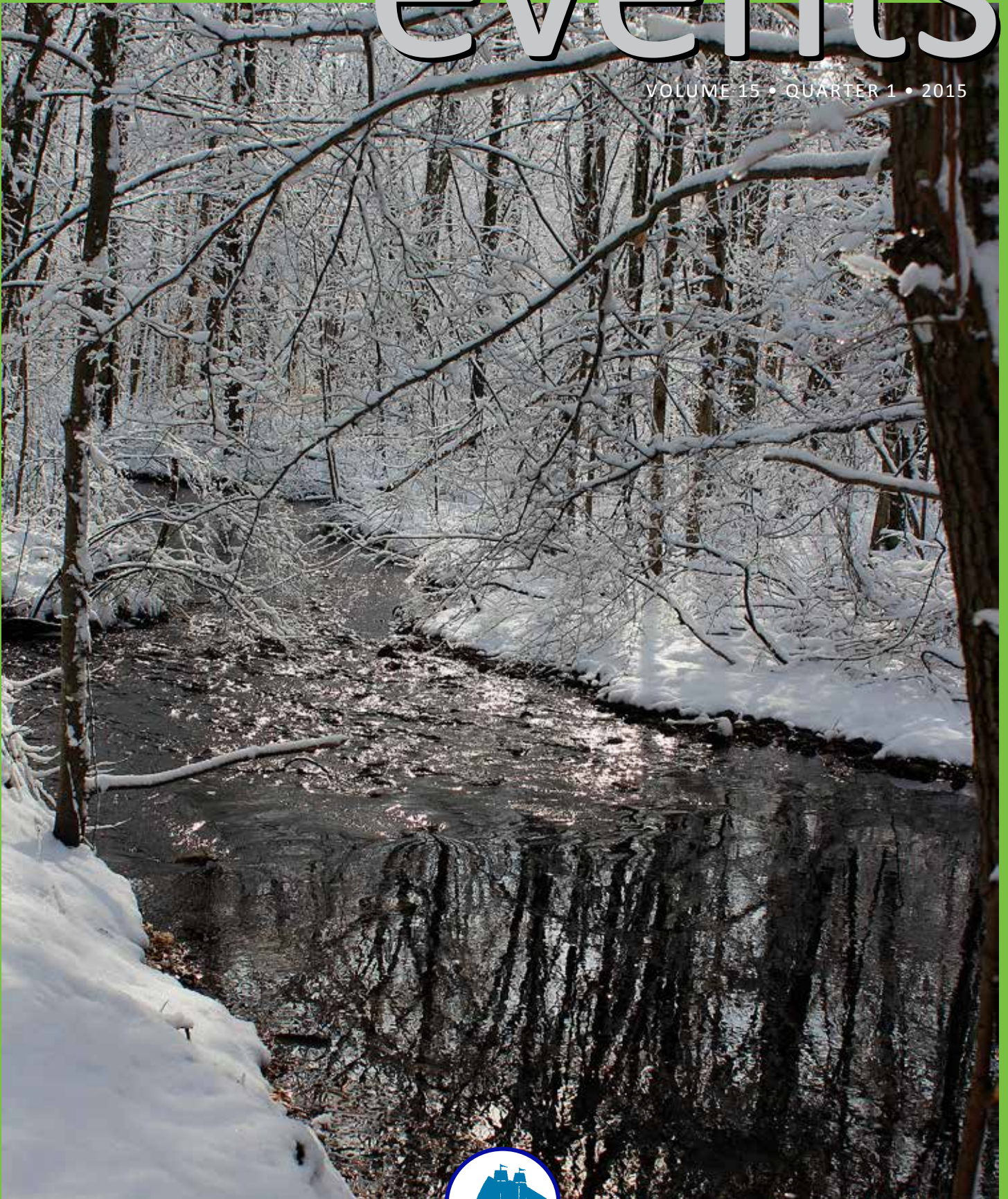


Westbrook events

VOLUME 15 • QUARTER 1 • 2015



DELIVERING TOWN NEWS



TO EVERYONE IN TOWN

INNOVATION IS IN OUR DNA



We're Creating Better
Outcomes Through
Talent and Technology

Innovation isn't just something we talk about. It's something we live. It's why we're pioneering the most advanced treatments—from minimally invasive spine surgery to the latest da Vinci® procedures. It's why we're the first hospital in CT to offer more precise molecular breast imaging. It's why our expert staff pushes technology to its limits to ensure better outcomes. And it's what continues to make Middlesex Hospital *The Smarter Choice for Care*.

To learn more, visit
middlesexhospital.org/innovate

The Smarter Choice for Care
 MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL

First Selectman's Corner

Serving the Underserved

We live in a diverse community with many different constituent groups and individuals who depend on their municipal government to provide services to sustain their lives and livelihoods. Unfortunately, there are some very urgent and compelling needs that are often not apparent to the average citizen.

I direct your attention to the following departments delineating and quantifying what they do to help the underserved:

- The Westbrook Visiting Nurses Association provides community health services in a variety of settings to the residents of Westbrook. Programs offered by the Nurses include nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language and home health aides. In fiscal year 2014, the Visiting Nurses Association made 3,660 visits.
- Westbrook Youth and Family Services, for fiscal year 2014 served over 300 families with programming, more than 80 students in school groups and 125 individual counseling clients.
- The Westbrook Senior Center offers activities and programs for seniors and for fiscal year 13/14, 7,397 Seniors visited the Center and attended programs. Meals are served every Tuesday morning,

Thursday and the first and third Wednesday of every month.


- Westbrook Social Services Department has addressed over 2,500 phone calls, 400 walk-ins, 100 new cases were opened and over 650 applications for various types of assistance, including heat assistance, were processed.



First Selectman Noel Bishop

The above four departments/services function with a very limited number of competent staff that provide vital services to hundreds of individuals in Westbrook on a weekly basis. Additionally, a considerable amount of income is generated through fees, grants and revenue to off-set the expenses to Westbrook. Furthermore, in some areas, there are volunteers who donate their services without compensation. Without this support, we would be negligent in our responsibilities to our fellow citizens and we can take pride in knowing that our tax dollars are being wisely used for those individuals and families who have a variety of circumstances, that usually are not of their own choosing, who would otherwise be ignored.

Continued on page 3



Happy New Year
from
Middlesex Eye Physicians


Roger Luskind, MD
Elizabeth Rocco, MD
Peter Shriver, DO
Raji Mulukutla, MD
Kristy Mascarenhas, MD
Scott Yap, OD

MIDDLETOWN
400 Saybrook Road, (860) 347-7466
Optical (860) 347-8300

WESTBROOK
4 Grove Beach Road, North (860) 669-5305
Optical (860) 664-8089

EAST HAMPTON
240 Middletown Avenue
(860) 295-6440

www.middlesexeye.com



POLITO & QUINN
TRIAL LAWYERS
Serving Connecticut and Rhode Island

Connecticut "Super Lawyers"® for 8 consecutive years
and U.S. News **BEST LAW FIRM**



Humbert J. Polito, Jr., Esq.
Admitted in CT & RI
CT Super Lawyer



James M. Harrington, Esq.
Admitted in CT & Tribal Courts
CT Rising Star



Best Lawyers
BEST LAW FIRMS
US News
2014

Tel: (860) 447-3300 | www.politoandquinn.com

Wrongful Death • Medical Malpractice • Automobile Accidents
Practicing In... Mohegan Tribal Courts • Mashantucket Tribal Courts



Coastal Cooking Company

Catering at the Essex Corinthian Yacht Club
or Your Preferred Setting

We create a menu with your taste, theme
and budget in mind

Now is the time to reserve for Graduations,
Birthdays, Bridal Showers, Weddings,
Wedding Rehearsal Dinners...

