

“YANKEE DOODLE FAIR RETURNS JUNE 14-17”

Once again on Father's Day Weekend, “kids of all ages” will gather at the Westport Woman's Club, 44 Imperial Avenue, to enjoy one of the town's oldest and best-loved family events, the Yankee Doodle Fair. This year, Westport's last remaining annual family Fair, opens Thursday, June 14, and continues through Sunday, June 17.

Says WWC president, Mary Lee Clayton, “For 105 years, the Westport Woman's Club has been raising funds for local needs. We started by building sidewalks on Main Street, brought about the development of Compo Beach and created hot meals and health care for our schools. The Fair is our largest fundraiser. Its proceeds go to support our grants to community organizations, the scholarship program for Staples students and our much-needed Food Closet.

The Yankee Doodle Fair 2012 will once again feature carnival rides and games from Stewart Amusements. Returning are the ever popular Ferris Wheel, Flying Dumbo, Kiddie Cars, Basketball Toss, Bumper Cars, Rope Ladders, Carousel and Everybody-Wins-Fishing, along with the spectacular Ali Baba, and breath-taking Zero Gravity, among others

The Woman's Club's Face Painting and Sand Art are back for younger children And, this year, we have a special treat: Westport's own Melissa and Doug are joining us in the children's area. They will be providing giveaways, games, prizes and a kids play zone.

In the air conditioned Auditorium, our Gourmet Group will be conducting their wonderful Bake sale with delights ranging from zucchini bread to rum cake to apple pie all baked from scratch by the Westport Woman's Club's members. Enjoy a cup of coffee or a cold drink while you select the wares of our craft vendors, browse through our Yankee Doodle Fair cookbook (available for \$10.00) or chat with representatives from local businesses and community organizations.

Fairgoers will have the opportunity to buy tickets for the Raffle and Lucky Prize Drawing throughout the Fair, and at 5 pm Sunday, Father's Day, the winning tickets will be selected. It's not necessary to be there for the drawing to claim fabulous prizes. The Raffle grand prize is \$1,000. Second

prize is the new iPad with retinal display. Third prize, total value, \$320, is two bowls by artist Julia Knight, courtesy of Lux, Bond & Green. Fourth prize, worth up to \$200, is four tickets redeemable at Westport Country Playhouse for the performances of your choice.

Thanks to Westport's generous merchants and restaurants, there also are nearly 50 separate gifts and gift certificates in the Lucky Prize Drawing adjacent to the International Food Court.

At the Food Court, Joey's By the Shore is returning with their famous and much loved lobster rolls and hot dogs and hamburgers. Westport Chinese Take-out will also be back with everyone's favorite Asian food. We are also pleased to announce that Christie's Country Market will be at the Fair this year with their famous cheese steak sandwich, salads and other signature menu items. Skip's vintage Good Humor truck will be on hand with ice cream treats. Cold beverages and water will be sold by the Woman's Club for the benefit of our community services.

Yankee Doodle Fair hours are Thursday, June 14, 6:00pm to 10:00pm, Friday June 15th, 6:00pm – 10:00pm, Saturday, June 16th, 1:00pm to 10:00pm and Sunday, June 17th, 1:00pm – 5:00pm. Best deals for families who want to enjoy the carnival rides are the \$25 unlimited rides wristbands, available Thursday 6pm to 10pm, Saturday, 1:00pm to 5:00pm and Sunday, 1:00pm – 5:00pm.

Major sponsors for the 2012 Yankee Doodle include Resnick Investments Advisors, Northeast Utilities (CL&P), Wells Fargo, Harding Funeral Home, Robert E Grant, Attorney-at-law, Castle Keep and Allen Raymond.

The committee includes Mary Lee Clayton, Dorothy Curran, Wynne Abrams, Lisa Allison, Linda Amos, Linda Clair, Clare Clark, Mary Jane Cross, Karen Eickhoff, Fay Farquhar, Lorraine Feliciano, Barbara Gladnick, Kathy Groener, Lois Harner, Anne Hunt, Denise Kuendig, Elfriede Lafferty, Barbara Levy, Jo Fuchs Luscombe, Bev McArthur, Wendy McKeon, Joyce Netherton, Jane Potkin, Audrey Rabinowitz, Vivien Rosenberg, Jean Simons, Barbara Szefc, Jeannette Tewey, Leah Scherzer and Mary Wells Vickery.