

THE WOODBRIDGE NEWS

Vol. 14 Issue 2

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FALL 2023



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

Mayor McCormac and the Township Invest in the Future of Education

The Administration of Mayor John E. McCormac, in conjunction with the Woodbridge Township School District Administration, has embarked on an unprecedented mission to advance the education facilities throughout the Township. The Administration is currently working with the Board of Education on a potential March 2024 Referendum for a new School 10 in the Hopelawn section of the Township – specifically on Township property at Clyde Avenue Park right next to the old School 10.

A new School #10 in Hopelawn is critical to advance the educational opportunities for students, as that section of the Township has not had a school in 25 years. Students are on busses sometimes for over 30 minutes to Menlo Park Terrance School #19, Lafayette Estates School #25 and Port Reading School #9, while Special Needs and ESL students go to other schools. Having a hometown school would have a monumentally positive impact on the quality of their education going forward.

The Board's architect, Parette Somjen, has presented a preliminary plan to the State Department of Education for an approximately 65,000 square foot building on three floors with five classes each from grades 1-5, four for Kindergarten, and appropriate facilities for a gym, cafeteria, offices, playground, parking, and related school amenities.

It is important to note that the Administration and the Board explored various alternatives to use the existing building (former School #10) in a shared agreement with the Church that

currently occupies the building, but the overall condition of the structure was not appropriate for renovations and would require a complete reconstruction to make it suitable for a school – a plan that is not financially viable.



The initial concept was for a September 2026 opening (which is a long time away) so we advanced a plan to secure funding for architectural and engineering services so we could get started and which could move up the opening to September 2025. The Township funded a \$1 million payment to the Board of Education in the current Fiscal 2024 budget that has no increase in the property tax levy over the Fiscal 2023 budget so that the architectural and engineering work could commence. We are confident with this approach given the overwhelming support our residents gave the prior two referenda (\$87 million in 2017 where funding was similarly advanced and \$57 million in 2020).

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*"Ten Towns,
One Community"*

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WINTERFEST

LIGHT PARADE | TREE LIGHTING | HOLIDAY STROLL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2023

MAIN STREET, WOODBRIDGE

Smores
Ice Skating
Kids Crafts
Holiday Vendors
Horse and Carriage Ride

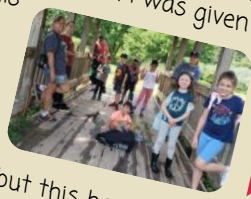
Visit from Santa Claus
Christmas Carols
Roasted Peanuts
Ice Sculpting
Live DJ

EVENTS START AT 4:00PM

Mayor's Mail Box

Dear Woodbridge Public Works Department,
Just wanted to show some love to the woman that helped me yesterday when I called Woodbridge Sanitation. She was very kind, patient & helpful. It was 8am in the morning and her customer service made the rest of my day.
-Tamie G.

Dear Woodbridge Township Youth Services,
I enrolled my son in the Nature Explorers program this week, and I just wanted to tell you how amazing the program and instructors are. I was just blown away by their commitment to the kids and to our natural environment. Moreover, I was given a tour of the community garden by Leo this morning...something I didn't know even existed! Leo may be one of the most incredible people I have ever met. He literally reuses trash to make composting bins and watering devices..incredible!!! I've always been a proud township resident, but this has just been the icing on the cake. Thank you so much for everything you do.
-Nicole D.



Dear Woodbridge Animal Shelter,
I wanted to give you an update on this little guy. He seemed pretty overwhelmed by everything and was pretty quiet for the first day or so. He got time to adjust and learn our home at his own pace. After about a week he sure came out of his shell. He's a sweet, energetic, playful, and happy little guy with a huge purr. Thank you and your volunteers for taking him in and taking care of him. I'm looking forward to many years with this little guy.
-James B.



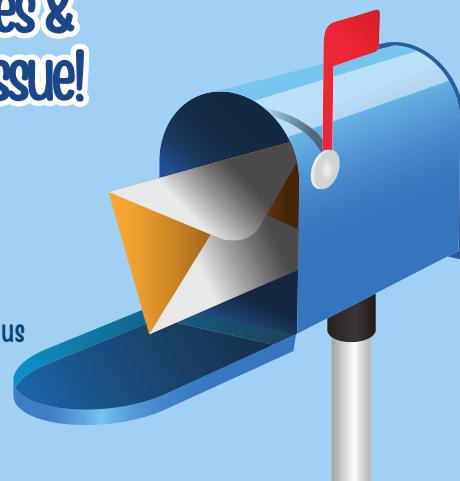
Dear Tooling Around Town,
You weren't kidding when you said you were sending a good crew - they were tremendous! They worked quickly, neatly, & quietly. When we first showed you the work that needed to be completed, we assumed you would pick only one project. We were amazed that you did all three (even the last minute ceiling repair). Thank you to the Mayor for supporting this program and thank you to the volunteers for spending their rainy Saturday helping us.
-Russ G.

Dear Woodbridge Senior Centers,
I want to let you know how much I appreciate coming to the centers five days a week. I've realized the love, respect, and care you've shown toward me goes above and beyond 100%. From the front desk to all the other departments, I feel the love, your smiles, your greetings, words alone cannot express my gratitude. When I'm at any of the centers I feel like family. I love you all like my additional family.
-Ethleen V.C.F.

We want to hear from you!
Send us your pictures & stories for our next issue!

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

wbmayor@twp.woodbridge.nj.us



Meet the Municipal Council



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, At-Large

Council Vice-President:

Kyle Anderson, At-Large

Council Members:

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

Town Hall.	634-4500
Mayor's Office.	602-6015
Woodbridge Police Department.	634-7700
Municipal Clerk.	602-6007
Municipal Prosecutor.	634-4500
Municipal Court.	636-6430
Office of Emergency Management.	602-7361
Tax Collector.	602-6010
Tax Assessor.	602-6002
Engineering.	602-6047
Building Department.	602-6003
Housing Department.	602-6009
Woodbridge Public Library.	634-4450
Barron Arts Center.	634-0413
Health Department.	855-0600
Public Works.	738-1311
Parks & Recreation.	596-4048
TV-35.	602-6079
Woodbridge Community Center.	596-4170
The Club at Woodbridge.	634-5000
Avenel Performing Arts Center.	314-0500
Curtains Restaurant at APAC.	554-1960
Cypress Recreation Center.	596-4116
Senior Transportation (STOW).	726-2394

Council Column

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

On May 6, our Municipal Council participated in the Mental Health Awareness Day flag raising and walk down Main Street hosted by the Woodbridge Health Department. May is Mental Health Awareness Month and our Council is dedicated to raising awareness and breaking the stigma.



HONORING SURVIVORS AT RELAY FOR LIFE

Recognizing the heroes among us, the Municipal Council members proudly present medals to the dedicated participants of Relay for Life - each step taken in the fight against cancer brings us closer to a cure.



RAISING AUTISM AWARENESS

Municipal Council Members were joined by the R.I.S.E. students and members of the public to raise the flag for Autism Awareness month.



COUNCIL NEWS

COUNCIL ON THE MOVE

Council President Ficarra Scores Another Healthy Town Gold Award

As the Township's Health & Wellness advocate and President of the Mayor's Wellness Committee, **Council President Gregg Ficarra** accepted the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute Healthy Town Gold Designation Award. This is the third year in a row Woodbridge was named a Gold Level Healthy Town and is one of fourteen municipalities in New Jersey to receive this designation. Councilman Ficarra accepted the award at the Mental Health Awareness Day event that showcased the importance of breaking the negative stigma surrounding Mental Health and offered residents numerous resources through vendors and other agencies.



Council Vice President Anderson Heralds Annual Juneteenth Celebration

Council Vice President Kyle Anderson was tireless in his coordination of the third annual Juneteenth Celebration event hosted at Woodbridge High School. Councilman Anderson's steadfast commitment to this event has helped bring people of all backgrounds together to honor the contributions that Black people have made to our Country and Township. The Juneteenth Celebration has become a beloved tradition that highlights the importance of diversity and inclusion and features cultural performances, headlining band Epic Soul, delicious food, and specialty craft vendors.



Councilman Bauer Lends a Hand for Tooling Around the Town

Councilman Howie Bauer continues to advance the Quality-of-Life by lending a helping hand during the annual Tooling Around the Town event. Councilman Bauer was one of many enthusiastic volunteers who went above and beyond to help senior and low-income residents by beautifying properties and fixing neglected areas of their homes. A total of 25 homes were fixed up this past April thanks to our dedicated volunteers!



Councilwoman Dejesus Heralds Back-to-School Backpack Drive

Councilwoman Lizbeth Dejesus once again spearheaded the annual Back-to-School Backpack drives in Hopelawn and Keasbey. This year, Councilwoman Dejesus partnered with Evangel Church, who donated 300 backpacks and supplies, and garnered additional support from Woodmont Properties and Amazon which allowed the backpack team to give away a total of 450 fully-stuffed backpacks. This event helps lighten the financial burden and ensures our students are well-equipped and set up for success during the 2023-2024 school year!



Councilman Patel Unveils Expanded Parking Efforts in Iselin

Councilman Viru Patel proudly cut the ceremonial ribbon for the expanded parking lot located on Marconi Avenue in Iselin. The Oak Tree Road Business District has long awaited expanded parking options and with the advocacy of Councilman Patel, patrons can drive to the radiant shops in downtown Iselin without worry of limited parking.



COUNCIL ON THE MOVE (CONT.)



Councilman Spillar Promotes Fire Safety and Education

Councilman Cory Spillar demonstrates his commitment to the safety and well-being of the community's youngest members by taking the time to give informative talks on fire education and prevention. As a member of the Avenel Fire Department, Councilman Spillar shares his knowledge on fire prevention and safety measures allowing a sense of awareness and preparedness among students by providing essential life skills.

Councilwoman McAuliffe Advocates for Buy Fresh and Buy Local

This summer was Jersey Fresh at Parker Press Park with **Councilwoman Sharon McAuliffe** leading the Buy Fresh and Buy Local charge during the weekly farmer's markets. Councilwoman McAuliffe organized the lively market featuring fresh produce from Alstede's Farm alongside local craft and specialty vendors. New to the market this year, patrons enjoyed live children's concerts and musicals making it a fun event for the whole family.



Councilman Small Breaks Ground at Cypress II Recreation

Cypress Park is the gem of Port Reading and under the stewardship of **Councilman Brian Small**, the administration broke ground at the Cypress II site. This portion of the park will include soccer and sport fields, a new street hockey court, adult exercise equipment and playground. Cypress II will complete Cypress Park, a fully-accessible state-of-the-art recreation facility transforming a once dilapidated area into a vibrant community hub.



Councilwoman Meehan Honors our Troops

Councilwoman Debbie Meehan paid a heartfelt tribute to those who have valiantly served our country at the annual Support our Troops Rally. In addition to honoring the brave men and women who have fought for our freedoms, Councilwoman Meehan also gave a special tribute to Eric Ransom, a beloved Woodbridge Police Detective with 38 years of service to the United States Marine Corps who passed away in April. The annual Support our Troops Rally is a moving and meaningful commemoration of the sacrifices made by our service members and first responders.



Report from the Municipal Clerk's Office

Need to Update or Change Your Election Records? 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.

