



*The Y's Women*

November 2022

## The Y's Women Newsletter

### GENERAL MEETINGS

*Open to members and their guests*

**Place** Green's Farms Church, 71 Hillandale Road, Westport

**10:45 am** Coffee and Conversation

**11:30 am** Meeting and Speaker

**November 14 - Save the Children's History and Global Presence**



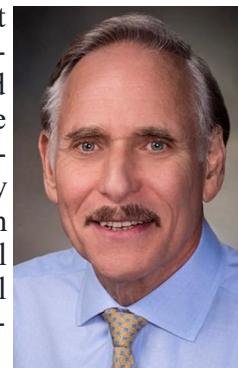
Ann Marie Miles and Kim Killoy of Save the Children will speak of the organization's more than 100 years of creating brighter futures for children. The mission of Save the Children is to provide every child with a healthy start, a quality education, and protection from harm. It focuses on making children's voices heard, with spotlights on early education and gender equality. Current challenges including COVID, conflict, and climate change mean that humanitarian needs are greater than ever. Five short videos will be shown as part of the presentation.

Ann Marie is Managing Director in the Individual Philanthropy Group at Save the Children, overseeing a team responsible for matching the interests of philanthropists with opportunities to ensure that children are healthy, educated, and protected from harm. Kim is Officer of Leadership Councils & Appeals in the Individual Philanthropy Group, partnering with five regional leadership councils in fundraising, developing partnerships, and raising awareness of the organization's life-changing mission. One of these, the Fairfield County Leadership Council, is a vibrant group passionate about making a difference. In recent years they have hosted events at the Westport Library, Aspetuck, Brooklawn, Ed Mitchells, and a number of private homes.



### November 28 – Bob Altbaum: Life Before and After Retirement

Robert Altbaum, MD retired last year from Internal Medicine Associates of Westport, where he had spent his entire medical career. He joined them in 1978 after graduating from New York University (Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude) and Harvard Medical School, and completing an internal medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital.



When several of Bob's partners left a decade ago to go "strictly concierge," he remained with the group, accepting 100 concierge patients (selected through a lottery) and treating all other patients as he'd always done. Although a strictly concierge practice would clearly have been more profitable, "my patients have been so loyal," Bob explains. "I wanted to continue the same way to the end. For me, emotionally, it was the right decision."

It is not hyperbole to say that his former patients adore him, and consider him a rare humanist as well as an exceptional diagnostician.



Bob is also a Renaissance man. He teaches, hikes, snowshoes, plays tennis, and plays in a rock group called DNR (Do Not Resuscitate)! They formed in 2002 when a group of four musically talented

physicians got together and began to play rock & roll in a friend's garage. Music of the 60s and 70s – the Rolling Stones, Van Morrison, Bruce Springsteen, and the Beatles – is their forte, but they also

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play classic jazz and music from the 80s and 90s. In addition to playing commercially, they have donated their time and talent for fundraisers for pancreatic and breast cancer, Norwalk Hospital, and ALS.

What they love most is to have people dance to the music they love playing.

## SATELLITE GROUPS (Y's Women Members Only)

**Book Group 2** will meet on Thursday, November 3 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. The book to be discussed is *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, and the discussion will be led by Lois Ross. For questions, contact Nancy Bloom at [nancyverb@aol.com](mailto:nancyverb@aol.com) or Arlene Bloom at [bloomah@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bloomah@sbcglobal.net).

**Book Group 3** will meet on Friday, November 11 at Panera Bread in Westport to discuss *Mornings on Horseback* by David McCullough. The discussion, led by Andrea Turner, will start at 10:30 am – but come at 10:00 to enjoy coffee and conversation. If you have any questions, please contact Doris Levinson at [drjlevinson@gmail.com](mailto:drjlevinson@gmail.com).

The **Movie Club** will meet on Wednesday, November 16 at Panera Bread on Post Road East, next to Home Goods, Westport. We meet informally at 1:00 pm to give members a chance to socialize and/or eat lunch, and our discussion begins at 1:30. We ask all attendees to have been vaccinated.

We will discuss the movies *Citizen Kane* and *The Color Purple*. *Citizen Kane* was scheduled for broadcast at 9:00 pm on Saturday, October 22 on the WNET network of PBS as part of Reel 13 Classics. *The Color Purple* is available on Netflix. DVDs or video discs of both movies are also listed in the catalogs of the Westport and Fairfield Libraries.

