THE WOODBRIDGE NEWS

Vol. 14 Issue 1

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Town Hall 1 Main Street • Woodbridge, NJ 07095 www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us

THE STATE OF WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP IS OUTSTANDING

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mayor John E. McCormac delivered the 16th Annual State-of-the-Township address on February 10, 2023 before a gathered audience of the Woodbridge Chamber of Commerce, regional corporate and business leaders, government officials and Township residents.



The single-most important highlight of last year in Woodbridge was our successful passage of a municipal budget that had NO TAX INCREASE for municipal purposes for the first time in many years. It should be noted that municipal taxes are just under 30% of the total tax bill with the County of Middlesex, Board of Education and local Fire Districts making up the balance. We were able to keep our Municipal tax rate stable due to the Township's economic development initiatives that have successfully brought in many new taxpayers that have eased the burden on existing residents and businesses. Our years-long effort to control spending and consolidate services have kept our appropriations within State mandated spending limits and our Municipal workforce continues to provide outstanding services day-in and day-out.

It is important to note that the past several years put significant pressure on the finances of our businesses and residents due to the COVID-19 pandemic, inflation and supply chain concerns that raised the cost of owning a business and raising a family in virtually every sector of our State and national economies. It was not the year for our local government to add to that burden with a tax increase.

We managed this ZERO TAX INCREASE while not only making mandatory Township debt payments in the form of

notes and bonds in the required amounts but also with an additional \$9 million of optional prepayments of our debt. We also provided \$9 million for capital projects to avoid any future borrowing. That is \$18 million in direct investments with no interest charges at a time when short and long-term rates are far higher than in recent years. Actions like these continue to ensure the long-term stability of our Township's finances. Additionally, we were able to provide over \$8 million in funding directly to our Woodbridge school district under our agreement to pay their debt service on the bonds sold to finance the 2017 and 2020 school referenda.



A large part of our financial success has been our aggressive economic development efforts and our utilization of New Jersey's Payment in Lieu of Taxes program (N.J.S.A 40A:20-1) or PILOTs for short. PILOTs have been almost singularly responsible for the financial success that the Township has had which has enabled us to reduce our debt burden while providing resources to improve our municipal and school infrastructure without relying on our existing everyday taxpayers.

Continued on page 7

"Ten Towns, One Community"

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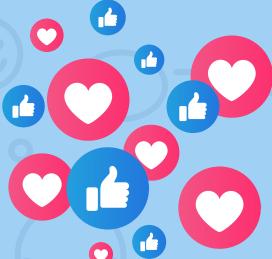
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SUMMERFEST IS BACK!!! June 3, 2023



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Meet the Municipal Council



2023 Council Leadership



Municipal Clerk John Mitch administers the Oath-of-Office to Councilman Gregg Ficarra as the Municipal Council President for 2023. Standing with Council President Ficarra is his wife Maritza.

Councilman Kyle
Anderson stands for the
Oath-of-Office as Council
Vice President for the
2023 Municipal Council.
Councilman Anderson is
accompanied by his
daughter Nyah.



TOWN HALL

1 Main Street Woodbridge, NJ 07095

www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor:

John E. McCormac

Municipal Council:

Council President:

Gregg Ficarra

Council Vice-President:

Kyle Anderson

Sharon McAuliffe, First Ward

Howie Bauer, Second Ward

Cory Spillar, Third Ward

Virbhadra N. Patel, Fourth Ward

Debbie Meehan. Fifth Ward

Lizbeth DeJesus, At-Large

Brian F. Small, At-Large

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

All Numbers Area Code 732	
Гown Hall	634-4500
Mayor's Office	
Woodbridge Police Department	634-7700
Municipal Clerk	602-6007
Municipal Prosecutor	
Municipal Court	
Office of Emergency Management	
Гах Collector	602-6010
Гах Assessor	602-6002
Engineering	602-6047
Building Department	602-6003
Housing Department	. 602-6009
Noodbridge Public Library	634-4450
Barron Arts Center	634-0413
Health Department	
Public Works	738-1311
Parks & Recreation	596-4048
TV-35	602-6079
Noodbridge Community Center	
The Club at Woodbridge	
Avenel Performing Arts Center	
Curtains Restaurant at APAC	
Cypress Recreation Center	
Senior Transportation (STOW)	726-2394

COUNCIL ON THE MOVE

Council President Ficarra Scores Another Healthy Town Award

As the Township's Health & Wellness advocate, **Council President Gregg Ficarra** announced that the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute designated Woodbridge as a 2022 New Jersey Gold Healthy Town. Councilman Ficarra reported that the Mayor's Wellness Committee navigated the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic to move forward with implementing Township-wide physical fitness and mental health wellness programing to include the installation of new bike share facilities at numerous public park and downtown locations throughout the Township, along with the expansion of the Middlesex County Greenway at the E. William Street entrance, and the resumption of the annual Crossroads of New Jersey 5K race, Pizza Run, and Bike Tour de Woodbridge.



Council Vice President Anderson Advocates for the Black Community

Council Vice President Kyle Anderson was tireless in his coordination of the many Township events and programs celebrating National Black History Month honoring the contributions and legacy of African Americans across U.S. history and society. The featured event was the daylong celebration hosted by the Independent Club of Colonia and the Human Rights Commission at the Acacia Center. Councilman Anderson is already at work planning the 3rd Annual Juneteenth Celebration & Festival... details to be announced later. It's important to note that June 19 was proclaimed a federal and state holiday in recognition that June 19, 1865 was the day in American history that all African slaves were freed under the Emancipation Proclamation.

Councilman Bauer Honors 50th Anniversary of the Fords Library

Councilman Howie Bauer continues to advance the Quality-of-Life for the Fords community by celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Fords Branch Library. The Fords Branch Library opened with much fanfare at their current Ford Avenue location offering residents and library-goers a collection of more than 20,000 volumes. Through Councilman Bauer's support, the Fords Branch Library will continue to serve the Fords community for another 50 years.





Councilwoman DeJesus Heralds National Women's History Month

Councilwoman Lizbeth DeJesus spearheaded the 2nd Annual Women's History Month celebration with a Proclamation and Flag-Raising ceremony in recognition of the trailblazing women of Woodbridge Township. This year, Councilwoman DeJesus offered a special tribute to the Female Hall of Fame athletes – past and present – who excelled in their chosen athletic endeavors.

Councilman Patel Advocates Oak Tree Senior Center

Councilman Viru Patel proudly opened the doors of the Oak Tree Senior Center with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony welcoming Senior residents from the Iselin community. The Oak Tree Senior Center is a full-service recreational and educational center located at the Iselin Knights of Columbus (571 Lincoln Highway) offering special services and programs to the Iselin Senior community. Senior residents are encouraged to register (registration is FREE) to participate in all of the center activities and programs. The Oak Tree Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.



COUNCIL ON THE MOVE (CONT.)



Councilman Cory Spillar Reports from Avenel

Councilman Cory Spillar joined the Department of Senior Services to "Cut-The-Ribbon" officially opening the Maple Tree Senior Center. The Maple Tree Senior Center stands as the Township's 5th Senior Center offering a full line of recreational, educational and informational services to the Avenel Senior community. Located at the Avenel Knights of Columbus building, the Maple Tree Senior Center sports a newly renovated community room for activities like bingo, exercise classes, and

more. Senior residents are encouraged to register as a member of the Maple Tree Senior Center (Registration is FREE.) The Maple Tree Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

Councilwoman McAuliffe Advances Buy Local Businesses

Councilwoman Sharon McAuliffe hit-the-ground-running immediately after being sworn-in as the First Ward Councilwoman. Not-with-standing COVID-19 and the pandemic's impact on the Woodbridge Township Buy Local business community, Councilwoman McAuliffe, along with the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce, successfully engaged the small business community to identify resources and support services available to small businesses via the federal and state CARES Act program(s). As a result, far fewer Woodbridge Buy



Local businesses were adversely impacted during the pandemic and remained open-for-business.



Councilman Small Advances Cypress II Recreation

Several years ago, **Councilman Brian Small** announced the Grand Opening of the Cypress Recreation Center in Port Reading that boasts a state-of-the-art Level Playing Field and fully accessible sport and playground facilities specially designed for challenged and handicapped children and young adults of all ages and abilities. The complex also sports pickle ball and volleyball courts. Stay-tuned for

the groundbreaking of Cypress II which will include a renovated soccer field, two new street hockey courts, and a playground.

Councilwoman Meehan Reports on Have-a-Heart

It goes without saying that the past three years were perhaps the most challenging years in Township history as nearly every resident and business was impacted in some way by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, **Councilwoman Debbie Meehan** was Front & Center for the annual Have-A-Heart food drive that collected over \$69,018 and 29,495 pounds of food for We Feed Woodbridge. The Have-A-Heart food drive challenges Woodbridge Township corporations, businesses, food service outlets, hospitality industry, schools and residents to donate 214 pounds of food or contribute \$214.00 to assist the Township food pantries continue their work providing food and meals to neighbors. Thank you to all who contributed to one of the most successful Have-A-Heart food drives ever!!!



Report from the Municipal Clerk's Office

Need to Update or Change Your Election Rcords? Here's How!

By John Mitch, Municipal Clerk

Voting is the most significant public responsibility that we as citizens possess. Prior to Election Day, the Municipal Clerk's Office receives countless calls concerning election matters. In attempting to vote during the last election, many registered voters learned that there were some issues with their election records on file at the Board of Elections or the Middlesex County Clerk's Office. Specific issues voters encountered involved name change(s), change of address, change of signature, etc. If any of these scenarios apply to you, now is the time to make the necessary changes so that they are corrected before the upcoming Primary Election.

If you are not registered, but wish to do so, or are looking to change your name, change your address, update your signature, change your party affiliation, or want to switch to vote by mail, you should file a Voter Registration Application with the Board of Elections as soon as possible.

You may also request to opt-out from receiving a mail-in ballot if you were previously registered to take advantage of this option by contacting the Municipal Clerk's Office. If you need to make any changes to your voting registration, you can begin the process by contacting the Woodbridge Township Municipal Clerk's Office at **732-602-6007** or you can visit the Woodbridge Township website at **www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us**.





2023~ Election Guide ~ 2023

Woodbridge has Five Election Wards, 75 Voting Districts and 32 Polling Locations.

May 16, 2023: Last day to register (if not a registered voter) to vote in the June Primary election.

May 30, 2023: Last day County Clerk can receive Mail-In Ballot request for the June Primary election.

June 6, 2023: Primary Election Day

Oct. 17, 2023: Last day to register (if not a registered voter) to vote in the November General election.

Oct. 31, 2023: Last day County Clerk can receive Mail-In Ballot request for the General Election.

Nov. 7, 2023: General Election.

Continued from page 1.

A PILOT is nothing more than a discount on property taxes, usually from 10-15%, that is fairly given to redevelopers to entice them to cleanup contaminated sites or underutilized properties that would not attract attention but for this financial incentive. These projects also bring thousands of new jobs to our Township residents. Every business pays taxes to Woodbridge Township despite consistent false statements by members of the public that PILOT companies pay no taxes. Simply put, without the incentive of PILOTs these companies would not come to Woodbridge.

In the current 2023 fiscal year **ZERO TAX INCREASE** budget, there is \$22 million in PILOT revenues from warehouses, power plants and residential complexes that equates to \$525 per household in Woodbridge Township. That is \$525 per year for 30 years that does not come from a typical homeowner in town but rather from new businesses. In three years, that amount will rise to \$30 million and \$700 per house. That is a significant amount of money that is still in resident taxpayer pockets especially during these tough economic times -\$21,000.00 over 30 years is very significant.

Without PILOTs we would not have nine turf fields, new tracks, gymnasiums, auditoriums, tennis courts, basketball courts and cricket fields that our entire community can use. We also have numerous other school amenities like full day kindergarten and improved technology and especially enhanced security, which is of utmost importance to all of us. We have also shared our PILOT revenues with our Fire Departments and First Aid Squads for vehicles, equipment and building improvements. We have had PILOT revenue in our budgets since 1999 and for the last 23 years not one Board of

Education appointed or elected official has ever complained about PILOTs.



