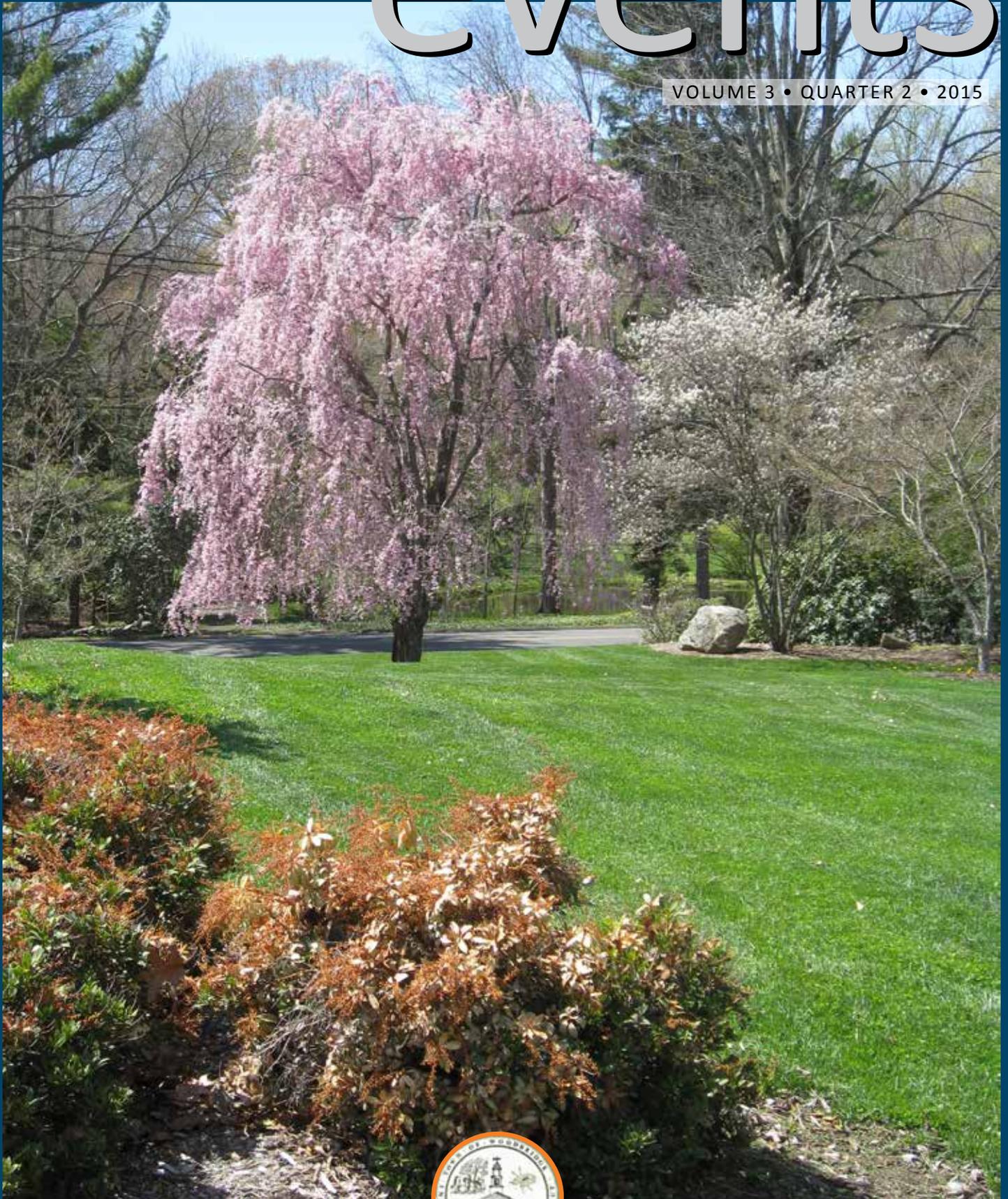


Woodbridge events

VOLUME 3 • QUARTER 2 • 2015



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FIRST SELECTMAN

**AND THE
DEMOCRATIC
TEAM**

-  Sound Budgeting Practices
-  Award Winning Schools
-  Clean and Reliable Energy Initiatives
-  Local Business Development
-  Communication and Community



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JACOBS**

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GROTHER**

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SCALETAR**

**BETH
HELLER**

VOTE MONDAY, MAY 4TH

www.Scalettar2015.com

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Ellen Scalettar. Sandra T. Stein, Treasurer. Approved by Ellen Scalettar.

First Selectman's Corner

Annual Town Budget

We are in the midst of our annual Town budget process. While budgeting always requires tough decisions, we are fortunate that our process has not been a contentious one, as it is in many other towns. The cooperative nature of our budget process begins when our Finance Department works with each Department Head to distinguish between budget "needs" and budget "wants." Because of the trust developed over the last several years, our Town employees keep the best interests of our residents in mind as they develop and compromise on their budgets. In February the Board of Selectmen reviewed the budget requests of all Town Departments and unanimously agreed on recommended changes. Next, the Board of Finance unanimously accepted the Selectmen's recommendations and made additional changes. The resulting document is the preliminary budget that will be presented at a public hearing on April 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Center Gym. At that hearing the Board of Finance will consider recommendations and comments and answer questions about the budget. Final budget approval takes place at the Annual Town Meeting on May 18. The budget is, of course, more than a financial document. It reflects the values and priorities of our Town that include: education as our top priority, maintaining and investing in the Town's infrastructure, implementing smart energy policies, keeping tax increases to a minimum, and continuing to build

community and improve communications between Town Hall and residents.

Award-Winning Schools Our Top Priority

Woodbridge spends nearly two-thirds of its budget on our award-winning schools – approximately one third goes to Beecher Road School and one third to Amity Region 5. Our outstanding teachers and staff prepare our children for success ahead by developing life-long learners. And our volunteer Board of Education members devote countless hours to assuring high standards and best practices for our schools.



Ellen Scalletar
First Selectman

Investing in Infrastructure

Recently the Town has taken on several major investments in infrastructure, including the renovations to Beecher Road School. When the project is completed there will be significant energy efficiency improvements as well as safety improvements. We also recently completed the new Public Works garage and will soon complete the Merritt Avenue Bridge.

continued on page 3



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Save the Date! Beth-Wood Baseball Opening Day



Opening Day Ceremony is May 9

Beth – Wood Baseball League is busy getting organized for the upcoming season and despite the cold, harsh winter, very soon our children will be out on the fields playing and enjoying this great game of Baseball!

Opening Day Ceremonies are planned for Saturday, May 9. This year the Beth-Wood Baseball League will be celebrating its 43rd anniversary of providing a quality baseball program in the

Woodbridge and Bethany communities (founded in 1972). This event draws hundreds of families, friends and residents of Bethany and Woodbridge to the Woodbridge Town Center Green for a wonderful ceremony that kicks off the baseball and softball seasons. The Beth-Wood Softball Little League will be joining the Beth-Wood Baseball League for this ceremony, as they have done the past several years.

We expect many local and state dignitaries to attend as in years past – we've invited the Woodbridge & Bethany First Selectmen, State Senator Joe Crisco, State Representative Themis Klarides, U.S. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro and U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, and others.

Many community groups will also be present; the Boy Scouts, Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Association with various apparatus for the kids to explore (and they also do the cooking for us) and the Beecher Road School Band, among many others.

We hope to see you all there for this special occasion – come support the League and, more importantly, the kids.

For additional information about Beth-Wood Baseball, please visit our web site at www.bethwoodbaseball.com.

Levey Miller Maretz

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First Selectman's Corner ... continued from page 1

We have been adding to the business district sidewalk network and are continuing our annual street paving management system.

