



The Y's Women

November 2020

The Y's Women Newsletter

General Meetings

General Meetings continue to be streamed live on the Y's Women YouTube Channel. Specific instructions will be provided several days before each meeting. Barb Stephen and Margaret Mitchell will be with the speaker and will be able to take questions by email to be answered after the presentation. Questions for the speaker should be emailed before or during the meeting to yw.questions@yahoo.com. We look forward to receiving your questions and would also welcome your suggestions for specific topics the speaker could address.

November 9 at 11:30 am - Harold Bailey, Jr.



Harold Bailey, Jr. is Chair of TEAM Westport, the official town committee responsible for making Westport increasingly welcoming with respect to race, religion, ethnicity, and LGBTQ. He is the President of Aisha & Co. LLC, a family gift company, and former CEO of the Americas

for Show Business Software, Ltd.

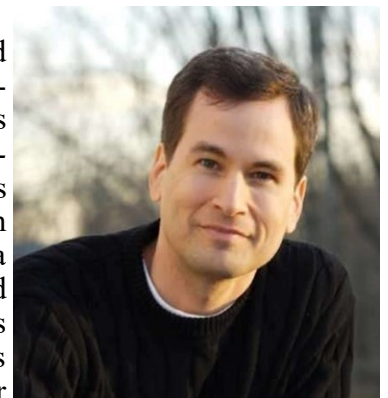
He retired from his position as Vice President of Lotus Marketing Integration at IBM after 30 years in management, sales, services, marketing, strategic planning, and various leadership positions. He has been a consultant with several organizations and has served on the Board of Directors of EZ Universe.

Harold is a trustee emeritus of Brown University, his alma mater, from which he also received an honorary PhD. In addition, he is a Board member of the Westport Country Playhouse and a founding member of the Stamford chapter of 100 Black Men. He received the Anti-Defamation League's Distinguished Community Leadership award in 2005 and the George L. Plimpton Award for outstanding contribution to society from the Tilton School (New Hampshire).

November 23 at 11:30 am - David Pogue

David Pogue is an American technology and science writer and TV presenter. An Emmy-winning correspondent for *CBS News Sunday Morning*, he is also author of the "Crowdwise" column in *The New York Times*' Smarter Living section. He has hosted 18 *Nova* specials on PBS, including *NOVA ScienceNow*, the *Making Stuff* series in 2011 and 2013, and *Hunting the Elements* in 2012. David has written or co-written seven books in the *For Dummies* series (including the topics of Macintosh computers, magic, opera, and classical music).

In 1999, David launched his own series of computer how-to books called the *Missing Manual* series. This series now includes more than 100 titles covering a variety of Windows and Mac operating systems and applications. He has authored dozens of other



books as well, including *The World According to Twitter* (2009), written in collaboration with some 500,000 of his Twitter followers, and *Pogue's Basics* (2014), a *New York Times* bestseller.

Since 2012, David has served as the emcee for the annual National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Technical and Engineering Emmys ceremony in Las Vegas.

SATELLITE GROUPS (Y's Women Members ONLY)

Book Group 2 will meet on Zoom on Thursday, November 5 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm to discuss *Nickel and Dime* by Barbara Ehrenreich. The discussion will be led by Arlene Bloom.

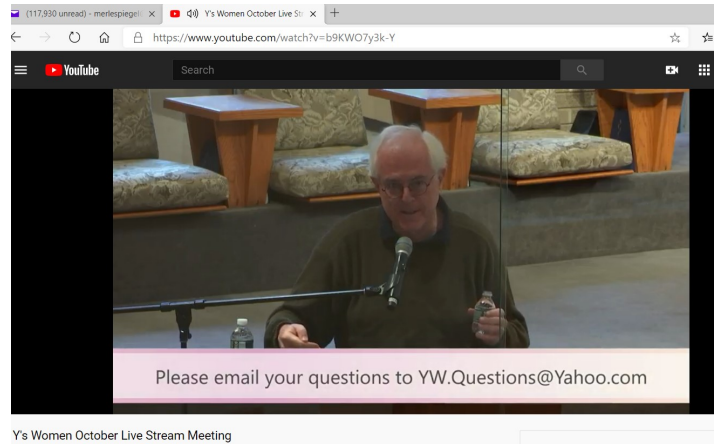
Book Group 3 will meet via Zoom on Friday, November 13 at 10:30 am to discuss *Beloved*, Toni Morrison's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. Links to Zoom will be sent the day before the meeting. New members are welcome to join our group. Questions? Please contact Doris Levinson at 227-3371 or drjlevinson@gmail.com.



Book Group 3's October meeting on Zoom.

The **Movie Club** will have a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, November 18, at 1:30 pm. We plan to discuss *Absence of Malice* and *Dr. Strangelove: Or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*. Both movies were shown on the WNET network of PBS as part of Reel 13 Classics (*Absence of Malice* on October 10, 9:00 pm; *Dr. Strangelove* on October 17, 9:00 pm). If you did not see or record these movies, you may be able to see them through a PBS playback system (such as Thirteen Passport); other streaming service; or DVD (listed in the catalogs of the Westport and Fairfield libraries).

