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middlesexhospital.org/cancercenter





#### Selectman's Corner

#### **INVESTING IN WESTBROOK'S FUTURE**

I direct your attention to the following initiatives:

- We have provided funding to preserve an important historic landmark to ensure the continued use of the Riggio Building that houses our Youth & Family Services, Emergency Management Operations, Veterans Group, and Fire Department staff. Most of the upgrades have been completed. There will be an open house for our community celebrating this facility and its importance to Westbrook.
- The Town has acquired additional land and now approximately 19% of Westbrook's property is dedicated to Conservation/Open Space.
- The Westbrook Foundation has been very generous and funded many projects that would not have otherwise been possible without their support. A good example is the new playscape and pavilion located adjacent to the Firehouse for our families and their children.
- The Middlesex Hospital Shoreline Medical Center, that began operations approximately three years ago, has increased services and provides 24/7 support to residents in the shoreline area. Presently, they are constructing a cancer treatment center. This facility was at no cost to Westbrook taxpayers and because of its accessibility, we are now able to provide necessary medical services to not only Westbrook, but also area residents.
- Support has been provided to our Fire Department and they

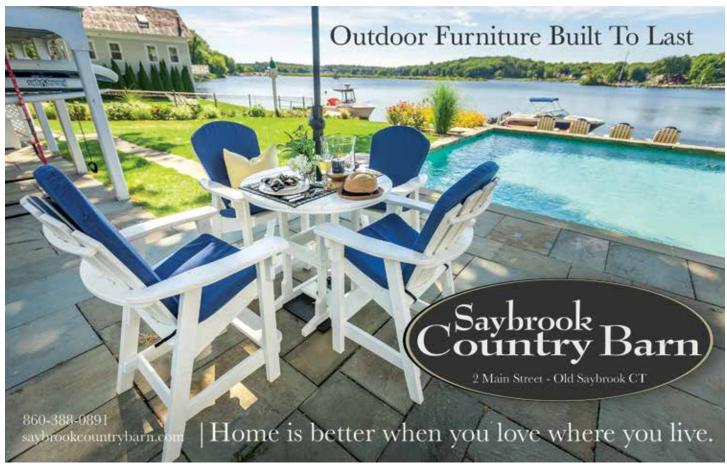
- have purchased 3 new state-of-the -art fire trucks to replace older equipment.
- We have a new train station that was totally funded by the State with no Westbrook tax dollars. The ridership has increased with many individuals now able to commute on a daily basis.
- A new town garage for our Public Works Dept. was needed to properly house Public Works and to provide the space necessary for their staff to perform the many duties requested of them throughout the year.



Noel Bishop, First Selectman

- Funding has been provided for necessary upgrades in our school system including security enhancements and other renovations in their respective physical plants.
- There has been community discussion regarding the use of the tennis courts located at Fiske Lane. Our Public Works Department will be removing the courts and planting grass in this area.
- You will note an "Events" article commenting on the status of our Town Center.

continued on page 3



# events

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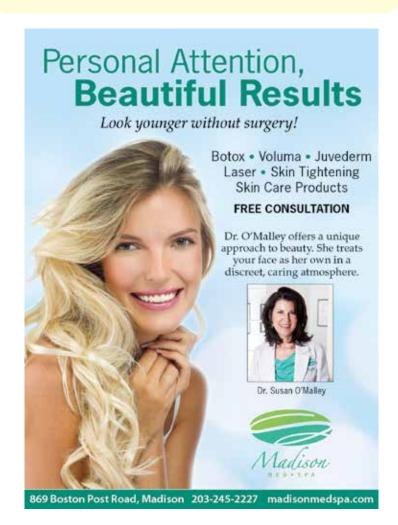
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#### FIRST SELECTMAN'S CORNER...

continued from page 1

The Board of Selectmen has authorized an Ad Hoc Committee to review our municipal IT system, including our webpage.

The committee has submitted a Request for Proposals with the intent that we are redesigning our entire system in order to more effectively communicate with Westbrook residents. Our Energy Committee has recommended that the Town pursue an LED Streetlight conversion project and a solar array field that will result in considerable savings in energy costs.

During the budget process this past year, there were suggestions for capital improvements that have been tabled pending further information from the State regarding potential budget cuts to Westbrook and other municipalities. In the last 3 years, Westbrook has lost \$621,000 in state funding. In a recent communication from the Governor and Office of Policy Management (OPM), it was made clear that that they will no longer "protect aid to municipalities," accordingly, we know that we will not be able to count on further State financial assistance. Thus, our challenge is to continue to make improvements necessary for our residents and at the same time to keep our property taxes as low as possible. Accordingly, we may have to defer or not be able to invest the funds for some necessary infrastructure projects in the near future.

Westbrook is a community that has involved citizens in the decision making for our priorities and opportunities. I wish to thank the hard working municipal employees and the many volunteers who donate thousands of hours of volunteer time every year to enhance the quality of our lives.

Noel Bishop First Selectman

Note: Please see chart on page 4 that documents the specific reductions in state aid to Westbrook in the past three years.

continued on page 3

#### **GOLF CARTS**

Did you know that Golf Carts are not allowed on any town of Westbrook Roads? Our Town Traffic Authority has decided that they are not to be driven on any roads in the town of Westbrook. Yes you can be given a ticket if you are caught. Drive safe and watch for pedestrians.

Thank you, Bonnie Palermo Chair Police Advisory/Traffic Authority Town Of Westbrook



#### FIRST SELECTMAN'S CORNER... continued from page 3

	Reductions in State Aid to Westbrook				
REVENUE DESCRIPTION	Last Three Years				
	FY	FY	FY	FY	Change
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2017-18 vs 2014-15
Educational Cost Sharing	397,619	440,916	70,393	0	-\$397,619.00
Adult Education	1,744	1,843	1,564	1,211	-\$533.00
Public School Transportation	5,592	5,506	0	0	-\$5,592.00
State Owned Property	30,313	0	0	0	-\$30,313.00
Pequot State Property	18,947	18,216	10,683	0	-\$18,947.00
Relief for the Elderly	46,932	48,463	48,000	48,000	\$1,068.00
Tax Disability Exemption	724	550	550	550	-\$174.00
Veterans Exemption	13,343	16,245	16,000	16,000	\$2,657.00
Grants for Municipal Projects	251,494	267,405	267,405	0	-\$251,494.00
Town Aid Road	216,968	216,813	216,780	216,780	-\$188.00
LoCIP	0	0	0	77,661	\$77,661.00
Municipal Revenue Sharing	0	0	80,601	0	\$0.00
Health - Lead Prevention Grant	0	6,964	0	5,340	\$5,340.00
Telecommunications Tax	26,260	26,200	26,000	26,000	-\$260.00
Health Emergency Preparedness	0	0	5,022	5,022	\$5,022.00
Public Health Service Program	0	1,284	1,713	1,713	\$1,713.00
State Motor Vehicle Fines	10,093	10,600	10,000	10,000	-\$93.00
Miscellaneous State Grants	9,314	2,002	5,000	3,500	-\$5,814.00
DUI Enforcement	3,244	8,883	0	0	-\$3,244.00
Total State Aid	\$1,032,587.00	\$1,071,890.00	\$759,711.00	\$411,777.00	(\$620,810.00)



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#### From the Tax Office

The Westbrook Tax office would like to remind you of several important issues. July has come and gone. Remember we do not rebill for the January payment.

