

Wilton Woman's Club Newsletter – April 2020

Dear Debbie,

How the world has changed since our last newsletter one month ago. I hope you are all well, and are making the best of the Stay Safe, Stay Home policy. It is a scary time, but I am also getting a lot more family time than usual, and have more time to get things done at home, so I am trying to focus on the silver linings. As you know, we had to cancel our annual Fashion Show Fundraiser this year, but we do anticipate being able to send some money to our beneficiaries from donations. We will know more by late May, after the deadline for refunds.

At this stage, it appears we will not be able to plan our annual spring trip in May, though we will let you know if that changes. We are looking forward to getting back to normal over the summer and kicking off a new year in the fall! Please stay safe and healthy, and I wish the best for all of you. WC

Thank you, Andrea Bates

Wilton Food Pantry

https://goodmorningwilton.com/wilton-food-pantry-needshelp-and-donations-stat/

Sarah Heath, the director of Wilton Social Services, has extended a plea to the community on behalf of the Wilton Food Pantry. Because there is currently no access to Comstock Community Center where the food pantry is located, there is a significant need for just about everything the food pantry typically stocks. Donations are being accepted at the Police Station Lobby. A makeshift food pantry has been set up at the exterior of Comstock, by the lower level entrance, and those in need can access necessary items there.

Heath says what is needed most are non-perishables like canned goods, (soup, chili, beans, rice, etc.), along with personal care and household items, for residents who are facing economic hardship right now. "Thank you very, very much for your support. We are getting more residents reaching out to us who are for the first time unable to make ends meet," she adds.

Currently there is no way to make an online cash donation, but you can send checks, made payable to Wilton Community Assistance Fund, to Comstock Community Center, 180 School Road, Wilton, Ct. 06897.

Lynne Vanderslice said donating goods through Amazon, to be delivered directly, also works. For now (until further notice), the delivery address for Amazon order for the Food Pantry is:

Wilton Food Pantry

c/o Wilton Police 240 Danbury Road Wilton, Ct. 06897

From the Town of Wilton

Wilton Helping Hands addresses the needs of Wilton's most vulnerable populations. Volunteers assist at a social distance with doorstep drop off of basic necessities or by making daily calls or sending emails. To volunteer, please call 203-451-8479.

If you or someone you know is in need of help, please contact Sarah Heath, Director of Social Services, at Sarah.heath@wiltonct.org.

Person-to-Person Community Service Opportunities

The P2P Darien clothing center is currently closed and not accepting donations.

The P2P Norwalk food pantry is open and does need volunteers to pack food as well as donations for the food pantry. For more information and to see how you can help: <u>Covid-19-updates-on-p2p-response</u>

Book Club

The Book Club is cancelled this month.

For Wilton High School Senior Girls: The Elizabeth Sternad Scholarship

Each year, our club founder, Betty Sternad, funds a scholarship for a Wilton High School senior girl. This information is on the <u>WHS website</u>. The criteria includes outstanding and ongoing Service, Leadership, and Character, and GPA is not a determining factor. All

recipients of the Scholarship must be residents of Wilton, Connecticut at the time of application and receipt of the award. All recipients of the Scholarship must be students of Wilton High School in their last year before graduating, and must be female. Recipients may be daughters of WWC members and WWC Board members, but these applicants do not receive any preference. Names are removed before applications go to the judges. Interested high school girls should submit a resume and an essay tailored specifically to this award, highlighting her ongoing service and outlining why she is deserving consideration. Please email essay to Suzy Curtice at <u>scurtice@optonline.net</u>. The deadline is April 09, 2020.

Short Story Contest to Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Woman's Right to Vote

2020 is the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment: The right to vote shall not be denied on account of sex. The WWC is sponsoring a short story contest among high school girls in Wilton. The mission is to write a fictional short story related to American women gaining the right to vote. Stories can be in any genre, for instance here are some hypothetical examples:

- A story of an 18-year-old woman in 1920.
- A sci-fi story about a parallel universe where women never got the right to vote.
- A mystery about a conspiracy to prevent passage of the amendment

Click <u>here</u> for more details including how to submit the story: <u>Short Story Contest</u>. Stories must be submitted before April 27, 2020.

Become a Member of the Wilton Woman's Club Board

The Wilton Woman's Club is quickly approaching the end of our year and we are looking for new members to join the Board next year! If you are enjoying being a member of the club, and would like to become more involved or have ideas about new things the club can do, please email Andrea Bates at <u>connbates@gmail.com</u> to get more information about becoming a member of the Board. Our new year starts in June, and terms are typically two years. Click here for a list of our current board members: <u>WWC</u> Board.

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