Implementing Smart Energy Policies

I am mindful of energy saving initiatives that reduce our budget and make us a greener community. Our recent conversion to natural gas, for example, has saved the Town more than \$100,000 annually.

The energy efficiency improvements that are part of the Beecher Road School renovation project have resulted in incentive payments of \$315,000. We are exploring the installation of solar panels on the Acorn Hill capped land fill to provide power for Town buildings at affordable, predictable rates.

Additionally, the Town's Ad Hoc Energy Advisory Task Force has done a wonderful job with their Woodbridge Energy Challenge – a program to provide one-stop shopping to help residents simplify the process of learning about residential solar installation and energy efficiency opportunities.

The Woodbridge Energy Challenge has a few upcoming events (a lighting fair on May 4 and a solar workshop on June 9) that I hope you will take advantage of. In addition to the benefit to residents, the Town earns points toward energy efficiency upgrades for every home that completes a home energy audit and every home that installs solar. Plus, \$25 of the \$99 fee for home energy audits go to benefit needy residents through a donation to the Woodbridge Food and Fuel Fund.

Minimizing Tax Increases

One way to meet our needs without adding to residents' tax burdens is to be alert to grants and cooperative purchasing opportunities. This year, for example, we received State grants of \$500,000 for paving and sidewalks at Beecher Road School; \$500,000 for interior renovations to the Old Fire House; and \$200,000 for Pease

Place Playground (scheduled to open this spring!).

We also advanced the Microgrid project, allowing us to sign the agreement with the State for a \$3M grant. We partnered with the City of New Haven to purchase snow removal equipment and we continue to participate in the Capitol Region Council of Government's Purchasing Cooperative.

A significant budget issue that the Town will be dealing with over the next several months is the future of the Country Club of Woodbridge property. Although I was able to re-negotiate the contract with the golf operator to shift the financial risk of golf operations from the Town to the operator and save money on management fees, the Town's long term costs will be formidable.

An essential part of planning for Woodbridge's future is exploring and creating opportunities to expand our tax base. To that end, I have been promoting our business district and economic development by supporting our Economic Development Commission and strengthening the ties between Town Hall and Town businesses. In March the Economic Development Commission hosted a well-received business breakfast and seminar about digital media marketing. In June the Town will begin our "Business After Hours" series to expand on networking and outreach opportunities for local businesses.

Building Community and Improving Communications

A continuing priority of mine is strengthening community and communications. Since our town does not have a downtown or other obvious gathering space, we have been holding events to bring the community together. Our Town Library has acted as a hub for some of these events. Last year the Library partnered with Long Wharf Theater to host several events revolving around a play at the theater. The events were so popular and well-received that we hope to continue this partnership in

the future. I have been working with our Library staff to create a new program to unite the community through a "One Book, One Town" initiative. We will encourage Town residents to read the same book and participate in discussions and events related to the book's themes. The book will be *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life* by Barbara Kingsolver and the program will begin in June. I hope you will read the book and join us in the related events.

Coming up This Summer

This summer, the Town's Economic Development Commission plans to organize and promote "meals to go" from local restaurants for the July summer concert series. This new program, "Eat to the Beat," would promote local restaurants and make it easier for residents to enjoy dinner and socialize while attending the free evening concerts.

I will also be appointing an ad hoc committee to review the Town Center plans. Since 1997 there have been various reports and committees looking at how best to use the buildings at our municipal campus. The reports concur that the Old Fire House should be used for recreation and community meeting/gathering space; the Center Building would continue to be used for Human Services offices and the Senior Center; and recreation's move from the Center Building would allow expansion and renovation of the Police Department. The ad hoc group would review these reports and make recommendations for next steps.

We continue to announce Town news and events on our website (woodbridgedct.org), Facebook page ([Facebook.com/WoodbridgeCT](https://www.facebook.com/WoodbridgeCT)) and email newsletter (sign up at www.tinyurl.com/WoodbridgeEnews). It is important to me that residents know what is happening in Town and I welcome your feedback. You can always reach me at escalett@woodbridgedct.org.

events

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Child Safety Seats

Proper Use and Installation Vital



(photo by Sean Freese via flickr)

The Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Department reminds parents and caregivers to make sure that they are properly using and installing their child safety seats. A National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) survey shows that parents are making significant mistakes when using car seats and booster seats. It also found that one in five parents do not read any instructions when installing seats.

“The key to keeping kids safe is to make sure your child is in the right seat for their age and size - and to make sure that the seat is correctly installed in your vehicle,” said US Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. “We encourage everyone to take advantage of the many resources available to ensure you’ve done everything to properly protect your child.”

One such resource is the team of Safe Kids Certified Car Seat Technicians at the Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Department. If you would like your car seat checked or installed for you, call 203-389-3441 to make an appointment. Appointments are made on Monday evenings and from time to time special “Car Seat Events” are held. For more information, check us out on the

Contents

web at www.woodbridgect.org/fire and [facebook.com/WoodbridgeFire](https://www.facebook.com/WoodbridgeFire).

“Child safety seats save hundreds of young lives every year, but proper use is vital,” said NHTSA Administrator David Strickland. “That’s why we’re urging everyone to make sure their kids are properly protected on every trip, every time.”

Woodbridge Earns Distinguished Award



Once again the Town of Woodbridge has earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the national nonprofit Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This is in addition to the Audit Award also received by the Town. Woodbridge is one of only 16 of the state's 169 municipalities that received both awards. According to GFOA, the award "reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting." The certificate of recognition was presented to the Town's Director of Finance, Tony Genovese. "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 Direc-

tor 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 their Town is being managed and what happens with their tax dollars." Guidelines for the award are based on how well the budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device. The Town is currently in the process of creating the 2015-16 budget, and residents are invited to the preliminary budget hearing on Monday April 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center Building Gymnasium, 4 Meetinghouse Lane.

Business Outreach Breakfast A Success



Dozens of representatives of local businesses attended the Woodbridge Economic Development Commission's outreach breakfast on March 26.

The breakfast event focused on digital media. Local experts Talking Finger and

Geomatrix demonstrated how businesses can reach current clients and potential clients online. The EDC Chair Jody Ellant and EDC member Jamison Scott used the opportunity to urge local businesses to use the Town's business website (www.woodbridgect.org/Business) to list their business. Talking Finger co-founder Bill DeRosa, who recently moved his business to Woodbridge from his home office in Oxford, spoke about using Facebook and other social media for businesses.

A few tips: Know your audience and what social media avenue they are most likely to use (i.e., young people are on Twitter and Instagram, women are on Pinterest); social media is best used to create relationships, not to sell; use the 6:1 rule – for every one sale pitch you should include six content posts.

Cathie Reese, president of Geomatrix, spoke about the importance of using videos on social media. Facebook algorithms treat videos better than photos, posts or links. Before creating a video she told attendees to think about the video's intended audience, the goal and the message. Videos can be used to sell, to inform and to entertain. Reese also suggested using a series of short (1 or 2 minutes) informational videos used to position your business as a "thought leader." Her example: The Write Approach could create a video explaining the difference between a formal and informal wedding invitation. "In 2015, digital media is an important tool for all businesses to utilize in order to communicate effectively and efficiently with customers.

Continued on next page

Business Outreach ... continued from page 5

I am proud that here in Woodbridge we were able to create synergies between Woodbridge businesses by having our local experts, Talking Finger and Geomatrix, offering tips and tricks to help other Woodbridge businesses,” said EDC Chair Jody Ellant.

Before and after the event business owners networked, shared business cards and learned about one another.

Attendees were enthusiastic and had many questions about how to apply the shared tips to their specific situation.

Also at the event, First Selectman Ellen Scalett announced an expanded business outreach campaign: The Town plans to organize several networking opportunities for local businesses, starting with a business-after-hours event at Wheelers Restaurant in June.