If you can't make it into the office to pay you can always mail your payment in to 866 Boston Post Road, Westbrook or online at www.westbrookct.us. Credit cards are accepted with a fee of 2.5% for credit cards, \$3.95 for a visa debit card and \$2.00 for e-check.

Reminder - If you would like a receipt when paying your tax bill please bring your entire bill with you. If mailing please provide the entire bill and a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Traffic tickets - Please be advised that you only have 10 days from issuance of a traffic ticket to pay or the fine is doubled. Payment for traffic tickets can only be paid by cash or check and cannot be paid on line.

Property Assessment- The time to dispute your assessment is in the month of March. Applications must be received by the Board of Assessment Appeal no later than February 20th. Postmark is accepted.



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CHECK YOUR CAR REGISTRATION. With the issues that DMV has been having some renewal registrations have not been mailed. Please check your registrations to make sure it has not expired. If your vehicle has an outdated registration please go to the DMV to renew your registration immediately.

If you should have any questions or concerns about your tax bills, please do not hesitate to contact the Tax office at 860-399-3043.

Tax Collector Kimberly Bratz, CCMC

#### Westbrook Energy Committee Leads Cost-Cutting Efforts

The Town's Energy Committee, composed of employees and citizen volunteers, has recently embarked on two important projects to reduce energy consumption and generate renewable power, with the combined goal of further cutting our cost of electricity. Energy costs, including natural gas, fuel oil and electricity are the second largest expenditure category in the Town's budget after personnel.

The first project, on which bids were received in mid-August, is to switch out our 523 high pressure sodium streetlights to LEDs, reducing both power costs and maintenance charges from Eversource, as Old Saybrook, Madison and other neighboring towns have done. If the Town proceeds, the next steps will be to confirm the existing inventory of streetlights and to erect demonstration LED lights for citizens to evaluate. After the Town purchases the existing fixtures from Eversource, the contractor's crew will be swapping out the fixtures, and the entire process may take up to a year.

The second project area is to solicit proposals from developers that would, among others: a) generate power from solar arrays on Town buildings and properties (supplementing the three solar arrays already on the High School); b) consider the installation of a fuel cell to generate power; and c) explore creation of a micro-grid to serve school or municipal buildings. Qualified projects may be able to participate in the State's ZREC auctions, which enable generation of Renewable Energy Credits, further reducing the cost of power from such projects. Westbrook has engaged Murtha Cullina and Solomon Energy in this endeavor, and two meetings leading to creation of a Request For Proposals were held in August.

Town residents who would like to join the Energy Committee in helping keep taxes down through these and other efforts should contact Chris Ehlert at cehlert01@comcast.net.



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#### **Westbrook Board of Education**

It is hard to believe that another summer has come and gone. Our schools are open and the 2017 - 2018 school year is well underway. Much was accomplished during the summer on projects that have been part of our 5 year long-term capital improvement plan. In fact, several long term projects have been completed (window replacements and redesign, parking lot and roadway repaving, gymnasium safety upgrades and middle school second floor air conditioning). At this time, there are no capital improvement projects for the next 3 years on the long-range planning agenda. Of course, our meticulous routine facilities maintenance; keeping our schools in tip-top shape for the start of our school year, enabled us to start our school year with all classrooms and other school facilities renewed. Despite an act of nature (lightning strike), which damaged an electrical control panel and a transformer, the incident was deemed covered by school district liability insurance and repairs have been completed without school district or town budget dollars. In all, students and staff have returned and enjoyed a successful start to a new school year.

Interestingly, school district personnel who volunteered to work with Westbrook Council of Beaches volunteers piloted a summer feeding program. During the month of July, healthy, bagged lunches and snacks were produced by the school kitchen in Deep River, CT and shuttled to Westbrook's Daisy Ingraham Elementary School every Monday through Thursday in July. Lunches were distributed each day from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. The bagged

lunches were available to any child under the age of 18 with no questions asked. Simply put, the program, which is encouraged by End Hunger CT and No Kid Hungry, CT, is operated differently and provides meals without verification of free or reduced lunch status of families. Meals prepared by federally qualified school kitchens are reimbursed by the federal government. In our program, the bagged lunches that were produced by the Deep River Elementary School kitchen were eligible for reimbursed expenses by the federal government.

We are happy with the results of the pilot year. On many days, we served lunches in the double digits, which is unusual for a meal site with a first-time designation. In Westbrook, the summer meal program was never an option. Thanks to the volunteer efforts of school personnel and Council of Beaches members, program operators have praised the pilot feeding program as a success and an even bigger success for its first year. Other school districts known to us as participating summer meal sites reported fewer meals served in their first year of operations. The Westbrook school district has pledged to continue the summer meal site program in July of 2018. It is our hope to continue the program's growth and Westbrook's status as a shoreline meal site. Kudos to the Westbrook school district volunteers, the Council of Beaches and our collaborators in Deep River all of whom believe the adage, "... a peaceful world cannot long exist, one-third rich and two-thirds hungry."

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#### **Emergency Management**

#### **Tropical Storm / Hurricane Preparedness**

The Town of Westbrook and the entire southern New England region encounter the highest probability of a tropical storm or hurricane annually from August 15th through November. We want to ensure you have the resources to be prepared. As noted with the past Tropical Storms (Irene and Sandy), each storm caused damage for many residents and forced wires down resulting in no power for 4-8 days. When electricity is disrupted you will lose TV, telephone and Internet services. With severe damage, cell sites can also experience disruption too. Tropical Storms produce sustained winds of 39-73 mph. Hurricanes wind speeds range from 74 to over 155 mph. Along with dangerous winds, these types of storms will produce heavy, long periods of rain and storm surge damage to the coastline. Preparedness actions, before the storm on your part include:

#### Appropriate Disaster Plan and Disaster Kit 5-7 Days of Supplies

The Emergency Management Depart-

ment recommends every family to have an appropriate Disaster Plan in place that includes you leaving your residence and temporarily relocating. Storm surge and flooding is common for residents located along Boston Post Road (and all roads south) including the adjacent areas near the Menunketesuck River, Jensens / Green Acres mobile home parks and portions of Spencer Plains Road. In other areas of the town, residents need to be aware of falling trees and power lines due to the extreme winds. Emergency services (Police-Fire-Ambulance) are suspended when sustained winds are 45 mph or greater. We recommend you have a plan in place to evacuate 12-24 hours prior to the storm's arrival; going to family, friends or consider staying at a local hotel north of Westbrook. If you have no other option, Westbrook or other towns will open a pre-storm disaster shelter. Shelter locations are announced via news media, social media and 211 Info-Line. All Connecticut disaster shelters are welcome to anyone regardless of your

mailing address. After the storm has passed and when it's safe, residents can return to their home. If needed, Westbrook will open a post storm disaster shelter.

