

# Chester events

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# First Selectman's Corner

## Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget Approved

At a Special Town Meeting on May 28th Chester residents voted to approve the fiscal year 2015-2016 \$12,907,355 budget proposed by the Board of Finance. This budget covers all general government operations, capital expenditures, Chester Elementary School and the Town share of Region 4 District's budget which was approved at referendum on May 5th.

The new budget is an increase of \$299,619, 2.4% higher than the current 2014-2015 adjusted budget. The major budget expenditures are for education 67%; general government operations 30%; and capital expenditures at 3%. Both Chester Elementary School's and Region 4's budget increases will be less than 2% reflecting Chester's declining student enrollment across all twelve grades. The general government budget expenditures are for boards and commissions, Town Hall operations, public works, public safety, health services, employee benefits and debt payment. These costs will increase by \$180,275, about 5% above fiscal year 2014-2015 operation costs. The increase is attributed to payroll cost up 2.75% plus additional staff hours for library, sanitarian, treasurer and public work seasonal crew. The Town will pay more for our Resident State Trooper, reserve more for winter maintenance costs based on past five year average, and

contribute more for medical and pension fund payments. The 3% capital budget expenditure funds \$419,000 over the next five years spreading the cost of major projects and equipment purchases such as road construction, Main Street improvements, technology hardware, fire and police equipment and vehicles.



First Selectman Ed Meehan

Based on expected revenues and operating expenditures the Board of Finance set the 2015-2016 mil rate at \$25.32 per \$1,000 of assessed property value; this is 50¢ more than the current rate of \$24.82 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. A higher mil rate increase was modified by using \$200,000 from the Town's healthy fund balance added to the revenue budget. The June 30, 2016 fund balance is projected to grow to \$1,699,000, approximately 13% of the adopted 2015-2016 expenditures budget and slightly higher than the Board of Finance's guideline of 8% to 12% for fund balance reserves.

## Main Street East Reconstruction Begins

On May 20th the Town signed a contract with Quality Associates,

Continued on page 2



"Experience the Difference" at The Saybrook at Haddam.  
Diane Daudt with her mom, resident Marie Daudt, looking at all the places they've flown to as flight attendants.

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

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

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

Inc. of East Haven authorizing them to proceed with Phase I of the Main Street East project. Quality Associates was one of ten companies who submitted bids for this work. The project's contract price is \$857,622.

A pre-construction meeting was held May 27th to walk Main Street and Laurel Hill Cemetery with the contractor to identify specific areas of concern. Also at this meeting were representatives of the Connecticut Water Company who discussed their schedule for completion of the new water main that will be coordinated with replacement of the brook culvert adjacent to the post office. The culvert crossing is the critical part of the improvement project because all storm water between School Lane and the post office flows downhill into the new culvert.

The utility mark outs and construction surveying are in place and Quality Associates began the culvert replacement mid-June. This work is expected to take three weeks to complete. During this construction it will be necessary to temporarily close access to the work zone except for abutting property owners. Access and on-street parking will be reopened at night and on weekends. Throughout most of this construction period single lane traffic will be permitted.

The contractor has been directed to limit disruption and provide advance notice when closures and detours are necessary. The pavement section between School Lane and Middlesex Avenue

will also be replaced and minor drainage repairs installed. In this section no new or replacement sidewalk work or wall restoration will be done. This 830 foot section of Main Street will be improved using only Town capital road funds.

Every effort will be made to limit inconvenience to abutting property owners and businesses located within the project area. This construction will finally complete the past two sewer and recent new water main projects resulting in an improved Main Street with new drainage, sidewalks, curbing and pavement.

## Chester Library Building Project – North Quarter Park

On April 10th the Board of Selectmen authorized contracting with LLB Architects to begin the preparation of Schematic Design options for a new library at North Quarter Park (NQP). The first step in this process was verification of soil testing to determine the presence of potential contaminants that could require remediation.

On April 29th Environmental Compliance Services (ECS) supervised the digging of six test holes along the south side of the park. These holes were located to avoid the 19 test pits dug in 2001 when the park was being considered for a new Town Hall site. The recent test holes revealed the same artificial fill materials as previously observed, such as road sweepings, leaves and tree debris, some bituminous pieces, concrete and broken brick. However, with ECS presence soil samples were properly collected and sent for laboratory analyses.

The soil assessments confirmed the fill material has relatively low concentration of petroleum hydrocarbons and traces of metals expected from road sweeping and perhaps catch basin sediments. The report concluded that: "while there are no specific regulations stating that you must remediate these subsurface materials, if the materials were excavated as part of the building foundation or site work and cannot not be re-used on the site (under the building or parking lot and above the groundwater table) and had to leave the site, they should be disposed of at a facility approved to take such material." (Quote from "Limited Subsurface Investigation North Quarter Part Environmental Compliance Services" May 26, 2015, page 3 of 3.)

If the site is slated for development, ECS highly recommends that an environmental soils management plan be developed to ensure that these soils are handled and managed appropriately and either used on site, if possible, in a manner that is protective to human health and the environment or transported to an approved facility for recycling.

Library Building Committee met on June 2nd to discuss this favorable but cautionary report and agreed to direct LLB Architects to move forward with the schematic site and floor design options as well as preliminary project cost estimates for evaluation and public review.

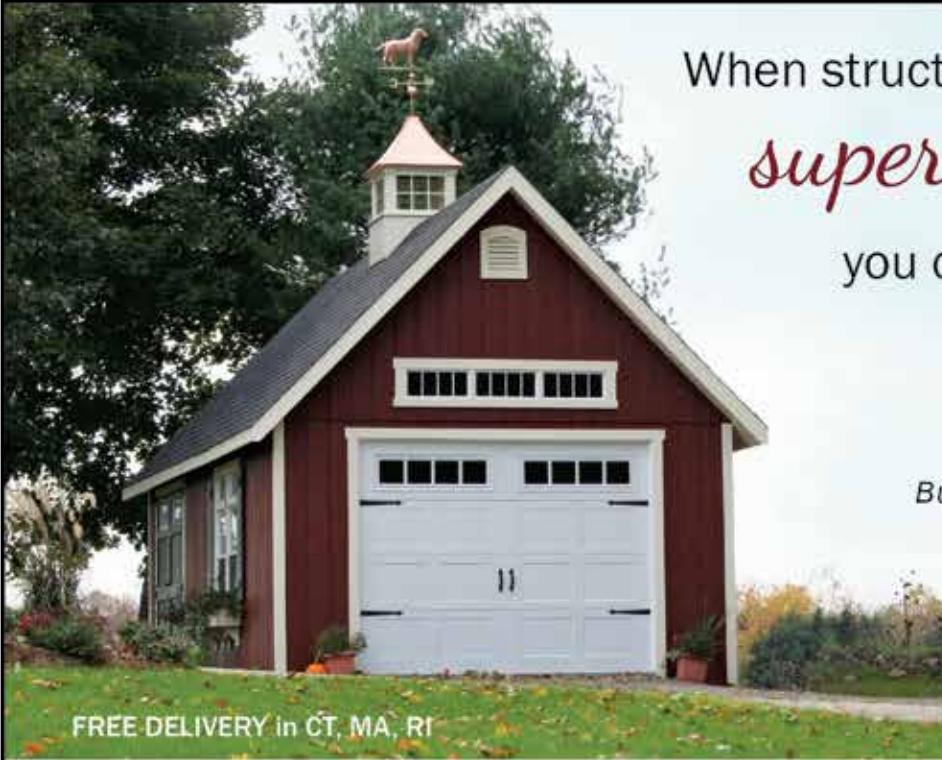
First Selectman Ed Meehan

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**Publisher**  
William E. McMinn

**Director of Advertising/Operations**  
Suzanne Spires 860-391-5534  
[suzanne@essexprinting.com](mailto:suzanne@essexprinting.com)

**Coordinator/Art Director**  
Kathy Alsop 860-391-4372  
[kathy@eventsmagazines.com](mailto:kathy@eventsmagazines.com)

**Finance Manager**  
Donna Evarts

**Cover Editor**  
AC Proctor 860-767-9087

**Sales Representatives**  
Ward Feirer 914-806-5500  
[wfeirer@gmail.com](mailto:wfeirer@gmail.com)

Betty Martelle 860-333-7117  
[betty@eventsmagazines.com](mailto:betty@eventsmagazines.com)

Brad Cunningham 860-581-0577  
[brad@essexprinting.com](mailto:brad@essexprinting.com)

Tom Fortin 860-299-4568  
[tom@eventsmagazines.com](mailto:tom@eventsmagazines.com)

**Magazine Layout**  
Amy Bransfield  
Liz Pester

**Cover Photo by Skip Hubbard**

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## Absentee Ballots

Absentee Ballots for the November 3rd election become available from the Town Clerk's Office on Friday, October 2, 2015.

