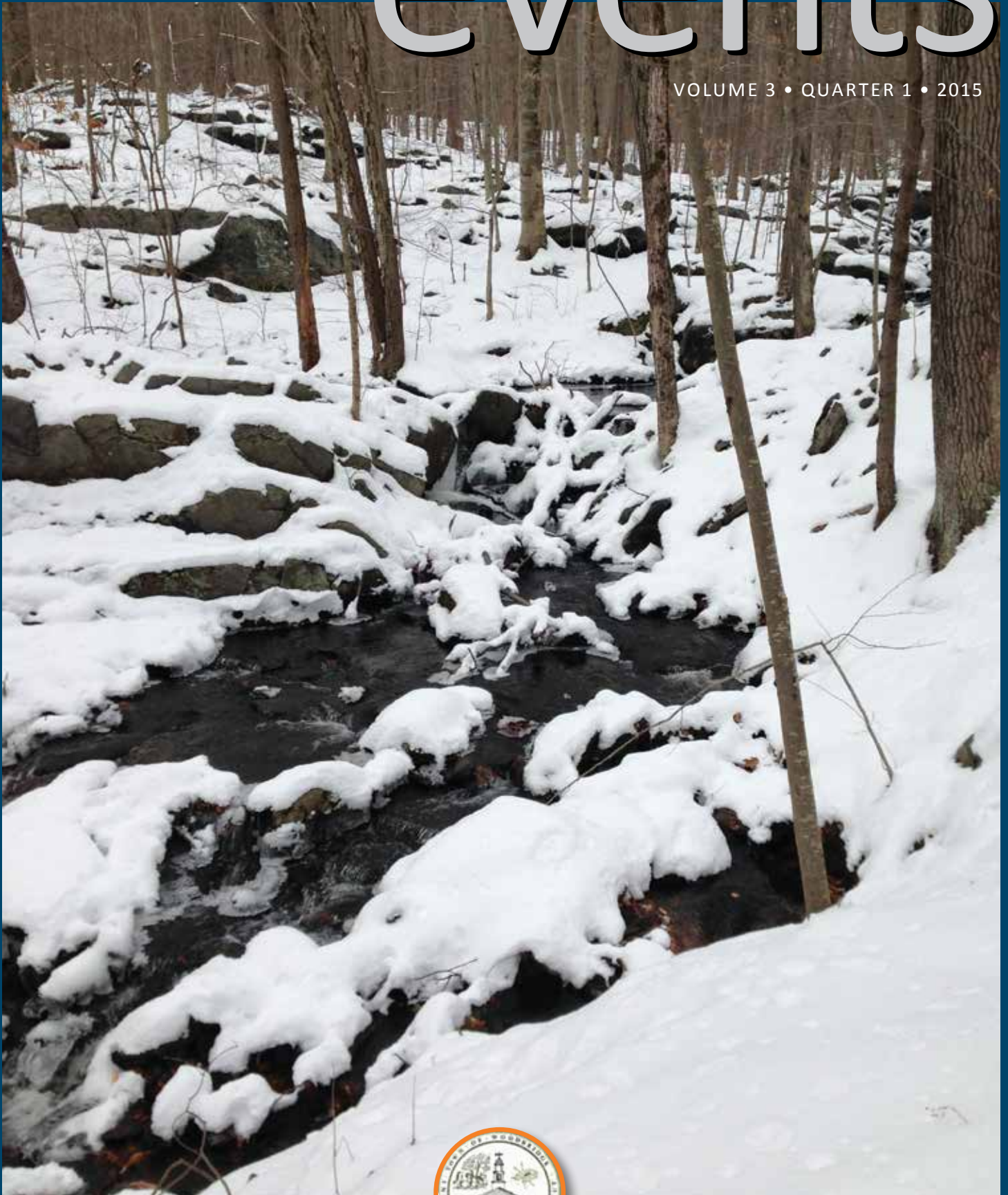


Woodbridge events

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First Selectman's Corner

The next weeks and months will be busy ones in Woodbridge and you may want to mark your calendar now for important dates ahead that appear in this column.

Massaro Community Farm: Annual Meeting and More!

This is Massaro Farm's fifth year in operation on Town-owned property. The farm is a major asset to our community, and I'd like to encourage you to learn about all the farm has to offer.

A good opportunity will be at the Massaro Community Farm (MCF) Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 8 at 1:30 pm at the First Church of Christ on Meetinghouse Lane. If you are an MCF member, you can vote at the meeting where important issues, including the election of new board members and proposed by-laws changes, will be on the agenda. Any person who makes a financial donation to the tax-exempt Massaro Community Farm, Inc. is a member. The membership term is one year from the date when the donation was made. In order to vote at the annual meeting you must be a member by Feb. 16. You can join on-line by going to massarofarm.org or you can send your check by mail to 41 Ford Road, Woodbridge CT 06514.

Keep in mind that buying a CSA subscription - enjoying Farmer Steve's beautiful, bountiful harvest - is through a companion organization, Massaro Farm CSA, and does not make you a voting member of Massaro Community Farm. Confusing, I know, but an important distinction.

Woodbridge Energy Challenge: Going Strong

The Woodbridge Ad Hoc Energy Advisory Task Force designed the Woodbridge Energy Challenge with two goals: helping Woodbridge residents to go green through solar and making your home more energy efficient. You can make your home more energy efficient through a Home Energy Solutions assessment. HES assessments are available from United Illuminating Company-certified technicians at a cost of \$99, and they are a great first step to reduce your energy consumption and make your home more comfortable. HES assessments include lighting, air leak sealing and water savings options, and information about available rebates and incentives for energy efficiency measures. The town has partnered with two local companies that provide HES services, New England Conservation Services and New England Smart Energy.

