

Stonington **events**

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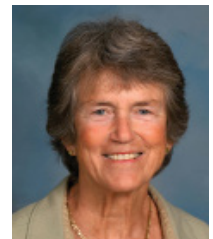
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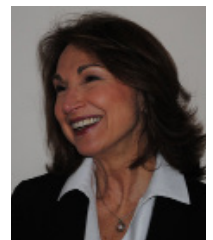
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Selectmen's Corner

SUMMER FUN AND OTHER THINGS

Summer is upon us with all the exciting things that happen here in Stonington.

The Mystic Seaport and Aquarium are in full swing with literally thousands of visitors every day. Bishop Cote honored us with his presence at the Blessing of the Fleet in the Borough, and River Glow in Pawcatuck Village is always fun.

Our award winning restaurants, shoreline marinas and fashionable stores are all doing a "booming business" and it seems that there is lots of fun in the sun in Stonington this summer.

On a more serious but equally exciting note, we have broken ground on our two elementary school projects - West Vine Street and Deans Mill schools. And the good news is that both projects combined came in almost \$5.0 million under anticipated budget. Thanks go to the K-12 Committee for their excellent work.

Masonicare in Mystic officially opened with a ribbon cutting in May, and residents are very happy with this state-of-the-art senior community. The \$45 million facility now joins Stone Ridge as the



From left to Right: Selectman, Michael Spellman; Town Clerk, Cynthia Ladwig; First Selectman, Robert R. "Rob" Simmons; Selectwoman, Kate Rotella

two crown jewels of Stonington's senior services residences. And when we complete the Geriatric Campus at Perkins Farm we'll have state-of-the-art residential care for our senior population. Who needs Florida!

The Mystic River Boathouse Park has reached another milestone with the hiring of Kent & Frost of Mystic as Project Manager. Following a rigorous solicitation of proposals, the eventual winner was selected from nine award winning companies through a thorough interview process. We hope this exciting project will come to fruition in the coming year.

continued on page 2

An advertisement for Saybrook Country Barn. The background is a photograph of a patio area with a swimming pool. In the foreground, there is a white plastic outdoor furniture set consisting of four chairs and a small round table. The chairs have blue cushions. On the table, there are some items including a hat and a glass. In the background, there is a swimming pool, a lawn, and a house. The sky is blue with some clouds.

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Courtesy Town of Stonington

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17 TOWNS EVERY QUARTER

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

- Grandview Camp Resort, Moodus, CT

Selectmen's Corner... continued from page 1

On the opposite side of the ledger is the sad fact that the State of Connecticut has yet to pass a budget. While the Town of Stonington, working collaboratively with its three Boards - Selectmen, Finance and Education - passed its municipal budget on a two to one vote in May, we still do not know what the state will provide in municipal aid. This situation promises long-term issues for Connecticut's 169 towns and cities; and means that we will have to be increasingly self-dependent in managing our revenues and expenses. While our non-partisan approach of working together collaboratively for the good of the town seems to be working well, the problems of the state promise additional burdens in the future.

continued on page 4

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Selectmen's Corner... continued from page 2

Another problem arose with an infestation of rodents due in part to several warm winters and to those individuals who have been wittingly or unwittingly providing food sources and harborage. Stonington was very fortunate to have just signed an agreement with the Ledge Light Health District to provide our health and sanitation services. As a result we have had as many as four sanitarians engaged in a community wide canvass to identify the problem, notify the public and engage in remedial measures. For this, The Westerly Sun awarded us an editorial "High!"

Switching back to the good news, Stonington is lucky to have a number of long-serving highly competent town employees. One of these is our Town Clerk, Cindy Ladwig, who has served almost forty years in the Clerk's Office and has been Chief Clerk for 20 years. Frequently endorsed by both the Democrat and Republican Parties, she has provided fair and balanced services - with a smile - to our citizens for over four decades. Thanks, Cindy, for all you have done for our wonderful town!

Rob Simmons, First Selectman

Mike Spellman, Selectman

Kate Rotella, Selectwoman

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and download the issue you desire!

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Assessor's Office



Department of Assessment
 Marsha L. Standish, CCMail, CCMC
 Director of Assessment

TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS

This is the year in which scientific, education, literary, historical, charitable, open space land preservation organizations, and cemetery property held in trust for a religious organization are required to refile for property tax exemption status. Exemptions granted apply to listed real estate, personal property and motor vehicles. Quadrennial forms will be mailed in September and are due on or before November 1, 2017. The forms require more detailed information than previously required to ensure qualification as tax exempt.

Organizations are required to state the purpose of the organization and provide copies of their charter and by-laws. Income sources are to be reported. The organization must list the provision of the Connecticut General Statutes under which they are claiming exemption. The documents should indicate where the assets would go in the event of the organization's dissolution. Officers, members, or employees may not receive any pecuniary profit from its operation; only reasonable compensation for services effecting one or more of its purposes.

An institution may qualify whose properties and assets are pledged in perpetuity to the relief of persons in financial need and to their assistance in obtaining the care they must have to prevent their becoming a burden on society.

The institution may also be one whose properties and assets are pledged in perpetuity to the relief of persons in financial need and to their assistance in obtaining the care they must have to prevent their becoming a burden on society.

In the event a portion of an organization's property is rented it must also be provided on the quadrennial form. If a non-profit organization is leasing to another non-profit organizations both organizations are required to file for tax exempt status.

The following are a listing of documents to support the tax exempt status:

- IRS document (most recent) recognizing the organization as tax exempt under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501 (c) or 501 (d).
- State of Connecticut Sales Tax Exemption.
- Evidence that corporation has timely filed its biennial return naming officers & directors with the Secretary of State.
- Certificate of Need from Connecticut Office of Health Care Access.

continued on page 6



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Assessor's Office... continued from page 5

- Certified copy by authorized officer of corporate charter and by-laws or good faith equivalent if applicant is not corporation.
- Signed federal and/or state income tax returns, with all schedules attached for most current year.
- Audited financial statements for the latest available year.
- Description of each source of revenue, e.g. rents, fees, grants, charges, gifts, donation and the like, generated by or for each use of all real and/or personal property.
- Description of all uses of real and/or personal property, owned or leased, of which an exempt activity is a part, whether or not exemption is requested for any such use or uses.
- Personal property declaration for the current year **REQUIRED ANNUALLY** and complete listing of all Connecticut registered motor vehicles.
- Copies of funding requests made to public institutions or private parties in the current tax year and prior tax year of the applicant.
- Evidence of compensation in money or in-kind paid to officers, directors and/or employee of the applicant.
- Evidence that the property is used as claimed

Though religious organizations are not required to file a quadrennial form, except for cemeteries, any property owned that is rented or leased personal property is required to be reported.

Failure to file in a timely manner will result in the removal or denial of tax exempt status. "Exemption from Taxation is equivalent of appropriation of public funds because the burden of the tax is lifted from the back of the potential taxpayer who is exempted, and shifted to the backs of others." Snyder vs. Town of Newtown, 147 Conn. 374 (1960)

Organizations that failed to file timely may be granted an extension of time to file if request is made within sixty days of the filing deadline (November 1st) and have submitted proof of substantial compliance and the required report forms. The request must accompany a late fee of thirty-five dollars.