To summarize our economic development efforts using Payments in Lieu of Taxes:

- Tax breaks to encourage sensible redevelopment and bring jobs to our residents and help our property values when underutilized properties are eliminated;
- The companies getting these tax breaks cover the cost of better schools and roads and parks so our taxpayers don't have to;
- Transit village luxury housing projects revitalize our downtowns and bring new stores and restaurants while producing far less of a burden on our schools and roads than typical single-family housing;
- While developers get a short-term tax discount, the Township and our school system receive significant long-term infrastructure improvements that otherwise would not be possible.

And, while everyone should be concerned about property taxes, perhaps even more attention should be paid to property values. Our current Fiscal Year 2023 budget holds the line on property tax increases, but small annual increases in prior budgets pale in comparison to the increase in property values because of actions the Township and school district have taken for the last several years.

Because of our municipal programs and services and because of our dedicated employees and elected officials, people want to live in Woodbridge Township. Just look at the demand for our luxury apartment complexes that rent out as soon as they are available and look at the bidding wars that occur as soon as a single family home hits the market. Just look at our residential neighborhoods of nice, clean and well-kept homes because of our crackdown on illegal housing and abandoned properties and improper property maintenance. Just ask a resident what it is like to live near a new park or school, or near a new commercial building that replaced an eyesore.

Our residential development has been accomplished without burdening our school system based on the limited number of new students from our transit village projects and the low incremental cost of educating a new student. There has also not been a major traffic impact on our roads as these luxury apartment complexes produce an average of just over one vehicle per unit compared to between two and three for single-family housing. The pandemic has also created a permanent class of employees who work from home at least a few days a week. This means our residents are driving less on our streets to go to work, outside employees are driving less into town and commuters are making fewer trips to one of our three train stations.

We are very proud of what Woodbridge accomplished in 2022 and we are excited about what the future will bring in 2023 and hope you all are too. The only thing left is to say thank you ALL for being part of Woodbridge Township – THE BEST TOWN AROUND.

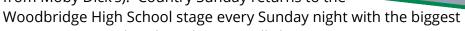


From the Mayor's Desk.

Mayor's Summer Concert Series Ready to Rock

The Mayor's Summer Concert Series returns!!! More Concerts!!! More Bands!!! More entertainment!!!

This Summer, you can go to a FREE concert just about every night!!! The always incredible line-up of Monday classic Golden Oldies & Doo-Wop followed by Tuesday Tribute bands take the concert stage at Woodbridge High School. Enjoy the eclectic sounds of Woodbridge Wednesday as the bands perform from the newly renovated stage at Parker Press Park. Local Band Thursday kicks-off their concert season with Woodbridge-area musicians taking the stage at Herbert Rankin Park in Sewaren (across from Moby Dick's). Country Sunday returns to the



Country-Western bands in the area. All shows start at 7:30PM.



So, bring a lawn chair and enjoy the FREE concerts with family and friends! The cost of admission to the Mayor's Summer Concert series is a can, or two or three of non-perishable food for the We Feed Woodbridge food bank.

Mayor McCormac Capitalizes on Grants to Launch Innovative Programs

The Township Administration secured more than \$20 million in special grant funding from federal, state, county and corporate grant programs for the SFY 2022-2023 budget cycle - funding that will bolster many Township initiatives, programs and events. The Health Department received over \$2 million in grant funding to continue health-care initatives in the battle against COVID-19 by providing vaccines and testing to residents, renovate parts of the Health Department building, and outfit the new Mobile Health Services Van. More than \$10 million has been awarded to upgrade our recreational facilities including \$2 million for Cypress Park, \$2 Million for the Marina and Dog Park, and \$1.5 Million for the New White Pines Community Center located

at the former Mount Carmel Church. One of the more significant awards was a \$1.5 million grant sponsored by Congressman Frank Pallone that will be used purchase electric shuttles to provide alternate transportation to those visiting our downtown. Among the grants secured for our sustainable initiatives were \$2.5 million was awarded by the NJDEP to purchase three electric garbage trucks to replace old diesel-powered DPW trucks and two electric shuttles for the S.T.O.W. fleet. Additionally, over \$500,000 in grants were awarded by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office to bolster Mental Health Services, driver and pedestrian safety, and outfit the WPD with bodyworn cameras.

Human Rights Commission Goes to Work

The Woodbridge Township
Human Rights Commission,
reestablished by Mayor John
E. McCormac and approved
by Woodbridge Township
Municipal Council
Resolution on June 23, 2020,
has embarked on the
mission to foster goodwill,
cooperation and conciliation
among the groups and
elements of the inhabitants



of the Township with the intent of eradicating bias in our community due to race, color, creed, gender, ethnicity, physical, mental or cognitive disability, religious affiliation, political affiliation or sexual orientation. The recommissioning of the Human Rights Commission was one of many actions taken by the Administration to address the concerns of the Woodbridge communities of color that were articulated at Municipal Council meetings and at community rallies.

We want to hear from you...



Send us your pictures or stories for our next issue!

The Woodbridge News c/o Town Hall 1 Main Street Woodbridge, NJ 07095

wbmayor@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

Tooling Around the Township Returns on Sat., April 29

Community Volunteers. Skilled Trades Workers. Students. Township Employees. Buy Local Business Owners. Corporate Offices. Everyone returns to work on **Sat., April 29** as we re-start the home repair and fix-it program for senior and handicapped residents.



Email **tooling@twp.woodbridge.nj.us** or contact **732-602-6015** for more information on volunteering or sending in a Home Repair Nomination form.





Mayor Mac's Tool Belt

Dear Mayor McCormac:

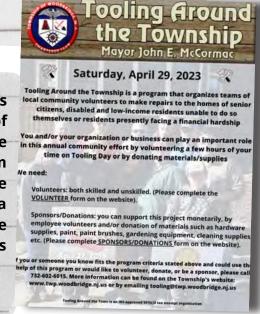
I would like to Thank You and everyone associated with the Tooling Around the Township program for including me on the selection list for 2022. I think the home improvement job done by Woodmont Properties is excellent.

Joan V. Iselin

Dear Mayor McCormac,

There are not enough adjectives in the dictionary to express our gratitude to you and the entire Tooling Around cadre of dedicated workers. It took so much planning and behind the scenes activities as everything was so very organized from start to finish. It is such a wondrous program and everyone involved wears a smile and is happy to be helping. And what a magnificent help it is! Chores that used to be so easy (like picking up twigs) are such big deals for me now. This means so much to my sister and me. Thank You!!!

Karen K. Woodbridge





Dear Mayor McCormac,

It was a pleasure meeting you on Saturday, not only as our Mayor, but as a fellow citizen of Menlo Park Terrace. I really enjoyed going down memory lane with you. It truly shows how our lives here in Woodbridge are so connected. This is not just a cosmetic change in our home, it is a life-changing event for Alyson and myself. We now have the results of everyone's kindness and we have a safer and cleaner home environment. To say that we are truly humbled by this experience is putting it lightly. We have seen the hearts of others open to us in the most wonderful way. We have always been a supporter and this is only reinforced by what assistance you have provided for a fellow citizen of Woodbridge.

Robert and Alyson D. Menlo Park Terrace

NOW SERVING: Mayor Mac's Cafe at Cypress

Mayor Mac's Café at the Cypress Recreation Center is open for business!!! The welcoming Café staff – outfitted in blue Mayor Mac aprons – are students from the RISE Program (Reaching Individual Student Excellence). The special needs students proudly service the Café as hosts, cooks, servers and clean-up staff – all while receiving job training and workplace



preparation in the restaurant and food service industry.

Grab a bite to eat at the Café located at 881 West Avenue, Port Reading or call **732-596-4211**.

The Best Town Around Launches New Website

Mayor John E. McCormac proudly calls Woodbridge The Best Town Around. Why? Because of the Township's energetic, recognizable and transparent communication vehicles. Recently, the Township's website received a total redesign making it easier than ever for residents to navigate the many resources and events hosted by the seventh largest municipality in New Jersey. The website's URL remains the same...

www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us... but the content and accessibility received a major upgrade.

The all-new and modern webpage makes navigating everything Woodbridge so efficient with features like the homepage breaking news announcement section, community calendar and rotating headline banner with instant access to the top events in Woodbridge. The website also offers easy-to-find information on all municipal departments and divisions Health & Human Services, Senior Services, Public Works, Tax Office, Woodbridge Police Department and emergency service agencies, Planning & Development, Recreation, Municipal Clerk's Office, Municipal Court, and many more departments and agencies. MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC PRESENTS:

At the click of a button visitors can download and fill-out the forms needed to apply for a building permit, view the very informative recycling calendar or digital copy of the Woodbridge News, watch TV-35 programs or Go Green with sustainable initiatives, sign-up for CodeRed alerts and even E-Mail the Mayor.



TWP.WOODBRIDGE.NJ.US

Mayor Mac's Calendar...

Save the Date

SAT., APRIL 22 **Earth Day Celebration Acacia Youth Center**

SAT., MAY 6 **Mental Health Day Woodbridge Town Hall**

> SAT., JUNE 3 **Summerfest Merrill Park**

SAT., JUNE 24 Opening Day... Woodbridge Farmers Market Parker Press Park

MON., JULY 3 **Independence Day Fireworks Extravaganza** Alvin Williams Park, Sewaren



Woodbridge Renaissance... Reinvesting for the Future

Woodbridge is undergoing a Renaissance with well-planned and well-designed commercial, retail and housing projects that take advantage of the Transit Village model that has successfully transformed aging downtown communities throughout central New Jersey. The reinvestment in commercial and neighborhood areas throughout the Township has injected a new vibrancy into business districts and surrounding residential communities with new retail opportunities, upscale dining and metropolitan shopping, along with an incredible selection of premier and affordable housing.



Avenue & Green

Avenue & Green at Woodbridge Station represents a mixed-use transitoriented project located along Rahway Avenue and Green Street adjacent to the NJT Woodbridge Train Station. With more than 12,000 square feet of street-level retail space and covered on-site parking, Avenue & Green is already attracting new commerce and retail opportunities that will support the downtown Buy Local business community. Completed in 2022, the entire project will generate more than \$30 million in tax revenue over 30 years.

Mill Creek Modera

Modera Woodbridge by Mill Creek, located on the site of the former strip mall across from Town Hall at 10 Main Street, is designed as a mixed-use community offering 279 apartment homes and over 6,000 square feet of retail space within walking distance of the Woodbridge NJT Train Station. The project includes a multi-level off-street parking deck and is projected to pay more than \$1 Million a year in tax revenue when completed.





The Park Woodbridge Station

The Park Woodbridge Station, located at 55 Brook Street on the site of the 58-year-old Stern Towers Senior building, is a new 146-unit luxury apartment community situated in the Woodbridge proper neighborhood just steps away from the NJT Woodbridge train station. The project will generate more than \$22 million in revenue to the Municipality.

Vermella Woodbridge

Vermella Woodbridge, located on the 21-acre former Hess property site on upper Main Street and minutes from the NJT Woodbridge Train Station and the New Jersey Turnpike, includes 14,100 square feet of restaurant and retail space, 840 parking spaces and luxury residential housing. When fully completed in 2023, Vermella Woodbridge will pay more than \$48 million to the Township over 30 years.



Woodbridge Renaissance... Reinvesting for the Future (Cont.)

The Grande at MetroPark

The Grande at MetroPark, 55 Ronson Road in the Iselin section of the Township and minutes from the Metro Park Amtrak/NJT Train Station, represents a four-building, 356-unit luxury residential apartment collection with more than 12,000 sq. feet of retail space offering tenants and shoppers upscale markets, salons and services. The Grande will generate more than \$35 million in revenue over 30 years





when fully completed later this year.

Station Village at Avenel

Station Village at Avenel, located at the completely renovated NJT North Jersey Coastline commuter train station, represents a \$50 million transit-related development project that includes luxury apartments and town homes, 25,000 square feet of retail space, and the 10,000 square-foot Avenel Performing Arts Center and Curtains restaurant. Completed in 2017, Station Village will generate more than \$64 million in revenue over 30 years.