*Citizen Kane* is a 1941 American drama produced by, directed by, and starring Orson Welles. He also co-wrote the screenplay with Herman J. Mankiewicz. Welles' first feature film, *Citizen Kane* is frequently cited as the greatest film ever made. For 50 consecutive years it stood at number one in the British Film Institute's "Sight & Sound" decennial poll of critics, and it topped the American Film Institute's "100 Years ... 100 Movies" list in 1998 and its 2007 update. The film was nominated for Academy

Awards in nine categories, and won for Best Writing (Original Screenplay) by Mankiewicz and Welles. *Citizen Kane* is also praised for Gregg Toland's cinematography, Robert Wise's editing, Bernard Herrmann's music, and its narrative structure, all of which have been considered innovative and precedent-setting.

*The Color Purple* is a 1985 American period drama directed by Steven Spielberg with a screenplay by Menno Meyjes. It is based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning 1982 novel of the same name by Alice Walker. Spielberg's eighth movie as director, it marked a change from the summer blockbusters for which he had become known. It was also the first movie directed by Spielberg for which John Williams did not compose the music. It stars Whoopi Goldberg, Danny Glover, Desreta Jackson, Margaret Avery, Oprah Winfrey, Rae Dawn Chong, Willard Pugh, and Adolph Caesar in his final role.

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

**Solos** will be going to the Westport Country Playhouse on Sunday, November 20 at 3:00 pm. Melissa Newman and Anne Keefe will be discussing the new memoir on Paul Newman, *The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man*. A question-and-answer period will follow. Tickets are \$45 and include a copy of the book. Please contact Terry Queirolo for information at 847-4121 or [tmq44@icloud.com](mailto:tmq44@icloud.com). We will be going to Little Kitchen for a Chinese dinner afterwards. Hope you can join us for an enjoyable afternoon.

The Solos Holiday Luncheon will be at Rive Bistro on Saturday, December 10 at 12:30 pm. We will have a lovely luncheon with salad, your choice of three entrees, and dessert chosen that day. The cost is \$45. For reservations, contact Terry by December 1, and send her a check, made out to Y's Women Solos, to 305 Foxboro Drive, Norwalk, CT 06851. We will also have our popular gift exchange at the luncheon. Please bring a wrapped gift costing about \$15. Hope you can join us to celebrate the holidays together.

*Solos dues:* Solos is open to all single women. To participate, you must be a member of Y's Women and also pay Solos dues of \$20 annually. Mail your check, made out to Y's Women Solos, to Linda Cassuto, 107 Harvest Commons, Westport, CT 06880.

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## SATELLITE GROUPS

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**NewsTalk:** Interested in national and world affairs? Join other Y's Women for lively discussions at NewsTalk. We will meet on Thursday, November 17 from 10:00 to 11:30 am at Panera Bread in Westport. (Note that we are meeting on the third Thursday of the month in November, since the fourth Thursday is Thanksgiving.) For more information, please contact Doris Skutch at 247-3656.

The **Lunch & Trivia** group will meet at noon on Thursday, November 17 at the VFW. The cost of lunch is \$20. Please contact Annette Kirban at [lakirban@optonline.net](mailto:lakirban@optonline.net) if you are interested in attending.

The **Memoirs Group** will meet on Tuesday, November 15 at 2:30 pm. We are always open to new members. Our group is composed of old members and new, and we have a lot of fun. Interested? Contact Cary Peterson at [carypeterson3@gmail.com](mailto:carypeterson3@gmail.com) or 918-6481.

The **Mah Jong Group** meets every Tuesday at Organic Krush in Compo Shopping Center. We meet for lunch at noon and the game runs from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Please bring your game if you have one. Something new: people who do not know how to play are now welcome, and we will give lessons. Those who know how to play will be ranked according to their ability and will play with people of an equal level. Please contact Barbara Alfinito at 205-533-1884 or [barbsgetaway@aol.com](mailto:barbsgetaway@aol.com) if you plan to attend so that she will know how many people to expect.

**Wisest Investment Group:** We are looking for a brave new member to join the Wisest Investment Group as we try to navigate our joint stock portfolio. It's a Bull Market, and we've been there before. This would be a good time to buy in, as our portfolio has taken a dip like everyone else's. You will find intelligent minds reaching a solution. Because of the upcoming holidays, our November meeting will be on December 1 and our December meeting will be on January 5. Then we'll go back to the usual schedule of meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month. For more information, contact our President, Louise Demakis, at 254-6424 or [lwdemakis@optonline.net](mailto:lwdemakis@optonline.net).