Woodbridge Poll Locations:



2023~ Election Guide ~ 2023

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

Oct. 28- Nov. 5, 2023: Early Voting
Acacia Youth Center 95 Port Reading Ave., Woodbridge
Monday – Saturday 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM and
Sunday, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM.

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

Nov. 7, 2023: General Election.

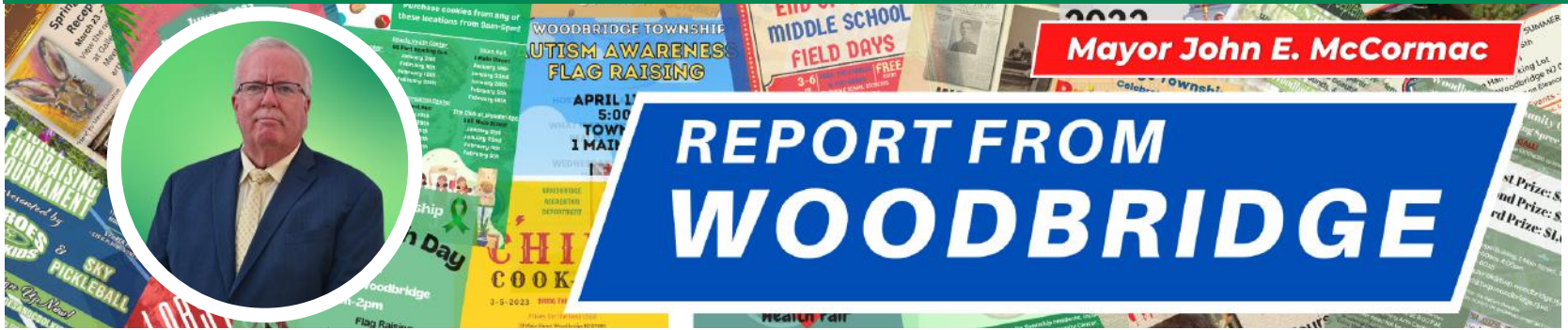


**CAST-A-CAN
CAST-A-VOTE**

**ELECTION DAY FOOD DRIVE
Tuesday, November 7, 2023**

All Election Day Polling Locations





Township Rallies Behind Tommy Kelly

Thank you very much for your generous contribution to the Tommy Kelly Fund that will assist Tommy and his family as they continue to navigate the many issues associated with his recovery. The response has been outstanding and Tommy's wife Annie and his children Jackie and Ryan asked me to relay their gratitude to everyone who knows and loves Tommy.

It appears as though the vast majority of the funding necessary to renovate Tommy's garage into a living room/bedroom with a lift into the house to access the restroom has been covered through Woodbridge Builders, Inc. and Michael V. Testa, Architect, LLC, including virtually all labor and supplies. They deserve our heartfelt gratitude.

I am happy to report that the funds we raised will be dedicated to Tommy's continuing care including all professional services and medical supplies that might not be covered by insurance, along with the significant out-of-pocket expenses the family has already incurred.

It goes without saying that the Woodbridge community always takes care of our own especially when it is someone who has dedicated nearly 40 years of their life working for this great Township and who is generally recognized as one of the best and brightest Building Code experts in the State of New Jersey.

We all need to keep Tommy in our thoughts and prayers and hope that one day he can return to the job he loves.



Tunes in the Township, The Summer Concert Series is a Wrap!

The 2023 Mayor's Summer Concert series collected more than 50,000 pounds of food for Township food pantries - a new record which provided a huge assist to the Township food pantries working to help families in need throughout the Summer. The Mayor's Summer Concerts took the stage at the Joseph R. Lewis Concert Field at WHS every Monday with classic Oldies & Doo-Wop followed by Rock n' Roll Tribute Tuesday and the Country Band Sunday rodeo!!! The performance stage at Parker Press Park hosted the eclectic Woodbridge Wednesday concerts and Local Band Thursday performed at Herbert Rankin Park in Sewaren.

Thousands of residents and neighbors brought their lawn chairs and enjoyed the FREE concerts with family and friends! Have a favorite band??? Let us know who you want back in 2024. Visit the Mayor's Summer Concert survey on the Township web page: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us



MAYOR'S PAGES

Mayor Submits Zero Municipal Tax Increase Budget to Council

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mayor John E. McCormac presented the SFY 2024 Municipal Budget to the Public at the Municipal Council Budget Adoption Meeting on September 15, 2023.

The most important aspect of this budget is that the amount of the Municipal Property Tax Levy is the same as it was in fiscal 2023. We are proud that we were able to hold the line on the tax levy because of our very strong financial position that is the result of our intense economic development efforts to bring more companies and businesses into town, which lessen the burden on our existing residents and businesses. We have also managed to keep all spending increases within the State guidelines despite insurance and pension costs rising by more than any other expense item in this budget.

This year we have over \$26 million in revenue from PILOTs in the budget, or Payments In Lieu Of Taxes, up from \$22 million last year. We have publicly discussed this concept at Municipal Council meetings and in statewide publications, reports to the news media and in our Municipal newsletters. It is important to note that PILOT revenue amounts to \$619 per household, which remains in the pockets of our taxpayers because warehouses, power plants and luxury residential complexes pay instead of our residents. Our PILOTs supported two larger referenda with \$87 million in 2017 and \$57 million in 2020 with another large referendum on the docket for March of 2024 - all for school improvements. All this work is done and paid for from PILOTs and not regular taxation, yet all taxpayers get the benefit of improved property value because of the new schools and additions, new fields and courts, additional technology and perhaps, most importantly, improved school security. Simply put, PILOTs have been a tremendous boon to our finances as reflected in our high bond rating.



This budget also provides for \$10 million in our own capital projects which means we do not have to borrow money to finance this work, which saves us millions of dollars in interest rate costs. The SFY 2024 budget continues to invest in:

- A nationally-accredited Police Department;
- A Department of Public Works that handles trash and recycling collection, snow removal, road, sewer, park repairs and maintenance better than any neighboring municipality;
- A Health Department that managed the COVID pandemic flawlessly;
- A Recreation Department that oversees The Club at Woodbridge, Woodbridge Community Center, Cypress Center, Acacia Center, three youth centers and sports leagues for boys and girls with thousands of participants;
- A Department of Senior Services that operates six senior centers with a dozen senior transportation busses and an Office on Aging that visits Senior residents that are homebound;
- A Department of Planning & Development that oversees thousands of new building permits as new residents and businesses continue to invest in Woodbridge;
- The Woodbridge Public Library system that is second to none, and
- Many other dedicated administrative employees who work behind the scenes every day improving the Quality-of-Life of our children, seniors and families.

As importantly, the Township garnered over \$15 million in Federal, State and County grants that supplemented the 2023 and 2024 Municipal Budgets which allows us to keep our taxes stable and add programs and services for our businesses and residents that we otherwise would not be able to afford.

Mid-way through the 2023 Budget cycle, we received an outright gift of a Mobile Health Unit from a local business. We have brought this vehicle all over town to give our seniors and residents the chance to be evaluated by a Registered Nurse and receive the benefits of medical procedures to include blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose evaluations. These visits also give our residents an opportunity to ask questions about their health status. We have seen more than 1,000 residents as we close out the end of the year.

We would like to thank the Municipal Council for being our partner in running the government operations of Woodbridge Township. One look at meeting agendas shows how involved they are in helping us run the government and in bringing ideas for new programs and services to our Township residents. Each Council member advocates for issues that are most important and we are happy to work together to provide the funding to advance these causes in our Township.

A budget is the most important document in our Township (after our Township Master Plan) we are proud that the SFY 2024 Municipal Budget maintains a stable tax levy while increasing services, programs and opportunities for everyone to enjoy living and working in Woodbridge.

Woodbridge High School Art Teachers Capture Iselin History

Woodbridge High School art teaching duo Kim Zadigan and Melissa LoCascio painted a vibrant mural depicting scenes from Iselin in 1960s and 1970's. Enjoy the nostalgia and stunning artwork at the underpass at Route 27 and Oak Tree Road/Green Street!



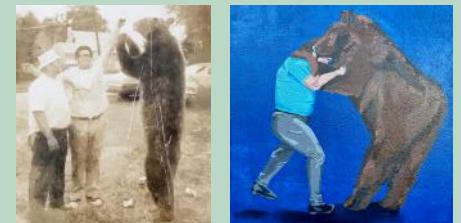
Scenes from the Iconic Iselin Fair: Merry-Go-Round, Tilt-a-Whirl, Iselin Fair Poster, Bullet & Octopus



Scenes from Iconic Downtown Iselin: Eagle Hardware, Iselin Theatre, Jimmy's Meat Market & Flips Tavern



Jack Petty Defeats Victor the Wrestling Bear!



While Kim and Melissa were painting the mural, Jack Petty, the only known person to have ever defeated Victor the Wrestling Bear in 1970 stopped by and asked them to include a picture of Victor. The muralists asked Jack what the first movie he saw at the Iselin Theatre was to which he replied "Yellow Submarine". The muralists included this on their depiction of the Iselin Theatre.



Woodbridge Community Charity Fund 2023 ~ Holiday Shopping Spree Raffle ~ 2023

Tickets on sale Mon.-Fri. 9:00AM-4:00PM
Mayor's Office, Municipal Building, 1 Main Street, 3rd Floor
732-602-6015

Winners Announced at a Public Drawing
Wed., Nov. 15, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.
Avenel Performing Arts Center (APAC)
Winner need not be present to win.

All Raffle Tickets are due back to the Mayor's Office on Fri., Nov.10, 2023

First Prize: \$3,000
Second Prize: \$2,000
Third Prize: \$1,000



I.D. No. 557-5-39199

I.D. No. 2023-84

Mayor Mac's Tool Belt

Eddie and the Rampers

Eddie and the Rampers have serviced those in need of wheelchair accessibility for over 22 years. Ed McSherry, past president of the American Irish Association, and a handy crew of about 15-20 volunteers, donate their time building ramps for our Woodbridge neighbors who need assistance. Eddie and the Rampers started this charitable escapade in 2001 when an older American Irish Association member was confined to a wheelchair and eventually the service grew by word of mouth. Each ramp costs nearly \$10,000 and is funded by individual donations or business sponsors. The team makes quick work of the task and are able to assemble a ramp in just a few hours. Eddie and the Rampers selflessly put together an incredible 15 ramps in 2023.



Donate to Eddie & The Rampers

Attn: Ed McSherry
 PO Box 114
 Iselin, NJ 08830

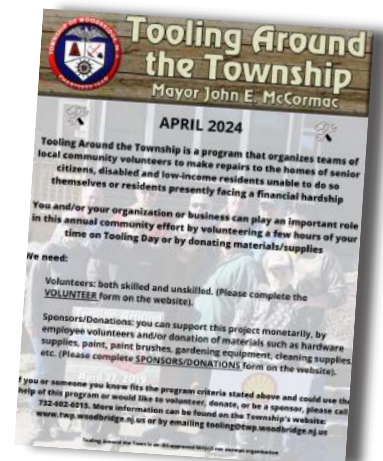


Tooling Around the Township Set for April 27, 2024



Tooling Around the Township - the annual Township-wide fix-up day targeting home repair projects for eligible Senior and handicapped residents - returns on Sat., April 27, 2024. The Tooling Crew is taking nominations for fix-it projects and is looking for volunteers to assist in home repair projects.

