



***What we know now that we did not know then:
A Conversation about COVID-19 with Virologist John Connor
Thursday, July 16, 7:30 pm, Zoom Talk***



Virologist John Connor is interested in the mechanisms by which viruses infect host cells and cause disease. As viruses are parasites, incapable of reproducing on their own, to make copies of themselves they must co-opt host functions ranging from protein synthesis to DNA or RNA synthesis.

“Understandably, the infected host is not at all happy about viral infection and has evolved an array of tactics to sense and stop virus replication,” he says. “This situation sets up a pitched battle between the virus (the invader) and the potentially invaded host cell. We know that this battle is joined in every viral infection, but since we still get sick, our immune systems are clearly being beaten.” John is among those working toward a greater understanding of how viruses overwhelm or disarm the host defenses, and how we can fight back by developing weapons like vaccines to boost our antiviral defenses—against now and future viruses.

Dr. Connor graduated from Swarthmore College in 1994 with a degree in Chemistry and received a Ph.D. in Pharmacology from Duke University in 1999. He then completed a postdoctoral fellowship with Douglas Lyles at Wake Forest University in 2006 and took an independent position at Boston University at the beginning of 2007. He is currently an associate professor in the Department of Microbiology, BU School of Medicine, and an investigator at the National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories (NEIDL). His work has focused on emerging viruses like Ebola and Marburg, and more recently SARS-CoV-2. His work has been featured in the documentary “Unseen Enemy” and on Nova, on scientific websites, and in *Discover* magazine.

***Don Drourr: Sondheim at 90
Tuesday, July 28, 2020, 7:30 pm, Zoom Talk***

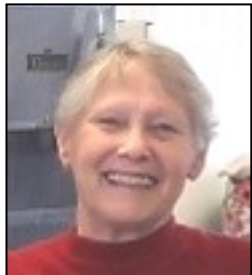


The composer Stephen Sondheim is a lighter subject than the coronavirus, but art is important when people feel uncertain and isolated. Sometimes what they need most is “A Little Night Music”! Don Drourr will discuss Sondheim’s life and his 20 shows that range from “West Side Story” and “Gypsy” to “Company,” “Sweeney Todd” and “Sunday in The Park.”

In a career that spans over 60 years, “Sondheim has changed the way we look at and listen to Broadway,” Don says. “We’ll listen to and watch scenes from his best shows, and not so best. Even bad Sondheim is better than most others.”

Don is a graduate of Boston University with a degree in music education. After a short teaching stint, he spent most of his career in the business world. Growing up in Massachusetts during the 50s and 60s gave him the opportunity to see virtually every show that came to town, either pre-Broadway or via national tours. He has a collection of nearly 200 Broadway cast albums and still travels to New York City to keep up with what’s new.

From the President: Looking Forward...



In February's Newsletter I wrote about how excited I was that we were planning a wonderful event, that so-looked-forward-to evening of music—and dancing for those of us who wanted it!—Celebrating the Big Band Era. And then came Covid-19. First we postponed. Then it

became clear that there was no way to predict when it would be safe again to gather together in large numbers, and we simply took the prudent path, and we cancelled.

In some such situations I would feel deflated, but not here. I gloried in the process of planning, working together, and enjoying each other's company. I was continually being amazed at how much expertise there is, in so many areas, among our members. So nope, I am not deflated. I am, to be certain, disappointed. I regret not having that evening, but I am elated that I was able to be a part of what was a stupendous effort to provide

what would have been a fantastic occasion, and doing it in a very short time-frame. One day perhaps we can Celebrate the Big Band Era, or another, perhaps in a different way—maybe outdoors? I am looking forward to the next special event we plan, whatever it might be.

Catherine



The Wellesley Middle School Auditorium, venue for the concert that wasn't—but who knows: perhaps for one in the future? (Mickey Goldin took the picture.)

