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First Selectman's Corner

Welcome to summer in Old Saybrook. The Board of Selectmen, consisting of First Selectman Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., Selectman Scott Giegerich and Selectman Steven Gernhardt, wish you a safe and fun summer season. While so many come to Old Saybrook to vacation or take a few months to live down here, the work to make Old Saybrook better continues throughout the year.

The Town resoundingly passed its budget on May 12. There are 169 towns in the State of Connecticut and Old Saybrook continues to have one of the lowest mill rates in the state (currently the 15th lowest). We are able to do this with sound fiscal management led by professionals in town hall who work closely with all department heads to develop budgets based on needs, not wants. We have accomplished this while also addressing capital projects funded by bonding in a historically low interest rate environment. Old Saybrook's bonded indebtedness will be declining rapidly over the next 5 and 10 years and the town should not have the need to go back to the capital markets during that time. Building infrastructure is up to date, and municipal reserve accounts budgeted over the last four years should meet future needs for yearly capital projects and more. We are in a good place and, as First Selectman, I want to keep us there. That is why I go to the State Capitol with some regularity to either testify or meet with legislators when they are

proposing legislation that will affect Old Saybrook and other towns in Connecticut. This year, one of the major proposals being put forth by the Senate and House majority is a revamping of Connecticut's sales tax. While the idea is to lower the tax below 6%, the way our legislators get there is to expand the services that are covered by the sales tax. Engineers, accountants, veterinarians and many other services will now have to charge a sales tax. Many believe this will have a negative effect on the middle class, small businesses and self-employed residents while not solving the state's budget problems. At a recent conference held for municipal leaders, I questioned legislative leaders about these taxes and expressed these concerns. I also questioned whether Connecticut is just kicking the can down the road. I am concerned that Connecticut is not making the hard choices to secure future financial success and very concerned about how this affects Old Saybrook.



Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., First Selectman

continued on page 2

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FIRST SELECTMAN'S CORNER... continued from page 1

Some of those tax dollars raised in Hartford are coming back to Old Saybrook. Construction is well under way for 196 new parking spaces on North Main Street. This is an approximately four million dollar project that is desperately needed. Not only will it keep our train station vibrant, but it will protect our historically significant cemetery nearby. Governor Malloy, Commission of Transportation James Redeker and I held a press conference for this event on April 30th to celebrate this investment in our transportation hub. Coupled with the complete re-design and reconstruction of North Main Street next year, this reinvigorated gateway to Old Saybrook will continue to be a major economic contributor to our town and the shoreline.

This summer will also see construction at our Middle School as well as the Goodwin School. The Middle School will have a new roof installed. The former roof was about 20 years old with a 15 year life expectancy. Short-sighted decisions like that are not being made again as the new roof will last significantly longer than the bonds that will pay for it. New window units at the Goodwin School, which has been a project discussed for over 10 years, will finally be installed. These windows will significantly increase the energy efficiency and comfort of the building and create a better learning environment. Some of the Goodwin School windows are more than 40 years old and are not even

water tight. These projects will be mostly complete by the time school starts in September.

Speaking of energy efficiency, the town has put forth quite a few initiatives in the last few years. Town Hall underwent a project that installed a new energy management system- new more efficient lighting, occupancy and motion sensors- paid for through a combination of a grant and savings that the town is realizing on its monthly energy invoice. The return on investment was significant with an approximate 36-48 month payback. We will be completing a similar project at the Acton Library this summer. The library is 12 years old and can use an efficiency upgrade. Funding for this project, like the Town Hall project, will be paid for with a grant and with realized savings. The town also had a very successful "Solar Challenge" and there is still time to sign up. Speaking with the representative for this organization, Old Saybrook had excellent participation and many homeowners will start seeing solar power in their homes soon.

Old Saybrook is all about summer. So many volunteers collaborate to make our Main Street attractive and vibrant. In fact, as I have spoken about many times, volunteers are what make our town special. Whether it is volunteers gardening on Main Street, or serving on a board or commission, consider giving time, if you can spare it, back to the community. Two members of our community recently resigned their positions after longstanding service. Steve Sheehan served on a variety of boards, but mostly the Pension Board, for nearly 20 years. The Town was fortunate to have Steve's wise counsel. Dr. David Shearer, who sat on the Planning Commission, Economic Development Commission (his vision helped us create the Mariners Way concept on Route 1 East) and the Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD), also recently resigned his positions due to a hectic professional schedule.

A big "Thank You" to Steve and Dave, and all our selfless volunteers, for all you do to make Old Saybrook the great place it is.

So this summer....Enjoy the beach, take a hike in the woods (perhaps the newly acquired Preserve), go for a walk or a bike ride, enjoy the Chamber of Commerce Art Show and the summer stroll, try for a few birdies at Mini-Golf.... There is so much to do in our wonderful community. The Board of Selectmen wishes you a happy and safe summer.

Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.
First Selectman



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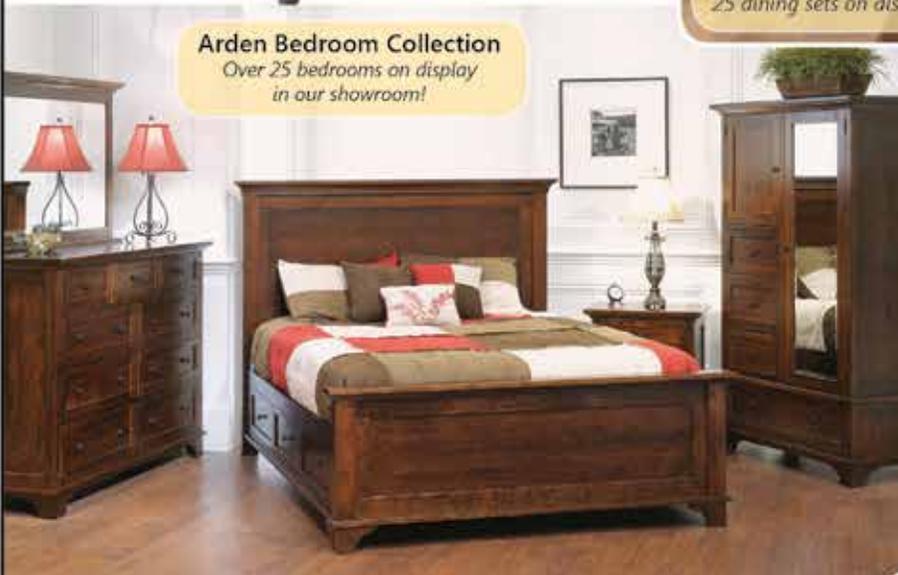
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Registrars of Voters News !

The month of February saw one of the most active referendums we have had concerning the vote of the Police Boat. It drew out 1,756 voters to the Old Saybrook High School. In comparison, the recent referendum in May, which was for the annual Town Budget and Board of Ed budget, drew out 372 voters.

Old Saybrook currently has over 7,500 registered voters, and we encourage you to contact our office to make any necessary name, address, or party changes as they happen to be preparing for voting days.

Upcoming, Party Caucuses for the Municipal Election in November will be held for both parties the week of July 21st – July 28th, with dates, times, and place of caucus announced as legal notices in local papers.

The Caucus is a public meeting for those enrolled in the designated party. The State has designated Wednesday, September 16th for Municipal Primaries, which are only held if a local office, board or commission spot is challenged as a result of the Caucus.

Please phone our office at 860-395-3134 with any questions of these upcoming events.



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Old Saybrook Land Trust News

The Old Saybrook Land Trust is a 501 (c) 3, 100% volunteer organization dedicated to preserving open space for the benefit of the public. At the recent Annual Meeting, our membership elected Mike Urban as incoming OSLT President and Kim Curry as incoming OSLT Secretary. At a subsequent meeting, new board member Marty Barrett was elected Treasurer. Chris Cryder also joined the OSLT board this spring.

In 2014, OSLT worked tirelessly alongside the Trust for Public Land to permanently protect the 1,000 acre Preserve property, and also purchased six acres on the Oyster River. Preserving land for future generations is a rewarding task, but the rewards keep expanding as we invite others in to help take care of protected properties, hike, bike, creature-watch, enjoy the wild view while paddling, or to simply sit on a rock by the river and breathe it all in.

The new slate of officers and growing OSLT board offer several opportunities over the coming months to get out and enjoy the variety of outdoor adventures available right on our own stretch of the shoreline. Participate in some of the following events to have fun, learn more about the natural world, and about opportunities for future involvement with the Old Saybrook Land Trust. For up to date OSLT information and new activities as they are planned, visit our website, oslt.org, facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/os.land.trust>, or email us at oldsaybrooklandtrust@oslt.org. We'll see you out there!

The third Saturday of every month is a stewardship work day, email interest; June-July, horseshoe crab tagging opportunities for the Limulus Project, email interest; Saturday, August 15, 10 am to noon, Kayak/canoe paddle on the Oyster River (raindate Aug. 16) email interest; September 13, The Nature of Old Saybrook conservation symposium at the Parks and Recreation building, check oslt.org for emerging details; Friday, October 2, evening Swallow Tour with RiverQuest, email interest; Thanksgiving Weekend Hike, check oslt.org for details in November



Members and friends of the Old Saybrook Land Trust enjoyed a paddle in South Cove last summer, learned about the flora and fauna from our naturalist, and viewed several of our protected properties from the water. For this summer's opportunities, visit oslt.org.

