



News and Events

April 2017

Preliminary Budget Hearing is April 17

On Monday, April 17, 2017, at 7:30 pm, the Board of Finance will conduct a Public Hearing at the Center Gym regarding the FY 2017-18 budget. We invite you to share your questions, comments, and concerns. Following the hearing, the Board of Finance may further review and modify the budget before its final recommendation to the Town at the Annual Town Meeting on May 15.

The budget includes three categories of spending: (1) our Town's share of the Amity Regional School District's operating costs, capital improvements, and debt service; (2) Beecher Road School operating costs; and (3) all remaining Town functions, capital improvements, and Town debt service. Also included, for general planning purposes, are potential six year capital projects.

Of the three spending categories, Amity and Beecher budgets see increases: 3.13% for Amity Regional School Dis-

trict, 3.26% for Beecher Road School.

Spending for all remaining Town functions decreases by .47%. The reductions required tough choices, but were made with Woodbridge taxpayers' best interests in mind.

This preliminary budget would result in a tax increase of 1.31% for the average Woodbridge household, or about \$160.

The mill rate for motor vehicles has been capped by the State at 32.00 mills. This has put upward pressure on our real property and business personal property mill rate: 39.44. Your tax bill is based on the assessed value of your home, business personal property and motor vehicle(s) multiplied by the applicable mill rate.

By mid April, copies of the preliminary budget will be available at Town Hall, the Library and the Town website.

Ellen Scalettar, First Selectman

Town Elections are May 1; Amity Budget is May 3

Elections will be held Monday, May 1, at Center School Gym (4 Meetinghouse Lane) from 6 am to 8 pm. The First Selectman, Board of Selectmen and other elected boards will be on the ballot.

The new Accessible Voting System (AVS) will be operational for use by any voter, including voters with impaired vision or hearing, and those with difficulty marking a paper ballot with a pen. Using AVS, voters mark ballots using a touch screen or headphones and keypad. Voters with difficulty leaving their car may request curbside voting upon arrival.

Voters physically unable to get to the polls may vote by absentee ballot. Applications are available at the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall. The Registrars of Voters offer assisted absentee balloting at the local assisted living facilities.

All citizens who are Woodbridge residents are eligible to register and vote in the municipal election. Voters may check their registration status on the Secretary of State website (ct.gov/sots) under "elections and voting" or by calling the

Registrars at 203-389-3408.

Eligible residents may register online at voterregistration.ct.gov, by mail with forms available on the Town's website or at Town Hall, or in person at Town Hall at the Registrars of Voters office on Wednesdays, 9 am to 1 pm or at the Town Clerk's office 8:30 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday.

The deadline for advance voter registration is April 24. Registrations must be completed online, received in person, or postmarked by that date. Those who become eligible (via age, citizenship, residency) after April 24 may register until April 28. Those who do not register before the deadline may do so on Election Day at the Election Day Registration location in the Senior Center Cafeteria, next door to the gym.

The Amity Budget Referendum is Wednesday, May 3, at the Center School Gym from 6 am to 8 pm. In addition to registered voters, nonresidents with property on the most recent Grand List assessed in excess of \$1,000 may also vote on the budget referendum.





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First Selectman Visits Homewood Acres



have fond memories of playing golf in their backyard as children. Today, the course is maintained by Cindy's spouse, Dan McKee, and Mike.

The course is membership-based with annual fees. Prospective members can apply at any time of year

First Selectman Ellen Scalettar recently visited Homewood Acres, a family owned and operated golf course located on Racebrook Road.

Siblings Cynthia Baldwin (Cindy) and Malcolm Baldwin Jr. (Mike) explained that their 50 acre 18-hole course started as their grandparents' neighbor's putting green. It grew to include six greens and nine tees that crisscrossed between the two properties. Later, the Baldwin family expanded it into the 18-hole course it is today.

Cindy and Mike (pictured with First Selectman Scalettar)

and are given a tour and a free round to familiarize themselves with the course before becoming members.

Homewood Acres is not like a traditional golf course: Greens are mowed every other day instead of daily, there are no tee times and members can play at their own pace any time of day, any time of year.

"There's a real family feel to this. You're so unique in your model," said Scalettar.

For more information, visit homewoodacres.com.

Read the full story on the Town website business page.

DPW Offers Bulk Pick Up

The Department of Public Works began Bulk Pick Up (by appointment only) in March. Appointments can be scheduled through the Public Works Office by calling 203-389-3420.

We ask that residents use this service one time per year to allow for everyone to take advantage of this program. Residents will need to provide a list of items they are placing out for pick up.