Quadrennial Tax Exempt Organization Application (M3) Forms may be downloaded from the website located under the Department of Assessment, Exemptions and Forms:
<http://www.stonington-ct.gov/assessment-department/pages/exemptions-forms>.



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Greetings from the Town Clerk's Office

June and July were busy months in the Clerk's Office. Along with all of our other duties, it was dog license time. We registered 1,675 dogs. Now that's a lot of dog treats! Please note that the delinquent dog list is turned over to the Animal Control Officers in August. They will start to canvass the list, so make sure you register your dog or you are subject to a fine.

This year the Municipal Election is Tuesday, November 7. The offices up for election are First Selectman, Selectman, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Tax Collector, Board of Finance, Board of Education, Board of Assessment Appeals and Constables. If you are unable to go the polls because you're going to be away or are ill or physically disabled, you can call my office 860-535-5060 or download the absentee ballot application from the Town Clerk's webpage. Under links, click on Absentee Voting and you can download and complete the application. Absentee ballots become available Friday, October 6. You can complete the application any time and we will keep it on file until ballots become available. Parents, remind your college students to complete an application before they go back to school or as soon as they know their mailing address. In CT all absentee ballots are counted on Election Day. If your ballot arrives after Election Day, it is never opened or counted.

Did you know there is a permanent absentee ballot application if you are unable to go to the polls because you are ill or physically disabled? You will need to request a doctor's note stating that you are unable to go to the polls because of your illness or physical disability. Just complete the absentee ballot application and send it in with the doctor's note and a ballot will be sent automatically for every election. It's that simple!

In June I had the honor of being recognized by the Board of Selectmen for 40 years of dedicated service to the Town of Stonington and for my forthcoming 20th year serving as your Town Clerk. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the citizens of Stonington and look forward to another four years.

Cindy Ladwig
Stonington Town Clerk

Town of Stonington

STONINGTON TOWN HALL
152 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378
Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES
166 South Broad Street - Pawcatuck, CT 06379
Monday-Friday - 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

STONINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
173 South Broad Street - Pawcatuck, CT 06379

TRANSFER STATION
151 Greenhaven Road - Pawcatuck, CT 06379
Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (Closed Wed)
Sat - 8:00 am - 3:00 pm; Sun - 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Administrative Services.....	(860) 535-5000
Animal Control Officer	(860) 599-4411
Assessor's Office.....	(860) 535-5098
Building Official.....	(860) 535-5075
Emergency Management.....	(860) 535-5050
Engineering.....	(860) 535-5076
Finance Department	(860) 535-5070
Highway.....	(860) 535-5055
Human Services.....	(860) 535-5015 (Recreation, Senior Services, Social Services, Youth & Family Services)
Planning Department	(860) 535-5095
Police Department.....	(860) 599-4411
Public Works.....	(860) 535-5055
Registrar of Voters.....	(860) 535-5047/5054
Sanitarian.....	(860) 535-5010
Selectmen's Office	(860) 535-5050
Solid Waste & Recycling.....	(860) 535-5099
Tax Collector.....	(860) 535-5080
Town Clerk.....	(860) 535-5060
Transfer Station.....	(860) 535-5088
Water Pollution Control Authority	(860) 535-5065

www.stonington-ct.gov



Human Services - Information

TRUST - CARING - COMMITMENT - EXCELLENCE

The mission of the Department of Human Services is to enhance the quality of life for Stonington residents from all age groups and all economic backgrounds by advocating for their basic needs and promoting self-sufficiency.

The Department is one of five administrative departments established by Town Charter. Four Human Services divisions exist as a means of providing aid to residents that is both relevant to their needs and beneficial in purpose - Senior Services; Social Services; Youth & Family Services; Recreation. The divisions are interdependent in order to effectively utilize departmental resources to provide program excellence and offer advocacy, information and referral.



HUMAN SERVICES TEAM:

Human Services Director
Leanne Theodore

Social Services Administrator/
Municipal Agent for the Elderly
Carol Umphlett

Youth & Family Services Administrator
Kristen King

Recreation Administrator
Richard Ward

Administrative Assistant
Michelle Larese-Casanova

Receptionist
Amanda Johnson

Preschool
Jenni Llaguno
Leslie Weber

Counselors
Molly Kunka, LCSW - Clinical Supervisor
Miranda Krause-Cahill, LCSW
Linda Cunningham, MSW

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

Follow the 'Stonington Human Services' page and stay in the loop with current program events and happenings.

VOLUNTEERS

The Human Services Team is very grateful for our volunteers who share their time and talents with us. Some join us monthly, while others share their time weekly. Volunteers are especially needed for reception/clerical support and gardening. All ages are welcome!

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS WANTED!

There may be an activity or program that you enjoy which is not presently offered by Human Services. You may also have

ideas for new programs or constructive comments on the improvement of existing programs and services. In either case, we encourage Stonington residents to express their particular ideas and concerns. Please help us offer to you the programs and services which you desire.

Send ideas and comments to: Stonington Human Services, 166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT 06379 or via email: LTheodore@stonington-ct.gov.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION

All classes register in person at the Stonington Human Services, 166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, Monday-Friday between 9 am-4:30 pm, by mail, or outdoor drop box after normal business hours. Online registration is available at: <https://stonington.recdesk.com/>.

Upcoming Community Events and Day Trips

CONNECTICUT DAY AT THE BIG E



Sponsored by the Youth & Family Services Division
Wednesday, September 20th
\$40/person (transportation and ticket to fair)
Join as we travel on a full-size motor coach to celebrate Connecticut Day at The Big E!

The Big E, also known as the Eastern States Exposition, is billed as "New England's Great State Fair." It is the largest agricultural event on the eastern seaboard and the seventh largest fair in the nation. Inclusive of all New England states: CT, RI, ME, NY, MA, NH and VT, each state is prominently represented at the fair. A fun day for all ages! Bus will leave the Human Services lot at 8:30 am and return for home from Springfield, MA at 6:00 pm.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, September 29th
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL
Held on the green at Mystic River Park, Cottrell Street in Mystic. Special events and activities will be available leading up to the show, which will start at sundown. Bring a picnic dinner, blankets and beach chairs to enjoy these FREE family nights out! This specific event is being held in conjunction with Mystic's Pirate Invasion. Interested in sponsoring an event, call 860-535-5015 for more information.

17TH ANNUAL GREAT HALLOWEEN EGG HUNT

Sunday, October 29th from 5:00 – 6:30 pm



Enjoy seasonal crafts, games, hayrides, face painting and music - all leading up to the FAMOUS egg hunt! Costumes are optional for the fun family night out! \$5/family at the door, includes all activities - food and beverages will be available for purchase.

CHRISTMAS IN THE BIG APPLE

Sponsored by the Youth & Family Services Division
Friday, December 15th



\$50/person - NYC Drop-Off at Rockefeller Center / Pick-up at St. Patrick's Cathedral
\$90/person - NYC Drop-Off + Radio City Christmas Spectacular 2:00 pm Show (all sales final)

What better place to celebrate the magic of the season but New York City! Full-size motor coach will leave the Stonington Human Services lot at 8:00 am. Spend a day in the city and even take in a show at Radio City if you choose! The bus will depart NYC at 6:00 pm.