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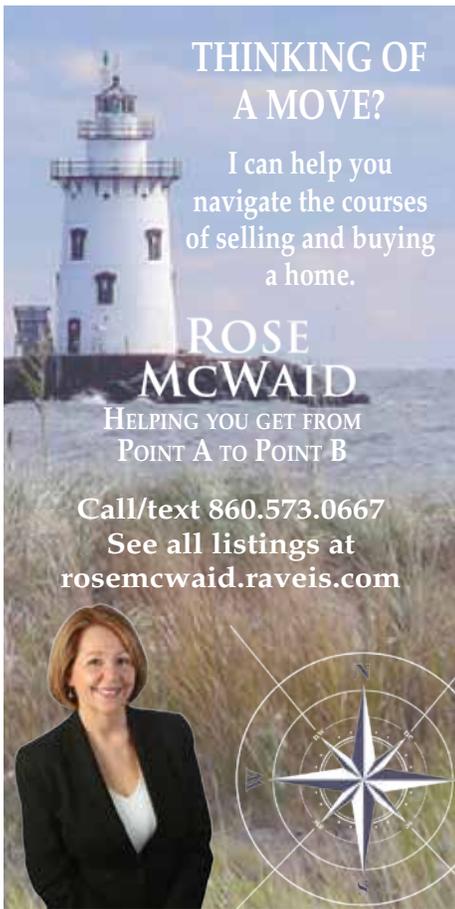
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Town of Old Saybrook's Assessor's Report

This year during March and April 2015 the Board Of Assessment Appeals held approximately 100 assessment hearings. These hearings were completed by April 21st 2015.

The Board will hold one more meeting for motor vehicles only during the month of September 2015.

The actual date for this meeting will be posted in the local paper in early September.

The application period for the State of Connecticut program for the Elderly and Disabled Home Owners began February 1, 2015 and ended on May 15, 2015. We have approximately 165 applicants on the 2014 Grand List. The Town of Old Saybrook also has a local option benefit program that has been approved by 1st Selectman Carl Fortuna Jr and the Board of Selectman.

This year the selectmen have approved a benefit amount of \$75,000 to be distributed among the applicants that qualify.

The State of Connecticut Renters program is under way and the application period is May 1, 2015 to October 1, 2015. Anyone applying for the renters program must provide a letter from their landlord that will verify the rent. The applicants must provide proof of income including the end of the year Social Security statement. The assessor and assessor's staff wish to thank all of the Old Saybrook taxpayers for their patience and support.

Norman B. Wood CCMA II – Assessor
Rick Pine – Assistant Assessor

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For the past 3 years Essex Printing has been honored to be a multiple award winner for its quality of printing from the Print Industry of America (PIA) and the Print Industry of New England (PINE).

In 2014 Essex Printing received the highest award from PIA the "International Bennie Award".

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Bill McMinn from Essex Printing and Gary Parrington from Lyme Art Association are shown with Lyme Art Association "Incredible India Invitation". The invitation was recognized by PINE and awarded the 2015 Pinnacle Award for its exceptional use of design, print and use of paper to create a bright and lively invite. The Pinnacle Award is given to the most outstanding entry in its category. Given the high standard, the entries must be flawless to win.



The 5th Annual Closer to Free Ride

for Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven



The Ride will take place on Saturday, September 12th, 2015. Riders have the option of cycling 25, 62.5 or 100 miles. Our ride travels through multiple shoreline towns including Branford, Madison, Guilford, Essex, and Old Saybrook. We've been called the "best organized ride in Connecticut." And for good reason... our experienced staff and volunteers will take care of you from mile one until the finish line.

Clear route cues and signage, lots of food and drink and efficient SAG when you need it will help you leave the worrying behind so you can focus on the miles ahead. Plus our finish line festival at the Yale Bowl has fun for everyone, with live music, a beer garden, Kid Zone and so much more. 100% of the dollars raised by Riders and Volunteers will directly support patient care and research at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center.

Our volunteers and Road Crew are the backbone of the Ride. We've got fun and rewarding volunteer opportunities for anyone who wants to lend a hand. The Closer to Free Ride simply can't happen without the generous support of our family of sponsors. The Ride is the perfect platform to give your brand exposure while joining in the fight against cancer. We've got sponsorship packages to fit every budget and every goal, with lots of innovative ways to connect with our desirable demographic.

For more information on the riding, volunteering, or sponsorships please visit www.ridecloserstofree.org or email ridecloserstofree@ynhh.org. You can also reach us at (203) 200-CTFR (2837).

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Old Saybrook Social Services Help Days - 7/23, 8/27, 10:00 – 3pm

DSS Mobile Office, CT Food Bank Truck and a Dental Clinic is coming to Old Saybrook this summer!

This summer we will be having Social Services Help Days at Grace Church Hall, 336 Main Street with the DSS Bus coming down from Hartford as well as sponsoring dental clinics on site continuing our dental initiative to provide needed dental services to uninsured or underinsured residents in need. CT Food Bank Truck will also be available between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm on all Social service days to provide mobile pantry food supplies. Social Services Help Day is also being hosted in Clinton now at Clinton Town Hall annex building on the first Mondays of the month, July 6, August 3 and September 7, and Old Saybrook residents are also able to attend there as well. CT Food Bank time there is 12 – 1pm.

This spring we helped families in need learn about growing a garden for fresh food and raising chickens for eggs joined by community partners and volunteers. We were joined by nutritionists helping to show folks how to eat healthy adding fruits and vegetables on a limited food stamp budget. We have also added blood test screening for cholesterol, diabetes and high blood pressure by nurses and a pharmacist. This summer we will continue with healthy food initiatives and health and dental initiatives. In August we will focus on helping children going back to school with clothing and supplies as well as

children's teeth cleaning. We will be in need of new school supplies for this event and donations can be made in August at Social Services/Youth and Family Services.

We have been hosting monthly, a Social Services Help Day in conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) Mobile Bus, Community Health Center (CHC) mobile dental clinic and the CT Food Bank mobile pantry truck distributing food with volunteer help from the Shoreline Soup Kitchens along with other social services regional and community providers. We have been helping about 100 families each month with access to state services for food, medical and dental care as well as local assistance programs.

Appointments are needed for both the DSS bus for state application processing and for the CHC dental clinics and must be arranged in advance by contacting, Susan Consoli, MA, LPC, Social Services Coordinator, 860-395-3188 or by email at susan.consoli@oldsaybrook.gov Walk-ins are welcome both days for local information, help and to receive food from the CT Food Bank truck. Please contact us if you would like more information or would like to donate.



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Acton Public Library

Summer reading is one of the many activities to keep you coming back to the Acton Public Library. This summer we celebrate the joy of reading with our summer reading programs for adults, teens and children from June 18 to July 30.

For Adults: Escape the Ordinary with the adult summer reading theme. Register either in person or online, and select books to read of your choosing. If you register online, you will enter titles read, if you register in person, you fill out a raffle ticket for each book read. Drawings will be held weekly for gift cards to local businesses. The more books you read the more chances to win! Check the library website www.actonlibrary.org for the link to Sign up via "Summer Reader", or stop by to register in person

For Teens: Unmask! For students entering Grades 6-12. Welcome to "Summer Reader" the statewide online summer reading log. Follow the link on our website at www.actonlibrary.org to sign up and

enter a chance to win gift cards to local businesses!

For Kids: Make your summer sizzle with our summer reading program "Every Hero Has a Story! For children, birth to grade 5. Track 20 minute blocks of time reading or being read to and earn Acton Reading Bucks.

Welcome to "Summer Reader" the statewide online summer reading log. Follow the link on our website. Track your minutes...write reviews...and earn prizes! All reading counts, including being read to, or reading to someone else. Earn an Acton Reading Buck for every 20 minutes of reading time to "spend" on prizes at Acton's General Store! Weekly fun: All programs are free and drop-in. Please note: children under age 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

- Crafternoons on Tuesdays, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.: Supplies are on us! Suitable for all ages.
- Picnic Story Times, Wednesdays, 11:30

a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Bring a blanket and your lunch to eat indoors while listening to a story. Best for ages 2 – 5.

- Family Nights! Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Entertaining and educational family performers.
- Story Time with Rocky the Rock Cat and guest reader Phyllis DaCorte on Friday, July 17 at 10:30 a.m. Great photo op!
- "It's Theater Time!" with Judy Potter. Listen to a story and learn how to act it out. July 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Best for ages 3-7. Please register.

Family Nights!

Thursdays June 18 – July 30 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



- July 9: Nappy's Puppets: Entertaining shadow puppet theater featuring the classic tale of Jack and the Beanstalk

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• July 16: Riverside Reptiles: Jeepers Creepers! Encounter some creepy looking creatures. See and touch a variety

of reptiles, amphibians, arachnids and insects.

• July 23: Magic of Christopher: Chris has the right mix of comedy, impressive magic and one liners to keep the kids howling and the parents chuckling.



• July 30: Robert Rivest Mime Theater: Comic mime Robert Rivest will lead you on a fun, upbeat journey of everyday heroes, superheroes, and heroes from Greek Mythology. Get a chance to learn mime and create a new hero on the spot!



Thank you to the Friends of the Acton Library for sponsoring all of the performers and prizes. Without their hard work and dedication, the summer reading program would not be possible.

Teen Programs

Game Night: Join your friends at the monthly after-hours game night, Friday, July 31st; August 28th; September 24th. Program starts at 4:30 – the library closes at 5:00.

Magic: The Gathering: If you are part of the MAGIC phenomenon, join fellow players for a tournament at the library on Saturdays at noon. Bring your own decks.

Adult Programs

Book Discussion Group: The Wednesday morning book discussion group will continue meeting throughout the summer.

- July 8th, 10:30 a.m. – *Gift from the Sea*, by Anne Morrow Lindbergh.
- August 5th, 10:30 a.m. – *The Opposite of Maybe*, by Maddie Dawson.
- September 2nd, 10:30 a.m. – Book title to be announced.

Author Program: Nancy Shapiro, author of *We Had a Ball... The Indelible Influence of Youth Sports on the Game of Life*, will speak about her book. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and autographing, with a portion of the sales going to support the library.

Art Exhibits

July – there will not be an art exhibit during July, because of the Friends of the Library book sale.

August – Rosemary Cotnoir of Essex.