“I believe this expanded outreach program will be an important tool for strengthening our local businesses and attracting new businesses to Woodbridge,” she said.

Businesses interested in participating in upcoming networking opportunities should contact Betsy Yagla at byagla@woodbridgect.org or 203-389-3403.

Energy Challenge

The Woodbridge Energy Challenge is providing one-stop shopping for residents who want to learn more about saving energy and going solar.

Organized by the Town's Ad Hoc Energy Advisory Task Force, the Energy Challenge has hosted two workshops about the residential solar program offered through a partnership with CT Solar Challenge. During the winter the Energy Challenge hosted workshops about Home Energy Solutions assessments, insulation and heating and cooling systems.

First Selectman Ellen Scalett is encouraging residents to participate in the Energy Challenge. “This is an opportunity to go green, save money and benefit ourselves and the Town,” she said.

On May 4 (Election Day) the Energy Challenge will host a small lighting fair. Residents are encouraged to exchange old non-efficient light bulbs for reduced-priced energy efficient light bulbs.

For your convenience, the lighting fair will have a table near the polls on Election Day from 4-8 pm.

Additionally, the Energy Challenge plans to host a “last chance” solar workshop on Tuesday June 9 at the Town Library. At the solar workshop, residents learn about the benefits of going solar, what makes a good site for solar, different financing options and available rebates. You can sign up for the last chance solar workshop at www.CTSolarChallenge.com/Woodbridge

In order to access the state rebates for solar (and rebates for other energy efficiency upgrades), residents must first complete a Home Energy Solutions assessment.

The Town's Ad Hoc Energy Advisory Task Force selected two companies (New England Conservation Services and New England Smart Energy) to conduct Home Energy Solutions (HES) assessments in Woodbridge for a fee of \$99. For each assessment completed, the two companies have agreed to donate \$25 to the Woodbridge Food and Fuel Fund.

On average there is a \$250 savings per home, per year after an HES assessment.

During the HES assessment, a technician will first complete a health and safety inspection of the home to verify that there is no mold, asbestos or other health problems in the home. Next, the technician will complete a blower door test, in which air is blown out of the home to highlight any air leaks inside the home. Identified leaks will be sealed, and the homeowner will have up to 29 light bulbs replaced with 25 CFLs and four LEDs.

Currently, the state is offering up to a 50% rebate for new insulation. The two companies participating in the Woodbridge Energy Challenge are offering discounted pricing and a participation rebate in addition to the state rebate. The discounted pricing is \$1.33 per square foot of insulation and the participation rebate is tiered so that as more Woodbridge residents install insulation the rebate increases, up to 12% for a potential total of 62% rebate on insulation.

For more information about this program, contact Assistant Administrative Officer Betsy Yagla at 203-389-3403 or byagla@woodbridgect.org.

Woodbridge Human Services

Woodbridge Human Services continues to collaborate with Clifford Beers Clinic to provide family-focused mental health services to Woodbridge children and their families.

The Town of Woodbridge has worked with Clifford Beers Clinic the past nine

years providing pertinent services to Woodbridge residents. Services include family, individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, care-coordination, home-based therapeutic services and community consultation.

Services are available at the Center

Building in Woodbridge on Tuesdays 2:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Additional sites are also available in New Haven and West Haven.

Inquiries for services can be made by calling the Clifford Beers Clinic at 203-772-1270.

First Selectman's Youth Award



Woodbridge First Selectman Ellen Scalettar and Woodbridge Youth Services congratulate Abby/Kai Keevil for earning the 2015 First Selectman's Youth Award. Jonathan Gorham, Development Director of Massaro Community Farm, nominated Ms. Keevil for performing numerous duties within the Town of Woodbridge.

Abby/Kai has been on the Board and the Education Committee of Massaro Farm and has taught at its summer camp. Other volunteer duties have included participation in Rid Litter Day, Fall Family Fun Day, and an art exhibit at the Woodbridge Town Library. Abby/Kai was also involved in promoting the need for an electric vehicle charging station within the Town.

"I have gotten to know Abby/Kai through our participation on the Massaro Community Farm Board of Directors and I'm so impressed by such a wide array of accomplishments by such a young person," said Scalettar.

Abby/Kai, a junior at Hopkins School, enjoys Jiu Jitsu and music and has played the flute to entertain at Massaro Farm and at local nursing homes. Ms. Keevil is the President of SAGA at school, and is involved in the youth group FORUM. First Selectman Ellen Scalettar presented the award to Abby/Kai at the Annual Human Services Volunteer Tea on April 16 in the Woodbridge Senior Center.

Farmer's Market

Mark your calendars: The Woodbridge Library Farmers' Market will return this year opening on Wednesday, June 24, from 4-7 pm. The market, which will be in its second year, is expanding and will now run bi-weekly from 4-7 pm. Scheduled market dates are June 24, July 8 & 22, August 5 & 19, and September 2, 16, and 30.

Many vendors from last year are returning including Massaro Community Farm and Amity Garden Center, along with new vendors like Gentle Giant Farm and Chubby Oven pizza truck.

A variety of programs for children and

adults will be held in conjunction with the market as well. On June 24, from 4-7 pm, strolling magician Ed Popielarczyk will be doing pocket magic and making colorful balloon animals.

On July 8, from 5-6pm, join Judi Ann Jones, a.k.a. the Energizer, for a special outdoor Dancin' With Hoops class open to all ages. We'll provide hula hoops in all colors and sizes for participants to try. (Registration required and begins online beginning June 24).

On July 22, from 6 -7 pm, Abracadra! Mr. Magic performs a special interactive show

in our Library meeting room. Register online beginning July 1.

Also, on Aug. 5, from 4-5pm, visit the market to see a Touch Tank from Cedar Island Marina Research Laboratory.

Get up close and personal with critters from the Long Island Sound!

Last, but not least, on Aug. 19, from 4:30-5:30 pm, get Hooked on Llamas.

Join Debbie Elias and Jack the llama from the Country Quilt Llama Farm for a special outdoor story program and a chance to meet a real llama.

School Districts Unite for Professional Development

On Friday, March 20, Amity, Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange World Language teachers participated in a day-long professional learning opportunity at Amity Regional High School.

A consultant from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) presented to the group. The focus of the session was to understand how to develop effective and efficient oral proficiency interview assessments for all world languages.

Teachers who currently teach Spanish, French, and Chinese attended the workshop. Ms. Elena Serapiglia and Dr. E. Marie McPadden planned this professional development day with support from school superintendents Dr. Charles

Dumais, Dr. Guy Stella, Mr. John Barile, and Mr. Michael Nast. The Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) is a diagnostic measure of speaking proficiency. It is not only related to the ACTFL Standards, but can help a district create better diagnostic assessments to monitor students' proficiency levels and to measure student growth through performance-based tasks.

Amity is a regional school district that has been instrumental in an ongoing effort to align curriculum, instruction, and assessments across K-12. We were very excited to have the Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange World Language teachers join Amity teachers for this shared professional learning session!

Volunteers “Read Across America” at Beecher Road School



More than a dozen community leaders read to almost every classroom at Beecher Road School during the annual “Read Across America” event on Friday, March 6.

Read Across America is a national event to commemorate Dr. Seuss’s birthday. During the event, community members are invited to read a Dr. Seuss book to students as a fun way to promote reading. Woodbridge Superintendent Dr. Guy Stella thanked volunteers for their time and for showing students how

much fun reading can be for adults and students. “One of our main goals at Beecher is to foster life-long literacy and a love of learning,” he said. Readers reported that students across all grade levels were attentive and enjoyed the activity.

“This event is a fun way to involve community members in the school and the learning process,” said First Selectman Ellen Scalettar. “Plus, reading Dr. Seuss is always such a delightful experience.”