These two companies have agreed to donate \$25 to the Food and Fuel Fund for every assessment they complete in Woodbridge. The companies are also offering special pricing on insulation in addition to the state's 50% rebate.

continued on page 2



Ellen Scalletar
First Selectman

Levey Miller Maretz

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

This winter the Task Force hosted a workshop about Home Energy Solutions and insulation. On March 3 they will host a workshop about heating and cooling systems at 6 p.m. at the Woodbridge Town Library. On April 16 there will be a workshop about the CT Solar Challenge at 6:30 p.m. at the Center Gym.

**Country Club of Woodbridge:
One Proposal Before the Town**

Last spring, the Town issued a Request for Proposals for the CCW property and we received two submissions. The CCW Ad Hoc Committee, a volunteer group of your neighbors, reviewed the submissions and presented a report to the Board of Selectmen. Since then, the other developer dropped out of the process, leaving Toll Brothers as the sole responder.

The Ad Hoc Committee had recommended the Toll Brothers proposal because of its fiscal strength- \$7.5M payment upon closing – and because it retains significant open space for the Town. You can read both proposals and the committee's report on the Town's website under the "Government" tab.

It is important to note that the public discussion of this proposal does not indicate that I or any other members of the Board of Selectmen endorse the plan. I believe Town residents must have ample opportunity to hear, review, question and evaluate all aspects of the proposal. This is especially true in light of the recommendations of the ad hoc committee and the potential positive fiscal impact for our taxpayers. In my opinion, this proposal and possible modifications merit serious consideration by our residents. Stay tuned for notices of upcoming meetings and opportunities for conversations about the proposal.

After hearing from the public, the Board of Selectmen will make a decision as to whether or not they will recommend Toll's proposal, or an amended version of it, to the Town. If the Board does make a recommendation, it will be up to the residents of Woodbridge in a Town-wide vote to determine the destiny of the property.

The future of the Country Club of Woodbridge property is one of the most important and controversial decisions facing our Town. I know there are many people with very strong feelings about it, and I encourage everyone to keep our discourse fact-based and respectful of others' points of view.

Budget Process Underway

Woodbridge's budget process is governed by provisions in our Town Charter. Ultimately, it is the Board of Finance that proposes a budget to taxpayers who vote on it at the Annual Town Meeting. In January of each year, the Town's department heads submit capital and operating budget requests to our Finance Department. The Boards of Finance and Selectmen hear presentations from the departments and review the requests at joint meetings in January and February. Next, the Board of Selectmen deliberates on its own, making recommendations on the budget to the Board of Finance by the end of February.

Continued on next page

Letter from the Publisher

Dear Valued Readers,

If you've ever seen an Events Magazine, you will appreciate that it provides the latest information from town mayors and selectmen, town departmental schedules and activities, senior news, menus and programs, library information, community listings, economic development and other important town information helping residents to "keep in touch" with what's happening close to home. And the content ensures true shelf life of the magazine.

As we enter our 19th year in 2015 we are introducing a redesign, from cover to cover.

2015 brings excitement as we continue to grow, adding our 15th town. Our latest addition provides local and regional advertisers greater coverage and awareness with the ability to reach over 250,000 readers at a very low cost per thousand.

Our dedication to our magazines will not change and our commitment to help bring our readers their local town news will continue.

Essex Printing Award Winner!

Many encouraging changes have transpired at Essex Printing. We were presented the "The Benny Award" from the Print Industry of America. Over 3000 entries from companies

around the world competed in a variety of printing and graphic communications categories. We are very proud of our accomplishment being selected as one of only 84 companies around the world, and are able to say we are the "Best of the Best". Having won the Print Industry of New England's two Pinnacle Awards and Award of Excellence over the last two years highlights the quality and customer dedication at Essex Printing. In 2015 we will continue to look for new ways to enhance our products and assist our clients to meet their objectives.

I would like to thank you for making Essex Printing and Events Magazines part of your marketing and advertising plan. We are especially proud of the many wonderful and complimentary letters, cards, emails, and personal reviews we receive from our satisfied customers.

Our reputation of excellent customer service has helped us create and build lasting business relationships that are the hallmark of our continued success in helping your business and organization succeed! We look forward to working with you in 2015.

Sincerely,

William McMinn, President,
Essex Printing and Events Magazines

First Selectman's Corner ... continued from page 2

The Board of Finance is charged with developing a preliminary budget and presenting it to the Town at a public hearing. This year the hearing will be on April 27th, 2015 at 7:30 pm in the Center Gym. The hearing provides an opportunity for taxpayers to make comments and ask questions, following which the Board of Finance may adjust the budget. The budget is voted on at the Annual Town Meeting, which this year will be on May 18th.

Our Town budget is more than our financial plan. It is a policy document that expresses our values and our priorities. The challenge, of course, is to balance the costs of those priorities - top-rated schools and first-rate town services - with controlling the tax burden on residents. I am confident that we will meet that challenge.

Economic Development: Focusing on New Businesses

I have been working with the Economic Development Commission to increase our focus on the Town's business community. In order to strengthen the bond between Town Hall and the business district, I have been touring new and expanding businesses, promoting these businesses through media outreach and offering my support. Likewise, at the Economic Development Commission monthly meetings the Commission is hearing from new and expanding businesses, including why they chose Woodbridge. This provides valuable information to the Commission, and helps the businesses get the word out about their products and services.