## Calling All Crafters

Reserve your booth today and join us at our "Fall Back Spring Ahead Craft Fair" Saturday, October 10, 2015,

9 am to 4 pm at St. Joseph's Church Parish Center, Chester, CT

For more information email:  
[fallbackspringahead7@gmail.com](mailto:fallbackspringahead7@gmail.com)

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## Attention Chester

### Residents:

#### Deep River's Recycling – Bulky Waste Transfer Station

Chester residents are permitted to use the Deep River Transfer Station on Route 80 CONTINGENT UPON the display of a "Chester Access to Public Services" permit on the passenger side windshield of their vehicle. These permits may be obtained at the Chester Town Clerk's office. Permits will not be issued to individuals doing work for a homeowner or to any business. Chester residents have convenient access for disposal of bulky waste items such as furniture and lumber, electronics, refrigerators/air conditioners, scrap metal and tires.

No Chester household waste disposal is permitted at the Deep River transfer station. Chester residents should arrange for curb side weekly pick up from a licensed hauler. This shared municipal service is beneficial to both Towns. Deep River operates a well-organized facility compliant with the State's environmental standards.

Chester residents are requested to abide by our shared services agreement with Deep River and cooperate with the attendant when using the transfer station.

Thank you.

Ed Meehan, First Selectman

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# Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley

Summer is well underway. The sea, the sun, and the sand are calling us to spend time outdoors. Fun with family and friends, picnics, hikes, and lazy days at the beach renew and revitalize the spirit. Summer also brings high temperatures, sunburns, insects, and hurricane season. Are you prepared? It's time to make sure you are ready to stay safe and healthy.

Make sure everyone drinks plenty of water as the temperatures rise to prevent heat stroke. Remember the inside of the car can reach 140-190 degrees within half an hour on a hot sunny day. Never leave children or pets unattended in a closed vehicle.

Stock up on sunblock with a UVA/UVB rating of 30 or higher to protect yourself from those harmful ultraviolet rays. A teaspoon of sunblock is recommended for each arm or leg. Remember to apply sunblock to your ears and the tops of the feet, these areas are often forgotten. Hiking, picnicking and outdoor activities in brushy or wooded areas increases the risk of Lyme disease transmitted by ticks. To prevent tick bites, wear light colored clothing on your legs so you can spot any ticks quickly. Use insect repellent containing at least 20% DEET, or wear permethrin-treated clothing. Check your body daily for ticks. Remove ticks with tweezers grasping close to the skin surface and pull up with steady, even pressure. Clean the area with rubbing alcohol, or soap and water. See your doctor if you develop a red ringed rash, fever, chills or flu like symptoms.

Now is the time to check your emergency kits so you will be ready to evacuate should a hurricane hit. Make sure to have plenty of water, nonperishable food, medications and first aid supplies. Keep a battery powered radio, flashlight and extra batteries on hand. Know the evacuation route and make a plan to follow so all family members will know what to do. Above all enjoy the summer, and be safe!

For more information call Deborah Ringen RN, MSN, FCN at 860-767-0186.

## Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley Announces 2015 Scholarship Award Recipients

In honor of the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Murtha of Essex, the Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley awarded scholarships to 5 local high school seniors. Scholarships were awarded on the basis of academic achievement, volunteerism and motivation.

"We were delighted to have such hard-working, intelligent and highly motivated candidates", said Susan D. Murphy, co-chair of the scholarship committee and member of the board of directors of Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, Inc. "It was truly a pleasure to meet these young ladies and it was an honor to award them with these well-deserved scholarships."

Katherine Bender, APRN, board President, stated, "These students can bring a very bright future to healthcare. On behalf

of the board of directors of Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, congratulations and best wishes for successful careers to each of these fine young women!"



L-R: Ashley Joie, Ashley Savino, Marina Kohary, Kelly Feola, Stephanie Clapp

## About Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley

Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley is a not-for-profit, Medicare and Medicaid certified home health care organization serving the Lower Connecticut River Valley and eastern shoreline region. For more information, please visit their website [www.visitingnurses.org](http://www.visitingnurses.org) or call (860) 767-0186.



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# Things You Should Know When Reporting and/or Responding to an Accident on the River

## Chester Office of Emergency Management and Harbor Management Commission

Roles and responsibilities under Maritime Law, Connecticut State Statutes, Case Law, Good Samaritan Law and common sense:

### Maritime Law

"The Master of a vessel has supreme authority dating back to the early days of navigation. It was included into the US Constitution in Article III section 2 when it mentions "to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction".

Under Maritime Law; You must stop to render assistance if you observe a vessel and or its crew in distress. See Good Samaritan Law.

### State Statutes

- Who is in charge: CHAPTER 104 MUNICIPAL POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION, Sec. 7-313e. Authority of fire officer during an emergency "The fire chief of the local municipality, or any member serving in the capacity of fire officer-in-charge, shall, upon arrival assume command and control of the incident." If responding to assist: YOU MUST request permission from the River Command.

- Under State law, reportable accidents are considered to be for

damage of \$500 or more to a vessel, an injury, person overboard or fatality. These Incidents must be reported to the DEEP, Boating Division, 860-424-3000.

### Good Samaritan Law:

- Good Samaritan laws offer legal protection to people "who give reasonable assistance to those who are injured, ill, in peril, or otherwise incapacitated."

*And*

- You do not act beyond your level of training, experience or as conditions dictate.

### BUI Suspects:

Unless you are a POST Certified law enforcement officer, you cannot detain a vessel. Even harbormasters, with lights and siren, cannot stop a vessel if the operator is suspected to be under the influence. Call for a law enforcement officer's assistance.

- Case Law: All parties to an incident are looked at for liability exposure. Lawyers in doing their due diligence, will look throughout the land of law for similar incident justifications (or the one that fits their case) to go after any/everyone.  
Follow the rules of engagement.

### Reporting an Emergency Incident:

When reporting an accident or someone in trouble on the River; call out a May Day, May Day, May Day over Channel 16 . Utilization of VHF Channel 16 shall be your first mode of communication: that way other vessels in the area can assist. Then call 911 on your cell. The 911 call is a fast-track call to the local 911 Call Center who in turn will alert local responders.

### Note about Towing, to TOW or not to TOW

- You only take another vessel under tow in a situation where you can prevent further damage to the vessel or injury to its crew.
- DO NOT utilize your tow line. Use theirs. The minute you attached your line to the other vessel the liabilities switch to you.
- You are only obligated to tow the vessel to a safe haven. For a longer tow, Call (if the owner does not have a Tow contract) the Coast Guard and they will make the call, for the owner.

### Note from writer about night operations:

Under COLREGS and Inland Rules "it is illegal for any light to create glare that affects the safe operation of a boat". Boaters should be aware of where search lights point. It will take twenty plus minutes for a person's night vision to return.

