



February 2019

## The Y's Women Newsletter

### GENERAL MEETINGS

*Open to members and their guests*

**Place:** Temple Israel, Westport

**10:45 am** Coffee and Conversation

**11:30 am** Meeting and Speaker

***We must enter through the doors from the upper parking lot. There are a limited number of parking spaces in the upper lot; please leave them for those who have difficulty walking. Others please park in the lower lot and walk to the upper entrance.***

**Monday, February 11**

**Julie Foldesi, Singer/Songwriter and Actress**



After the delightful program by Kelli O'Hara and Megan Osterhaus Bolan last May, we approached Julie Foldesi as a potential speaker. Julie is a singer, songwriter, musician, actress, band leader – and Connecticut Mom. We are all looking forward to her presentation on February 11.

Julie's music is played regularly on iTunes, and her bluegrass-influenced band plays everywhere (including the Rockwood Music Hall, among many other locales). Her CD, "This Part of Town," was released in 2008. Julie's Broadway background includes "Little Women" and "The Full Monty" along with the first national tour of "Jekyll and Hyde." She starred opposite Dan Finnerty in "Little Orphan Danny" at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre and has also performed at regional theaters in "A Little Night Music," "A Wonderful Life," "Children of Eden," and "Always ... Patsy Cline." Her work on television includes "As the World Turns." Julie graduated from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a degree in Vocal Performance (Opera).

**Monday, February 25**

**Bill Harmer, An Update on the Transformation of the Westport Library**

Bill Harmer, Executive Director of the Westport Library, joins us to report on the progress of the Library's major Transformation Project, which is expected to be complete this June. Accompanied by many illustrative photos, he will highlight the core design features of the new spaces and what they will offer us. Bill's main focus will be to provide an overview of the new services and strategic priorities that the "transformed" Library will bring to our community. He will showcase ideas for new collections, resources, service projects, program offerings, new initiatives, cutting-edge technologies, and innovations.



The new Library will, of course, still contain its exemplary collections, but it will also provide spaces where people can come to study, read, and think. With its extremely flexible design, it will offer spaces that are more functional and support more than one purpose. There will be space for education and recreation to come together, space where you can dig into a book, socialize, get coffee, collaborate on a project in the MakerSpace, or attend a program or a class. The goal is to provide both individuals and the community with an opportunity to thrive, to come together to find a common purpose.

Please continue to bring your gifts of non-perishable food to the first general meeting of each month. They are much appreciated by needy clients of the Mercy Learning Center in Bridgeport. Questions? Contact Jean McGurk at 222-0501.

## SATELLITE GROUPS

### (Y's Women Members ONLY)

**Book Group 2** will meet on Thursday, February 7 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm at Panera Bread, located in Westport at 1860 Post Road East (next to Home Goods). The book to be discussed is *Exit West* by Mohsen Hamid, and the discussion will be led by Doris Skutch. Please contact Arlene Bloom at 254-9096 or [bloomah@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bloomah@sbcglobal.net) to RSVP.

**Book Group 3** will meet on Friday, February 8 at 10:30 am to discuss *Exit West* by Mohsen Hamid. Our meeting will take place at Panera Bread in Westport. New members are welcome – if you'd like to attend, please contact Doris Levinson at 227-3371 or [drjlevinson@gmail.com](mailto:drjlevinson@gmail.com).

The **Movie Club** will meet on Wednesday, February 20 at 1:30 pm at Panera Bread in Westport to discuss *"Vice."* This movie explores the epic story of Dick Cheney's career as a Washington insider. Cheney quietly became the most powerful man in the world as Vice President under George W. Bush, reshaping the country and the globe in ways we still feel today. His early years in Wyoming, Washington, and the private sector (as CEO of Halliburton) also are described.

*"Vice"* was nominated for six Golden Globe awards, and Christian Bale's performance as Dick Cheney earned him the Golden Globe for Best Actor. It has also been nominated for five Academy Awards. If you wish to be added to the email list for future Movie Club events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at [margaret06824@yahoo.com](mailto:margaret06824@yahoo.com) or 255-9094. New members and other interested participants are welcome.