In many towns commercial property is a major part of the tax base. In Woodbridge our business district is small, but I believe that a robust commercial zone can help the

Town in many ways. We will continue to work together to enhance the potential of this asset.

Communicating with Residents

One of my major goals when taking office a year and a half ago was to increase communication between Town Hall and Woodbridge residents. Since then, we've been updating the Town website frequently, submitting articles to the local newspapers, and we started a Facebook page and an e-newsletter. The newsletter now has more than 700 subscribers and I'm hearing from residents that they are feeling more informed and more connected to one another and the Town.

If you'd like to stay up-to-date with news and events, follow us on Facebook ([Facebook.com/WoodbridgeCT](https://www.facebook.com/WoodbridgeCT)), join our e-newsletter (tinyurl.com/WoodbridgeEnews) and visit our website often (woodbridgect.org).

events

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correction

The last issue of Woodbridge Events gave an incorrect cover photo credit. The photo was actually submitted by Daniel McKee Photography. Please accept our apology.

Reaping What We Sow: Five Years of Farming



Massaro Community Farm has come a long way in its short five year history. From tumbledown buildings and fallow fields, we have built a thriving community farm. And we have donated nearly 29,000 pounds of fresh, organic produce to people in need. We are so proud to have achieved this milestone.

The farm has created traditions out of its annual community events -- Celebrate Spring, Dinner on the Farm, and Family Fun Day – and is adding new ones by offering farm-based education for students, holding outdoor concerts, and hosting

a FoodCorps service member. The farm renewed existing friendships and built new ones with the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven and the Institute for Learning in Retirement, all in the spirit of advancing our mission to preserve farmland, provide food for the hungry, and create a place where the community can come together for learning, inspiration, and fun. MCF continued its steady growth in 2014, purchasing a new tractor and installing three new high tunnels. Future projects include an improved parking area and an equipment storage shed.

The farm will also hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 8, 2015 at 1:30pm at the First Church of Christ, Meetinghouse Lane in Woodbridge. This gives the community a chance to meet and speak with board members and staff, and hear about the farm's plans for the coming year. Members in good standing can also vote for board members, and other business to be addressed that day. If you didn't receive a copy of the farm's 2014 Annual Report, extra copies are available at the farm, Woodbridge Library or at Town Hall.

Complementary Observers



Amity Regional School District 5 teachers working with Dr. McPadden on classroom walk-through skills for complementary observers.

The Amity Regional School District No. 5 Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Committee took a bold step when the team agreed to include Complementary Observers as a part of their district Teacher Evaluation and Development Model. During this first year of full implementation, the process has gone extremely well. Recently hired Superintendent Charles Dumais along with the entire administrative team fully support the process of Complementary Observers. However, no one has been more complimentary of the process than the Complementary Observers themselves. Once implemented, the informal classroom walk-throughs conducted by Complementary Observers truly has become the shining star of the evaluation process. In a time of many changes and initiatives, teachers have built a culture of trust and reflection and strengthened their professional relationships.

This article originally appeared in the State Department of Education Newsletter.

Two Woodbridge Residents Honored



Two Woodbridge residents were honored with a Life Saving Award at the recent Board of Selectmen meeting. Deputy Police Chief Ray Stuart applauded the men for their quick action. In September John Arpaia and Jon Oddo performed CPR on a man who had gone into cardiac arrest at the new Crossfit studio on Selden Street. Arpaia and Oddo performed CPR until the paramedics arrived, which likely saved the man's life, Stuart said.

Energy Challenge

Residents learned about the value of a home energy check-up at the first of three Woodbridge Energy Challenge winter workshops on Tuesday Jan. 13.

First Selectman Ellen Scalettar welcomed participants to the workshop saying "this is an opportunity to go green, save money and benefit ourselves and the Town."

The Town's Ad Hoc Energy Advisory Task Force selected two companies 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.

Task Force chair Lisa Connor introduced representatives from the two companies, New England Conservation Services and New England Smart Energy who conducted the workshop.

Paul Weaver of New England Conservation Services explained the benefits of HES assessments. On average, he said, 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. Next, the homeowner will have up to 29 light bulbs replaced with 25 CFLs and four LEDs.

Collin Babbage of New England Smart Energy explained that CFLs and LEDs use 60 to 80% less electricity than incandescent light bulbs.

Homes are also evaluated for hot water saving measures and residents may receive low-flow shower heads, faucet aerators and up to nine feet of hot water pipe wrapping to help hot water stay hot. After the assessment is complete, the HES technician will have a "kitchen table" conversation with the homeowner to review written recommendations on next steps and discuss rebates and incentives available for those recommendations. Depending on the home, technicians may recommend new appliances, a new furnace, new water heater and/or insulation.

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.

Weaver explained that insulation installation usually has a pay-back time of five years. The rebate cuts that pay-back time to 2.5 years or less.

The Woodbridge Energy Challenge is one-stop shopping for residents who want to learn more about saving energy and going solar. There were three winter workshops about home energy efficiency and there will be a solar workshop in April.

To schedule an HES assessment, contact New England Smart Energy at (203) 292-8088 or New England Conservation Services at (203) 389-3342.

The Garden Club

The Garden Club of Woodbridge invites you to "The Art of Romance - A Valentine Tea", Saturday, February 14 at 1 pm.

Donna and Ron Lasko will reveal the 2,000 year history of Valentine's Day, how it became the world's most favorite holiday, how its evolution and traditions were woven into the art of romance from ancient times to today. Their exhibit includes

antique and collectible fans, Valentine Day cards and a variety of unique symbols of courtship and romance. Please join us at the First Church of Christ, 5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT. You can purchase tickets at the door, \$30 or call Denise Rock at 203-389-7453.