September – Shlomit Ruttkamp of Westbrook

October – Daniel Dahlstrom of Chester

Please check our webpage and calendars for our movie programs, concert series, and additional special programs! Or call the library at 860-395-3184 during library hours: Monday- Thursday, 10:00 am – 8:30 pm; Friday and Saturday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm; closed Sundays from June – Sept.

"Experience the Difference" at The Saybrook at Haddam.



Diane Daudt with her mom, resident Marie Daudt, looking at all the places they've flown to as flight attendants.

We've Traveled the World and are Still Enjoying Happy Moments Together.

Diane Daudt and her mother, Marie, both enjoyed careers as flight attendants, traveling the world over. "We've shared so many happy memories in the past and continue to enjoy happy moments together now. At Safe Harbor Memory Care Neighborhood in The Saybrook at Haddam, Mom is able to be involved, stay active, and even go bowling with her friends, says daughter Diane." **Safe Harbor offers:**

- Stimulating programs promoting self-worth, dignity and independence
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Old Saybrook Economic Development

North Main Street Redevelopment

Governor Malloy travelled to Old Saybrook April 30th to commend the redevelopment efforts underway on North Main Street. Three separate projects add up to significant improvements and contributions to transportation-oriented development for the Town.



Governor Malloy Visits Old Saybrook to Recognize Development Efforts

Redevelopment of this area consists of three components:

1. Old Saybrook Train Station Parking Lot Expansion

The CT Department of Transportation is constructing a new 199 space parking lot expansion for Old Saybrook Rail Station's Amtrak and Shore Line East passengers. Rail service passengers can expect the parking lot to open by the end of November this year.

2. North Main Street Streetscape Renovation

A \$1 million grant from the CT Department of Transportation will extend the look and feel of Main Street to Saybrook Junction with the North Main Street Streetscape Project. The project improves the Route 1 intersection to the train station with sidewalks, an improved road and safer vehicle access, and on-street parking. The plan also includes safer pedestrian and vehicle access on Stage Road and the intervening stretch of Route 1.

3. Eastpointe Transportation Oriented Housing

The Eastpointe developer received approval on its site plan application to build a 186-unit, multi-family residential complex on 10.8 acres on North Main Street. The complex will offer one and two bedroom units, 38 of which will be designated as affordable housing. Facilities include a club house, fitness center and pool with an outdoor pavilion.

Other Exciting Developments:

- Mystic Market plans to open by July.
- Renovations at 75 Main Street are near completion.
- SWAG opened a second store front on Main Street specializing in accessories.

For more information about Economic Development in Old Saybrook contact Susie Beckman at (860) 395-3139 or susan.beckman@oldsaybrookct.gov.



Watch the Press Conference

Fire Marshal's Office Awarded Grant

For Community Fire Safety

Donn Dobson, Fire Marshal, and Kathy Noyes, Assistant to the Fire Marshal, applied for a Community Grant from FM Global in the fall of 2014, and they were recently awarded a check for \$1,700.00!

FM Global awards grants to fire departments and fire agencies worldwide when they request money for fire prevention, fire safety and community needs which go over and above what they might have allotted to them in their municipal budgets.

The Fire Marshal's Office applied for money for an I Pad which will enhance the Fire Marshal's ability to take detailed notes and photos and to share that information with collaborating agencies while investigating fires. It will also allow him to perform more complete fire safety inspections. He will have access to fire code information, and he will be able to instantly communicate inspection information to his office.

This money will also be used to purchase smoke detectors for residents of Old Saybrook through distribution at Social Services Day.

To date, the Office of the Fire Marshal has distributed 60 smoke detectors to residents in need.



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Old Saybrook Youth & Family Services

Youth Action Council – Promoting Positive Opportunities

Old Saybrook Youth Action Council is made up of students from 8-12th grade, and they work throughout the year to identify needs in the community and ways to address those needs, while developing leadership, organizational, and relational skills. The student-designed Mission Statement is “Promoting positive opportunities by empowering the community through youth leadership and advocacy.”

Youth Action Council, “Assets in Action”, has a developmental framework based upon the SEARCH Institutes 40 Developmental Assets. It is partially funded through Middlesex United Way’s Assets in Action grant, and also receives financial support through the OS Public Health Nursing Board. The 40 Developmental Assets have been ‘at work’ in Old



Saybrook for many years, beginning officially in 1997 when Healthy Community/Healthy Youth recognized that our youth needed more support in order to further develop healthy relationships with each other and others in the community.

OSYFS Youth Action Council is open to any youth in Old Saybrook, grades 8-12, and includes students who are home-schooled or in out-of-district schools. This year has been an active one, with over 60 students actively participating in events like: Winter Stroll, Family Dinner and Bingo Event, Sticker Shock, Shoreline Share Youth Collaborative, the LEAD conference, and Walk Like MADD. The first meeting for the 2015 Fall schedule will be Thursday September 17, 6-8 p.m. Every meeting includes ice-breakers, group exercises, planning events, food and FUN! If your students want to learn more about YAC, they can call us at 860-395-3190.

Youth and Family Services Offers Friendship 101 Program This Summer

Friendship 101 is either a 2 or 3-day program defined by incoming grade and designed to help kids develop friendship skills and boundaries. The program will ask and guide such topics as: characteristics of a good friend, being a good friend, and understanding our needs versus what our friends need. Attendees will work on building awareness, cues, empathy, and expectations to support relationships that form organically in the developing years for children. Students entering grades K or 1st will attend a 2-day session on July 14th and 16th from 11:30am-12:30pm and incoming 2nd-4th graders will attend a 3-day session from 11:00am-12:00pm on July 13th, 15th and 17th.

Registration is offered on the Youth and Family webpage using the ‘Generic Registration Form’. Questions can be answered by calling the main number 860-395-3190 or Jackie Boudinot, MFT, NCC directly at 860-510-5046. Class space is limited to 10.

Chill Group is Back!

Old Saybrook students grades 9-12. DE-STRESS! Come spend

three Wednesday afternoons July 8-July 22 from 4-5:30 pm learning relaxation techniques. Facilitated by Clinician Chelsea Graham, LCSW. Please call 860-395-3190 to register.

Shoes Group

For Old Saybrook 4th and 5th Graders / We have all heard the expression “walk a mile in another person’s shoes”, and this group is designed to increase youth ability to be empathetic and develop relationship skills. Shoes Group is a fun and interactive group where 4th and 5th graders will create art projects while learning great new ways to keep being the best person they can be! We learn together how to communicate with our friends, show others we care, how to listen and to be leaders of kindness! Meets at OSYFS, 322 Main Street, Old Saybrook, on Wednesdays between 10-11am which began June 24th through July 15th . Facilitated by Clinician Chelsea Graham, LCSW. Please call 860-395-3190 to register.

Aspiring Old Saybrook Youth Artists

Here’s Your Chance to Exhibit in the Annual Arts and Crafts Show on the Town Green! This summer Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services and Healthy Communities Healthy Youth will again be hosting a booth at the Chamber of Commerce’s Annual Arts and Crafts Festival to display a variety of art by Old Saybrook youth on July 25 and 26th. Participating students may display (and offer for sale if they desire) 2-3 finished pieces of work and should plan on helping at the booth during a pre-arranged 2 hour period. NEW THIS YEAR - artwork hanging in the booth will also be exhibited for the month of August in the Marshview Gallery at the Estuary Center, with a reception for artists, families, friends and patrons on Friday evening, August 14th. Registration forms are available at OSYFS, 322 Main Street or may be downloaded from the OSYFS website at www.oldsaybrookct.org/youth under “News and Announcements”. For more information, contact Youth Booth ‘Curator’ Linda McCall at (860) 510-5040 or via email at linda.mccall@OldSaybrookCT.gov.

Movies on the Beach

Youth and Family Services, Healthy Communities Healthy Youth and the Department of Police Services Present Movies on the Beach at Harvey’s Beach. Bring the kids, a blanket and snacks for free, old fashioned, family fun! Three Friday evenings - July 10th (please note July 10th will be a teen/adult night – ages 13 and up), July 24th and August 14th. Movies start at dusk (approximate time 8:00/8:30 pm) but come early for family games and more! On July 24th we have a special treat before the movie – a concert featuring the Caribbean Vice Steel Drum Band bringing the ‘sound of the islands’ to Long Island Sound starting at 7:00 pm. This year’s financial sponsor for the Movies on the Beach series is Yale New Haven Hospital, 633 Middlesex Turnpike, Old Saybrook.

Saybrook Youth Attend Regional Youth Forum

Dream It, Believe It, Live It / On May 22, 2015, 9 OSMS students joined OSYFS for a trip to the Annual Youth



continued on page 15

Old Saybrook Youth & Family Services... continued from page 14

Forum at 3 Rivers Community College. This forum was hosted by SERAC, or Southeastern Regional Action Council, and offers students from schools in SE Conn the opportunity to learn more about topics like substance use prevention, relationship skills, anti-bullying strategies and more.

Stewardship Camps

Look for us in town this summer - you will recognize us immediately by our enthusiasm for the environment and food security, our matching YFS shirts, and our colorful bus! Each summer, we lead 13 students in 7-12th grade on a weeklong learning adventure to give back to our community. During Environmental Stewardship week, students work in the Preserve cleaning up the trails and creating boundaries. They spend a day at Maritime Education Center learning about the effects of pollution on the CT River and LI Sound. They learn why recycling is important by having their own recycling drive at Stop and Shop, and they understand what things can be reused in creative ways by visiting the Trash Museum in Hartford.

During Hunger Awareness week, students go on a label scavenger hunt at Shop and Stop to understand why having a limited budget can often mean unhealthy choices for food. They will work at Common Goods community garden and deliver the vegetables they harvest to the pantry where they then stock the shelves for a day. They help prepare and serve a meal at the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and learn what a valuable resource this is in our community. Finally, they hear from a representative of End Hunger CT to learn about what they can do to create food sustainability in Old Saybrook.

Program Coordinator, Jodi Kelly, leads the group through this educational and fun adventure and students earn 12 community service hours per week for their participation. For more information, contact Jodi Kelly at 860-510-5051.