From the Executive Director: Time is Available & Your Input Is Needed

Participation of Wellesley Neighbors members has been essential to the organization's development over the past nine-plus years. There are many opportunities to share your knowledge, interests and talents, so please take a minute and provide service referrals and/or volunteer some time in support of one of our groups.

Member volunteers offer a variety of support activities, including rides, grocery shopping, technology assistance, acting as an extra ear at medical appointments, and more. Contact me if you can volunteer in some capacity.

Members value our service referral data base because, in addition to the ease of obtaining referrals to vendors and professionals, they can contact other members who recommended them. Reward good service and contact me with individuals and businesses you recommend.

Wellesley Neighbors committees are many and varied: Activities, Communications (includes the newsletter), Finance, Health Support, Membership, Nominating, Technology, and Travel. Log in to the website at wellesleyneighbors.org and click on "About Us" to review the committees and their members.

Call me if you don't remember your log in information.

We have several interest groups: two for *New Yorker* discussion, two for walking, and one each for music, hiking, and gentle yoga. Check the website to review the groups and their members. Let me know if you have an idea for a new interest group.

Joyce



June Service and Support



Service Requests: 7 (1 eye doctor, 1 home health aide, 3 gutter work, 1 electrician, 1 limo company)

Support Requests: approximately 50 hours of Zoom-related and other tech issues

To request service or support, call Joyce at 781-283-0417, ext. 1.

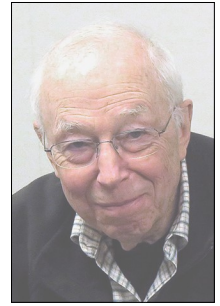


Big Band Cancellation: Thanks to All for a Job Well Done

The many WN members who worked hard on the Big Band Event are disappointed that it's been cancelled, but also very proud of what they accomplished. "It was a Herculean task," said Maureen Donlon, who co-chaired the effort with Ilse Sangree (at right). "We didn't know what talent we had—that we could organize a function on such a scale." Everyone was apprehensive at first, but they quickly gained confidence. She and Ilse would like to recognize the following people and all those who worked with them:



Dan Kemp and Ann Swanson (at right, up and down) handled ticket sales. He engaged Brown Paper Tickets (BPT) and set up the purchase parameters on our website. "Dan was our computer guru in many ways," Maureen Donlon notes. Ann took care of phone sales, using a third phone line installed by Peter Offenhartz. Unfortunately, BPT is now in financial difficulties. President Catherine Connor recently wrote ticketholders about how to seek a refund from BPT (or failing that, from WN), suggesting they consider bypassing the refund and thus making a donation to WN.



Hank Solomon and Wil Breden (at left, up and down) were in charge of the performance and its venue—"our link to the band," as Ilse says. Wil brought his broad theatre know-how and Hank brought his business savvy and experience from running Highland Jazz concerts for years. He arranged for the Wellesley Middle School auditorium, first on April 4 and then September 26. A deposit was paid that will now be returned to WN. There was no outlay for the musicians.



Linda Griffith (below, with blue flyer) and Teri Lilly ran the publicity effort and mobilized WN helpers to

distribute posters and flyers and communications through social media, calls to school music departments, etc. Linda used the many connections she's made at the *Globe* (where her husband worked) and the publishing world in general.

Linda and Teri particularly thank Jean Boyle, Wil Breden, Polly Conlon, Lucy Phillips, and Stu Zerner for their contributions. The distinctive drum-and-horns logo was designed by Ilse's daughter Sandra Kuhn.



Marlies Stueart and Maureen Meyer (at left) were in charge of staffing and had lined up about 25 WN members to assist at the concert: meeting people at the doors, showing them to seats or to the ticket desk, etc. Jane Solomon had assembled a group to sell refreshments, to be donated to

WN by Roche Bros. and other local sources. She shared years of experience from providing refreshments for Highland Jazz.