The Garden Club of Woodbridge is presenting "From the White House to Your

House", Tuesday, March 3, 2015.

Ruth Loiseau will create floral designs while sharing her experiences in the White House serving 5 presidents. Light refreshments will be served. Please join us at the First Church of Christ, 5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT at 11:45am.

October Horticulture Therapy



Community outreach is one of the most important activities of the Garden Club of Woodbridge. As part of that program, the Horticultural Therapy Committee meets at Coachman Square on Bradley Road from September to May on the third Monday of the month. The Committee's purpose is to work with the residents specifically in areas such as motor skills, communications, memory and mental health. At the October meeting, committee members Marie Dube and Linda Cederbaum (pictured) helped the attendees create Fall foliage arrangements. All of the foliage came from Marie's magnificent garden.

The Leo Club at Amity Middle School



The recently revitalized Leo Club at Amity Middle School Bethany, a branch of the Lions' Club, is focusing on helping a local family. They aim to raise much needed funds and show their emotional support.

The club has organized a variety of in-school events and is starting to plan out-of-school events to raise money to support the Eldredge Family, whose son Andrew has been hospitalized in New York following an accident.

Club members made and sold friendship bracelets outside the polls on Election Day morning, and are planning several other events. \$125 was raised at the polls and another \$300 has been raised in school. The club is facilitated by Susan Skalka.

"This club is strengthening important life skills, including planning, cooperation and compassion," said First Selectman Ellen Scalettar. "I wish these students every success and hope that Woodbridge residents support their efforts."

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The Scholastic Book Fair



The Beecher Road School Parent Teacher Organization held its popular biannual Scholastic Book Fair the first week of December. “We are grateful to the PTO for promoting our school-wide goal of creating the next generation of life-time readers,” said Superintendent Dr. Guy Stella. “You can feel the energy in the room when children of all different ages and grade levels visit the Book Fair. Our children love books; they love to read.”

The book fair is a fundraiser for the PTO, promotes reading and provides books for the school. Each classroom visited the fair, held in the North Gym, and students and teachers were able to shop for a variety of books.

“The BRS book fair was a great success once again this year,” said PTO President Tim Kelley. “It offers a wonderful opportunity for children to choose their own books and get excited about reading. This event is a major fundraiser for the PTO and all of the funds are used to enrich the education of every Beecher Road School student. It is great to see such a strong commitment to reading from the Beecher community.”

Teachers were encouraged to create a wish list of desired classroom books, and at Family Night parents bought many of the books on teachers’ wish lists. Also during Family Night, Woodbridge Town Library children’s librarian Judy Ravin hosted a table and spoke about reading programs at the Library. The Student Council sold pizza and baked goods to raise money to support an “adopted” family in Bolivia.

“This is so awesome, and our students are so excited about the books,” said First Grade teacher Shannon Sanders. Sanders says her students even asked to skip recess in order to read their books. “Once again, I was so impressed by the enthusiasm for learning that goes on at Beecher Road School,” said First Selectman Ellen Scalettar. “The book fair is another great example of all the wonderful ways that Beecher Road School staff and parents collaborate on behalf of Woodbridge’s children.”

Amity and Woodbridge Historical Society



The Amity and Woodbridge Historical Society held its holiday open house at the Thomas Darling House on Sunday, Dec. 7.

First Selectman Ellen Scalettar visited the home on Saturday to thank volunteers who were using fresh greens and holly to decorate for the annual event. “The Historical Society always does a beautiful job of highlighting this important Woodbridge resource, and this year was no different,” said Scalettar. “It was a wonderful afternoon at the Thomas Darling House.” At the Open House, guests enjoyed

cookies and hot cider, period décor, a fire in the fireplace and holiday songs by the Amity Chamber Singers.

“It was so lovely to be greeted by Thomas and Abigail Darling (aka Don and Dana Menzies) as we visited their home,” said Deputy First Selectman and Historical Society member Beth Heller. “The Amity Chamber Singers were wonderful and sang to a standing room only crowd. I’d like to thank everyone who worked so hard to prepare for the festivities, and welcomed us to the Darling House.”

Senior News

Benefits of Exercise



The Woodbridge Senior Center offers an exercise class for seniors or any individuals in the baby boomer age range and up. The one hour classes are held year-round on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm, and the fee is only \$2.00 per class!

The classes include strength training, cardio, low impact aerobics, flexibility, and balance.

We've all heard about the many benefits of exercise; a healthier heart, stronger bones, better balance, improved appearance, and more, but exercise has many additional benefits, for people of all ages, especially seniors. According to AARP, 40 percent of people between 45 and 64 are considered sedentary. We can all receive tremendous benefits from regular exercise. For people 50 and over, the health benefits of moderate exercise will add years onto our lives.

A new study has found that previously sedentary seniors who incorporated exercise into their lifestyles not only improved physical function, but experienced psychological benefits as well. It's never too late to start!

Exercise will delay or prevent many diseases and disabilities associated with aging, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer, and others and can dramatically reduce the chance of having even more health issues in the future. Exercise also increases energy levels, improves brain activity, and reduces stress.

Increasing balance helps prevent falls, a major cause of broken hips and other injuries that often lead to disability and loss of independence. The good news is that muscle mass and bone density can increase at any age in response to exercise.

Consistency is more important than intensity when it comes to exercise for seniors. Individuals don't have to engage in strenuous exercises to gain health benefits. Any amount of physical activity, even just twice a week, can be beneficial and will increase your life expectancy.