Welcome the Fords Business Community



The Fords Business Community (FBC) - where excellent products, services and community support come together - is an alliance of businesses dedicated to working together to improve the Fords, Hopelawn and Keasbey business communities. The FBC recently hosted their annual Crusin' Fords auto showcase – mark your calendar to attend the August 2 and November 1 Cruise Nights. Learn more about the FBC by visiting their Facebook page at:

FordsBusinessCommunityNJ

Meet the Colonia Business Community



The Colonia Business Community (CBC) represents Buy Local businesses in the Colonia section of Woodbridge Township and serves to provide exceptional retail shopping and professional services to the Colonia community and visitors. The commitment of the CBC is to pursue excellence, integrity, trust, ethical behavior, quality, communication, business growth, customer commitment and community service. To learn more about the CBC visit their page at:

ColoniaBusinessCommunity

Business Round-Up



LeGrand Coffee House

LeGrand Coffee House, owned by Avenel resident Eric Legrand, serves a daily cup of bELieve in the shop located at 10 Green Street, Woodbridge.



Noches De Colombia

Noches De Colombia is now serving slow-cooked meats seasoned to perfection with irresistible aromas at 675 US 1 South, Iselin.



Bubbakoos Burritos

Bubbakoos Burritos stuffing fresh ingredients in fresh tortillas while enjoying the skater-surfer shore atmosphere at 904 Route 1, Avenel.



Jersey Pizza Boys

Jersey Pizza Boys, known nationally because of the Testa boys dough spinning skills, brought back the famous Iselin Fair Pizza. Grab a slice at 147 Avenel Street, Avenel.



Siwa Tai

Siwa Tai brings the unique flavors of Thailand to Woodbridge with a large menu and great dining ambiance. The restaurant is located right in the heart of Downtown Main Street, Woodbridge.



White Oak Dental

White Oak Dental & Orthodontics now taking care of smiles one tooth a time with dental and orthodontic care located at a newly constructed building at 1040 US-1, Suite #103, Avenel.



Almondy Co.

Almondy Co. is Woodbridge Township's first cottage food operation that sells delicious flavored almonds. Order yours today via Instagram or Facebook @almondyco.



Tanishq

Tanishq an exclusive retail center that offers the finest Indian signature collection of exquisite gold and diamond jewelry opened its doors as the newest boutique in the Oak Tree Road Shopping District.



Kawa Ramen House

Kawa Ramen House now serving high quality, authentic, Japanese Food at 230 Inman Avenue, Colonia.

Business Round-Up (Cont.)



Shinko Hibachi

Shinko Hibachi is where Japanese style meals meet American favorites. Get your express takeout right on Downtown Main Street.



SYNERGY HomeCare

SYNERGY HomeCare located 321 Main St. Suite 2A, Woodbridge offers diverse health care services to people of all ages.



Stoned Beauty

Stoned Beauty is a full service selfcare facility providing a variety of facials at their new store on 525 Amboy Avenue, Woodbridge that is full of relaxation, peace and zen.



2Lit 2Fit

2Lit 2Fit is a leading nutrition provider in our community and inspires people to enjoy eating healthy located at 215 Avenel Street, Avenel.



Phenix Salon Suites

Phenix Salon Suites provides professionals innovating space while accommodating patrons with a variety of self-care services. Visit at 465 Green Street, Woodbridge.



Cycology Indoor Cycling

Cycology motivates riders to Turn It, Burn It, Earn It and become the best versions of themselves. Hop on a bike at 1005 Rahway Avenue, Avenel.



Leandro's Pizza + Kitchen

Leandro's Pizza + Kitchen is a family owned and operated pizza restaurant. Join the warm atmosphere at 933 Port Reading Avenue, Port Reading.



Sansone - Hyundai

Sansone Hyundai is located on the Sansone Route 1 Auto Mall lot and is the largest Hyundai dealership in the Tri-State area offering sales, service, and customer.



Garden State Physical Therapy

Garden State Physical Therapy delivers excellence in physical therapy, occupational therapy, chiropractic and acupuncture in their office at 1503 St. George Avenue, Suite 201, Colonia.

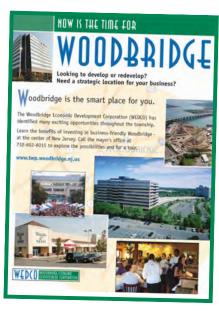
Woodbridge Boasts Solid Credit & Bond Rating with S&P AA+/Stable Rating

The Woodbridge economy stands on sound footing with Standard & Poor's assigning Woodbridge their prestigious AA+/Stable Long-Term Financial Rating. In issuing their most recent report, S&P noted that the General Obligation rating reflects the Township's... "Very strong economy, with access to a broad and diverse metropolitan statistical area. Very Strong management, with strong financial policies and practices. Strong budgetary performance with operating results expected to improve in the near term. Very strong budgetary flexibility with an available fund balance of 16% of operating expenses and very strong liquidity with total government available cash at 19.4% of general fund expenditures." As a result of our excellent financial rating, many international, national, regional and local corporations and businesses are making inquiry regarding business opportunities in Woodbridge.

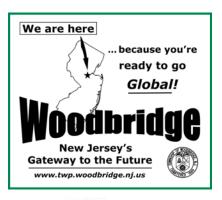


Mayor's Office Targets Economic Development

The Woodbridge Economic **Development Corporation** (WEDCO), in partnership with the Mayor's Office and Municipal Council, the Woodbridge Redevelopment Agency, Department of Planning & Development and the Woodbridge Township Planning and Zoning Boards, continues to advance long-term economic development strategies designed to connect international corporations and corporate headquarters, commercial enterprises, businesses and retail outlets to



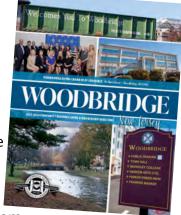
invest in the Township - the sixth largest municipality in New Jersey.



As a result, dozens of significant development projects – projects that demonstrate that corporations and businesses view Woodbridge as a sound investment – are operational or actively under construction.

Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce Sponsors Business

The Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce (WMCC) serves as the first stop for Buy Local businesses looking to open in Woodbridge Township. Whether you are a new business locating in Woodbridge or an existing business seeking to increase visibility and opportunity, the WMCC is your first stop. The 2023-2024 WMCC's digital Membership Directory can be found online and serves as an introduction to the members that drive the economic forces in Woodbridge Township. Contact the Chamber at 732-636-4040 or visit the web at: www.woodbridgechamber.com.



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!!!

Woodbridge Township garnered the 2022
Sustainable Jersey™ Silver-Level Recertification
and Sustainability Champion Award for
large-size municipalities for the 13th year.
Sustainable Jersey serves as a guidenest as the

Sustainable Jersey serves as a guidepost as the Township continues to lead the state in sustainable and green initiatives. In the quest for the 2022 championship award, Woodbridge Township competed against 465 participating municipalities, including 199

Sustainable Jersey certified

municipalities and 69 silver-level



certified towns, in the Sustainable Jersey competition earning sustainable points with actions in separate categories – scoring an incredible 1,245 points!

And, More Awards...

Woodbridge Named First Municipality in NJ to Achieve Gold Star in Water, Energy & Health

Woodbridge not only achieved the 2022 Sustainable Jersey Champion Award (again), but also was the first municipality in the State to achieve the rigorous Sustainable Jersey Gold Star Awards in Water (2022) Health (2022) and Energy (2018).

In achieving the Gold Star in Water, Woodbridge implemented the SJ-mandated key actions to mitigate flooding, protect drinking water, reduce pollution and protect rivers and lakes – and, Woodbridge successfully completed all four actions.



In achieving the Gold Star in Health, the Woodbridge Health Task Force conducted public health outreach and implemented action plans to address and improve the community's overall health.

Greenable Woodbridge
Partners with Utilities
to Assist Residents



PSE&G Offers Residential Energy-Saving Programs

PSE&G has announced several Residential Energy-Saving Programs! A free Quick Home Energy Checkup easily pinpoints ways your home can save energy, and it only takes about an hour! Home Performance with **ENERGY STAR** can help you lower your energy costs by up to 25% a year. Rebates may be available for energysaving improvements, and interest-free on-bill financing may be an option. Visit pseg.com/HomeEnergy or call PSE&G at 1-855-846-2895.

Need Help With Energy Bills - Elizabeth Gas Can Help



Elizabethtown Gas offers assistance programs to qualifying households... visit elizabethtowngas.com/en ergyassistance for more information.

Greenable Woodbridge & Biking: Perfect Together!!!



Bicycling is fast becoming the transportation of choice for urban centers throughout Central New Jersey and Greenable Woodbridge is pedaling on the fast track with initiatives that support bike mobility. Inter-connected bike travel lanes remove barriers to mobility and increase the safety and comfort of pedestrians and cyclists, broaden travel options for non-drivers, reduce automobile traffic and increases recreational activity. In addition, biking is an affordable way of incorporating physical activity into daily routines while improving the overall wellness of the Woodbridge Township community.



Alternate Transportation Options

EV Charge-Up Station in Downtown Woodbridge

Need to Charge Your EV!!! Look for our three new charging stations in Downtown Woodbridge! All you have to do is download the ChargePoint APP on a smart device and you're ready to charge up! Two Dual Port Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations



are located in the New Street parking lot and the third station is located on the Eleanor Place parking

area adjacent to the New Jersey Transit Parking lot.



Welcome to Woodbridge Bike Share

Spring has arrived!!! And, one sure way to enjoy the good weather is on a Woodbridge Bike Share **FREE** bike. The DPW Parks Team will open the bike share stations around Earth Day this April. Download the FREE On Bike Share APP to register and off you go!!!

Last Summer, six new locations and 42 bikes were installed expanding the total locations of bikes to nine throughout the town. These locations can be found at Tanzman Park, Downtown Woodbridge - Herbert Rankin Park, Sewaren, E. William Street Park, Fords - Evergreen Senior Center, Colonia - Kennedy Park, Iselin - Fords Library, Fords - W. Kelly Street, Menlo Park Terrace - Eric LeGrand Park, Avenel - E. Tappan Street Park, Port Reading.

The Woodbridge Bike Share program is **FREE**... Return the bike to the station rack damage-free within 12 hours. The bikes at E. William Street must be returned to the rack at that park, but the bikes at any of the other locations are interchangeable and can be returned at any



station. Use the bikes for recreation, commute to work or take them to go shopping downtown!

News from the Flood Plain Restoration Area

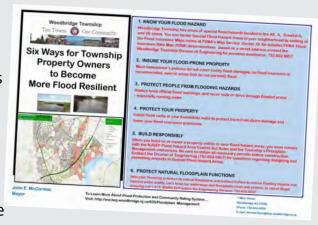
The Flood Plain Management
Team, the Rutgers Department
of Ecology, Evolution & Natural
Sciences and the New Jersey
Department of Environmental
Protection Blue Acres Program
have made incredible progress
working in the Watson-Crampton
Open Space & Flood Plain
Restoration area in the
aftermath of Super Storm Sandy.
The restoration work has

successfully reforested multiple acres with native species (trees, shrubs and plants), wildflower meadow grasses and landscape restoration. When completed, the forested wetland restoration project will enhance flood storage capacity and biodiversity and increase the aesthetic value and future passive recreational use of the entire flood zone. Walk the restoration trail!



Know Your Flood Hazards

The Woodbridge Township Engineering Division and Flood Plain Manager, along with the Department of Public Works and the Office of Emergency Management, have initiated various programs designed to assist resident property owners and local businesses prevent continued recurring property losses due to storm-related disasters. The Township continues to explore any/all initiatives that will aid the community during a potential flood event and have



undertaken a variety of measures to help build a more resilient community through floodplain management and restoration, preparing and implementing monitoring activities that address local flooding issues and addressing drainage maintenance and storm-water management.



Greenable Links:

Visit Greenable Woodbridge at: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/595/Greenable-Woodbridge
Join the Green Team... Share your Green ideas...

E-mail: wbgreen@twp.woodbridge.nj.us



Earth Day/Arbor Day Festival Set for April 22

The Woodbridge Township Environmental Commission will host the annual Earth/Arbor Day Festival on Sat., April 22, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (rain or shine) at the Acacia Center located at 95 Port Reading Avenue.

Preserving our planet's natural resources is foremost on the Earth/Arbor Day program - there will be Green giveaway's, educational information on how you can go green and save green and fun activities for kids of all ages. Participation is FREE.