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# Chester Parks and Recreation

## Celebrating Community through People, Parks & Programs!

Cedar Lake 2015 Summer Season: The Town Beaches on Cedar Lake are open through August 20 with scheduled hours from 10:30am until 6:00pm. Hours may vary according to staff availability, training, weather, or special programs. It is the policy of the Chester Park and Recreation Commission that access to the Town parks, including the beaches on Cedar Lake, is by permit only. Vehicles of residents parked at unstaffed parks must display a public access sticker, which is available at the Town Clerk's Office. Non-residents must display a park pass on their vehicles at unstaffed parks and show their pass and identification when entering a staffed facility. Non-resident passes are currently \$65 and valid through June 19 of 2016. They are available at Pelletier Park during operating hours and at the Parks and Recreation Office during the off-season. Chester residents may enter staffed facilities by showing a driver's license, or other proof of residency or taxpayer status with identification. Residents and pass holders may bring up to six people, but must accompany them. All other guests are \$3 each. Groups of 10 or more must make reservations in advance by submitting a completed group use application, a certificate of insurance to the Town, and pay a group fee.

• Waterfront Safety Note: The Park and Recreation Commission reminds parents that they are responsible for their children while visiting Pelletier Park. Please watch your children while they are in the water and do not drop them off or leave them unattended at the facility. Drowning is the second leading cause of trauma deaths for ages 1-19 years old and the third leading cause of ALL deaths for children 0-4 years of age. We would like all patrons to realize that no one is permitted in the water if they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or while they are chewing gum or eating. Please remember that head first entries are not permitted. This includes throwing children into the water as they may turn to a head-first position.

Head-First Entries Into The Water Are The Leading Cause Of Sports Related Spinal Injuries.

- Canine Good Citizen Prep Course & Testing. Successful completion of the CGC test can be used to verify your dog's eligibility to conduct pet therapy; for renters insurance or for the personal satisfaction of knowing that your dog is considered safe and polite in public. The course focuses on practicing and perfecting the 10 behaviors required to pass the AKC Canine Good Citizen test. Any dog 6 months of age or older is eligible to participate. Location: North Quarter Park, Chester Dates: 5:30pm August 6,13,20,27, (Rain date September 3) Cost: \$115.00 +tax. Test Information: it is not mandatory to take the course to test. \$15+tax, Sunday Sept 13 at the Chester Pet Awareness Day being held at the Chester Meeting House. Events are co-sponsored by CGC Certified Evaluator and trainer Belinda N. Ahern of BNA Dog Services in support of Homeward Bound CT. For additional details call Susan at 860-553-3641 or to learn more & register visit: <http://www.bnadog.com/chester-cgc.html>

- Field hockey clinic, Valley Regional High School. Field Hockey Coach Beth Powers and Assistant Coach Randy Netsch, assisted by team players, will offer a Field Hockey clinic for students in grades 2 through 8 at Chester Elementary School. The program will be on Thursdays, September 24, October 1, 8, and 15 from 5:30 until 6:30pm. The fee is \$10 for the four-week session and all equipment will be provided.

- Deep River and Chester Parks and Recreation will host a Basketball Clinic with former UConn and WNBA basketball player Kara Wolters on Sunday, October 25, 2:30-6:00pm at John Wintrop Middle School. The program is open to students in grades 4 through 9. Contact us to be put on the list.

continued on pg 8



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## PARKS & RECREATION... continued from pg 7

• Yoga and mindful meditation meets on Tuesdays, October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 10, and 17 in the Community Room at the Chester Town Hall with Annette Babek. An optional meditation session begins at 5:30pm and the Yoga class is held from 5:45 until 6:45pm. There is a \$10 drop-in fee per evening and students are welcome to participate on any date.

• American Red Cross babysitter's training for Grade 5 through age 15 on October 12, 9:00am-3:30pm or March 23 & 24, 1:15-4:30pm will be held at the Chester Town Hall for \$40. School bus transportation from Chester Elementary School is available for the March session, following the early dismissal.

• Early school dismissal sports clinics & camp activities for grades K through 6 on are available on October 22, 23, November 6, January 15, February 12 following the 1:00pm early dismissal until 4:30pm at Chester Elementary School. The registration fee is \$10 per child, per day or \$5 for those registered for Chester Youth Basketball.

• Youth basketball registration is due November 3 for grades K through 6! Forms are available on our website or outside the Parks and Recreation office.

• American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED will be offered at the Chester Town Hall on October 26 & 28 or February 16. First Aid Class will be held from 6:00 until 9:00pm on Monday, October 26 and CPR/AED on Wednesday, October 28. A second session, on Tuesday, February 16 will hold CPR/AED in the morning, 10:00am until 1:00pm and First Aid in the afternoon, noon until 3:00pm. The cost for either session is \$35 for one class or \$45 for both First Aid and CPR/AED.

• Applications to coach or referee youth basketball during the 2015/2016 season will be accepted through October 8. Forms are available on our website and outside the Parks and Recreation office.

• Adult Basketball meets November 17 through March 31

We hope you enjoy the Town properties maintained by the Chester Park and Recreation Commission.

They include: Pelletier Park, Lake View Park on Cedar Lake Road, the baseball fields at Chester Elementary School, L'hommedieu Park, Chester Creek Overlook, North Quarter Park and Parker's Point Boat Launch.

Please contact us if you have a comment or a concern regarding any one of our parks!

For information or registration:

860-526-0013 extension 223, [parkrec@chesterct.org](mailto:parkrec@chesterct.org)

Visit our website for program registration forms:

[http://chesterct.org/?page\\_id=7810](http://chesterct.org/?page_id=7810)

# St. Joseph's Fall Festival

Saturday, October 3, 2015

This event is sure to offer entertainment for the entire family. We hope you will come out and enjoy hay rides, bouncy houses, climbing walls, crafts, and bingo. You will be able to participate in a pie eating contest and indulge in a delicious lunch. You can even preserve the memory with a family picture in our photo booth. Pumpkins and mums will be available for the beautification of your home. If you are interested in volunteering or advising with this event, please contact Bill Burdick at 860-322-4151. More volunteers are needed to support activity teams and to bake pies.

The 6th Annual Mission Trip to Ocean City, Delaware was quite a success for the 15 teens and 6 adults that attended. Community service projects completed, consisted of small construction tasks along with painting and small household repairs. It was fantastic to have our young adults involved in this Christian Service project. We are already looking forward to next year's mission trip which will include teens from Our Lady of Sorrows.

Thanks to all who participated in Change Changes Lives. We collected 90 baby bottles filled with generous change donations to benefit pregnant women in crisis in Middlesex County through ABC Women's Center in Middletown.

CCD registration for our 2015-2016 school year is now open. If you are new to Chester, know of a new family in town, or a first grader as of September 2015, please ask parents to contact Joyce Leach at 860-227-8778 or jaleach2@comcast.net. Early religious instruction assists children in decision making and gives them the tools they need to live their catholic faith in everyday life.

St. Joseph's Rectory has new office hours. The Parish office will be open on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30am to 1:00pm. Feel free to call, 860-526-5495, at anytime or visit the Our Lady of Sorrows Rectory on Monday and Wednesday.

We welcome Deacon Thomas Griffin, who is visiting our Parish through July, and pray for his possible ordination into the priesthood in 2016.

Please join us after the 10:00am mass for the monthly Social Sunday on July 12th, August 9th, and September 13th. On behalf of St. Joseph's Parish we wish you safe travels and a blessed summer season.

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# Summer 2015 Chester Public Library

## Ending reQuest, CT's Statewide Library Catalog, Means Changes for Interlibrary Loan

On June 30, the Connecticut State Library shut down reQuest, our online, statewide library catalog. The plan is to introduce a new, more cost-effective system in the fall. In the interim there's good news and bad news.