We encourage everyone to come in and start the New Year off on the right foot in order to Get Healthy and Improve Your Quality of Life! Pre-registration is not needed. You can join at ANY time!

For more information call the Woodbridge Senior Center @ 203-389-3430.

Senior Center Classes

4 Meetinghouse Lane

TAI CHI

Advanced Tai Chi, Mondays from 1:30 - 2:30 starting 3/16, ending 6/29.

Beginner Tai Chi, Thursdays from 1:00 - 2:00 starting 3/19, ending 6/18

Cost is \$30.00 & class size is limited to 15 people. Time is subject to change.

EXERCISE with LAURIE LUCE

We offer an exercise class which includes a combination of strength training, cardio, flexibility and balance. You do not have to be a senior to attend. All ages are welcome. The 1 hour class is held in the gymnasium on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00. You may start at any time, prior registration is not required. The cost is only \$2.00 per class.

We look forward to seeing you and helping you to stay healthy for many years to come.

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE

Monday 3/2/2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The classroom course costs only \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non members. Checks payable to AARP. Completion of course may entitle eligible drivers to a discount on their automobile insurance.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

The Woodbridge Senior Center will be offering tax help this year, Tuesdays 9:00 - 12:00 starting February 3 until April 15.

Remember to bring a photo ID such as a driver's license; Social Security card; and ID for anyone included on the tax return. Other documents to consider bringing are: copy of prior years returns, current year income documents/statements; W-2's, 1099's, stock dividends, paid annual property tax statements, expenses over 7.5% of adjusted gross income - including equipment, prescriptions, Medicare Part D premiums, fees covering medical care, long term care, costs of transportation to treatments. All will be asked to complete an intake form prior to completing their return. Appointments are necessary. For information call (203) 389-3430.

Woodbridge Town Library

From Page to Stage

The Woodbridge Town Library recently hosted a series of three programs in conjunction with Long Wharf Theatre surrounding the play "Picasso" at the Lapin Agile by Steve Martin. The first event was a Talk Back with Performance Director Gordon Edelstein and the cast from the show. The event was held in the Center Gym to accommodate the large crowd that attended. Attendees got a sneak peak at scenes from the show and also had the opportunity to ask the cast questions.

The second event was a book discussion with Dr. Mark Schenker, Senior Associate Dean in Yale College. Dr. Schenker led a group of participants, some who had read the play, some who had seen the play, and some who had done both, through a discussion of the topics and themes that ran throughout the play. Lastly, residents had the opportunity to see the play at Long Wharf Theatre at a discounted price on Thursday, December 11th and attend a reception before the show. Over 40 people attended the

show that night and met and mingled with each other and Managing Director of the show, Joshua Borenstein. Overall, the series of events was a success and the library hopes to host other similar programs in the future.



Group Shot at Reception

Upcoming Events at Library

Adult Programs

You can register for these programs at the Circulation Desk, by phone, or in person at www.woodbridge.lioninc.org.

Getting Your Work Published

Tuesday, February 17th @ 7 pm.
Navigating the world of publishing can be a tricky business. Perhaps you've finished your latest poem or short story and don't know what to do with it. Or maybe you're thinking about writing a novel but can't imagine how to get it published. In this workshop, we'll take a broad view of publishing and look at each step of the process, from getting your work ready for submission to finding markets to dealing with rejection.

The Power Within Positive Energy Workshop

Tuesday, February 24 @ 6:30 pm.
(snow date February 25th).
Join Cynthia Streit Mazzaferro, registered physical therapist, master reiki practitioner, and motivational speaker, for this educational and interactive presentation. You will learn how to release and use the "power within", the effects of negativity vs. positivity, and how to affect your energy flow pattern. You will learn how to understand how your thoughts can affect you personally and how to create a healthy and harmonious you!

Mysteries of the Golden Age with Dr. Mark Schenker

Wednesday, March 4 @ 7pm.
Join Dr. Mark Schenker, Senior Associate Dean in Yale College, for the first of a two-part series in which we will contrast classic British mystery novels of the so-called Golden Age with American mystery novels of the same time period. *The Nine Tailors* by Dorothy Sayers and *Death in a White Tie* by Ngaio Marsh will be discussed in March and *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett and *The Big Sleep* by Raymond Chandler will be discussed on April 8th. Copies of all titles are available for check out at the Circulation Desk.

Kerry Boys Live in Concert

Tuesday, March 10 @ 7 pm.
Just in time for St. Patrick's Day! Join us for the musical Irish spirit of The Kerry Boys! Their humorous, high-energy show will have you clapping and singing along in no time, engaging you from start to finish with their pristine harmonies and wide collection of traditional and original songs. Come and get your Irish on!

Children and Teens

You can register for these programs at www.woodbridge.lioninc.org.

Tens to Teens Art Session

Wednesday, February 11th @ 6:00 pm (grades 4 to 12).

Join us to make a yummy bouquet of sweetness for your sweetie. You will also design your own vase to bundle your treats. Space is limited. Please register online!

Brick by Brick Lego Program

Saturday, February 14 @ 2 pm grade 1 and up. What can you make with Lego Blocks? Get creative at this special hands-on workshop. Limited space. Online registration began on January 15th.

Teen Book Discussion

Saturday, February 28 @ 2pm for high school students.
Our Teen Book Discussion Group will meet for brownies, book chat, and chocolate. Join in the discussion about books gone reel, tell us what you have been reading, see what's new in teen titles, and find out what has our attention. You can register at www.woodbridge.lioninc.org.