**Wise Investment Group:** Start the New Year by doing something NEW. Join W.I.G. (the Wise Investment Group). Become a member and co-manage the group's stock portfolio. Our guiding principles are the three E's – education, enjoyment, and earnings. There is a buy-in (\$\$\$) to join the portfolio and an additional monthly charge to buy new stocks. Our next meeting is on Thursday, February 28. Contact our president, Lois Block, for details at [loisblock@optonline.net](mailto:loisblock@optonline.net) or 761-1177.

### LUNCHES WITH SPEAKERS

We encourage a small group of members to have lunch with the speakers, at a Westport restaurant, following their presentation.

If you would like to join us, please contact Barb Stephen at [dynamacr@optonline.net](mailto:dynamacr@optonline.net).



***Fabulous Friends:** Each year the Y's Women honor a longtime member who has displayed outstanding dedication and service with the Fabulous Friends Award. Shown above are eight of our Fabulous Friends: top row, from left, Maxine Meyerhardt, Pat Farmer, Carol Diamond, Joan Nathan; front row, Annette Kirban, Ann Lloyd, Arlene Bloom, Sheila Weiss.*

**The Lunch and Trivia** group will meet on Thursday, February 14 at noon at Tengda Restaurant, on the Post Road across from the Lexus Dealership. Please let Ann Lloyd (226-4145 ) or Arlene Bloom (254-9096) know if you plan to attend. Remember, you are not alone in this group – we are set up in teams! It's a great way to make new friends! Here's to Trivia! See you on the 14th.

### Newcomers Lunch

- Monday, February 11
- Tarantino Restaurant, 30 Railroad Place (across from the Westport Train Station)
- Contact Sheila Weiss at [srweiss@optonline.net](mailto:srweiss@optonline.net) or 227-2786 if you plan to attend



***Book Group 2** members enjoying their annual holiday party last December.*

## *Carpool and Go!*

Prepare for a glittering outing on Wednesday, February 20 when we visit the **Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History** in New Haven for an 11:00 am docent-guided tour of the exhibit “California Gold: Modern Marvels from the Golden State.” This small special collection showcases 23 stunning pieces of California gold and “is one of the finest collections of gold specimens ever put on display anywhere in the world,” says Jay Ague, the Peabody’s curator of mineralogy.

The exhibit also features a collection of historical instruments and artifacts related to gold mining in California, including a mining pan filled with gold dust, a balance for weighing specimens, and an instrument for measuring air velocity in mines for proper ventilation. Our docent will also introduce us to other museum highlights, including their Egyptian exhibit. Following our tour, we’ll lunch nearby at **Café Romeo**.

We will meet at Trader Joe’s at 9:45 am for a 10:00 departure. To reserve your place, email Jill Meyer at [jill@awayfortheday.net](mailto:jill@awayfortheday.net) or call her at 226-4310. Please mail a \$12 check payable to Jill Meyer at 40 Owenoke Park, Westport, CT 06880 for the tour. The gas reimbursement for your driver will be \$6 in cash. There will also be a \$5-per-car parking charge to use the museum’s lot. Please indicate whether or not you can drive, as drivers are **always** needed and appreciated.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take I-95 north to New Haven. At Exit 48, take right-hand ramp onto Rte. 91. Take Exit 3 off I-91 onto Trumbull Street. Turn right onto Lincoln Street, left onto Bradley Street, and right onto Whitney Avenue. The Yale Peabody Museum, located at 170 Whitney Avenue, will be on your left. Park in the museum’s lot.



*Charlene Boyer, Andrea Turner, Angela Vicenzie, and Neila Altobelli at the Aldrich Museum in Ridgefield during the December Carpool and Go trip.*

## *TRIPS*

### **PORTUGAL IN DEPTH: 11-DAY TOUR** **September 12-23, 2019**

This in-depth land tour of Portugal begins and ends in Lisbon and circles the country. Several Y’s Women members have signed up for this exciting trip, which is being offered through Westport-based Travel Exchange. Our travel contacts are Fran Thomas and Dorothy Fox, both Y’s Women. They may be reached at 221-3500. If you are interested in the trip, contact Fran or Dorothy and they will be able to give you all the details.

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**Detailed flyers for all trips** are available at the Y’s Women’s General Meetings or by contacting **Pat Farmer** at 227-3076 or [pahf02@gmail.com](mailto:pahf02@gmail.com). If you are unable to attend a meeting and want a flyer, please contact Pat and she can mail you one either electronically or by snail mail. Many thanks!