, December 3rd with our annual Cookie Walk where you can purchase a box of homemade goodies after each worship service at 8 & 10 a.m. After the later service there



Orange Congregational Church

will also be an Alternative Gift Fair at coffee hour where, along with yummy snacks and coffee, there will be a Living Market for Heifer Project, crafts, quilting, and a 'Christmas Past' Bazaar. At four o'clock in the afternoon of December 3rd we will celebrate with a Handbell Concert & Carol Sing that is free and open to the public, followed by a Tree-lighting on the Orange Town Green.

On Sunday December 10th we will gather at 8 & 10 a.m. for Advent worship followed by a Leadership Council panel in the Sanctuary.

On Sunday December 17th we will have Advent services at 8 a.m. in the Chapel and also at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary, when the youth and children will put on a festive Christmas Pageant. After service, our Pilgrim Fellowship youth will go caroling. For more information or any questions, please call the church office at 203-795-9749.



CONGREGATION OR SHALOM TO HOST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Congregation Or Shalom will host this year's Orange Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 19, at 7:00 pm. Clergy from all local Churches and Synagogues will participate in the

service. Refreshments and fellowship to follow the service.

All are welcome to attend! 205 Old Grassy Hill Road Orange, CT 06477. Phone: 203-799-2341.



HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

CONGREGATION B'NAI JACOB ADULT EDUCATION EVENTS

Ongoing Classes With Rabbi Rona Shapiro

Jewish Values and the Israeli-Palestinian
Conflict with Rabbi Rona Shapiro

Monday nights, 7:30pm to 9pm, November 27; December 11; January 8, 22; February 12, 26; March 12, 26; April 9, 23. Join us as we explore one of the most divisive issues affecting the Jewish people today. The iEngage curriculum is produced by the Shalom Hartman Institute to facilitate difficult conversations about Israel. Participants will develop an understanding of the ideals which shape their political views and those of others. No experience necessary. Free to BJ members. \$100 non-members.

Wednesday Lunch & Learn
with Rabbi Rona Shapiro

Starting October 18, 12pm to 1pm.
Bring your lunch and join us for class



Congregation B'nai Jacob

with the rabbi! As we did last year, we will choose a topic of interest to the group.

Shabbat Lunch and Learn

Shabbat afternoons, following Kiddush

December 9 ~ Harry Schwartz, MD, Chief of Gastrointestinal Medicine, Griffin Hospital ~ Kishkes: Jews and Digestive Diseases ~ Are gastrointestinal disorders more common among Jews? Dr. Schwartz will offer a discussion including Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitis, Irritable Bowel and Colon Cancer.

JOIN US AT TRINITY CHURCH

Join us for Sunday School (all ages) at 9:10am and Worship Service at 10:30am. Sunday mornings at Trinity are a time we gather together to worship God, grow in Christ, and connect with one another. Come for an intergenerational, relational experience that is built around our core values of Worship, Discipleship, and Community.

"Remember Christmas" – Trinity Church is pleased to present an original musical that reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas. Come enjoy this performance with music by our Adult and Children's Choirs. Reception to follow. Friday, December 8 at 7PM and Saturday, December 9 at 3PM. Free admission. Tickets & more info at www.trinityefc.com/christmas.

Youth (7-12th grade): Youth Group meets Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm. Most activities are at church, but some are offsite or on weekends (bowling, hiking, fun!). For details and schedule of activities, visit www.trinityefc.com.



Trinity Church

trinityefc.com/youth or contact Youth Director Codi Bement at youthministry@trinityefc.com.

Adults: Ministry activities include bible study, retreats, prayer groups, special events and more! Visit www.trinityefc.com or contact Office Assistant Nancy Lindemann at nancyl@trinityefc.com for details.

Trinity Church is located at 33 Center Road, Woodbridge. For more information, contact the church office at trinityoffice@trinityefc.com or (203) 387-4711 x10. Also visit our website at www.trinityefc.com and check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/trinitychurchwoodbridge.

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD EVENTS

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd continues our First Tuesday's program of community, learning, service, and prayer starting at 6:45pm on Tuesday, December 5th at 6:45 pm.

What will it look like? First Tuesdays will begin at 6:45 with a contemporary topic from scripture discussion, followed by a service project, and ending with a simple time of night prayers and healing in the columbarium chapel off the parish hall.