SAT vs. ACT Combo Practice Test

Saturday March, 14 @ 11am.
Not sure whether to take the SAT or ACT? Take this proctored test with Kaplan that has sections of both exams and receive a detailed analysis of your score which will show you your strengths and weaknesses and tell you which exam you scored better on. Please bring a calculator and number 2 pencils.

Continued on next page

LIBRARY ... continued from page 10

The NEW SAT Practice Test

Saturday, April 18th @ 11 am (recommended for high school sophomores). Beginning in spring 2016, The College Board, makers of the SAT will be launch-

ing a revised version of the SAT. Students taking the exam will have the option to take the new exam or the old exam. Try your hand at the new exam to see what the differences are and help you decide

which exam to take. Test is 3 hours long with an optional essay that will add extra 50 minutes to exam time. Calculators are not permitted for the new SAT exam.

Benefits of Music

There are many more benefits to music than just learning to play. Research has found that learning music facilitates learning other subjects and enhances skills that children use in other areas. Making music involves more than the voice and fingers playing an instrument; a child learning about music has to tap into multiple skills often simultaneously. By doing this, you are training your brain to use multiple areas. Research indicates that the brain of a musician, even a young one, works differently than that of a non-musician. There is some good neuroscience research that children involved in music have larger growth of neural activity than people not in music training.

Studies have found links between music and spatial intelligence, which means that understanding music can help children visualize elements that should go together, like they would do when solving a math problem.

Being musical can improve your child's ability to learn non music tasks. Benefits to music education include discipline, learning a skill, performance, confidence, and being part of something you can be proud of.

By adding elements of music to a child's day, their understanding of art and the world and how you think and express yourself are enhanced.

At Kokopelli Preschool our goal is to introduce a different musical instrument each week. Our music teachers will teach the children proper ways to hold an instrument, play it, listen to the sounds, and identify one instrument from another. Not all instruments are appropriate for a preschooler to play, but we feel learning to appreciate the instrument and playing music together is a great start.

Jackie Yannes, Kokopelli School of Music and Arts

Revised DOT Plan for Exit 59



The state Department of Transportation presented its revised plan for the area around Exit 59 off Route 15 at a public meeting on December 16.

The revised plan, a map of the area and video of the public meeting are available for viewing on the Town's website, www.woodbridge.org in the news archives.

"Town staff and I have been working closely with our counterparts in New Haven and DOT staff to move up the construction schedule," said First Selectman Ellen Scalettar. "The previous plan came with a 30-year timeline, and I am very pleased to see that construction on this revised plan is anticipated to start in the

spring of 2018 and be completed later that year."

The revised plan includes:

- new sidewalks and new crosswalks along Routes 63 and 69 to improve pedestrian safety
- minor widening of Route 69 across from Merritt Avenue to allow the extension of a southbound through-lane
- widening of the southbound Route 15 offramp to accommodate a second left-turn lane onto Route 69 northbound
- the prohibition of left-turns from Pond Lily Avenue onto Route 69
- a new traffic signal for the northbound exit from Route 15

Public Works

The Woodbridge Department of Public Works would like to remind Woodbridge residents of policies and practices relating to winter weather.

Parking

All vehicles should be parked off the road during winter storm events. Parking limits are specifically governed by Town Ordinance, Section 397-2. Anyone who violates this ordinance may receive a fine and their vehicle may be towed.

When a parking ban goes into effect the Town will ask local media to publicize the ban on TV and radio. You can also check the Town's website at: www.woodbridgect.org for updates. While we will do our best to inform residents of any parking ban, please keep the Ordinance in mind and avoid street parking during a winter storm.

Snow Removal

The Department of Public Works divides the Town into nine snowplow routes in order to remove snow as quickly and efficiently as possible. In the event of severe winter weather, snow may nonetheless accumulate, especially on side roads and cul-de-sacs. Should you have a concern about snow accumulation on your street, you may call the Public Works Office at

203-389-3420 or the Police Department at 203-387-2511 in the event the Public Works Office is closed.

Ordinance 375-19 Plowing or Throwing Snow and Ice into Street: No resident, owner occupant or agent thereof, including private contractors, shall:

1. Push, plow, blow or otherwise put any snow / ice from driveways, parking lots or sidewalks into or on Town roadways or other public property in the Town.
2. Plow snow from a private premises across a Town roadway or sidewalk to the opposite side of any roadway or sidewalk; or
3. Plow snow in a manner which blocks access to the premises of other Town residences or mailboxes.

For additional information on this particular ordinance, please refer to the Town's website at: www.woodbridgect.org - Look under the tab of Government Charter & Ordinances.

Mailboxes

Since 1996, the Town has followed a "Mailbox Replacement Policy." Under that policy, the Town will replace a mailbox or post, at the Town's cost, only if the mailbox or post is directly struck by a Town snowplow during snow removal operations. The

policy was adopted in 1996 after reviewing the procedures of many other Connecticut towns.

A mailbox or post may be dislodged by the weight of the snow, rather than a snowplow. The weight of snow, especially when wet, can often knock off or break mailboxes and posts. In these cases, the owner is responsible for repair or replacement.

Please check your mailbox and post to make sure both are secure. You may also want to install a secured protective shield to deflect the snow from the mailbox and post.

Mailboxes should be 15-inches behind the edge of the road and 42-inches high to the bottom of the box.

Helpful Ideas

We suggest that you install plow guide markers along the edge of your property to help guide the snowplow operators and to avoid lawn damage. Again, you may reach us through the Public Works Office at 203-389-3420 or through the Police Department at 203-387-2511 if the Public Works Office is closed.

