

# **Wellesley Neighbors**

Dover Natick Needham Wellesley Weston

Volume 15, Number 4

**Newsletter** 

April 2024

# Objectivity: Objectives, Objections, and the Death of Certainty A Talk by Rachel Gans-Boriskin Wednesday, May 1, 7:00pm, The Arnold Room, Wellesley Free Library or Zoom Co-sponsored with the Wellesley Free Library



American trust in the media is at an all-time low. At a moment in history when we need accurate and reliable news, Americans disagree not only on the interpretation of facts, but on the facts themselves. In response, many have called for a return to objectivity— the "just the facts, ma'am" style of reporting from an earlier era. In this talk, Rachel Gans-Boriskin will explore the components of objectivity. By looking at specific historical moments, Gans-Boriskin will highlight the ways in which objectivity is a casualty of its own success, identify the way in which the current norms of objectivity undermine our ability to meet the moment we are in, and offer suggestions of how objectivity might still offer some hope.

Rachel Gans-Boriskin is Partner and Principal at NOVL, a strategic consulting firm that helps clients develop value-aligned strategic goals. Rachel, a former Associate Professor of Communication at Simmons University, is an expert on journalism and storytelling, having run grants on the dissemination of misinformation and disinformation, and political communication in both journalism and fiction.

Register online or in person at wellesleyneighbors.org or https://wellesleyfreelibrary.libcal.com/event/12226072

#### **Wellesley Neighbors Speakers Series**

Last summer, a newly organized Speaker Series Team convened to take a fresh look at the speaker series. It was an enthusiastic, productive meeting with members drawing from their knowledge of interesting speakers. The subsequent series of programs were successful and well-received by members. The diverse set of topics included: Artificial Intelligence, A Garden Tourist, Satire in Sci-Fi Literature, A Civil Rights Journey, and The Vermeer Quest. A partnership with Wellesley Free Library for hybrid presentations was secured.

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, the team met to plan for the next phase. Current members include Polly Conlon, Art Ensroth, Margot Lansing, Hank Solomon, and Marlies Stueart. The team decided to explore various times, venues, and mediums to foster participation and engagement between members and speakers. Once again, the team generated an interesting lineup — but it encourages members to submit their suggestions for speakers.

Contact: margotlansing@gmail.com Margot Lansing

Don't Forget -- A talk by Matthew Smith, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, 3:00-4:30pm

Hospice, Palliative Care, and Homecare: An Overview

Len Green Recreation & Athletic Center, Babson College

Register at wellesleyneighbors.org

(For more information, see Wellesley Neighbors Newsletter, March 2024)

#### From the President



Hello Members -

The many volunteers who develop programs and make them available to the members have been busy at work with dining get-togethers, health and wellness events, the newsletter, to bring you diverse and social opportunities.

The March Board convened with the following items discussed and/or voted upon:

- Current enrollment = 107
- An ad hoc Membership Team developed a tentative workplan with the goal of increasing membership.
- Program Manager position description completed and provided to the Chair of the Recruitment Team, to begin the selection process of locating a person to fill Joyce's position.
- A Babson Luncheon idea was presented to the Board with the decision to conduct a few reconnaissance luncheons.
   WN would like to offer our members a monthly low-cost luncheon event. The Babson location could serve WN members with a place to get together with other WN members. A hands-on assessment will be provided to the Board at the next Board meeting for its guidance.
- Plan for Spring Dinner was raised, as the past site has been sold and is no longer available. An ad hoc team will reach out to the members for possible eating site opportunities.

I want you to know that plans are underway to temporarily re-distribute a few of Joyce's duties to several members until such time as a new Program Manager is assigned. See below:

Polly Conlon: Service (tradespeople) & Ride Requests, Renewals and Invoices

Richard Lansing: Bank Deposits, Membership Renewals

Margot Lansing: Speaker Series
Maureen Donlon: Annual Dinner

Gloria Rose: various cards, birthday condolence, etc.

Note: Last month's column listed Sara-Jane Green as "Wellesley Green Cluster Leader." This information was incorrect. She is a member of the Fells Cluster, and is not a Coordinator. We apologize for this error.

The Newsletter Team

#### A Friend We Will Miss

Sad news from New Jersey. Charlotte Sanner, former WN member and part of the Linden Cluster, died on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

WNN team: Jean Berry, Mickey Goldin, Marcia Goldsmith, Teri Lilly, Curt Martin, Ann Swanson

### **Happenings at Babson**

# The James Webb Space Telescope: Year One

On January 11, fifteen WN members assembled in the Babson College Film Room, to attend a presentation by physicist Gene Rork on the discoveries made by the James Webb Space telescope during its first year of operation (launched on Christmas Day, 2021). Attendees were treated to a video of mind-boggling images of the universe and fascinating commentary and analysis by Rork.