- Good news: Chester Library continues to offer Interlibrary Loan (ILL) services. ILL requests can be made in person at the library, by phone, or by email to [chesterlibraryill@gmail.com](mailto:chesterlibraryill@gmail.com).
- Bad news: Most online requests are no longer possible and processing times for ILL requests are longer. Students requiring summer reading should place their requests early in the summer.
- Good news: VERSO, Chester's own catalog is still searchable online and online

renewals and reserves on items owned by Chester continue.

- Bad news: Searching online no longer reveals which other CT libraries own the item you are seeking. We plan to post links to local libraries' catalogs to assist with this. Call the library for help.

Your patience during this transition is greatly appreciated.

## Food for Fines

During July, donate non-perishable food items, personal care or cleaning items to the library and receive credit toward unpaid library fines.

Especially needed are peanut butter, jam, condiments, cereal, cookies, and crackers. Laundry detergent, dish detergent, Kleenex and toilet tissue are also needed. The pantry is overloaded with beans, soup and pasta, so please choose something else to contribute. All items collected will be given to the Chester Food Pantry, which is located at Town Hall and is open to any Chester resident in need on Mon, Wed, Thurs from 9:00 a.m. – noon.

Check to be sure all items are within the 'use by' date. The food pantry cannot distribute items which are past date. Donations may not be used to pay for lost or damaged materials.

## Summer Programs for Kids: "Every Hero has a Story", Music, Crafts and Fun!

- Be a Reading Hero: summer reading rewards (pre-readers and up) throughout the summer began Monday, June 29
- Stories & Crafts (ages 3-6) on Mondays, July 6-August 10, 10:30 a.m. Create super hero masks, water bottle bubble blowers and more.
- Meet Local Hero Deborah Ringen (all ages) learn to be a germ-conquering hero on Monday, July 20, 10:30 a.m.
- Crafts for Kids (ages 7 & up) on Wednesdays, July 8- August 5 at 4:30 p.m. Medusa heads? Vegi-critters? Origami? Sculpting? There's something for everyone!

## For Teens

Book discussions fulfill summer reading project requirements

- Turn Right at Machu Picchu (JWMS students) on Thurs., July 16 at 5:00 p.m.
- 172 Hours on the Moon (VRHS students) on Thursday, August 6 at 5:00 p.m.

## Summer Programs For Adults: "Escape the Ordinary"- online!

This online reading program for ages 18 & up runs through Monday, August 31, and wraps up with a drawing for a bountiful "Lobster Fest" basket. Escape the Ordinary is generously supported by The Chester Rotary, Lark, R.J. Vickers Herbery and the Friends of Chester Public Library.

## Summer Programs For All

- Comic Construction (all ages), drawing comics on Wednesday, August 12, 4:30 p.m.

- Don't forget the passes to local attractions available free from your library

For details and registration call the library at 860-526-0018 or visit our website [http://chesterct.org/?page\\_id=286](http://chesterct.org/?page_id=286) .

## Library Hours

This summer the library is staying open on Tuesdays! Open hours are Mondays 10-8; Tuesdays 2-6; Wednesdays 10-6; Thursdays 2-8; Fridays 10-6; Saturdays 10-2. The library will be closed on Labor Day, September 7.

Visit the library website anytime at [http://chesterct.org/?page\\_id=286](http://chesterct.org/?page_id=286) .

Like Chester Library on Facebook!



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# Important News From The Tax Office

## Regarding Tax Information

Here it is late at night or really early in the morning and you are wondering what your taxes are but you can't find your tax bill, so the first thing you think of doing is calling the tax office for the info directly. However, this year, you have another option: You can now go online to [www.chesterct.org](http://www.chesterct.org) and find Tax Collector information and you should be able to find a link to online information. This new option has been provided this year because we had so many requests for this type service. Since this is a small town with part time hours in the Tax Office, this helpful link will come in handy for lawyers, accountants and title searchers who do so much research prior to a parcel being sold or a refinance plan taking place, but it will be especially helpful for the taxpayers themselves. Many towns have done this previously and it has made research much more efficient for everyone. Just type in the last name and at least the correct initial of the home owner, and you should be able to find the information you want. Info can be found by the street address also. I am told this will be "live" information, so amounts should be updated each night, providing a current view of the details. This "lookup" will provide the total due for anyone who did not pay their bill on time since it will

contain tax along with the interest for that month. Payments should be more accurate with this online ability, since you can see the amount yourself and not try to hear the amount over a phone. Since DMV is trying to go "live" with their registrations and also licenses, we will be providing both real estate and also MV information on line to help with DMV issues. You will have the correct amount due which needs to be paid in cash to receive a "live" clearance for DMV. This cash requirement is only if you are paying late! Since ability to research on your own time is new to Chester, we hope it is extremely helpful to all our taxpayers! But do remember, if you need a clearance for DMV, it must still be with cash or a bank check or a postal money order, when your bill is being paid late! Good luck to all and enjoy this new process. Also, remember: we will continue to try to help anyone who calls or comes in for information! Take care and enjoy the summer months, and enjoy your new ability to do the research yourself for tax information! It will help you a bit at "tax time" too for the federal income tax process! Take care!

Madaline Meyer, TC

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## Estuary Council Regional Senior Center

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

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

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

### Shoreline Chefs - Sunday, September 20, 2015

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

The afternoon will be filled with fabulous food, beverages for purchase, music, and the chance to vote for your favorites (food, chef, booth decorations). Tickets just \$35.00 per person. Food. Fun. Wine. Beer. Support Meals on Wheels - Join us September 20th. If you are interested in being a Chef, or being a Sponsor of this event, call 860.388.1611 x211.

## Essex Printing Wins 2015 Award of Excellence

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

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

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

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# Everybody wants a lush green lawn—but at what cost?

Many people don't realize that lawns maintained with synthetic fertilizers and pesticides pose a serious health threat to people, pets and the environment. Lawns also decrease natural habitat vital to wildlife. Reducing the use of lawn care chemicals to foster healthier communities can be done individually, in our yards; in our parks, playing fields and other public places; and in our schools, where use of lawn care chemicals is currently banned by state law at day care centers and grades K-8.

## Why Chem-Free?

Lawn care chemicals—applied by homeowners or lawn care companies—contain potent toxins that kill organisms considered pests, such as dandelions and grubs. Scientific evidence shows that these chemicals also affect people, especially children, and pets. Exposure to certain lawn care pesticides has been associated with increased risks of a variety of health problems, including asthma, several types of child and adult cancers, and cancers in dogs.

The effects of harmful lawn care chemicals reach far beyond your family and yard. These chemicals can make their way into the environment through rain runoff, polluting streams and groundwater, and move through the food chain, becoming more concentrated. Using herbicides and pesticides to tackle weeds and insects can actually be counter-productive to your lawn's health. These poisons also kill good organisms in the soil that help produce nutrients plants need to grow. This weakens the grass, fosters thatch and encourages disease.

## How to Have a Healthy Lawn and Yard

Fortunately, you can have an attractive and healthy lawn without using harmful synthetic chemicals. You can make simple changes, like mowing higher (3"), leaving your grass clippings on the lawn, using organic fertilizers, aerating to reduce soil compaction, and de-thatching, to make your lawn healthier and more vigorous naturally. You can also reduce the size of your lawn by growing a variety of other plants to promote a healthy, diverse ecosystem in your yard. Grass, which requires lots of sun, water and good soil, is one of the highest maintenance plants we can grow. Instead, plant groupings of trees, shrubs, grasses and flowers that are compatible with existing environmental conditions; use ground covers that require less maintenance than grass; and, choose native plants adapted to our climate and conditions. Finally, use safe alternatives to get rid of common pests. You can pull out dandelions at their weakest—when blooming; eliminate crabgrass by mowing high and using organic fertilizers; treat weeds in driveway or sidewalk cracks with white vinegar; and control grubs with alternatives like beneficial nematodes, Neem or GrubGONE.