Visit: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us for all the Tooling information. Call the Tooling Team at 732-602-6015. Or email: tooling@twp.woodbridge.nj.us to nominate a house for repair, to volunteer, donate supplies or become a business sponsor. Sign-on today!!!



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**.

Follow Mayor Mac's Cafe on Facebook for the latest menu updates and Cafe hours!!!

<https://www.facebook.com/MayorMacsCafe>



Mayor McCormac Secures Grant \$\$\$ to Launch Innovative Programs

The Township Administration secured more than \$15 million in special grant funding from federal, state, county and corporate grant programs for the SFY 2023 budget cycle - funding that will bolster many Township initiatives, programs and events. Over \$8 million in grant funding was designated to our parks and playgrounds with the single-most significant award being a \$1.28 million grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program to upgrade the existing dog park in Sewaren. Additional grants include over \$2 million for the Health Department that allows them to continue offering COVID-19 clinics and health-related services as well as support for the Mobile Health Services Unit that takes healthcare on the go, bringing services directly to our residents.



SUN., NOVEMBER 12
Veteran's Day Parade
Woodbridge Main Street



SAT., NOVEMBER 25
Winterfest & Light Parade
See Route on Back Cover



SUN., DECEMBER 3
Holiday Parade
Woodbridge Main Street



SUN., MARCH 10
St. Patrick's Day Parade
Woodbridge Main Street



Get Informed!

Mayor John E. McCormac

Mayorjohnemccormac

Woodbridge Television

www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us



Festive Holiday Events to Light Up Your Season



Start your Holiday
Adventures **HERE**

Holiday Stroll
Main Street
November 25 ~ 4pm



Colonia Tree Lighting
Evergreen Center
November 25 ~ 6pm



Light Parade
Main Street
November 25 ~ 6pm



Port Reading Tree Lighting
Port Reading Fire House
November 29 ~ 6:30pm

Avenel Very Merry Holiday Lighting
Avenel Fire House
November 26
4-6pm



Fords Tree Lighting
Siperstein's Parking Lot
December 2 ~ 3:30-5:30pm

IBA Christmas Spectacular
St. Cecelia's Church
December 2
5:30-8:30pm

Woodbridge Community Choir Holiday Concert
Dec 16, 7:30 PM
St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church



BAC Holiday Train Show
November 27 - December 29
5:30-8:30pm



BUSINESS NEWS

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 Fords Tree Lighting on December 2. Learn more about the FBC by visiting their Facebook page at: [FordsBusinessCommunityNJ](https://www.facebook.com/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.

Investing In Woodbridge

Downtown Renaissance "On-The-Move"

The Main Street Renaissance is underway with well-planned, well-designed and economically viable commercial and retail that take advantage of the Transit Village model that has successfully transformed aging downtown communities throughout central New Jersey. Reinvestment in Main Street and adjoining neighborhoods has injected a new vibrancy into the business district with new retail opportunities, upscale dining and metropolitan shopping, along with an incredible selection of premier and affordable housing



Strickland's Steakhouse

The Centerpiece of the Main Street Renaissance, occupying the totally renovated iconic Woodbridge Bank building, opened in September heralding a new vibrancy and excitement as a Dining Destination.



All Things Main

Downtown Woodbridge represents all the merchants on Main Street. They have so much to offer such as gift cards, discounts, specials, events and more! This holiday season they are promoting Downtown Dollars - the community eGift Card that makes shopping local easy this season! Don't miss out on the Downtown Dollars deal: Buy \$50 get \$10 or buy \$100 get \$20!



Stay up to date on all things Main Street by following Downtown Woodbridge on Facebook and Instagram or by viewing their website at: www.downtownwoodbridge.com

Business Round-Up

6 Reasons to Shop Local

- Stimulate the Economy
- Give Back to the Community
- Create More Jobs
- Better Customer Service
- Supporting a Dream
- Locally-Made Products

downtownwoodbridge.com



Playa Bowls

Playa Bowls brings the Jersey Shore right in the heart of Downtown Main Street by offering healthy choices of Pitaya and Acai bowls and smoothies.



Re/Max New Beginnings Realty

Re/Max New Beginnings offers a solution to all real estate needs including buying, selling and investing at 1000 Route 9 North, Suite 301, Woodbridge.



Re/Max Select Realty

Re/Max Select officially opened their doors at 1206 St. Georges Avenue, Avenel offering professionalism, expertise and cutting-edge technology to market seller's properties and assist buyers.



CrossCountry Mortgage

CrossCountry Mortgage dedicated to giving clients the smoothest home loan experience possible arrives at 1000 US Highway 9 North, Suite 305.



FreezePak Logistics

FreezePak is a nationally renowned cold storage & transportation services facility, which built its headquarters right in Woodbridge Township.



Eyestyles of Woodbridge

Eyestyles is a cornerstone business serving our community for the last 27 years relocated their storefront now located at 122 Main Street, Woodbridge.



Greenway FSC

Greenway Family Success Center is dedicated to strengthening families and empowering our community relocated to a larger facility now located at 1005 Rahway Avenue, Unit 1, Avenel.



Signia

Signia moved headquarters and is now at 101 Wood Avenue, Iselin and seeks to help people hear better with advanced technology hearing aids.

Business Round-Up (Cont.)



Ernst & Young

Ernst & Young unveiled their newly remodeled office that enables data and technology to deliver actionable strategies with the capital markets at 99 Wood Avenue South, Iselin.



Lett's Decorate

Lett's Decorate taps into your creativity by teaching you the art of creating balloon backdrops that will be the envy of any party. Classes are taught at 625 Lincoln Highway, Iselin.



Petra Best Realty

Petra Best Realty is a one-stop-shop from listing to sales to rentals and commercial real estate located at 165 New Brunswick Avenue, Hopelawn.



Hibachi Express Colonia

Hibachi Express located at 498 Inman Avenue in Colonia is a Japanese Steakhouse restaurant with both dine-in and take-out options.



Spark Car Wash

Spark will help keep any vehicle shiny, clean and smelling fresh at 90 West Pond Road, Hopelawn.



Novo Blanche

Wearing white all year round is possible because of Main Streets newest boutique Novo Blanche, fashionably emboldening the "Evolution of White" clothing.

Business is BOOMING in Woodbridge Township

Opening a business in Woodbridge? Contact wbmayer@twp.woodridge.nj.us to schedule your Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony!



Shop Local. Eat Local.
Enjoy Local!



BUSINESS NEWS

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.

S&P Global Ratings

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, continue to advance long-term economic development strategies designed to connect corporate headquarters, commercial enterprises, businesses and retail 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.

SAVE THE DATE!

Plan to attend the annual 2023 WEDCO Economic Development Forum - "A Celebration of Success & Opportunities for the Future" – on Tues., Nov. 28, 2023 at the Avenel Performing Arts Center. The Panel Discussion includes representatives from the MetroPark Development Project - Ed Russo, CEO, Russo Development and Sean Massey, Senior Director, Transit Oriented Development, NJT will present the conceptual vision of MetroPark.

Special Feature: Representatives from the Sustainable Jersey Partnership will be on-hand to present the tools, training and financial incentives geared toward advancing "Best Practices."



Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce Cornerstone of Woodbridge 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. Contact the Chamber at 732-636-4040 or visit the web at www.woodbridgechamber.com.



The WMCC hosted the 23rd Annual Mayor's Breakfast - Partnership for Progress: Interacting with Your State, County and Municipal Government - at the Avenel Performing Arts Center. Mayor John E. McCormac greeted Mayor's from throughout Middlesex County, along with representatives from the Central Jersey business community.



GREENABLE WOODBRIDGE

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS (AGAIN)!!!

For the 14th year Woodbridge Township garnered the 2023 Sustainable Jersey Silver-Level Recertification and Sustainability Champion Award for large-size municipalities. Sustainable Jersey serves as a guidepost as the Township continues to lead the state in sustainable and green initiatives. In the quest for the 2023 championship award, Woodbridge Township competed against 467 participating municipalities, including 204 certified municipalities and 69 silver-level certified towns, in the Sustainable Jersey competition earning sustainable points with actions in separate categories – scoring an incredible 1,165 points! Woodbridge is the only municipality in New Jersey with two Gold Star level certifications: **Health Gold** - for unprecedented public Health initiatives and **Water Gold** - for outstanding approaches to protecting water resources.



Only Rain Goes Down the Storm Drains!

Only Rain Goes Down Our Storm Drains! Properly functioning stormwater inlets help reduce roadway flooding and convey stormwater to drain into rivers, the Raritan Bay and Atlantic Ocean! Let's keep our waterways clean and pristine – nothing but water goes down our drains!

DID YOU KNOW?!

The Woodbridge Water Story, featuring Water Willy, helps educate residents about the fate and transport of water, recreational aspects of water within and near the community, and asks for feedback in relation to ecology, flood risk, and watersheds. **We want to hear from you!** Take the Township's updated Water Survey, read the Water Story, and check out the Township's newly created Watershed Master Plan by scanning the QR code below!



Charge up @ any of Greenable Woodbridge's EV Stations!

Electric Vehicles Reduce pollution and cut greenhouse gases. EV Chargers can be found in numerous locations throughout Woodbridge Township. Check the list below to charge up!

Woodbridge

ChargePoint Station (364 Eleanor Place)
New Street Parking lot (87 New Street)
Vermella Apts. (6000 Vermella Way)

Keasbey

Bayshore (75 Crows Mill Road)

Iselin

MetroPark (33 Wood Avenue South)

Hopelawn

Wawa (440 King Georges Road)

Avenel

Wawa (930 US-1)



Interested in Joining the Woodbridge Green Team?

Passionate about sustainable initiatives and helping your community? Contact:

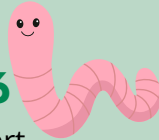
GREENABLE@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

Get involved & help continue to make Woodbridge the most sustainable town in New Jersey!

GREENABLE WOODBRIDGE



Save the Soil with School 26



Last Earth Day, Robert Mascenik School 26 showcased their fifth grade class' Diversity, Equity & Inclusion District Showcase Project that focused on building a worm farm. At the 2023 Earth Day celebration the students introduced their project to the Woodbridge Community and distributed free worms to help nurture and irrigate gardens and home soils!



Green Stormwater Management at the High Schools

The Department of Environmental Protection recently awarded Woodbridge Township with a grant to construct rain gardens at JFK Memorial High School and Woodbridge High School! Over 17,000 S.F of stormwater water run-off will be captured as a result of over five new rain gardens at both locations combined!

Sustainable Schools Colonia Middle School Advances Sustainability Courtyard

The Greenable Woodbridge Green Team has been tenaciously working to install a series of complex rain gardens at all Township libraries, our municipal building, and areas prone to shallow roadway flooding. Most recently these efforts have been displayed at Colonia Middle School, where Greenable Woodbridge, the Department of Public Works, and staff members from Rutgers University Water Resources Program helped teams of CMS students construct a nearly 200 S.F. rain garden project to manage storm water runoff within the school's courtyard. The CMS Courtyard is coined the **Sustainability Courtyard**, as it is already home to pollinator flowers, vegetable gardens, and now a rain garden to help further enhance nature-based learning!