Will I be welcome? All church members and the public are welcome at every liturgy of the Good Shepherd, and this is true for First Tuesdays. Designed to be family and child/youth friendly, people of all ages, manner of life, doubters, seekers, and believers are welcome. We aim to be finished by 8pm.

What do you mean by service? Each month we will either complete a service project on the spot or discuss a group visit to be of service at places like Loaves & Fishes, Spooner House, Beth El, etc.

What are night prayers? We'll be using the office of Night Watch to offer our prayers to the Holy One, and there will be an opportunity for anointing with oil for healing.

Why should I try First Tuesdays? Why not? Give it a try to see if it fits for you. Please contact the church at 203-795-6577 or email thegoodshepherd@optonline.net with any questions or join us in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, December 5th at 6:45 pm. All are welcome. Community service hours are available for students.

All are welcome at our Thanksgiving Eve Service with Holy Eucharist on Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:00 pm.

Good Shepherd Christmas Pageant Open To All Children

Children throughout the area are invited to participate in the annual Christmas pageant at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Orange. The pageant will be held on Sunday, December 17 at the 10 AM service. A holiday wassail party will follow the service. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn about the true meaning of Christmas. The church particularly encourages families who do not regularly attend services to participate. Children of all ages are welcome. Older children are needed for narration and speaking parts. There will be a rehearsal on Saturday, December 16 at 10 AM. Interested families may call the office or simply



Church of the Good Shepherd

show up to the rehearsal on December 16. Both the rehearsal and pageant will be held at the church which is located at 680 Racebrook Road in Orange. If you have any questions or require more information, please call the church office at (203) 795-6577.

Lifeline Screening

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd is pleased to host Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, offering its affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at The Church of the Good Shepherd on Wednesday, December 6th, 2017. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/advantagemembers.

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

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS AT OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH

The annual Christmas Concert performed by Our Lady of the Assumption combined Adults' and Children's Choirs and Instrumentalists will be held at the church on 81 Center Road in Woodbridge on Sunday, December 3rd at 4:00pm. Admission is FREE, and all are invited to enjoy an hour of beautiful Christmas music!



Our Lady of the Assumption Church

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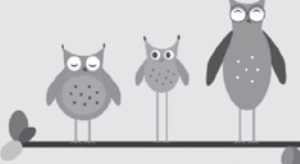
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SET AND STICK TO YOUR HOLIDAY BUDGET

The chance to give gifts and spend time with loved ones makes the holiday season a special time of year. But for many people, the holiday season often leads to overspending.

A 2016 survey from the American Research Group found that American shoppers anticipated spending an average of \$930 on gifts that holiday season. Data from T. Rowe Price confirms that parents are spending between \$400 and \$500 per child each year. In 2015, CPA Canada conducted a random phone survey of 1,004 adult Canadians and found the average adult planned to spend \$766 on holiday gifts.

Although these numbers can reflect an overwhelming sense of generosity, many times excessive spending is based on a desire to outdo gifting from the year prior — sometimes at the risk of personal finances. Some people are taking drastic measures to make holidays over-the-top, with some delving into emergency savings while others withdraw

prematurely from retirement accounts. Budgeting for the holiday season can help shoppers keep their finances in check.

Determine spending patterns: An examination of receipts and spending habits from previous holiday seasons can help individuals establish budgets for the current year. Make a list of all expenses — even the ones that extend beyond holiday giving. These may include expenses such as gym service fees, homeowner's insurance, traveling expenses, gift exchanges at work, and more. Extra costs can add up and should be factored into holiday budgets.



Try to recall if your spending last year felt comfortable or if you were paying off credit cards long after the holiday season had ended. If it's the latter, resolve to make adjustments.

Establish a budget that fits: There is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all budget. Figure out if there is extra money this season or if times are tight. This will help you plan accordingly and avoid overspending. Shifting priorities can help free up some cash. If children are interested in this year's hot (and likely expensive) gift, cut back on holiday travel or entertaining. Instead of buying gifts for coworkers, buy a drink during a night

out.

Use the holidays as an opportunity to sell: Collectibles, gently used toys, video games, action figures — all of these items may be collecting dust at your home, but they might be coveted by other shoppers. Rely on the season for spending to make some extra income that can be cashed in for your own holiday purchases.