Fred Breimyer worked with Susie Case, Adele Langevin and Stu Zerner on the crucial problem of parking for the event. Parking space at WMS is limited, so nearby venues were lined up. Local police were consulted about logistics. A flyer was prepared to guide concertgoers through parking options.



Finally, the official BBE photographer was Mickey Goldin (at left) who would have recorded the evening.

"It's impossible to name everyone who helped, but everyone mattered, and we can all be very proud of what we did," says Ilse. "Although our efforts ended up in smoke, we all

went away from that intense time feeling richer for the experience." Maureen adds that many friendships blossomed as people worked together. She and Ilse offer heartfelt thanks to everyone for a wonderful job--and the newsletter does too.

Helping Others: Loss of jobs and income has created great hardship for millions of Americans including here in our own state of Massachusetts. Below is a list of area non-profits that provide assistance to organizations, affected families, and individuals. You may wish to make donations to them or to volunteer. If you need help choosing a charity, why not ask your grandchildren for their ideas? *Curt Martin*

General Relief to Organizations and Individuals

The major Boston hospitals all have Covid relief funds: www.massgeneral.org, <https://www.brighamandwomens.org/>, Beth-Israel Deaconess <https://www.bidmc.org/>. The Community Fund for Wellesley Covid-19 Relief is part of the Foundation for Metro-West <https://foundationmw.org/give/donate-now/>. The Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund <https://www.macovid19relieffund.org/> works with a network of nonprofit community organizations. The City of Boston has created the Boston Resiliency Fund <https://www.boston.gov/departments/treasury/boston-resiliency-fund> to provide food for children and seniors, technology for remote learning for students, and support to first responders and healthcare workers. The Boston Foundation has created a response fund <https://www.tbf.org/> to provide grants to organizations helping people. The United Way of Massachusetts <https://unitedwaymassbay.org/covid-19/covid-19-family-fund/> assists hourly and low-wage workers who may need financial help with rent, food, or childcare. Combined Jewish Philanthropies Coronavirus Emergency Fund <https://www.cjp.org/our-work/cjp-coronavirus-emergency-fund> helps community organizations meet urgent needs of vulnerable populations. Members of the Boston area's Life Sciences industry <http://lifesciencecares.org/get-involved/covid-response/> assists organizations that are helping affected populations. Oxfam https://secure2.oxfamamerica.org/page/contribute/covid_emergency provides basic supplies and health equipment for organizations that aid displaced persons. The United Way of Tri-County <https://www.uwotc.org/RELIEF> assists MetroWest residents. The Community Foundation of South-eastern Massachusetts (<https://www.cfsema.org/>) funds regional non-profits that help families. The Cape Cod and Islands Major Crisis Relief Fund <https://majorcrisisrelieffund.org/> assists families and individuals. Lowell has created an [emergency relief fund](#) for residents impacted by the outbreak. Relief for artists and musicians is provided by The City of Boston and the Boston Center for the Arts <https://bostonarts.org/artists/artist-relief-fund/>; the Record Co. <https://donorbox.org/boston-music-maker-covid-19-relief-fund>, and Boston Singers Resource <https://bostonarts.org/artists/artist-relief-fund/>. The Theater Community Benevolent Fund (<http://www.tcbf.org/donate/>) assists workers in theater arts.

Food Assistance

You've probably aware of The Wellesley Food Pantry <https://www.wellesleyfoodpantry.org/donate-money/>, The Greater Boston Food Bank <https://www.gbfb.org/covid-19-update/>, and Project Bread <https://secure.projectbread.org/>. In addition, the Greater Boston YMCA <https://ymcaboston.org/> offers meals and other services to Boston school children during school closure. To buy health care workers a meal, donate to Off Their Plate <https://offtheirplate.org/>. To help local restaurants, The Massachusetts Restaurant Association suggests you buy gift cards or vouchers directly from restaurant websites.