Disaster Kits are essential to your survival when there is no power for more than 24 hours. Everyone needs to have an appropriate kit that contains suitable food, water, along with other important items (medication, infant supplies) to last at least 5-7 days. Disaster Kits are not just for weather events throughout the year. They can be used for other disaster events that can affect Westbrook.

#### **Town Notifications**

Westbrook Emergency Management works closely with State and Federal agencies, including the National Weather Service when a storm is forecast to impact our area. We highly recommend you follow our website and social media sites on Facebook or Twitter.

continued on page 10



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the Affiliated Arts (NADAA).



#### Emergency Management... continued from page 9

These sites are uploaded regularly with Westbrook preparedness, warnings and post storm restoration information.

In extreme circumstances with life and safety concerns, we can notify you via the CT ALERT System, with brief, concise information commonly called 'Reverse 911.' You can receive this information by registering your cell phone (voice/text) and/or email. Go to our website, following the link to CT ALERT. If you information has changed, please update the information at this time. If you have a home telephone, your information is automatically uploaded into our system. After a disaster you could receive updated information from us. It's important to listen to these messages when they are broadcasted.

#### Where Do I Get More Information?

The Westbrook Emergency Management website, www.westbrookem.com will provide you with complete information on disaster preparedness topics. The site also includes topics on disaster shelters, contacting Eversource, generators, food safety, pets, elderly, special needs and more. The website is outfitted with videos and written material. Options also include viewing the web site in different languages.

We don't have the power to stop a weather related event; however you have resources to become resilient, which will help you and your family. By following our recommendations, you will be prepared for almost any disaster that can affect the Town of Westbrook throughout the year.

Donald Izzo Emergency Management Director

#### TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Mon., Wed., Sat. 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Phone: 860-399-6356

TOWN GARAGE 185 Horse Hill Road, I-95 Exit 64 860-552-4496

#### **Registrars of Voters**

Voter registration applications may be obtained from the Registrar of Voters during regular office hours on Tuesday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm and Thursday from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Registration forms are also on the table outside our office door whenever town hall is open. Completed forms may be mailed or dropped off into the mail slot near the door. New applications or changes to be made on the Active List may also be processed online through the Secretary of the State's Website (www.ct.gov/sots/site/default.asp).

A reminder to all registered voters: Please inform the Registrars if you have made any change of name, address, telephone number, or want to change your party affiliation. It is important that we have your most current information for our records so that your right to vote is not compromised. Any registered eligible voter, if unable to vote in person, may vote by absentee ballot for one of the following reasons: 1) absence from the town during all hours of voting, 2) illness, 3) physical disability, 4) active service in the U.S.

armed forces, 5) religious tenets which forbid secular activity on day of election, primary, or referendum, 6) service as an election official at a polling place other than the official's place of voting during all hours of voting. Absentee ballots are available beginning on the 31st day before an election and the 21st day before a primary, upon application properly made to Municipal Clerk, either in person or by mail. Be prepared to vote on November 7, 2017 at the Municipal Election.

#### CT's Adoption of the FDA Food Code

This past 2017 legislative session brought about many changes for Connecticut's Public Health regulations. Included is the passing of Senate Bill-901, now Public Act (PA) 17-93, which allowed for the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) to adopt the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) 2013 Food Code as the state's food code for regulating food establishments. PA 17-93 goes into effect on July 1st, 2018 and repeals statutory provisions that have required the CT DPH to regulate food establishments under the CT Public Health Code. The adoption of the FDA food code was supported by many federal, state, and local health officials as well as the Connecticut Restaurant Association, representing more than 600 restaurants across the state.

Proponents of the bill stated that adopting the FDA Food Code would provide a uniform standard for food safety, inspection

criteria, and reflects the latest findings in food science, which can overall reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses. A major change that will be implemented includes the modification of holding temperature requirements. Currently and until July 1st, 2018, the CT Food Code requires potentially hazardous foods (which include but are not limited to foods of animal origin, cooked foods of plant origin, garlic in oil, cut melons, raw sprouts, etc.) to be cold held at 45°F or lower and hot held at 140°F or higher, however the newly acquired FDA Food Code requires potentially hazardous food be cold held at 41°F or lower and hot held at 135°F or higher. Furthermore, currently certified food inspectors in CT will undergo more rigorous training to enforce the FDA Food Code. For more information on the FDA Food Code that will be implemented in Connecticut on July 1st, 2018, visit www.fda.gov.

#### How to Reach Your Elected Officials

STATE

Governor Dannel P. Malloy State Capitol Building, Room 200 Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 566-4840 – (800)406-1527 Fax (860)524-7396 Governor.Malloy@po.state.ct.us

LT Governor Nancy Wyman State Capitol Building, Room 304 Hartford, CT 06106 860-524-7384, Fax (860) 524-7304 Itgovernor.wyman@ct.gov

Secretary of the State Denise Merrill 30 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 509-6000 Fax (860) 509-6209 http://www.sots.state.ct.us/

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Attorney General George Jepsen 55 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106 (860)808-5318 Fax (860) 808-5387 http://www.cslib.org/attygenl/

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devin.carney@housegop.ct.gov

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#### **Westbrook Youth & Family Services**

#### **COUNSELING SERVICES**

WYFS provides support and therapy for individuals, families and couples. Our therapists help strengthen family functioning, and support children and families working through life's challenges, including emotional and behavioral issues, stress, anxiety, grief, depression, trauma, peer issues and life transitions. Call 860-399-9239 for an appointment.

#### SO MUCH TO OFFER WESTBROOK FAMILIES AND SURROUNDING TOWNS THIS FALL!

**New This Fall! Cool Cats** - Ages 9-12 learn how to be cool, calm, and confident! 8 Tuesdays 6-7 pm starting Oct 10th.

**Balancing Act:** Adolescents through on-going 6 month group learn DBT Skills Wednesdays 5-6pm starting Nov 1st.

**School Groups** - With WPS's support, we offer structured peer groups at each of the schools. Our school groups focus on enhancing executive functioning skills which support all students with planning, organizing, and completing tasks. Each group will be following a theme to deliver engaging activities and games.

Themes Include: Inside Out, Bucket Filler, Force Awakens, Super Heroes, Game of Life, and Friend Vs Foe. Visit our website for more information and how to sign up!

**Globetrotters** @Daisy and Middle School: Westbrook students new to this country connect with fellow peers through games and peer-led discussions.

**Helping Hands:** High School students find ways to give back to their community! Meets first Wednesday of the month, 6 pm.

**Parent Exchange:** On the Last Thursday of every month, 6-7:30 pm, @Valley Shore YMCA single parents have an opportunity to build a network of support. We provide FREE dinner and YMCA provides FREE Childcare!

What Makes My Life Grand is Thursday October 19th! Bring your sweet Grandparent or favorite senior buddy for a night of dinner and crafts!

Like us on Facebook!