Set up an account and track spending: Establish a separate account strictly for holiday spending. This can include a credit card only used for gifts and entertaining or a savings account at a bank or credit union. You won't know what is going out of your account unless you keep careful tabs on it. Tracking spending is the biggest key to sticking with a budget, according to the financial advice group The Balance.

Holiday budgeting can be challenging. But with some effort, it is possible to avoid debt and still enjoy a happy holiday season.

" I've always had fond memories of cooking Thanksgiving." — WYLIE DUFRESNE

ENTERTAINMENT

TOP 10 MOVIES

- 1. **Jigsaw (R)**
Matt Passmore, Tobin Bell
- 2. **Tyler Perry's Boo 2! A Madea Halloween (PG-13)**
Tyler Perry, Cassi Davis
- 3. **Geostorm (PG-13)**
Gerard Butler, Jim Sturgess
- 4. **Happy Death Day (PG-13)**
Jessica Rothe, Israel Broussard
- 5. **Blade Runner 2049 (R)**
Harrison Ford, Ryan Gosling
- 6. **Thank You for Your Service (R)**
Haley Bennett, Miles Teller
- 7. **Only the Brave (PG-13)**
Josh Brolin, Miles Teller
- 8. **The Foreigner (R)**
Katie Leung, Jackie Chan
- 9. **Suburbicon (R)**
Matt Damon, Julianne Moore
- 10. **It (R)**
Bill Skarsgard, Jaeden Lieberher

TOP 10 VOD

- 1. **Spider-Man: Homecoming (PG-13)**
Tom Holland
- 2. **Girls Trip (R)**
Regina Hall
- 3. **Baby Driver (R)**
Ansel Elgort
- 4. **The House (R)**
Will Ferrell
- 5. **Wonder Woman (PG-13)**
Gal Gadot
- 6. **Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales (PG-13)**
Johnny Depp
- 7. **The Beguiled (R)**
Nicole Kidman
- 8. **The Big Sick (R)**
Kumail Nanjiani
- 9. **Transformers: The Last Knight (PG-13)**
Mark Wahlberg
- 10. **Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie (PG)**
animated

- 1. Who released "Hopelessly Devoted to You"?
- 2. Which artist wrote and released "Matthew and Son"?
- 3. What is that weird-sounding instrument in the opening scenes of "Black Sails"?
- 4. Who had a hit with "Breakin' in a Brand New Broken Heart"?
- 5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I know I was wrong, But, I was just a fool, Too blind to see, You were the only girl for me."



The song laments people who stay at low-wage jobs, afraid to ask for raises. 3. The hurdy gurdy. On the ancient instrument a crank turns a wheel that rubs against strings, which ends up sounding a lot like a bagpipe. 4. The song reached the Top 10 in both the U.S. and U.K. Nash's career began in the 1950s and includes several film credits. His recording company was the first to sign Bob Marley & The Wailing Wailers in Jamaica.

SPORTS QUIZ

By Chris Richcreek

- 1. Who holds the major-league record for most home runs by a rookie shortstop?
- 2. In a 2016 game, each member of the Cleveland Indians starting infield hit a home run. The last time the Indians did that was 1941. Name two of the four infielders who did it then.
- 3. In the history of the Rams franchise, three running backs gained 1,000 or more yards in their rookie season. Name two of them.
- 4. Which Big 12 Conference rival ended the Kansas men's basketball team's 51-game winning streak at Allen Fieldhouse in 2017?
- 5. The first round of the 2017 Stanley Cup playoffs set a record for most overtime games in NHL history. How many?
- 6. The U.S. set a record for overall medal count at a non-boycotted Olympics with 121 at the 2016 Summer Olympics. At what Olympics did the U.S. set its previous best?
- 7. Who was the last men's golfer to win back-to-back U.S. Opens?

1. Boston's Nomar Garciaparra, with 30 in 1997. 2. Hal Trosky. Ray Mack. Lou Boudreau and Ken Keltner. 3. Eric Dickerson (1983), Jerome Bettis (1993) and Todd Gurley (2015). 4. Iowa State. 5. Eighteen overtime games. 6. The U.S. won 110 medals in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. 7. Curtis Strange, in 1988-89.



Charlize Theron in "Atomic Blonde" [Focus Features]

EDITOR'S NOTE: DVDs reviewed in this column are available in stores the week of November 13, 2017.