Large wrap-around deck overlooking
the stunning CT River

Call Monique for new low waterfront
facility rates and a FREE consultation

860-501-5036

monique@coastalcookingcompany.com

9 Novelty Lane, Essex, CT 06426

"Experience the Difference" at The Saybrook at Haddam.

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. Now, with Marie's memory loss, Diane wanted her mom to continue to enjoy a quality life. "At Safe Harbor, Mom is able to be involved, stay active, and even go bowling with her friends. We've shared so many happy memories in the past and continue to enjoy happy moments together now. I can see that Mom is getting the quality care she deserves," says Diane.

Let your loved one "experience the difference" at The Saybrook at Haddam's Safe Harbor Memory Care Neighborhood. With a kind staff, bright apartments, social areas, gardens, and opportunities for activity and involvement, we take memory care to a wonderful new level.



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



A Memory Care Neighborhood

1556 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT 06438

www.thesaybrookathaddam.com

Expansion Complete – New Openings! Call 860-345-3779 for a personal tour.

We live in a time that we are constantly reminded that what is most important is our GNP (Gross National Product) but good government is more than the bottom line. It is also about reaching out to all of our citizens regardless of their circumstances. I believe that we can take collective pride in knowing that your local government takes seriously its responsibility to delivering services to those individuals who sometimes fall below the radar screen.

I am reminded of an individual who in a discussion recently in my office when we were discussing this issue said, "remember the underserved individual is often our neighbor who we just didn't take the time to be aware of their individual circumstances that require assistance."

I wish to thank not only the above staff and their commitment to our residents but all of our municipal employees who each day and many evenings and weekends, do their very best to make themselves available to all of us.

First Selectman Noel Bishop

Want to Advertise?
Call Ward Feirer at 914.806.5500

SERVICE

Price Protection Plans
System Service 24/7
Burner Installation
Air Conditioning
Tank Installation
Tank Removal
Conversions



CT CONTRACTOR #

SM1-4890 HOD 416

CALL 860•399-8244

PENNYWISE

PREMIUM HOME HEATING OIL & SERVICE

Contents

First Selectman's Corner	1
Dear Valued Readers,	4
Westbrook Emergency Management – Social Media	5
Westbrook Recreation	6
Westbrook Youth & Family Services	8
News from the Westbrook Public Library	9
Honor Roll to War Memorial – Who Done It?	10
Westbrook Senior Center	10
Veteran's Benefits	11
AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Schedule	11
Westbrook Recreation Tree Lighting Committee	12
Canvass 2015	12
Town Clerk	13
Westbrook Board of Education	14
From the Zoning Office	15
Elderly and Totally Disabled Tax Relief Program	16
Assessor's Office	16
Meet Sonia Marino – Westbrook's New Director of Health/Sanitarian	17
Conservation Commission	18
How to Reach Your Elected Officials	18
Rep. Jesse MacLachlan	19
Rep. Devin Carney	19
Westbrook Garden Club – Come Grow with Us!	20
Estuary Council	20

events

TM Ventures, LLC
dba Essex Printing & Events Magazines

18 Industrial Park Road, P.O.Box 205
Centerbrook, CT 06409
860-767-9087 Fax 860-767-0259
email: print@essexprinting.com
www.essexprinting.com

Publisher

William E. McMinn

**VP Marketing &
Business Development**

Fred Holloran

Director of Advertising/Operations

Suzanne Spires 860-391-5534
suzanne@essexprinting.com

Coordinator/Art Director

Kathy Alsop 860-391-4372
kathy@eventsmagazines.com

Finance Manager

Donna Evarts

Cover Editor

AC Proctor 860-767-9087

Sales Representatives

Ward Feirer 914-806-5500
wfeirer@gmail.com

Betty Martelle 860-333-7117
betty@eventsmagazines.com

Brad Cunningham 860-581-0577
brad@essexprinting.com

Magazine Layout

Amy Bransfield
Patricia Stenbeck

Cover photo by AC Proctor

www.eventsmagazines.com

265,000 READERS
15 TOWNS EVERY QUARTER

Copyright © 2013 Events Magazines. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system without written permission. Not responsible for omissions or typographical errors. All advertising material created by Essex Printing and Events Magazines is to be considered proprietary. Essex Printing and Events Magazines reserves the rights and license to all ad designs and photographic images produced by Essex Printing and Events Magazines. Reproduction rights for individual use in other publications is offered and available by purchase directly through Essex Printing and Events Magazines. Editorial appearing in this magazine is submitted by municipal agencies and other approved sources.

Dear Valued Readers,

If you've ever seen an *Events Magazine*, you will appreciate that it provides the latest information from town mayors and selectmen, town departmental schedules and activities, senior news, menus and programs, library information, community listings, economic development and other important town information helping residents to "keep in touch" with what's happening close to home. And the content ensures true shelf life of the magazine.

As we enter our 19th year in 2015 we are introducing a redesign, from cover to cover.

2015 brings excitement as we continue to grow, adding our 15th town. Our latest addition provides local and regional advertisers greater coverage and awareness with the ability to reach over 250,000 readers at a very low cost per thousand.

Our dedication to our magazines will not change and our commitment to help bring our readers their local town news will continue.

Essex Printing Award Winner!

Many encouraging changes have transpired at Essex Printing. We were presented the "The Benny Award" from the Print Industry of America. Over 3000 entries from companies around the world competed in a variety of printing and graphic communications categories. We are very proud of our accomplishment being selected as one of only 84 companies around the world, and are able to say we are the "Best of the Best". Having won the Print Industry of New England's two Pinnacle Awards and Award of Excellence over the last two years highlights the quality and customer dedication at Essex Printing. In 2015 we will continue to look for new ways to enhance our products and assist our clients to meet their objectives.

I would like to thank you for making Essex Printing and Events Magazines part of your marketing and advertising plan. We are especially proud of the many wonderful and complimentary letters, cards, emails, and personal reviews we receive from our satisfied customers.

Our reputation of excellent customer service has helped us create and build lasting business relationships that are the hallmark of our continued success in helping your business and organization succeed! We look forward to working with you in 2015.

Sincerely,

William McMinn, President, Essex Printing and *Events Magazines*



**MISS
MULVEY**

**"I'm very tired;
it's been a long day."**

Westbrook Emergency Management – Social Media

The Emergency Management Department utilizes many forms of emergency communications to its residents and visitors relating to threats, safety and other related information. Over the last three years we added social media. This includes our website, Facebook group page and Twitter account.

Website: www.westbrookem.com

The website is a comprehensive location for you to obtain information on disaster kits, plans, our emergency shelter and other material. The material is provided in easy to read topics, videos, pictures and hyperlinks to our state and federal partners. Pending on the season and threats, the site material is updated. We have added a translate option for you to modify the page in the language of your choice. We recommend you save the site in your 'Favorites' list in your web browser on your computer, phones and other electronic devices.

Facebook: Westbrook,CT-Emergency Management

Our Facebook Group Page is updated regularly with many types of information relating to disaster preparedness, weather awareness,

immediate threats and any other events in Westbrook. Depending on the type of event, threats and safety information could be updated many times. Users have the option for immediate notification on their computers; iPad/Tablet and smart phones based on their account settings.

Twitter: WestbrookEM

The Twitter account is another social medium for Emergency Management to push notifications to you. Similar to Facebook, users have options on receiving our notifications in 'real time'. Facebook and Twitter accounts are uploaded simultaneously with the same information.

Emergency Management has chosen to utilize these forms of social media based upon their success with previous threats to Westbrook along with positive feedback from our residents. Our information is based upon data from the State of Connecticut and Federal Agencies, but tailored for our town.

We look forward to having you 'Follow Us'!

Donald Izzo
Emergency Management Director

Westbrook Concrete Block Co., Inc.