Human Services - Parks & Recreation

Stonington Recreation REC serves as an advocate for meeting the recreational needs of all the residents within the Town of Stonington. The division, within the Human Services Department, provides youth and adults an abundance of seasonal and year-round recreational opportunities to participate in camps, clinics, leagues, open runs, trips, family movie nights and fitness programs.

SPELLMAN RECREATIONAL PARK

Our recreation complex consists of four athletic playing fields, a large playground area, outdoor exercise equipment area, two outdoor basketball courts, six tennis courts and two pavilions. Add Stonington High School's Palmer Field (turf) and their baseball field, and we have one of the finest recreational facilities in the area. Any organized non-scholastic sport using the fields for games or practices at the Park or both middle schools, must be registered with the Recreation Division. Please contact Richard Ward at 860-535-5066 or rward@stonington-ct.gov for additional information.

PLAYGROUNDS IN OUR COMMUNITY

The Recreation Division oversees and maintains three playgrounds in our community. Please abide by all posted rules and regulations.

- Spellman Playground: Located on Spellman Drive
- Pawcatuck
- Borough Playground: Located off of High Street
- Stonington Borough
- Haley's Way Playground: Located off of Haley's Way
- Old Mystic

PAVILION RENTALS

The Town of Stonington Pavilions, located behind Spellman Park Playground are available to reserve from Memorial Day to Columbus Day Weekend. Cost \$25/day. Call (860) 535-5015. Payment required for reservation; application is available online.

JAMES S. BALLATO FIELD DEDICATION

Anyone who grew up in Stonington back in the 80s and 90s has a Jim Ballato story! He was a long-time member of the Stonington Recreation Commission and also served as the Town's Recreation Director for many years. On June 10th, family, friends and the members of the community at-large, joined Town of Stonington



The Ballato Family (above) and Ballato Field Plaque (right).



administration and staff along with members of the Recreation Commission to acknowledge Mr. Ballato's lifelong service to the Town by officially naming the Spellman Park Recreation Field (off Spellman Drive in Pawcatuck, behind the playground) in his honor. Speakers included: Charlie Holdridge; Robert R. "Rob" Simmons, First Selectman; Leanne Theodore, Human Services Director; David Erskine, Stonington Chief of Police (Retired); Mark Friese, Stonington High School, Principal; and Ryan MacKenzie (granddaughter of Mr. Ballato). A special thank you to the Friends of Mark Pescatello Scholarship Fund for sponsoring the refreshments for the reception that followed.



HIKE STONINGTON

The fall is a great time of the year to take a HIKE! You still have time to join us. Grab your friends and family members (or do it for yourself!) and get out and enjoy the numerous walking and hiking trails in Pawcatuck, Mystic & Stonington!

continued on page 10

Parks & Recreation... continued from page 9

Everybody who hikes ALL of the trails during the course of one season and tells us about it will receive a one-of-a-kind t-shirt to proudly wear at the gym or in the park. Register early and get outside!

- 1st** REGISTER FOR IT!
<http://stonington.recdesk.com>
- 2nd** HIKE IT! The best part!
- 3rd** TELL US ABOUT IT
(PICTURES WELCOMED!)
hikestonington@stonington-ct.gov
- 4th** GET YOUR T-SHIRT FOR IT! Woo-hoo!

A packet with the complete list of trails and guidelines will be provided upon registration. Info on how to "report back" on each trip will also be given at that time. You will have the whole summer (even into the fall) to complete the hikes and to be eligible for the FREE t-shirt.

Fee: FREE! Registration is required.
Thank you to our HIKE Stonington sponsors: Renegade Fitness – Pawcatuck and Stonington Marina!

Stonington REC is offering a wide array of fall program opportunities and activities for residents of all ages and abilities, including but not limited to:

- Youth - Flag Football League; Girls and Boys Basketball
Open Gym and Clinics; Fencing; Girls
Volleyball Clinic;
- Adults/Seniors - Baby Boomers Exercise; Zumba Fitness;
Fencing;
- All Ages - Day Trips; Safe Boating Certification

Check out our current offerings at: <https://stonington.recdesk.com/>.

Human Services - Youth & Family Services

The programs and services that are offered by Youth and Family Services are done so as a means of promoting positive youth development and supporting improved family and community relations.



Teens to Tots Preschool

**TEENS TO TOTS PRESCHOOL
2017-2018 School Year**
Every parent wants a nurturing environment for their young child's early education. Get off to a good start and enroll in our program! Open to fully potty-trained children ages 3-5. Located within Stonington High School, 2, 3 and 5-day options are available. ***Students must be fully toilet trained and 3 years of age by September 1st.***

- Program Hours:** 9:00 am-12:30 pm
Operating Days: Tue/Thu or Mon/Wed/Fri
Monthly Tuition: 2-Days: \$185; 3-Days: \$260; 5-Days \$410
(Non-Residents add \$25/month)
5-day option available for second year students.

Quality Affordable Program • Certified Preschool Teachers • Encourages social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth • Structured classroom setting with a well-balanced schedule of activities • Weekly curriculum themes.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

We are pleased to offer a variety of afterschool opportunities throughout the year within the Stonington Public School district. Please keep an eye out for school-specific backpack flyers featuring our very popular programs this fall, including: KidzLit® children's literacy program; Study Buddies, a school-based referral program for students needing additional help with their homework and Kids Care® Community Service Club!

Intergenerational activities will be also be offered at local senior housing facilities, including: holiday crafts, caroling and fun, interactive games!

DRIVER EDUCATION PROVIDED BY AAA/ BRIARWOOD DRIVING ACADEMY

30+ hour classroom study and 8 additional hours of individual in-car lesson (four private lessons) in a specially equipped training vehicle. To register, call 860-570-4239 or 800-594-0346.

- Age: Must be 16 years old by the first class
Day/Date: Mondays and Wednesdays from
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
September 27th - November 20th
- Fee: Classroom Only / \$250;
Add Private In-Car Lessons / \$595
- Location: Stonington High School

LENTZ & LENTZ PSAT/SAT PREPARATION

Designed to benefit students of all ability levels, this 30-hour program is divided equally between english and math and covers all facets of the SAT and the PSAT. Class features: test taking techniques, preparation for the essay, practice tests, advanced math and shortcut math, vocabulary development, speed-reading and online downloads for supplemental review. The downloads are extremely helpful to all students, especially those with cognitive and perceptual disabilities. Extra help at no charge, course materials and complimentary refresher sessions are included in the tuition. Previous SAT and PSAT type problems are used in conjunction with our own copyrighted curriculum. Lentz & Lentz teachers have been specifically trained to teach this

program and all of our instructors have a background in teaching. Lentz & Lentz also allows students the flexibility to attend live make up classes at any of its nearby locations. Positive scores on the SAT and PSAT could translate into thousands of dollars in scholarships and savings. Free extra help and live makeup sessions included in tuition: Students can set up free extra help by making an appointment to meet with their instructor directly before or after class. If a student misses a class or has a scheduling conflict they can contact Lentz & Lentz to set up a live make up class at a neighboring location.