# For Town Updates & Information: www.westbrookct.us

# LAWN CARE SERVICES

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B# 1997 Commercial and Residential

# Westbrook Garden Club - Grow with Us!

At our June Supper, Executive elections were held. Thank you to outgoing officers Mindy Gordon and Charlotte Parisi and a warm welcome to our new Executive Board: Nancy Cyr President, Ali Shlien Vice President, Penny Sisk Treasurer, and Rachel McNellis Secretary. We also presented Christopher Tragakes with a \$1000 scholarship. A graduate of Westbrook High School, Chris is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Environmental Horticulture at Colorado State University. We wish him great success.

We have some exciting public programs planned for this Autumn. On September 26th Barbara Scala will present "Organic and Edible Gardening by the Shoreline." On October 24th Dr. Richard Benfield will present "Great Botanic Gardens Around the World." Programs are held in the Westbrook Library Community Room and start at 7:00 pm. They are free to the public and light refreshments are served. We hope to see you there.

Our Club's annual Mum Market is on September 9th from 9:00 - 1:00 on the Town Green. We hope you will stop by and support our community by purchasing our beautiful 9" mums in assorted of colors. Also for sale are lovely dried flower arrangements and chances to our always popular Westbrook Merchants Raffle Basket. Pre-orders should also be picked up during this time. Proceeds from the sale fund our Scholarship program, Town Beautification projects and Holiday flower arrangements for the Senior Center.

September through November are great months in the garden. It's time to plant bulbs for next spring and enjoy the many perennials blooming during this time like Aster, Helianthus, Rudbeckia and Ornamental Grasses.

The Westbrook Garden Club is looking for new members. We meet the fourth Tuesday of most months at 6:00 pm in the Library Community Room. You can contact us at Westbrookgardenclub@yahoo.com.

#### **TOWN HALL HOURS**

Mon – Wed: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Thursday: 9:00 am – 7:00 pm Friday: 9:00 am – noon

#### TOWN HALL CLOSED

Columbus Day October 9th Veterans Day November 10th Thanksgiving Holiday November 23rd -November 24th



Thomas Brady, DMD is happy to announce that John Johnson, DDS and Daniel Nasser, DMD have joined his practice.

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9 Town Transit is Operated by the Estuary Transit District

#### **Town Center Progress Update**

By the date of this publication, work on Phase I of the Town Center Parking Project should be nearing completion. A total of 30 new parking spaces were created in the new parking lot and the removal of the "bumpouts" at the Green. Surrounding businesses have already attributed increased business to the added parking.

In early August, the Town executed an agreement with Key Bank for a temporary construction easement to make the connection between the Town parking lot and the bank parking lot. The next step will be to negotiate a shared access agreement to use the bank driveway as the main entrance to the municipal parking lot. This is the first step in a plan that will eliminate the J-hook intersection and develop shared parking areas that will serve most, if not all of the future parking needs for the Town Center.

#### Other efforts underway:

• Development of a mural concept for the side of the Turtle Café building. The proposed mural design and easement

agreement with the property owner will be presented to the Board of Selectmen for possible forwarding to a Town Meeting.

- Submission of a grant application to complete the sidewalk network in the Town Center core with new sidewalk from the train station to the Town Green and between Golf Links and Trolley Roads.
- Collaboration with the Water Pollution Control Commission to explore wastewater solutions for the Town Center that will allow existing buildings and uses to upgrade or expand. Uses are currently limited because of inadequate septic systems.

The TCRC/EDC would also like to acknowledge and express their appreciation for the great work of the Garden Club in providing and maintaining the white window boxes and planters in the Town Center. It's a small touch with a big impact!

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#### **2017 Personal Property Declaration**

This is notification that the Business Personal Property Declaration for the 2017 Grand List must be filed and received by the Assessor's Office on or before November 1st, 2017. The forms will be mailed in September.

All business owners of taxable personal property are required to file declarations of personal property with the Town Assessor where the property is located on the Assessment Date of October 1st, or where the property has established situs in accordance with the 'three month' rule.

Property owners must file a Declaration of Personal Property regarding their taxable personal property with the Westbrook Assessor on or before November 1st, 2017.

Motor vehicles registered in another state and unregistered motor vehicles, including campers, must be reported if they are garaged in a city or town in this state, pursuant to \$12-71b(g).

If you have questions please call the Assessor's Office at 860-399-3016 between 9 am and 4 pm Monday through Wednesday, 9 am and 7 pm on Thursday and 9 am to noon on Friday.

#### **Welcome to the Building Department**

David W Maiden, Building Official dmaiden@westbrookct.us

The town of Westbrook is proud to announce the adoption of Municity 5, a new cloud-based, permitting software application. Using cloud-computing allows for unlimited document storage with immediate retrieval from anywhere there's an internet connection. Over the next quarter Municity 5 will be opened to homeowners and contractors allowing them to apply for permits, submit documents, pay permit fees and track permit status and inspections online. This will be phased in over time starting with mechanical permits within the next 30 days.

Our goal in implementing this software is to modernize our permitting process and to allow users to access an online account similar to other online services used every day by consumers. When the "public portal" is launched, a notice will go out in the local newspaper as well as an announcement posted on the Town webpage with instructions on accessing the site. We are excited to offer this service to our Town and look forward to implementing this upgrade as part of our improved customer service commitment.

This software will also allow for search of parcels by owner name, address, or parcel number. You will then be able to view the same parcel information that you are currently able to access through the assessor's data base with additional information such as flood zone, elevations and other topographical information.

#### WESTBROOK GARDEN CLUB

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#### **Water Pollution Control Commission**

Connecticut Nemo and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) are conducting regional meetings to update municipalities on the status of nitrogen pollution in Long Island Sound and to unveil Connecticut's 2nd generation nitrogen pollution strategy. Federal and State Programs have focused on reducing nitrogen from point sources such as waste water treatment plants. Findings indicate that non-point sources (i.e. septic systems and storm water runoff) are a significant source of pollution to Long Island Sound and its embayments. The DEEP has made significant strides in upgrades to wastewater treatment plants and is now outlining a new approach forward which continues to upgrade wastewater treatment plants but will also focus on storm water management and coastal embayments.

UConn Professor Dr. Jamie Vaudrey has researched nitrogen pollution in Long Island Sound embayments and her results are available on the nemo website. You may view her webinar and explore the embayments she has studied. I was able to look at the data collected for Westbrook's coastal embayments; the Menunketesuck and the Patchaug. It was no surprise that the major contributing factor to nitrogen pollution in our area is septic systems. She estimated that 53% of the total nitrogen load on the Patchaug embayment is from septic systems. The per-

centage of nitrogen pollution from fertilizers is approximately 19%; atmospheric deposition to the watershed is approximately 23%; and atmospheric deposition to the embayment is 4%.

This research gives communities the tools and knowledge to plan where to concentrate efforts to reduce nitrogen pollution for their embayments. Several ways you may make a difference is by pumping out your septic system every 3 to 5 years. Use fertilizers sparingly and follow the manufacturer's directions. If you live next to a waterbody, plant vegetative buffers to minimize storm water runoff. For more information and to view the webinars go to http://nemo.uconn.edu/tools/nitrogen/index.htm.