The Woodbridge Department of Public Works would like to thank residents for their cooperation in addressing winter storm conditions.

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.

INVITATION TO JOIN THE QVHD MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS!

(You don't have to have a medical background!) Across America, communities prepare for unexpected emergency events. In 2014, QVHD established a Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) which brings together community members who are interested in helping the health department during an emergency or unexpected event. Activities may include assisting to dispense medications or

helping at a shelter or other community event. No one can know what or when an emergency or other event will occur. What is known is that a response will need to be rapid and will require volunteers who can respond quickly to the call for help. A volunteer work force that is in place and can be called into action is critical for QVHD to be able to respond in a quick and efficient manner. You can be part of the team that protects you, your family and your community! There will be many roles on this response team to be filled with people who are committed to helping

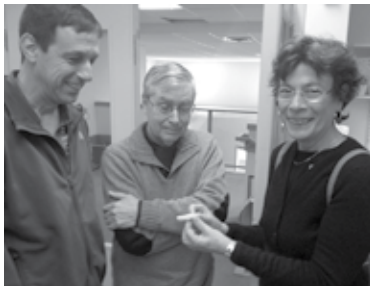
others. You don't need to have a particular skill; just a willingness to help out. If you would like to be involved and play a critical role in your community's response to an emergency, please visit www.qvhd.org, Emergency preparedness section, and complete a volunteer application or call QVHD, 203-248-4528, for a volunteer application or more information.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

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

First Selectman Welcomes New Businesses

First Selectman Ellen 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.



White Knight Implants



P2Science



Talking Hands



New England Brewing

“For such a small business district I am continually amazed at the creativity and variety of businesses that Woodbridge attracts,” said Scalettar. The Town’s Economic Development Commission is inviting new and expanding businesses to its monthly meetings to learn about those businesses and why they chose Woodbridge. Scalettar’s recent visits have included White Knight Implants, a dental implant business that moved to Woodbridge from Stratford; P2Science, a specialty-chemical company that moved from New Haven’s Science Park; Talking Hands, a social media marketing company that moved from Oxford; and New England Brewing, a popular brewery that expanded from its space on Selden Street to a larger space on Amity Road.

White Knight Implants moved to Woodbridge in search of more suitable space. They have nine employees who make and design implants including bridges, crowns and dentures in a high-tech lab on Research Drive.

P2 Science makes synthetic chemicals from renewable sources to be used in perfumes, cosmetics and related applications such as specialty polymers and personal care products. Traditionally, these products are made from petrochemical sources. The company has five employees and started in late 2011, based out of New Haven. P2 Science is now in the old lab space built for Bayer, which has many hard-to-find features.

Talking Hands founder Bill DeRosa says his business outgrew his home office, and he’s happy with his new office space on Amity Road. His company offers social media marketing and traditional marketing to clients ranging from small mom-and-pop businesses to Fortune 500 companies.

New England Brewing recently moved from Selden Street to a significantly larger space next to the Crest Auto Mall. New England Brewing fans can often find beer on tap at the Woodbridge brewery that is not sold in stores. There are six kegs on tap and those six brews are announced daily on Facebook. You can also taste New England Brewing beers at local restaurants including Wheelers Restaurant & Taproom, Woodbridge Social and Grimaldi’s Pizza.

“I have been pleased to hear, time and time again, that businesses moving to Woodbridge are finding spaces that fill their business needs in a great location,” said Scalettar. “My hope is that these visits will continue to strengthen economic development in Woodbridge.” If you know of a new or expanding Woodbridge business, contact Assistant Administrative Officer Betsy Yagla at 203-389-3403 or byagla@woodbridgect.org.

Thank You Residents!

30% increase in Christmas Trees Recycled. Boy Scout Troop 41 picked up and recycled approximately 40 trees this year. The trees are mulched and ultimately re-used in landscaping. Additionally, the \$800 in donations will specifically be used to support camperships and our community service projects such as building an outdoor chapel, community garden, clearing a segment of our town’s Blue Trail. Leave No Trace behind!

Immediate Opening For Full Time Press Operator (Offset Sheetfed)

Well established Commercial Printer is seeking an experienced press operator for two color 25” press. Responsibilities include typical press operations such as hanging plates, maintaining register and limiting waste, while helping to maintain high quality output. The ability to make minor repairs is essential. Candidate must have a strong background in printing very high quality and detailed work. High School Diploma and minimum of 3 years multicolor offset experience required.

To apply, send resume to print@essexprinting.com.

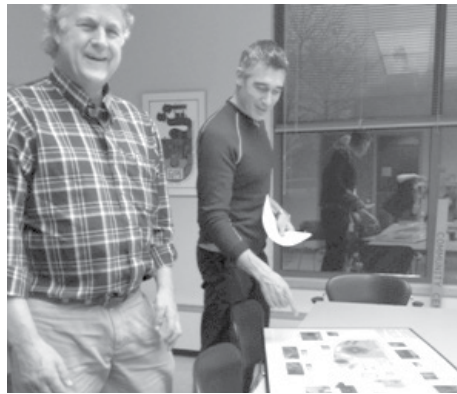
Jewish Community Center

JCC's Yeladim Early Learning Center has finalized plans for two new play areas with the guidance of architect Fred Martin of Environment Design, LLC, in Milford.

"The materials are low maintenance and durable so years from now it will still look great, said playground committee chair Marty Halprin. "Our priorities for the design were safe free play that builds on the kids' imaginations." Yeladim's educational philosophy is built around children exploring, imagining and problem solving.