Date/Day: Wednesdays - September 13th, 20th and 27th; October 4th, 5th (Thursday), 18th, 25th; November 1st
 Time: 6:30 pm-9:30 pm
 Fee: \$365
 Location: Stonington High School, Room 107

Individual & Family Counseling is available at no cost to all Stonington residents. Call 860-535-5015 for more information or to schedule an intake appointment.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP

An opportunity for parents of children on the spectrum to share experiences and learn from each other.
 Day: First Tuesday of Every Month

Time: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
 Facilitator: Dr. Lori Liguori, School Psychologist

Interested in a specific group? Please let us know! Residents in need of Grief Support are encouraged to contact Hospice of Southeastern CT at 860-848-5699.

JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD

The purpose of the Juvenile Review Board (JRB) is to provide an alternative to Juvenile Court for juveniles who have committed minor criminal violations in Stonington, and to assist youth who have exhibited problems in the home, school, and community. The goal is to provide a plan for each individual by utilizing community programs, services, and other resources, which will effectively deal with the particular incident, assist in positive development, and encourage responsible behavior.

FAMILY WITH SERVICE NEEDS REVIEW BOARD

Families with children who are engaging in risky behaviors such as running away from home, school truancy, and defiance of family or school rules often rely on state operated programs to help address these problems. The state of Connecticut has defined such children and parents as a Family with Service Needs (FWSN). Beginning in 2005, Connecticut began enacting a series of legislative, policy and procedural changes to address **continued on page 12**

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Youth & Family Services... continued from page 11

these issues. These changes were grounded in the belief that swift, community-based family services were the best approach for Families with Service Needs. The new approach to at-risk youth and families rejected the use of the justice system as the first response to FWSN cases. Research demonstrates that these behaviors are strong predictors of continued involvement with juvenile, criminal and child welfare agencies. Therefore, intervening with appropriate services at an early stage is crucial to reducing future involvement with the justice systems. Based on a need in the community, in 2015, Stonington Human Services and the Stonington Public School District, in collaboration with the Stonington Police Department, Juvenile Court and DCF, developed a Family with Service Needs (FWSN) Review Board. The purpose of the Board is to intervene and divert at risk children from the entering the court system. The Board recommends diversions that encourage positive, pro-social development, school attendance, family engagement and participation in community-based programs.



Stonington Prevention Council PRESCRIPTION DRUG DROP

BOX AT THE STONINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Do you have unused, unwanted or expired medications? Sponsored by Stonington Prevention Council in 2015, the Stonington Police Department installed a permanent Prescription Drug Drop Box in their main lobby - hundreds of pounds of medication have been collected since then! Accepted items include: prescriptions (including patches, medications); over-the-counter medications; vitamins; samples; pet medication. The following items are not accepted: needles/sharps; ointments/lotions/liquids; aerosol cans; inhalers; hydrogen peroxide; thermometers. Open 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, the box is a free service and no paperwork is required to participate!

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY - October 28, 2017

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse and medications. We encourage all residents to play an active role in keeping their family, and community, a safer place and take a moment this fall to clean out their medicine cabinets. Stonington Human Services and Stonington Police will partner once again to conduct on-site collections at local senior housing facilities for residents who are unable to make it to the drop-box to dispose of unwanted medications. Check in your community room for an event flyer, or with your respective property manager, for specifics on the date/time.



A PARENT'S GUIDE TO RAISING TOUGH KIDS (ages 5-10 years old)

Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 from
September 26th - November 28th
Loving Solutions (Parent Project, Jr.)
www.theparentproject.org
Light Dinner & Childcare Provided
Loving Solutions is a parent-training program designed specifically for parents

raising difficult younger children, ages 5-10 years. Using a behavioral model, Loving Solutions is structured based on cooperative learning norms with group learning activities in a workbook format to maximize both learning and interest. Special guests from the community will present as well.

The "Steps of Success" (S.O.S.) home practice assignments create a solid foundation for change in the home. Program will be facilitated by Laura Conti, Special Education Teacher at West Broad Street School. Laura received her undergraduate degree in Child Development from Connecticut College and her master's degree in Special Education from Southern Connecticut State University. Additionally, she completed intensive training hosted by the authors of the Loving Solutions Program. Supported by the Stonington Education Fund, the West Broad/West Vine PTO, Stonington Human Services and the Stonington Police Department.

Supportive Programs

PAYLESS SCHOOL SHOE VOUCHERS

Vouchers are now available to eligible Stonington youth at Stonington Human Services through the Salvation Army's Payless School Shoe Program. Please contact Stonington Human Services to obtain an application.

SANTA'S ANONYMOUS BOOT PROGRAM

Stonington Human Services is currently accepting names of children for the Santa Anonymous Boot Program. The program, sponsored by TVCCA's Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), provides new winter boots to eligible Stonington children. Please call Stonington Human Services, 535-5015, for more information, or if you would like to be a sponsor and help a child receive a new pair of warm, winter boots.

BIKE RECYCLING PROGRAM

If you are in need of a bicycle please contact Stonington Human Services to obtain an application to the Bicycle Recycling Program which is a partnership between Human Services and the Stonington Landfill. If approved recipients could receive a gently used bicycle. Bicycle donations are also welcome.

Human Services - Social Services

How can Stonington Human Services help you? Call for more information or to make an intake appointment. During the appointment, you will be screened for a wide variety of federal, state and local programs that may be able to assist your situation. Home visits are available for housebound residents.

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE?

Stonington Human Services has been a local fuel bank for the last seventeen years, participating with Operation Fuel, TVCCA, and United Way energy assistance grant programs. Income guidelines for TVCCA's programs cap at 60% of the State Median Income (CHAP). Assistance amounts are based on established guidelines regarding family size and vulnerability. For example, a household of four qualifies if their total income is no more than \$66,089. Now accepting applications! Deliveries do not start until November 15, 2017 and will continue until March 15, 2018. Call 860-535-5015 for an appointment.

Operation Fuel and United Way also offer energy assistance programs in an effort to help keep folks warm during the cold winter months, avoid power shutoffs, and address other crisis situations when the TVCCA program has been depleted or in other circumstances where a family may not have been eligible. Guidelines for these programs are also adjusted each year with changes in the economy. Contact Human Services for more information and an appointment. Residents with Eversource "metered" heating services (electric and natural gas service) are also eligible for heating assistance. In addition, applicants who have been approved for the TVCCA program (both CEAP & CHAP) are eligible for the Matching Payment Programs (MPP) offered by these companies. The program puts those qualified on a budget plan and will match all payments made during the winter heating month (November through April) dollar for dollar in an effort to reduce the customer's balance to zero. Human Services can help with these programs as well as a low-budget worksheet that may reduce the monthly payment even more. MPP begins each year on November 1st.

SUCCESS COACHING

Sustaining self-sufficiency is at the core of maintaining one's housing, employment, and self-esteem. Are you ready to "take 100% responsibility" for your life and move yourself "from where you are to where you want to be?" Call us for information on our new and innovative program that offers goal setting, skill building, and accountability tools to help you achieve all the success you desire.