Family Owned Since 1940

Buy Direct from Manufacturer and \$ave!

Free Onsite Consultations

- Retaining Wall Units



- All colors and styles on display



westbrookblock.com

860.399.6201

439 Spencer Plains Rd. Westbrook, CT

Open Weekdays 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Westbrook Recreation

Spring Programs

Days are getting longer and warmer, so spring will soon be here. That means it must be time to register for all our spring programs and youth and teen day camps. Open registrations have started and many programs are filling up. Sign up soon so your children won't miss out on all the spring fun. Please call our office with any and all questions.

We have many fantastic sports camps which include Slammas Jamma Basketball, Challenger British Soccer and Between the Lines Baseball camps. We also have Tennis, Gymnastic, Youth and Teen Field Hockey camps rounding out the rest. The best way for a student to improve in any sport, is to register for a camp teaching that sport. Other camps will be posted in our summer brochure.

Our Tot T-Ball program has children from all over the shoreline participating in this springtime favorite. We introduce baseball to children as young as 3 years old, for their first big league experience. We teach your child how to properly throw, catch and hit a ball while having a fun time doing it. It's an interactive program that's fun for parents and children alike. Parents should oil their old baseball gloves and get ready for this baseball season!

We are still running bus trips to popular destinations all around New England. Instead of stressing out with all the traffic, you can

enjoy one our trips and relax during the drive. Please contact our office and we can give you a list of all the upcoming trips. There are only 50 seats per bus so please sign up soon.

Our twelfth annual Westbrook Family Day will be held on June 6th (rain date June 7th), at the Town Green. Westbrook Family Day has also become known to many friends and families as the annual Westbrook Town Picnic. Be sure to mark this date on your calendars for a fun-filled day of rides, entertainment, food and most of all, for all the funny clowns. This event is brought to you through the generous donations of many businesses from our shoreline and is totally free to the public. Not one cent of taxpayer dollars will pay for this event. Please call Rich at 860-399-3095, if you wish to make a donation or volunteer the day of the event.

Westbrook Recreation Mission Statement

The mission of the Board of the Westbrook Recreation Department is to develop, operate and maintain a recreation department that enriches the quality, accessibility of facilities, programs and services. Our mission will be met by offering passive and active recreational opportunities that are desired, educational and diverse. Our programs will benefit tots, youths, adults and seniors in a spirit of fellowship and community pride.

TRUST YOUR CAR TO THE REPAIR SHOP MORE PEOPLE TRUST...

We are a full service garage dedicated to quality work and service.

"The Only Call You Need For Quality Service & Repairs"

AUTO SERVICE
of
Old Saybrook, Inc.

*Servicing Domestic & All European Cars Including
Mercedes, BMW, Jaguar, Audi, Saab, Volvo & VW*



We employ ASE
Certified Technicians

860-388-6838



From oil changes & scheduled maintenance to engine repair or replacement, we can provide complete mechanical & electrical service to your vehicle.



4 JADE COURT • OLD SAYBROOK
HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.





39 LOVERS LANE - MADISON

\$595,000. Tranquil setting overlooking Fence Creek. Step down from the formal dining to the captivating great room-enhanced by the stone fireplace and French doors to the wrap around deck. The bookcases & fireplace compliment the library.
CALL SARAH MARCINEK



30 BRANTWOOD DRIVE - MADISON

\$139,000. Delightful lower ranch unit. Nicely maintained. Sliders off kitchen to private patio. Well maintained complex. Convenient location to town, train and for the commuter.
CALL SARAH MARCNEK



53 STANTON ROAD - CLINTON

\$499,900. CAPE Cod style Home. Wonderful master suite captures views from the second floor. Cul-de-sac location.
SARAH MARCINEK 860-227-1592



18 HIGHLAND TERRACE - ESSEX

\$259,000. Well maintained Cape. Large eat-in kitchen front to back LR w/ FP opening to spacious deck, Full walkout basement partially finished. Wooded private lot.
PAT REED



21 FOUNDERS VILLAGE - CLINTON

\$183,000. Light & bright end unit with private patio overlooking backyard. Generous size rooms with attic. All appliances remain. New hot water heater Sept '14. Detached garage a real plus. New carpet in living room. Complex FHA approved.
Call SARAH MARCINEK



23 MENUNKETESUCK DRIVE - CLINTON

\$269,000. Spacious Ranch. Hardwood floors, and a 4-season sun porch. Right of way to the Menunketesuck River for fishing or kayaking.
MARY BETH JOYCE 860-227-5801



41 MEADOWOOD LANE - OLD SAYBROOK

\$459,900. Beautiful, warm 4-bedroom home in move-in condition in Meadowood! Modern upgrades including granite kitchen, 3-season sunroom w/ deck, large Master suite and 2nd floor laundry. Fenced-in yard!
JOE WREN 860-202-0693



12 KEYBOARD LANE - ESSEX

\$350,000. Short Sale Specialist Involved. Well-maintained Cape With Open Floor Plan and 1st Flr Mbr. 400 Sq Ft Of Finished Space In LI (W/ Full Bath).
MARY BETH JOYCE



OLD SALT WORKS ROAD - WESTBROOK

\$300,000. 0.69 +/- raw land located in lovely beach area: SALT WORKS BEACH engineered septic system req'd with FEMA req'ments. Town water on street.
CHARLES SLADE



JH&H
1260 BOSTON POST ROAD, WESTBROOK
860-388-6636 • 860-399-7202 coldwellbankerct.com

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.

Look for these upcoming programs and more on our website at WYFS.org:

Lights on Westbrook, March 28: 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

The Oxford Academy hosts this Photography Exhibition and Prize Drawing featuring art, refreshments and prizes. Amateur and professional photographers are invited to submit their work.

Mother/Daughter Night March 11, 6:30-8:30 at WYFS.

Early Childhood Community Forum, "Don't Flip Out. Flip It." March 18, 4:45-8 pm at Daisy.

Offered by Westbrook Early Childhood Council.

Family Fun Night with Hypnotist Bruce James, March 19th at WHS, 6:00-8:00 pm.

An entertaining, "hypnotic" program designed for the whole

family to enjoy. Sponsored by Health Youth/Healthy Communities Asset Committee.

Book Connections, Thursday nights beginning in March.

Surviving to Thriving, Thursdays 3:30-5 pm beginning in March.

Senior Center Round Up: Join WYFS's Susan Scott for coffee and conversation at Westbrook's senior center with visits from canine celebrity Gus on Feb 18 and March 18. Third Wednesdays at 9 am.

Words to Live By: a WYFS Community Connection program.

We invite each of you to share YOUR meaningful words that inspire, heal or encourage with your neighbor and with us Visit displays at WYFS, town hall, schools and library for inspiration.

School Groups

With WPS's support, we offer structured peer groups at each of the schools, including Sandcastles at Daisy; International Club, Relaxation Club and Banana Splits at WMS, and Helping Hands and High school life at WHS. Visit our website for more information about these groups.

"Good People Doing Great Things."



With funding support to the Valley Shore YMCA, the Community Foundation of Middlesex County helped every first grader in Westbrook learn how to swim. 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 learn more.

TOGETHER WE MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE
860.347.0025 or www.middlesexcf.org



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
of Middlesex County

News from the Westbrook Public Library

This winter you will see some new faces at the library. Brittany Mullen, the new assistant librarian, joins Lew, Joan, Mary, Sandy, and Sherrica on the full-time library staff. Brittany started working January 6. She received a master of library and information science degree in 2013 from the University of Pittsburgh and received a bachelor of information and library science degree in 2011 from Southern Connecticut State University. Prior to coming to Westbrook, Brittany worked at the Booth and Dimock Memorial Library in Coventry and the Hartford Public Library. Brittany is responsible for the young adult collection and services and brings experience and expertise with new technology to the library staff.