Save The Date – Family Day 2015

October 4, 2015 1 – 4 pm on the Town Green
Support Group for Parents/Grandparents of Children
Diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome/High-Functioning Autism
An Individual with Asperger Syndrome

* Misses/Misreads Social Cues* Hobbies and Interests Can Border on Obsessions

* May Have Emotional “Meltdowns”

* May Struggle with Sensory Processing

* Speech Patterns May Be Odd

* Verbal Processing Can Be a Little “Different”

* May Be Physically Awkward

* Intelligence Levels Range From Average to Superior

The impact of these differences on the child's social interactions of all kinds (neighborhood, extended family, school, house of worship, even a simple shopping trip) can multiply stress in every aspect of a parent's/grandparent's life.

Offering camaraderie, encouragement and hope for these parents and grandparents, a support group meets monthly at Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services, 322 Main Street, Old Saybrook. Topic-specific handouts with insights from experts are available at every meeting.

- July 15 (Preempting and Working with our AS Children's Meltdowns; Enlisting Family Support to Help Our AS Children to Develop Listening and Appropriate Response Skills.
- August 19 (Preparing for Back-to-School: Schedule Transitions, Role Playing for Peer Interactions and Classroom Settings, and Communicating with School Staff)
- September 16 (Communicating about AS with Groups in the Community: Scouting Leaders, Youth Group Leaders in Churches/Synagogues, Sunday School Teachers.)

To accommodate work schedules and childcare needs, two meeting times are available, 12:30-2 p.m. and 5:30-7 p.m. The group is facilitated by Joanne Deal, M.A., Professional Counseling. For more information or to pre-register for a meeting, call us at 860-388-3190.

Old Saybrook To Let Its 'Freak Flag Fly' With Youth Summer Stock Theater's Production Of SHREK THE MUSICAL JR.

Nasty will be nice and Old Saybrook will be ogre-the-moon when Youth Summer Stock Theater's company of 40 students (entering grades 6-9) present their production of SHREK THE MUSICAL JR. on July 17th and 18th. The family-friendly musical



comedy follows the adventures of an ogre named Shrek who sets off on a quest to save a princess from a dragon. However, it turns out that in order to ultimately succeed, Shrek must battle an even bigger obstacle: learning how to believe in himself and open his heart to others. “Shrek's unique story of discovery encourages each of us to examine our prejudices, review what we believe to be our limitations and work to better understand ourselves and others. The actors and crew in this production will embarked on a similar journey, as students and teachers with many different interests learn more about themselves and each other while collaborating towards the common goal of presenting this musical,” says Gershon. The musical was adapted to be performed by students by educational musical theatre consultancy firm iTheatrics under the supervision of Timothy Allen McDonald. Award nominations, including Best Musical.

Old Saybrook Youth Summer Stock Theater will present SHREK THE MUSICAL JR. on July 17th at 7:00 pm and July 18th at 2:00 and 7:00 pm at the Old Saybrook High School Auditorium. Tickets may be purchased at Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services (322 Main Street) or at the door. For more information please contact us at 860-395-3190 or visit the agency's website at www.oldsaybrookct.org/youth. SHREK THE MUSICAL JR. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 www.MTIShows.com. Contact: Wendy Mill, Program Coordinator, Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services 860-395-3190 (agency) 860-510-5050 (direct), wmill@town.old-saybrook.ct.us.

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Chestnut Hill Concerts

“What’s in a Key?” features four concerts of chamber music, each program based on one key center.

This summer, Chestnut Hill Concerts will present four programs of chamber music arranged in a rather unusual way. Artistic director and cellist Ronald Thomas has organized each concert around a single key as the starting point for answering the question, “What’s in a Key?”

Classical composers knew that the key of a piece of music affects its mood and spirit, and even its “color.” Each concert this season -- along with performances of masterworks played by world-class artists--will feature Mr. Thomas’s commentary on the characteristics of various keys to guide the audience in the exploration of this fascinating aspect of classical music. The concerts will take place on consecutive Friday evenings, August 7, 14, 21, and 28 at the Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center in Old Saybrook.

The first program, on August 7, features works in D, and includes Beethoven’s Serenade for Flute, Violin, and Viola in D major; Prokofiev’s Flute Sonata in D major; and Schumann’s Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor. On August 14, the works are all in E-flat major: Two pieces by Beethoven, his Clarinet Trio Op. 38 and Piano Trio Op. 70 no. 2, and Brahms’ Clarinet Sonata No. 2. The third

program on August 21 is in A minor, featuring the Ravel Piano Trio, Schubert’s “Arpeggione” sonata for viola, and Elgar’s Piano Quintet. The season concludes on August 28 in C, with Bach’s Cello Suite No. 5 in C minor, Brahms’ Piano Trio No. 2 in C major, and Fauré’s Piano Quartet in C minor.

The 2015 season will bring to the Kate’s stage thirteen of today’s most distinguished musicians. Making their Chestnut Hill Concerts debuts are flutist Catherine Gregory, violinist Catherine Cho, and violinist/violist Tien Hsin Cindy Wu. Returning artists, in addition to cellist and artistic director Ronald Thomas, are clarinetist Romie de Guise-Langlois; violinists Steven Copes, Jesse Mills, and Todd Phillips; violists Mark Holloway and Cynthia Phelps; and pianists Rieko Aizawa, Randall Hodgkinson, and Mihae Lee.

Sponsors of the 2015 concerts are Guilford Savings Bank, Northstar Wealth Partners, and Bruce and Kathy Kramer Briggs.

The Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center (The Kate) is located at 300 Main Street in Old Saybrook, Connecticut. To purchase tickets, visit chestnuthillconcerts.org or call 203-245-5736. After July 2, contact the Kate box office at 860-510-0453, or visit www.thekate.org.

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Safe Harbor Dedicated To Helen Shultz



The Saybrook at Haddam has dedicated its Safe Harbor neighborhood to its very first memory care resident, Helen Shultz of Old Saybrook, who lived at the specialized community throughout its inaugural year. Members of the Shultz family joined the retirement community at a brief ceremony on May 6 to unveil a personalized plaque placed in Safe Harbor in honor of Helen's memory.

Helen's children attended the ceremony with their families. Her daughter, Judy Sullivan, who is executive director of the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce, was joined by husband, Dan, and son, Peter; Bob Shultz of Hudson, New Hampshire, attended with his son Matthew from Avon, Conn.; and Richard Shultz came from Norwich, Conn. Two of Helen's children, John Schultz of Staten Island, N.Y., and Mark Shultz of Mequon, Wis., were unable to attend (but were there in spirit).

During the celebration, Helen's children expressed their appreciation for the care she received at The Saybrook at Haddam – and for the tremendous support the community offered their own families.

“When a loved one suffers from a memory illness, the family is forced into quite a learning curve,” Judy Sullivan said. “The entire team at The Saybrook at Haddam walked us through that process, helping us understand Mom's new ‘world,’ how to have patience, and most importantly how to continue enjoying each moment we had with her. We are indebted to this community for their care, kindness and expertise and are so honored to have Mom forever be a part of Safe Harbor.”

Helen actually moved into The Saybrook at Haddam in 2011 a few weeks before Safe Harbor was completed. As soon as the doors officially opened, she moved over to Safe Harbor. During this time, The Saybrook at Haddam was working to build awareness of its unique and personalized approach to helping those suffering from Alzheimer's, dementia and other memory-related illnesses, and the Shultz family was the first to put its faith and trust into this new community.

“We owe a debt to the Shultz's as well, as they were the first to recognize and trust in our approach to memory care,” Kathy Ryan, executive director of The Saybrook at Haddam, said. “Of course, since Helen was our only resident for a short time, she essentially had one-on-one care and really stole the hearts of our entire community. I like to say she was ‘holding court,’ because she always had a group around her listening to stories, sharing meals, and meeting her every need with lightning speed. Although we have grown tremendously since those days, Helen helped shape the quality and personality of the community we have become.”

Staff members who cared for Helen also shared warm memories of their premier resident, talking with fondness and laughter about their experiences with her. They enjoyed her “no-nonsense” style, which likely was a result of the 40 years Helen worked as owner of the successful Shultz Appliance and TV retail shop in Old Saybrook. Staff appreciated her real sense of family and knew they had made an impact when Helen began treating Safe Harbor like her home. This was considered a milestone since Helen's home in Old Saybrook was immensely important to her as the epi-center of very large family holidays, gatherings and memories.

“Safe Harbor really did become her home, and for us that was the true blessing,” Sullivan said. “If there was a silver lining in Mom's illness, it was getting to know everyone at The Saybrook at Haddam. This plaque forever memorialized our connection to this community, and reinforces our hopes that other families find solace and reassurance here as they navigate through the difficult maze of memory loss.”

Known as the region's premier assisted living, retirement, and memory care community, The Saybrook at Haddam (www.thesaybrookathaddam.com) offers 106 apartments for individuals or couples. The gracious manor is located in Haddam, Conn., with proximity to major highways, medical services, restaurants and entertainment venues. Private tours are being scheduled, and applications for residence are available by calling 860-345-3779.



Shultz Family

In Your Own Backyard

There's one place where you can and should take control of the environment; your backyard. Whether it's a suburban lot or several acres in the woods, on the coast or miles away in the watershed, your actions there help determine what flows to the Sound. Remember - if you live in the Long Island Sound watershed, you are a nonpoint pollution source for the water in the Sound.

Take a moment to survey your property - the paved surfaces, the soil, the lawn, the garden, the trees and shrubs, the drainage patterns, maybe a pond or stream. There's an environmentally responsible way to manage all these areas, guided by two fundamental principles:

- Slow down the passage of water from and through your land to give natural purification processes a chance to act
- Prevent pollution of water that flows off your land

Control Your Runoff

The goal is to prevent rainwater runoff from rushing directly into the nearest storm sewer or stream. In a residential area with individual homes on 1-acre plots, up to 20% of the natural surface area has usually been replaced by impervious surfaces. In a more densely developed urban area, peak stormwater runoff can be 5 times greater than in natural countryside.