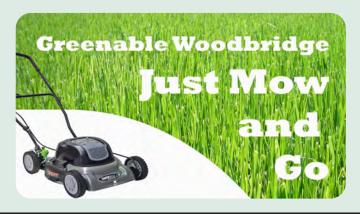
Woodbridge Named Tree City USA

Woodbridge Township was again named a Tree City USA Community by the National Arbor Day Foundation for the 29th consecutive year. The Tree City USA program recognizes communities that effectively manage their tree resources and encourage sound forestry standards. Last year, the Environmental Commission planted a flowering Dogwood tree on Town Hall grounds.



Mow & Go

GRASSCYCLING: CUT IT & LEAVE IT!



Don't bag your grass clippings... leave them on the lawn! Don't cut more than one third of the grass blade. Mow only when the grass is dry and never mow during a drought. Use any kind of mower, but make sure it has a sharp blade. Prevent excessive grass growth by watering (and fertilizing) in moderation. Cut regularly and if grass is long, cut off short amounts in several mowing's rather than all at once. Cutting too short and not often enough are common errors of lawn care. REMEMBER: GRASSCYCLING gives you better soil, which means a better lawn... saves time... and leaves more landfill space for things that we can't recycle!

Restaurants to the Rescue

Greenable Woodbridge launched Restaurants to the Rescue – a volunteer outreach geared to the food industry to reduce wasted food through rescue efforts that will ensure that unused fresh and healthy food reaches those in need. Through the coordinated efforts of the Department of Health & Human

Services, We Feed Woodbridge and the Food Task Force, the Township established a program to intercept safe and edible food from restaurants before being discarded – foods that will go directly to the Township food pantries. This amazing partnership ensures that donations reach those who

might be enduring food insecurity and avoid waste sent to the landfill. The WB News reports that more than 250 Woodbridge Township food service businesses have received correspondence from the Health Department inviting their participation. If you are interested in learning more about Restaurants to the Rescue, contact Peter Barcellona, We Feed Woodbridge at: 732-855-0600, ext. 5034 or peter.barcellona@twp.woodbridge.nj.us.



Construction of the Woodbridge Waterfront Park (located on 100-plus acres bordering the Raritan River in the Keasbey Redevelopment Zone) is Nearing Completion!!!! The Woodbridge Waterfront Park wetlands remediation project includes restoration of the natural wetland habitat, the planting of more than two million native plants that will transform the site into a diverse, functioning ecosystem of tidal wetlands, freshwater wetlands and enhanced upland areas. The Woodbridge Waterfront Park will allow direct public access to the Raritan River from Woodbridge something that has not happened since before the turn-of-the-century.

Colonia Middle School Advances Earth-Friendly Project

Greenable Woodbridge and Colonia Middle School (CMS) students are in the forefront of a unique and innovative project to create a Carbon Neutral Courtyard at their school. The CMS Carbon Neutral Courtyard will be home to a new greenhouse, native plant rain garden and food waste composting station where more than 70



CMS families and students will have the opportunity to bring food waste to the Carbon Neutral Courtyard and, at the same time, contribute to an interactive learning experience where CMS teachers use the courtyard as an outdoor educational environment.

RESCHE

Why a Carbon Neutral Courtyard? Composting can divert as much as 30% of household waste away from the garbage can. That's important because when organic matter hits the landfill, it lacks the air it needs to decompose quickly and increases the rate of climate change through the release of greenhouse gases. Learn more about what you can do to compost at home by visiting:

https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/878/Compost

RECREATION NEWS

COMING SOON:

NEW & EXPANDED SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITES



Fords Park Pickleball Complex & Skate Park

Fords Park will see a total revision and better use of the grounds with 12 new fenced-in pickleball courts. A new skate park and bike pump track is scheduled for the future along with walking paths and picnic areas.



Pochek Park

Located off Route 1 and 35 in Woodbridge, Pochek Park will also see a much-needed facelift with construction of 12 new pickleball courts.



Springwood Swim Club

Recreation also oversees the Springwood Swim Club in Colonia, which will enter its second year of Township operation this June with a new spray park, miniature golf course and outdoor games to go with the beautiful new pavilion built late last year.



Cypress Park Recreation Complex - Phase II

The Cypress Park Recreation Complex includes a state-of-the-art Level Playing Field and fully accessible sport and playground facilities specially designed for challenged and handicapped children and young adults of all ages and abilities. The Level Playing Field accommodates youth baseball, softball and soccer, plus a walking/running track around the entire complex affords park-goers and residents the opportunity to enjoy the



benefits of outdoor recreation.



Additional sport amenities include volleyball and pickleball courts with high efficiency LED field lighting for nighttime play. Cypress Phase II will also include an improved regulation soccer field, a new large and small street hockey court, and a playground.

Barbells at The Club at Woodbridge

As we Spring into Spring at The Club, you'll notice that we are nearing completion of the many upgrades and amenities that have taken place over the past months. Our new bar/restaurant – **BARBELLS** – is set open later this year and will be a huge amenity for everyone looking to relax before or after a workout. We designed the space to include a section for patrons to sit inside and watch the action on the new hockey and skating rink and we are excited to offer a menu of casual and healthy foods with a full bar operation. There will also be stationary stadium

seating included in the licensed area just outside the glass on the platform behind the closest hockey net for people to watch the action and that area will only be accessible from the inside bar and not the ice rink.



RECREATION NEWS

Woodbridge Township's Destination for the Performing Arts

The Avenel Performing Arts Center (APAC) and Curtains Bar and Restaurant are located in the heart of downtown Avenel at 150 Avenel Street. APAC energizes the arts in our community by offering exceptional professional theatre, music, comedy, dance and more. Stop in for a bite to eat before a show at Curtains Bar and Restaurant. Curtains serves an expansive menu featuring bar apps, salads, burgers, pasta and seafood alongside a full-service bar with a



seasonal cocktail menu and weekly specials.
On select nights, the restaurant offers live entertainment in the dining area with a wide variety of talented singers and musicians who will enhance your dining experience. As a partner of the theatre, we frequently offer specialty cocktails and prix fixe menus that fit the theme of the show that is currently happening on the stage. Keep an eye out!

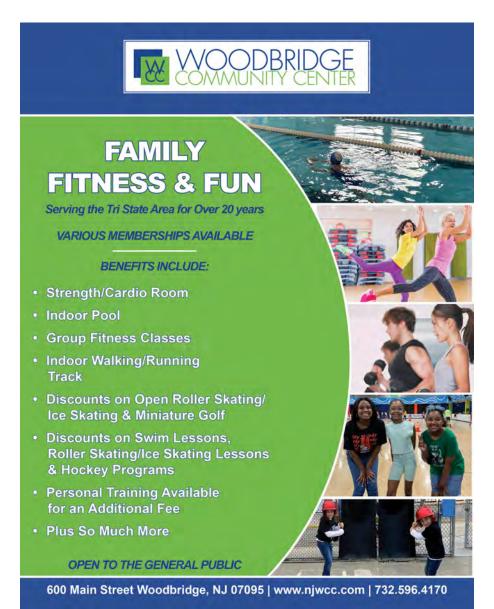


RECREATION NEWS

Woodbridge Community Center

Celebrate Spring with a WCC Health & Wellness Membership

Total Health, Fitness & Wellness Begin at the WCC!!!



A Woodbridge Community Center (WCC) membership offers a wide assortment of fitness and exercise programs, as well as a variety of recreation options for members and families. We're betting that you'll discover that the WCC is the perfect place for family fun, fitness and connection.

The WCC is at the leading edge of what's hot in the health, wellness and fitness industry with the popular LesMills Group Effect exercise classes and personal training programs. The WCC also offers a full aquatics program with swim lessons for all ages, a competitive swim team, roller and ice-skating lessons, ice hockey & open skate sessions, weight and aerobic center, personal training & fitness programs, a full-court gymnasium, basketball court, indoor track, and so much more. Perfect your swing - baseball or softball – at the 3-cage batting center. After taking batting practice, tee-off at Skyline Mini-Golf - the area's best and most challenging mini-golf course.

Visit our webpage at: **www.njwcc.com**. Find us on Facebook
Stop by the WCC at **600 Main Street**, **Woodbridge**.



It's All Happening at



The Club at Woodbridge offers an incredible menu of health, wellness, fitness and entertainment programs, events and happenings to members and guests!!! Explore the all-new amenities that make The Club the premier Fitness & Wellness center in Central New Jersey. Looking for



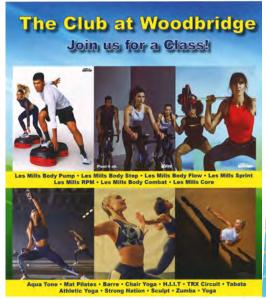
something for the kids? Kidsports at The Club has you covered! And our in-house preschool Kidsports Academy is accepting preschool applications for the upcoming school year. Becoming a member never looked better! There's so much to see and do at The Club! Stop by for a tour today with one of our friendly membership coordinators or explore all The Club has to offer at: **www.theclub.org** or call **732-634-5000**. Stop by The Club at **585 Main Street**.













PET CORNER

FREE Rabies Clinic May 23

The shelter will offer a free rabies clinic for all Township dogs and cats on May, 23 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. All dogs and cats over six months of age must be licensed. Licensing can be purchased at time of clinic. Licensing and vaccinating your pet protects your family and helps in the return of your pet should it get lost. Visit

www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us for more information on the upcoming rabies clinic and pet licensing.



WAG Wants YOU!

Join Woodbridge Animal Group (WAG) and support the Woodbridge Animal Shelter and Pet Adoption Center!!!

Email:

woodbridgeanimalgroup@ yahoo.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ WoodbridgeAnimalGroup



Spring Into Spring with a New Pet from the Shelter

A shelter dog (or cat) makes the best pet and is so easy to adopt.

The staff and volunteers at the Woodbridge Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center encourage adopting families to meet and greet their new pet in the comfortable and toy-filled Family Pet & Play Center.

When it's time to take your new pet home, just fill out the adoption form and the staff will complete the arrangements. If you can't get to the shelter and want to see the pets, or to obtain an adoption form, visit www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us and click on the Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center link.



Woodbridge Township Animal Shelter and Pet Adoption Center

195 Woodbridge Avenue, Sewaren **732-855-0600 ext. 2034**

Hours:

Monday	1-4 PM
Tuesday	4-8 PM
Wednesday	1-4 PM
Thursday	4-8 PM
Friday	1-4 PM
Saturday	1-4 PM
Sunday	CLOSED



The Shelter is Looking for a Few Good Volunteers!

The shelter is always looking for people who care about animals and want to help find them good homes. Volunteers can help care for the animals, take the dogs for a walk, assist in adoptions and participate in special Shelter events.

Contact the shelter today at 732-855-0600, ext. 2034 or email animalshelter@twp.woodbridge.nj.us



PET CORNER

Our Shelter Guests Need Your Help

The gift-of-giving is all-year-long at the Shelter but even more crucial during the spring.

Your generosity is a powerful factor in helping the Woodbridge Animal Shelter & Adoption Center continue to rescue and save so many animals. It's because of gifts from pet-loving residents and friends that are able to help our homeless animals.



The shelter is always in need of the following items:

- **Purina** wet & dry dog food (puppy chow, dog chow)
- **Purina** wet & dry cat food (kitten chow, cat chow)
- Eye & ear care
- Saline solution
- Cotton balls
- Q-tips
- Baking soda for litter boxes
- Blankets (not quilts)
- · White towels

- Paper towels
- 30-gallon trash bags
- Antibacterial dish detergent
- Bleach
- Laundry detergent
- Pet brushes
- Dog/cat shampoos
- Gauze
- Grooming supplies
- Nail clippers



License Your Cat. It's the Law

The Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center is taking in more cats than ever - so, it's even more important that cat owners license their feline friends before they reach seven months of age.

All cats must have a current rabies vaccination to be licensed, which protects your cat, as well as other animals and even people, from acquiring this potentially fatal disease. If your cat is spayed or neutered, it will cost less to license (\$13 Spayed/ \$23 Non-Spayed). Cats that are spayed will generally be calmer and roam less and, of course, will not add to the current over population of cats. If your cat is not licensed, please call the Woodbridge Health Department at 732-855-0600 x2034 or visit www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us

REMINDER:

Pick-Up After Your Pet

Woodbridge reminds pet owners to be considerate of others by cleaning up after your pet. Animal droppings are not only unsightly but they also pose a health risk that can transmit disease.