Westbrook native Nick Westbrook, a master of library science candidate at Southern Connecticut State University, will be an intern with the library this winter working on Tuesday and Thursday during the day.

These two individuals bring knowledge and familiarity with the online world, social media, and the devices people are using today. If you have questions about technology give the library a call at 860-399-6422 or via e-mail at westbrook.public.lib@snet.net. We are here to help.

Among the many free online services and databases the library offers are Overdrive e-books and audiobooks, Zinio e-magazines,

Iconn.org, World Book Online, Ancestry.Com, Job Now, and Learning Express. More and more print subscriptions are also providing access to their content online such as the Hartford Courant and the New York Times.

Your Westbrook Public Library card can be used at any public library in the state. Materials borrowed elsewhere can be returned here at our library. The barcode number on the back of your card provides you free access to a wealth of materials and resources. If you don't have a card or have lost your card, come by and sign up for one.

The library is open Tuesday through Saturday. The hours for the week are Tuesday- 9-8; Wednesday- 9-5; Thursday- 9-8; Friday- 9-5; and Saturday- 9-5. Or visit us online at our website- westbrooklibrary.lioninc.org.

Transfer Station Hours

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

www.TeamJermainne.com



CONTACT US TODAY!

Brian Jermainne, ABR, ASR, CRS, ePRO, GRI, SRES, SRS
Broker/Owner
Brian@TeamJermainne.com

Leslie Jermainne, ePRO
Realtor

WANT TO SELL?

WANT TO BUY?

WE CAN HELP!

860-662-0230

CALL OR TEXT



Honor Roll to War Memorial – Who Done It?

Catherine Neidlinger Doane, Westbrook Historical Society

Unless one has attended Memorial Day parades or has honored a family member with a personal visit, Westbrook's War Memorial appears to have been overlooked by many. The present memorial rests on the southeast portion of the Town Green. Represented are veterans from World War I (1914-1919), World War II [1939-1945], Korea (1950-1953) and, Vietnam (1964-1975). Missing are plaques to honor Westbrook's war veterans from the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War.

The first WWI Memorial consisted of three wooden panels, the last panel featuring gold stars for those who died: Eddie J. Anderson, Dayton W.H. Bohling, Frederick E. Knittel and Alphonso C. Stannard. In old photographs, these panels are seen hanging off the rail of the old Town Hall on Essex Road and on the Town Green as seen in the Neidlinger postcard above, postmarked 1921.

In 1924, listed in the Annual Reports is an allocation from the Town of \$50.00 to the War Bureau Permanent Memorial Fund. In 1925, American Legion Anderson-Hoxsie Post #103 was allocated the sum of \$500.00. In 1932, the American Legion was granted permission to place a permanent Memorial on the Library Green.

But, who done it? On fairly good authority, it is told that a group of veterans and John Holbrook brought the boulder to the Green. The fabricator of the bronze eagle and WWI plaque are unknown to date. Later, rock pads were placed around the rock for the later memorial plaques.

With Civil War celebrations this year, who knows, perhaps the Historical Society will achieve its goal to celebrate the addition of veterans of our first wars to this location.

Want to know more? Visit us to see our veteran database.

Westbrook Senior Center

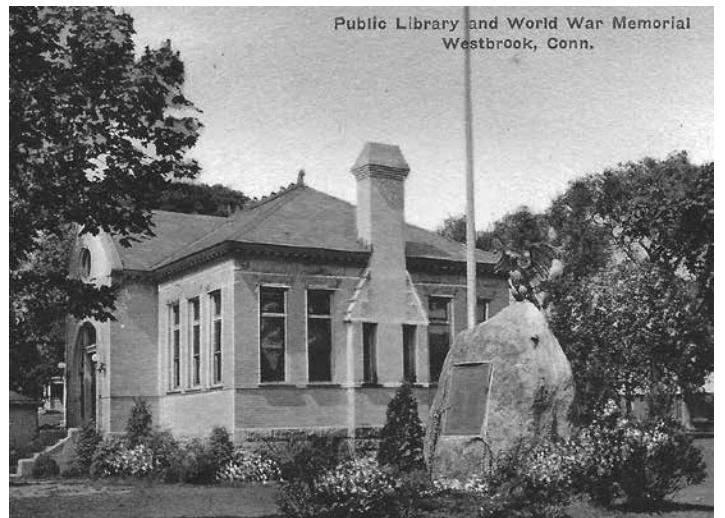
Courtney Burks, Director

The Senior Center started its own lunch program in September and it continues to be a success. Lunch is prepared at the Senior Center and is served every Thursday from 12:00-1:00 pm. The cost is a suggested donation of \$3. Please RSVP 24 hours in advance to 860-299-2029. You can view our menu on our website or come down to the Senior Center for a copy.

Gus the Therapy Dog and his owner Janice will be visiting the Senior Center the third Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am. We will host our Annual St Patrick's Day luncheon on March 12th,



William J. Neidlinger photo of WWI Honor Roll on Town Green. Names Harold E. Champion and Raymond W. Stannard later added.



William J. Neidlinger postcard of World War Memorial, Westbrook, Connecticut.

and our Annual Hoe Down is scheduled for April, date to be determined.

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. We look forward to seeing you.

Veteran's Benefits

You must be a town of Westbrook resident on the assessment date of October 1st to receive a veteran's exemption.

Regular veteran's exemption: to qualify for a regular veteran's exemption, the veteran must have served at least 90 days during wartime and received an honorable discharge. Original discharge papers (DD-214) or separation papers must be filed with the town clerk's office prior to October 1st. There is no income criteria for this exemption. If you have questions about qualifying, please stop by the assessor's office.

Disabled veteran's: disabled veterans who receive eligibility letters directly from the U.S. Department of Veteran's affairs may be entitled to increased property tax exemptions for service related disabilities. In order to receive this exemption, the veteran must file the disability letter with the assessor's office.

Additional veteran's exemptions: an additional benefit is available for veterans with incomes lower than \$34,600 for a single person and \$42,200 for a married couple. The filing period is February 1st through October 1st. Qualifying income includes your form 1040 tax return if filed or SSA 1099 – social security statement. Additional veteran's benefits double the regular veterans benefits.

Qualifying income for 100% V.A. disabled veterans is \$18,000 for a single person and \$21,000 for a married couple. Social security income is not considered.

A widow/widower is entitled to keep 100% of their spouse's veterans benefit.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Schedule

Westbrook Public Library Community Room.

For An Appointment call The Estuary at 860-388-1611.

- Monday, February 23
- Monday, March 9
- Monday, March 23
- Monday, April 6

THREE GENERATIONS, OVER 60 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS AND RELIABLE PERSONAL HEATING OIL DELIVERY



HOD# 00000591

- Automatic Fuel Oil Delivery
- Burner Installation
- 24-Hour Emergency Service

860-388-2298



**For Our Old & New COD Customers...
NEW YEAR DISCOUNT!**

**10¢
per gallon**



**This is over and above our
regular daily low price!**

**Just mention this offer to the office when placing an order,
and we'll deduct it from your total.**

100 gallon minimum. One time use only with this coupon.
Not combinable with any other discount. Expires 3/20/15.
Not valid for Budget / Buy / Cap Ahead customers
who are already enjoying the lowest prices!

FUEL ASSISTANCE ACCEPTED

THREE GENERATIONS, OVER 60 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS AND RELIABLE PERSONAL HEATING OIL DELIVERY

Westbrook Recreation Tree Lighting Committee

The Tree Lighting Committee, chaired by Dennis Allen and working as a sub-committee of the Recreation Department (thank you Rich Annino and the Recreation Board), would like to especially recognize the many individuals, organizations, and businesses who helped to make the tree lighting on December 7th a festive and happy town party.