UNITED WAY MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

United Way's Mobile Food Pantry makes a stop in the Stonington Human Services' parking lot on the first Monday of every month from 5-6pm. The pantry offers fresh fruits and vegetables, meat or other protein (eggs, beans, etc.) and much more. There is no application process; those in need are simply asked to bring a photo ID each time they visit the pantry. Call 860-535-5015 for more information, or if you have an interest in volunteering.

SNAP OUTREACH

SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program), is part of the nation's safety net against hunger. The program's debit card system allows for convenience and confidentiality. SNAP applications can be completed at CT's DSS site online and required documents uploaded at: connect.ct.gov. Contact Human Services for more information or application assistance with the online process. Also, check out End Hunger CT's website at www.endhungerCT.org. Residents are also referred to the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center's Food Pantry and the WARM Center's congregate meal site, which are both supported with town funds.

2-1-1 BENEFITS SURVEY

www.211navigator.org

This benefits survey will help you determine if you are eligible for food, health insurance, and child care assistance. No name or address is required so it is completely confidential.

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dpnc.org 860.536.1216

Social Services... continued from page 13

CT NETWORK FOR LEGAL AID

Do you have a legal question? Check out www.ctlawhelp.org for self-help guides, audio/video guides, court forms, and links. The CT Network for Legal Aid provides free legal services for people with very low income. Call toll-free 1-800-453-3320.

CT DENTAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

The CT Dental Health Partnership (CTDHP) is the state of CT's dental plan for HUSKY and Medicaid participants. The CTDHP provides comprehensive dental coverage and will help find a local dentist, explain dental benefits and set up an appointment. Call 1-866-420-2924 for assistance.

RENTER'S REBATE PROGRAM

The Renter's Rebate Program, administered through the State of Connecticut, Office of Policy and Management (OPM), is intended to help seniors (65+) and/or disabled (18+) meet the demands of today's housing costs, offering a one-time check each year to those who qualify. The program limits annual income to \$35,200 for an individual and \$42,900 for a married couple. There is no asset rule for this program. Each year the program runs from April 1st through September 30th. If you have not yet applied, call us asap for an appointment.

Human Services - Senior Services

Acting as an advocate for elderly residents in the Town of Stonington, the Commission on Aging (COA) is a twelve-member commission which meets monthly in order to discuss issues with regard to the elderly. The division provides local and regional access to supportive services, as well as a variety of educational workshops and socialization opportunities.* Are you interested in making a difference in your community? Call 860-535-5015 for more information on joining the Commission on Aging. **Please be sure to check out Youth & Family Services and Recreation program offerings as well, for fitness programs and day trips, open to residents of all ages!*

SENIOR SERVICE PROVIDERS NETWORK

Agencies and organizations serving Stonington senior citizens are invited to join us, as we come together quarterly to share group updates and discuss regarding gaps and needs in service, client trends, as well as suggestions on how we can increase collaborate to address these issues and develop creative solutions for the benefit of our mutual clientele - Stonington residents. Call 860-535-5015 for more information.

FRIDAY LUNCHEON SERIES

From October to May each year, seniors are invited to join us for lunch, one Friday per month, from 12-1:30 pm at various local venues. This very popular program includes a delicious meal, followed by a brief educational presentation or entertainment. 2017-2018 host locations include: Masonicare, Go Fish, The Elms, 84 Tavern on Canal, StoneRidge, Latitude 41° and Mystic Aquarium, and Institute for Exploration.

KNIT & GIVE

This "knitting for a cause" group is ongoing, meeting every Monday from 10:00 am - 11:30 am at Stonington Human

EASTERN CT TRAVEL VOUCHER PROGRAM

This transportation service provides subsidized taxi, livery or wheelchair accessible rides for residents of Eastern CT. Sponsored by the New Freedom Initiative, the program provides an affordable alternative when existing transportation services are not able to meet an individual's needs. Enrolled participants purchase travel vouchers from ECTC. A book of 10 vouchers, normally costing \$50, cost \$25 through this subsidy program. A maximum of three books per month per enrollee can be purchased. Contact Human Services to obtain an application.

STONINGTON SEAT BUS

The Stonington SEAT bus travels to and from Mystic Village to the I-95 commuter lot in Pawcatuck. A total of twenty stops are included on the route. The bus is equipped with a wheelchair lift. The bus is available Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:15 am and 4:57 pm. The cost for a one-way trip is \$2.00 with reduced fares of \$1.00 for seniors and the disabled, and \$1.65 for youth. Stonington Human Services has bus schedules available and tickets for income eligible residents. SEAT can be contacted at 860-886-2631 or online at www.seatbus.com.

Services. Thank you to our dedicated knitters who, over the past three years, have generously crafted hundreds of hats, mittens and scarves for local children in need. Items are also regularly donated to Safe Futures of New London County and the Westerly WARM Center.

COMPUTER LAB OPEN TO STONINGTON RESIDENTS

Monday - Friday from 9:30 am - 4:00 pm.

Set up your resume, send a few emails or read the paper online! Our lab is open to all residents.

NEED A HAND SETTING UP THAT NEW SMART PHONE OR FACEBOOK PAGE?

Do not be intimidated by technology! Appointments are available for those in need of basic instruction on setting up a Smart Phone or social media page, such as Facebook. Call 860-535-5015 to set up an appointment. We would be happy to help!

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

This program, offered by AARP, is the nation's first and largest refresher course and has been taking place for over 25 years.

AARP's new format reduces classroom requirement to one day and only four hours. Call 860-535-5015 for a current class schedule.

HARVEST TIME! COME SHARE YOUR GOODS AT THIS END OF THE SUMMER CANNING WORKSHOP.



Participants will bring their produce and jars to this workshop where we will work together to preserve our goods! Pre-registration required; minimal canning

equipment will be provided. Call 860-535-5015 for more information.

YELLOW DOT PROGRAM

TRIAD is a national cooperative effort of law enforcement agencies (police/fire/sheriffs), senior citizens, and senior organizations, focused on reducing crimes against our most vulnerable citizens: our elderly population. This national TRIAD initiative affixes a yellow dot in the car's rear window to alert emergency response personnel to senior drivers' and passengers' medical information stored in the vehicle. Information is also utilized to alert emergency personnel of the senior's family members whose care may be dependent upon the senior, such as a homebound spouse. Call Human Services for an appointment to register or for information on upcoming Yellow Dot events.

FILE OF LIFE

Store vital medical information on your refrigerator! Emergency personnel are alerted by a magnet on your refrigerator, enabling them to access your medical information, even if you are unable to communicate. File of Life packet magnets are available at Human Services - free to all residents.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Be sure to update your Yellow Dot and File of Life information as your medical needs and prescription drugs change.

CT HOME CARE FOR ELDERLY

This CT Department of Social Services program assists the elderly by providing the support services needed so they may remain in the community, rather than in a long-term care facility. "To be eligible, applicants must be 65 years of age or older, be a Connecticut resident, be at risk of nursing home placement and meet the program's financial eligibility criteria. To be at risk of nursing home placement means that the applicant needs assistance with critical needs such as bathing, dressing, eating, taking medications, toileting. The CHCPE helps eligible clients continue living at home instead of going to a nursing home."