Township ordinance requires that owners/ animal handlers remove all pet droppings and properly dispose of the droppings in a sealed leak-proof container or bag. Thank you for being a responsible pet owner - it keeps Woodbridge beautiful and healthy.



MAYOR MAC'S



PHOTO ALBUM



Woodbridge Establishes COVID-19 Memorial



Mayor John E. McCormac, Municipal Council, Department of Health & Human Services. Woodbridge Police Department and Office of Emergency Management, representatives from the Woodbridge Township First Response and Health Care Communities, Boy and Girl Scout Troops and residents, gathered in January to dedicate the COVID-19 MEMORIAL honoring the nearly 300 Woodbridge Township residents who succumbed to the pandemic and to recognize the First Response and Health Care communities who continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 Memorial is located at Bernie Anderson Park off South Park Drive at Amboy Ave./Route 35 next to the Woodbridge Fire Department – it is a perfect location to reflect and remember our loved ones lost to the pandemic.



Health Department Tackles COVID-19

Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order #103 on March 9, 2020 declaring a Statewide Public Health Emergency due to the rapid spread of the COVID-19 pandemic – as it turned out, March 9 was the day that the Woodbridge Township Department of Health & Human Services embarked on a two-year mission offering life-saving health services to the residents of Woodbridge.



The Woodbridge Health
Department was one of only a
few municipal health
departments across the state to
receive certification by the New
Jersey Department of Health to
administer COVID-19 vaccines.
At the lifting of the Governor's
Public Health Emergency, the
Woodbridge Health Department
had documented more than
35,150 community cases of
COVID-19 and administered
more than 19,400 vaccinations
at 190 Health Center clinics.



Today, as we continue to move past the COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Department anticipates a return to normalcy with plans to resume health care programs and initiatives that include the Mayor's Health Expo, Public Health Week, Women's Health & Fitness Day, annual Flu and Pneumonia inoculation clinics and seminars and programs geared to the health and wellness of all Township residents. A healthy community is a strong and vibrant community and every resident is encouraged to take advantage of the many healthrelated events and programs provided by the dedicated and professional staff at the Department of Health & Human Services.



Health Report & Clinic Schedule



The Woodbridge Township Department of Health & Human Services provides comprehensive health care programs designed to meet the diverse needs of our community. The Health Department offers a wide-range of preventative health care services, ongoing medical screening programs and tests and special health and wellness events designed to promote and ensure the continued wellness of the entire community – from the youngest child to our senior residents.

The Health Department's Nursing Division provides health clinics and medical services for residents. Call 732-855-0600 x5012 for more

information.



STD CLINIC:

<u>Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Screening, Examination, Counseling & Treatment.</u>

Clinic fee: \$10.00 (Woodbridge Resident. Proof of Residence Required). \$25.00 Non-Resident. 1st, 2nd & 3rd Thursdays of the Month: 1:15 - 2:15 PM. Last Thursday of the Month: 4:30 – 6:00 PM. Woodbridge Health Center.

ADULT HEALTH SERVICES:

Hypertension Screening & Blood Pressure Test

4th Tuesday of the month: 2:00 - 3:00 PM at Woodbridge Health Center

2nd Monday of the month: 10:00 -11:00 AM at Evergreen Senior Center

3rd Tuesday of the month: 9:00 – 10:00 AM. Alternate between Fords Library and Town Hall.

ADULT VACCINE:

Shingles, Hep B, and others. (Must be over 18 years of age). Clinic fee \$25.00.

Call for appointment. 732-855-0600 x5012. (Uninsured only).

SCHOOL AGE PHYSICALS: For children new to the school district without insurance. Ages 6 Years through High School. Must come with parent. Clinic fee: \$10.00. Call for appointment: 732-855-0600 x5012.

CHILD HEALTH CONFERENCE:

Physical Examination, Health Counseling and Immunizations for Children. Clinic fee: \$10.00. By appointment only.

CHILD IMMUNIZATION:

School age children with no insurance. Clinic fee: \$10.00. Call for appointment 732-855-0600 x5012.

The

Coming Soon... Mobile Health Services Unit

The Mayor's Office and the Health Department secured the acquisition of a Mobile Health Clinic through a private corporate donation that will provide medical services to various communities throughout the Township. The

self-contained Mobile Health Clinic will be equipped to offer wellness and health prevention services at community events, senior centers, schools and other areas of need throughout the community. The Mobile Health Clinic is a self-contained, fully equipped medical facility with a physician, nurses, aids and support staff. Services to the community will include childhood lead testing, well baby exams, school age vaccinations and school physicals. For adults, the clinic will provide adult vaccinations, skin cancer screenings, hypertension screening and blood glucose screenings, as well as health education programs.







Health Department's Nursing & Vax Team attended the Juneteenth Festival.



Health Department partnered with Hackensack Meridian Health at the Keasbey Health Day.



Public Health Newsletter

Sign up for Woodbridge Health Departments monthly public health newsletter! Get a monthly email sent to you with information about:

- Events hosted by the Woodbridge Health Department
- Updates and guidance about public health matters
- Resources available to you
- How to stay healthy!

Sign up at www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/list.aspx



Woodbridge Township Fights The Stigma



The Mayor's Office, in response to growing societal concerns surrounding mental health issues, implemented a multi-agency approach to address mental health issues confronting the Township population through programs and initiatives offered by the Department of Health & Human Services - Behavioral Health Division, Department of Senior Services - Division on Aging, the Woodbridge Police Department (WPD) and through partnerships with the Middlesex County Office of Human Services, Division of Addiction & Mental Health Planning, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Mental Health Services and Rutgers University Mental Health Specialized Case Management and Outreach Services.

While Mental Health does not discriminate and affects people of all ages, genders, races, and ethnicities, Woodbridge Township is facing the challenge to respond and provide programs designed to assist residents in need of mental health services.

Woodbridge Township

Mental Health Day



May 6, 2023 Town Hall 12pm-2pm

Health Department Targets Opioid Addiction & Peer Recovery

The Department of Health & Human Services has embarked on a mission to attack the Opioid Addiction crisis through an aggressive one-on-one assistance program geared to save the lives of residents caught-up in Opioid addiction. The Addiction Services Division and Peer Recovery Coach Program stand as the addiction services model for the State of New Jersey. The Woodbridge program collaborates with JFK Hospital in Edison, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway and Raritan Bay Medical Center in Perth Amboy, along with private sector group recovery specialists, to assist Township residents suffering from Opioid addiction. Additionally, the program provides addiction response, intervention and social service programs to Middlesex County and seven other municipalities – Edison, Perth Amboy, South Amboy, Sayreville, Old Bridge, Carteret and New Brunswick.





If you would like help for yourself or a friend or family member who may have a substance use disorder, please call Addiction Services at 732-596-4199.

Health Care Spotlight

NJ League of Municipalities Champion of Health



Ashley Ristaino, Public Health Educator



The New Jersey League of Municipalities recently announced their Champion of Health Awards – and our own **Ashley Ristaino** garnered the First Honorable Mention. As Public Health Educator and member of the Mayor's Wellness Committee and Woodbridge Health Task Force, Ashley revamped programs that came to a halt during the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on advancing quality health care for vulnerable populations by incorporating a wide-range of social determinants of health into programing to support Woodbridge Township residents. Congratulations Ashley!!!!

NJ Health Care Quality Institute Mayor's Wellness Campaign

Woodbridge Named a New Jersey Gold Level Healthy Town

The New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute announced that Woodbridge Township has again

achieved the Mayors Wellness Campaign 2022 Gold Level

Healthy Town Award. Under the leadership of Councilman Greg Ficarra, Chairman of the Mayor's

Wellness Committee,

Woodbridge has

participated in Mayors Wellness initiatives designed to improve the health, wellness and nutrition of the community through programs and events such as 10k, 5K and fun run races, bike tours, bike share programs, Have-a-Heart Food Drive, so much more.

President's Council On Sports, Fitness & Nutrition

National Youth Sports Strategy Awards Woodbridge Champion Status

Woodbridge Township is the first Municipality in the nation to receive Champion Status from the President's Council on Sports, Fitness & Nutrition's National Youth Sports Strategy (NYSS). Ambassador Rob Wilkins, a graduate of John F. Kennedy Memorial High School class of 1982, serves as the Presidential appointee on the Council on Sports, Fitness and Nutrition and engaged the Woodbridge

Township Administration and Youth Recreation Volunteers to achieve Champion status. Woodbridge joins 205 other non-profit organizations all across the country and stands as the only governing body to receive the prestigious NYSS award.



ARTS, LIBRARY & HISTORY NEWS

More from The Barron

FREE admission for all Barron events and concerts (\$5.00 suggested donation is always appreciated.) The Barron continues to give back to the community throughout the entire year by collecting non-perishable food Items and pet supplies for We Feed Woodbridge and the Woodbridge Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center. When attending any Barron concert, exhibit or program, please participate in the voluntary program to keep our food pantries stocked and our pets safe and healthy. Get all the latest information on upcoming programs and events by calling 732-634-0413.

Save the Date

June 13, 2023 Old Glory: The History of the American Flag



July 8, 2023

The Barron Arts Center Outdoor Flea Market at the Acacia Youth Center

BARRON ARTS CENTER MAIL BAG

Good afternoon Mayor McCormac,

I just wanted to let you know that I recently visited your town and beautiful Art Center. The exhibit, Decorative Folk Art of Ukraine, was breathtaking. The manner in which the collection of textiles and paintings were exhibited was just wonderful. The staff was very helpful and the Barron Art Center building itself is amazing. Woodbridge is, indeed lucky to have this gem. Kind regards,



Roxana H., Rutherford, NJ

Gallery on Main

The Gallery on Main and the Woodbridge Artisan Guild (WAG) are a non-profit arts group that supports local artists and provides art education and opportunity to artists young and old. The Gallery on Main (101 Main Street) is an open house for artists housing expanded art programming, gallery and exhibition space and studio/art class space. And, the Gallery is a great location to host a lecture, business luncheon, awards ceremony,



holiday party or other event. The art and exhibits provide opportunities for conversation and interest and the downtown Woodbridge location offers plenty of off-street parking with a large studio space for catering. Make your next event a unique and memorable experience.

The Barron Report



Greetings from the Barron Arts Center. Why travel to New York City, Philadelphia, Newark, or Red Bank to experience art, culture, music and first-rate entertainment – its right here in Woodbridge at The Barron Arts Center.

The Barron's Spring Art Exhibit: Garden Variety (On View April 4 -May 4) features florals, gardens and botanicals from renowned area artists - Elaine Gould, Jeff Cohen, Tom Wacaster and more. The 43rd Annual Woodbridge Township Senior Art Show returns to the BAC in May (May 18-25) displaying the multiple media artistry of Woodbridge Township Senior artists. The everpopular Poets Wednesday presents monthly poetry readings and workshops. Explore new and returning painting & drawing classes for artists young and not so young. Sign-up for Saturday Morning Cartooning – an introductory course that focuses on the basics of drawing your own cartoon character! Become a Friend & Fan of the Barron Arts Center on Facebook and Follow on Twitter @BarronArtsCtr and now on Instagram @barronartscenter.

Visit **www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us** for complete listings and registration details on all of The Barron's exhibits, concerts, classes, events and programs.



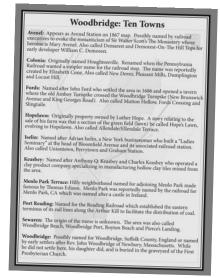
ARTS, LIBRARY & HISTORY NEWS

Woodbridge: Explore Our Rich Heritage

Woodbridge Township - chartered on June 1, 1669 – is the oldest Township in the State of New Jersey. For more than 350 years, Woodbridge Township has had many historic New Jersey firsts – from the first drinking of British tea in the Colonies to the site of the first permanent printing press operated by James Parker in 1751 to the many historical landmarks scattered throughout the Township.