What is Westbrook doing to address nitrogen pollution? The WPCC and Health Department are proactively implementing the 5 year pump out program. Also, the proposed ordinance for the "Regulation of On-site Septic Systems" is more stringent than the Public Health Code when it comes to B100a applications. The commission is also discussing and exploring research on passive nitrogen reduction technology for on-site septic systems and how this could be used in the town's wastewater management plan.

#### **Successful Summer on Our Barrier Islands**

Friends of the Westbrook Barrier Islands is an organization concerned with both protecting island wildlife habitat and ensuring proper island use by visitors. This group has had a successful year educating both residents and visitors to the importance of protecting the fragile ecosystem used by various shorebirds. Many folks don't realize how important our barrier islands are. Salt Island,

Menunketesuck, and Duck Island are important nesting sites for birds such as oyster catchers, terns, herons, egrets, ibises, ducks, and black backed gulls. This year oyster catchers and terns nested in Salt Island's fragile ground vegetation while visitors explored this unique near-shore habitat. Ensuring the island remains an attractive destination for birds and people is challenging and rewarding.

There are many ways to help; such as being an Island Keeper, Shore Bird Educator, Boat Operator, Boat Observer, and Salt Island Visitor Services speaker at Water's Edge. If you are interested in helping make a significant environmental impact, please contact Rachel McNellis at rem1949@hotmail.com to obtain more information.

#### The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries is an interfaith service that provides food and fellowship to those in need and educates our community on hunger and poverty. We recognize that we all end up needing food and fellowship at some point in our lives and that empathy makes us committed to being here for you with open arms and hearts.

#### **LOCATION OF FOOD PANTRY**

St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church, 222 McVeagh Road, Westbrook Tuesdays 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

#### **News from Westbrook Public Library**

As we roll into the new school year, we remind students to bring back their summer reading books. Prompt returns save us a lot of work and are much appreciated. We hope you enjoyed lots of good reading over the summer.

Preschool story hours for youngsters age 3 and up begin again on Wednesdays in October and with a couple of breaks carry through May. Contact Children's Librarian Mary Nyman to register a child for story hour.

With many households switching to cell phones, we don't always have a current phone number to make contact when necessary. If you have changed numbers, please let us know. If you want, you can also give us an email address as an alternative contact.

During the summer we have seen an increase in the use of library online and electronic services. Use of Overdrive e-books and audiobooks is rising. More folks are trying out the e-magazines on Zinio. Both Overdrive and Zinio are found on the library's online catalog at lioninc.org. The library website offers free access to career and practice tests at Learning Express, resume and skill building exercises at Job Now, a variety of resources at World Book Encyclopedia Online, and lots of foreign and English language instruction at Mango Languages. These resources can be accessed at home or in the library. Ancestry.com is available

on the library computers. The Connecticut State Library provides access to a wealth of newspaper, periodical, and research material online at researchITCT.org and a listing of materials held in public libraries and college libraries in Connecticut can be found at findITCT.org.

The interlibrary delivery service provided by the Connecticut State Library has come back after a brief hiatus in July to reorganize. Interlibrary loan and returning items are moving once more. The limit on individual patron-placed holds remains at 5 and many libraries continue to restrict interlibrary loans on items newer than 6 months. However, because of the 6 month limit more new items are available on library shelves.

We learned the sad news that noted novelist and historian Tom Fleming passed away in July. Tom and his wife Alice summered in their cottage on Magna Lane for many years. We are fortunate and very grateful that Tom's family requested that memorial donations be made to the Friends of the Westbrook Public Library.

The Westbrook Public Library is at 61 Goodspeed Drive next to Daisy Ingraham School. Our phone number is 860 399-6422 and our e-mail is westbrook.public.lib@snet.net. Our web address is westbrooklibrary.lioninc.org.



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#### "Beaver" Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission

Beavers are fascinating animals, inspiring wonder when we examine their ecology, adaptations and the role they play as a keystone species in creating a diversity of wetland habitats across the Connecticut landscape. However, beaver activity can also cause property damage and economic loss, jeopardize other rare natural resources and create public health and safety concerns.

Landowners and others sustaining damage need to have flexibility and choice in dealing with beaver problems. A combination of factors, including the individual landowner's attitude, site characteristics, the severity of damage being sustained, off-site impacts and other natural resource values, should be considered when deciding what option or options are best suited to resolve a particular nuisance beaver problem. The annual trapping of a limited number of beavers will prolong the life of a colony and the associated benefits, while minimizing potential human/beaver conflicts. Protective fencing can be employed if tree cutting is a problem. A water level control device can be installed at a road culvert if site factors are favorable and periodic maintenance is practical. If the presence of beavers is not acceptable, trapping can be conducted during the regulated season.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Wildlife Division seeks to manage a

healthy, well-distributed beaver population in suitable habitat throughout Connecticut, while minimizing potential human conflicts. By providing resource information and management options through publications, presentations and individual technical assistance, either by phone or through on-site inspections, the Wildlife Division hopes the public will have a better understanding of the options available for resolving human/beaver conflicts. While the Division will continue to use and promote a variety of solutions for site specific problems, the regulated beaver trapping season will remain a key management tool. Trapping is the only technique that limits the growth of the beaver population in a landscape with limited biological and cultural carrying capacity.

If you have a beaver complaint or would like more information on controlling beaver damage, contact the CT DEEP Wildlife Division nearest you:
CT DEEP Easter District Headquarters
209 Hebron Road
Marlborough, CT 06447

(860) 675-8130

(Information retrieved from the CT DEEP publication Beavers in Connecticut) http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/wildlife/pdf\_files/habitat/beaverct.pdf

#### **Westbrook Recreation Department**

Fall is right around the corner and we are very busy with registrations in all our programs. From tots to seniors, we have programs that will interest everyone and all ages. These are some examples of our very popular programs. Our K-4 Karate program has children practicing twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays after school at the Daisy Elementary School. Badminton is another very special program that everyone enjoys on Saturday mornings at Daisy in November. Our Middle School / After Care program is another favorite of parents. Parents love that the staff helps their children get all their homework done before they get them home. Space is limited with many of our programs so get on line soon and register.

**Soccer** is the sports program everyone loves doing during the fall months. We always have a large number of children participating in our **Tot and Recreational soccer program** on Saturday mornings. Children between the ages of 4-10 years of age are welcomed. This year we will also have the **Connecticut Rush Soccer Academy** doing a weekday program on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:00 pm.

Sessions will focus on individual and small group play. Children will receive more touches on the ball and develop better foot skills in a fun environment. Children must be between the ages of 6 - 13 years old for Connecticut Rush.

After soccer is over we will jump right into our recreational youth Badminton, which starts on November 4th and will run for five weeks. Children between the ages of 5-13 years old are all welcome to register. Your children will love playing with their friends as we teach them how to serve, set and spike. (Sometimes we even let the parents play against their child.)