How to slow down stormwater runoff from your backyard depends on the slope of your land and the porosity of your soil. The worst problems arise where the soil is clay, which doesn't absorb water, or where groundwater is close to the surface. If water collects in puddles on your lawn and then runs directly to the street, regrading or terracing might help. Another possible remedy is directing runoff water into a small pond, holding basin, or raingarden from which it can drain slowly.

Take a look at the direction of runoff from your paved surfaces. It's best if the water spreads out over the lawn or some other area where it can seep into the soil. If there is erosion along the water's path, adding gravel, adding mulch, or placing plants along the path can slow down the runoff.

You can also prevent erosion and slow down runoff by controlling the surface materials in your yard. Driveways, sidewalks, and patios don't have to be concrete or asphalt. Instead,

there are many porous surface materials that allow rainwater to seep into the ground. When the opportunity arises, choose gravel, crushed rock, or paving materials such as brick, flat natural stone, or modular concrete blocks that can be laid over a firm, well-drained foundation of gravel and sand.

Also, take a look at the surfaces underneath downspouts. It's common for the water to flow through a pipe or concrete channel onto the driveway and the street. Or perhaps you have an eroded gully where the water strikes bare soil. Here is another place where the water could instead be directed out over the lawn or allowed to flow over a porous, gravel-filled area that lets it drain into the ground.

Needless to say, trees, shrubs, and groundcover are an asset. They are beautiful. They slow down runoff. And they prevent erosion. It's not necessary to have exotic and unusual species. Native plants are best because they've shown their ability to survive here.

Study Your Lawn & Garden

For lawns, the goal is to maintain a lush and healthy stand of grass while minimizing the use of fertilizers and pesticides. Sometimes growing a weed-free, dense stand of grass seems impossible. But the experts tell us it can be done in an environmentally sound manner. Some serious study is needed to get a lawn right. It's necessary to examine the conditions under which your lawn must grow.

1. Choose grass seed according to how much sun and shade you have.

Seed put down between August 15 and September 30 has the best chance to thrive. The grass will get a firm footing before winter and will then grow vigorously from early spring on. A healthy stand of grass will resist invasion by weeds and insects, and needs few fertilizers and pesticides.

2. Don't mow your grass too low.

Weed seeds need sunlight to germinate, and the sunlight reaches them more easily when the grass is low. Also, taller grass develops a healthier root system. For most lawns in the northeast, a mowing height of approximately 2 ½ inches is about right.

3. Don't fertilize until you have tested your soil.

Then give it only what it needs. Remember - lawn fertilizer contains nitrogen and excess put on the lawn or spilled on paved surfaces

continued on page 20

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In Your Own Backyard... continued from page 19

on the lawn or spilled on paved surfaces can reach the Sound. Kits for testing the nutrient needs of your soil are available from nurseries, and garden supply stores. Fertilizer is most effectively used by the grass when applied in October. (The Cooperative Extension Center will probably do soil testing for a modest fee. These centers, part of the nationwide Cooperative Extension System and run by the U.S. Dept. Agriculture, also provide information about water quality, waste disposal, integrated pest management, and other environmental concerns.)

4. Only use herbicides, fungicides, or insecticides as a last resort.

Closely watch what is happening on your lawn, and only use pesticides to correct problems that you have identified. The cautions about fertilizers and pesticides apply to your garden as well. Don't apply tomato fertilizer and tomato insecticides just because you have tomato plants. Many approaches can be tried in the garden before resorting to fertilizers and pesticides. A good compost pile may provide all the nutrients your garden needs. Some insect pests can be picked off by hand or washed off with a strong spray of water. Others can be controlled with nonpolluting insecticidal soaps, dormant oil sprays, or microorganisms such as BT (*Bacillus thuringiensis*, also known as milky spore). When you do need a commercial pesticide, buy only the necessary amount and handle it carefully according to the guidelines discussed for household hazardous wastes.

For more information about polluted runoff and solutions (like raingardens) visit UConn's NEMO Program website at <http://nemo.uconn.edu>. To follow the Soundkeeper news and programs visit - <http://www.soundkeeper.org>.

Sea Level Rise and Climate Change

What Can Be Done to Minimize the Impact?

More than 50% of the parcels in town are in the 100 year flood plain, an area that will expand with climate change and sea level rise. Some areas in town currently experience flooding of streets with each astronomical high tide. To help prepare as these events become more dramatic in the future, Carl Fortuna, the First Selectman, asked that a Sea Level Rise and Climate Adaptation Committee (SLRCAC) be commissioned to begin the process of identifying the potential impacts of sea level rise and climate change on our community.

On June 23rd, the Sea Level Rise and Climate Adaptation Committee (SLRCAC) hosted

a presentation and discussion with the general community about sea level rise and climate change in Old Saybrook. The committee is drafting a report of its study, which includes recommendations that should be considered by the town to prepare for these changes.

If you belong to an organization or association that would like the Committee to share its findings with your members in a smaller setting, then contact Christine Nelson, Town Planner, at the Old Saybrook Land Use Department (cnelson@oldsaybrookct.gov). Your participation and comments are a valuable part of the Committee's investigation.



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THE BEACON

THE OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

Old Saybrook Middle School Kicks off Inaugural Season in Unified Sports



On Wednesday, May 6th, the OSMS Unified Sports Track & Field Team participated in it's first ever Interscholastic Track & Field meet at Stonington High School. Also in attendance were Mystic Middle School and Pawcatuck Middle School. The Old Saybrook Rams consisted of eighteen team members (8 Athletes and 10 Partners). All peer partners were volunteers from the 8th grade class. The event was well attended by students, parents and friends who filled the stands at Stonington's state-of-the-art facility. OSMS entered three relay teams in the 2x25, 4x100 and 4x200 events, followed by Long Jump, Broad Jump, Javelin, Shot Putt and Tennis ball Toss. OSMS Athletes competed in a minimum of four events each. The event concluded with a pizza party and refreshments. We feel extremely fortunate that Old Saybrook Middle School is now one of the participating schools.

Safety and Wellness Day



OSMS Safety and Wellness Day took place on April 9th. The event provided 50 speakers presenting a variety of topics of safety and wellness to OSMS students. In addition to the topics from last year,

students learned about mindfulness, internet safety and healthy relationships. Annual favorites included Minute to Win It, Karate, American Heart Jump Rope and First Aid and CPR, just to name a few.



The day ended with the Harlem Rockets talking to the students about character, perseverance and hard work. They showed the students some basketball tricks and included teachers and students in some amusing games. The evening ended with the Rockets playing district faculty in a one sided, but entertaining game. A special thank you to Middlesex Hospital for their generous sponsorship of Safety and Wellness Day, which included providing speakers, materials and sponsorship of the Harlem Rockets.

Old Saybrook Middle School Partners with Fenwick Golf Course



The Old Saybrook Middle School had the privilege of partnering with the Fenwick Golf Course to provide our students an opportunity to learn and play the game of golf. This new school club, offered to sixth through eighth graders in the fall and spring, was tremendously successful in its first year. Over fifty students, some beginners and some seasoned golfers, were able to participate. This program allowed the students to develop relationships while learning the rules and etiquette of the game of golf. Volunteer chaperones

continued on page 22

continued from page 21

included teachers, parents, grandparents, administrators and local police officers that joined students in foursomes on Fenwick's two courses. Archie Cart, an Old Saybrook Middle School parent and general manager at Lake of Isles in North Stonington, facilitated the donation of hundreds of golf balls for students to use on the driving range and during their rounds. Luke Hanratty, a seventh grade participant said, "I was so happy we had this new opportunity at my school. My friends and I were able to spend time together learning and playing golf. I hope this program will continue in the future because it gets kids hooked on the game and hopefully will keep them playing throughout their lives."

Old Saybrook High School Cancer Walk

Three seniors, Lexi Bardos, Emilee Gowrie and Mackenzie Schneider, revived the All Night Cancer Walk on May 29th after a four-year hiatus! The young women took on this project as their capstone requirement for Graduation and were determined to make it a success. There were roughly

200 people of all ages in attendance who enjoyed great music, a variety of "bouncy-house" activities such as jousting battles and obstacle courses, volleyball, snow cones, and of course, a beautiful ceremony that included a guest speaker and the inaugural luminary walk around the track in honor of friends and family members of Old Saybrook citizens who have lost battles to cancer. Old Saybrook High School students formed teams and raised money in support of their endeavor to walk all night to support finding a cure. 75 students took on the all night portion of the event! Thanks to the extreme hard work of these three young women and the support of this incredible Old Saybrook Community more than \$10,000 was raised! The proceeds from the Cancer Walk will go to the Terri Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation and to local families via OSYFS who are struggling financially as they fight this awful disease. Old Saybrook High School wishes to thank all those who donated food, equipment, time and money to make this event a huge success!

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The New Police Station is OPEN!

The dedicated and professional employees of the Department of Police Services thank the residents of the Town of Old Saybrook for our new police facility now open at 36 Lynde Street.

We are pleased to be back in the center of Town and overjoyed with the state of the art facility that has been provided for our use. The new facility meets State and Federal guidelines and regulations, is efficient, and most importantly safe for our personnel.

While the facility is fully operational, final “punch list” items are being addressed by contractors. Once those items are completed, an open house

for residents to tour some of the “non-sensitive” areas of the facility will be scheduled. (This summer!)

We are very appreciative of the community’s commitment to the Department and their support to fund and construct a new police station that will last for at least the next fifty years! May the Men and Women who proudly serve in the Department of Police Services be safe in their new facility as they provide superior traditional and nontraditional services to the Town of Old Saybrook.