Volunteering opportunities

Boston Globe Media and Boston.com have launched the Boston Helps Website <https://www.boston.com/boston-helps> to link donors and volunteers to specific needs, and to help those in need find resources. There's also Meals on Wheels <https://www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org/>, The United Way of Tri-County <https://www.uwotc.org/RELIEF>, and The Greater Boston Food Bank <https://www.gbfb.org/covid-19-update/>.

Joining a Zoom Meeting

Barbara Slavin, Technology Committee, June 1, 2020

Getting the invitation:

If you have registered for an event through the Wellesley Neighbors site,

You will get three Zoom invites embedded in:

- Your confirmation email
 - Your 1st reminder email
 - Your 2nd reminder email
-

If you are part of a group where participation does not require formal registration through the Wellesley Neighbors website (such as the Board of Directors Meeting or the *New Yorker* discussion groups), you will receive a Zoom invite when the coordinator sends you an invite.

What is on the invitation

In the invite you will see:

- Meeting ID
- Link to connect you to the meeting
- Password (if required)

Before you register for the meeting...Please jot down the name and phone number of the coordinator.

Unless you are a Zoom pro, please join the meeting well before the start-time. That way, the coordinator will be able to help you via phone call if you are having trouble.

Joining the meeting:

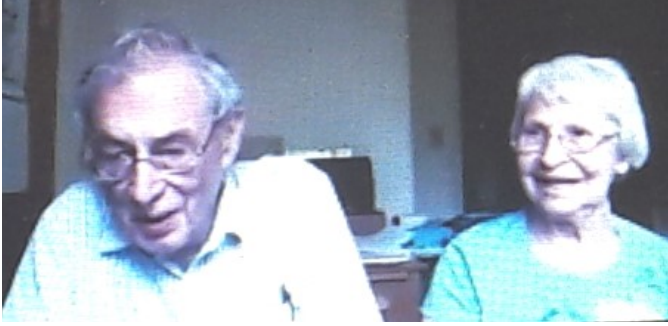
- Click on the link provided in the invitation to join the meeting.
- Follow the prompts to test your audio and video outputs (unless you are already a Zoom “pro”).
- If you are early, you might have to wait for the host to open the meeting.

Once you are in, others attending the meeting should be able to help you with any audio or video difficulties.

Etiquette:

If you have to take a phone call during the Zoom meeting, don’t forget that your computer microphone picks up your voice quite well. Please mute your voice until the call is over. The same would apply to conversations with other members in your household, barking dogs, etc. To mute, just click on the microphone icon. To unmute, just click again.

Happenings



Above, Peter and Barbara Offenhartz coordinated a very successful Zoom meeting on June 2. The topic was "Painting Edo" and included virtual docent videos of an exhibit at Harvard. Barbara and Peter spent two years in Japan, so they offered first-hand insights.

If other members would like to share an interest or experience through Zoom, contact Maureen Donlon at maureendonlon2002@verizon.net or 781-237-1154.

Below, a screen shot of one of the every-other-Friday Zoom cocktail hours. The picture conveys the fun even if the quality is not so good...

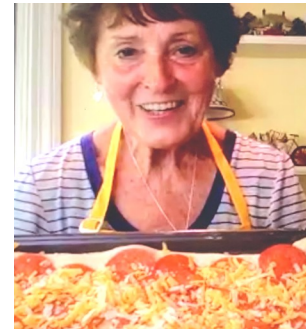


PEPPERONI BREAD

from Zoom Cocktails, June 12

1 bag uncooked pizza dough (not frozen)
3/4 lb pepperoni slices
1 and 1/2 cups grated cheddar (or other)
1 egg beaten with 1T water

Heat oven to 400 degrees F. Lightly grease a 12 x 15" baking tray with rimmed edge. Let dough sit on counter for 10 min., then fit evenly into the tray, pulling back and forth with floury hands. Lay the pepperoni slices in close rows on the dough. Sprinkle all over with cheese. Roll up tight, like a jelly roll, and seal ends by pinching dough together. Lay bread on tray, curved or straight, and brush with egg/water. Bake 10-12 min., till it sounds a bit hollow when tapped. Note: If fat accumulates while cooking, just drain it off and continue cooking. Serve warm (can be frozen after baking and reheated at 300 degrees).