Our after/school child care program at the Middle School is also available to busy parents who can't to pick-up their children until after work. Your child will be in a safe and well supervised environment where they can study, do their homework and play with their friends. The cost is less than \$ 10.00 per day if you sign-up by the month for \$ 200.00. It will be \$ 15.00 a day if you wish to sign up for a day or two. All children must be registered to participate in this program. Please call us at 860-399-3095 if you have any questions?

Adults and seniors will find quite a few new fitness programs that are reasonably priced. We have Pilates, Yoga, Zumba and Chair Fitness programs available. Some programs are done after 5:00 pm so people don't have to rush over from work. The senior fitness programs are done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:30 – 10:30 am. You can sign up for one day, two days or all three.

If you're interested in finding out more about all our other programs, please check us out at westbrookrec.com. All are programs are available to everyone (resident and nonresidents). Why pay expensive membership fees when you can pay as you go and stop whenever you want.

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## WESTBROOK Community Listings

IMPORTANT TOWN HALL NUMBERS	
	(960) 200 2009
Accounts Payable.	
Animal Control Officer	
Assessor	, ,
Assessor Clerk	. ,
Building Official	(860) 399-2035
Emergency Management	(860) 577-0622
Emergency Management website www	.westbrookem.com
Environmental Health	(860) 399-3018
Finance Director	(860) 399-3004
Finance Director / Assistant	(860)399-1235
Fire Department / Business calls	(860) 399-9492
Fire Marshal Office / Business calls.	(860) 552-4496
Harbor Master	(860) 399-2477
Health Director.	, ,
Inland Wetland Enforcement	
Transfer Station	
Land Use - Planning/Zoning/IWWC Admin. Asst	
3 3	, ,
Land Use - Building/Health Dept. Admin. Asst	
Probate Court	
Recreation	
Registrar of Voters	
Selectman's Office	. ,
Senior Center Director	(860) 399-3048
Social Services	(860) 399-3090
Tax Collector	(860) 399-3043
Town Clerk	(860) 399-3044
Town Garage	(860) 552-4496
Town Planner	(860) 399-3201
Town Web sitew	ww.westbrookct.us
Treasurer	(860) 399-3040
Westbrook Senior Center	(860) 399-2029
Zoning Enforcement	(860) 399-3041
SCHOOLS	
Daisy Ingraham Elementary School	(860) 399-7025
Junior-Senior High School	(860) 399-6214
Middle School	(860) 399-2010
Superintendent of Schools	(860) 399-6432
·	
HOME HEALTH CARE	
Visiting Nurses of Westbrook	(860) 399-3088
Ambulance & Oxygen Business Calls	
Timbulance a 5.19gen business cans i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	(666) 555 7666
POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Resident Trooper	(860) 399-7304
State Trooper	
state mooper	(000) 333 2100
LIBRARY	
Westbrook Public Library	(860) 399-6422
Westbrook Library	(000) 377 0422
USEFUL NUMBERS	
9 Town Transit	(860) 510-0429
Community Foundation of Middlesex County	
·	
First Congregational Church of Westbrook.	
Garden Clubwestbrookgarde	
Historical Society	
Westbrook Youth & Family Services.	
St. Mark's	
St. Paul's Episcopal Church	(860) 399-5402

#### The American Legion, Anderson-Hoxsie Post 103

2017-18 Westbrook Post 103 Officers

Commander: Thomas Cote

Sr. Vice Commander: Robert Kareliussen

Jr. Vice Commander: Tami Morgan

Adjutant/Finance Officer: Frazier Brinley

Chaplain: Mark Bennett Sgt-At-Arms: Jack Dempsey

2017 Oratorical Contest Winners

(1st: \$1000 & 2nd: \$500)

1st Place - Katelyn Wallace

2nd Place - Katherine Dahl

Girls' State Delegate: Samantha Cates

Boys' State Delegate: None State Police Youth Week: None 2017 Scholarship Winners - \$1000.00 each

Seniors at Westbrook HS:

Alyssa Lee Miller & Adara Bochanis

**College Student:** Amy Faith Sparaco (Bryant College)

**NEWEST MEMBER:** 

Joseph Covey (WWII Veteran)

Meetings are held on the 4th Monday, 7 pm at the Westbrook Library Community Room. Post does not meet

during the summer or holidays.

Contact Frazier Brinley 860-669-0336 if you have a meeting question.

Post 103 Oratorical Contest / Tentative: Monday, January 22,

Westbrook High School, 6:30 pm.

7th District, Middlesex County, Will meet at the Westbrook

Community Room on Feb. 8, 7 pm.

7th District Oratorical Contest will be Saturday, Feb. 10, 1

pm. Snow Date: Sunday

#### **Westbrook Senior Center**

Upcoming Speakers/Special Programs: Sept 13th - Cooking Solo: Nutritious and Easy Cooking for One or Two. Join us to learn how to cook easy, budget friendly and nutritious meals for one or two with a cooking presentation and tasting. Presented by Alisha Guilino, Registered Dietician and Jason Kosky-Chef.

10/19 "Who Makes My Life Grand" - Intergenerational Program Celebrating Grandparents.

10/26 Community Music School presents "New Horizon Band" (all musicians are 60 and over)!

**10/31/17 Halloween Breakfast** (Costumes encouraged!)

11/9/17 Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon

- RSVP by 11/2/17

12/4/17-12/8/17 Annual Holiday Bazaar 12/14/17 Annual Christmas Brunch -

RSVP by 12/7/17

For program information and to RSVP

for programs please call 860-399-3048. The goal of the Westbrook Senior Center is to improve the quality of life for the Senior citizens of Westbrook and our neighboring shoreline towns. The senior center welcomes citizens 60 years of age or older

to participate in our many daily activities directed by staff and volunteers. The goal of these programs is to promote the physical and mental well-being of our senior community. To see our scheduled calendar of events and upcoming special events, please come down to the center Monday-Friday or visit us on the town website www.westbrookct.us.

We look forward to seeing you. Courtney Burks, Director

#### **Middlesex Hospital to Expand Cancer Services**

Getting the best possible care close to home is essential for people fighting cancer. Middlesex Hospital recognizes this and is expanding the cancer services it currently offers.

This fall, a new, state-of-the-art Cancer Center will open at the Shoreline Medical Center in Westbrook. Medical oncology, infusion, radiation therapy and all the extra services that are available in Middletown will also be available in Westbrook. The difference: the new center will mean easier access to care for patients who live in Connecticut shoreline towns. Cancer

treatments can sometimes make patients tired or nauseous, and it can be difficult for them to travel. The center will make their lives, and those who support them, a little easier.