PICKS OF THE WEEK

"Atomic Blonde" (R) -- In a coterie of ruthless spies, Lorraine Broughton (Charlize Theron) reigns supreme -- a vixen with literally killer stilettos, endless style, smarts and the brawn to back it up a mile. And that's what she does -- in satisfyingly unending fight sequences and all the gritty action you came for. After a colleague is killed, she is sent in from MI6 to Berlin to assist the local chief (James McAvoy) in ferreting out a double agent and retrieving a master list of operatives that's been

stolen. International spy rules apply, so trust no one. John Goodman and Sofia Boutella also star.

"Wind River" (R) -- Set in the frozen desolation of Wind River, a Wyoming Indian reservation with a brutal real-life reputation, FBI agent Jane Banner (Elizabeth Olsen) is sent to investigate the death of a Native American woman found in the icy mountain terrain by wildlife agent Cory Lambert (Jeremy Renner). As the two piece together her story, they are presented with both the strength and vulnerability that result from living in such remoteness. Written and directed by Taylor Sheridan ("Hell or High Water," "Sicario"), this film is a master class in nuanced character study and bone-chilling tension. You'll be drawn in from the start, and by the time the action comes, you'll be absolutely frozen to your seat.

"Brigsby Bear" (PG-13) -- Corny and a little weird, but somehow unexpectedly sweet, "Brigsby Bear" is the story of James (Kyle Mooney), who was abducted as a baby, raised underground and cut off from the world but for an educational children's show about the titular bear. After James is rescued and reunited with his birth family -- and finds out that the show he is obsessed with was made exclusively for him by his underground "Dad" (Mark Hammill) -- he begins to equate the resurrection and resolution of the show as necessary to his assimilation into real life. He is joined in his mission by a cast of characters, among them Greg Kinnear as the local detective on his case, Ryan Simpkins as his new sister Aubrey, and Jorge Lendeborg Jr. as her filmmaker friend Spencer.

Sudoku answers on page 28

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

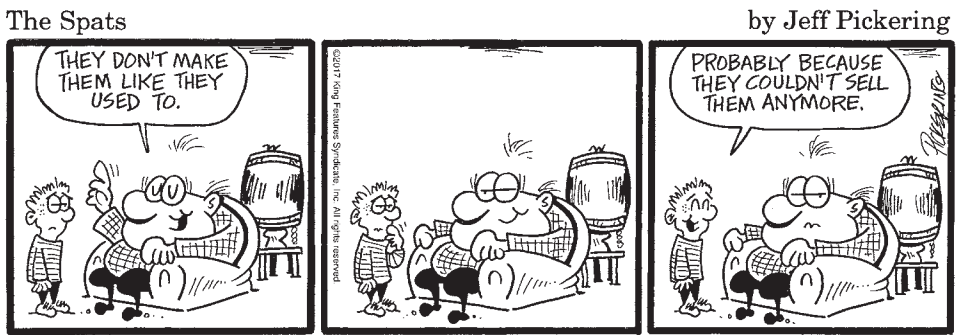
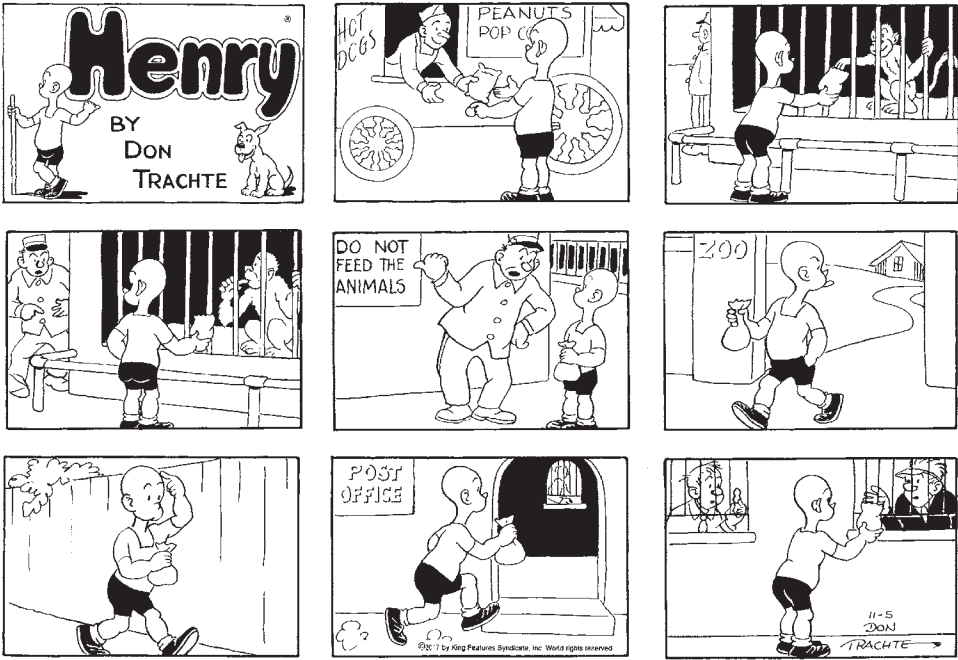
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		8	7			5		
3				2			4	
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		3			1	2		
	7		8					1
7				1			8	
2		9	4					5
	1				2	9		