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## Chester Fair Bucks for Benches

The Chester Fair Board of Directors is pleased to announce the details of their plan to improve seating around the fairgrounds by offering a, Bucks for Benches program.

The Bucks for Benches program is intended to provide additional seating at fair time, all while offering businesses and individuals the ability to show their support for the Chester Fair with their donation. The beautifully made, all cedar, park bench-style benches, produced locally by Baldwin Furniture, will be offered in 8' lengths. Inscribed, the donation price per bench is \$350. Inscriptions can recognize a company, family or individual (past or present) and anyone that loves the fair and all that it provides to our community. Benches are also available inscription-free for a price of \$250 for those that would prefer to donate anonymously.

For more information please contact any Chester Fair Board member or, call Kim Price at 203-464-6289.

## Summer News

### from Chester's Energy Team

Chester's E-Team will be hosting a Light Bulb Swap on Saturday, Oct. 10 at the Meeting House. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. that day, Chester residents (must bring proof of town residence) may exchange up to 5 incandescent light bulbs for an equal number of LED light bulbs, at no cost. You can purchase more LED bulbs at discounted prices. Also available that day will be information on home energy surveys (HES) and other current energy saving initiatives, including solar PV purchasing and leasing.

Consolidating Chester's position as a CT Clean Energy Community, the E-team continues to conduct energy audits of municipal buildings, in an effort to reduce energy usage. The team also provides energy-saving tips for residents through Facebook.com/ChesterCTEnergyTeam and the weekly townwide e-newsletter. The team meets the second Monday of each month at 9 a.m. at town hall.

## Spectrum Art

### Gallery & Store of Centerbrook

Presents Natural Illustrators & Painters & Other Surprises through July 12. Collage-It's an Adventure! runs July 24 -September 13. Open Reception Friday, July 24 from 6:30-9pm. Spectrum is open Wed-Fri (11am-6pm), Sat (11:30am-6pm) and Sun (11:30am-5pm). Art classes and workshops now offered at the Gallery include a Pressed Flower Design Workshop on July 12 and a Henna and Me Workshop on July 26. Register online at [www.spectrumartgallery.org](http://www.spectrumartgallery.org) or call (860) 767-0742. Spectrum is an expansion of the non-profit arts organization Arts Center Killingworth, whose mission includes providing opportunities for emerging and established artists to display and sell their work. Shop Online at Spectrum Anytime! 61 Main Street, Centerbrook.

# Troop 13 – Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts

Troop 13 Boy Scouts serves the boys ages 11-18 of Chester and Deep River. The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America is to help young men develop their character and life skills all while having fun. There is much emphasis placed on assisting these young men to develop into strong healthy citizens who will lead our communities and country in the years ahead. The Boy Scout methods help to promote these ideals through the challenge of putting them into practice with the Troop Program. This is done in a way that is both challenging and fun.

## A Busy Year for Troop 13

This Spring The Boy Scouts of Troop 13 were actively camping and enjoying the outdoors. They camped as a troop and worked on earning merit badges in Wilderness Survival, Scouting Heritage, Family Life and Fishing at June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT and at Cockaponset State Forest. The troop attended the district spring camporee held at the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds in May. In April scouts from Troop 13 also attended the Merit Badge Madness held at Xavier High School. The boys have certainly had a busy year of fun and learning leadership skills.

## June Court of Honor

Troop 13 held their June Court of Honor at the Camp Hazen Pavilion on June 10, 2015. 87 merit badges were earned by the boys since February 2015. The following boys earned Rank advancements.

**Second Silver Eagle Palm:** Gregory Merola, awarded for remaining active in the troop and earning 30 merit badges after earning the Rank of Eagle Scout.

**Star:** Jared Hart, Alec Hoehnebart, Edward Lenz, Drake Peterson and Samuel Rutty, **First Class:** Sean Davis, Gavin Hauswith, Axel Johnson, Anthony Joia, Trey Neubert, Nate Northgraves, Michael Raymond, **Second Class:** Michael Roise, James Tedeschi, Carter Tiezzi, **Tenderfoot:** Aiden Bahner, **Scout:** Parker Gingrave, Zach Kirla, Samuel Iselin, Benjamin Safran, Jack Whittaker

## Upcoming Plans for Summer 2015

A large number of Scouts will attend a the Troop 13 Connecticut River Canoe Trip at the end of June.

Troop 13 will attend June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT for Summer Camp In July. The boys will enjoy swimming, boating, archery, rifle & shotgun shooting, sports, ATV and camping. To learn more information about joining



Troop 13 please contact our Scoutmaster, Steven Merola @ 860-526-9262

Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts  
Troop 13 Wilderness Survival  
Campout at Cockaponset State  
Forest. Photo by: Michael Rutty



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# Tick Borne Illnesses In Connecticut

Summer is the time for picnics, hiking, outdoor concerts, and just relaxing in your back yard. It is also the time for ticks to come out and feed. In Connecticut there are several illnesses caused by a tick bite. The common deer tick, *Ixodes scapularis*, can transmit Lyme disease, Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis (Ehrlichiosis), and Babesiosis. Symptoms of these illnesses include fever, body aches, headaches, and in the case of Lyme disease an expanding red rash. Symptoms may begin from 3-30 days after the bite.

The American dog tick, *Dermacentor variabilis*, can transmit another illness

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Symptoms include the sudden onset of fever, headache and muscle pains followed by a rash. These symptoms may appear 3-14 days after the tick bite.

All of these infections can be treated with antibiotics, but without prompt treatment they can cause serious or even fatal illness.

After spending time outside it is important to do thorough skin survey to find any ticks. The longer a tick remains attached the more likely it could transmit an illness. An infected deer tick can transmit one or even more illnesses at the same bite. The

Connecticut Agricultural Station estimates that about 25-30% of deer ticks are infected with Lyme disease. But not every tick bite will transmit the illness.

If you find a tick it is important to remove it promptly. Use tweezers and grasp the tick's mouthparts as close to the skin as possible. Using steady pressure, pull the tick upward. After removal wash the area with soap and water and apply an antiseptic. Write down the date it was removed and the body part. If you develop a rash at the bite site and/or symptoms of a flu like illness contact your physician immediately.

## The Extra MILE

The MILE (Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education) Advisory Board has voted to set up a fund for Middlesex Community College students to help with extra expenses such as books, bus passes or student fees. When the registration packets for the fall semester of the MILE program become available an "extra" envelope for voluntary donations to the Middlesex College Foundation will be included.

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Orientations and registration for the fall session will be held in Chapman Hall, Middlesex College on Wednesday September 9th starting at 1:00 pm. Residents 50 and older are encouraged to participate in as many programs as they desire. The fall offerings include a performance by Jim Firecrow, a travelog to New Zealand, Living in the Antarctic, Connecticut Gypsies, Making the Most of Your Brainpower, Great Decisions, a trip to the 9/11 Museum and sustainable landscaping for Long Island Sound.

Brochures will be available at local libraries and senior centers. For more information call 860-343-5863 or visit [www.mileonline.org](http://www.mileonline.org).

## News From Chester Merchants

The Chester Merchants group aims to attract visitors to our picturesque Chester Center. We do this through our own businesses as well as working together with special events – such as our Come Home to Chester evening on Sept. 18. We welcome the activity of the Chester Sunday Market, led by Sue Hotkowski, and are working on fun ideas to keep Chester Center vibrant through the 2016 Main Street Bridge reconstruction.

You are welcome to attend our Chester Merchants monthly meetings on the first Wednesday morning of each month. You can sign up for our email list for notification of meetings and more by writing to [chestermerchants@gmail.com](mailto:chestermerchants@gmail.com).