DID YOU KNOW?!

Rain gardens contain beautiful native plants and minimize water runoff into storm drains and waterways - runoff that otherwise courses throughout a watershed can carry excess sediment and nutrients impacting water quality and flooding.



John F. Kennedy Memorial High School Promotes Water Conservation

JFK Memorial High School taps into its first outdoor water bottle re-fill station! Sustainable Jersey for Schools awarded a \$10,000 grant to the ecology club, and the students used this funding to install a water bottle re-fill station attached to their club house. Water is a limited natural resource, and JFK has taken great steps to conserve water wisely and help protect our natural environment. Water is an essential aspect of daily life and its uses range from food and agriculture to basic needs like drinking and cleanliness. Earth's surface is approximately 70% covered by water, but less than 1 percent is available for human use! Water bottle re-fill stations help us all to use less plastic and only use water when we need it!



GREENABLE WOODBRIDGE

Counting the Creatures at Crampton

Scientists from Rutgers University including faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduates performed a 24-hour species inventory known as a **Bioblitz** of the Woodbridge River Passage located off Rahway Avenue in downtown Woodbridge, where publicly accessible nature trails have replaced infrastructure at risk of flooding. The scientists identified 220 species of birds, mammals, crustaceans, amphibians, insects, and plants. Species were identified in the field, or at a large tented area (Base Camp) containing computers, field guides, microscopes, hand lenses, sorting jars, and plant presses. BioBlitz staff conducted nature-based walks and talks with residents, as well as all day events such as a nature themed scavenger hunt. Check out the full Bioblitz report at: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/595/Greenable-Woodbridge



Six Ways for Township Property Owners to Become More Flood Resilient



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.

1. **Know Your Flood Hazard:** Woodbridge Township has areas of special flood hazards located in the AE, A, Coastal A, and VE zones. You can locate Special Flood Hazard Areas in your neighborhood by looking at the Flood Insurance Maps online at FEMA's Map Service Center. Or for detailed FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) determinations based on a street address contact the Woodbridge Township Division of Engineering for personal assistance: 732.602.6057.
2. **Insure your Flood Prone Property:** Most homeowner's policies do not cover costly flood damages, so flood insurance is recommended, even in areas that do not normally flood.
3. **Protect People From Flood Hazards:** Always heed official flood warnings, and never walk or drive through flooded areas especially running water.
4. **Protect Your Property:** Install flood vents in your foundation walls to protect them from storm damage and lower your flood insurance premiums.
5. **Build Responsibly:** When you build on or repair a property within or near flood hazard areas, you must comply with the NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rules and the Township's Floodplain Management ordinances. Be sure to obtain all necessary permits before construction. Contact the Division of Engineering (732-602-6057) for questions regarding designing and permitting projects in Special Flood Hazard Areas.
6. **Protect Natural Floodplain Functions:** Let's keep our waterways and floodplains clean and pristine. Report illegal dumping! Call: 1-877-WARN DEP and/or Woodbridge Twp Division of Engineering: 732-602-6057

GREENABLE WOODBRIDGE

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 16 Woodbridge Township food service businesses are participating and over 10,000 lbs. of food has been collected since last April. 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.



Stop the Soot!

Idling is “Fuelish”

It's simple, when you're waiting in the car, turn the engine **off!** Idling is prohibited in New Jersey due to the fine particle pollution that is emitted. Fine particle pollution is linked to heart and lung ailments such as asthma, bronchitis and allergies. Stopping vehicle idling means putting less exhaust in our air which will improve air quality and respiratory health in our community.



Living Shore Line



Concept Plan



A Living shoreline is planned for Capt. Carlsen Park in Sewaren! Living shorelines help to recreate natural beneficial shoreline functions, like absorbing waves and reducing erosion while enhancing the environment. The Capt. Carlsen Park living shoreline will seek to improve resilience, provide recreational and educational opportunities, and restore important shoreline ecology. Share your thoughts and learn how you can volunteer to help by emailing:

Greenablewoodbridge@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

GREENABLE WOODBRIDGE

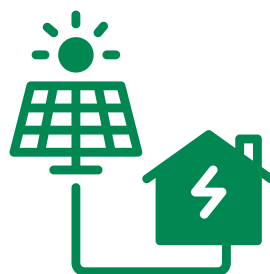
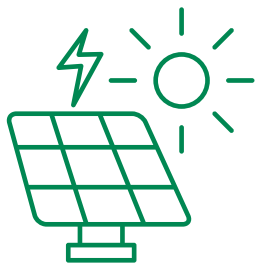
BPU Rolls Out Newest Clean Energy Program

Community Solar Enables Access to Solar Power

What is Community Solar? Community solar projects enable greater access to solar energy without installing panels or owning your home. Electric utility customers who have previously been unable to go solar, due to a variety of factors including cost, unsuitable roof, or lack of roof control, can now access this renewable energy. Expanding access to solar enhances clean energy equity, reduces energy costs, and helps promote green job growth. By enrolling, you save costs and lower your carbon footprint! **Learn more at:** [www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/595/Greenable- Woodbridge](http://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/595/Greenable-Woodbridge)

Woodbridge Township & Solar Panel Installations

Renewable resources like solar power positively impact community health, and lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions. Woodbridge Township has an efficient and streamlined process for scheduling solar panel installations, which make installations easy for installers and homeowners! Building Permits Are Available Online! Visit the Township's Construction Forms webpage at: <https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/395/Construction-Forms>



For additional information:

E-mail: CommunitySolar@NJCleanEnergy.com

Call: 866-NJSMART (866-657- 6278)

NEARING COMPLETION: Woodbridge Waterfront Park at the Raritan River



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 and 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. Recreational activities onsite will include walking trails, boardwalk and observation/overlook platforms.



RECREATION NEWS

PICKLEBALL PARADISE

Warren Park Paves Six New Courts



Fords Park Pickleball Complex

Construction at Fords Park is underway!!! The park will be home to 12 new fenced-in pickleball courts.



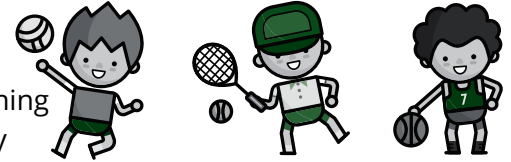
Pochek Park

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

The Springwood Swim Club in Colonia, is pleased to announce the grand opening of their two newest amenities - a Spray Park & Mini Golf Course! Springwood is closed for the season but will reopen Memorial Day 2024.



Visit: <https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/1054/Woodbridge-Township-Pools> for more information.

Youth Recreation

Looking for a soccer, baseball, softball, or basketball league for your children who are in grades K-12? Woodbridge Recreation Department offers affordable leagues for all Township residents. Call the Rec Office at **732-596-4048** or email recreationdepartment@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

Alyvia H. Wins Annual Frank Gagnon Fishing Derby!



Participants 16 and younger gathered at Woodbridge Park for the 17th annual Frank Gagnon Memorial Fishing Derby. Alyvia H. (pictured with mom, Jen) reeled in a 15.5 ounce catfish, which was crowned the largest of the day! The tournament is in honor of the late Frank Gagnon who was an avid Fisherman and environmentalist who served as chairman of the Woodbridge Housing authority and on the Middlesex County Planning Board.

The Latest: Cypress Park Recreation Complex Phase II Breaks Ground!

Cypress Phase II broke ground and announced the start of construction! This project was granted a \$1,000,000 Recreational Facilities Improvement Congressional Earmark and will help construct new amenities to improve this underutilized land and beautify Port Reading. The second Phase of the Cypress Recreation complex will include an improved regulation soccer field



and a new playground suitable for children ages 2-12. In addition, we are happy to announce that concrete is being poured for the two new outdoor street hockey rinks. There are hundreds of children that play in the PBA sponsored Youth Street Hockey League and these children will finally have a great place to play their games!

3rd Annual Turkey Trot 5K Run & Walk



Alvin P. Willaims Park, Sewaren
November 25, 2023
\$25 per entry
Scan QR Code to Register



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!

 <p>NOV. 1-5 MAGIC</p>	 <p>NOV. 11 CONCERT</p>	 <p>NOV. 12 CONCERT</p>
 <p>NOV. 17-19 DINNER THEATER</p>	 <p>NOV. 30-DEC. 2 DINNER THEATER</p>	 <p>DEC. 15-16 CHILDREN'S THEATER</p>
 <p>JAN. 19-20 MAGIC</p>	 <p>JAN. 25-27 DINNER THEATER</p>	 <p>FEB. 3 CONCERT</p>

BOX OFFICE PHONE NUMBER — (732)314-0500 —

150 AVENEL STREET, AVENEL, NJ 07001
WWW.AVENELARTS.COM

FOLLOW US   

CURTAINS Bar and Restaurant

**KARAOKE
WEDNESDAYS**

STARTS AT 7PM

**TRIVIA
THURSDAYS**

STARTS AT 7PM

**LIVE MUSIC
FRI AND SAT**

CHECK WEBSITE FOR DATES AND TIMES

**WEEKEND
BRUNCH**

CHECK WEBSITE FOR DATES AND TIMES

CURTAINSRESTAURANT.COM
732-582-4595
150 AVENEL STREET
AVENEL, NJ 07001

Wednesdays - Thursdays 3pm-11pm
Fridays 3pm-12am
Saturdays 10:30am-12am
Sundays 10:30am-7pm



RECREATION NEWS

Woodbridge Community Center Holiday Health, Fitness & Wellness Begins at the WCC

Stop by the WCC at 600 Main Street, Woodbridge. Visit our webpage at: www.njwcc.com.



FAMILY FITNESS & FUN

Serving the Tri State Area for Over 20 years

VARIOUS MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Strength/Cardio Room
- Indoor Pool
- Group Fitness Classes
- Indoor Walking/Running Track
- Discounts on Open Roller Skating/ Ice Skating & Miniature Golf
- Discounts on Swim Lessons, Roller Skating/Ice Skating Lessons & Hockey Programs
- Personal Training Available for an Additional Fee
- Plus So Much More

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

600 Main Street Woodbridge, NJ 07095 | www.njwcc.com | 732.596.4170



Looking for that special Health & Wellness Holiday Gift!!! Take advantage of a Holiday Family Membership at the Woodbridge Community Center (WCC) - Woodbridge Township's community, recreation, entertainment, fitness/sport and cultural center. WCC membership packages are available in all shapes and sizes. Check out the Family Membership or an Individual Membership. Join today and receive a FREE WCC Gift with paid membership!!! We're betting that you'll discover that the WCC is the perfect place for holiday family fun and fitness.

DID YOU KNOW??? The WCC is at the leading edge of what's hot in the health, wellness and fitness industry!!! WCC members are going strong and getting in shape with the popular LesMills Group Effect exercise classes and personal training program. 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. And, after taking batting practice, tee-off at SkyLine Mini-Golf. -the best and most challenging mini-golf course in Central Jersey.



Fall into Fitness at

the Club at WOODBRIDGE Sports & Fitness Center



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**.

More Than Just a GYM!

- Month to Month memberships
- Les Mills Classes
- Badminton, Racquetball, Basketball
- Precor Equipment
- Sauna, Steam & Whirlpool
- Salt Water Pool

the Club at WOODBRIDGE Sports & Fitness Center
585 Main Street 732-634-5000

- Personal Training
- Children's Classes
- Preschool
- Golf Den with Trackman Technology
- Hockey Den
- And much, much more!