Middlesex Hospital is known for its expert and dedicated staff. Highly skilled medical professionals treat patients like people - not numbers. They focus on providing a compassionate, personalized treatment experience, and specially trained advance practice nurse navigators guide patients through the treatment and rehabilitation process. This is the same high-quality care that patients

will receive at the new cancer center in Westbrook. Additionally, Middlesex Hospital is a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network. Middlesex Hospital has been collaborating with the Mayo Clinic for more than a year and is using its resources to tackle patients' most complicated medical

cases in a variety of areas, such as cancer care, pulmonary medicine and urology, among others. Like the Cancer Center in Middletown, the center in Westbrook will use the latest technology to diagnose and treat patients and will be accredited by leading organizations, including the

American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers.

For more information, visit www.middle-sexhospital.org, or call 860-358-2000.

#### **Four Sunscreen Mistakes**

By now you are aware the sun is not your friend and you need to protect yourself against its harmful rays. Unfortunately many women rely on SPF numbers alone and think that they are totally protected. In spite of the push to wear sunscreen, many women are still making some mistakes when it comes to choosing and applying sunscreen.

#### Relying on SPF in moisturizer:

Many of us think we are protected because our moisturizer has an SPF. We seek out and sometimes pay extra money for these products. Most moisturizers contain ingredients that protect against UVB but not against UVA. It is the UVA rays that are most responsible for wrinkles.

#### Not Reapplying:

Sunscreen wears off. This is especially important to remember if you are outdoors for a good part of the day. In order to get maximum benefit, you need to re-apply every two hours.

#### Layering SPF's:

Many women think we are totally protected because our moisturizer and make-up both contain sunscreen. Unfortunately, if you are wearing a moisturizer and make-up that both contain SPF 15, this does not equal SPF 30. You are still wearing an SPF 15, which is not enough coverage to protect your face.

#### Relying on SPF in make-up:

Many of us now wear mineral make-up and rely on this for total protection. Unfortunately, the SPF in these make-ups is usually between 5 and 15, which is not high enough.

My favorite ingredients for the best protection are minerals - either zinc or titanium dioxide. So don't get fooled - protect your face!

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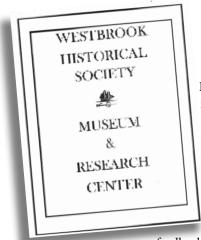


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#### **Westbrook Stories: Tales of Land & Sea**

During the past six months, members of the Historical Society, with museum advisor, Brenda Milkofsky, have completed updating and re-organizing the museum's collection to present Westbrook's story. Judging from the very positive

feedback from visitors during our

annual Day on the Green, our updates appear to have been a success. Visitors felt the organization of the exhibit demonstrated a progression from early Westbrook to the present that was more visual, and that the chapter headings and explanatory accompanying descriptive texts were helpful. There was often surprise that our shipbuilding was so extensive. Popular areas appear to be the Community area that features the post offices, town hall, small businesses, and fire department. The central area features our churches, schools, military, David Bushnell, Drum Corps, Quotonset Golf Course, musicians, "Summertime," Barrier Islands, early transportation, and the Leatherman.

Accompanying the exhibits are mannequins dressed in complementary garments. We are fortunate to have such a large collection of Wm. J. Neidlinger photographs to illustrate so much of our town's history. Let your imagination go and immerse yourself into earlier times, a quieter time of horse and carriage and candles.



Along with the reorganization of the collection, we have created a new Research Center. Through the Westbrook Foundation's grant, we have been also able to purchase archival boxes to protect documents and artifacts. With a donation of a laptop, we now have our growing database available to the public for research into genealogy, historic houses and buildings. Already, we are welcoming more visitors in search of ancestors, photos of places visited here during their childhood, or just wanting to know more about their town. We love research. We love learning the untold stories of Westbrook's past. Visit SOON!

Catherine Neidlinger Doane, Westbrook Historical Society

On left: Blue Water Mariner Exhibit

#### **Beat Parkinson's Exercise Program**

East Shore Region Adult & Continuing Education is hosting classes by Beat Parkinson's Today, an exercise program designed specifically to improve Parkinson's symptoms. There are presently 12 classes per week in 4 locations in CT with almost 50 Parkinson's clients participating. Results have been astound-

ing. Clients have improved gait, balance, fine motor control, explosive movement, attitude, self-image, and fatigue. Some have lowered the dosage of their medications. For more information: email at info@beatpdtoday.com, or see our website www.beatpdtoday.com.

"Events Magazines work! We were thrilled to receive a call for reservations at GrandView Campground, just two days after the magazine was delivered to recipients. We are looking forward to increasing our presence in neighboring areas, as Events spreads the word for us."

Grandview Camp Resort, Moodus, CT

# 2017 Vista Tour de Shore SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15





Westbrook Elks Lodge, Westbrook, CT

Register at: www.vistatourdeshore.com For more information call 860-399-8080























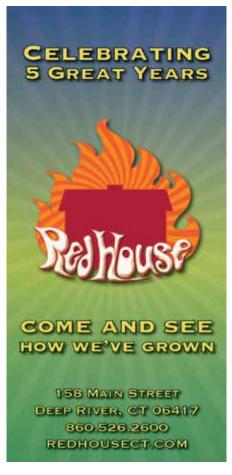


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#### **Connecticut Agricultural Fairs**

#### Four Town Fair - Somers

#### September 14-17

You'll have one-of-a-kind fun at the four-day, Four Town Fair, one of Connecticut's oldest fairs. See the 20th Annual Antique & Classic Car Show, a rockabilly performance from The Whiskey Rebels and the Fair Parade. Like contests? There's the Doodlebug Drawing Contest, Largest Frog & Frog Jumping Contest, Heaviest Pumpkin Contest and even a Corn Eating Contest. And you won't want to miss the Open Swine Show or the Women's Skillet Throw. It's fun for all!

#### **Berlin Fair**

#### September 15-17

The Berlin Fair began in 1882 as a Harvest Festival, became a state agricultural fair in the early 1900s, and remains a much-anticipated event in central Connecticut. The packed schedule includes pie-eating contests, frog jumping, large animal and crafts exhibits and live entertainment throughout the weekend.

#### **Guilford Agricultural Fair**

#### September 15-17

The Guilford Fair is part traditional fair, part circus, part Broadway theater. In addition to the midway rides, games and food, visitors can enjoy performances by the fair's family circus – the live tiger and lion acts will wow spectators of all ages.

#### **Orange Country Fair**

#### September 16-17

From the classic car show and tractor pulls to arts and crafts and animal displays, there is truly something for everyone at the Orange Country Fair. Enjoy live entertainment and all types of mouthwatering fair food.

#### **Durham Fair / September 21-24**

Begun in 1916, the Durham Fair continues its tradition today as Connecticut's largest agricultural fair. With rides and games, tractor pulls, three livestock barns, crafts, exhibits featuring baking, canning, photography and horticulture, and a wide selection of fair food, there's a huge harvest to take in.

#### **Harwinton Fair**

#### October 6-8

The Harwinton Fair offers good old-fashioned fun for all! See the Pig Races, Antique Tractor Show, Rabbit Costume Contest, Oxen Draw and Civil War Displays. Enjoy a magic show and bluegrass music after visiting the barnyard animals. Stop by the Country Store for a memento of your special day!

