



The Y's Women

September 2021

The Y's Women Newsletter

Dear Y's Women,

Welcome back!

We are looking forward to resuming in-person meetings this September. We plan to follow our usual schedule (second and fourth Mondays of the month, social hour at 10:45 am, meeting at 11:30). Our new meeting location is **Branson Hall of Christ and Holy Trinity Church, 75 Church Lane, Westport.**

We are closely reading guidelines identified by the CDC, Health Departments, and other medical professionals. We also are watching the experience of other local organizations such as libraries, schools, and senior centers. We plan to follow health guidelines and make any changes needed to follow these guidelines, which currently require us to wear masks indoors, socially distance as much as possible, and eliminate high-contact interactions. This means we are NOT serving coffee or other refreshments at our meetings until it seems safe to do so. Feel free to bring a beverage and/or snack for yourself. We all enjoyed these refreshments in past years, and we look forward to the time we can do this again.

Best regards,

Barb Stephen, President

Margaret Mitchell, Vice President

GENERAL MEETINGS

Open to members and their guests

September 13: Anjali McCormick, The Roadmap Forward for the Westport Weston Family YMCA



Anjali Rao McCormick, CEO of the Westport Weston Family YMCA, will share with us some historical information about the organization and her vision for its future.

Anjali McCormick grew up in Kolkotta, India. When she was 16, her family immigrated to the United States, and she enrolled at Jericho High School in Long Island. She attended Harvard College,

performed in the Radcliffe Choral Society as a first soprano, majored in government, and wrote a senior honors thesis about the economic liberalization policies of India in the 80s.

After graduation, Anjali traveled to New York and worked for Citibank as a management associate. She has an MBA in Marketing from NYU's Leonard Stern School of Business, and worked for American Express for seven years on a variety of interesting projects before informing her employer – on September 10, 2001 – that she wanted to stay home to raise her family. This was a very fortuitous decision, given that the World Trade Center was her subway stop.

Ten years ago, Anjali joined the Summit Area YMCA as Director of Marketing and held several positions in the organization before becoming CEO

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of the Westport Weston Family YMCA in May 2021. She is committed to ensuring the Y is a valued, vibrant cornerstone of the community and is passionate about making a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and families. She expects to do so by nurturing the potential of youth, motivating healthy living, and fostering a sense of social responsibility in the community.

September 27: Pam Keough, Make-A-Wish Connecticut – ‘Don’t Wait for Hope. Create It’



Make-A-Wish Connecticut has granted more than 3,600 wishes in the past 35 years, but do you know exactly what they do and how the magic happens? Pam Keough, President and CEO, will give us an inside look at the life-changing wishes

Make-A-Wish Connecticut grants and discuss common misconceptions people have about wish kids and the organization. She also will introduce us to Jake, a wish alum, who will share his and his family’s wish experience and perspective. COVID-19 has proven challenging, with chapter revenue down by 50%, but the chapter took its cues from the strength and resilience of wish kids and their families. It was able to creatively grant more than 100 wishes during a time when hope was needed most. Pam also will give us a glimpse into the chapter’s future, with a sneak peek of its brand-new Wishing Place, a home for hope and healing.

Pam earned an undergraduate degree in Quantitative Methods and a master’s degree in Management Information Systems. She began her career in information technology as an internal auditor and spent the bulk of her career as a senior executive at Gen Re. After a successful career in the corporate world, traveling to more than 40 countries, Pam decided to stick closer to home and transition to nonprofit management. Her original dream was to work with children and become a teacher, so it is no surprise that she feels fulfilled and rewarded granting life-changing wishes to children with critical illnesses.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

If you haven’t already paid your dues, take a moment and renew your Y’s Women membership now as we start out together on a hopeful new year. Write a \$45 check to Y’s Women, and send it to Doris Levinson, 6 Beechwood Lane, Westport, CT 06880. Use the Membership Form on page 4 to provide up-to-date contact information.

Do this now while you think of it – and to be sure your name is in the 2021-2022 Y’s Women Membership Roster!

**SATELLITE GROUPS
(Y’s Women Members ONLY)**

Book Group 2 will meet on Thursday, September 2 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. The book to be discussed is *Inheritance* by Dani Shapiro. The discussion will be led by Debra Green.

Book Group 3 will meet on Friday, September 10 at 10:30 am to discuss *The Yellow House* by Sarah Broom. Andrea Turner will lead the discussion. Our meeting will take place at Panera Bread, 1860 Post Road East (next to Home Goods) in Westport. New members are welcome. RSVP to Doris Levinson at drjlevinson@gmail.com or 227- 3371.