Call to Schedule a Tour!

- Experienced and Caring Staff
- Comprehensive Curriculum
- Indoor/New Outdoor Play Area
- Clean and Controlled Environment
- Enriching Minds While Staying Safe

KIDS SPORTS FUN & FITNESS CLUB

- Sports
- Yoga
- Zumba
- Arts and Crafts
- Drama
- Golf
- Science
- Parent/Child Classes
- Swim

WIDS PORTS FUN & FITNESS CLUB

Summer Day Camp
10 Weeks to Choose From!

- Swim
- Sports
- Arts & Crafts
- Special Events
- Small Groups
- Trips

Ages 3yrs. - 12 yrs. **PreK thru 7th Grade**

Group Exercise Class At The Club at Woodbridge

Senior Classes

Dance Fitness Classes

Spinning Classes

Sweet & Interval Training

Mind & Body Classes

COMING SOON: Barbells at The Club at Woodbridge

Many upgrades and renovations have taken place at The Club over the last few years and we are nearing completion on the newest addition – **BARBELLS** – a Cafe independently run by the Woodbridge Arts Alliance, set to open later this year. Barbells 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 hockey net for people to watch the action. That area will only be accessible from the inside bar and not the ice rink. Both members and non-members can fuel their fitness at Barbells!

PET CORNER

Woodbridge Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center



Woodbridge 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

**Excludes holidays*

FOSTERS NEEDED!

The Woodbridge Animal Group is calling on compassionate individuals who will lend their hearts and homes to shelter animals in need. Foster homes save lives by making space in the shelter for incoming animals as well as provide a safe and loving home while our four-legged friends await their forever homes.

Contact the Woodbridge Animal Shelter: 732-855-0600 x2034



Facebook:
www.facebook.com/WoodbridgeAnimalGroup

Make a House a Home with a New Pet from the Shelter



Woodbridge Animal Group

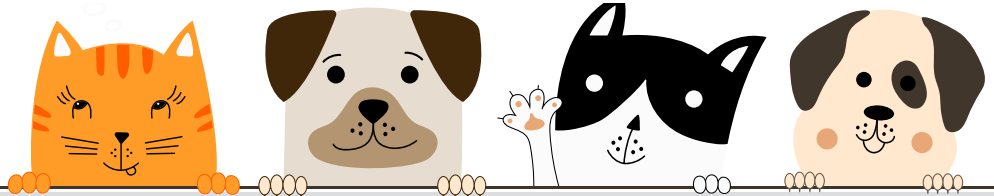
A shelter animal makes the best pet and is so easy to adopt.

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.woodbridgeanimalgroup.com.

In the Works...

We are pleased to announce that The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection under the Green Acres division awarded the Township a **\$1.2 million grant** to upgrade the dog park at the Sewaren Marina!!! Your pups - big and small - will experience all new turf, agility equipment, and water stations while pet parents can use the new walking track, seating and gazebos. The current dog park will remain open while the new amenity is being constructed!!!



Lend a Paw, Our Shelter Guests Need Your Help!

The shelter is always in need of items to keep shelter animals healthy and happy while they wait for their fur-ever home. WAG has teamed up with Chewy.com for one-stop shopping which makes it easier than ever to donate to our animals in need. Scan the QR code to shop WAG's Wishlist. You can help make tails wag and hearts purr.



Adoptable Ollie, Petunia and Stormie



Lucy's Place: Play Yard Remodel

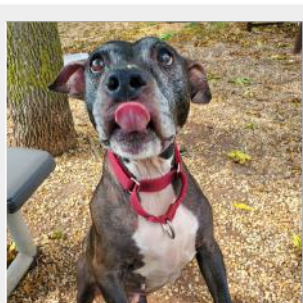
The shelter generously received donations from Richard Lucas Subaru, Cause for Paws, The Swirl, and Friends of Woodbridge Animal Group to remodel the play yard used for socializing shelter pets. These groups unveiled the newly remodeled play yard, named Lucy's Place after the shelter's long-time resident Lucy. Lucy was a pit bull confiscated from animal cruelty and spent several years with no adoption prospects. She became "the shelter's" dog who loved time in the yard with volunteers and staff. Lucy was elderly and eventually developed cancer. The shelter staff stood by Lucy's side until her last sniff, and now thanks to all the generous donations all the Woodbridge Animal Shelter pets will be able to honor Lucy by enjoying fresh air and exercise in Lucy's Place.



After ~ Before



Ribbon Cutting and Unveiling of Lucy's Place



Lucy 

Girl Scout Troop Helps Shelter Friends

Bronze Awards are one of the highest honors in Girl Scouting and are awarded when troops make the world a better place and positively influence their community. Girl Scout Troop 83174 earned their Bronze Awards by making dog and cat toys for the animals at the shelter. Additionally they used portions of their cookie sale profits to buy supplies for the shelter.



The Swirl Superstars

@FollowTheSwirl

Five elementary school students with an entrepreneurial spirit and a love for animals create one of a kind tie dye shirts to raise fund in support of homeless animals in the community. These amazing members of The Swirl are Alyssa Bases, Adison Beahm, Quinn Henry, Chad Johnson and Leonardo Murillo. Over the last year they have raised \$6,000 and donated it to the Woodbridge Animal Shelter! Follow The Swirl on social media to see where they are next!



Fur-Ever Home!



MAYOR MAC'S



PHOTO ALBUM



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Woodbridge Township Fights The Stigma

The Mayor's Office, in response to growing societal concerns surrounding behavioral health implemented a multi-agency approach to address mental and physical 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 and Opioid Addiction 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.



Mobile Health Unit is Here for You!

Preventative health screenings, medical tests and vaccinations can now be easily brought, free-of-charge, to people in their neighborhoods thanks to Mayor John E. McCormac and the Woodbridge Township Department of Health & Human Services new Mobile Health Services Unit. The Department of Health rolled out the state-of-the-art Mobile Health Services Unit staffed by Health Department medical professionals and nurses and equipped with the latest healthcare technologies. It will enable convenient delivery of vital services to residents in their neighborhoods and local communities.



The \$300,000 Mobile Health Services Unit comes without cost to Woodbridge taxpayers, donated by philanthropic benefactor who wishes to remain anonymous.

The Mobile Health Services Unit will make routine visits to senior citizen centers, public housing complexes and community events and programs to ensure that vulnerable populations who are under-served and face healthcare barriers in traditional settings receive first-rate services. Among those services will be adult and child health exams and screenings; blood tests; vaccinations for pneumonia, influenza, shingles and Covid-19; testing for cholesterol, glucose, bone density, skin cancer, vision and hearing loss and fall risk-assessments.

The Mobile Health Services Unit "hit-the-road" on an aggressive summer schedule, with visits to the Mayor's Summer concerts, the Farmers' Market at Parker Press Park and other community events, festivals and street fairs. The Mobile Health Services Unit will also visit public schools throughout the year to provide preventative health and educational services.

The climate-controlled, 27-foot Ford E450 Mobile Health Services Unit is equipped with two examination areas able to provide general medicine and nursing services and it is equipped with handicap access and an outdoor awning for complete service.



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.



SCHOOL AGE PHYSICALS

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



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:

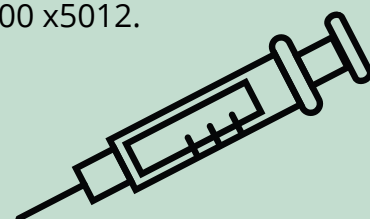
Shingles, Hep B, and others. (Must be over 18 years of age). Clinic fee \$60 per vaccine \$25 for Medicaid and Medicare Call for appointment. 732-855-0600 x5012.

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.



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Stay Connected with The Health Department!



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



Health Department Stands Down on COVID-19

The Woodbridge Department of Health & Human Services 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 in May 2023, the Woodbridge Health Department had documented more than 35,150 community cases of COVID-19 and administered more than 19,500 vaccinations at 207 Health Center clinics.

Today, as we continue to move past the COVID-19 pandemic, the New Jersey Department of Health (and the Federal Department of Health & Human Services, the CDC and related agencies) determined that county and municipal health agencies would no longer deliver the COVID-19 vaccine or booster. Instead, federal and state health officials directed that the delivery of COVID vaccine(s) be conducted and distributed by hospitals, medical providers, health centers and approved pharmacies.

Residents can find COVID-19 vaccine locations at [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov), text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233. Woodbridge Township pharmacies certified to deliver the COVID vaccine include:

- Ar-Ex Pharmacy, 370 New Brunswick Ave., Fords - 732-738-1085
- Colonia Natural Pharmacy, 515 Inman Ave., Colonia - 732-381-3400
- CVS Pharmacy, 107 Main Street, Woodbridge - 732-634-6394
- ShopRite Pharmacy, 877 St. Georges Ave., Woodbridge - 732-636-4151
- Walgreens, 555 Inman Ave, Ave, Colonia - 732-396-8701
- Walgreens, 1303 St. Georges Ave, Colonia - 732-827-2904
- Walgreens, 17 Green Street, Woodbridge - 732-326-9782
- Walmart Pharmacy, 360 US-9, Woodbridge - 732-826-6084
- Wegmans, 15 Woodbridge Ctr Dr, Woodbridge - 732-596-3245



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Mayor's Wellness Campaign Promotes Healthy Lifestyle & Fitness

The Mayor's Wellness Campaign hosts events and programs that challenge Township residents to engage in a healthy and active lifestyle. The Mayor's Wellness Campaign, under the direction of Councilman Gregg Ficarra and in partnership with the Departments of Health & Human Services and Recreation, the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, the Woodbridge Community Center (WCC) and The Club at Woodbridge, the Woodbridge Township School District and Township businesses and corporations committed to wellness have put together a series of health and wellness events that are sure to get everyone up and running!!!



Health Round-Up



Health Department's Mobile Health Unit attended the Back to School Backpack Drive



Health Department's successful First Annual Road to Hope Gala at the Acacia Youth Center

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 Environmental Health Association

Anthony Ravino, Registered Environmental Health Inspector

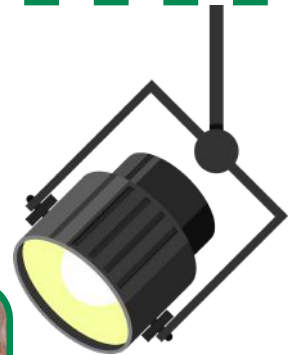


The New Jersey Environmental Health Association recently announced their Champion of Environmental Health Awards – and our own **Anthony Ravino** **garnered the REHS of the Year Award**. As one of the Township's Registered Environmental Health Inspectors, Anthony spearheaded programs to eliminate lead hazards in homes responsible for elevated blood levels in children under the age of 6. Additionally, he took the lead on the recent NJDCA lead hazard evaluation law, and worked with Spatial Data Logic on their program to electronically manage lead hazard. Congratulations Anthony!!!!