The committee would like to thank the Westbrook Foundation again for providing a grant to build the Santa house, Ryan Chapman and his mom and dad- David and Diane, the construction crew and helpers- Dana Brainerd, Barney Clark, Bill Cusson, Rick Hardy, George Hollister, and Gary Trasacco, and the interior decorators- the Westbrook High School Art Club.

We thank Jim and Mary Brewster at the Captain Stannard House, Leighton Lee at the Museum of Early Engineering Technology, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Westbrook Drum Corps, Westbrook Historical Society for their open houses, and a special thank you to Essex Savings Bank for sponsoring Foxglove Farm's carriage rides.

The committee thanks the businesses and organizations around and near the green for decorations and goodies: Beautiful Impressions, Don Banit of Christmas Décor, The Daily Grind, and The Stork Exchange. Other organizations and businesses made significant contributions as well. Thank you Envirotech, Lighthouse Community Church, Lighthouse Signs, Shop Rite, Susan McManus and the Westbrook High School Future Business

Leaders, VISTA, Westbrook Ambulance, Westbrook Board of Selectmen, Westbrook Emergency Management, Westbrook Energy Committee, Westbrook Fire Department, Westbrook Garden Club, Westbrook Police, Westbrook Public Works, Westbrook Youth & Family, and Wilcox Energy.

Many individuals and organizations participated in the parade, performed, and entertained those gathered around the green including the Cub and Boy Scouts, Daisy, Brownie, and Girl Scouts, Jen Capano and friends (the bonfire & smores!), Mary Ella Luft, Mary Banks, Linda Parrish and their Girl Scout Troops (crafts booth), Old Saybrook/Westbrook Youth Football and Cheerleaders (reindeer food), Oxford Academy, Rita Trojanowski and her beautiful Bernese Mountain Dogs, Santa's elves- Melissa Ehlert, Elizabeth & Juliana Fabrizi, and Madeline Hubble, VISTA students featuring Brian Ruddy, First Selectman Noel Bishop with wife Kit, Selectmen John Hall and Chris Ehlert, State Senator Art Linares, State representatives Jesse Maclachlan and Devin Carney, Reverend Lee Ireland, Pastor Brendan Saunders, Tomas Rymut, the Connecticut Volkswagen Association, retired Westbrook High School principal Bob Hale (Night Before Christmas), Westbrook High School band under the direction of Eric Gerhardt, Westbrook High School cheerleaders with coach Courtney Weisse, Westbrook High School chamber choir and Kina Mama under the direction of Rachael Allen, Westbrook High School student combo- Erik Simon Vuoritie, Jonathan Lohutko, Marty Marx,

Continued on page 13

Canvass 2015

The Registrars of Voters will be conducting their yearly Canvass during the months of January through May. Not all registered voters will receive a "Confirmation of Voting Residence" letter. Again this year, the Registrars will be using the National Change of Address (NCOA) system to update the Registry list. This program works with the State of Connecticut Voter Registration System and the U.S. Post Office to process names and addresses of electors who show some change in their mailing address or a difference between their resident address and mailing address. Only those electors whose name is on this list will receive a notice from the Registrars asking them to confirm their present voting residence, mailing address, or to verify any other changes. If you receive a "Confirmation of Voting Residence" form to fill out and do not respond by the date indicated on the form, your name will be put on the "Inactive List." If you have made a recent change in your resident address, mailing address or name, be sure to inform the Registrars. You may Register to vote or make changes to your voter information by filling out a Registration form found on the table outside the Registrar's Office or in the Registrar's or Town Clerk's Office. Completed applications

may be mailed to Registrar of Voters, 866 Boston Post Road, Westbrook, CT or placed in the mail slot outside the Registrar's Office. When you have made a change to your voting resident address or name, please remember to also notify the Department of Motor Vehicles. You may leave a message at (860-399-3042), send a note, make an appointment or stop by the office on Tuesday from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm or Thursday from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries provide food and fellowship to those in need. Serving the towns of Essex, Chester, Clinton, Madison, Old Saybrook, East Lyme, Lyme, Old Lyme, Killingworth, Westbrook and Deep River.

**Learn how you can help at:
www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org**

TREE LIGHTING...continued from page 12

Seamus Ashburner, and Katie Xenelis, Westbrook Dance Academy, Westbrook Junior Colonials, Westbrook Drum Corps, and the Friends of the Library. We especially thank our tree lighters: Daisy Ingraham principal Ruth Rose, Westbrook Middle School principal Cori DiMaggio, and Westbrook High School principal Tara Winch.

As always, the committee owes a special thanks to Barry Clark and Scoutmaster Doug Thomas and Westbrook Boy Scout Troop 38 for setting up and taking everything down afterward, Erik Simon Vuoritie for providing the sound system, caricaturist extraordinaire Wild Bill Taylor, bicycle contest judges Jill and Dana Brainerd, John Riggio, and last, but not least, Randy and Ann Bell (the spirits of Christmas).

This year's committee members were Dennis Allen, Jill and Dana Brainerd, Jim and Mary Brewster, Darlene Briggs, Jennifer Capano, Lew Daniels, Melissa Ehlert, Kim Esposito, Don and Chickie Harger, Don Izzo, Bernadette Jones, Yeva Pierpont and Mary Ryder.

A message from Joan Angelini Westbrook Town Clerk

Happy New Year to all of you. I hope this year brings you all good things. Many of you are aware that we are a DEEP licensing station and we are happy to provide this service for residents and non-residents as well. There are some new licenses available this year and I recommend that you go onto the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting for the most up to date information on hunting, fishing and trapping in Connecticut.

There are reduced fees for young anglers and hunters in 2015; there are also some new "Super Sport License" packages available this season. We have an ample supply of 2015 Connecticut Hunting & Trapping guides available in our office. We have not received 2015 Fishing Guides at this time. I am told we will have them in time for the 2015 Opening Day Fresh Water Fishing which is the third Saturday in April. Although this is not a huge revenue maker for the town, sometimes it is more important to have this service available for townspeople as well as our summer residents and guests.

New this year and effective January 1, there is a fee for guide services in Connecticut. The fee is \$100.00 for persons conducting hunting or fishing guide services in this state and must register with DEEP. Please contact DEEP for further information.

Town Garage

185 Horse Hill Road, Exit 64
860-552-4496

MARK REEVES, BUILDER

860-388-3825

Time for Spring Projects!



New Homes
Whole House Remodels
Additions
Kitchens
Bathrooms
Basement Conversions
Siding & Windows
Entertainment Centers
Flooring
General Remodeling



CT LICENSE # 538583 & 10263
FULLY INSURED



MARKJREEVESBUILDER@COMCAST.NET
WWW.MARKREEVESBUILDER.COM

Make the right move.



Linda Nolf

860-227-8028

linda.nolf@raveis.com

Buying and selling real estate in today's highly competitive market, it's important to have confidence in your Real Estate Professional.

My commitment to you as your Local Realtor, is to provide you with the specialized services you deserve.

Call me today for your free property evaluation and personal marketing plan.

WILLIAM RAVEIS

REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE

The Largest Family-Owned Real Estate Company in the Northeast

Bogaert
CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

60 PLAINS ROAD, ESSEX, CT 06426

860.767.8072



- Custom Homes
- Additions
- Full Remodeling Services
- Custom Millwork
- Window Replacement

Fully Insured
New Home Lic. #170
Remodeling Lic. #523107
www.bogaertconstruction.com

Westbrook Board of Education

The 2015-2016 Board of Education (BOE) budget season is fully underway. In practice, the BOE begins their season in October with their approval of budget-building guidelines/goals. With that action completed each year, administrators are ready to spend several weeks soliciting teacher input and screening all needs and potential needs in their school buildings. All of the collected data, deemed appropriate by each principal, is put into the electronic budget system by the Thanksgiving recess.