Scheduled pick ups are Tuesdays between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm. Items for pick up should be large household items that don't fit in the trunk of a car such as: large furniture and appliances, gas grills, lawn mowers, carpeting, bed frames and the like. No brush, demolition, recycling or hazardous materials are permitted. There is a \$10 charge for Freon appliances (A/C & refrigerators) which must be pre-paid at the Public Works Department, 15 Meetinghouse Lane.

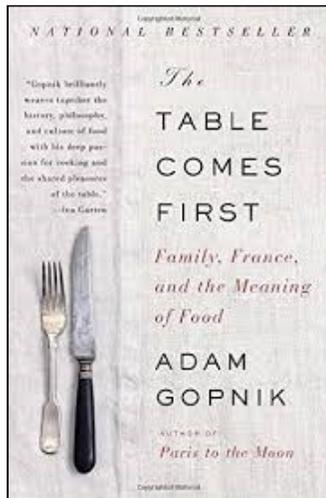
Bulk pick up is offered March to May, October and November.

Announcing One Book, One Town

This year we have selected “The Table Comes First: Family, France, and the Meaning of Food” by Adam Gopnik as our One Book, One Town selection.

Gopnik takes us on a beguiling journey in search of the meaning of food in our lives as he charts America’s recent and rapid evolution from commendably aware eaters to manic, compulsive gastronomes.

Throughout, he reminds us of a time-honored truth often lost amid our newfound gastronomic pieties and certitudes: What goes on the table has never mattered as much to our lives as what goes on around the table — the scene of families, friends, lovers coming together, or breaking apart; conversation across the simplest or grandest board. This, ultimately, is who we are.



Copies of this book are available for checkout at the Circulation Desk.

Join us in reading and in our One Book Events:

Sat., May 6 — Metal Spoon Stamping (ages 14 and up) @ 11 am

Tue., May 9 — Connecticut Food and Wine Cooking Demonstration with Robin Glowa @ 7 pm

Wed., May 10 — Connecticut Food and Wine Lecture with local authors Eric Lehman and Amy Nawrocki @ 7 pm

Thu., May 11 @ 7 pm — Chef Bun Lai of Miya’s Sushi will be talking about the food at Miya’s as well as owning/running a family restaurant and his farm in Woodbridge! Samples will be served as well!

Wed., May 17 — book discussion with Christine Scarfuto, literary agent at Long Wharf Theatre in the Library Meeting Room @ 7pm

Thu., May 25 — Woodbridge Night at Long Wharf Theatre. Purchase tickets for this evening’s performance of *The Most Beautiful Room in New York* and join the Library for a pre-show reception with hors d’oeuvres @ 6:30 pm.

Ann Nyberg to deliver Purves Lecture

You may have welcomed WTNH anchor Ann Nyberg into your home over the past 30 years — now it’s your turn to welcome her to Woodbridge on Saturday, April 22, at 1 pm.

Ann will be speaking about her latest book, “Remembering Katharine Hepburn: Stories of Wit and Wisdom.”

The book is a sweet and captivating look at a woman who was an inspiration for many and whose legacy endures. From tales from her beloved Fenwick here in Connecticut to her time as an actress, endearing memories of Kate are recounted that highlight her individuality, confidence, determination, and zest for life!

Copies of the book will be available for sale and signing. Please register — space is limited.

The Purves Lecture is an annual event co-sponsored by The Friends of the Woodbridge Town Library. The lecture series was created by the Purves family to memorialize Marjorie Purves, a past Friends member, to perpetuate her love of books, great literature and most importantly, to share this love with the Woodbridge community.



Upcoming Programs

Mon., 4/3 — Yale Science Diplomats Present “This Is Your Brain on Gaming” @ 7 pm

Tue., 4/4 — Garden Club of Woodbridge Meeting & Ikebana Demonstration @ 7 pm

Wed., 4/5 — “Designing the Cutting Garden” Workshop with Donna Rapino of Diva Fiore @ 6:30 pm

Thu., 4/6 — Film Screening: *Moonlight* @ 7 pm

Thu., 4/13 — Film Screening: *Hidden Figures* @ 7 pm

Wed., 4/19 — Art of the New Century Lecture with Marcie Slepian @ 2 pm

Thu., 4/20 — Film Screening: *Remember* @ 7 pm

Sat., 4/22 — Ann Nyberg, Author Event: “Remembering Katharine Hepburn” @ 1 pm

Tue., 4/25 — Book Discussion of “The Table Comes First” by Adam Gopnik @ 11 am

Wed., 4/26 — Outdated Ads Lecture with Stephen Spignesi @ 7 pm

Thu. 4/27 — Film Screening: *Lion* @ 7

For details on these and other events, visit Woodbridge.lioninc.org

Local Author to Speak on Outdated Advertising

Join local author Stephen Spignesi for a wild ride through more than 100 years of advertisements—ads that could not or would not be printed today!