With its twenty-foot, gold-coated mirror and the ability to detect infrared light, the Webb Telescope can see deeper into space and farther back in time than any previous telescope to the epoch of the very first stars and galaxies. It can peer through dusty stellar nurseries to observe star and planet formation, as well as study relatively nearby stars and the planets they host.



Gene Rork and his wonderful tie!





WN members at Webb Presentation



# Balance, Posture and Strengthening Class

On February 8<sup>th</sup> and March 14<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Cooper returned by popular request for her demonstration classes. The classes are designed to teach us how to improve our posture, our body awareness, and increase our selfconfidence. Jennifer demonstrated effective and appropriate exercises, such as how to improve our posture and reduce discomfort while driving. Our response was enthusiastic, the energy palpable, and we left feeling better. The monthly, in-person classes are part of a series presented by the Health & Well-Being Committee.

TL



Jennifer Cooper and Harriet Goldin



**Class in Session** 

#### Join the Play Reading Group

On March 1, the WN play reading group met to tackle *Cat on A Hot Tin Roof*, by Tennessee Williams. All the members agreed that the reading was one of our more successful---full of the *sturm und drang* that one would expect from the play. At previous sessions we have read *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, by George Kaufman, Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *The Importance of Being Ernest*, by Oscar Wilde, among others.

We encourage other WN members who have a theatrical bent (but no experience is necessary) to join us for our quarterly meetings.

CM

Contact Alison Partridge alisonpartridge@outlook.com

#### **Out and About**



On February 22 a group of Wellesley Neighbors had tea at the Special Teas Tea Room in Northborough.

L-R: Dan Kemp, Marcia Goldsmith, Gerald Kupperschmidt, Carol Kupperschmidt, Ellen Hosbjor, Joyce Wadlington, Maureen Donlon, Susan Kemp.





The Wellesley Chamber Players gave a concert at Dana Hall, Wellesley on February 18.

Before a
February 24
performance
at TCAN by
Peter
Yarrow (of
Peter, Paul and Mary
fame), members dined
out at Agostino's
Restaurant in Natick.



L-R: Linda Griffith, Larry Baldwin, Catherine Connor, Adele Langevin, Fred Breimyer, Fred Wright.





On March 17th, a group of WN members enjoyed a well done and delightful adaptation of Agatha Christie's "Spider's Web", at TCan, Natick. Following the performance, some of the members dined at Agostino's Restaurant.

L-R: Catherine Connor, Larry Baldwin, Susan & Dan Kemp, Jim & Judy Barr, Teri Lilly, Margot & Richard Lansing.





#### **April Events/Interest Group Meetings**

# NOTE: Events on Zoom are marked (Z) Watch weekly blasts for new information!

Wed. Apr. 3, 5:30 pm - Women's Night Out, The Local, Wellesley

Thurs. Apr. 4, 12:30 pm - Men's Lunch (Z)

Thurs. April 4, 2 pm – New Yorker Group II

Tues. Apr. 9, 3 pm - Health & Well-Being Committee Speaker (see page 1)

Wed. April 10, 2 pm - New Yorker Group I (Z)

Thurs. Apr. 11, 3 pm - Balance & Posture, Babson

Sun. Apr. 14, 3pm - Cherry St. Music: Classical with a
Twist – Beethoven and the Beatles

Sun. Apr. 14, 5:30 pm - Dinner at Papa Razzi, Wellesley

Wed. Apr. 17, 1 pm - Lunch at Little Spoon, Needham

Thurs. April 18, 1 pm – Short Story Group

Fri. Apr. 19, 5 pm - Cocktail Hour (Z)

Wed. Apr. 24, 11 am - New Bedford Museum of Glass, New Bedford, \$10, and lunch at the Black Whale

# **April 2024**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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14 •	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30				

#### **May Events/Interest Group Meetings**

Wed. May 1, 7 pm - Speaker Series, Rachel Gans-Boriskin, Wellesley Library and (Z) (see page 1)

Wed. May 1, 5:30 pm - Women's Night Out, The Local

Thurs. May 2, 12:30 pm - Men's Lunch (Z)

Thurs. May 2, 2 pm – New Yorker Group II

Wed. May 8, 2 pm – New Yorker Group I (Z)

Sun. May 12, 3 pm - Wellesley Chamber Players Tues. May 14, 11 am - McMullen Museum – Women

Ceramicists and the Cuban Avant-Garde

Tues. May 14, 12:30 pm - Lunch in Chestnut Hill

Thurs. May 16, 1 pm – Short Story Group

Fri. May 17, 5 pm - Cocktail Hour (Z)

Sat. May 18, 2 pm – Cabaret, The Vokes Theatre Thurs. May 23, 3pm - Balance & Posture, Babson

## May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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Wellesley Neighbors

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