Other ways to be informed are through our [visitchesterct.com](http://visitchesterct.com) website, [FindItInChesterCT.wordpress.com](http://FindItInChesterCT.wordpress.com), and [Facebook.com/visitchesterct](http://Facebook.com/visitchesterct).

# Taste of the Valley 2015... Tickets on Sale Now



Taste of the Valley is Tri-Town Youth Services' signature annual fundraising event, an evening featuring local favorites in food and music. Save the date for this year's event, coming to a discerning palate near you on Friday, September 18th, at 6:00 pm. We invite you to get your tickets today, and

join us at the Deep River Historical Society, located at 245 Main Street.

Each year, our community gathers to enjoy delectable appetizers and desserts from area restaurants and caterers. Past participants have included local haunts Red House, The Ivory, and last year's exceptional winner, Kenwood Catering. Be prepared to cast your

ballot for the restaurant who takes home the coveted Taste of the Valley fork this year!

The Taste of the Valley Committee is excited to announce changes to the format of the event this year, bringing it back to its roots with the inclusion of a silent auction, making the event BYOB, and focusing on talented local music acts; this year, Arrowhead will be opening for Tri-Town favorite The Dizzy River Band!

Tickets are \$30/each, or two for \$50. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Tri-Town Youth Services at 860-526-3600 or visit our website, [www.ttysb.org](http://www.ttysb.org). Note: This event is for adults age 21+. To be a sponsor or donate an item for our silent auction, email Dawn Niles at [dawnee718@aol.com](mailto:dawnee718@aol.com).

Also, be sure to "like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/tasteofthevalley](https://www.facebook.com/tasteofthevalley) for the latest event information.

*TRI-TOWN YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU, INC. is a nonprofit agency that coordinates, develops, and provides services dedicated to promoting the positive growth and development of youth and families in Chester, Deep River, and Essex.*

## The Meeting House Players Present...

The Meeting House Players are pleased to announce open auditions for Edward Albee's dramatic masterpiece "WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLF?". Auditions will be held on September 16 & 17, 2015 at 7 PM in the Meeting House located at 4 Liberty Street in Chester, CT.

George, a professor at a small New England college, and his wife Martha, the middle aged daughter of the college's president, return home, drunk from a party. Martha announces, amidst general profanity, that she has invited a young couple to stop by for a night-cap. The guests, an opportunistic new professor at the college and his naïve new bride

arrive and the charade begins. Before the party's over, the witty banter that is cross-fired between both couples exposes dysfunctional relationships and tragic secrets.

The play's four member ensemble is made up of two women and two men. The cast of characters are as follows:

Martha: Boisterous, mid to late 50's, attractive, looking younger.

George: Martha's husband, late 40's to early 50's.

Nick: Well put together, good looking, early 30's.

Honey: Nick's wife, rather plain, somewhat petite, mid to late 20's.

Those auditioning will be asked to read from the script. Directed by Debbie Alldredge, the production opens at the Meeting House in Chester on Friday, November 13 and continue on November 14, 20 & 21, 2015. For additional information please contact Deb Alldredge at 860-526-3684 or at [TheMeetingHousePlayers@gmail.com](mailto:TheMeetingHousePlayers@gmail.com). The Meeting House Players is a not-for-profit, all volunteer community theatre organization pursuing the theatre arts with the talents and interests of individuals throughout Connecticut.

Debbie Alldredge, The Meeting House Players



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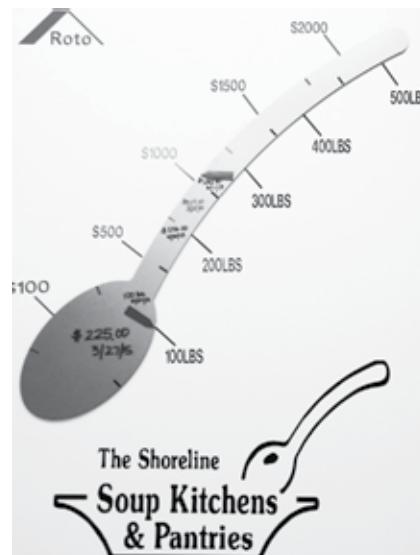
# Roto Frank Raises Funds & Food for Shoreline Soup Kitchens

Every year the employees of Roto Frank of America select a charity to support. This year, they chose The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries (SSKP), which provides food to the needy of 11 shoreline towns, including Chester.

So far they have held a Pancake Breakfast, a Bake Sale and a Taco Lunch/Food Drive, where food donations served as admission. Upcoming events include 50-50 raffles, food drive competitions and other breakfast / lunch sales. Employees may also give contributions via payroll deductions. Campaign progress is tracked on a special "soup ladle thermometer", updated monthly and displayed in the employee cafeteria. The company also designs an annual t-shirt for every employee, who are encouraged to wear them on Friday for "Charity T-Shirt Day". All their efforts seem to be working! To date, the campaign has raised more than \$1,000 and 100 pounds of non-perishable food, with many months yet to go.

At the end of December, the Charitable Committee will present The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries with a check for financial donations collected during the campaign. Non-perishable food donations are brought to SSKP food pantries continuously throughout the year.

"We are so grateful to all the employees of Roto Frank for supporting The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries," said Patty Dowling, Executive Director. "Their yearlong effort is an inspiration, and shows their caring and commitment to helping others in need."



Any resident of Chester is welcome at one of SSKP's 5 food pantries. Also, hot meals are cooked and served by SSKP volunteers at eight daily meal sites, including a weekly Sunday dinner from 5 to 6 p.m. at the United Church of Chester at 29 West Main Street, Chester.

For more information, visit [www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org](http://www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org)

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## 45th Annual Lobster Festival

The Rotary Club of Chester Invites you to our 45th annual Lobster Festival!

On Saturday, September 12th, 2015 join us, 5-10 pm, at the Chester Fair Grounds for great food, music and dancing. Gates open at 4 pm.

This year the festival will be in honor of two long time members; Lou Matz and Frank Ferrari and to celebrate our 45th year.

By purchasing tickets you help to support local and international organizations such as Camp Hazen, Bikes for Kids, the Back Pack Program, the Chester Community Fund, the Shoreline Soup Kitchen, Chester Boy Scouts, Rotary International and many others.

Menu: Twin Lobster, Single Lobster, Twin Steaks, Single Steak or Surf & Turf

For more information or to purchase tickets go to [www.ChesterRotary.org](http://www.ChesterRotary.org)



# Chester Library Friends Help Make Library Thrive

Did you know that if it weren't for the Chester Library Friends, you wouldn't be able to borrow a DVD to take home to watch with your family? And your children wouldn't have a summertime reading program? And that pass that provided free admission for your family to the Wadsworth Atheneum wouldn't exist?

Just as none of us wants a life without friends, your Chester Public Library can't thrive without its Friends.

The Friends fund the programs and services for the Chester Library that are not paid for in the town budget. Book discussion groups for adults, materials for children's story hours and programs, museum and attraction passes, DVDs and the library's Netflix membership – they're paid for by the Friends of the Chester Library (mostly through profits from the Book Sales, but also monetary donations).

The Friends offer programs for the library, such as the Games Night and Zentangle workshops. They've created the book bag in honor of Helen LaFlair ("I'm never alone if I have a book"), which they're selling as well as using for the Books to Home project. The Friends help with the Facebook page for the library (Facebook.com/ChesterCTPublicLibrary) and they write a monthly e-newsletter to keep everyone informed about library happenings.

Once again the Friends are running the Paperback Book Sale at the Chester Fair (you can start leaving your good-quality paperbacks at the library on Aug. 1). The Friends are also sponsoring their third annual raffle to raise more library funds (it will begin at the Chester Fair; watch for details to come).

You don't have to "join" the Friends. You just need to let us know you can help support the library in some way. Leave your name



at the library desk. Help sell raffle tickets, volunteer at the book sale, plan a program or supply refreshments, spread the word about the library's future...the possibilities are wide open!