Volunteer readers included First Selectman Ellen Scalettar, Selectman Tony Anastasio Jr., Board of Finance member Karen Cusick, Woodbridge Superintendent Dr. Guy Stella, Amity Superintendent Chip Dumais, Amity Middle School (Bethany) Principal Dr. Richard Dellinger, Board of Education chair Margaret Hamilton, Woodbridge Director of Administration and Finance Tony Genovese, Woodbridge Youth Services Director Nancy Pfund, Woodbridge Children’s Librarian Judy Rabin, Woodbridge Police Officer Vincent Lynch, business owner Chris Dickerson, former Beecher teacher Lynn Piasczyk, and parents Julie Perlman and Lauren Canalori.

Woodbridge Receives Major State Grant



The Town of Woodbridge is among seven grant recipients in the first round of funding for the state’s Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP), Governor Dannel P. Malloy announced on Monday.

Woodbridge will receive \$500,000 to convert the former Fire House into a community and recreational space, the first step of many in the Town’s long-term plans for the Town center campus buildings. “I am so pleased to receive this significant state grant,” said First Selectman Ellen Scalettar. “This money will help the Town prepare to reuse the former fire house, which will create a more needed community, meeting and recreational space in the

Town’s center. I’d like to thank the Governor for the grant and our state delegation for supporting us in our application which was so well prepared by our Finance Director, Tony Genovese.”

There have been several committees and reports, going back to 1997, about how to best use the available space in the Town Center. Those reports are consistent in that the Old Fire House should be used for recreation space and community gathering/meeting space. That would provide space in the Center Building for police department renovations.

In the coming months the First Selectman plans to appoint a committee to review the previous plans to make sure they are still appropriate for the Town’s needs and to determine the next steps. The grant will help update the building’s interior.

STEAP grants are designed to assist small towns with infrastructure improvement projects. In the past Woodbridge has received STEAP grants to install sidewalks in the business district. A STEAP grant received last year will be used to re-pave the Beecher Road School parking lots and sidewalks after the school’s renovation project is completed.

“Partnering with our small towns, we’re able to move necessary projects forward that improve the quality of life for residents in those communities, while also strengthening our public spaces and business districts,” Governor Malloy said. “These funds help towns throughout our state grow and remain competitive, and we’re proud to provide this support today so we can all deliver a brighter tomorrow.”

Town Reviewing Country Club of Woodbridge Proposal

Woodbridge is currently considering a \$7.5 million proposal for the Country Club of Woodbridge. Last spring, the Town issued a Request for Proposals for the 155-acre property known as the Country Club of Woodbridge (CCW) and received two submissions: one from Toll Brothers and one from the Jonathan Rose Company. Subsequently, Rose withdrew from consideration, and on January 20th, Toll Brothers presented their proposed plan to the Board of Selectmen. Key elements of the proposal include:

- A total purchase price of \$7.5M (the Town paid \$6.9M for the property in 2009)
- Retires outstanding debt of \$5.95M
- A town option to have Toll dedicate \$1M of that price to demolishing the existing clubhouse and replacing it with a small pool house, renovating the Town parking lot, tennis courts and pool, all of which would remain Town property and for the use of Town residents
- Full payment at the time of closing
- Construction of 96 attached townhomes and 74 single family homes, with age restrictions to 55 years and older
- Leaving approximately half of the total property in Town ownership on which Toll would create walking trails or a 9 hole golf course (if the golf course option were chosen, Toll would not provide all the renovations mentioned above)

An ad hoc committee of Town residents appointed by First Selectman Ellen Scalettar and representing a broad range of backgrounds, expertise and political affiliation, had reviewed both submissions.

They recommended that The Board of Selectmen consider the Toll Brothers proposal because of its fiscal strength in terms of purchase price, it's likely long-term financial benefit to the Town (approximately \$2M in annual property taxes once the project is completed), retention of approximately 80 acres of open space on which Toll would create walking trails or a 9 hole golf course, and the improvements to the Town amenities: the pool, tennis court, club house and parking lot.

At the Board of Selectmen meeting, First Selectman Scalettar reiterated her commitment to a "robust, positive and productive public conversation" and added her assurance that there "will be many opportunities for the residents of Woodbridge to hear, review, question and evaluate all aspects of the proposal." Scalettar said she planned to have the proposal vetted by relevant Town Boards and Commissions, as well as holding town-wide public meetings. Scalettar also reminded everyone that the ultimate decision on the disposition of the property rests with Woodbridge voters, and, noting the passionate feelings about the property by some Town residents, she urged everyone "to keep our discourse fact-based and respectful of others' points of view."

Both proposals submitted to the Town and the report of the ad hoc committee are available on the Town website, woodbridgect.org, under the "Government" tab.

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First Selectman Visits New Businesses

First Selectman Ellen Scalettar and the Woodbridge Economic Development Commission are focusing on supporting local businesses.

Scalettar has been visiting new and expanding businesses in Woodbridge. The visits are designed to create a stronger bond between Town Hall and the Town's business community. The EDC is inviting businesses to their monthly meetings to learn about those businesses, why they chose Woodbridge and what, if any, support they need.

Scalettar's recent visits have included CrossFit Gilded, a new CrossFit gym on Selden Street; Auth Air, which makes security and data analytics software, and the recently expanded Woodbridge True Value store.

Jon and Lindsay Oddo are certified CrossFit trainers and opened Woodbridge's first CrossFit gym in late 2014 in the former New England Brewing Company space. The gym offers



Lindsay and Jon Oddo with Ellen Scalettar at CrossFit Gilded

three workout classes per day in small groups and provides an on-site baby sitter.

Auth Air moved within Woodbridge with the help of Levey Miller Maretz Real Estate Services because the company outgrew its space. Auth Air now has 10 employees and expects to continue to grow. Auth Air makes security software for the medical industry.

Woodbridge True Value recently expanded by adding on 1,200 feet of new



Jeff Krasnow and Ellen Scalettar at Woodbridge True Value Hardware

space. The new space allowed the store to expand its inventory and make its layout more customer friendly. The hardware store still plans to retain its small-town charm and will host a grand "re-opening" the weekend of June 5.

"Woodbridge has such a wealth of businesses ranging from small mom-and-pop shops to high-tech companies," said Scalettar. "I encourage all residents to shop, dine and try Woodbridge!"

Quinnipiack Valley Health District (QVHD)

QVHD is the public health department for the towns of Bethany, Hamden, North Haven and Woodbridge. Its mission is to protect residents from disease, injury and environmental hazards through prevention, education, enforcement and collaboration with other town and state departments.

Visit Our Website

www.qvhd.org for information related to your health and community.

Remodeling? Renovate Right!

Some children within our health district became lead poisoned while their home was being renovated. If your house was built before 1978, you may have lead paint in your home. If you are doing any remodeling or renovations, including painting, you need to follow safety precautions to prevent lead poisoning. Lead-based paint is the most common source of lead exposure. Children under age 6 are most at risk for lead poisoning. Lead exposure can damage the brain and can cause growth and learning problems and hearing loss. Many children do not

show signs of lead poisoning. Visit <http://www2.epa.gov/lead> or leadfreekids.org to learn about the actions you can take to renovate safely and protect your family. If you do not have internet access, you can call Quinnipiack Valley Health District, 203-248-4528 for written materials.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Vaccinations Offered

QVHD has had several cases of whooping cough in residents this winter. Infants are not fully protected until they are one year old. QVHD offers the pertussis vaccine (in the form of Tdap-tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) to infants, (less than one year old) and contacts, including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, babysitters and other caregivers who are over age 18 and have not had a Tdap booster. A \$10.00 administration fee is requested. No one will be turned away for lack of ability to pay this fee. Immunization clinics are held every 4-6 weeks. Call or visit QVHD on line, www.qvhd.org, for dates and times.