The playgrounds will serve children ages 3 months through 5 years. Both incorporate a natural grassland theme with stump walks, grass mazes, play huts, and a large stand-still wooden jeep. Features such as the stage, band stands and "free build" area will encourage interactive play and foster imagination. The gardens currently used in the classroom to teach children about nature and growing vegetables will be expanded. Rubber surfaces, natural materials and ramps keep the design safe and accessible.

The funding for this project will come largely from donations. The committee is now developing a Capital Campaign to support the project, hoping to raise \$300,000. For more information or to make a donation, contact JCC Director Shelley Gans, (203) 387-2522.



Playground architect Fred Martin and playground committee chair Marty Halprin go over plans for the new playground at the JCC's Yeladim Early Learning Center.

Free Family Events in the JCC Living Room

Gather 'round for a family movie every Thursday in the JCC Living Room. We've got a great lineup of flicks and free popcorn so you can just drop in and watch with your friends and family. Everyone is welcome! Check out the movie schedule at jccnh.org. 4pm, JCC, 360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge. Free

Join us on the first and third Wednesday of the month for live jazz, brought to us by Blue Plate Radio. Musicians are local and change by the week. 5-7pm, JCC, 360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge. Free

JCC Hosts Hands On Hanukkah Experience

On Sunday Dec. 14, the JCC of Greater New Haven brought Hands on Hanukkah, a free family-friendly winter wonderland of Hanukkah activities, to the Westfield Connecticut Post Mall in Milford for the first time.

Hundreds of families came to explore many activities and games including a dreidel spin-off, live music, crafts, Hanukkah snacks, photos with Dizzy the Dreidel, giveaways, and a raffle for a mall gift certificate, a Kindle Fire, a JCC membership, and more.



JCC's Dizzy the Dreidel and Benny the Bagel lead a festive dance at the Westfield Connecticut Post Mall

WAC Swimmers Recognized



Congratulations to swimmers from the Woodbridge Aquatic Club (WAC) who were recognized for their outstanding performances at the Top 16 CT Swimming Awards Banquet, held at the Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville, CT on November 2, 2014. Each swimmer achieved a Top 16 Connecticut time in his/her event for their age group for all meets during the 2013-14 Short Course and the 2014 Long Course Seasons. Pictured are: (front row) Katherine O'Connor, John Alvarado; (middle row) Coach Debbie Druyff, Claire Yuan, William Zhu, Head Coach Dave Reilly; (back row) Jenna Lu, Kate Alvarado, Shiva Gowda, Kevin Yanagisawa. Missing from photo: Ben Clemens, Tyler Roy, Deniz Tek.

Human Services Department



Mario and Stephanie Cabral, owners of Progressions Salon in Woodbridge, generously organized a sock drive to benefit the Holiday Basket Program.

Thanks to the generosity and support from the community, the holidays were made brighter for 39 Woodbridge seniors & families who received food baskets & gifts.

The Staff of the Human Services Department sincerely thanks the Woodbridge Rotary Club for hosting a holiday party for the seniors at the Woodbridge Senior Center. We also sincerely thank the students and faculty of the Alternative High School, the Beecher Road School Social Action Committee, Woodbridge Library employees, Woodbridge Child Day Care Center, Amity Teen Center, Amity High School #5, PTO, employees of Woodbridge Town Hall, Cub Scouts Pack 902, Christ Episcopal Church, Daisy Troop Girl Scouts, One of a Kind Foundation, Amity High School SADD Group, Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto, LLP, and patrons of Woodbridge Town Library for their generous contributions of holiday food baskets. We thank the Children's House of Montessori for hats, mittens and scarves items. Thanks also to Progressions Salon for sponsor-

ing a sock drive and the Boy Scout Troop 63 for bountiful donations of non-perishable food for the holiday food baskets and emergency food closet.

In addition, we would like to thank the many residents who donated toys in the collection box at the Woodbridge Library for TEAM, Inc. Also, to the many individuals who donated, we are grateful. On behalf of the Staff and Members of the Human Services Commission, we wish everyone a very, Happy and Joyous New Year.



The Human Services staff collected, organized and donated holiday baskets.

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- Wednesday - Music: Drumming**
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- Friday - Acting**
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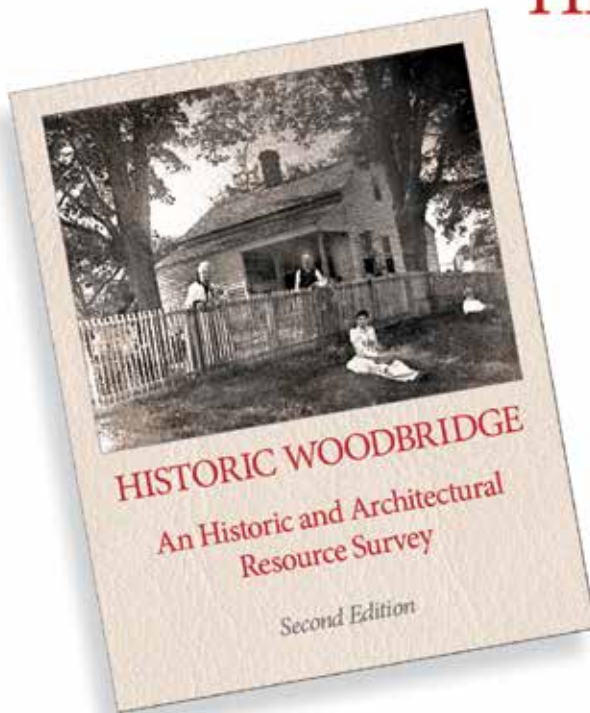


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