*On June 13, Sue Zirlen received the Friends of CT Libraries Individual Achievement Award for establishing the Human Library in Chester. Photo by Diane Lindsay*

## Chester Cub Scouts Pack 13

Chester Cub Scouts Pack 13 serves boys grades 1 to 5. This year Chester Cub Scouts held a Scouting for Food Drive for the Chester Pantry, sang Christmas Carols at the town nursing homes, attended a sleep-over event at the New England Air Museum, marched in the Memorial Day Parade and launched model rockets at Haddam Meadows. Several boys will be attending a week of Cub Scout Day Camp this summer in Westbrook.

Lead by parent volunteers, Cub Scouting offers boys an excellent opportunity to learn new things in a fun environment designed to help them succeed. From building his own pinewood derby car to learning outdoor skills and citizenship lessons, your son will LOVE being a Cub Scout.

Registration for the 2015-16 Cub Scout Year will be held on September 16, 2015. More details will be published in the local newspapers and on the Region 4 website. New Cubs and Parent Volunteers are always welcome.

Pack Meetings (all dens) are held at the United Church of Chester the 2nd Thursday of months. Den Meetings (grade specific) are held 1-2 times per month.

To learn more information about joining Pack 13 please contact Pack 13 Committee Chair, Lianne Ratty @ 860-526-8011. Or our website: [www.ctrivers.org/Pack-13-Chester-CT](http://www.ctrivers.org/Pack-13-Chester-CT).

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Lynne Jacques	202	AdminAsst@chesterct.org
ANIMAL CONTROL Jae Wolf	860-388-7082	jwolf@essexct.gov
ASSESSOR Loreta Zdansy	512	Assessor@chesterct.org
ASSISTANT ASSESSOR Sheila Ahearn	512	
BUILDING Ron Rose	207	BldgOfficial@chesterct.org
FINANCE Peter Evankow	215	Finance@chesterct.org
ACCOUNTS CLERK Sharon Echtman	216	
FIRE MARSHAL Richard Leighton	212	FireMarshal@chesterct.org
FIRST SELECTMAN Ed Meehan	202	FirstSelectman@chesterct.org
HUMAN SERVICES Rosie Bininger	213	HumanServices@chesterct.org
INFORMATION	202	Info@chesterct.org
INLAND WETLANDS Anna Sweeney	212	InlandWetlands@chesterct.org
PARKS AND RECREATION Elizabeth Netsch	223	ParkRec@chesterct.org
PLANNING AND ZONING Judy Brown	208	ZoningOfficial@chesterct.org
POLICE SERVICES Trooper Matt Ewing	860-526-3605	PoliceServices@chesterct.org
PUBLIC LIBRARY Linda Fox, Library Director	860-526-0018	
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT John Divis, Foreman	860-526-0020	
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS Charlene Janecek / Tracey Ohaus	211	ChesterRegistrar@chesterct.org
SANITATION Lee Vito	206	Sanitarian@chesterct.org
TAX COLLECTOR Madaline Meyer	513	TaxCollector@chesterct.org
TOWN CLERK Debra Germini Calamari	511	TownClerk@chesterct.org
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK Sharon Echtman	511	
TREASURER Elizabeth Netsch	214	Treasurer@chesterct.org
WPCA		wpca@chesterct.org

[www.chesterct.org](http://www.chesterct.org)

## Board & Commission

### Meeting Dates for July/Aug/Sept

Dates & times of meetings may change. Please check the town hall bulletin board or website – [www.chesterct.org](http://www.chesterct.org) – before attending.

July 16	Board of Finance Meeting	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Citation Review Com.	Town Hall	7:00 pm
July 20	Zoning Board of Appeals	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Library Board of Trustees	Library	7:30 pm
July 21	Board of Selectmen	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Water Pollution Control Auth	Town Hall	7:00 pm
July 28	Main St. Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Aug 3	Inland Wetlands Commission	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Aug 4	Harbor Management Commis.	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Board of Selectmen Meeting	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Aug 5	Conservation Commission	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Library Building Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Aug 10	Energy Task Force	Town Hall	9:00 am
	Economic Development	Town Hall	7:15 pm
Aug 11	Main St. Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Aug 13	Planning & Zoning Commission	Town Hall	7:30 pm
Aug 17	Zoning Board of Appeals	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Library Board of Trustees	Library	7:30 pm
Aug 18	Water Pollution Control Auth.	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Board of Selectmen Meeting	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Aug 19	Board of Fire Commissioners	Chester Hose	7:30 pm
Aug 20	Citation Review Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Board of Finance	Town Hall	7:30 pm
Aug 24	Retirement Committee	Town Hall	5:30 pm
Aug 25	Main St. Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Sept 1	Harbor Mgmt Commission	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Board of Selectmen Meeting	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Sept 2	Conservation Commission	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Library Building Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
Sept 7	Town Offices Closed - Labor day		
Sept 8	Main St. Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00
	Workplace Safety	Town Hall	9:30am
Sept 10	Planning & Zoning Commission	Town Hall	7:30pm
Sept 14	Energy Task Force	Town Hall	9:00am
	Economic Development	Town Hall	7:15pm
	Inland Wetlands Commission	Town Hall	7:00pm
Sept 15	Water Pollution Control Auth.	Town Hall	7:00pm
	Board of Selectmen Meeting	Town Hall	7:00pm
Sept 16	Board of Fire Commissioners	Chester Hose	7:30pm
Sept 17	Board of Finance	Town Hall	7:30pm
	Citation Review Committee	Town Hall	7:00pm
Sept 21	Zoning Board of Appeals	Town Hall	7:30pm
	Library Board of Trustees	Library	7:30pm

# Today is Tomorrow's History

## What's New with Chester Historical Society

### Visit Chester Museum!

No matter how many times you've "been through the Mill," there's always something new to see at Chester's museum. This summer, we're exhibiting old Chester "pastimes" (such as Peg Lieberman's Flexible Flyer and Diane Lindsay's croquet photo) and sharing stories on our SoundSticks like Peter Zanardi's humorous account of local baseball player Paul Hopkins. We also now display the piece of 1913 trolley rail unearthed from our Main Street last winter, and every month we have a new display of our latest Archive acquisitions.

Outside, the front of the museum has recently been landscaped with native plantings. The two historic millstones from Chester's first gristmill, probably 275 years old, flank the front door. These enhancements were made possible through a grant from the Community Fund of Middlesex County and the contributions of Landscape Specialties.

With our free admission, it's easy to drop by and stay as long as you wish with family, friends, or visitors. You can even while away an afternoon in air-conditioned comfort playing our array of old-time board games.

The museum is open on Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free, through the end of October for self-guided tours. It is air-conditioned and handicapped accessible. More details are on our website, [www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org).

### Be in the Know

Information about historical society activities, as well as new gifts to our archives, is in our monthly e-newsletter. If you're interested in receiving the e-news (even if you're not a member of the historical society), please send your email address to [chesterchistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:chesterchistoricalsociety@gmail.com). All addresses are kept confidential. We are also on Facebook and regularly post old photos of Chester. Check it out at [Facebook.com/chesterchistoricalsociety](https://www.facebook.com/chesterchistoricalsociety)



One of the scenes in our new "Pastimes" exhibit.

### Membership

Approximately 400 people take pride in supporting the Historical Society's ongoing mission to share Chester's rich history through exhibits and programs for all ages. If you are not already a member, isn't it time to become one? Annual dues for members are \$30 (family) and \$20 (individual). New membership forms can be mailed to you by sending your name and address to [info@chesterhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@chesterhistoricalsociety.org).