**Discussion of Articles in *The New Yorker*:** This group will meet remotely on the second Tuesday of each month from 10:30 am to noon. Each member selects one article from one of the previous month's issues and emails her choice to all on the group distribution list. The moderator, Ellen Cahill, sends a final reading list and hosts the Zoom meeting. Each member leads the group discussion about her article for about 15 minutes. The group has met independently of the Y's Women for several years and is anxious to increase its membership. (Presently the group will only have remote meetings because some of its members can't attend in person.) If interested, please contact Ellen Cahill at 856-6561 or [ellencahill@hotmail.com](mailto:ellencahill@hotmail.com).

The new **Tai Ji Group** will meet every Tuesday at 11:30 am – 12:30 pm on Zoom. The teacher is Ruby Shih, a long-term Tai Ji/Qi Gong teacher and founder of Tai Ji School (Society of Nanlaoshu) in Manhattan. The focus of this class is to achieve balance, stability, ease, and wellness. A fee of \$5 per session will be used for liability insurance and other fees. If you are interested, please contact Ruby Shih at 917-816-6661 or [Rubypalace88@gmail.com](mailto:Rubypalace88@gmail.com).

The **Bridge Group** is hoping to start a monthly party/duplicate bridge group beginning in January. This would be for intermediate and advanced players. If you are interested in meeting and playing with your friends and/or neighbors, please contact Deanna Saltzman at [salzy312@aol.com](mailto:salzy312@aol.com).

## Y's Women Welcomes New Members

We are very pleased to welcome 11 new members who joined Y's Women during September and October:

Victoria Alli  
Ronnie Aaron-Hammler  
Mary Kay Clark  
Eileen Emmett  
Loretta Hallock  
Eva Horowitz

Doris Knapp  
Jane Mastrianni  
Gina Orban  
Nancy Sorensen  
Madeline Wildstein

And we welcome back Sandra Kretch and Karen Weingarten, who rejoined Y's Women after a Covid-19 hiatus.



## CARPOOL & GO

On Friday, November 18, we'll have afternoon guided tours through two exhibits at the **Mattatuck Museum** in Waterbury, Connecticut: "Walker Evans American Photographs" and "Work It: Women Artists on Women's Labor."



Walker Evans is considered one of the most influential artists of the 20th century. His 59 Depression-era photographs celebrate his 1938 landmark exhibition at NYC's Museum of Modern Art. In the 1930s, Evans traveled extensively throughout the Eastern United States, creating a photographic portrait of the region during a decade of profound transformation. The photographs are organized into two sections: the first portrays American society through individual images, and the second centers on American cultural sites – Main streets, factory towns, rural churches, and wooden houses.

The word "labor" has many connotations: to bear children, to work, to struggle. "Work It: Women Artists on Women's Labor," featuring modern and

contemporary artists working in a variety of media, touches on the work women perform outside the home, in marriage, as domestic laborers, as mothers, and in other ways. This exhibition's universal themes of duty, service, and care apply to women and men alike.

We'll meet behind Wells Fargo bank in Trader Joe's parking lot at 10:15 am with a 10:30 departure. To reserve your place, contact Jill Meyer at 226-4310 or [jill@awayfortheday.net](mailto:jill@awayfortheday.net). Please mail your entrance/tour fee of \$22 to Jill at 40 Owenoke Park, Westport, CT 06880. The gas reimbursement for your driver will be \$5 in cash. Indicate whether or not you can drive, as drivers are always needed and appreciated.

Our 11:30 am lunch at Waterbury's San Marino Ristorante Italiano will precede our 1:30 pm tours at the museum. The address of the restaurant is 111 Thomaston Avenue, Waterbury, 755-1148. The museum is located at 144 West Main Street, Waterbury.

**Directions to restaurant:** Take Merritt Parkway to Exit 52. Drive north on Route 8 to exit 30, South Leonard. Merge onto South Leonard and continue to South Riverside Street, which becomes Freight Street. Turn left on Riverside Street and right onto West Main Street, then turn left at Happy Hand Car Wash, turn left, and turn left again to 111 Thomaston Avenue. It's about a 45-minute drive.

**Directions to museum:** Turn right on Thomaston Avenue. Then turn left onto West Main Street, left onto Holmes, right onto Grove Street, right onto Prospect, and right onto West Main Street. Turn right into the museum's driveway and continue to the rear parking lot. It's about a 7-minute drive.