Voter Deadlines for the Woodbridge Municipal Election

The Woodbridge Registrars of Voters will be holding Special Voter Registration sessions and updating the voter lists on the following dates for the Municipal Election on **Monday, May 4**. Additionally, please note all cut-off dates for voter registration.

Monday, April 20: Cut-off date to register by mail. Cards must be postmarked by this date.

Monday, April 27, 9 am to 8 pm: Voter registration cut-off. Last day to register to vote in person.

Friday, May 1, 9 am to 5 pm: Limited Registration Session to admit those voters whose qualifications have changed as to age, citizenship or residence since April 27th. Voters must appear in person between April 27th and May 1st.

All special voter sessions will be at the Town Hall. The Municipal Election is Monday, May 4th, at the Center School gymnasium, across from the town library. Polls are open from 6 am until 8 pm. Please note that the Amity Budget Referendum will

be held the following Wednesday, May 6th - voting is also at the Center School gymnasium from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm.

Office Hours: The Registrars of Voters office hours are 9 am - 1 pm Wednesdays. The Town Clerk's office is available to register voters and accept absentee applications and absentee ballots Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Voters may also download an application from the Town website: woodbridgect.org at the Town Clerk's page. The clerk's office number is 203-389-3422.

Traffic Pattern Change: Please be advised of a change in the driving pattern at the Center Building parking lot. On May 4th and May 6th the driveway from Meetinghouse Lane entering the parking lot at the Center Building/Town Library will be one-way. All traffic will be required to exit onto Center Road. Police Officers will be on hand to direct traffic.

Springing Forward at Massaro



It may be illusory, but with the changing of the clocks we welcome more daylight hours and – hopefully – warmer temperatures at the farm. Spring is our

busiest time, when we carefully monitor conditions to know exactly when to begin sowing seedlings, to begin plowing our fields, and to welcoming farm visitors. The planting schedule has to be carefully monitored to ensure we'll be able to begin harvesting produce in June for CSA subscribers, and produce consistently throughout the season. We eagerly stock up supplies to greet beekeepers in our workshops. And welcome students impatient to escape the classroom, who arrive enthusiastic to get dirty and have fun!

In addition to our traditional annual events, you can expect we'll try a crop in the newly cleared North field. There'll be changes in the Learning Garden as we add a new supply shed and some fruit bushes. And you'll see more students at the farm as our educational programs grow.

As we 'spring forward' we have also begun planning for next year, when we'll celebrate the 100th anniversary since the Massaro family arrived. You can expect more sightings of our centennial logo (pictured with this article), and related activities we plan to hold to commemorate this important milestone. We will honor the hard work and important role farming continues to play in the community, but also envision what farming could look like 100 years from now.

You're invited to join us as a member of this or one of our other committees who make all things at Massaro possible, whether it's development, outreach, or education.

Please call our office to volunteer, or visit our NEW website for a volunteer form.

Mark your calendar for these dates: Celebrate Spring Plant Sale & Maypole Dance May 23, 10 am-3 pm; Summer Camp (half days) August 10-August 21; Dinner on the Farm September 6; Family Fun Day October 3, 1 pm-5 pm.

Want to Advertise? Call Brad Cunningham at 860.581.0577

Woodbridge Town Library

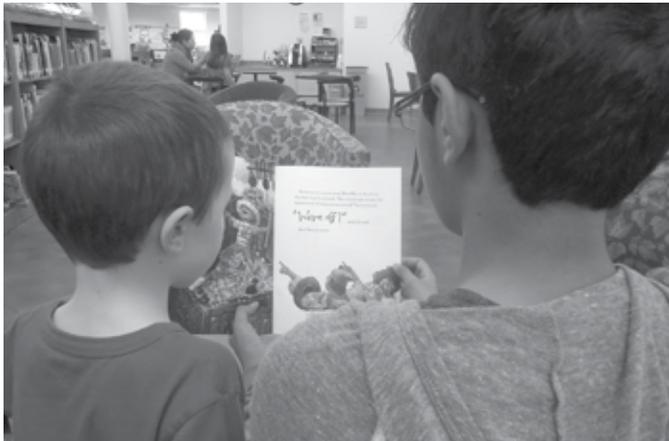
Woodbridge Reads: One Book, One Town program

Beginning on June 1, the Woodbridge Town Library is kicking off a new program, Woodbridge Reads: One Book, One Town. This program is designed to bring the community together through reading a common book and sharing in the discussion and events surrounding it. Members of the community will have an

opportunity to unite by reading *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life* by Barbara Kingsolver. The library will offer programming and discussions around this book throughout the months of June and July. *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* touches on themes of health and the environment as the author and her family move to a farm in southern Appalachia and vow to become “locavores” for a year and eat only

food that they grow themselves or that was grown locally. Events will be held at and around the Woodbridge Library Farmers’ Market which will begin its second year on June 24 and run bi-weekly on Wednesdays from 4-7 pm on library grounds. For an event schedule and more information, please visit the library website at: www.woodbridge.lioninc.org.

Reading Together!



Read a book. Ask a question. Start a Conversation and Share the Joy of Reading with a Child. The Woodbridge Town Library will train high school students to read with young children to help

them connect with the stories they read and encourage them to read for pleasure. There are three training sessions offered, teens must attend one session in order to participate in the program.

Training schedule:

Session 1: Thurs. June 4, 2015 3:30-4:30pm

Session 2: Tues. June 9, 2015 3:30-4:30pm

Session 3: Wed. June 10, 2015 6:30-7:30 pm

The library will offer Reading Together Events on Thursday evenings at 5 pm, July 9-Aug.27. Children entering grades K-3 will be paired with our trained teens. Teen participation will be eligible for Community Service hours. Online registration for teen training begins May 12 at www.woodbridge.lioninc.org. Teens who participated in 2014 need not repeat the training. For more information please stop by the Children’s Desk, or call 203-389-3439.

Woodbridge Explores Solar Power

The Town of Woodbridge is considering installing solar panels on the Town’s closed landfill on Acorn Hill Road.

In March the Town of Woodbridge, through the law firm Murtha Cullina, released a Request for Proposals seeking developers interested in installing a two megawatt ground-mounted solar project. This project would meet most of the Town’s electrical needs and would provide the Town with clean energy and predictable electric rates.

Attorney Paul Michaud of Murtha Cullina will help the Town submit a bid for renewable energy credits through United Illuminating. Those credits would be sold to the solar installer. Michaud also helped the town negotiate the microgrid agree-

ment with United Illuminating.

“I initiated this project to take advantage of solar technology and the opportunity to lower the Town’s electric bills and our carbon footprint,” said First Selectman Ellen Scalettar.

If the Town moves forward with a solar installer, the Town would most likely enter into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in which the Town does not pay any money up front, but agrees to pay a set amount of money per kilowatt used. The solar installer would own and maintain the solar panels for the duration of the PPA.

The Town has already taken steps to lower energy bills and use by switching from oil heat to natural gas. The Town’s elementary school, Beecher Road School, is currently

undergoing an energy-focused renovation that will make the school more energy efficient. The school project also includes solar panels.

Additionally, Woodbridge has plans to create a municipal microgrid to provide electricity to Town buildings during power outages. The Town is partnering with United Illuminating, which will purchase and install a fuel cell in Woodbridge that will feed energy into the grid under normal circumstances and will power the microgrid when the power goes out.

Under this microgrid arrangement, the Town is free to explore alternative energy sources to power municipal buildings during normal circumstances.

Woodbridge Cub Scouts "Cross the Bridge"



First Selectman Ellen Scalettar congratulated the Cub Scouts for their hard work and commended their parents for raising the next generation of Woodbridge leaders.