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



King Crossword

ACROSS

1 AAA job
4 Fed. purchasing org.
7 Hindu garment
8 Intended
10 Takes to the waves
11 Sweater material
13 Paycheck recipients
16 Still
17 Partners
18 By way of
19 Nerd-pack fill
20 Take five
21 Polecat
23 Bank feature
25 Kind
26 Fork part
27 Commotion
28 Enraged
30 Illuminated
33 One-on-one sites in church
36 Esprit de corps
37 Screwdriver ingredient
38 Construction fastener
39 Previous nights
40 Understand

DOWN

1 Fortune teller's deck
2 "Carmina Burana" composer
3 Magi
4 Aladdin's ally
5 Starch yielding palms
6 In due time
7 Certain
8 Spars
9 Go places
10 Agent
12 Preferred invitees
14 Foundered
15 Perched
19 Deposit
20 Regret
21 Gomorrah's sister city
22 Swedish money
23 Henry —
24 Massachus-

etts city
25 Pouch
26 Boob tube
28 Go
29 Archipelago part
30 Burdened
31 Types
32 Airport safety org.
34 Icebox, for short
35 PBS science show

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HOLLYWOOD

By Tony Rizzo

Clint Eastwood is so confident as a director, he's cast the actual non-actor heroes -- California friends Anthony Sadler, Alek Skarlotos and Spencer Stone -- to play themselves, re-creating when they took down a terrorist on a train to Paris. Supporting them are Jenna Fisher (of "The Office"), Judy Greer ("The Planet of the Apes" franchise) and Ray Corsani, as the terrorist. Eastwood's decision to go with the real guys was made just before shooting began in July. It's a risk, but will be very exciting to watch. "The 15:17 to Paris" opens Feb. 9.



Clint Eastwood [Depositphotos]

Who is Bill Skarsgard, and why did his recent film, "It," gross \$654 million? Skarsgard plays Pennywise in the film of Stephen King's novel, which was already a mini-series in 1990. Skarsgard, 27, recently completed "Assassination Nation," with Joel McHale, Maude Apatow (daughter of Judd Apatow and Leslie Mann) and Anika Nani Rose.

Bill Skarsgard comes from a famous Swedish film family. His father, Stellan Skarsgard, is best known for "Mamma Mia" (2008) and will be in the upcoming sequel. Bill's three brothers are all stars of the Swedish cinema. Alexander Skarsgard (41) is known for "The Legend of Tarzan" (2016), the HBO series "True Blood" (2008-14) and his recent Emmy-winning role in "Big Little Lies." His brother Gustaf (36) has starred since 2013 in The History Channel's "Vikings" (which returns for another season Nov. 29) and youngest brother Valter (21) already has appeared in 15 Swedish films.

Cary Elwes became a star after "The Princess Bride" (1987) and starred in "Glory" (1989), "Days of Thunder"

(1990), "Hot Shots" (1991) and Mel Brooks' comedy-satire "Robin Hood: Men in Tights" (1993) to name a few. He co-stars in his producer-brother Cassian Elwes' film "The Billionaire Boys Club," with Ansel Elgort, Taron Egerton, Kevin Spacey, Emma Roberts and Judd Nelson, which began shooting in December 2015 in New Orleans, wrapped in January 2016, did reshoots in November 2016 and is finally ready for release in 2018.