The budget process, now well underway, is ready to be augmented by anticipated salary and benefits which are calculated by the Business office and the Superintendent gets a real first look at the total budget. Once that happens, the Superintendent is able to examine, through a series of meetings with each building Principal, the total preliminary budget information.

At its January meeting, the BOE receives an initial look at this work and has a chance to ask questions and query the overall budget perspective of the Superintendent. It is at this stage that the Superintendent announces percentage increases over or below the previous year and any intentions to examine some of the requests with an eye toward trimming

the dollar figures in preparation for the February BOE meeting. That meeting hosts a public workshop or the full budget presentation. The purpose of that workshop is to justify the full budget and the categories of expenses on which it is built and allow for public input; questions and/or concerns. At both the February and March BOE meetings a portion of the meeting time is devoted to follow-up discussions about the budget.

The public is encouraged to get involved early in this process so that all are informed and have had a chance to be heard. In March, the BOE will formally adopt the budget proposal, which will be forwarded to the Board of Finance for their review and scrutiny. The BOE budget presentations and discussions will continue through March and April with the Board of Finance meetings and the Public Hearing, where the Town's Budget and the Capital Budget will also be reviewed. A final Board of Finance decision will determine the ultimate overall budget figure that will go to the May Town Meeting for public approval.

A budget workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 10 at 6:30 pm in the Westbrook High School library.

Immediate Opening Full Time Press Operator

Press Operator (Offset Sheetfed). Well established Commercial Printer is seeking an experienced press operator for two color 25" press. Responsibilities include typical press operations such as hanging plates, maintaining register and limiting waste, while helping to maintain high quality output. The ability to make minor repairs is essential. Candidate must have a strong background in printing very high quality and detailed work. High School Diploma and minimum of 3 years multicolor offset experience required. To apply send resume to print@essexprinting.com.

Century 21
Heritage Company

*Go With Our
Winning Gold
Team!*

Full Buyers / Seller Services:
Leasing, Commercial,
Land and Residential
Sales in the Lower
Connecticut River Valley.

www.C21Heritage.com

860.526.1200

16 Main Street
Chester



From the Zoning Office

Before you remove or demolish a structure...

You should check with all Land Use Departments before you remove any structure.

If you have a non-conforming structure (doesn't meet current Zoning Regulations), it can be continued if there are no structural alterations. Structures may be repaired within certain limits. Please see Section 2.10.07 of the Zoning Regulations.

What Is Nonconforming?

Nonconforming structures, uses and lots are relatively commonplace, but the concept may not be completely understood. One might picture a dusty, old brick-making business, surrounded by single family homes, that long predates its current residential zoning; or, an old church that appears to be too close to a street property line because the town widened the right-of-way some time in the past and eliminated a portion of the property's front yard.

The Zoning Regulations specifies development limitations associated with various Districts identified on the Town's Zoning maps that establish uniform building setbacks, height limitations, parking requirements, minimum lot sizes, allowed uses, etc. Zoning rules change or are updated over time to guide, control and regulate future development.

The Zoning Regulations provide for the orderly termination of nonconforming structures and uses to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to bring these structures and uses into conformity with the goals and policies of the Regulations. The purpose of Zoning is to prevent the expansion of nonconforming structures and uses to the maximum extent feasible, to establish the criteria under which they may be continued or possibly expanded.

Legal Nonconforming Structures.

A structure which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of the adoption of Zoning Regulations, may continue provided that no structural alterations are made.

A legal nonconforming structure which is damaged may be replaced within a specified time period.

Legal nonconforming is sometimes referred to with the term "grandfathered."

For Town Updates & Information:

www.westbrookct.us

COMPUTER PROBLEMS



DRIVING YOU NUTS?

- Unlimited Support – One Low Price
- Server, Network & Workstation Maintenance
- Network Security & Proactive System Monitoring
- Local and Online Backup and Recovery
- 2 Free Hours or Free System Analysis - Just to Give Us A Try (Offer for 4 or More Computers)

TechNet
computing

rob@technetcomputing.com

www.technetcomputing.com

860.740.0328

9 TOWN TRANSIT



New! Medical Transportation to Middletown

**Public Transportation for all ages serving
Chester, Clinton, Deep River, East Haddam,
Durham, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme,
Old Lyme, Old Saybrook & Westbrook**

Connections to Southeast Area Transit buses in New London,
CT Transit New Haven in Madison, Middletown Transit
and CT Transit Hartford in Middletown

Call 860.510.0429

www.9towntransit.com



9 Town Transit is Operated by the
Estuary Transit District

Elderly and Totally Disabled Tax Relief Program

The following tables show the levels of qualifying income for the Elderly and Totally Disabled Tax Relief Program applications to be filed in the year 2015. These levels are to be used for the 2014 Grand List Homeowner and Renter applications, 2015 Grand List Additional Veteran's applications and may be used for any local option programs.

PLEASE NOTE: Homeowner applications that were taken for the 2013 G/L (RENEWALS) are calculated for the 2014 G/L using the 2013 qualifying income schedule, NOT the schedule below. Also please be aware that the Renters Rebate application period has been expanded to April 1st through October 1st.

Homeowners

Income and Grant Information -2014 Benefit Year Filing period February 1-May 15, 2015

Income		Tax Credit%		Tax Credit Maximum		Tax Credit Minimum	
Over	To	Married	Unmarried	Married	Unmarried	Married	Unmarried
\$0	\$17,300	50%	40%	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$400	\$350
\$17,300	\$23,200	40%	30%	\$1,000	\$750	\$350	\$250
\$23,200	\$29,000	30%	20%	\$750	\$500	\$250	\$150
\$29,000	\$34,600	20%	10%	\$500	\$250	\$150	\$150
\$34,600	\$42,200	10%	0%	\$250	\$0	\$150	\$0

Renters

Income and Grant Information- 2014 Benefit Year Filing period April 1-October 1, 2015

Income		Maximum Credit		Minimum Credit	
Over	To	Married	Single	Married	Single
\$0	\$17,300	\$900	\$700	\$400	\$300
\$17,300	\$23,200	\$700	\$500	\$300	\$200
\$23,200	\$29,000	\$500	\$250	\$200	\$100
\$29,000	\$34,600	\$250	\$150	\$100	\$50
\$34,600	\$42,200	\$150	\$0	\$50	\$0

Prepared by: Patrick Sullivan, Fiscal Administrative Officer, IGP
State of Connecticut

Assessor's Office

Westbrook homeowners may apply for the elderly/disabled homeowner program between February 1 and May 15. The applicant must be 65 years of age to apply or any age if they are permanently and totally disabled and qualify with the state income limits. Please bring a copy of your form 1040 or form SSA-1099 when applying. This program is also called the circuit breaker program. These forms must be filed every two years.

Along with the homeowners age or disability requirements, the qualifying income limits for the 2015 applications are \$34,600 for single and \$42,200 for married. If you are unsure if you qualify for the upcoming year, please call the assessor's office 860-399-3016 or 860-399-3045.

The town of Westbrook also has a senior tax freeze program wherein your taxes can be frozen the first year you qualify. From then on, as long as your income criteria does not exceed the state income limits and you do not increase the value of your home by way of additions or outbuildings, your taxes will not increase.

If a homeowner is on the elderly homeowner program (circuit breaker), their taxes can be frozen and the forgiven taxes do not have to be repaid when they sell their home.

If the homeowners income is over the state income limit and their income is \$58,000 or less, we can freeze their taxes but a lien will be placed on the property and when the property is sold, the lien amount must be repaid to the town.