Mayor's Award for Life-Saving Action

Sarah Jastrzembki, Registered Nurse

On July 7, 2023 Sarah Jastrzembki, registered nurse assigned to the Woodbridge Township Mobile Health Unit, was conducting public health outreach and screenings at Jacob's Landing School's Out Community event. A female resident underwent a choking episode at which time Nurse Jastrzembki immediately responded to the medical emergency, performed the Heimlich Maneuver and successfully dislodged the obstruction blocking the patient's windpipe. Nurse Jastrzembki demonstrated professionalism and swiftness while saving a life. Thank you and congratulations Sarah!!!



Woodbridge 'Best Town Around' for the Holiday's

Holiday Parade of Lights...
Christmas Tree-Lighting & Holiday Festivals... Seasonal Concerts...
And so Much More for the Holidays

Experience the warmth of the Holiday Season with special holiday programs, events and seasonal concerts right here in Woodbridge, where it's always Happy Holiday's & Seasons Greetings. Visit the Township web page at: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us for all of the upcoming holiday events, programs, and concerts.



All Aboard the Holiday Train Show at the BAC Catch the Connecting Art Train, Coming May 3, 2024

The Annual **Barron Arts Center Holiday Train Display** has become the singular stop for the Holiday Fun! This year, the BAC Holiday Train Display is on-track from Nov. 27 – Dec. 29 (Closed Dec. 24 & 25) weekdays 11AM-4PM & Saturday and Sunday 2PM-4PM.

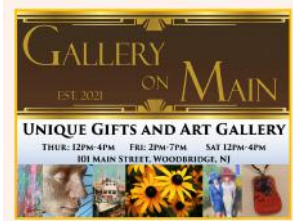


Hop on the New Jersey Transit Art Express!

On **May 4, 2024** Art lovers from all over New Jersey can get FREE New Jersey Transit Passes to ride back and forth to Woodbridge, Avenel and Rahway for a Central Jersey Arts Festival! More details coming soon, follow The Barron Arts Center on social media for the latest information.

Need a Holiday Gift? Gallery on Main has it all!!!

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 BAC's Fall/Winter calendar highlights the BAC Artist-of-the-Year: The Art of Julius Weber. (On view through October). Rediscover Classical Music in the Garden State with the All Seasons Chamber Players (Feb. 2, 2024). Black History Month Opens at the BAC with a very special event: "Ain't I A Woman? – Dr. Daisy Century Portrays Sojourner Truth" (Feb. 15, 2024). The ever-popular 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.

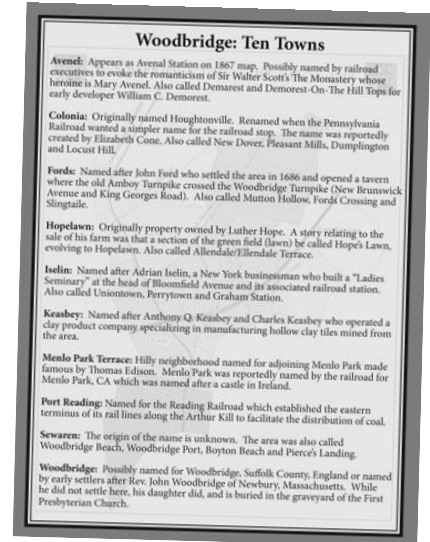


Historic Kiln used in the mid-19th century was once owned by Salamander Works on Rahway Avenue. Woodbridge lead the nation in manufacturing and exporting clay and bricks.

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 brick 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 COMING SOON!

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. The Woodbridge Township History Museum will offer rotating displays to showcase our rich history. 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 Victorian-era 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? Want to participate in our History come alive? Here’s How: Visit <https://woodbridgehistory.com/>

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.

Woodbridge Public Library:

Get Your Library Card & Explore the Universe

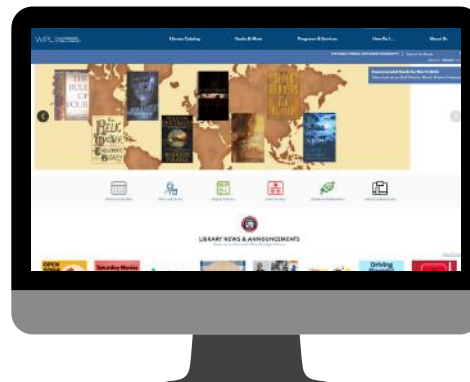
The Woodbridge Public Library has it all with more than 460,000 volumes. Looking for a good mystery? A how-to on home renovation? A travel guide to anywhere in the world? A biography? You'll find all these and more in the Library's book collection. Access nearly 100 years of Woodbridge history through the special collection of local history materials, photographs and genealogical information or through the online newspaper archive collection.



Did You Know? The Library houses thousands of movies, vintage television shows, music albums and audiobooks - all available for mobile and online access through online services which now include Overdrive audiobooks, eBooks and magazines, Hoopla and Canva. 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

WPL Website Redesigned

The Woodbridge Public Library 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



WPL now automatically renews loans!

Woodbridge Public Library now offers automatic renewals of loans which extends the borrowing period and allows for more time for patrons to return library materials. Materials that are not on hold or that have been renewed twice will renew automatically the day of their due date so that loans will give library users the maximum loan period.

Notary and Passport Services



WPL offers Notary Services and is also a designated Passport Acceptance Facility. Visit woodbridgelibrary.org/1219/PassportServices to make an appointment, and for a checklist of what to bring with you.



ARTS, LIBRARY & HISTORY NEWS

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

The Woodbridge Public Library has launched offers a next generation mobile library app... WPL on the Go... that makes 24/7 access to the library easier than ever - from discovery to reading, listening or viewing, 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. For more information about the new library app contact the library at director@woodbridgelibrary.org.

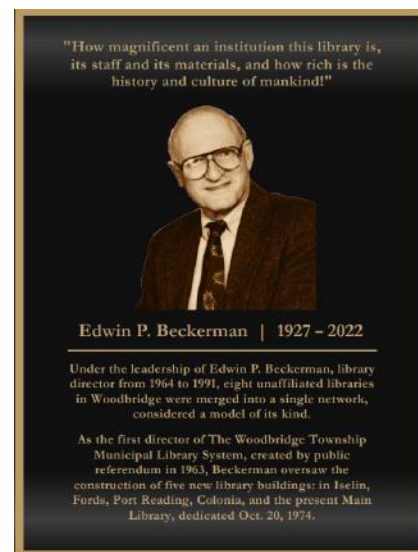


In Memory of Edwin Beckerman, Founding Library Director

Mayor McCormac unveiled a commemorative plaque at a ceremony held on June 25th, 2023, to recognize the service and dedication of Edwin Beckerman, Founding Library Director of the Woodbridge Public Library system and who passed away on October 29, 2022, at the age of 94. Under Director Beckman's guidance, the library system grew to include five new library buildings.

"How magnificent an institution this library is, its staff and its materials, and how rich is the history and culture of mankind!"

-Edwin P. Beckerman



Black Americans in Woodbridge History

The Woodbridge Public Library, with support from the Woodbridge Township Historic Preservation Commission, the Middlesex County Arts Institute, the Independent Club of Colonia, and the Human Rights Commission mounted the exhibit **"Black Americans in Woodbridge History: From Unseen to Seen,"** a multimedia exhibit combining mixed-medium art installations by local Woodbridge artist S. Scott with historic documents and accompanying interpretation during the month of June, 2023. The online exhibit is available 24/7 at <https://wplexhibits.omeka.net>.



Join the Fun with our Diverse Programming!



ARTS, LIBRARY & HISTORY NEWS

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

Sign-up for the WPL weekly eNews at <https://bit.ly/WPLNews>
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 Set to ReOpen

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 nearly complete and that the renovated library is set to open to Colonia patrons by the end of the year. The overall renovations 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

Donate Books

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



Sign-Up To Be A Friend

The Friends of the Libraries of Woodbridge Township is a non-profit organization committed to support and promote the Woodbridge Public Library. From the ongoing book sale at the entrance at the Main Library, along with proceeds from the annual Book Sale, the Friends work to get quality-reading material into the community while raising funds that go back to the WPL and directly benefit library patrons. Volunteers are always needed to further the efforts and programs of this energetic group... for as little as a few hours a month you can make a difference! Email friends@woodbridgelibrary.org for information.



YOUTH NEWS

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: woodbridgeylc@gmail.com



Children's Concert's and Theatre Entertained throughout the Summer!

From Rumpelstiltskin to Snow White to DJ Dance Parties to Outside Rock and everything in between, children throughout Woodbridge Township were entertained all summer long. The newest addition to Mayor McCormac's Free Summer Concert Series expanded to Children's entertainment with a variety of genres including pop and rock concerts, musical theatre, and dance music. Children were able to listen to catchy songs while their parents shopped local at the weekly Saturday Farmer's market at Parker Press Park leaving no room for boredom while mom picked up fresh veggies. The Acacia Center, located on 95 Port Reading Avenue, comfortably hosted theater shows so families could enjoy without worrying about the weather.



Generations Connected

Youth Services teamed up with the Department of Senior Services to create an innovative pilot program called "Generations Connected" where middle and high school students interacted with senior citizens. More than two dozen youth members spent one day a week at each of the Six Senior Centers getting to know their senior neighbors while crafting, playing ping-pong, line dancing and learning from one another. Generations Connected will be back during winter and spring break as well as during the summer of 2024, so don't miss your chance to join in on the fun!



HEROES & COOL KIDS



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! Contact YouthServices@twp.woodbridge.nj.us for more information.



**ACACIA
YOUTH
CENTER**

95 PORT READING AVE.
WOODBRIDGE, NJ 07095
M-F 3:00-6PM
732-726-6290

**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

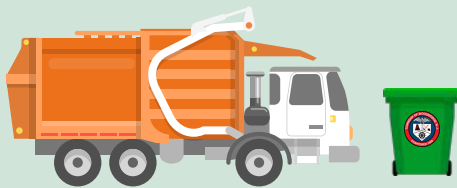
PUBLIC WORKS



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



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



Backyard Compost

Recycling your organic kitchen and yard waste by creating a compost pile in your yard is a practical and convenient way to handle your organic waste. It improves the soil quality, puts nutrients back into the soil, and reduces landfill waste! Learn more at: <https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/878/Compost>

Zero Waste

Recycling your organic kitchen and yard waste by creating a compost pile in your yard is a practical and convenient way to handle your organic waste. It improves the soil quality, puts nutrients back into the soil, and reduces landfill waste! Learn more at: <https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/878/Compost>

New & Improved Bulk Waste Collection & Curbside Pick-Up



Woodbridge Recycling & Convenience Center

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.**

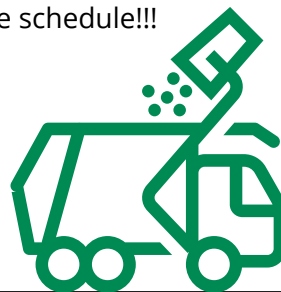
Drop-Off Hours:

Mon. – Sat. 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Closed on Sunday & Holidays

HOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE BULK WASTE PICK-UP:

Call the Department of Public Works Sanitation Office at **732-738-1311 x3600** to schedule Bulk Waste pick-up. 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, Brush, Leaves, Propane Tanks and Electronics (computers, monitors, scanners, laptops, modems, printers, cables, keyboards and televisions) and Concrete, Asphalt, Brick from homeowner repair only; **no contractors.**

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 **\$203,120.84** from the Clean Communities Grant program. Keep-up the great work... and **RECYCLE & RE-USE!!!**



The DOs and DON'Ts of Curbside Recycling in Woodbridge

<p>DO RECYCLE</p> <p>These items in your BLUE CART</p> <p>Always place recyclables loose in your BLUE CART, never bagged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and empty aluminum cans (no aluminum foil) • Clean and empty steel and tin cans and containers (no food waste) • Clean and dry paper (no stained, soggy or waxed paper) • Clean, dry and flattened cardboard and paperboard • Clean and empty plastic bottles, jugs and containers (no double caps, hoses or attachments) • Clean and empty milk, juice and/or soft cartons • Clean and empty glass bottles and jars 	<p>DON'T RECYCLE</p> <p>These items in your BLUE CART</p> <p>These items are NOT recyclable in your BLUE CART, some can be recycled at our Convenience Center. For more information call 732-738-1311 x3035</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing, shoes and linens • Electronics • Light bulbs • Batteries • Refrigerators, air conditioning units • Plastic pipe, packaging, wrap and film • Stumps • Tires • Paints, stains, sealants, solvents • Cooking and dining ware • Spring shades, curtains and linens • Cookware • Knives • Coffee makers • Rubber mats • Tarpaulins, such as car covers, weed, fence and signs
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Pothole 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!!! 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. Search the 'What Goes here?' database for specific item type instructions. Keep track of upcoming Special Collection Events such as Hazardous Household Items, Prescription Disposal and even Confidential Document Shredding! Report a Waste Problem or Send Comments and Suggestions through the App.