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Senior Services... continued from page 15

(Source: <http://www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2353&q=305170>). Call Stonington Human Services for more information or if you'd like to apply for this program.

MEDICARE INSURANCE COUNSELING (CHOICES)

Human Services has an experienced CHOICES counselor on staff offering personal & confidential appointments for Stonington residents to discuss Medicare options, supplemental insurances, Medigap policies, HMOs, "special help" for Medicare Part D, Medicare Buy-in programs, state pharmaceutical programs, Social Security, and more. Home visits are also available for residents who are homebound.

Are you confused about the difference between Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage Plans) and supplemental insurance plans (Medigap Insurance)?

- Do you need help navigating through the various CHOICES in plans and services?
- Would you be interested in knowing if you are eligible to have your Part B premium paid through the Medicare Savings Program?
- Did you know that you may be able to get half of your spouse's Social Security and build value in yours while you continue to work past your full retirement age?

First and foremost, be careful! Much of the mail you are receiving (if you are approaching retirement age) may look "official," but may actually be advertising. Seniors have reported getting phone calls from people they do not know soliciting "Medicare" programs. Be safe! Contact us for the information you need regarding your Medicare programs.

MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM (MSP)

You may be eligible to have your Medicare Parts B and D premiums paid for you! Medicare Part B, the part of your Medicare that pays your doctor's visits, out-patient testing, etc. costs \$134/month. Medicare Part D premiums for your prescription drugs vary depending on the plan you choose. Both are required unless the Medicare beneficiary has creditable coverage through employment, a retirement plan, VA, or other "credible" plan. The State of CT offers a program called the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) that will pay these premiums for income qualified seniors.

So, where can you apply? Stonington Human Services has the application for this program, as well as trained staff to help; because it is a "self-declared" program, the application is the only paperwork needed. DSS will check all income through the appropriate state and federal agencies.

More questions? Contact us at 860-535-5015 for more info, an application, or an appointment with a CHOICES counselor, who will explain program guidelines.

SAVE THE DATE! MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT EVENT AT STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES



Tuesday, November 14th

We've partnered with Senior Resources Agency on Aging to host this important event for Stonington residents. Open Enrollment is the one time each year when Medicare beneficiaries can make changes to their health and prescription drug plans for the following year. If you would like to receive free, unbiased counseling from a certified CHOICES Counselor who can assist you with

reviewing your plan, stop by Human Services on November 14th or call 860-535-5015 to set up an appointment for a time that fits into your schedule.

DIAL-A-RIDE MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

Guidelines for the Municipal Medical Transportation Service and Caregiver Transportation Program are at: <http://ectcinc.com>. The towns of Bozrah, East Lyme, Griswold, Groton, Ledyard, Lisbon, New London, North Stonington, Stonington, Preston and Waterford collaborate with the Eastern Connecticut Transportation Consortium and the CT Department of Transportation to expand transportation services to individuals age 60 and over and disabled adults. To keep services running smoothly, please follow the guidelines outlined below.

Who qualifies for this program? This program is open to individuals who reside in the above listed towns, meet the residency requirement described below:

- To utilize the brokered rides portion of the service you must have completed a registration form, and have submitted the annual membership fee payable to your participating senior center or municipality. Individuals residing in: Private Homes; Retirement Living Facilities; Independent Living Facilities; Assisted Living Facilities; and Residential Care Homes are eligible for transportation under this program.
- Individuals who reside in Skilled Nursing Facilities are not eligible for transportation through this program.
- Individuals who are eligible for free transportation through Medicaid are asked to use that program instead.

If you wish to just access the Caregiver portion of the program you still must complete the registration but do not have to pay the membership fee.

What are the limitations of this program?

Brokered rides are provided for medical appointments in New London County/Westerly, RI. Rides are contingent upon available funding. Reservations must be made no later than 48 hours in advance but can be scheduled up to 2 weeks ahead. Trips can be scheduled during normal business

hours. Requests for weekend & Monday trips must be made no later than Friday by 2 pm. Personal Care Attendants (or family member acting as an escort) may accompany passengers who need extra help with entering and exiting the vehicle or have other needs that make traveling independently unsafe. In order to protect the health of others, passengers must be free from acute illnesses such as flu, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and infections such as pneumonia.

What information should I have when calling to request a ride?

- Your complete name and address.
- The address of your destination and the physician's name.
- The date and time of your appointment.
- An estimated time that you will be picked up from your appointment to return home.

How does the Caregiver Mileage Reimbursement Program work?

The rider retains a volunteer driver (friend, neighbor, family

member). The driver and rider must complete the "Request for Mileage Reimbursement" form. Mileage is calculated by ECTC based on the shortest distance to the destination. The mileage from the caregiver's home to the passenger going to the medical appointment is NOT included. Form must include appointment date, start address, destination address, and must be signed and dated by client and driver after last trip has been entered on the form. Participants submit completed mileage reimbursement forms to their town senior center or town representative by the end of the month for processing.

When the form is submitted, the town representative reviews the form for accuracy and verifies the mailing address of the Caregiver. Town Representatives may perform audits to verify that the appointments did occur. The Town Representative will sign and fax form to ECTC. ECTC will issue a check to the Caregiver for authorized trips performed. Call or stop by Stonington Human Services for a registration packet.

Local United Network to Combat Hunger - "LUNCH"

FALL MUSIC/DRAMA PROGRAM FOR GRADES 4-12.

The LUNCH Ensemble begins its 28th season in September, with concerts and a stage production to benefit local social services. Any student who likes to participate in music and drama productions is invited to audition for the annual LUNCH Holiday Show and Fall concerts. Work with nationally known

songwriters and recording artists in benefit performances for our region's social service programs. Our recording studio has released hundreds of songs with kids from our area schools that are available worldwide. We mentor and coach students in songwriting, performance, music technology, audition preparation, and much more. Our programs meet most schools'

requirements for community service hours. LUNCH stands for "Local United Network to Combat Hunger." The programs are free and open to all. Visit www.lunchensemble.com for more information, and contact us now at info@lunchensemble.com or 860-572-9285 to be involved in fall events.

Adult Day Center of Westerly

20TH ANNIVERSARY GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR ADULT DAY CENTER WESTERLY

September 13, 2017 will see the 20th Anniversary of the Golf Tournament to benefit Adult Day Center Westerly at the exclusive Misquamicut Club in Watch Hill, RI. This is the annual primary fundraiser to keep all the wonderful services offered to our clients from Rhode Island and South-Eastern Connecticut at PACE Adult Day Center Westerly (ADCW).

ADCW is committed to serving older adults who are functionally, emotionally, and/or cognitively impaired, thereby enabling them to remain in the community, connected to family and friends. We provide a safe, supportive environment for individuals who generally cannot be safely left at home alone during the day. This is an option for functionally impaired older adults who may benefit from

socialization, nursing support services, therapeutic activities, and nutritious meals in a supervised setting. Caregiver respite so that they can continue to work, manage a household, and have some much-needed time for themselves. ADCW has been providing this support for close to 40 years!

This tournament is close to sold out, with golfers from around the state lining up to play and support our organization. A few foursomes are still available! To learn more about the tournament, or to register, please visit <http://pace-ri.org/events/>.