The total income is calculated from the IRS 1040 form line 20A social security benefits, and line 37 adjusted gross income. If the applicant does not file an income tax return and has social security as their only yearly income then a copy of the form SSA-1099 – social security benefit statement will be required.

Owners of mobile homes may apply for either the elderly homeowners program or the renters program. You cannot apply for both programs.

Meet Sonia Marino – Westbrook’s New Director of Health/Sanitarian

Recently, First Selectman Bishop interviewed Ms. Marino, Westbrook’s recently appointed Director of Health/Sanitarian with the following questions and her responses.

Q Comment on your professional background, experience and education?

SM: I received an Associates Degree in Marketing and Management from Berkeley College and then decided to pursue a career in Public Health. I began working as an intern in New Haven and worked as a Registered Sanitarian for the Bristol-Burlington Health District. I began studying for my MPH at the Connecticut River Area Health District and finished my thesis while working as the Chief Sanitarian in Old Lyme. I wanted to work in a small Shoreline Town with unique issues so I applied for the position in Westbrook.

Q Why did you choose the field of Public Health?

SM: I was first interested in working on Public Health Education and believe that prevention and early intervention is important.

Q What are your overall goals/objectives?

SM: My first objective is to determine the direction and expectations from the Town. One goal is to oversee the full functioning Westbrook Health Department and to ensure that the Town continues to comply with all State requirements. I would like to initiate educational programs and assist the Town in anyway possible.

Q How can you be reached?

SM: My e-mail address is smarino@westbrookct.us

Q How will you allocate your time?

SM: Currently I am evaluating and completing existing projects and following up on complaints. I am also spending time developing the budget for the Health Department.

Q Do you have any initial observations?

SM: The Town of Westbrook has an excellent, professional and organized Land Use Staff.

Ms. Marino has been appointed by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health and began her official duties on January 6, 2015. She has received her MPH and in her first few weeks of work she has met with numerous individuals to gain a

full understanding of the needs and expectations of the Westbrook community.

The essential functions of the Health Director/Sanitarian include carrying out the Connecticut Public Health Code as well as local regulations and ordinances.

The Health Director/Sanitarian performs specialized work in the enforcement of public and environmental health and safety laws and ordinances and is responsible for the Town’s provision of the 10 essential public health services, which include public health statistics, health education, health education nutritional services, maternal and child health, communicable and chronic disease control, environmental services, community nursing services, emergency and medical services, health maintenance and disease prevention.



Ms. Marino

Jenny Buchanan Josephson
ABR, GRI, Realtor®

Cell: 203.623.2450
Office: 860.767.5390 x18
Email: jbuchanan@pagetaft.com



THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME?

SOLD!  Killingworth	SOLD!  Madison	SOLD!  Branford
SOLD!  Essex	SOLD!  Branford	Under Contract!  Killingworth

I will give you a high quality, customized, real estate experience that will meet your needs.
CALL ME!

PageTaft.com
5 Essex Square, Essex, CT 06426

Page Taft
CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Conservation Commission

By Tom ODell, Chairman Conservation Commission

A Case for More Land Conservation: Preventing Destructive and Expensive Storm Water Impacts

Many people are surprised to learn that a major source of water quality impairment, read “dirty water”, is a town’s storm water drainage system. Historically, these systems were designed to “catch and convey” the water quickly from where the rain fell to a discharge point. Now, as part of its continuing obligations under state and federal permits, Westbrook requires more technically designed storm water management systems that mitigate storm water impacts. These requirements, including inspection and maintenance, have the effect of straining financial and staff resources. Permanent conservation of land that, if developed, could significantly increase the cost of existing storm water management, is a creative way to reduce long term storm water management cost, and protect water quality.

For example, Westbrook, much like the rest of Connecticut, has several distinct soil landscapes. The highest percentage of the state’s acreage is in bedrock controlled till landscapes. The Toby Hill area of Westbrook is, topographically, a good example of land

that is bed-rock-controlled. The CT Environmental Review Team (ERT) characterized the area as complex terrain with numerous bedrock outcrops and shallow soils containing slopes that range from moderately sloping to steeply sloping. (ERT Report, Toby Hill Estates January 1988). Storm water runoff from this area enters an unnamed perennial stream that flows south through the Town Forest into McVeagh Pond, before merging with Spring Lot Brook a tributary of the Patchoug River.

The physical conditions of the Toby Hill Area present severe limitations to residential development. Preserving this fairly rugged forested area would mitigate the significant costs associated with storm water management and provide maximum long-term benefits including watershed protection, wildlife habitat, and passive recreation opportunities. The Open Space Vision in the Plan of Conservation and Development proposes land conservation and a Greenway for the Toby Hill area.

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
ltgovernor.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/>

State Treasurer
Denise Nappier
55 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106
(800) 618-3404 Fax (860)-702-3043
<http://www.state.ct.us/ott/>

Attorney General

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

Rep. 23rd District

Devin Carney
CT House Republican Office,
L.O.B. Room 4200, Hartford, CT 06106
860-240-8700, 800-842-1423 Toll Free
devin.carney@housegov.ct.gov

Senator 33rd District

Art Linares
Legislative Office Building, Room 3400
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 240-8800
Art.Linares@cga.ct.gov

Rep. 35th District

Jesse Maclachlan
CT House Republican Office
L.O.B. Room 4200, Hartford, CT 06106
860-240-8700, 800-842-1423 Toll Free
jesse.maclachlan@housegov.ct.gov

FEDERAL

Senator Richard Blumenthal
90 State House Square 10th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103
(860) 258-6940 Fax (860) 258-6958
702 Hart Senate Office
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2823, Fax (202)224-9673

Senator Chris Murphy
One Constitution Plaza, 7th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103
(860) 549-8463 Fax (860) 524-5091
SD-B40A Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4041 Fax (202) 224-9750

Congressman Joe Courtney
101 Water Street Suite 301
Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 886-0139
215 Cannon House Office
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2076
www.courtney.house.gov

MacLachlan - First Term as State Representative

State Representative Jesse MacLachlan (R-35) was sworn in on January 7th as state representative for the 35th General Assembly District covering the towns of Westbrook, Clinton and Killingworth.

MacLachlan was among 19 other Republican freshmen who vowed to serve their districts over a two-year term. MacLachlan states he is committed to reducing the expense of government and making our state a better place to live and do business in.

“Our state is becoming a less and less affordable place to live. College graduates receive degrees and due to a lack of jobs consequently move out of Connecticut; a growing number of seniors that have lived and worked in this state their entire lives are struggling to afford retirement. We need to change the direction our state has been going in,” said Rep. MacLachlan.

“It is the utmost honor to represent the people of Clinton, Killingworth, and Westbrook - a community that supported me in

youth that I now have the privilege of serving,” said MacLachlan.

For the 2015-2017 legislative session, House Republican Leader Themis Klarides appointed MacLachlan to serve on the Transportation Committee, Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, and Energy and Technology Committee.

Rep. MacLachlan took the oath of office and was sworn in by Secretary of State Denise Merrill on Wednesday afternoon in the State House Chamber. He then participated in a Joint Convention of both the House of Representatives and Senate as Gov. Dannel Malloy addressed lawmakers about the 2015 Session.



The Start of the 2015 Session

By Representative Devin Carney

For the towns of Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, & Westbrook

This legislative session brings many challenges but also many opportunities to steer Connecticut's economy in the right direction. The 2015 session began on January 7th and ends June 3rd. This is what's known as the 'long session' as it is longer since it focuses on all types of legislation (the 2016 short session focuses solely on fiscal matters).

The governor will present a budget proposal in early February that is designed to provide guidelines for legislators. Non-partisan analysts project a budget deficit of nearly \$3 billion over the next two fiscal years. Thus, it is vital his proposals seriously take into account the state's debt and unfunded liabilities.