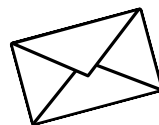
Recycling by the Numbers

One year of curbside recycling saves:

- 1,211 tons of plastic containers
- 4,331 tons of newspaper, cardboard and food packaging boxes
- 969 tons of glass jars and beverage containers
- 2,454 tons of junk mail, magazines and waste paper
- 1,090 tons of aluminum and steel beverage and food containers

Total: 10,055 tons of recycling collected annually

See your tax mailer for the recycling guidelines...



Questions?

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

PUBLIC WORKS

YARD SALES

APRIL 6, 2024
WOODBRIDGE,
SEWAREN, AVENEL,
PORT READING

REDUCE

APRIL 13, 2024
FORDS, KEASBEY,
MPT
HOPELAWN

REUSE

APRIL 20, 2024
ISELIN

RECYCLE

April 27, 2024
COLONIA

Items left over at
the end of the day?
Bring them to the
Township's ReUse
It Center!

Welcome to the ReUse It Center

Many common household items often end up in the trash adding to landfills and greenhouse gas emissions. But in Woodbridge we do so much more to give back to our environment and community! Items such as books, craft supplies, sporting equipment, household items, garden and yard hardware, and old toys and games can all be brought to or found at our

ReUse It Center located at 225 Smith St., Keasbey, open from 10AM – 2PM Monday-Friday. For more information or to confirm hours please call **732-738-1311 x3035**



Paving the Way to Better Streets

The DPW and the Engineering Division oversee the annual Road Paving/Resurfacing Program which allocated more than \$7 million each year to improve neighborhood streets, roads, parking lots, walking paths and other public transportation avenues. In 2023, the Engineering Division is on track to pave more than 46 Township streets with Department of Public Works crews and equipment doing much of the work. The Township-wide Road Paving/Resurfacing Program has resulted in over 240 miles of streets and roads repaired and paved in recent years – along with municipal parking areas, school walking paths and sidewalks being paved quicker and at a substantial savings to taxpayers.



Coral CT, Colonia



Wylie St, Avenel



Marlin Dr, Fords



Long hill Rd, Colonia

Department of Senior Services at your Disposal!



The Woodbridge Department of Senior Services offers a wide arrange of programs and services for its senior citizens.

From the six senior center coordinators to our social workers to our STOW bus drivers and everyone in between, our Senior Service Team is here to assist! Whether you are looking for social, recreational, educational or physical programs/ activities designed to stimulate healthy living, create a sense of purpose and enhance your quality of life, the Department of Senior Services is here for you!

Important Phone Numbers for Seniors

Multi-Service Program on Aging

732-726-6262

STOW

732-726-2394

Evergreen Senior Center

732-726-6261

Sycamore Senior Center

732-726-7087

Five Branches Senior Center

732-726-6277

Hickory Senior Center

732-726-6285

Maple Tree Senior Center

732-259-0910

Oak Tree Senior Center

732-259-2008

MCAT (County Transportation)

800-221-3520

Access Link (Transportation)

800-955-2321

N.J. Department of Health & Senior Services

800-792-8820

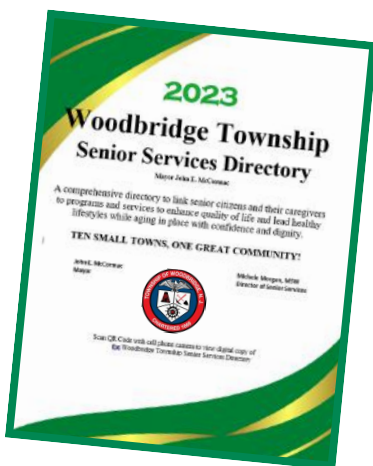
Social Security, Iselin Office

800-772-1213

Medicare

800-633-4227

Senior Resource Guide at Your Finger Tips



We are pleased to offer the second edition consolidated Senior Services Directory – a 110-page comprehensive compilation of all the services and programs available to Woodbridge Township Senior residents!

The Senior Services Directory highlights all of our Senior Centers and the special activities in each along with our other resources like recreation facilities and libraries and it provides references and contact information for Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, prescription programs and caregiver referrals. It also contains valuable information about consumer protection, nutritional advice, energy assistance, veterans programs and services and regular Township offerings. Scan the QR Code to view it digitally or obtain a copy by calling 732-726-6262!



SENIOR NEWS

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:

- Complete a Membership Registration Form
- 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 Senior Center

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 offers educational programs, Senior Choir, Atlantic City bus trips, monthly themed luncheons, art, health, fitness and wellness programs, billiards, ballroom dancing and more. Call 732-726-6261.



Sycamore Senior Center: A Happening Place!



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... Home to Avenel Seniors



Maple Tree Senior Center located at the Knights of Columbus on 109 Morrissey 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, this can be the place for you. Call 732-259-0910.

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, yoga, movies, Music Mixer, Community Circle, rummikub, monthly themed luncheons, and Atlantic City trips just to name a few. Call 732-259-2008.



SENIOR NEWS

Senior Olympians Set to Compete in 2024 Games

The New Jersey Senior Olympic Committee, Senior Olympians and competing Senior athletes opened the 2023 New Jersey Senior Olympic games on Sat., Sept. 9 during ceremonies at the Woodbridge Community Center (WCC). The New Jersey Senior Olympic games feature 21 sporting events and competitions where senior athletes 50 years of age and older – male and female – compete for the Gold, Silver and Bronze in various age categories ranging from: 50-54; 55-59; 60-64; 65-69; 70-74; 75-79; 80-84; 85-89; and 90+. Senior athletes compete in Archery, Basketball (foul shooting/accuracy and '3 on 3'), Billiards, Bocce, Bowling, Cycling, Darts, Fencing, Golf, Horseshoes, Racquetball, Team Softball, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Track & Field events, pickleball and miniature golf.

The 2024 New Jersey Senior Olympic games return to Woodbridge on Sept. 6, 7, & 8, 2024 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! For more information visit: <https://www.njseniorolympics.com/>

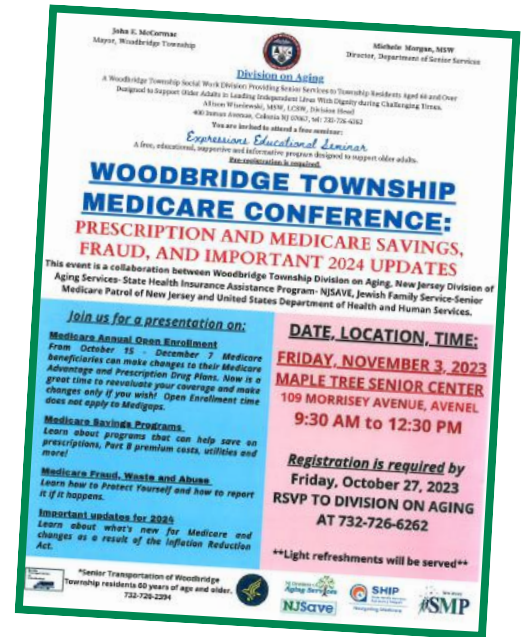


2024 Woodbridge Township Medicare Conference

Prescription and Medicare Savings, Fraud and Important Updates

Woodbridge Township's Social Work Division provides senior residents aged 60 and over support designed to help older adults live independent lives with dignity, especially during challenging times.

Sponsored by the Department of Senior Services Division on Aging in conjunction with the New Jersey Division of Aging Services - State Health Insurance Assistance Program - NJSAVE and United States Department of Health and Human Services, Woodbridge seniors already enrolled in medicare can join us for the 2024 Woodbridge Township Medicare Conference. A presentation on annual open enrollment, medicare savings programs, medicare fraud and abuse as well as all important updates for 2024 will be packed into a three hour event.



Registration is required

RSVP by calling Division on Aging at 732-726-6262

Need Transportation?

CALL STOW! 732-726-2394

Can't Make the Presentation?

Our Division on Aging employees are available year round to assist with your Medicare questions and can point you in the right direction for resources!





Scammers Target Seniors

WB News 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.



Curb to Curb Transportation! 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, reservation-based 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. 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)

Call For Reservations:

732-726-2394

STOW employees will provide more information regarding your appointment once it's confirmed!



Continued from Cover article

We currently pay the debt service on the bonds issued to finance those two efforts which produced a new Ross Street School #11, massive additions to Matthew Jago School #28 and Lafayette Estates School #25, along with overall renovations to Oak Tree Road School #29 and Woodbridge Middle School, with building connections to Lynn Crest School #22 and Kennedy Park School #24. These efforts also produced full day kindergarten, enhanced computer technology and, most importantly, millions of dollars in appropriations for improved school security.

Based on current projections of future Payment In Lieu of Tax agreements where we expect six to eight new agreements in the 2025 Municipal budget and another six to eight in 2026, plus a several PILOTs this year, we know that we can clearly afford to continue to invest in our school infrastructure. More importantly, we can confidently position the 2024 Referendum as not costing Township taxpayers anything as these future projects will cover the costs.

LAFAYETTE ESTATES SCHOOL #25

Investment: \$16,060,472



Lafayette Estates School #25 received a 35,000 sf addition that consists of 18 classrooms, gym, cafeteria, multi-fixture restrooms and a nurse suite while also renovating 5,000 sf of the existing building. The school is transitioning the Multi-Purpose room into a Stem Lab and renovating the main office and security vestibule outfitted with high-security storefront and transaction window as a barrier between the public and the students and staff. The addition is geared to accommodate grades 1-5 and is fully air conditioned and heated throughout. This project also included a variety of

site improvements including a bus loop turn around, new paved expanded parking lot as well as a storm water management system.