Donations from the community are very much so welcome, and may be completed by emailing Lauren Lapolla at llapolla@pace-ri.org

Norwich Regional Adult Education Classes

SEPTEMBER 2017

Free Classes in Stonington!

FIND OUT THE 3 WAYS YOU CAN EARN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA!

Norwich Regional Adult Education has classes available to CT residents from *Cooperating Member Towns* who are age 17 or older and no longer enrolled in public school.

Towns include: Bozrah, East Lyme, Franklin, Ledyard, Lisbon, North Stonington, Norwich, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Stonington, and Voluntown.

For details on how to register: Call 860-823-4299 or go to www.norwichpublicschools.org (Click on Schools; click on Adult Education; click on Registration.)

1. ADULT HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Take classes to earn credits toward your high school diploma.

Daytime classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich

Evening classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich
Stonington High School,
176 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck

The High School Credit Diploma Program is designed for adults who want to complete credits toward their high school diploma. Credits may be transferred into the diploma program from any accredited high school. In addition to credits received for academic courses, additional credits may be awarded for: CTVHS online courses, independent study projects, military experience, specialized skills, and occupational experience. The Adult Education counselor will help you explore the preceding options to determine if they might be an appropriate part of your Credit Diploma Program.

A minimum of 21 credits is required to earn a Norwich Adult Education Diploma:

English	4 credits	U.S. History	1 credit
Mathematics	4 credits	Civics	½ credit
Sciences	2 credits	Vocational Ed./Art	1 credit
Social Studies	1½ credits	Electives	7 credits

2. GED® DIPLOMA PROGRAM

As of January 2014, there is a new GED® exam that is now computer-based. GED® prep classes will help you prepare to take the exam and earn your State of CT GED® diploma.

Daytime classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich

Evening classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich
East Lyme High School,
30 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme
Stonington High School,
176 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck

3. THE NATIONAL EXTERNAL DIPLOMA PROGRAM (NEDP)

This program is recommended for adults (usually over age 21) who are highly motivated, mature and self-directed, who have occupational skills, and acquired life skill experiences. This program is a web-based program that provides confidentiality, flexible scheduling, and individualized weekly appointments. There is no specific classroom time connected to the NEDP program. Anyone interested in pursuing the NEDP program should contact Karen Boluch, the NEDP Coordinator, at 860-823-4299. Available through all sites

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

Adult Education courses in English for Speakers of Other Languages teach limited-English speakers to read, write, speak and understand English. ESOL programs target non-English-speaking immigrants who need better English skills to become active members of the community and to prepare for employment or job advancement, or who want to take a more active role in their children's education. Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced classes are available.

Daytime classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich

Evening classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich
East Lyme High School,
30 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme
Stonington High School,
176 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck

CITIZENSHIP PREPARATION (CP)

Students who wish to become American citizens will be given the necessary books and assistance to help them prepare for the U.S. Naturalization Examination.

Daytime classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich

Evening classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich
East Lyme High School,
30 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme

Stonington High School,
176 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION (ABE)

Students who need help with basic reading, writing, & math skills will be provided with pre-GED materials in small friendly classes. As students progress to a higher level, they may transition into high school completion programs.

Daytime classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich
Evening classes: Adult Education Center,
191 Hickory Street, Norwich
East Lyme High School,
30 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme
Stonington High School,
176 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck

Norwich Regional Adult Education (NRAE) is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons and does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries regarding NRAE's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to Dori Smith, School Counselor, 860-823-4299 x2311.

All activities offered by Norwich Regional Adult Education are held in accessible locations. Accommodations for individuals with a disability are available upon request. Please contact Dori Smith, School Counselor 860-823-4299 x2311.

NRAE is in compliance with Connecticut General Statutes Sec.10-73a and does not charge fees for registration, textbooks or materials used in mandated program areas.

Accommodations for the GED® test are available for qualified individuals with a disability. For more information, contact Karen Boluch, at 860-823-4299 x2315. You may also contact Sabrina Mancini at the Connecticut State Department of Education at 860-807-2110.

Change Up Your Friday Plans at the COMO Pottery Studio



Old friends and new acquaintances share a good laugh over wine and brews, while enjoying small finger snacks and each other's company. It may seem like your average evening out, but it's actually the new pottery social "Sip & Spin" at the

Stonington Community Center (COMO). After watching a professional wheel throwing demo by studio manager, Rebecca Hnatiuk, attendees are getting creative while getting dirty and making their own works of art to be fired and glazed.

Sip & Spin is just one new workshop - all designed for various skill levels. Whether you're looking to try your hand at pottery, to delve deeper into a specific skill, or are looking for a new way to have fun with friends - COMO socials, lessons and workshops will get you creating! Fall socials include Scratching the Surface, Family Clay Play, Sgraffito - Surface Decoration, Dry Throwing, Ornament Making and more in addition to monthly Sip & Spin sessions and topics change on a regular basis. Learn more about upcoming workshops and lessons at the COMO Pottery Studio online at thecomoo.org/pottery-socials. For a full list of fall youth and adult programs - spanning athletics, arts, STEAM, education and more - please visit the COMO online at thecomoo.org.



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Stonington Free Library

Located at 20 High St. in the center of beautiful Wadawanuck Square in the Borough of Stonington, the Stonington Free Library has been serving residents of the town of Stonington since 1888. A Stonington Free Library card allows access to any public library in Connecticut. Residents of other Connecticut towns may use their home town library card to borrow our materials.

Our services include: programs for all ages, reader's advisory, reference, requesting materials from other libraries, and access to computers, printers, scanners photocopying, and fax service. We loan books, magazines, movies, e-Readers, audio books and Playaway Views. E-books and audio books may be borrowed through our website using a valid Stonington library card. We are also partnering with the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center to offer library services every other Wednesday morning at the Center. In collaboration with the Stonington Village Improvement Association and the Senior Shop Class at Stonington High School, Little Free Library kiosks have been set up at Stonington Point and at Mathews Park (across from Dodson's Boat Yard).

Upcoming fall programs for Children and Teens will include our Fall Story Times and Sandwich and Story, both beginning the week of Sept. 19 and ending the week of November 14. We Are Makers STEAM program will be Glow in the Dark Teen Slime on September 27 at 5 pm (registration is required) and Building Candy Pumpkin structures on October 25 for ages 6 and older.

Mystic & Noank Library

40 Library Street
Mystic, CT
Parking lot and entrance are on Elm Street.
860-536-7721
mysticnoanklibrary.org
Email: info@mysticnoanklibrary.org

The Mystic & Noank Library is pleased to announce that thanks to generous funding from the Mystic Rotary and our own Kroeger-Porter Fund, we are now offering free access for all library cardholders to an innovative online brain training tool, BrainHQ. BrainHQ is available via your computer or handheld device. To complete the one time registration, please use the BrainHQ link provided on our library website at

www.mysticnoanklibrary.org. You must have an unexpired Mystic & Noank Library card and have chosen an online library card PIN. Once you access the tool, you can then register your email address and a password of your choice to directly use the software. Learn more about the benefits of BrainHQ to help improve memory, recall speed and reaction time by visiting www.brainhq.com.