As a member of the Transportation Committee, I will be focused on improving our roads, bridges, and rails. The governor has made repairing our transportation infrastructure a key component for his second term. These upgrades are crucial, but also costly. Both the governor and I have put forward proposals for a Constitutional amendment to ensure that funds dedicated to the special transportation fund will be used exclusively for that purpose (a "lockbox"). Too often the special transportation fund has been raided for other purposes,

so it is imperative we prevent it from continuing.

As a member of the Environment Committee, I will focus on the continued preservation of the Long Island Sound while also fighting overly burdensome mandates that often target shoreline communities.

As a member of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, I will work towards making secondary education affordable and ensuring the necessary training for in-demand jobs when available.

I look forward to partnering with you throughout my tenure as your State Representative and keeping you informed on all Capitol-related news. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (860) 388-7612 or email me at repdevincarney@gmail.com.



Westbrook Garden Club – Come Grow with Us!

In December we celebrated the holidays by decking window boxes and barrels with greens and ribbons. We hope you enjoyed the display as much as we enjoyed creating it. Indoors, club members made a dozen table bouquets of pine, holly, red carnations, and white chrysanthemums to add to the spirit of the season in the Senior Center. Now, in February, snow may blanket the ground, but each day provides a little more light and we're looking eagerly forward to spring.

Thanks to The Westbrook Foundation, whose grant will be paired with garden club funds, we are replacing planting barrels in town with new containers. Manufactured of highly durable and long-lasting extruded PVC, the new planters were chosen after extensive research, deliberation, and consultation with the Town Center Revitalization Committee. The Garden Gate in Clinton has been awarded the contract to construct the containers, which will be in place for spring planting.

We have a wonderful schedule of programs upcoming at the library the 4th Tuesday of each month, and everyone is welcome. Look for notices in the *Harbor News* and *The Hartford Courant*.

Estuary Council

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. We have been serving Seniors and promoting healthy and active lifestyles for adults 50 and better through quality programs and services in the nine-town Estuary region for over 40 years!

January 2015 marked the first anniversary of the opening of The Marshview Fitness Center at The Estuary Council of Seniors. The Fitness Center is flourishing with active memberships. If fitness is one of your New Year resolutions, stop in for more information! There are seven different pieces of weight equipment and four cardio machines, including a NuStep. Hours are posted at the Estuary. Call for pricing and options. To schedule an appointment with Fitness Trainer, Skylar Miers, ATC, call 860-388-1611.

March is National Nutrition month and the annual Buy-A-Wheel campaign in support of Meals on Wheels. Local businesses will sell paper "wheels" for \$1. All proceeds support our local Meals on Wheels program. The Estuary Council provides nutritious meals to seniors at home along the shoreline as well as at Café sites. Meals on Wheels is not just about a meal – our volunteers provide a wellness check with each daily delivery that is invaluable, especially during the winter months. Please Buy-A-Wheel and support Meals On Wheels!

SAVE THE DATE – April 25 for "Junk in the Trunk," a fundraiser.

Interested in volunteering? Contact Judy at 860-388-1611. Visit us at <http://www.ecsenior.org>.

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, here's how to help roses and other flowers last. Harmful bacteria are a significant cause of flower loss, so make sure that vases, glass beads if used, and cutting tools are squeaky clean. Use a mild bleach solution (1 tablespoon bleach to 2 cups water) to disinfect. Rinse well. Discard used floral foam, which can harbor bacteria, and start with a new piece. Cut stems on the diagonal with a sharp knife before immersing in water and you'll be rewarded with long-lasting bouquets.

Mark your calendars now for our annual May Garden Market – May 9th on the green. Just in time for Mother's Day!

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

Friday, April 3 Good Friday



Hardwire/Battery Powered
Window Treatments

We work with your contractors to:

- Pre-wire
- Plan
- Install
- Program/Integrate

Kellner's is the premier motorization
Hunter Douglas dealer in CT.

Expansive showroom,
home consultations
860.871.1775

www.kellnerswindowgallery.com



Serving Connecticut for 60 years!



ESSEX WELLNESS CENTER

SPECIALISTS IN HOLISTIC SERVICES



Private Specialized Services Provided by Highly Experienced Professionals

- Naturopathic and Chinese Medicine
- Acupuncture, Anti-Aging Techniques
- Nutrition, Weight Loss/Management
- Hypnosis for Health, Spiritual Growth
- Mindfulness Meditation
- Life Coaching, Executive Coaching
- Leadership Coaching
- Art Therapy
- Eating Disorder
- Body Image Therapy
- Massage
- Reiki
- Healing Touch
- Substance Abuse & Addiction Counseling
- Art Classes and Creativity Workshops
- Personal Training & Health Coaching
- Yoga and Tai Chi in our Waterview Group Wellness Space, 8 Novelty Lane

Complete Customized Wellness Programs

Personal Training & Membership in Our Private Waterview Fitness Studio

TAI CHI

with Master Teacher David Chandler • All Levels
Offered Thursday Mornings, 10-11:30am
Call Now to Sign Up – Space is Limited!

YOGA

Monday Mornings, 9-10:00AM
\$20 Drop In • \$175 for 10 Classes

28 Main Street and 8 Novelty Lane: Waterview Fitness Studio | Essex Village, CT

860.767.7770 | info@essexwellnessctr.com

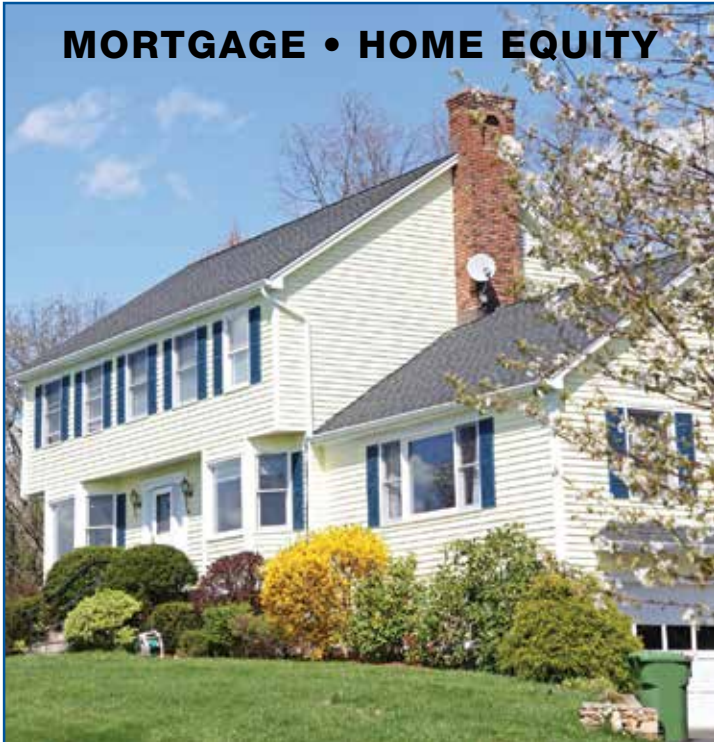


WESTBROOK EVENTS
 Westbrook Town Hall
 Westbrook, CT 06498

PRSRT STD
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 155
 Deep River, CT

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL

MORTGAGE • HOME EQUITY



BUSINESS • COMMERCIAL



Awesome Loan Rates
essexsavings.com



Essex, 35 Plains Road, 860-767-2573 • Essex, 9 Main Street, 860-767-8238 • Chester, 203 Middlesex Avenue, 860-526-0000
 Madison, 99 Durham Road, 203-318-8611 • Old Lyme, 101 Halls Road, 860-434-1646 • Old Saybrook, 155 Main Street, 860-388-3543

Call Toll-Free: 877-377-3922 • www.essexsavings.com

Member FDIC

 Equal Housing Lender