Michael A. Spera, Chief of Police



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The Long Island Sound Blue Plan

By State Representative Devin Carney



On April 22nd, the State House of Representatives unanimously passed HB 6839, An Act Concerning A Long Island Sound Blue Plan And Resource Use Inventory. The bill requires the completion of an inventory of the Sound's uses and natural resources and the development of a plan to preserve and protect them.

The bill requires a 16-member advisory committee to come up with the plan by 2019. The committee includes representation from UConn's marine sciences faculty, shoreline towns, and industries such as oil & gas, boating, shellfishing, and commercial/recreational fishing. The tourism industry and waterfront businesses will also have the opportunity to discuss their thoughts, concerns, and questions.

Under the bill, a "Long Island Sound Inventory and Science" subcommittee would take an inventory of the plants, animals,

and habitats in the Sound and also how it is currently being used (boating, fishing, shellfish beds, and pipelines and power lines, etc). This inventory would enable the DEEP to easily make recommendations when reviewing applications for requests such as shellfish grounds leases, dredging, placing fill, or laying down utility lines. In addition, the bill's advisory committee will make recommendations for more effective stewardship of the Sound's waters, better management practices, protecting sensitive marine life and habitats, promoting maximum public access, and, most importantly, fostering sustainable uses that capitalize on economic opportunity with little or no detriment to the Sound's natural beauty.

The Sound is our state's greatest natural resource and the driving force behind many local businesses, industries, and jobs, so it's important we have a plan for the future. This is both good for the environment and good for the economic vitality of towns like Old Saybrook.

As always, please contact me at any time with your questions or concerns. I can be reached by e-mail at repdevincarney@gmail.com or by phone at (860) 240-8700

CT Agricultural Fairs 2015

North Stonington Agricultural / Fair July 9-12

Lebanon Country Fair / August 7-9

Bridgewater Country Fair / August 21-23

Wolcott Country Fair / August 21-23

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Terryville Lions County Fair / August 28-30

Haddam Neck Fair / September 4-7

Hebron Harvest Fair / September 10-13

North Haven Fair / September 10-13

Orange Country Fair / September 19-20

Durham Fair / September 24-27

Berlin Fair / October 2-4

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We will be selecting a prize-winning photo from the entries in this year's Chester Fair Town Photo category.

(see www.chesterfair.org for contest rules)

Friends Of Acton Public Library



The Friends of Acton Public Library are gearing up for our HUGE SUMMER BOOK SALE. The dates are as follows:

- July 16, Thursday, 10 am to 8 pm
- July 17, Friday, 9 am to 4 pm,
Plus Bake Sale
- July 18, Saturday, 9 am to 3 pm

Please come to see the wonderful selection of children, teen, and adult hard cover and paperback books that are nearly new and priced right. We also have many CD's, DVD's and audio books for sale.

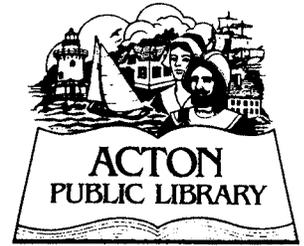
The money raised through the book sale, the bake sale, memberships, and donations is used to supplement the library's budget and provides funds for many of the programs held at the library as well as materials and equipment. This summer's reading programs held at the library will be funded by the Acton Friends.

This past year the Acton Friends helped with a generous donation to the computer lab; paid for four Young Adult programs; five children's programs; five concerts; and sponsored the Job Seekers Program. We continue to provide Museum passes and the Book Page magazine.

Consider joining the Friends of Acton Library, if you haven't already. Come and stop by our July Sale. Pick up a good book or two and some baked goodies.

Hope To See You At The Acton Public Library And Hope You Have A Great Summer.

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Michael Carri & Krysta Kenny – 4/25
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 Daniel Zargos & Amber Ecker – 5/24

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OSHS Safe Grad Night

It was another successful year for Safe Grad Night as the students of the Class of 2015 enjoyed an all-night party on June 17th following the OSHS commencement ceremony. Students left the high school in coach buses for the surprise destination after an enthusiastic send-off from the community complete with sparklers and cheers. Held at a surprise location the event featured a Hawaiian Luau, paint ball, music, games, swimming, foam party, bowling, food, bonfire, performance by a "mentalist", prizes, gifts for each grad, and much more.

Area businesses and families are instrumental in making Safe Grad Night a success. Many families responded to the appeal letter last fall with generous donations. Local businesses and families alike took sponsorships and made donations for the annual Marshall Law LLC Golf Tournament held in May at Fox Hopyard Golf Club. The tournament, along with Ladies Night at the Kate in January, are the two main fundraisers for Safe Grad Night and this year raised enough funds to sponsor the event at no cost to graduating seniors, as well as to leave seed money for next year's committee.

The 2015 parent committee is very grateful to every family and business that donated to the fundraising events this year by contributing money, goods and services, volunteering time to plan and carry out the events, and participating in the fundraisers. The major need for next year is for parents of rising students to join the Safe Grad Night committee and get involved. Meetings are held monthly and there are many tasks to select from no matter how much or how little time a person has to give. Meetings are announced through the school district website and all volunteers are most welcome! Graduation Night, Inc. is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization which gladly accepts tax-deductible donations of all amounts. The organization's mailing address is c/o Old Saybrook High School, 1111 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook CT 06475.



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Conservation Commission

Old Saybrook Preserves Its Natural Heritage

The 1,000 acre tract of land known as The Preserve has been permanently protected for the public. As of April 30, official land ownership is recorded in the names of the towns of Old Saybrook, the Essex Land Trust, and the State of Connecticut. Thanks to everyone, who for more that 15 years, worked to preserve the 1,000 acres.

The Old Saybrook Board of Selectmen has convened an ad hoc committee to provide recommendations to the selectmen on managing The Preserve. The committee includes representatives from the Conservation, Parks and Recreation, Economic Development and Inland Wetlands Commissions, as well members of the Old Saybrook, Westbrook and Essex Land Trusts, and citizens of Old Saybrook. The first order of business was to authorize a work party to mark boundaries.

With this acquisition, Old Saybrook now has approximately 30% of its land and water protected in about 2,800 acres of Open Space. The map below shows the general extent and categories of protection.

The Conservation Commission will be holding a symposium called The Nature of Old Saybrook on Sunday, September 13 at the Parks and Recreation Center from 2 to 5 pm. There will be workshops and information booths about a variety of topics including native landscaping, food preservation, live animals, energy conservation, and more. Save the date!

If you would like to get a better sense of the nature of Old Saybrook, take the Natural Heritage Tour. The Conservation Commission has produced a pamphlet entitled Natural Heritage Tour.

There are 12 stops on the tour that takes you all around town. Each stop is explained with text and an accompanying photograph. You can get pamphlets at the Town Hall in the Land Use Department and at the Chamber of Commerce.

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Monday, August 31: 10:15am-12:00pm

5 things you should be doing if you are unemployed

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Susan Consoli, MA, LPC, Social Services Coordinator

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Middlesex Hospital Opens New Urgent Care Center

Old Saybrook, CT — Middlesex Hospital opened a new urgent care walk-in medical center on June 1 at 1687 Boston Post Road (at the intersection of Spencer Plains Road). The Center provides patients with a lower-cost alternative for non-emergency medical care. The Hospital has two other urgent care centers, one in Madison and another in Middletown.

More and more people are seeking lower-cost, more convenient options for their health care needs. As a result, urgent care centers have begun to spring up in many communities to address this consumer preference.

The Middlesex Hospital Center is unique from other such centers, because of the electronic patient medical records system that ties together all hospital medical records, as well as medical records from all Middlesex Hospital primary care physicians. This gives the providers at the urgent care center access to a patient's medical history, as well as allowing for results of the urgent care visit to be reviewed by the patient's primary care provider.

The new urgent care center treats non-emergency health problems, including colds, coughs, earaches, moderate fevers, minor cuts, bruises, severe sprains and more.

Patients should seek immediate emergency care for things such as head injuries, broken bones, uncontrolled bleeding, chest pains and any signs of a stroke.

The urgent care center is staffed with physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses, and also has x-ray capabilities.

More information on Middlesex Hospital Urgent Care Centers can be found at www.mhurgentcare.com.





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Volunteers at Common Good Gardens in Old Saybrook gather fresh produce for shoreline food pantries, just one of the many projects supported by the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. Learn more online or by phone.

At the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, we know that it's the little things that count, that can change a community and improve the quality of life for all. TOGETHER we feed the hungry, shelter families, teach young and old to read, preserve local history and land, help people of all ages explore the arts, teach children to swim, support anti-bullying programs in our schools, help those with disabilities experience independence, and so much more. We do this by developing endowments, making grants that have impact, and assisting donors in meeting their philanthropic goals... all made possible by so many good people doing great things throughout Middlesex County. We invite you to join us.