The Woodbridge Cub Scouts Pack 902 annual Blue and Gold Banquet was held on Sunday, Feb. 22. Preceding the ceremony, the Cub Scouts enjoyed a carnival followed by the dinner and Den advancements, including the Crossing Over Ceremony into Boy Scouts. First Selectman Ellen Scalettar attended the carnival where she congratulated the Cub Scouts on their hard work

and commended their parents and leaders for raising the next generation of Woodbridge leaders. State Senator Joe Crisco also attended, as well as members of the Yankee Council and Wepawaug Valley District Boy Scout Association.

The Cub Scouts celebrated the achievements earned during the year and recognized outgoing and current/new leaders, including outgoing Cub Master Dan Burns and incoming Cub Master Tom Morrissey. The evening concluded with the Crossing Over Ceremony performed by former scout leader Charlie Whiting, during which Webelo II cub scouts were presented the Arrow of Light and crossed over a wooden bridge to symbolize their fulfillment of Cub Scout advancements and journey on to Boy Scouts. Crossing the bridge this year were Noah Alguard, Dylan Speranzini, Jonathan Speranzini, Eli Burns, Ben Rickel, and Parker Paragas.

Pack 902 is planning a recruitment carnival open to all Woodbridge boys and their families grades K – 5 in the spring. For information on joining Pack 902 Woodbridge, please contact Michelle Mann at mrsmmann@hotmail.com or call 203-509-8629.

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Jewish Community Center



Students at the JCC's Yeladim Early Learning Center celebrate the holiday of Purim in March with a parade through the JCC's building .

Beckerman Lecture Series Features Sexual Misconduct, Maus, and Mortified Nation

The Beckerman Lecture Series, JCC's annual spring lecture series, will return this year. Information-seekers and life-long learners of all ages will enjoy this season of thought-provoking events.

Thursday, May 14, "What the %@&*! Happened to Comics?" Art Spiegelman, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning and critically acclaimed *Maus* graphic novels, presents a chronological tour of the evolution of comics, all-the-while explaining the value of this medium and why it should not be ignored. Known as the "father of the modern graphic novel," Spiegelman's influential graphic novels *Maus I* and *Maus II* document a Holocaust survivor's story as retold with inventive animal personifications of the figures involved in World War II and Hitler's genocide of European Jews.

Thursday, June 25, *Mortified Nation*. Experience a special screening of popular documentary *Mortified Nation*, which chronicles people around the country who read from their old diaries to audiences of complete strangers. Film director, Mike Mayer, offers a Q&A session after the screening and several JCC members will participate by reading from their own diaries to the audience.

All events begin at 7:30 pm in the JCC Vine Auditorium, 360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge. Tickets for each event are \$12 for JCC members and \$15 for non-members; \$30 for the series for JCC members and \$36 for non-members.

For more information, contact Anne Grant: anneg@jccnh.org or 203.387.2522 x300.

Family Fun Day Featuring Touch a Truck

On Sunday, June 7, the JCC will host its third annual Family Fun Day featuring Tough A Truck. Join hundreds of kids and families for this free event that showcases more than 20 trucks – service and commercial vehicles, antique trucks, dump trucks, tractors, RVs, and more – kids Zumba, bounce house, face painting, a trackless train, craft projects, and raffles, giveaways and activities for the whole family. Food available for purchase.

The JCC of Greater New Haven is a nonprofit organization that 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.

JCC Playground

The JCC is building a new playground. You can help us make our new playground project a reality. For more than 20 years our playgrounds have served our needs very well, but time and weather have taken their toll. Our new playgrounds will be constructed of durable, low-maintenance materials. The design incorporates a natural grassland theme with stump walks, grass mazes, play huts, a stationary wooden jeep, a stage, band stands, and a "free build" area. The entire playground is designed to foster imagination, exploration and creativity.

The JCC has been building strong, confident, well-adjusted kids. As we continue this tradition, we ask for your help in supporting our playground project. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please consider buying a piece of the playground.

For more information or to make a donation, contact JCC Director Shelley Gans, shelleyg@jccnh.org or (203) 387-2522 or visit jccnh.org.

DeLauro Hosts Lunch for Municipal Leaders



Woodbridge First Selectman Ellen Scalettar and mayors and representatives from nearly 20 municipalities recently met with U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro at DeLauro's annual luncheon for mayors. DeLauro briefed the municipal leaders on federal budget and policy issues and the future of the Affordable Care Act. She also offered assistance to leaders on local issues. Other issues discussed at the luncheon were the effects of winter snow storms on municipal budgets and grant opportunities.

"These face-to-face meetings with Congressional representatives and other municipal leaders are very helpful," said Scalettar. "In addition to issues affecting us all, I was also able to talk with Rosa and her staff about Woodbridge specific matters, including the need for additional funding for removal of the Pond Lily Dam. As always, they stand ready to help in any way they can."

Woodbridge Land Trust Works with Scouts to Improve Trails



The Woodbridge Land Trust is pleased to announce that Dr. Bryan H Pines has been elected President of the Board of Directors. He succeeds Christopher Keevil who remains on the Board and will serve as its Investment Officer.

Bryan and his wife, Debby are life-long residents of Woodbridge and avid gardeners in Woodbridge's community garden. As a Cub Scout and Boy Scout growing up in Woodbridge, Bryan developed an appreciation for Woodbridge's natural beauty, and has volunteered his time and resources to protect, preserve and

maintain its trails, farms, and open spaces. "For over 50 years, I have been enjoying our trails and although the landscape in the town has changed over the years, our protected open spaces and trails provide beauty to the town while connecting us to previous generations."

Dr. Pines supports the Land Trust's commitment to working with community groups that support the goals and mission of the Trust. In partnership with local Woodbridge Scouts, the Trust has funded Brendan Purcell's Eagle Scout bridge construction project to improve access

to the Gregory Robert trail and is currently working with Girl Scout troop 60574 to develop a trail maintenance and Geocaching plan. Troop leader Stacy Wyner says that "the scouts are excited to be able to serve the community while earning their badges."

Established in 1964, the Woodbridge Land Trust is a tax exempt, nonprofit corporation committed to the conservation, preservation and protection of our natural resources. We rely on the generosity of the community and our donors to accomplish the goals of the Trust.

The Garden Club of Woodbridge



The Garden Club of Woodbridge is presenting “Pot Your Own Plant in a Cow Pot”, Tuesday, May 5th. This is a Field Trip to “Freund’s Farm” of East Canaan; lunch is included, \$12 per person. Please contact Barbara Bessinger for more information at 203-389-7709.

Save the date for the Garden Club of Woodbridge’s second annual plant sale on

May 30, 9 a.m. - noon in the grove by the Old Fire House. The Garden Club of Woodbridge is presenting “Pressed Flowers”, Tuesday, June 2, 2015. Lisabeth Billingsly will demonstrate how to press flowers suitable for pictures and cards. Light refreshments will be served. Please join us at the First Church of Christ, 5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT at 11:45 am.

27th Annual Volunteer Tea

At the 27th Annual Volunteer Tea, sponsored by Woodbridge Human Services, 111 volunteers were honored for exemplary volunteer services benefiting Woodbridge. Randi Fiorello, Audrey Grotheer, Pennell Hamilton, Laurie Luce and Mary Leigh Sabshin were honored as Outstanding Volunteers.

RANDI FIORELLO is an “Outstanding Volunteer” for her dedicated service to the Senior Center’s 2014 Annual Holiday Fair. Randi implemented some very creative ideas, one of which was petitioning local businesses for monetary pledges for the fair. She also obtained auction items for the fair and was instrumental in helping to make the 2014 Holiday Fair so successful.