During the Nineteenth century, clay mining and brick manufacturing became the major industry of the Township - the Township Seal, adopted on November 11, 1885 by the Town Committee, depicts the prominence of the clay and brink industry. Standing at the Crossroads of New Jersey, Woodbridge prospered over the years achieving the designation as an All American City home to international corporations, commercial manufacturing and development and a thriving Buy Local economy.



Today, ten separate and distinctive communities make up the fabric and fiber of our Township – Avenel, Colonia, Fords, Hopelawn, Iselin, Keasbey, Menlo Park Terrace, Port Reading, Sewaren, and Woodbridge Proper – where we're proud of our Quality-of-Life which is why we are The Best Town Around.

Woodbridge Township History Museum Opening in 2023

Historic Green Street is undergoing a historical rebirth with the conversion of a former home at 86 Green Street as the Museum home of the Historical Association of Woodbridge Township. Originally called Woodbridge Avenue, Green Street was a popular thoroughfare from the early 1800s and served as the address of many prosperous Woodbridge citizens. Perhaps named for the adjacent green fields and canopy of stately trees, the scenery has not changed much in over a century, with today's elegant Victorianera homes occupied by a mix of families and business offices – and soon the Woodbridge Township History Museum.



History Today & Tomorrow

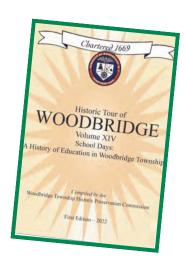
Want to learn more about Woodbridge History? Become a member of the Woodbridge Historic Preservation at www.wthpc.org

ARTS, LIBRARY & HISTORY NEWS

Next Stop on the History Tour

School Days: A History of Education in Woodbridge Township

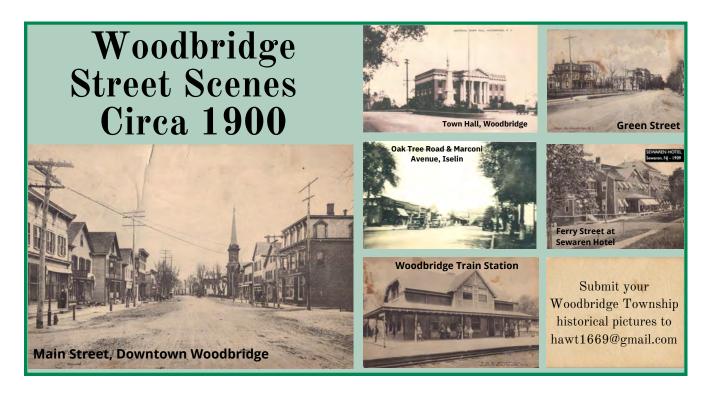
The Historical Association of Woodbridge Township unveiled their most recent Historic Tour of Woodbridge... "School Days: A History of Education in Woodbridge Township" during a launch ceremony at the Barron Arts Center. Volume XIV explores the progression of Woodbridge Township education from the appointment of the first Schoolmaster in 1689 through the opening of School #1 in 1877 to the current enrollment of more than 13,000 students in 13 Elementary Schools, Five Middle Schools and three High Schools. Visit www.wthpc.org to download Volume XIV.





Walk the WB History Trail

The Woodbridge History Trail welcomes and informs history buffs and visitors. The 46 historic trail markers traverses a 1.5 mile loop along North and South Park Drive from Pearl Street to Mobile Avenue on both sides of Heard's Brook in Tanzman Park in downtown Woodbridge. The history signs offer historical accounts of Woodbridge from pre-Revolutionary War to the present. Start your tour at historic Parker Press and walk the historic loop.



ARTS, LIBRARY & HISTORY NEWS

Keep the WPL in your pocket with WPL on the Go!

The Woodbridge Public Library has launched a next generation mobile library app... WPL on the Go... that makes 24/7 access to the library easier

than ever - sign up for a library card, search, discover, read, listen and view- all in one app. Visit Google Play or the Apple Store and download WPL on the Go! to search, select and borrow eBooks and audiobooks, comics, TV, video, including online courses and current information e-resources. WPL on the Go! also connects you to library events register on your smart phone or tablet with ease and connect with library eNews and social media for up to the minute library posts.

WPL Announces Summer Reading Club

Calling all Readers!!! The theme for the WPL Summer Reading Program for all ages is All Together Now -- which will feature virtual and in-person programs. Summer Reading program participants are invited to sign-up for a summer of reading, activities and fun! The reading clubs are open to WPL members and Woodbridge readers of all ages. Registration is available via the WPL website or call the WPL at 732-634-4450.

Woodbridge Public Library:

Get Your Library Card & Explore the Universe

The Woodbridge Public Library has it all with more than 460,000 volumes. Looking for a good mystery? A how-to on home renovation? A travel guide to anywhere in the world? A biography? You'll find all these and more in the Library's book collection. Now you can explore more than 350 years of Woodbridge in the special



collection of local history materials, photographs and genealogical information or through the online newspaper archive collection. Visit the Main, Iselin, Fords (and soon Colonia's Henry Inman) Library to apply for a card in person or apply online for a library card instantly.

Did You Know? The Library provides access to thousands of movies, vintage television shows, music albums, audio and e-books - all available for mobile and online access through Hoopla (hoopladigital.com) and eLibraryNJ.com (Libby app). Patrons can enjoy thousands of titles – from major Hollywood studios, record companies and publishers – available to borrow for instant streaming or temporary downloading to smartphones, tablets and computers. Online borrowing is offered at no cost to patrons and requires only a Woodbridge Public Library card and PIN.



WPL Launches New Website

The Woodbridge Public Library recently unveiled a redesigned website making it easier than ever for Library patrons to navigate the many resources and events hosted by the largest library in Central New Jersey. Visit the WPL web at: **woodbridgelibrary.org**



ARTS, LIBRARY & HISTORY NEWS

Be the first to know about great reads, services and library programs

Sign-up for the WPL weekly eNews at **www.woodbridgelibrary.org**. WPL on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/woodbridgelibrary



Device Guides: Find the compatibility of devices with digital services of the WPL.

eBooks & Audiobooks: Discover information about ebooks and audiobooks that are available to check out online.

Information & Articles: Access digital information and articles.

Online Learning: Want help learning or doing something? Access a variety of on-line learning resources.

Streaming Music & Video: Want to watch something or listen to something? Check out sources for audio and video streaming.

Henry Inman Branch Library Under Construction

Hurricane Ida slammed into New Jersey on September 1, 2021, leaving a trail of destruction and flood damage in the hard-hit Colonia section of the Township. In particular, the Henry Inman Branch Library, located at 607 Inman Avenue, suffered severe flood damage from the rising waters of the Pumpkin Patch Brook.

In the aftermath of the storm, the Township surveyed the building and reported that the library incurred significant damage to all of the building floors, including water damage to four-feet of wallboard around the entire building, most of the

furnishings and shelves.

More than 3,000 books were heavily damaged and lost. As a result of the damage, the Inman Branch was closed to the public.

The WPL is happy to report that reconstruction of a new Henry

Inman Library is well underway and that the renovated library is set to open to Colonia patrons in the near future. The overall renovation will include a new roof and support structures, interior wall reconstruction, window replacements, a new entrance door, flooring and finishes, a new ceiling with new LED lighting, a new electrical system and repairs to the HVAC system. The building will be brought up to existing Uniform Construction Code standards and it will be fully accessible according to the Americans with Disabilities Act. Stay-tuned for the Grand Reopening and Ribbon-Cutting ceremony.

Friends of the Libraries of Woodbridge Township

The Friends of Library have partnered with New Legacy Books – a New Jersey-based company that gives used and unwanted books a new legacy through reuse and redistribution. Through the partnership, the Friends earn dollars for reinvestment in WPL and save valuable books from destruction.



Friends of the Library & New Legacy book bins are located at:

- Evergreen Senior Center, 400 Inman Ave., Colonia
- Cypress Recreational Center, 881 West Avenue, Port Reading
- Woodbridge Community Center, 600 Main Street, Woodbridge



Friends of the Libraries Book Sale Returns

Browse the tables. Find that rare gem of literature or just a great novel for the beach. There is always a huge selection of vintage books on sale at the Friends of the Libraries Book Sale at the Woodbridge Main Library. Books are .50 to \$1.00.

Thurs., April 27: Friends & Members Preview. 4:00-9:00PM Fri., April 28 & Sat. April 29: 9:00AM to 5:00PM Sun., April 30: 1:00 to 4:00PM ~ Bag Day: Buy a \$5.00 Friends Bag & Fill It With All Your Favorite Book Selections.



YOUTH NEWS

Youth Leadership Council Spotlight

Woodbridge Academy Student Brings Nutrition Literacy to Senior & Youth Centers

Diya Nair, a student at the Woodbridge Academy with a passion for health and wellness, stands as an exemplary leader in the Woodbridge Community. Diya is involved with numerous committees to include the Youth Leadership Council, Mayor's Wellness Committee and the Woodbridge Township Sustainable Jersey Health Task Force.



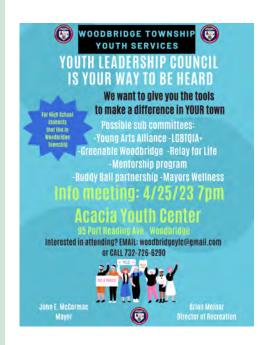
Diya, working with dietitians from Raritan Bay Medical Center, created an informational Nutrition Literacy program that she presented to the Senior and youth communities - the Nutrition **Literacy Workshops were** presented in three workshops at the Evergreen Youth Center and at the Five Branches Senior Center. Diya was recognized at the 2023 Women's History **Month Celebration for her** exemplary leadership in our community.

Youth Leadership Council wants YOU!

The Woodbridge Youth Leadership Council is your way to be heard! Any high school student that lives in Woodbridge is welcome to participate, gain resources and discuss topics in sustainability, arts, wellness, LGBTQIA+, mentorship programs, and more. Make a difference in our community and join today!

Any High School Students interested in learning more about the Youth Leadership Council should contact: youthservices@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

Informational Meeting: April 25, 2023 at 7:00PM at the Acacia Youth Center (95 Port Reading Avenue, Woodbridge). The YLC has two general meetings a year; one in the fall to introduce students to different township organizations and where students will select subcommittees to participate in, and one in the spring to give subcommittees a chance to discuss the events they participated in during the year.

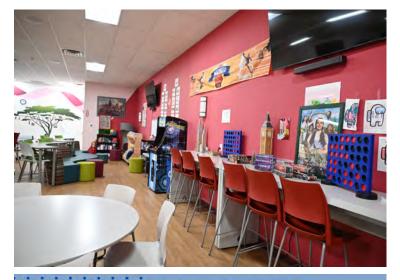


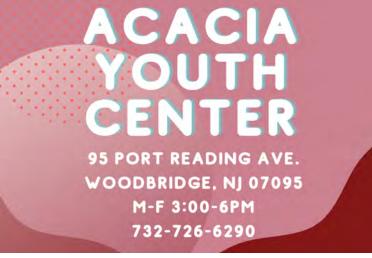


YOUTH NEWS

Township Youth Centers Offer Safe Haven & Activities

The Youth Centers Serve Woodbridge Township students in Grades 6-8. Our facilities feature expansive video game stations, pool and air hockey tables, crafts, board games, homework rooms, and so much more!





HIGHLAND GROVE YOUTH CENTER

70 HIGHLAND TERRACE FORDS, NJ 08863 M-F 3:00-6PM 732-596-4181





EVERGREEN YOUTH CENTER

400 INMAN AVE. COLONIA, NJ 07067 M-F 3:00-6PM 732-634-4500 X2392

PUBLIC WORKS



DPW at Work



Keep Our DPW Workers Safe!!! Stay Back!!!



Help Us... Help You... Leave a 3' Buffer Zone for Trash Pick-up!!!



Public Works Hotline 732-726-2325

Call the Public Works Hotline to report potholes, property maintenance violations or other Township-related concerns.

DPW Plugs-In with Electric Vehicles

The Department of Public Works is clean & green with a \$2.5 Million Dollar grant from the Volkswagen Mitigation project to electrify DPW fleet vehicles. The grant funds the purchase of three electric garbage trucks that will replace three diesel-fueled fleet trucks. In addition to the three electric garbage trucks, DPW will replace two Senior Transportation of Woodbridge (STOW) busses with electric shuttles. Replacing less-efficient fossil fuel vehicles with EV-powered trucks and busses will ultimately improve the air quality and reduce the effects of climate change and carbon footprint in Woodbridge Township.