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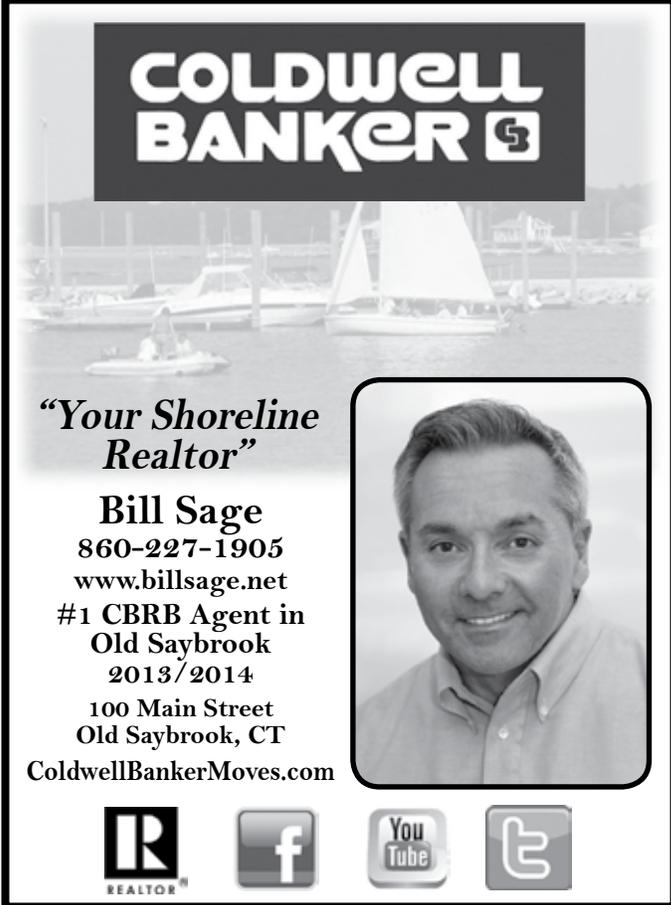
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FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Changes

The Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (HFIAA) was passed in March 2014, which repealed and modified the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (BW12). On April 1, 2015, flood insurance rate changes and other charges mandated by HFIAA will be fully implemented. Below is a summary of the changes. More information can be found on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's flood insurance reform. webpage. www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program/flood-insurance-reform

- Premium rate increases between 5%-15% depending on the flood zone for older structures built before the date of the community's first flood insurance rate map (pre-FIRM structures) that currently have subsidized (discounted) rates.
- Premium rate increases of 25% annually for non-primary (seasonal) residences, commercial properties and severe repetitive loss properties (SRLP).
- Increase the Reserve Fund Assessment from 5% to 15% on most policies.
- Implement a new 10% Reserve Fund Assessment for Preferred Risk Policies (PRP).
- Implement an annual surcharge of \$25 for a primary residence, \$250 for a commercial property or non-primary residence.
- Raise the deductible limit to \$10,000.

Article reprinted courtesy of the CT DEEP Torrent Newsletter, Feb. 2015.

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The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. (ECSI) is a community resource for the nine-town Estuary region's residents over 50 years old providing nutrition, transportation, health support services, education opportunities and socialization. Detailed information is available at our website, <http://www.ecsenior.org>.

The Estuary Council is the home of The Thrift Shop, where you can find some of the best bargains on the Shoreline.

Stop by 220 Main Street on weekdays from 10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. to check out the treasures. There is a new selection of items every day. Donations are accepted daily, up to one hour before closing. (Please, no electrical items, upholstered items, books, sporting goods or luggage without wheels.)

And, The Estuary Council is the sole provider of Meals on Wheels for the Shoreline region. Mark your calendars for a delicious way to support this vital program:

Shoreline Chefs - Sunday, 9/20/15

This first time event will bring together local professional and home Chefs and well as some local dignitaries; all making small plate tastings for those in attendance to sample. Join us on the Old Saybrook Town Green from 3-6pm.

The afternoon will be filled with fabulous food, beverages for purchase, music, and the chance to vote for your favorites (food, chef, booth decorations). Tickets just \$35.00 per person. Food. Fun. Wine. Beer. Support Meals on Wheels - Join us September 20th. If you are interested in being a Chef, or being a Sponsor of this event, call 860.388.1611 x 211.

Fireworks – What Is Legal? What Isn't?

As we approach summer and the Fourth of July, many of us look forward to being outside on a beautiful summer evening watching a fireworks display.

If we have a summer celebration at home, and would like to have fireworks, what is legal and what isn't?

All fireworks are illegal in the State of CT with the exception of sparklers and fountains.

Both sparklers and fountains may be legally used by persons aged 16 and older.

Novelty items such as party poppers, snakes, smoke devices and anything that emits a flame are not legal for private use in CT. These exploding devices are very dangerous and have caused serious injury to those using them or near them.

The CT State Fire Marshal reports that a



number of house fires and grass fires have been attributed to the use of fireworks. Fireworks are a danger to property, as well as to people. If a fire or explosion caused by legal or illegal fireworks causes injuries and/or damage, or poses the risk of either, the person responsible could be charged with a felony criminal offense. The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public display conducted at a state-approved site by CT licensed pyrotechnicians.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the Fire Marshal at 860-395-3133



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Old Saybrook Garden Club Summer Happenings

Summer . . . it was a long time coming and has been welcomed with open arms given our long and tedious snowy winter. The Garden Club spent much of the spring preparing Old Saybrook for glorious bursts of color in many different ways.

Our Gardeners' Market in early May proved to be a tremendous success again this year. Shoppers waited patiently to enter the tent on the Town Green half an hour before it was to open. Annuals, perennials, members' plants, vegetables, herbs, and hanging baskets sold quickly and will cheer up gardens and decks all over our town and others. Bake sale items satisfied hungry gardeners from breakfast through the day, and the boutique filled with gently used gardening and home décor items provided inspiration for new uses for shoppers.

The Market is the club's major fundraiser enabling the club to plan and care for Constitution Garden, the Main Street Medians, the containers at Acton Library, and the gardens at the Old Saybrook Firehouse. By the time readers see this article, the gardens will be ablaze with this year's theme colors of red, white and blue. Planting and caring for all these flowers requires participation from 100% of our club's members who participate with pleasure - even on those hot, steamy days when the beach is more of an attraction!

As readers stroll along Main Street and other areas of town to catch a glimpse of these gardens, they will see that many of our town's



businesses have caught the fever again this year to beautify Old Saybrook by planting their own gardens, hanging colorful baskets, or designing unique container gardens. Seventy-four shops, restaurants, and other businesses are participating in this year's Street Garden Recognition Program as indicated by the red, white and blue Program markers at each business. Now in its sixth year, the program continues to draw interest from both seasoned and new participants (ten new businesses this year!) who want Old Saybrook to shine. When you see the program's marker in a business's garden, please be sure to thank that business for being a part of the program.

Finally, the club is happy to announce this year's recipients of the Old Saybrook Garden Club Scholarships are Ashley Bright and Adam Burkhardt. Seniors at Old Saybrook High School, both students are passionate about the environment. Ashley will attend Clemson University in South Carolina pursuing studies in conservation biology while Adam will attend Flagler College in Florida to study coastal environmental science. Congratulations to both students!

Do you have an interest in participating in any of the activities above? Are you a master gardener, or an occasional gardener, or a brand new gardener who would like to learn more about the Old Saybrook Garden Club? If so, please call or send an email to osgct@gmail.com. You can also visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/oldsaybrookgardenclub) to learn more about our activities.



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55 North Cove History

Located along the waters of North Cove, The Robert Bull House has long been resting on "the bend in the road". Built about 1700, this charming gambrel style house, once shared its location amongst early wharfs used for fishing, trading and importing cargos of rum, exotic spices and fruits. Today this scenic neighborhood preserves the town's most historic district with its shady lanes of old Sea Captain's and wealthy merchants' residences of yesteryear. Early historic maps show a structure at this spot, as well as a landmark rock that can still be identified at low tide in the waters west of its current dock. The Bull house has had many owners whose names are synonymous with the town such as Chalker, Mather, Ingraham, Kirtland and Pratt. With a long and interesting past, this house has survived major hurricanes, damaging storms, a roof fire, a couple of wars and said to have been a Safe house that harbored fleeing slaves. The longest owner was David Phelps.

He purchased the home in 1851 and it was sold in 1933 by Phelps's daughter. Phelps was "a fisherman by trade, and at his death it was found he had left a sizable estate, which he gleaned from the humble eel and clams in the cove". The house had become somewhat derelict during the depression and sold to Katherine Agnew Talcott who saw its potential. Her deceased husband was a member of the Old Lyme Art Colony and Katherine founded the Old Saybrook Garden Club in 1952. Many additions have been added to the house over the years, the late 1990's, preservation was carefully performed taking nearly 2 years to complete. Modern amenities were skillfully integrated with original period details such as Kings boards, gunstock beams and beaded wooden paneling. The original coffin or funeral Dutch door

with hand forged hardware and hinges still remain and its distinctive rounded dormers, which were probably added about 1740, are very rare. A precious piece of Old Saybrook's past, this home boasts being one of the oldest and most recognizable houses in town.

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Oregon Wines for Summer

Oregon is one of the most famous areas for the production of excellent Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris. The climate is cool, wet and mild in the winter, and dry during the summer growing season. This is crucial for these varieties as the grapes do not do well in high humidity. Willamette Valley, which is unique due to the fact that it resides in both Oregon and Washington, is the most famous region for these 2 varieties.

Oregon Pinot Noir has similar characteristics to Burgundian Pinot Noir from France. This is due to similar weather patterns in both areas, and the close proximity to the ocean. The combination of the climate and the soil give this light bodied grape great depth, while being very approachable for most any palate. Notes of cherry, blackberry and raspberry are com-

mon amongst these soft and dry red wines.

Oregon Pinot Gris, most widely known as Italy's 'Pinot Grigio', is one of the most popular white varieties from this region. Although they are also well known for their Riesling and Chardonnay, Pinot Gris is the most sought after white variety. Pinot Gris shows great complexity with flavors of apricot, peach and citrus fruits, with mild acidity and a crisp finish.

These wines pair beautifully with light meats, seafood, salads and a variety of cheeses. Whether you are simply enjoying light hors d'oeuvres with a close friend or hosting a large get together, these are exceptional wines for this summer... Cheers!

Art Lipuma - General Manager,
SeaSide Wine & Spirits,
Spirits of Madison

Cappella Cantorum Men's Chorus Concert



Cappella Cantorum Men's Chorus Concert will be presented on Sun., Sept. 20, 3:00 pm at The Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center, 300 Main St. Old Saybrook, CT 06475. The concert features Nessun Dorma, Fascinating Rhythm, Standing on the Corner, Gilbert & Sullivan selections and Barbershop and Solos. Tickets at TheKate.org or 877-503-1286 or at the Box Office.

Cappella Cantorum Men's Chorus Concert will be presented on Sun., Sept. 27, 3:00 pm at The Old Lyme Congregational Church on the corner of Ferry Rd. and Lyme St., Old Lyme 06371. The concert features Nessun Dorma, Fascinating Rhythm, Standing on the Corner, Pirates Selections, Barbershop and Solos. Tickets at CappellaCantorum.org or 860-388-2871.