AUDREY GROTHEER is currently a junior honors student at Amity High School who has volunteered for the Youth Evening Programs since her days at Amity Middle School. Since middle school she has often helped set up before programs, and now also decorates and assists at the registration area. Audrey has also sorted food in the Human Services food closet, volunteers at Amity High School as a peer tutor and has volunteered at many programs at the Woodbridge Library, most notably Crazy Eights Math, Boredom Busters, and Teens and Kids Reading Together Program.

Woodbridge Youth Services is honoring resident **PENNELL HAMILTON** as an Outstanding Volunteer of the Year. He has volunteered as a chaperone for the Youth Evening Program for two years; he is always the first parent to respond whenever there is a request for volunteers. He served on the Board of the Valley United Way for 7 years, volunteered as a soccer coach for the Woodbridge Soccer Club for three years, and has helped organize the Halloween Hoot at Beecher Road School appearing annually as ‘Professor Proton’! Additionally, he is currently the treasurer for the Amity Middle School PTO and is the assistant treasurer for the Amity High School PTSO.

LAURIE LUCE is recognized for her dedication as an outstanding volunteer. In the past twelve years Laurie has worn many different hats at the Senior Center. Most recently she helped with

the 2014 Holiday Fair. She visited local merchants and acquired gifts and certificates for the auction. She was also instrumental in making the 2014 Holiday Fair the most successful fair to date.

MARY LEIGH SABSHIN is being honored for her continuous support of Human Services projects and fundraisers as a member of the Human Services Commission. The first project that Mrs. Sabshin was involved with was the United Way Day of Caring Tree-Planting September 11th Memorial Project sponsored by Human Services. Since then she has participated in numerous Human Services Silent Auctions. In addition, she has been a member of the Garden Club working on community projects for 23 years, was a member of the League of Woman Voters, Woman of Woodbridge and St. Raphael’s Auxiliary Board.

BAILEY, MOORE, GLAZER, SCHAEFER & PROTO, LLP and their Employees and Betsy Quist received Human Services Special Recognition Awards. Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto, LLP and their Employees are honored for their outstanding contribution to the Holiday Basket Program brightening the holidays for residents in need. Every week to participate in “blue jean day”, employees donated \$5, which was matched by the partners at Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto, LLP. The money was used to purchase gift cards for food for each holiday basket food recipient.

Town Assessor BETSY QUIST was honored for her outstanding dedication to the Holiday Basket Program. For many years, Mrs. Quist has coordinated and organized the Town Hall employees in sponsoring families in the “Adopt a Family” Holiday Program. She has collected donations, shopped for food, gifts, and gift cards for residents in need in Woodbridge.

“The attitude of compassion and commitment of all the volunteers brings so much to Woodbridge. The Staff appreciates and is grateful for the hard work and dedication given so generously by the volunteers,” stated Mary Ellen LaRocca, Director of Human Services.

Woodbridge Signs \$3 Million Microgrid Contract



The Town of Woodbridge took a major step towards creating its municipal microgrid when, on Feb. 18, First Selectman Ellen Scalett signed an agreement with the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for a \$3 million grant.

The \$3 million grant will cover the cost of establishing the microgrid's transmission system: underground transmission lines will connect Town campus buildings with each other and with Amity Regional High School.

"Given the weather extremes we have been experiencing, the importance of the microgrid is increasingly evident," said First Selectman Ellen Scalett. "It will provide ongoing power for the Town's essential services and security to Woodbridge residents during extended power outages."

United Illuminating will provide power generation through a fuel cell as part of its mandate to own and operate green power in the state.

The fuel cell will pump clean energy into the grid during normal operations, but in the case of a power outage, the microgrid will turn on and the fuel cell will power the Woodbridge Town Hall, Library, Fire House, Police Station, Public Works Facility and Senior Center, which also serves as an emergency shelter, as well as Amity High School.

"We are pleased that Woodbridge is moving forward with this important project and is poised to have one of the first microgrids in the state," said Commissioner Rob Klee of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. "When the power goes out, this microgrid will keep the lights on in municipal and public safety facilities so that critical services can be provided to residents."

The fuel cell will be located on Amity High School's campus and the school plans to capture and use the fuel cell's waste heat. "The Amity Regional School District is excited to have the opportunity to participate in this unique program," said Superintendent of School Charles Dumais. "In addition to having the reliability of the infrastructure, we will be supporting the use of renewable energy sources, reducing energy use by taking advantage of heat from the fuel cell, and providing educational opportunities for our students."

Public Works / Hazardous Waste

Household Hazardous Waste, located at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT at the Regional Water Authority will open for Saturday Collections on **Saturday, May 16th, 2015** to accept residential household hazardous waste.

Residents may bring their hazardous waste to this collection site on Saturday's between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and noon. Woodbridge residents are encouraged to look around their homes for any hazardous chemicals and/or cleaners that can be properly disposed.

The Town of Woodbridge will be hosting a Household Hazardous Waste satellite collection on **Saturday, October 17, 2015 from 9:00 am – Noon** at the Woodbridge

Transfer Station, 85 Acorn Hill Road Extension. This collection is open to residents from Woodbridge, Bethany and the Town of Orange. This is a great opportunity to spring clean around the home and get rid of unwanted chemicals.

Volunteers are needed to help run this beneficial program. If you are 17 years of age or older, and would like to volunteer during the satellite collection, or "hometown" day, please contact the Public Works Office at (203)389-3420, or you may contact Tom Burns, HazWaste Coordinator at the Regional Water Authority (203) 401-2712. You may also access the RWA website at www.rwater.com for information.

This year the scheduled "hometown" day for Woodbridge is Saturday, July 25, 2015. This "Hometown" collection is held at the Regional Water Authority building, 90 Sargent Drive, in New Haven from 9:00am – Noon. Volunteers are needed to hand out cards, and assist with directing traffic. At no time does a volunteer come in contact with any hazardous material. This worthwhile program depends on volunteers for its continued success and benefits to our communities.

Amity Middle School Bethany / Robotics



Amity Middle School-Bethany's Social Robotics and Engineering Research Program is an ambitious program that launched three years ago at AMSB to provide students with a strong interest and ability in STEM with an opportunity to experience the research process in preparation for similar pursuits in high school and beyond.

Since its inception, students in the program have competed at the annual Science and Engineering Fair held at Quinnipiac University, which brings over 500 of the best science and engineering projects from around the state under one roof for a week of wonder and intense competition.

Over the past three years, AMSB has taken home multiple awards and prizes for their impressive research projects, and this year was no exception. Congratulations!

Bethwood Bash

Bethwood Bash Semi-Formal Event!

Join us for Bethwood Bash Semi Formal Event on Friday, May 1 @ The Senior Center Cafeteria, 4 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge. We'll offer great music by a boppers DJ, delicious hot hors d'oeuvres, a juice fountain and desserts from local restaurants and awesome raffle prizes from local businesses! Capture the moment with your friends - photos will be available for \$1.00 each. Roses will also be available for \$1.00 each. Dates and dancing are not required but fun is!

Buy your ticket early and get an extra raffle ticket or you may purchase tickets at the

event. Tickets will be sold at Amity Middle School - Bethany during lunch on Tuesday, April 28th and Thursday, April 30th by the Cafeteria. Admission to the dance is \$5.00. Dressy attire, please, no jeans or shorts.

We encourage private school students to attend. This program is for 7th and 8th grade residents of Bethany and Woodbridge only. Volunteers are needed for this event -parents, grandparents, guardians, high school juniors and seniors in need of community service hours are welcome to call Woodbridge Youth Services for more information or to sign up to volunteer. You may email us at

youthone@woodbridgect.org or call 203-389-3429 to volunteer or to donate raffle prizes. Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany sponsor programming for 7th and 8th grade residents- private school students are welcome!