At a recent cocktail hour, Maureen Donlon displayed pepperoni bread before rolling and baking it. Too bad Zoom does not allow tasting.....



Memo from WNN Staff to WN Members: It's a pleasure to announce that Lucy Phillips (at right) is now editor of the *WN Newsletter*. She follows Editor Emerita Jean Boyle (at left), who has served for many years and will continue as a member of the staff. Like Jean, Lucy had a career in writing, editing and public relations. She has written many articles for *WNN* and creates the layout each month. If you have comments or ideas regarding *WNN*, please speak to any of the staff (listed below) and/or contact Lucy at 508 785-3182 or lucyphi@outlook.com.



Newsletter staff: Jean Boyle, Mickey Goldin, Marcia Goldsmith, Curt Martin, Lucy Phillips, Ann Swanson



July Zoom Events

Wed. July 1, 5:30 pm—Women's Night Out (In)
Thu. July 2, 12:30 pm—Men's Lunch
Fri. July 3, 3 pm—Afternoon Tea
Wed. July 8, 11 am—Great Gardens of England
Fri. July 10, 5 pm—Cocktail Hour
Tue. July 14, 3:30 pm—Short Story Discussion*
Thu. July 16, 7:30 pm—Speaker: John Connor (see p. 1)
Fri. July 17, 3 pm—Afternoon Tea
Tue. July 21, 3 pm—Fogo Island, Canada
Fri. July 24, 5 pm—Cocktail Hour
Mon. July 27, 5 pm—Street Art in Miami, Florida
Tue. July 28, 7:30 pm—Speaker: Don Drourr (see p. 1)

***This is the debut of a proposed new Interest Group. Members will take turns choosing stories and guiding discussion. Contact Margot Lansing (margotlansing@gmail.com or 781-237-1754) to register. Updike's "A&P" is slated for July 14.**

Early August Zoom Events

Wed. Aug. 5, 5:30 pm—Women's Night Out (In)
Thu. Aug. 6, 12:30 pm—Men's Lunch
Fri. Aug. 7, 5 pm—Cocktail Hour (bring three facts about yourself, two true and one false).



At a recent tea, Barbara Slavin not only hosted but shared an elegant Japanese video of an "Edwardian tea," from which this shot is taken. WN teas are considerably more casual—but we too can have scones, using the recipe at right.

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 •	2 •	3 •	4
5	6	7	8 •	9	10 •	11
12	13	14 •	15	16 •	17 •	18
19	20	21 •	22	23	24 •	25
26	27 •	28 •	29	30	31	

Be sure to save the insert that comes with this issue—about how to use Zoom and how to help those in need.

Royal Scones by Curt Martin

Whether it rhymes with "bone" or "gone," a scone is great with tea (or breakfast—or strawberry shortcake). More than 20,000 are made annually for Queen Elizabeth's garden parties. Here's how to make some:

2 ½ cup all purpose flour
1 stick cold butter
2/3 C milk/cream
1 large egg
¼ to 1/3 cup sugar
1 T baking powder
½ t salt
(raisins, currants or cranberries optional)

Set oven at 425 degrees. Beat egg in a medium-sized bowl. (Reserve 1 T in a cup to brush on scones). Mix milk/cream into egg in bowl. In a large bowl, cut butter into flour with a pastry blender or two knives (or use Cuisinart). When it looks like coarse meal, add milk/egg and remaining ingredients. Mix till dough comes together; roll on a floured surface to about 1" thick and cut into rounds. Place on greased cookie sheet and brush with reserved egg. Bake 10-15 min. or till light golden brown.

Wellesley Neighbors
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Wellesley, MA 02482

July Newsletter

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