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52nd Annual Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce Arts & Crafts Festival July 25 & 26 - Presented by Liberty Bank



There are certain routines and rituals that occur throughout the year that by their very presence announce the arrival of another season, or perhaps mark the approach of an anticipated event. As the flags are raised along the Main Street median and when the tables and carts are set up in the

parking lot at 210 Main, the Farmer's Market lets us know that summer has arrived. So too when the Town Green bursts to capacity with colorful tents, Old Saybrook is at the height of summer as the annual Arts & Crafts Festival gets underway.

Now in its 52nd year, the Old Saybrook Arts & Crafts Festival, presented by Liberty Bank, is a 2-day celebration of the arts. Ten thousand residents and visitors descend upon the colorfully transformed Town Green every July, traditionally held the last weekend of the month, to appreciate hand-crafted masterpieces and to browse and shop over 145 exhibitors of exceptional fine art and hand crafted work. Artists and crafters represent a vast array of mediums including acrylics, ceramics, pottery, graphics, fiber, mixed media, glass, oils, jewelry, pastels, leather, photography, metal, sculpture, and wood. Exhibitors have told us that they enjoy returning to this

festival in particular because of the warm hospitality, (generally) agreeable weather, and wonderful customers who demonstrate an appreciation for all types of art.

Each year the Arts & Crafts Festival relies on a battalion of volunteers to assist with setting up on the Green, directing visitors, and everyone's favorite job, clean-up. If you would like to be involved with this signature community event please contact the Chamber office at 860-388-3266, or complete the online form on the Chamber website, www.oldsaybrookchamber.com. You'll find that the time you give will be greatly rewarding!

In addition to volunteers, the Festival also relies on monetary donations from "Friends of the Festival".

A "friendship" sponsorship

is \$100." "Friends" have their name, or name of their business printed on the Festival map—thousands of which are distributed throughout town and to visitors on the Green. Nearly 50 businesses and individuals supported the Festival in this way.



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Bask Under the Tuscan Sun

The Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce is offering a nine-day tour of Tuscany this fall, departing November 3rd. Enjoy superb cuisine, wine tasting, and touring with a knowledgeable guide. Stay in the spa resort town of Montecatini, your home for seven nights with no packing and unpacking during this one-hotel holiday. Explore the heart of Tuscany in the city of Florence, visit Pisa, walk the walled city of San Gimignano, sample the wine of Chianti, tour the towns of Siena, Carrara, Portofino, and Venice. These are just some of the many alluring highlights.

“This is truly an amazing opportunity to participate in an international journey to Tuscany where program participants can experience the country’s culture, learn about its business climate, and make new memories,” said Judy Sullivan, Executive Director. Reserve now and pay \$2,499, a savings of \$200 on the package price of \$2,699. Departing from New York on November 3, 2015, the nine-day package includes round trip airfare, 7-night stay in a first class hotel, daily breakfast and four dinners, city tours of Florence and Pisa, and Chianti wine tasting. An optional two night extension to

Rome is available. If you’ve been dreaming of basking under the Tuscan sun, this just may be the trip for you!

View trip details at www.oldsaybrookchamber.com, call us at 860-388-3266 or email karen@oldsaybrookchamber.com.



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Winner of four Tony Awards, including Best Musical, MEMPHIS exploded onto Broadway in 2010, and from August 5-30 this year, it is making the Ivoryton Playhouse Connecticut's hottest destination! Inspired by true events from the underground dance clubs of 1950s Memphis, Tennessee, MEMPHIS follows the fame and forbidden love of a radio DJ who wants to change the world and a club singer who is ready for her big break. Join them on their incredible journey to the ends of the airwaves - filled with laughter, soul and rock 'n' roll! MEMPHIS will leave you feeling exhilarated by its explosive blend of electrifying music, soaring emotion and roof-raising energy. What a way to spend a summer! For tickets and information, visit our website at www.ivorytonplayhouse.org or call the box office at 860-767-7318.



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Edgar Rice Burroughs Bibliophile Convention (aka Dum Dum), August 20-22: a movie marathon; panel discussions; a Comic Con workshop for kids; & a Tarzan yell competition, all open to the public for FREE, at Andrews Memorial Town Hall, 54 East Main Street, Clinton, CT; a banquet at the Clinton Country Club (for a fee) at 6:00pm on August 22nd followed by a Chamber of Commerce fireworks extravaganza at the Clinton Town Beach; August 23rd, Dum Dum Dutch Treat farewell breakfast, also at the Clinton Town Beach.

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World War I Remembered

To commemorate the approaching 100th anniversary of World War One, the Old Saybrook Historical Society is exhibiting selections from its collection of historic posters along with uniforms, weapons, photographs and other military artifacts from that era.

The exhibit features approximately a dozen large and dramatic propaganda posters created by notable artists of that period that were used to support the war effort.



World War I items on display at Gen. Wm. Hart House, on loan from the collection of Bill Temple, shown here.

The military items are on loan from the collection William Temple, of the Essex-Old Saybrook Antiques Center, who developed an interest as a child in World War II items that eventually grew into collecting military artifacts including those from World War I, the Korean Conflict, and Vietnam.

The display is located at the Gen. William Hart House Exhibit Gallery, 350 Main Street, and open to the public without charge through Labor Day on Thursdays from 9:00-12:00. For further information, call 860-395-1635 or visit: saybrookhistory.org

Civil War Encampment

Back by popular demand, members of Company F, 14th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, will turn the Historical Society campus, at 350 Main Street, into a Civil War campsite where knowledgeable and friendly re-enactors will display period objects and demonstrate some of the activities of ordinary soldiers and civilians.



Free, family fun at the Historical Society when members of Company F, 14th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, turn the campus at 350 Main Street into a Civil War campsite, July 11.

This living history event will inform and enthruse young and old alike and is highly recommended for families. This program is provided as a community event and will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2015. Free admission.

Preserving and Protecting

Maintaining the historic Gen. William Hart House is a never-ending responsibility that the Historical Society takes very seriously. A considerable part of the funds raised through public contributions make this possible.



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Another key ingredient is the skill and experience of our new facilities manager, Ed Armstrong who comes to us after 40 years as a Pratt & Whitney engineer and project manager.



His knowledge of technology and hands-on construction proficiency has been put to good use in dealing with numerous projects. Over the past few months this has involved cleaning eight fireplace flues and the old kitchen chimney, installing an oil-burner flue liner, and placing screens on three chimneys.

Other work included sealing the cedar roofs on the Hart House, Archives, and garden shed, repairing entry ways, installing plumbing systems, painting the Hart House exterior, replacing part of the roof and trim around several windows, repairing and painting the front fence, the

storage shed, and the garden irrigation system.

All of this work is done by volunteers or contractors in the last few months. Much of it is costly and has been made possible through the generosity of Historical Society supporters, for which we are grateful.

Growing Friendships

If you ever watered a garden, planted a seed, or pulled a weed you have the needed skills to join a spirited and dedicated band of garden volunteers in our pesticide-free heritage gardens. There are many opportunities to enjoy the process of growing a beautiful public garden and many new friendships will also bloom. To volunteer or for information, call 860-395-1635 and leave a message.



Hart House gardeners welcome volunteers. Photo courtesy of Robert Lorenz

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Old Saybrook Public Health Nursing Board Events



Since 2011, the Old Saybrook Public Health Nursing Board (PHNB) working in collaboration with other local health professionals* formed a dental initiative to improve the dental health/care to Old Saybrook residents who cannot afford to pay for their own dental care. The program has targeted all ages from pre-school children to senior citizens.

Some of what has been accomplished to date:

- From July 2011 through May 2015 the Community Health Center Mobile Dental Program provided 17 Dental Health Clinics (screenings & cleanings) to 165 Clients, 78 were Old Saybrook residents.
- In May of 2011 the initiative established a Dental Fund, with seed money from the PHNB, to help pay for dental Care for needy Old Saybrook Residents. It can be accessed through Old Saybrook Social Service. The fund now receives

public donations. We thank the Old Saybrook Lions Club and Women's Clubs for their generous donations.

- In 2012 a Pro-Bono Dental Service was established. The Initiative professionals recruited four local dentists to provide pro-bono dental care to needy Old Saybrook residents.

Watch the newspapers for Dental Health Clinics coming to town this summer!

Come for a dental screening and cleaning! Insurance accepted, qualified uninsured are free. On-site insurance eligibility screenings available.

Call: Town Nurse, Tina Belmont at 860-271-5683 for more information.

Other Initiative Professionals*: CT River Area Health District, Old Saybrook Social Services, VNASC, Old Saybrook Food Pantry, Cathy Cobb, Nutrition Educator, Community Health Center Dental Program.

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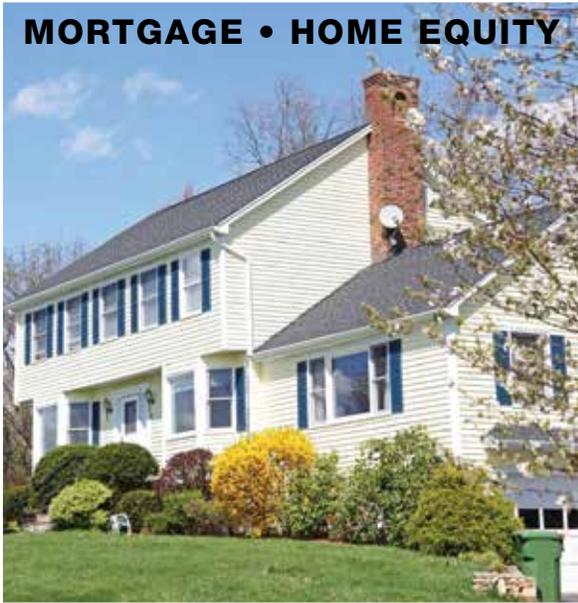
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