Welcome to the ReUse It Center

The staff at the Recycling Center came up with a new concept – practice the second R in Reduce, Reuse & Recycle and keep usable items out of the landfill. When crews from the Sanitation Division pick-up bulk waste, they now sort the items and place reusable items at the ReUse It Center (located at the DPW Yard

in Smith Street in Keasbey). So come visit the ReUse It Center and give that second-hand item a Second Chance!!! Available to Woodbridge Township residents only.



PUBLIC WORKS

Single Stream Recycling is Successful!!!

We're sending a special Shout-Out to all Township residents!!! Thanks to you,

our Single Stream Recycling Program is working!!! Single Stream recycling – putting all recyclables (plastic, glass, bottles and cans, cardboard and paper) in the same container - eliminates the need to separate and/or bundle and substantially increases the amount of household waste that we recycle. Recycling is a great deal for every



Woodbridge Township resident, homeowner and business. Recycling is not



only the right thing to do for our environment... but it's profitable. Last year our DPW Recycling Team received \$261,930 from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Recycling Tonnage Grant and \$170,816 from the Clean Communities Grant program. Keepup the great work... and RECYCLE & RE-USE!!!

Recycling by the Numbers

One year of curbside recycling saves:

- 542 tons of plastic containers
- 8,154 tons of newspaper, cardboard and food packaging boxes
- 1,844 tons of glass jars and beverage containers
- 3,795 tons of junk mail and waste paper
- 399 tons of aluminum and metal beverage and food containers

Total: 14,760 tons of recycling collected annually

PUBLIC WORKS HOTLINE:

732-726-2325

Report potholes, property maintenance violations or other Township-related concerns.

The Recycle Coach APP - customized to your address - puts trash and recycling collection schedules, special collection information and more right at your fingertips!!! Search the 'What Goes Here' database for specific recycling instructions. Keep track of upcoming special collection events, household hazardous waste drop-off, confidential document shredding day, Christmas tree collection, bagged leaf collection and more. Report a waste problem or send comments & suggestions through the APP. Visit the Township web page at www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us for more information.



See your tax mailer for the recycling guidelines...





Questions?

Call the Recycling Division at (732) 738-1311 ext. 3049

PUBLIC WORKS

YARD SALES **APRIL 15** WOODBRIDGE. SEWAREN, AVENEL, **PORT READING** REDUCE APRIL 22 FORDS, KEASBEY, **MPT HOPELAWN** REUSE **APRIL 29 ISELIN** RECYCLE MAY 6 COLONIA Items left over at the end of the day? Donate them to the Township's ReUse It Center!

New & Improved Bulk Waste Collection & Curbside Pick-Up



We've updated the Bulk Waste curbside collection program. We're now offering every residential household a **ONE-TIME PER YEAR FREE BULK WASTE PICK-UP**. The updated bulk waste collection system is more convenient for resident homeowners and allows the Department of Public Works to better manage bulk waste collection. Bulk waste items collected at the scheduled curbside pick-up include Furniture, Mattresses, Carpeting, Appliances, Electronics (computers, TV's, etc.) and Mixed Metals. NO Concrete, Asphalt, Brick, Block or Stone, Hazardous Waste, Tires, Paint or Chemicals will be accepted.

Drop-Off Hours:

Mon. – Fri.: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Saturday: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Closed on Sunday

HOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE BULK WASTE PICK-UP:

Call the Department of Public Works Sanitation Office at 732-738-1311 x3600 or the Office of Recycling at: 732-738-1311 x3035. Visit the Recycle Coach APP or the Township Web Page: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us for information about the residential bulk waste pick-up service. The staff will explain the program and get you on the schedule!!!

Or... Drop-Off Bulk Waste for FREE at the Public Works Recycling & Convenience Center BULK WASTE ACCEPTED:

Appliances, Mixed Metal, Bulk Waste, Concrete, Asphalt, Brick (homeowner repair only; no contractors), Brush, Leaves, Old Propane Tanks and Electronics (computers, monitors, scanners, laptops, modems, printers, cables, keyboards and televisions).

Woodbridge Celebrates May as Older Americans Month

Mayor to Host Township-Wide Senior Summit & Older Adults Expo

May is once again Older Americans (Senior) Month highlighted by the 15th **Annual Mayor's Senior Summit and Active Older Adult Lifestyle Expo set** for Wed., May 10 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Woodbridge **Community Center.**

Sponsored by the Department of Senior Services and the Township's Senior Centers - Evergreen Senior Center in Colonia; Sycamore Senior Center in Port Reading, Five Branches Senior Center in Iselin, Hickory Senior Center in Fords, Maple Tree Senior Center in Avenel and Oak Tree Senior Center in Iselin - Senior Month is packed with informative, educational, recreational and entertainment activities geared to Senior residents. Senior Month encourages Seniors to engage in health and fitness activities, attend informative programs and seminars, participate in mind-stimulating activities and competitions, explore art and music classes, attend entertainment events, senior receptions and community engagements. The Department of Health & Human Services, Department of Recreation & Resident Services, the Woodbridge Police Department, Department of Public Works & Parks,



Woodbridge Public Library, Township businesses and social service agencies and Township senior organizations and associations all contribute to the many services and programs offered to Woodbridge Township Senior residents throughout the entire year - not just Senior Month. Visit the Township Web Page at: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us for more information about Senior Month and other Townshipsponsored events and programs geared to Seniors.



Important Phone Numbers for Seniors

Multi-Service Program on Aging

732-726-6262

Senior Transportation of Woodbridge

732-726-2394

Evergreen Senior Center 732-726-6261

Sycamore Senior Center

732-726-7087

Five Branches Senior Center

732-726-6277

MCAT (County Transportation) 800-221-3520

Access Link (Transportation)

800-955-2321

N.J. Department of Health &

Senior Services

800-792-8820

Social Security, Iselin Office 800-772-1213

Medicare

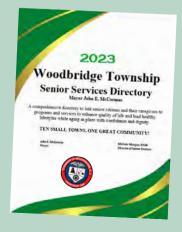
800-633-4227

Home Energy Assistance

Program (HEAP) 800-510-3102

Better Business Bureau 609-588-0808

2023 **Senior Services Directory Coming Soon!**



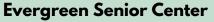
Department of Senior Services Senior Centers: Where It's All Happening

Each center has a mission to empower older adults by providing social, recreational, educational and physical programs/ activities designed to stimulate healthy living, create a sense of purpose and enhance their quality of life. Registration is **FREE**. Senior Centers are open from Monday-Friday 8:30AM-4:30PM

To become a member of any of the Township's Senior Center's senior residents must:



- Select a home center to receive priority to events at selected Senior Center locations
- Must be a resident of any of the ten towns in Woodbridge Township
- Proof of residency required
- 60 years of age or older



Evergreen is the Township's flagship Senior Center offering vital community services that can help older adult residents stay safe, active, healthy and independent. Older adults and caregivers have access to multiple services in one place including senior transportation and social work. Evergreen







The Sycamore Senior Center, located in the former Port Reading Knights of Columbus building at 290 Old Road, serves Sewaren senior residents. The Sycamore Senior Center offers social, wellness and recreational activities designed to entertain and cultivate new friendships. The center includes large and small activity rooms for bingo, movies, puzzles, crochet, ping pong, computer stations with FREE WI-FI, and a Café area with kitchen. Stop by and check it out!!! Call 732-726-6272.

Five Branches Senior Center Welcomes Senior Residents

Five Branches Senior Center - named in honor of the Five Branches of the United States Armed Services: US Army, US Navy, USMC, US Air Force and the US Coast Guard – is located in the renovated T. Nulty American Legion Post #471 building. The Five Branches Senior Center includes a large community room, activity room and game room with billiard table, ping pong table, card table, dart board, shuffle board, air hockey, cornhole,



computer stations with FREE Wi-Fi and a kitchenette. Senior residents are encouraged to register as a member of Five Branches Senior Center. Call 732-726-6276.

Department of Senior Services Senior Centers: Where It's All Happening (Cont.)

Hickory Senior Center Welcomes Fords Seniors

The Hickory Senior Center welcomes senior residents and provides vital community services that help seniors remain healthy, active and independent. The Hickory Senior Center is not only host to Fords-area Seniors, but is also home to the

Ford's Women's Club. The Hickory Senior Center offers Senior residents

a convenient neighborhood multi-purpose center designed to engage older adults in social interaction, wellness programs and crafty opportunities. Hickory Senior Center includes assembly and activity rooms for Tai Chi, movies, card making, yarn arts, color by pencil, crochet, jewelry beading, trivia, corn hole, bingo and a kitchenette for a hot cup of coffee or tea and computer stations with FREE Wi-Fi. Call 732-726-6285.





Maple Tree Senior Center located at the Knights of Columbus on 109 Morrisey Avenue in Avenel welcomes all Avenel Senior residents 60 years of age and older. With a large community room, the Avenel Senior Center is the perfect place for older adults to come together and enjoy monthly themed luncheons, educational seminars, billiards, Movie Day, Chess, crochet, scrabble and so many more activities. Whether you are a senior or a caregiver who depends on a senior center for a loved one's social, emotionally healthy, and active wellbeing,

Oak Tree Senior Center Hosts the Iselin Community

Oak Tree Senior Center is located in the Knights of Columbus building at 571 Lincoln Highway in Iselin providing an array of programming to Senior residents 60 years of age and older. The Oak Tree Senior Center is where older adults can find friendships and stay connected with friends and the community. The large activity room offers members a

community focal point to participate in social, recreational and wellness programs and services, including Carrom Board, crochet, movies, Music Mixer, Community Circle, rummikub, monthly themed luncheons, and Atlantic City trips just to name a few. Call 732-259-2008.

Get Ready... Get Set...

Go...











Senior Olympics Set for September 8, 9 & 10

The 2023 New Jersey Senior Olympic games return to Woodbridge September 8-10 when senior athletes from across the state gather to participate in the Senior Olympic Games. This is the 17th year that Woodbridge Township has welcomed the statewide New Jersey Senior Olympic competition.

This year, the Mayor's Office is again offering Woodbridge Township Senior athletes a special incentive to participate. Register by August 28 and the Woodbridge Senior Olympic Committee will pay \$30 toward the \$40 General Registration fee. That means our athletes just pay \$10 to participate and compete in up to three Olympic events.

To take advantage, go to the Senior Olympic web page at www.njseniorolympics.com to register. Just fill out and submit the General Registration Form (you must be a Woodbridge Township resident with a Woodbridge Township mailing address) along with a \$10 check or money order payable to the NJSO/GSG.



For more information on the 2023 New Jersey Senior Olympic games – sponsored by Braven Health – visit the webpage, call the Senior Olympic Headquarters at 973-618-111 or contact Woodbridge Senior Olympic Chairperson Pat Trombetta at 732-636-3910.

Don't want to compete but want to volunteer at the games? Contact Volunteer Coordinator Megan Kushpa at:

megan.kushpa@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

Stay tuned for the 2023 New Jersey Senior Olympic Booklet Guide which will be printed late spring!



Join the New Jersey Senior Olympics Opening Ceremonies on Saturday, September 9 at 10:00AM at the Woodbridge Community Center.

WPD SENIOR POLICE ACADEMY OPENS IN MAY

Sign-Up Now

To learn more or to register for the WPD Senior Citizen Police Academy, contact the WPD Community Affairs Office at 732-726-2318.



Scammers Target Seniors

See below tips to avoid being scammed:

- Don't click on links in emails and texts that you haven't asked for.
- Don't pick up the phone unless you absolutely know who's calling.
- Never send money to someone you've never met in person.
- Never click on links in unsolicited emails, texts or social media messages.
- Do not reveal personal information.



All Aboard!!!