Absence of Malice is a 1981 American drama directed by Sydney Pollack and starring Paul Newman, Sally Field, Wilford Brimley, Melinda Dillon, and Bob Balaban. The title refers to the legal definition of one of the requirements of proof against libel defamation, which is used in journalism classes to illustrate the conflict between disclosing damaging personal information and the public's right to know.



Joe Meyers gave a fascinating lecture on October 26 on the role of movies in history, during COVID-19 times, and what we might expect in the future.

Dr. Strangelove is a 1964 black comedy that satirizes the Cold War fears of a nuclear conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States. The film was directed, produced, and co-written by Stanley Kubrick and stars Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, Sterling Hayden, and Slim Pickens. Production took place in the United Kingdom. The film is loosely based on Peter George's novel *Red Alert* (1958).

If you wish to be added to the email list for future events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at 255-9094 or margaret06824@yahoo.com.

Memoir Group: Members have enjoyed a number of meetings outside the Levitt Pavilion during the summer and early fall. We are going to decide if we want to continue with Zoom meetings over the winter months. If you have questions, contact Cary Peterson at carypeterson3@gmail.com or 918-6481.

Solos is considering the possibility of sharing a monthly Zoom Happy Hour as a group and in small breakout rooms. If you're interested, please contact Joan Weinstein at 46tannery@sbcglobal.net or 216-0266.

SAVE THE DATE December 14, 11:30 am

A very special online concert with masterful pianist **Chris Coogan** – performer, entertainer, composer, teacher, choir director, and producer of musical albums.

New Y's Women Members

We are very pleased to welcome these new members to Y's Women:

Leslie Boxer	Shelley Moll
Renata Castiglia	Lisa Rome
Debbi Eldon	Maida Webster
Gina Flynn	Nancy Wilt
Sandy Ganley	Joyce Zimmerman
Trudy Horan	

IN MEMORIAM: MARTHA AASEN



Martha Aasen, who was credited with the Westport Democratic Party's renaissance during the 1990s, died on October 23 from heart failure following a fall. She was 90.

Best known for her tenure as chairwoman of the town's Democratic Town Committee (DTC) – the first woman to hold the post – Martha was also instrumental in forming the Y's Women. She served as our organization's very first President, and had remained involved ever since. At the celebration of our organization's 25th anniversary in June 2018, Martha and Simone Dubow, our second president, shared with us the interesting story of our organization's beginnings.

Martha had a career in public relations, working for the United Nations and the International Executive Service Corp. She received the Silver Donkey Award from the Westport Democratic Women and was later credited with a town-wide turnout of 87.9% of Democratic voters in 2000. She also held numerous positions on town nonprofit boards, serving as President of the Westport Library Board of Trustees and on the boards of the Senior Center and Sunrise Rotary, among others.

Mercy Learning Center Food Drive: Nov. 4-6

Mercy Learning Center provides basic literacy and life skills education to low-income, undereducated women in our area. Using a holistic and compassionate approach, they offer accredited childcare, social services, and other support services, enabling needy women to earn high school equivalency diplomas, enhance job skills, improve their English, and prepare for citizenship exams. Their food pantry is desperately in need of replenishment, as Mercy Learning Center is the sole source of support for the students who have COVID-19 and are in quarantine. Most students and their spouses have been unable to work while others, because of the nature of their jobs, have become infected and have spread the virus to their immediate families. Many of the students are ineligible for government assistance.

The most immediate needs are:

- Canned and dried beans
- Rice
- Canned tomato sauce
- Oatmeal and cereal
- Canned fruits, vegetables, and meats
- Cooking oil
- Hand soap
- Gift cards for Stop & Shop, ShopRite, Walgreens, Target, and Kohl's

Please be generous. You may drop off your donations in the Lobby of 597 Westport Avenue between November 4 and 6. Before you drop them off, please contact Barb Stephen at 557-3551 to let her know so she can meet you at the entrance. If it's easier, Barb will be happy to pick up the donations at your home.

Y's Women Board: 2020-2021

Officers

President: Barb Stephen, 557-3551
 VP/Programs: Margaret Mitchell, 255-9094
 Secretary: Valerie Roffe, 981-7279
 Treasurer: Barbara Morrow, 521-9874

Committee Chairpersons

Communications: Merle Spiegel, 856-4214
 Facility Liaison/Special Events: Vera DeStephano, 227-0199
 Hospitality: Agnes Flynn, 354-9185
 Membership: Doris Levinson, 227-3371
 Publicity: Doris Skutch, 227-6114
 Trips and Travel: Geri Hanslick, 646-789-3013
 Webmaster - Gina Flynn, 914-497-1436
 Immediate Past President: Polly Temple, 293-4688