#### **Portland Fair**

#### October 6-8

Signifying the close of fair season, the Portland Fair gives enthusiasts one last chance to experience all the classic fair entertainment, food, exhibits, animals and activities for the year.

#### Calling all Businesses!

MARC Community Resources (MARC) has advocated for the rights of people with disabilities since 1955. Since that time MARC Community Resources has grown into a multi-service agency with nearly 100 paid staff and over 100 volunteers. Today we serve more than 200 people with disabilities throughout Middlesex County and the Greater Hartford area by providing choices for housing, employment, advocacy and social/recreational life.

MARC's largest program is its Group Supported Employment Program. Small Group Supported Employment crews provide a vast array of companies with eager and enthusiastic employees capable of a multitude of tasks.

We provide a low cost work force while improving productivity. "The Crew from MARC has been an integral part of our Connecticut operation since 1996, and has contributed to our company's growth here during this period. They are a pleasure to work with; they have become family. There is no Greenwald without MARC," said Helmut Henry, Traffic Supervisor, Greenwald Industries (Chester)

Hiring a work crew from MARC provides companies with many benefits including increased profitability, employees who happily accept repetitive tasks without complaint, lower insurance risks, and a richer work environment for their own employees. "The MARC crews are a valuable part of our stores, not only do they keep our stores clean and safe, they brighten the experience of our staff and guests. They bring inspiration, cheer and good work ethic everyday they are here," said Gino Pacitto, Facilities Maintenance Manager, Shop Rite East Hartford/Manchester.

No job is too big or too small for MARC's work crews.

Work crews are available Monday through Friday

from 10am-1pm.

If you are interested in receiving more information on hiring a MARC work crew, contact Erin Gasparini, Vice President of Vocational & Leisure Services at (860) 635-5151.

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# Estuary Council Regional Senior Center

Estuary Council Regional Senior Center 220 Main Street, Old Saybrook / 860-388-1611 Call for details on any of the following events.

The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. is a community center for the region's residents over 50 years old providing meals, transportation, health services, educational classes, exercise programs, and socialization activities. We have been promoting healthy and active lifestyles through quality programs and services in the nine-town Estuary region for over 40 years. Please visit us at www. ecsenior.org for additional information or call us at 860.388.1611.

ESTUARY SHORELINE CHEFS – Sunday, September 24, from 3 – 6 pm at Water's Edge in Westbrook. Support Meals on Wheels while enjoying fabulous food provided by over 20 local chefs. There will also be Beer and Wine tastings and music by The Von Zells. You don't want to miss this event! Tickets available online or at the center.

ESTUARY HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR – Saturday, November 18, from 8 am – 1 pm. Get your holiday shopping started with local artisans! Find that unique perfect gift for loved ones. All ages welcome! 220 Main St, Old Saybrook.

**ESTUARY BINGO RETURNS** – Thursdays at 6:30 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Cash prizes! Games will be every Thursday through November 9. All ages welcome. Come join the fun!

#### ESTUARY GYM IS SILVER SNEAKERS APPROVED!

If you are a member of a Silver Sneaker participating health plan in CT, the Silver Sneakers plan will pay for your gym visits. Does NOT apply to fitness classes. Check eligibility by contacting the Estuary.

**THE MARSHVIEW FITNESS CENTER** – Stay healthy and strong by working out in our gym. Call for Membership Options. Stop by the Office for a tour and learn how to become a gym member.

The Estuary Thrift Shop offers the best bargains on the shoreline! Clothing, furniture housewares, decorations, and jewelry are just a few of the things you will find. Every day is different and all ages are welcome to come in and shop. Daily Specials. Open Saturdays.



"I don't have time for pictures, I'm a Bizzy Kitty"

#### **Eye Health**

Summer brings numerous eye problems such as burnt corneas, chemicals in eyes, and many more. There are studies that show that long-term exposure to bright sunlight may increase the risk of cataracts and growths on the eye, including cancer. Also, UV rays reflected off sand and water can cause eyes to sunburn, potentially resulting in temporary blindness in just a few hours. Here are a few tips to ensure eye health during the summer months:

Wear sunglasses with UV protection: Most people already know to use sunscreen during the summer to protect their skin against UV rays but our eyes need the same protection. The best way to protect against harmful AVA and UVB rays is to wear sunglasses with protection from both. It's also important to note that sunglasses need to worn even on cloudy days.

**Use goggles at pools:** The chlorine that is in most pools is designed to protect you from germs, but has the potential to be harmful for your eyes.

**Wear eye protection doing home projects:** It is important to remember to shield your eyes even during simple home improvement and maintenance, like mowing your lawn. Rocks and other debris commonly fly up and into your eyes.

**Use eye drops:** To soothe dry and tired eyes during the summer, it is best to use artificial tears. Despite best attempts sometimes your eyes are irritated or in discomfort.

**Give your eyes a rest.** If you spend a lot of time at the computer or focusing on any one thing, you sometimes forget to blink and your eyes can get fatigued. Try the 20-20-20 rule: Every 20 minutes, look away about 20 feet in front of you for 20 seconds. This can help reduce eyestrain.

Middlesex Eye Physicians Middletown, CT / Westbrook, CT / 860-347-7466

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#### Do you have diabetes?

It's time to schedule your annual eye exam!



Middlesex Eye Physicians is reminding you of the importance in scheduling your annual diabetic eye exam to monitor any changes in your eye health.

Schedule an eye exam today Middletown Office: 860-347-7466 Westbrook Office: 860-669-5305 www.middlesexeye.com



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#### **Our Boys, Our Community**



It's easy to see that we live in a culturally rich and beautiful community.

It's not as easy to see that our communities are also home to boys and young men who are in at-risk situations.

That's why the At-Risk Boys Fund at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County is so important. Through the Community Foundation, the At-Risk Boys Fund has provided grants that have helped sixth-grade boys find their self-worth and success in school. The fund helped teenage

boys and police build positive interaction instead of skills confrontation. The fund has even provided temporary shelter for boys and their families.

These are just some examples of how the At-Risk Boys Fund and the people who support it have improved the lives of boys and young men throughout Middlesex County.

You too can help at-risk boys when you attend the At-Risk Boys Fund's biggest fundraising event of the year – the third

annual Cruise Blues & Brews Festival on Saturday, September 30th from 10 am to 4 pm at the Chester Fair Grounds.

You and your family will enjoy a great fall festival and you will be helping the At-Risk Boys Fund do its incredible work assisting boys and young men to achieve a better life.

How many boys we can help is up to you.

By Bill Guerra, Volunteer Chair At-Risk Boys Fundraising Committee

#### Festival Details:

3rd Annual Cruise Blues & Brews, Saturday September 30 at the Chester Fair Grounds from 10 am to 4 pm (rain date October 1st). A fun-filled family event featuring antique and unique cars, the area's top blues bands, craft beer, up-scale food trucks, marketplace of vendors, kids play area, games, prizes and surprises. For additional information and to purchase tickets at \$5 (kids under 12 free) go to www. atriskboysfund.org. All proceeds benefit the At-Risk Boys Fund at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County.



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