The **Movie Club** will meet on Wednesday, September 29 at Panera in Westport. We plan to meet informally at 1:00 pm to give people a chance to socialize and/or eat lunch. Our discussion will begin at 1:30.

We plan to discuss *Thelma and Louise* and *Twelve Angry Men*. Both movies were shown at 9:00 pm on the WNET network of PBS as part of Reel 13 Classics (*Thelma and Louise* on August 28; *Twelve Angry Men* on September 4). If you did not see or record these movies when they were originally broadcast, you may be able to see them through a PBS playback system (such as Thirteen Passport) or other streaming service such as Hoopla. Also, *Twelve Angry Men* is listed in the catalogs of the Westport and Fairfield Libraries; *Thelma and Louise* appears in the Fairfield Library catalog.

Thelma and Louise tells the story of “meek housewife Thelma (Geena Davis) who joins her friend Louise (Susan Sarandon), an independent waitress,

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on a short fishing trip. However, their trip becomes a flight from the law when Louise shoots and kills a man who tries to rape Thelma at a bar. Louise decides to flee to Mexico, and Thelma joins her. On the way, Thelma falls for sexy young thief J.D. (Brad Pitt), and the sympathetic Detective Slocumb (Harvey Keitel) tries to convince the two women to surrender before their fates are sealed.”

In *Twelve Angry Men*, “Following the closing arguments in a murder trial, the 12 members of the jury must deliberate, with a guilty verdict meaning death for the accused, an inner-city teen. As the dozen men try to reach a unanimous decision while sequestered in a room, one juror (Henry Fonda) casts considerable doubt on elements of the case. Personal issues soon rise to the surface, and conflict threatens to derail the delicate process that will decide one boy’s fate.”

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

Wisest Investment Group: Curious about the stock market? Interested in public companies, enjoy coming up with investment ideas and seeing where it leads you? Then the Wisest Investment Group (WIG) is the place for you. WIG has been in existence for more than 20 years; in up years and down years, we have invested and reaped the results. Currently our portfolio holds companies you probably know, like Estee Lauder, and some you may not know, like Terex Corporation. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month from 9:30 am to noon. We have room for one or two more members, so if this interests you, contact Lois Block, President, at 761-1177 or loisblock@optonline.net.

The **Memoirs Group** has become a tightly knit group, having met regularly throughout Covid. We will continue meeting the third Tuesday afternoon of the month, as usual. If you have questions, contact Cary Peterson at carypeterson3@gmail.com.

The **Lunch & Trivia** group will meet at noon on Wednesday, September 22 at the VFW on Riverside Avenue. The cost of lunch is \$20. Please contact Ann Lloyd at 226-4145 or Arlene Bloom at 254-9096 if you are interested in attending.

Solos (women single by circumstance) will continue meeting on Tuesdays in September at Compo Beach.

Tuesday events include:

- 10:00-11:00 am walking group, which meets near the cannons.
- 5:00 pm socializing group, with members bringing their own dinner and chair. This group meets near the picnic tables, located to the right of the cannons.

All Y’s Women are welcome to attend these Tuesday events. Y’s Women without Westport beach stickers are allowed to enter Compo Beach for these events by identifying themselves as Y’s Women to the gatehouse attendant.

The Solos look forward to resuming weekend lunch/dinner events in October.

If you would like to join Solos, contact membership chair Jane Malakoff at janedith215@optonline.net.



SOLOS members met all summer long at Compo Beach on Tuesday evenings, weather permitting. The evening of June 29 was particularly beautiful, as this photograph shows. A good time was had by all!



Y's Women Membership Form

July 2021 - June 2022

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

DUES INFORMATION:

- Dues are \$45.00 a year.
- Make your check payable to Y's Women.
- Your dues must be paid by October 31 to be listed in the Membership Roster.
- If you join after March 31, your dues are in effect through June 2023.
- Membership is complimentary after age 90. If you qualify, please indicate that on your membership form.

To join Y's Women, send this form and your \$45 check to **Doris Levinson, 6 Beechwood Lane, Westport, CT 06880.**

FOR NEW MEMBERS:

Which of these activities that Y's Women offers do you plan to participate in?

- _____ Twice-monthly meetings
- _____ Book groups
- _____ Current events group
- _____ Investment group
- _____ Movie group
- _____ Holiday & spring parties
- _____ Solos social group

- _____ Lunches with trivia games
- _____ Memoirs group
- _____ Bridge marathon
- _____ U.S. & foreign travel
- _____ Day trips
- _____ Newcomer lunches at local restaurants

For membership questions, please contact Doris Levinson, membership chair, at 203-227-3371 or drjlevinson@gmail.com.