On Wednesday April 26 at 7 pm Spignesi will discuss “Outdated Advertising: Memories from a Less-than PC Era.”

Spignesi will present a lecture and slideshow of actual advertisements from 1850 through the 1980s



that illustrate how society has changed and powerfully demonstrates what, until a short while ago, was universally acceptable!

Space is limited for this event.

Please call the

Circulation Desk at 203-389-3433 or register online at www.woodbridge.lioninc.org

Science in the News: Your Brain on Gaming

Join the Yale Science Diplomats as they explore the physics, biology, and psychology of video games on Monday April 3 at 7 pm.

Following a discussion of how video game designers (and our own eyes!) bring Mario out of the 2D screen world and into our 3D world, we will take a deep look at the overall impact of video games on our physical health as well as our cognitive, emotional, and social states.

As always, Science in the News

is brought to you by the Yale Science Diplomats, a group of Yale graduate students and post-docs dedicated to science communication, policy, and outreach. Refreshments will be provided.

Science in the News is a free, public lecture series given by Yale graduate students that aims to deconstruct complex scientific topics and explain them in a way that is easy

to understand.

Please register online or call the Circulation Desk at 203-389-3433.



Children's Events

Saturday, April 1 — **Pumpnickel Puppets present “The Frog Prince” @ 11 am**



Above: Pumpnickel Puppets. Below: an Eurasian Eagle Owl

Wednesday, April 12 — **Animal Embassy** ages 4 and up @ 2 pm
Take a journey around the globe with Animal Embassy! Families will meet incredible Animal Ambassadors representing diverse habitats such as an Eurasian Eagle Owl and an African Crested Porcupine.



Saturday, April 8 – **Celebrate Spring craft** for grades 2 and up @ 3pm

Thursday, April 20 – **Series Club** for grades 2-4 @ 6:30pm

Saturday, April 22 – **Earth Day craft** for grades K and up @ 2pm

Ongoing Children's Programming

Storycraft (grades K-3) Tuesdays @ 6:30pm

Baby Rhyme Time (0-18 months) Wednesdays @ 10:30am

Ready to Read (18-36 months) Thursdays @ 10:30am

Preschool Storycraft (ages 3-5) Saturdays @ 10:30am

From the Director

“Not everything that counts can be counted. And not everything that can be counted, counts.” — Albert Einstein

This month the Human Services Department will honor 129 volunteers at the 29th annual Volunteer Tea. The work of this department would not be possible without the many people who step up to sort food in the pantry, donate holiday baskets, staff the check-in table at Youth Services events, provide tax assistance or set tables for weekly lunches and more.

Our volunteers give of themselves freely and generously to make a meaningful contribution to our community.

This week we lost a member of the volunteer family at the Senior Center. If you came to the Senior Center any Tuesday since 2010, you'd find Edee Lockyer in her apron setting tables and keeping an eye on all of us as well. She was always willing to step up to help plan an event or give sage advice. She will be missed.

Jeanette Glicksman, Director

April Lunch Menu

Lunch is served Tuesdays and Fridays at the Senior Center Cafeteria 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.

Volunteers are needed to help with lunch set up and clean up on Tuesdays. Call the Senior Center if you can help.

4/ 4 Lasagna and salad

4/ 7 Stuffed shrimp

4/11 Chicken Cacciatore and pasta

4/14 Closed – Good Friday

4/18 Meat loaf and mashed potatoes

4/21 Shrimp scampi and linguini

4/25 Roasted Pork Loin and potatoes

4/28 Assorted sandwiches with soup

Special Programming

To RSVP or find out more information about these or other events, email jglicksman@woodbridgect.org or call 203-389-3430.

April 4: **Low Vision Specialist** Michele Tarantino, OT, of Brookdale Home Health Services, will provide an informative discussion on vision and available vision resources during lunch.

Support Group- ‘Loss of Independence’ will begin April 7 and meet every other Friday for 6 weeks from 10-11 am in the Senior Center Lounge. Space is limited, RSVP required.

April 7: **Cupcake Decorating** 11 am-noon, in the café.