Many tourists who've visited Hollywood are fed up with those phony tours of the stars' homes. Many tourists are choosing instead to see the final resting place of some of the greatest stars who ever lived. Hollywood Forever's tours allow fans to visit the resting places of stars such as Rudolf Valentino, Peter Lorre, Oscar-winner Peter Finch, Mickey Rooney, Tyrone Power and "Golden Girl" Estelle Getty, to a few. But the crown jewel is the newly created mausoleum that houses Judy Garland, who last year was moved from New York and returned to Hollywood! It's not quite "Over the Rainbow," but at least it's Hollywood Forever, and they include Toto, too, in the tour!



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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

	T	O	W			G	S	A					
	S	A	R	I		M	E	A	N	T			
S	U	R	F	S		A	N	G	O	R	A		
P	R	O	F	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	L	S	
Y	E	T		M	A	T	E	S		V	I	A	
			P	E	N	S				R	E	S	T
	S	K	U	N	K		V	A	U	L	T		
S	O	R	T			T	I	N	E				
A	D	O		L	I	V	I	D		L	I	T	
C	O	N	F	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	L	S	
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		R	I	V	E	T		E	V	E	S		
		G	E	T				R	A	N			

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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Woodbridge Town News

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Happy Thanksgiving

LOCAL SPORTS



Left to right: Gemma Cannon, Andy Wright and Jon Wills.



Dale Barker after finishing his 1500m.

FOUR MEDALS AT THE NATIONALS FOR 21ST CENTURY SWIMMERS

Four swimmers who all trained at the 21st Century early morning sessions at the Deben Leisure Centre competed at the England National Masters Swimming Championships at Sheffield on 27th-29th October and all of them bought home a medal.

Dale Barker (Team Anglia) swimming in the 55-59 years age long distance events earned bronze in the 1500 metres and 4th place in the 800m with two superb swims.

Andy Wright (Stowmarket) clinched a silver medal in the 60-64 years 400m individual medley by a very narrow margin of 0.39 seconds. Wright had a trio of 4th places in the 100m backstroke, 200m

back and 200m butterfly, was 8th in the 200m IM and 10th in the 100m IM.

Gemma Canon was 8th in the 25-29 years 200m back, 14th in the 400m freestyle, 15th in the 50m back and 36th in the 50m freestyle.

Jon Wills in the 50-54 years category was 15th in the 100m breaststroke, 16th in the 400m freestyle, 24th in the 50m fly and 41st in the 50m freestyle.

Both Cannon and Wills joined fellow Felixstowe swimmers Adam Spear and Suzanne Adams to power to bronze medals in the Men's/Women's Open 200m Medley 120 years + Team Relay.

We look forward to the Deben Leisure Centre reopening next summer.



GUIDE TO COMFORTABLE HOLIDAY SHOPPING

During the period between Black Friday and Super Saturday, millions of people flock to stores or shop online in order to meet their holiday deadlines. The National Retail Federation states that, during the holiday retail season of 2016, spending was up by 4 percent over the same period in 2015, and \$658.3 billion was spent from November through December.

Consumers have more options today than ever before when shopping for holiday gifts. Shoppers about to get into the holiday shopping swing of things can make the process more comfortable in various ways.

Swap Black Friday for Cyber Monday: According to NRF's Cyber Monday Expectations Survey conducted by Prosper Insights Analytics, 122 million Americans planned to shop online on Cyber Monday in 2016. Millions of people recognize that stores are using all means possible to increase sales. Online deals can be too good to pass up, and shoppers don't even need to leave the comfort of their homes to shop. Early morning is the busiest time for online shopping, so if you're worried about retailer site slowdowns, opt for early or late evening to make purchases. Many retailers preview deals for both Black Friday and Cyber Monday, so you can make a list of what to buy to streamline shopping.

Use a ridesharing service: Take

the hassle out of endlessly circling mall parking lots looking for parking spots by taking a cab or ridesharing service to the stores. Drivers can drop you off right at the main entrance, which can increase safety and comfort, particularly on the way home when you have packages in tow.

Dress appropriately: Wearing too much clothing can leave you feeling overheated and uncomfortable in crowded retail centers. Skip the heavy coat and layer clothing instead. This way you can shed layers as necessary to remain comfortable. Wear flats or walking shoes to protect your feet. Consider bringing along a rolling beach cart so that packages do not weigh you down.