We are soliciting donations for more raffle prizes and food items from local stores and restaurants.

For more information regarding the program, donations or to chaperone, please call 203-389-3429 or e-mail youthone@woodbridgect.org.

"The First Dance"

Writing this article was prompted by serving over 300 wedding couples in the past 6 years who were frequently asked the question, "Why do you do a first dance?" To my surprise 99% of those asked never really understood why, but yet they were ready to spend the time and money to do it.

The answer to this question is traceable back to ancient times, when a man would hunt down a woman or win her as an exchange for food or game. He would then take pride in his new possession by parading his catch around the fire or later within the towns square in front of the village before the evening celebration began. Over the years the marital relationship "evolved," from the purchasing of partners to a demonstration of a couple's romantic connection. In some cultures, the Dance is more ritualized; in others, it became more a romantic display between partners.

The trends in First Dances are changing. More and more couples are preparing for their first dance as compared to 20 years ago, and the First Dance takes knowledge, skill, practice, and for many couples, a big dose of courage. Learning to dance as an amateur can have its challenges. At the Fred Astaire Dance Studio of Orange, we recommend preparing for your wedding dance at least 6 months in advance. If you only come once a week, you will have a good 20 lessons to fully execute your first Dance.

A choreographed first dance adds charisma to your gown and tuxedo, brightens your photos, add dimension to your video and most of all spreads the positive light and energy leaving guests and family in awe! These are the moments that are priceless and. This is why we do a first dance!

Chris Sabourin, Qwner/Director,
Fred Astaire Dance Studio of Orange

Amity Middle School - Yoga Class



Students at Amity Middle School - Bethany participate in the afterschool Yoga class taught by Woodbridge resident Julie Luciani. The class runs eight weeks and is sponsored by Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany.

Happy Spring!

from all of us at
Events Magazines and
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“Wear Red Day”



To support “American Heart Day” Woodbridge town employees recently gathered and wore red to raise awareness to help the American Heart Association support critical research and education for heart disease in women. In addition to wearing red, they also made a monetary donation to the American Heart Association.

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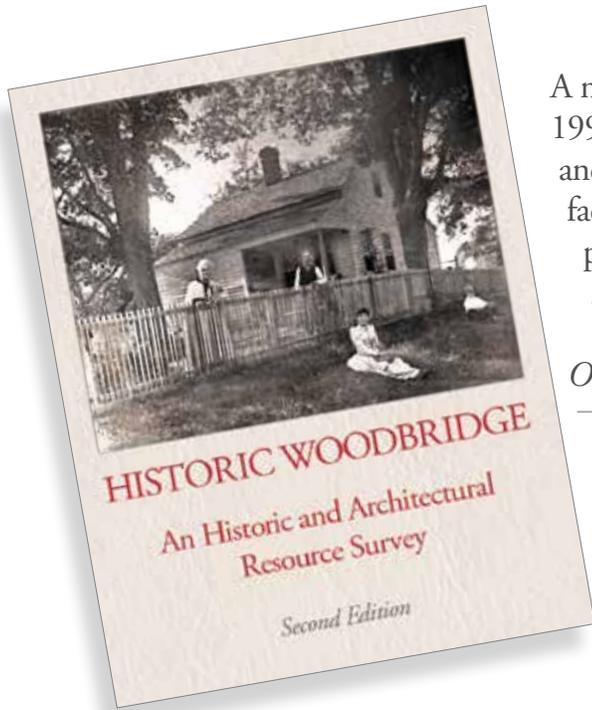


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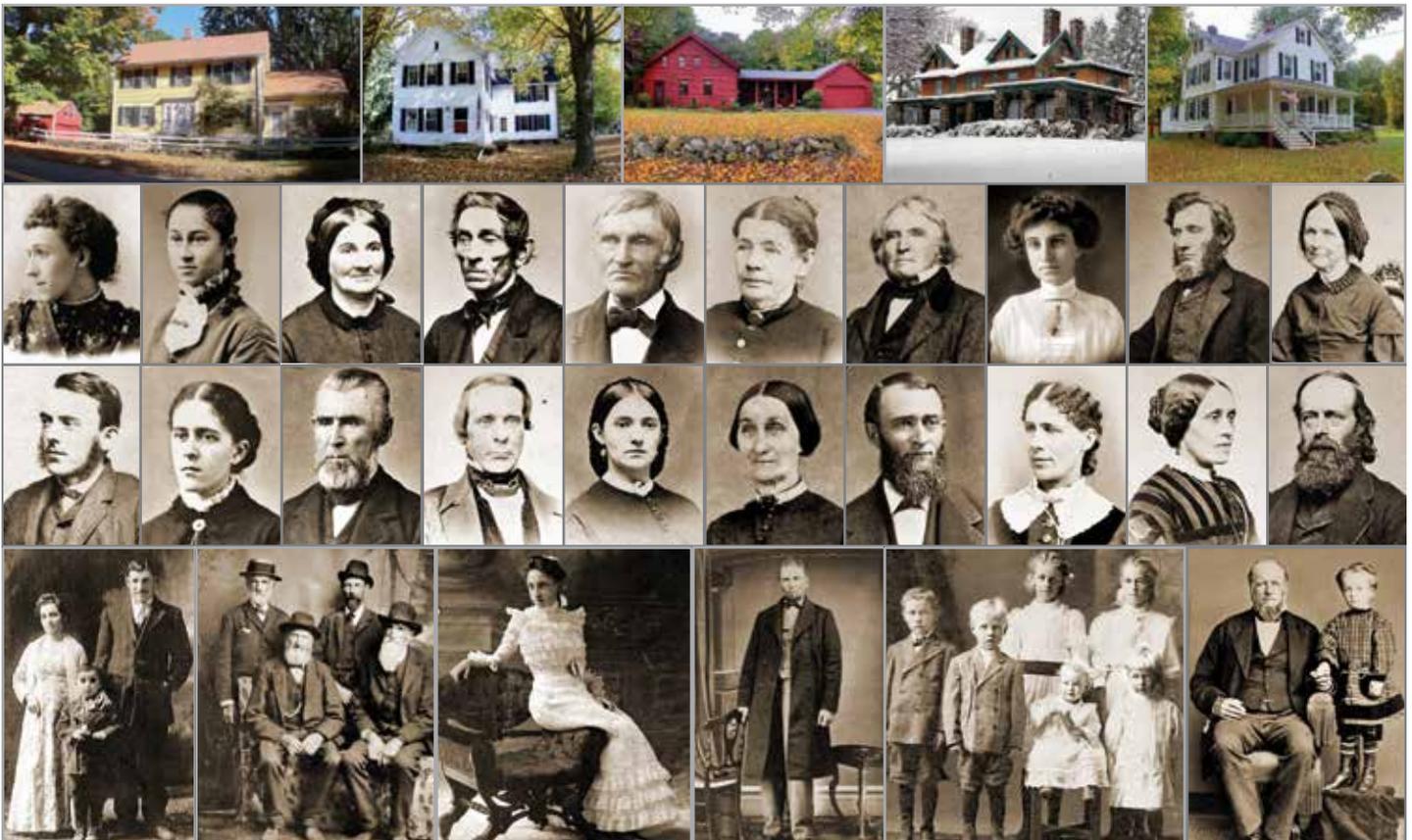
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-  Award Winning Schools
-  Clean and Reliable Energy Initiatives
-  Local Business Development
-  Communication and Community



**SUSAN
JACOBS**

**LAURENCE
GROTHEER**

**ELLEN
SCALETAR**

**BETH
HELLER**

VOTE MONDAY, MAY 4TH

www.Scalettar2015.com

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Ellen Scalettar. Sandra T. Stein, Treasurer. Approved by Ellen Scalettar.