April 11: Lunch program **Entertainment John Paolillo**

April 12: **Care match America**, discussion about elder care 6-7 pm

April 14: Closed for Good Friday

April 17: **Lunch Bunch!** Join us for a lunch at Gusto Trattoria in Milford. Transportation provided by the Senior Center or meet there. Lunch is self paid. Please RSVP.

April 18: **Campaign visit.** The Woodbridge Republican Slate will speak and serve lunch.

April 18: Lunch program **Entertainment Bob Lupi Variety Show**

April 21: **Dr. Susann Verano, Geriatrician**, “What is Normal Aging” discussion at 12:30 pm

April 24: **Lunch at Amity H.S.** provided by students at the Transition School. There is no charge and transportation will be provided. Reservations are required.

April 25: **Campaign visit.** The Woodbridge Democratic Slate will speak and serve lunch.

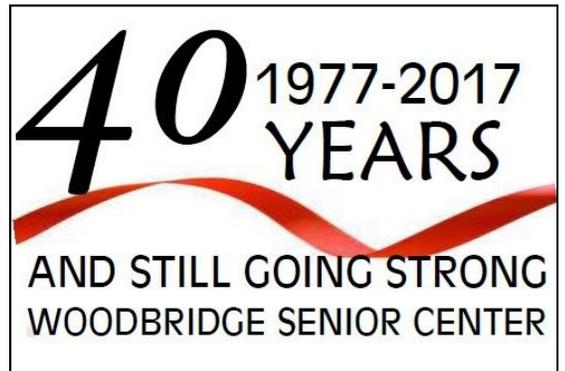
May 3 & 10: **Smartphone Class** meets two Wednesday afternoons 3-4 pm in the Library meeting room. Class taught by Amity High School students. Please RSVP.

The Senior Center is turning 40!

Join us for a celebration dinner on Wed., May 24 at the Center.

Savino Vineyards wines, hors d’œuvres, program, entertainment and choice of dinner entrée (baked stuffed shrimp or baked stuffed chicken breast) plus a very special cake for just \$25/per person.

Transportation for Woodbridge seniors and disabled will be available. Additionally, we will have a special luncheon on Tuesday, May 23 at 12:15 at the Senior Center Café. Please RSVP.



Ongoing Programming

Pickleball: Fridays for group play 2-3:30 pm. New! Self-scheduled hours are available for those who have paid annual fee of \$20. Interested players can drop in daily from 12:30-2:15 pm Mon. thru Thu. On Fri. the space is available from 12:30-3:30 pm. The equipment will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Exercise with Laurie: Tue. and Thu. in the Center Gym from 10-11 am. No need to sign up — a \$2 drop-in fee gets you a great workout! Exercise class includes a combination of strength training, cardio, flexibility and balance.

Book Club: Book club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, 11 am at the Library. The next meeting is April 25. This month's book is "The Table Comes First" by Adam Gopnik, which is also the Town's "One Book, One Town" selection.

Art Class: Taught by local artist Graham Dale; class meets Wed. from 10 am-noon in the cafeteria. All area artists 60+ are invited to participate in the "Art of Aging" exhibit sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging at 1 Long Wharf, New Haven. Art must be submitted by April 28 to be included. The Senior Center will provide transportation to the opening reception on May 18. Call for more information.

Friday Movies: Following lunch in the Senior Center Lounge at 1 pm: 4/7 *Light Between Oceans*, 4/14 *Closed*, 4/21 *Hidden Figures*, Favorite Film Friday - 4/28 *On Golden Pond*

Transportation Program

The Woodbridge Senior Center offers limited transportation to eligible seniors and disabled residents to the Senior Center and to medical appointments, schedule permitting.

Scheduling a ride is on first come, first served basis. You may reserve a ride by calling 203-389-3430 between 9 am and 4 pm.

The Center provides transportation to Amity Shopping Center area on Wednesday mornings. This service is for qualifying residents needing a ride to pick

up groceries, go to the bank, or to the drug store. Please call the office at 203-389-3430 to make a reservation as soon possible — we must have at least 24 hours' notice.

Driveways, walks, and steps must be cleared of trees, brush, snow, and cars to protect our driver and passengers.

The Woodbridge Transportation Program operates in full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

VITA- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance is available by appointment Tuesdays, 9 am to noon through April 18. Call for details and to make an appointment.

VNA Blood Pressure Screenings: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, Blood Pressure Screenings, weight and conversation with a registered nurse

Crafts: The group meets on Thursdays from 10 am-2 pm in the Senior Center Lounge. Drop in any time during these hours. If you have a needlework project that you are working on or would like to start one, our experienced crafters would love to meet you!