STOW Bus Service Hits the Road

STOW - Senior Transportation of Woodbridge -bus service is running on a daily schedule providing FREE-of-Charge, Curb-to-Curb, reservationbased transportation service to Woodbridge Township Senior residents (age 60 & older) who have no other means of transportation to all six Woodbridge Township Senior Centers, the Woodbridge Community Center (WCC), Main Library, shopping, local doctor appointments and designated Township events and programs. Reservations are based on availability and are made by calling 732-726-2394 between 8:30 AM and 1:00 PM. Information required for a reservation includes First/Last Name. Client Transportation ID number.

Address.Phone Number. Date/Time for requested pick-up. The senior resident MUST call at least one day before the desired pickup date in order to be added to the schedule. If the senior resident leaves a voice message, they will receive a call from the Senior Transportation Coordinator confirming the request.Reservations are complete only after receiving a confirmation phone call from the Senior Transportation Coordinator.

Transportation Services

Days:

Monday - Friday (except recognized holidays)

Hours:

Morning Pick-Up:

8:30 AM, 9:45 AM & 11:15 AM

Afternoon Bus Home:

1:15 PM & 2:45 PM



Senior Mail Bag

Mayor John E. McCormac:

My name is Ethleen - a member of the Evergreen Senior Center for a long, long, time. The reason for this letter is just to let you know how proud in a nice way and appreciated of all the seniors offices especially Evergreen. During the last few months, we were introduced to a new program the IPad for seniors. I'm very grateful for it is opening up my eyes to things I did not know and cannot do on an IPad. I'm thankful for the staff at Evergreen Center - M. Morgan, Allison, Jodie, at Evergreen Center in that department. The work they are doing, the encouragement and love they have shown to me. I wish them God's blessings.

Yours Truly, Ethleen C. Colonia



Dear Mayor McCormac:

I just had to write to you and let you know how pleased and grateful I am for the wonderful people that work in your tax office. I have dealt with Kim and Kathleen over the past two years and I cannot say enough for how helpful, efficient, kind and courteous they have been in reference to helping me with the Senior Tax Freeze. I also want to thank all of the employees in the Sanitation Department that have worked so hard and have been so helpful to all the people in our development that have been so devastated by the flooding. I grew up in the house that I live in and have now lived here for over 66 years. I cannot imagine living anywhere but here and I am very grateful for the services the Township provides.

Most Sincerely, Barbara L. Colonia



Falling in July breaking my neck along with other injuries, I have to use Senior Transportation for doctors and shopping. I don't know what I would do without it since I can no longer drive.

Donnie, Connie and all the drivers are just fantastic. They are so pleasant, caring and helpful. I believe they go beyond to help everyone even if they themselves are having a bad day. I thank you and everyone else for all of your help.

Arline B. Iselin

VETERANS NEWS

Veteran Photo Album

Veterans at the annual Evergreen Senior
Center Veterans Day Luncheon.





Woodbridge Township Annual Veteran's Day Parade 2022



Support Our Troops 2022



Young Marines Carry the American Flag at the St. Patrick's Day Parade



VETERANS NEWS



Important Information for All Veterans

Visit the official website of the New Jersey Department of Military & Veterans Affairs at www.state.nj.us/military.

New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park (732) 452-4272

State Veterans Service Officers - Middlesex/ Somerset (732) 937-6347/48

VA Hotline for General Benefits (800) 827-1000

Veterans Employment Office (732) 937-6205

Middlesex County Veterans Services (732) 745-4051

VA Clinic – New Brunswick (732) 729-9555

Lyons Veterans Facility (908) 647-0180

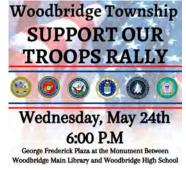
East Orange Veterans Facility (973) 676-1000

Veterans Cemetery (Arneytown) (609) 758-7250

Support Our Troops Rally Set for May 24

From the American Revolution through the turmoil of the Civil War, to World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, to the Persian Gulf War, the war in Iraq, to ongoing operations in

the War on Terror in the Middle East and to battlefields around the world, Woodbridge Township residents bravely serve in the defense and honor of our nation. Each year, the Support Our Troops rally offers a Flag Raising and Memorial Service to honor our active duty military personnel currently serving in stations across the globe and to remember the Veterans from Woodbridge



who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our nation and community. Plan to join the families of military personnel and Township Veterans on May 24 at George Frederick Plaza (next to the Woodbridge Public Library).



Honor Your Hometown Hero with a Banner

The Hometown Hero Project places Hero banners on utility poles

throughout streets in Woodbridge, Colonia, Fords, Port Reading, Iselin and other high traffic areas. Sponsored by the T. Nulty American Legion Post 471, the Hometown Hero Project honors active-duty military personnel, honorably discharged veterans (living or deceased), KIA or POW/MIA who have established roots to Woodbridge Township. **Contact Robin Goodrich** at:

732-261-1787 or email **ragoodrich@verizon.net** to obtain a Hometown Hero Banner application.



WPD & PUBLIC SAFETY

Report from the Director's Desk:

By: Robert J. Hubner, Director



The Woodbridge Police Department (WPD) announced the deployment of Body-Worn cameras in accordance with legislation signed by Governor Phil Murphy mandating that all New Jersey Police Departments implement the Body-Worn Camera initiative.

The WPD has fully implemented the Body-Worn Camera (BWC) program outfitting all sworn officers with the recording devices and all on-duty officers assigned to the Radio Patrol Division will be required to wear the cameras at all times throughout their patrol shift. The full complement of cameras were initially deployed to officers assigned to the Traffic Enforcement Unit for a test period, followed by full deployment to all officers. It is important to note that the WPD has updated the patrol car dashboard in-car camera system(s) so that the in-car and body-worn camera system technologies work in sync when activated.

The WPD secured a \$509,500.00 grant from the New Jersey Department of Law & Public Safety that paid for much of the equipment used in the program. It is anticipated that BWC footage will provide transparent and accurate recordings of patrol-related incidents, protect officers (and the public) from false accusations, further promote community trust and will assist supervisors prepare future officer training programs.

The WPD follows the New Jersey Attorney General Guidelines on the use of Body Worn Cameras (the complete Attorney General Body-Worn Camera Directive is available for review via the Woodbridge Township web page at: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us.)



WPD Community Affairs Unit Coordinates National Night Out



The Woodbridge Police Department, along with an estimated 16 thousand communities nationwide, participates in the National Night **Out program. National Night Out** began in 1984 as an effort to promote police-community partnerships and resident camaraderie where police and residents come together under positive circumstances. The WPD's **National Night Out included dozens** of police officers, Township Fire **Departments and First Aid Squads,** the CERT Team and other First **Responders along with Township** employees, vendors and hundreds of residents.

SAVE THE DATE:

WPD 2023 National Night Out Tuesday, August 1 at the Woodbridge Community Center



WPD & PUBLIC SAFETY

WPD Officers Recognized for Life-Saving Action

On January 13, 2023, on-duty WPD Officers responded to a report of a serious motor vehicle accident in the Home Depot parking lot located on U.S. Highway 9. Upon arrival at the scene, the responding Officers observed a motor vehicle fully engulfed in flames with the male driver trapped inside the vehicle. Sgt. Tomasz Kowalewski initiated incident command of the scene directing responding Officers to utilize fire extinguishers to suppress the fire while additional Officers gained access to the inside of the vehicle to remove the unconscious driver from the still burning vehicle. After removing the driver from the vehicle, it was determined that driver was not breathing and had no pulse at which point the Officers initiated CPR. Suspecting that the driver may have suffered an overdose of a narcotic, the Officers administered NARCAN at which point the driver was placed in an ambulance and transported to the hospital. The driver ultimately regained consciousness and survived the ordeal.



WPD Officers Jason Hernandez-Genao, Edward Caroselli, Jeffrey Hoffmann, Edward Parfitt, Zachary Manente, Adam Romatowski, Jake Fasano, Randall Bisset and Sgt. Tomasz Kowalewski

WPD Appoints New Police Officers

Mayor John E. McCormac and Police Director Robert Hubner recently announced the appointment of nine police officers to the ranks of the Woodbridge Township Police Department (WPD). The new officers completed the state-mandated police-training program and have taken-up patrol assignments. The appointments were approved after each recruit successfully completed an extensive testing and eligibility process overseen by the New Jersey Department of Personnel, Department of Community Affairs and the Woodbridge Police Department interview team.



WPD Police Officers George Awad, Meghan Lyons and Cristian Lazaro Minsal



WPD Officers Russell J. Van Liew, Ryan Alcott, Sean Meehan, Jacob T. Donnelly, Thomas B. Hendricks and Jakub K. Mankowski

WPD Officer Matthew Murdoch Named 2022 WPD Officer-of-the-Year

Congratulations to WPD Officer
Matthew Murdoch, assigned to
the Radio Patrol Division - Squad
12, and his commitment to
policing, law enforcement and
public safety through a proactive
approach to include patrol
activities and traffic enforcement,
criminal investigation, arrest



procedures and public safety initiatives. During 2022, Officer Murdoch responded to 2,037 Calls-for-Service that included 441 Special Checks and 241 Motor Vehicle Stops, along with self-initiated law enforcement-related investigations, which resulted in enforcement actions to include the issuance of traffic summonses, Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) summonses, enforcement of outstanding arrest warrants and the arrest of defendants on violations of New Jersey Criminal Statutes.

WPD & PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire & EMS Report Township Firefighters Recognized for Life-Saving Action

The Avenel Fire Company was dispatched to 82 South McKinley Avenue in the Iselin section of the Township in response to a 9-1-1 report of an active structure fire. Upon arriving at the scene, Captain Adam Karlin and Firefighter Art Nebus established the Command Center while Firefighters Matt Mizak and Anthony Torres advanced to the structure with preconnected hose lines to knockdown the fire and gain entry to search for a

person reported trapped inside the fully engulfed building. Captain Mike Barcellona, Woodbridge Fire Department and Lt. Vincent Pereira, Colonia Fire Department, arrived on-scene in response to the alarm to assist in the search for the trapped victim. While facing extreme heat and fire conditions, Captain Barcellona, Lt. Pereira and Firefighter Mizak entered the building, located and removed the victim from the fire scene,



(L/R) Captain Adam Karlin, Firefighter Matt Mizak, Firefighter Anthony Torres, Firefighter Art Nebus, Captain Mike Barcellona and Lt. Vincent Pereira.

while Firefighter Torres knocked down the fire to secure the location without further injury or loss of life.

Volunteer for DVRT

The Woodbridge Township
Domestic Violence Response Team an all-volunteer community-based
assistance program - is seeking new
members. Township residents who
want to make a difference in the
lives of victims of domestic violence
are encouraged to apply. Applicants
will be required to complete an
application and undergo an
interview and criminal background
check and complete a 40-hour
training course. Call 732-634-4500
x2802 or visit

www.woodbridgedvrt.org for more information.



CERT Wants You

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is looking for Woodbridge Township volunteers. CERT volunteers receive extensive emergency response and preparedness training and assist police, firefighters, EMT's and emergency responders during time of disaster. To become a member of the Woodbridge Township CERT you must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid NJ driver's license. Visit www.woodbridgecert.org to learn more about the CERT program and how you can be part of a community



preparedness team.



Municipal Court News

Have a question about Municipal Court?

Call **732-636-6430** or **732-634-4500** or go to the Municipal Court webpage at https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/267/Municipal-Court

Did you know?

Paying a traffic ticket is more convenient now than ever before.

Pay online:

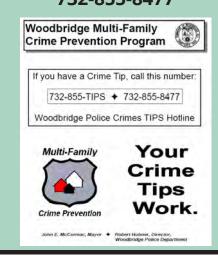
NJMCDirect.com

Pay by mail:

Municipal Court 1 Main Street Woodbridge, NJ 07795

Pay at Town Hall: Monday through Friday from 8:45 AM - 4:00 PM

See A Crime... Report A Crime 732-855-8477



THE WOODBRIDGE NEWS

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NEWS ALERT

Using CodeRED Woodbridge Township can deliver important, time-sensitive information to individuals who have registered to receive alerts.

Scan the QR CODE below to register now!



or go to the Township Website Homepage and click CodeRED www.twp.woodbrige.nj.us

Important Tips

- Use your Google, Facebook or Twitter credentials to create an account for a quick log-in process.
- Include multiple points of contact to ensure public safety officials
 Make sure you keep the safety officials
- Make sure you keep this information up to date, especially if you

Mayor John E. McCormac