Pack nutritious snacks: Hunger can try your patience, which doesn't bode well when holiday shopping. Eat well before visiting the store and bring along filling, nutritious snacks, such as trail mix or edamame, so you don't have to navigate crowded food courts when hunger strikes.

Build in breaks: Whether shopping at home or in-store, take breaks from marathon shopping to relax. Too much focus on spending can impede your ability to enjoy all the wonders of the holiday season. Plan shopping sessions around dining out, visiting or sightseeing.

Holiday shopping can be less of a chore when shoppers prioritize comfort.

Woodbridge Town News

SUBMIT YOUR LOCAL SPORTS PHOTOS, ARTICLES & SCHEDULES

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BARK BYTES...

By Vicki & Richard
Horowitz



WHY WON'T MY DOG
LISTEN TO ME?

Do you ever wonder... "Why won't my dog listen to me?" The simple answer is because the dog doesn't understand what you are saying and you could be confusing your dog.

The foundation of our behavioral is all about communication - voice tones and body language. For thousands of years, this is how dogs have communicated with each other. Dogs behave consistently in response to certain triggers. Unfortunately, it is often humans causing the problems when inconsistent commands are issued or rules are not consistently applied.

Just remember that your dog really wants to please you. But if you are not communicating clearly, he just doesn't know how.

Why Your Dog Doesn't Listen

When your dog is not listening to you it may be because you are confusing him by using inconsistent commands and failing to praise his success. For instance, you may say "no" to your dog, your partner may say "stop" and your children may simply call his name. All of you use different voice tones, some being high pitched and others being low.

There may even be different rules throughout your household. Some of you may allow your dog on the couch, some don't, or you find yourself not correcting your dog when you are tired. Some may sneak him table scraps yet you don't want him begging at the dinner table. Some may allow him to jump up, some may only discourage him when they're in nice clothes or the dog is muddy. All of these inconsistencies result in a very confused dog!

Getting Your Dog To Listen

You must use simple, clear and consistent commands, and always follow with praise. Want your dog to sit? "Sit" is the command followed by "good boy" with everyone in the family using the same command. Don't alter the phrase by saying "you need to sit" or "sit down please". You will only confuse your dog with too many different words. If you have a puppy and your dog doesn't know what "sit" means, then you can use some gentle manual pressure to place your dog in the sit position, accompanied

by the word "sit" and then praise when he sits. Your dog will quickly catch on to the idea.

Do not get into the rat race of giving your dog a treat every time he sits or he will begin to expect it. Not only will your dog become overweight from all the treats, but you'll have to carry treats around in your pockets at all times. Treat training can produce short results. You are trying to get your dog to listen to you forever and a day!

Also remember that the dog's name is not a command. So, if you are calling your dog by shouting his name over and over again, your dog will hear what you are saying but not understand what you want him to do. He may come to you or not. He may come to you this time if he thinks you have something for him, but this command may not work outdoors with interesting people, dogs and smells. Decide on a recall command such as "come" and use it consistently whenever and wherever you want your dog to come to you. Don't forget the praise so that he understands he is doing the right thing.

Your dog will listen to you once you learn to communicate with him clearly and consistently. Write down your commands so that everyone in the family follows them. Don't allow variables to creep in.

Once your dog has mastered the basics of obedience training and responds to "come", "sit", "stay", etc. you can move on to more advanced behavior training.

Thanksgiving Foods Your
Dog Should Avoid

- Turkey Skin and Undercooked Turkey Meat
- Stuffing and Gravy
- Green Bean Casserole
- Turkey Bones
- Bread Dough and Cake Batter
- Mashed Potatoes
- Walnuts and Macadamia Nuts
- Pumpkin and Sweet Potato Pie