Duplicate Bridge: Mondays, 9:30am, 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: Mon., Wed., and Thu., 1-4 pm, Senior Lounge

Mah-jong: Mon. and Fri., 10 am, Center Building room 11.

Diabetes Prevention Group Wed., 10-11 am March 8-July 5, reservations required.



Woodbridge residents Dawn Guercia (center) and Ken Johnson (right) enjoy a traditional St. Patrick's Day meal at the Woodbridge Senior Center. Town Assessor Betsy Quist volunteered as server for the day.

Semi Formal Dance for 7th & 8th Grade Students

The annual Youth Services Semi-formal Dance for 7th and 8th grade Woodbridge and Bethany public and private school students will be held on Friday, April 21 from 7-9:30 pm, in the Woodbridge Center Cafeteria at 4 Meetinghouse Lane.

The dance will include an interactive DJ and games. Photos with fun frames and flowers will be available for \$1 each.

Attendance costs \$5, including hors d'oeuvres, punch, dessert and a free raffle. Students may purchase tickets in advance at AMSB during the lunch waves (dates to be determined) or via the Youth Services Office (203-389-3429). Students who purchase in advance will receive an extra raffle ticket. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

This is a semi-formal dance — no jeans or shorts, please.

Volunteers/Chaperones needed

Parents, grandparents, college students, high school juniors and seniors are encouraged to help. It's a great way to support our young teens, and create a safe, fun way to meet



friends. Please call 203-389-3429 for more information and to register for this fun evening event!

Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany sponsor the Youth Evening Programs.

Free Career Readiness Workshop

Woodbridge Youth Services invites high school students to attend a free workshop about landing a summer job or work after high school on Thursday April 13 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Woodbridge Town Library meeting room.

At this workshop students will learn

how to prepare a resume, complete an application, and list references for the job search. Students will learn about proper attire and practice an interview. This workshop will get students ready for work, whether it's part or full-time.

There will be a few laptops available to use, but students who have one

should bring it. The workshop will include a morning snack, materials, and a workbook. Students should bring their own lunch.

This program is funded by a grant from AT&T. Call 203-389-3429 to register.

A permission form is required.

Recreation News

Adult Volleyball League Final Standings

Congratulations to Jimmy Choi's team for winning the Fall/Winter Adult volleyball league!

Standings:

Jimmy Choi 41-4
Bump, Set, Spike 32-13
H-Spots 23-22
Having Fun 22-23
No Excuses 13-32
Keith 4-41

Jimmy Choi's team also won last fall/winter.

Teams interested in the Spring/Summer Adult Volleyball League should contact Jim Franco at 203-389-3446.

Returning teams have first priority. Teams should be between six and 10 people and include a minimum of two women.



Summer Camp starts June 26 and runs through Aug 4. Camp registration begins on Monday, April 3. Call the Recreation Department Office at 203-389-3446 for multi-child discounts. Online registration is available at www.woodbridge.org

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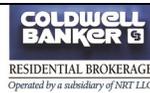
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Town Earns Budget Award

Once again the Town of Woodbridge has earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the national nonprofit Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

In a letter the GFOA states, “This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and represents a significant achievement by your organization.”

The award is based on how well the Town’s budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device.

“These awards recognize the outstanding work of our Board of Finance and our Finance Department,” said First Selectman Ellen Scalettar. “The Town of Woodbridge is fortunate to have a Finance Director of Tony Genovese’s caliber.”

Board of Finance Chair Matthew Giglietti added, “This budget award is particularly important because well-presented budget documents help residents understand how and what happens with their tax dollars.”

Town Receives Donation from Beth-Wood Baseball

The Beth-Wood Baseball League presented their annual donation to the Town. The \$3,000 check, given by the League’s Board President, Dwight Rowland, helps the Town make improvements to and maintain the baseball fields and covers any overtime put in by the Woodbridge Parks Department during the League’s baseball season.

This is the Beth-Wood Baseball League’s 45th anniversary.

“Beth-Wood Baseball is a great community resource for our young people and the Town is happy to partner with the League,” said Scalettar.

“We have a really great relationship with the Town after working together for so many years,” said Rowland. “We do it all for the kids.”



Beth-Wood League’s Board President Dwight Rowland presents a check to First Selectman Ellen Scalettar.

The League’s Opening Day Ceremony will be held at 10 am on April 29 at the Town Center Green.

See the full story on the Town’s website, www.woodbridgect.org