Matthew Jago School #28

Investment: \$9,778,557



Matthew Jago School #28 received 25,000 sf addition that consists of eight classrooms, ot/pt room gym and two office suites. This addition was designed specifically with special services in mind. Each classroom has a restroom as well as overall multi-fixture restrooms and a dedicated family restroom with a shower. The HVAC system is specifically designed with the special services in mind being fully ducted RTU systems with vibration dampening to keep the rooms as quiet as possible, heating and cooling provided. Each classroom and office space has fully adjustable indirect lighting to provide the best environment for the students. While the specialty spaces are also fitted to accommodate the district's desired equipment.

“These major school additions are a lasting legacy to our economic development efforts in Woodbridge where we generate millions of dollars in tax revenue from warehouses and invest those funds in our Township schools,” said Mayor McCormac. “Over a Ten-Year period from 2017 through 2026, we will have invested over \$200 million in three brand new schools, two major renovations and additions, improved athletic facilities, enhanced technology and, perhaps most importantly, a significant sum in security to keep our students and faculty safe. Those funds come from new businesses in town and not our existing taxpayers but all of our residents get the benefit of improved property values because their neighborhood schools are newer and more attractive.”

Salute to Service Photo Album

Support Our Troops 2023



Memorial Day Services



NJ Young Marines



VETERANS NEWS



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.

A Township Remembers: 22nd Anniversary of the 9/11 Attack on America

The Office of the Mayor, Municipal Council, Woodbridge Interfaith Clergy Council, Woodbridge Township Emergency Response community and the Woodbridge Township Veterans Alliance commemorated the 22nd Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 Attack on America at services honoring the Woodbridge Township residents who tragically lost their lives in the 9/11 attack. The 9/11 Memorial Service offered a special Recognition and Salute to the Woodbridge Township First Response Community – Woodbridge Township Police Department (WPD), Woodbridge Township Fire Department(s) and First Aid Squad(s), the Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – for outstanding service to the community in the 22 years following the aftermath of September 11, 2001.



Veterans Day Parade Steps-Off Nov. 12

The Annual Woodbridge Township Veteran's Day Parade marches down Main Street to Town Hall on Sun., Nov. 12, 2023. Welcome and salute Township veterans and active-duty military personnel from all branches of service as they proudly march with representatives from Township veterans organizations ~ Woodbridge Township Veterans Alliance, American Legion Post #87, American Legion T. Nulty Post #471, American Legion Post #248, Cpl. Kevin J. Reinhard Marine Corps League Detachment #189, VFW Woodbridge Memorial Post #4410, VFW Hopelawn Memorial Post #1352, VFW Colonia Memorial Post #6061, VFW Avenel Memorial Post #7164, VFW Iselin Memorial Post #2636, VFW Fords Memorial Post #6090, DAV Chapter #56, WPD Veteran Officers, Woodbridge public service and emergency response units, scouting, youth, civic and historic organizations, Woodbridge, Colonia and JFK High School marching bands and parade dignitaries. Honor and support our hometown heroes.



WPD & PUBLIC SAFETY

Report from the Director's Desk:

By: Robert J. Hubner, Director



"LEADING THE WAY TO A SAFER COMMUNITY"

Safeguard Your Vehicle Here's How:

The Woodbridge Police Department (WPD) has stepped-up efforts to combat a growing crime trend that Woodbridge, along with neighboring communities, is experiencing - specifically, the theft and burglary of motor vehicles. The WPD has increased patrols, reassigned personnel and are participating in a multi-jurisdictional investigation to

address the increased instances of motor vehicle theft as well as the theft of valuables from vehicles. But, the WPD needs your help and assistance by reporting suspicious activity in your neighborhood. The WPD recommends the following:



- Never leave your key FOB or key(s) in the vehicle;
- Ensure all valuables are kept out of sight;
- Never leave your vehicle running;
- Park your vehicle in a well-lighted or in an attended lot;
- Never leave the title or registration in your vehicle when it is unattended. A thief will use these documents to assist in selling your vehicle;
- Disable your vehicle when leaving for extended periods of time, i.e., disconnect the battery;
- Whenever possible, use anti-theft devices...steering wheel locks, window etching, and vehicle tracking devices.
- Keep Key Fobs away from front door

WPD Community Affairs Targets Holiday Safety



The WPD Community Affairs Unit is delivering a holiday message geared to keep residents and shoppers safe throughout the holiday season. Throughout the holidays, many residents will leave their homes unattended - some for a short period of time, others for an extended period of time, so it is important to make sure the home looks occupied:

- Do not leave garbage cans at the curb after the rest of the neighborhood has had their trash collected;
- Do not leave newspapers or circulars lying on driveways or doorsteps;
- Stop newspaper and mail delivery if you are going to be away or arrange to have mail and packages collected;
- Use light timers (set for staggered times) in and outside the residence;
- Trim bushes and shrubs that block the view of windows and lock garage and car doors at all times;
- Leave a radio or television on to make it sound like someone is home if you are away for a short period of time;

The WPD Community Affairs Unit welcomes comments and suggestions - contact Det. Mark Zeno or Officer Michael Harris at 732-634-7700 or visit the Township web page at: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us.

Drop-Off Unwanted & Expired Prescription Drugs at the WPD

Looking to get rid of expired and unwanted prescription medications? Stop by the Woodbridge Police Department (WPD) and deposit unwanted prescription drugs in the Project Medicine Drop Box. Woodbridge residents can bring unused and expired prescription drugs (if possible in the original prescription container), powders, pills, and liquid medications, to the Woodbridge Police Department Reception Room located in the lower lobby, Town Hall, One Main Street. For more information, contact the WPD at 732-634-7700.



WPD RAISES FUNDS FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Damian Granath, Owner of Carvel and Sandwich Station selflessly donated \$625 to the Woodbridge Police Department in support of their efforts to raise funds for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The donation was used to purchase pink badges the Woodbridge Police Department will wear throughout the month of October in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month as well as raise funds to be donated to a local Woodbridge Resident.



WPD & PUBLIC SAFETY

WPD Officers Recognized for Life-Saving Action

On June 14, 2023, WPD Communications Center dispatched all available units to the soccer fields at Iselin Middle School on a report that a Department of Public Works (DPW) employee (subsequently identified as Eric Baumgartner) had been struck by lightning. WPD Officer Robert "R.J." McPartland, assigned to school patrol at neighboring John F. Kennedy Memorial High School, was first to arrive at the scene. Officer McPartland encountered DPW employees Kraig Addie and Lenny Marchetti on-scene and immediately began chest compressions as responding WPD Officers Ryan Trudel, William T. Schneider, Laura Higgins and Iselin Middle School Nurse Lauren Weber initiated emergency medical procedures to include patient ventilation, additional compression maneuvers and AED evaluation. As a result of the immediate, efficient and comprehensive initiation of emergency medical procedures by the attending First Responders, and notwithstanding the onslaught of the severe thunderstorm, DPW Employee Baumgartner was resuscitated at-the-scene and regained consciousness through continued emergency medical treatment while enroute to the hospital.



(L/R) Lauren Weber, Iselin Middle School Nurse, Lenny Marchetti, DPW, Kraig Addie, DPW, Eric Baumgartner, WPD Officers Robert "R.J." McPartland, Ryan Trudel, Laura Higgins and William T. Schneider

WPD Appoints New Police Officers

Mayor John E. McCormac and Police Director Robert Hubner announced the appointment of seven new Police Officers to the ranks of the Woodbridge Township Police Department (WPD). The appointments were approved after each recruit successfully completed the New Jersey police-training program under the auspices of the New Jersey Police Training Commission, New Jersey Department of Personnel and Department of Community Affairs and the Woodbridge Police Department interview team. The new officers are assigned to the Radio Patrol Division.



WPD Police Officers (L-R) Dipen Prakash Nayee, Vincent Carl Gargano, Guelmy Santiago-Fermin, Aaron Jarrett, Alexander Rebelo, and Christopher Handville



WPD Police Director Robert Hubner and Deputy Director Joseph Nisky introduce WPD Officer Sarah Contessa.

WPD Hosts Eric Ransom Junior Police Academy

The WPD announced the summer graduation of 80 recruits from the Eric Ransom Junior Police Academy – named in honor of Master Sgt. Drill Instructor Det. Eric Ransom who passed away in April. Each year, the WPD recruits youngsters from the 6th to 8th grades (ages 11 to 14) for two weeks of rigorous and intensive police academy instruction. Academy recruits learn the basics of discipline, self-defense and fitness, police instruction, emergency first aid and related police procedures. The WPD Drill & Training Instructors: Det. Mark Zeno and Officer Michael Harris, Officers Marco Amaro, Steven Doyle, David Ricardo, Nirav Patel, Det. Michael Broehl, Sgt. Joseph Angelo, Investigator Gennaro DeStephano, Det.'s Michael Barbato, Brian Vella and Officers David Barahona, Jake Fasano, Patrick Harris and Adam Romatowski.



WPD & PUBLIC SAFETY

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

On Thurs., Aug. 24, Hopelawn Engine Company #1 having returned to the Station House at 127 Loretta Street from dispatch to a motor vehicle accident encountered a young girl who frantically approached Assistant Fire Chief Michael Walsh in the parking lot and stated that her sister was choking. Chief Walsh, in concert with Firefighters Robert Gillespie and Ronald Chabala, immediately responded with Firefighter Chabala retrieving the EMS bag as Chief Walsh and Firefighter Gillespie located the Mother outside of the residence holding her Five-Year-Old child who was



experiencing symptoms of an airway blockage. Chief Walsh took custody of the child and immediately performed back blows that successfully dislodged the item from the girl's throat. Firefighter Gillespie further assisted with removal of the object pending the arrival of EMS.



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 ext. 2700 or go to the Municipal Court webpage at:

<https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/267/Municipal-Court>

Email:
woodbridge.court@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

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

Woodbridge Multi-Family
Crime Prevention Program

If you have a Crime Tip, call this number:

732-855-TIPS + 732-855-8477

Woodbridge Police Crimes TIPS Hotline



Your
Crime
Tips
Work.

John E. McCormac, Mayor + Robert Hubner, Director,
Woodbridge Police Department

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WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

LIGHT PARADE

NOVEMBER 25, 2023 @ 6PM



Main St. (6:00pm)
Berry St.
Woodbridge Ave. (6:10pm)
West Ave. (6:15pm)
Port Reading Ave.
E. Tappen St. (6:20pm)
Blackstone Rd.
Vernon Way
Port Reading Ave.
Rahway Ave. (6:35pm)

Avenel St. (6:40pm)
Chain O' Hills Rd (6:45pm)
New Dover Rd.
Colonia Blvd.
Water St. (6:50pm)
Montrose Ave.
Cleveland Ave.
Inman Ave. (6:55pm)
Edgewood Ave. (7:05pm)
W.Clark Pl.

Carson Dr. (7:10pm)
New Dover Rd.
Semel Ave.
Plymouth Dr.
Oak Tree Rd. (7:15pm)
Green St. (7:20pm)
RT. 1 So.
Menlo Ave. (7:30pm)
Isabelle St.
Ford Ave. (7:35pm)

New Brunswick Ave. (7:40pm)
Florida Grove Rd.
Smith St. (7:50pm)
Judy Dr. (7:55pm)
So. Maplewood Ave.
Highland Ave.
Smith St.
Florida Grove Rd. (8:00pm)
Rt. 35

Mayor John E. McCormac

*Times posted are estimated arrival times