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



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your work on a recent job assignment is impressive and is sure to be noticed. Meanwhile, expect to receive news about an upcoming holiday event you won't want to miss.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Saving the world one person at a time is what you were born to do. So accept it when people ask you for help, especially during the holiday season.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Now that you've resolved all doubts about an important decision, you can surprise a lot of people by defending your stand with your strong and well-reasoned arguments.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The holiday mood stirs your need to nurture everyone from the family cat to great-grandma. But don't overdo it, especially with teens, who like to feel grown up.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Enjoy basking in the warm love of family and close friends. But don't fall into a prolonged catnap yet. There's still much to do before you can put up your paws and relax.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Avoid pushing others to work as hard as you do on a common project. Instead, encourage them to do their best, and they might well reward you with a pleasant surprise.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Like the sensible Libra you are, you no doubt started your holiday shopping already. But be careful to keep within your budget. Shop around for the best buys.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Love and friendship remain strong in your aspect over the next several days. This is a good time to develop new relationships and strengthen old ones.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A beloved family member has news that will brighten your holidays. Also expect to hear from friends who had long since moved out of your life.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family and friends are in for a surprise when you accept the need to make a change without being talked into it. (Bet it surprised you, too -- didn't it?)

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Restoring an old friendship might not be as easy as you hoped. You might want to explore the reasons for your former buddy's reluctance to cooperate.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your party-going activities pick up as the holiday season takes off. Enjoy your plunge into the social swim as you make new friends and renew old friendships.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are caring and considerate -- two wonderful attributes that endear you to people of all ages.

SHOULD PETS IN CARS BE RESTRAINED?

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: What do you think of the law in the U.K. that fines drivers up to \$6,580 for having their pets unrestrained in the car? Isn't that the perfect example of government overreach? -- Chuck G., El Paso, Texas

DEAR CHUCK: That is a hefty fine, but I understand why the law is on the books. While some dogs are comfortable sitting unrestrained in a back seat or passenger seat, so they can put their head out the window (you never see an unhappy dog doing that, ever), many pets have a hard time sitting comfortably as the car moves about.

Unrestrained, dogs may slide around, fall onto the floor and otherwise be stressed by the ride. Some may get really agitated and clamber around in the car, distracting you. I know from experience how difficult

it is to keep a car on the road when a cat panics, climbs up the fabric of the back of the driver's seat, and sinks both front claws into your shoulder.

And of course, if there's an accident and your pet is unrestrained, serious injury can result. Your pet will crash into objects inside the car, or be thrown completely out of the car.

The U.K. isn't alone in enacting legislation to restrain pets in moving cars. Nine U.S. states have laws on the books as of June 2017, Orvis.com reports. Each law has different requirements and penalties, but all agree that an unrestrained pet can contribute to distracted driving or an obstructed view.

Regardless of your state's law, keep your pet safe by making sure it is either in a carrier or a pet-specific seat restraint when you drive.



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

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



"Are you sure that's a duck call you're using?"

THE CASHIER

BY RICARDO GALVÃO



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

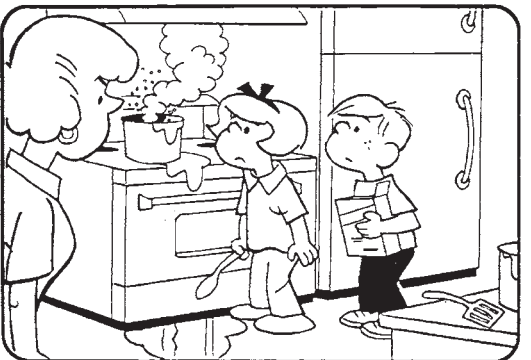


top ten

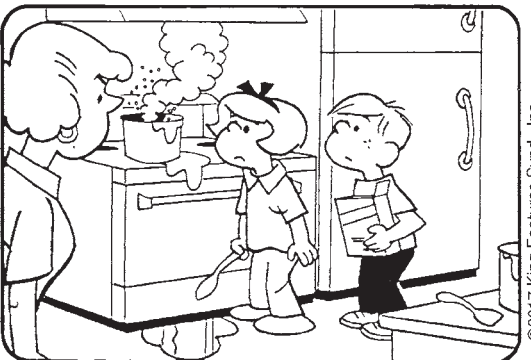


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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The Garden Bug



The Red and Green Kangaroo Paw plant (*Anigozanthos manglesii*) is a newer addition to the selection of plants marketed during the holiday season. Native to western sections of Australia, it displays striking red and green coloring, and may be found by the name "kanga plant" or "reindeer paws" in the United States. Water the Kangaroo Paw freely in spring and summer, but keep almost dry in winter.

Sources: www.gardeningknowhow.com, wikiwand.com, www.theflowerexpert.com

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