### Save the Dates!

2nd Annual Vintage Baseball Game with Deep River and Essex:  
Sun. Sept. 20 at Devitt Field, 2 p.m.  
12th Annual Antiques & Jewelry Appraisals:  
Sat. Nov. 7 at St. Joseph's Parish Center, 8:30 a.m.  
Details at [www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org)

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## Chester Hose Company

We blinked...there went spring and the summer season greeted us early. Weather aside, the Chester Hose Company was kept busy with an increase in call volume. From July 1-April 30 we responded to a total of 506 calls, with the majority being rescue & medical incidents.



On May 2nd we again thanked all the volunteer men and women of the department for keeping our community safe as we held our annual banquet. This year we paid special tribute to 25 year active member, John Waterhouse.

Chief James Grzybowski recognized the following members marking years of service:

15 years: Kim Brainard and Jim Schaefer, 25 years: James Grzybowski & John Waterhouse, 30 years: Peter Tiezzi, 35 years: Steve Seferlis, 40 years: Dan Roschko, 45 years: John Divis

Chief's Award for outstanding achievement, going above and beyond went to Denise Sypher.

Member of the Year Award (voted on by the membership) was presented to John Ahearn. Top Ten (10) Responders included: Scot Mills (responding to over 190), Mike Ahearn, John Ahearn, Karen Graham, Tom Miksa, Peter Tiezzi, Daniel Roschko, Sylvia Miksa, Brian Ahearn, and Vito Nanni. Each was presented with a plaque to recognize their accomplishment.

We will be holding our annual department elections on July 1st. With that said, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported me and the Chester Hose Company throughout this past year. Come July 1st I will be ending my term as Fire Chief of the Chester Hose Company for the Town of Chester. It has been a tremendous year and I could not have done the job without the overwhelming support of the towns' people, businesses, town leaders, members of the Chester Hose Company, and close friends and family. I have been a member of the Chester Hose Company for 25 years and have served the department and town as an officer for the last 15 years. I have had the honor of seeing 3 generations of my family become members of the department. The Chester Hose Company has grown over the past year and is dedicated to serving the residents of this great community. It will continue to provide the best care for the Town of Chester. I have been fortunate to be a part of it for so many years. I thank you and wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer.

James E. Grzybowski, Chief

# From Blues to Classical Guitar: Four Colomore Concerts at Meeting House this Fall

For its 42nd season, the Robbie Colomore Music Series will offer all four of its concerts in the fall, between Sept. 27 and Nov. 29. As always, the Colomore Committee, chaired by Martin Nadel, has chosen a mix of music genres for the season. All four concerts will be on Sundays at 5 p.m. in the Chester Meeting House.

Beginning the season, on Sept. 27, is the Barbara and Edmund Delaney Young Artists Concert. Cellist Julia Bruskin debuted with the Boston Symphony at age 17 and now performs as a member of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and internationally as a soloist. She will perform in Chester with her husband, Aaron Wunsch, an internationally known pianist and a member of the Juilliard piano faculty.

Jerron "Blind Boy" Paxton takes center stage on Oct. 18. According to the Wall Street Journal, Paxton, age 26, is "virtually the only music-maker of his generation—playing guitar, banjo, piano and violin, among other implements—to fully assimilate the blues idiom of the 1920s and '30s."

The Hot Club of Detroit, a jazz ensemble specializing in the Gypsy jazz sound made famous by guitarist Django Reinhardt, performs on Nov. 8, followed on Nov. 29 by classical guitarist Jorge Caballero. He is the youngest musician and the only guitarist to win the Naumburg International Competition, one of the

most prestigious and coveted awards given to performers of any instrument.

Buy a season subscription and save money, plus you'll be certain you will have a seat even when the concert is sold out. A subscription to all four concerts is just \$72 (that's four concerts for the price of three). Individual concert tickets cost \$24. For students from elementary through graduate school, a subscription is \$15. A student ticket for just one concert is \$5. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.colomoreconcerts.org](http://www.colomoreconcerts.org) using PayPal. All ticket-holders are invited to stay for a reception after the concert to meet the performers. For more information, check the website or call 860-526-5162.



*The Hot Club of Detroit brings jazz to the Meeting House on Sunday, Nov. 8. Be sure to buy your subscription ticket this summer so you don't miss out on any of the four Colomore concerts this fall.*



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## Chester Fife & Drum Corps.

Welcome to the summer of 2015. We, the members of the Chester Fife and Drum Corps, look forward to the parade and muster season. As you may know by now, Chester Drum Corps was established in 1867 and went "on the road" in 1868. This Corps has been playing our music continuously since the beginning with no time taken off for any reason (good, bad or otherwise!). We have performed in many different uniforms, and are now planning our fourth (or fifth) uniform in 147 years. We now sport a colonial white shirt, colonial vest and Tricorn with medallion on it. Our new look will be more colonial. We hope to be newly outfitted by the end of summer.

We play on wooden colonial drums and 6-hole fife in the key of B flat. A little background on fifes and drums: A fifer and a drummer were officially and necessarily attached to each company in both European and American military forces in colonial times. While in camp, they sounded all the duty calls, such as dinner time, reveille and taps. In the field, on maneuvers or in battle, they signaled movements and actions ordered by the officers, such as forward, retreat and fire.

The earliest American reference to the massing of fifers and drummers under the leadership of a fife major or drum major occurs in George Washington's general orders for August 23, 1777, wherein he not only orders the massing, but specifies how they will look or act. So much for ANCIENT history, now back to the future.

Our drum line is well staffed; however our fife line needs more players. If you are interested in joining us, but do not wish to play an instrument, we also need members for the Color Guard to march at the front of our Corps and carry our Colors. We provide drum and fife lessons free of charge and also teach our members the ins and outs of marching in unison. We practice at North Quarter Park and Cedar Lake. So please come and see what we are about, do and play. Our tentative summer schedule is noted below.

- July 18 – DRAM
- July 25 – Charlemont, MA
- Aug 9 – VJ Day Parade Moosup, CT
- Aug 22 – Westbrook Muster
- Sep 19 – Guilford Citizens Day Parade
- Sep 26 – Sudbury Muster
- Oct 17 – Moodus Muster
- Oct TBD – Chester Halloween Parade
- Nov 19 – Chester Annual Meeting
- Dec 12 – Torchlight Parade



If you are interested in becoming part of history and joining our corps, please feel free to call me at 860-691-1735. We are on Facebook, the Town of Chester website and our email address is [chester1868@gmail.com](mailto:chester1868@gmail.com).

Just as a reminder, we are neither a Junior nor Senior Corps. We are a family oriented organization and intend on remaining so. Better yet, come on down and see what we are about. We practice on Thursdays from 6:30 till 8:00 p.m. Hope you have a most enjoyable summer. Hope to see you at a muster or at a parade.

Frenchy Cordeau, Business Manager & Drum Major

Barbara Pynn, President



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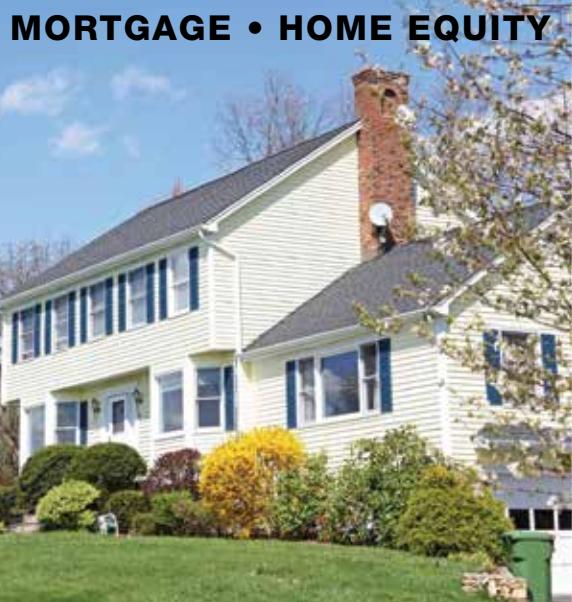
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