Saturday, September 16 at 10 am
AARP Defensive Driving Class
Wednesday, September 20 at 7 pm
PeaceLove Mandala Poetry Art Work shop led by Julianne Johnson
Thursday, September 21 at 3 pm
Harriet Beecher Stowe "Her Words

We will have our Gingerbread Haunted House Family Workshop on October 18 from 4 - 6 pm. One house per family and registration is required for this very popular activity. December will bring our Winter Reading Challenge, 50 to Grow On, with a nursery emphasis this year.

We offer a book group that meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 2 pm. Coffee, tea and cookies are served. Ask at the desk about the current book - no registration required. All welcome!

NEW LIBRARY HOURS

In response to requests from our patrons we are changing our hours. Beginning Monday, August 21st our hours will be:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10 am to 6 pm.
Wednesday 10 am to 7 pm.
Friday 10 am to 5 pm.
Saturday 10 am to 1 pm.
Sunday closed.

Please call 860-535-0658 or email stonlib@stoningtonfreelibrary.org with any questions.

Visit our website: stoningtonfreelibrary.org, like us on Facebook and sign up for email notifications to keep up with our news and activities. We are shortly launching a new website which will make accessing our library much easier.

Changed the World" program
Saturday, September 23 at 10 am
Free Craft Materials Exchange
Wednesday, September 27, 6:30 - 9:30 pm
Fall Fundraiser at the Engine Room
tickets available on our website.

For those entertaining grandchildren, the Mystic & Noank Library is hosting a hands-on exhibit from Norwalk's Stepping Stones Children's Museum in our Ames Meeting Room from August 23 - September 9.

Visit our website to view our event calendar and register for programs or to sign-up for our monthly e-newsletter!

*Want to Reach Every Home & Business in Town?
Call Stonington Events Magazines
at 860-767-9087*

2017 Vista Tour de Shore SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15



Westbrook Elks Lodge, Westbrook, CT

Register at: www.vistatourdeshore.com

For more information
call 860-399-8080



TVCCA RSVP Veteran's Coffee House

Coffee throughout American military history has been a unifying force among veterans, with documented statements about its significance both on the battlefield and off dating back as far as the Civil War (1861-65). More than 150 years later and a few more historical wars notched into America's military belt and veterans are still finding a common ground in meeting over a cup of joe here on the shoreline through the new RSVP Veterans Coffeehouse in Stonington.

Meeting the second and fourth Thursday of each month, the Coffeehouse provides a fun and inviting place for former service men and women to meet other veterans, enjoy refreshments, hear engaging speakers, and connect with agencies that provide veterans' services.

RSVP has partnered with Stonington Human Services to provide this service to the Southeast corner of Connecticut and Westerly. Generous support has been provided by the Rotary of the Stoningtons to help get the Coffeehouse running. RSVP's primary funding source is The Corporation for National and Community Service. The Corporation for National and Community Service funds RSVP programs around the country with the goal of encouraging individuals

over 55 years old to volunteer in their communities fulfilling community needs. The Coffeehouse is run by RSVP volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering or would like any information about the Coffeehouse please contact RSVP Coordinator, Gina King at 860-625-6617.



Pictured above from left to right: Robert Bloughs' daughter Robyn Rogala, Robert Blough, a World War II Veteran and RI Fire Chief David Sayles. This past spring, the group gave a presentation to the Veteran's Coffee House on the RI Honor

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Flight Oscar that they participated in on April 1st. The Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. Their mission is to transport WWII Heroes to Washington, D.C to visit and reflect at their memorials. This is an incredible, once in a lifetime opportunity for our precious WWII Veterans to be honored and celebrated for their brave sacrifices and heroic service. It is a one day trip full of surprises and memories from beginning to end. For more information, please visit the RI www.rifirechiefs.com website.

VETERAN PROFILE

Robert Blough served in The United States Navy as an Aviation Mechanic. He was stationed at Oceana Naval Air Station, and Norfolk Naval station in Virginia; also at the former Charlestown RI Naval Air Station and Quonset

Point. He served on 3 aircraft carriers: The Kearsarge, The Randolph, and the Leyte. He flew on TBM Avenger aircraft. After his service, Robert worked as a mechanic at Quonset Point. He attended Mitchell College and worked as a mechanic at Electric Boat in Groton. He was employed as a Senior Engineer at the Martin Company in Orlando, FL and worked on the Pershing Missile. In Farmington, CT, he worked at Corporate Systems Center (A Division of United Aircraft) as a Senior Engineer. He started his real estate career in West Hartford, CT in 1965 and worked his way up the ladder from realtor, to manager, to Vice President. He also had his own Realty Office in West Hartford (R. T. Blough Realty) and was appointed Real Estate Commissioner in the state of CT. He has been with Randall Realtors for many years now and holds licenses in CT and RI and doesn't plan on retiring!

TVCCA RSVP Bring a Smile to Someone's Face!



The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is looking for volunteers (ages 55+) to make a difference in your community. Many opportunities to visit or grocery shop for older or disabled individuals in Mystic, Stonington, and North Stonington. Volunteer around your schedule and make a positive impact!

Contact: Gina King at 860-425-6617 or gking@tvcca.org.

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Advice for Executors

The Top 5 Things to Do the First Week After Someone Passes Away

- 1. Monitor the home.** Keep an eye on the decedent's home, answer phone messages, collect mail, discard food, and water plants. If necessary, change the locks. Don't give away any personal property in this first week.
- 2. Arrange for burial or cremation.** Search the decedent's papers to determine whether they have a prepaid funeral contract or burial plan. Decide how you will pay for the funeral and memorial service. Unless the decedent made you the joint owner of a bank account, you and close family will need to front these costs and get reimbursed from the estate.
- 3. Prepare the funeral service.** In some religious faiths, the funeral service occurs soon after death. Find any directions from the decedent in this regard. Visit with the clergy member to review the service. Prepare remembrances and gather photos for the wake and the funeral reception. Contact the restaurant or other venue at which you want to hold the reception. If appropriate, write a eulogy or delegate this task to someone.
- 4. Prepare an obituary.** It will mean a lot to the family if you take the time to prepare an obituary well. Send the obituary to the local newspaper.
- 5. Gather Important Documents.** Get at least 10 original death certificates. The funeral home will usually order these certificates for you. Find the Will, any Trust Agreement, the latest bank account statements, investment statements, deeds, birth certificate, marriage certificate, divorce decree (if any), Social Security information, life insurance policies, certificates of title to vehicles and keys to the safe deposit box or home safe.

Joseph Cipparone & Jack Reardon
Cipparone & Zaccaro, PC

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Meticulously maintained 1866 Victorian sits in the heart of Mystic. Wraparound porch welcomes you to the front door. Inside, a curved staircase sets the stage for several beautiful architectural features throughout the home. Large windows bring sunlight into the living and family rooms. Hardwood floors run through the first floor. New stainless appliances and updated kitchen. Breakfast room looks out to the manicured back yard. Upstairs there is a generously sized master bedroom, central full bath, as well as 3 additional bedrooms... each with their own full bathroom. This home offers all the charm expected when living in Downtown Mystic. Floor plan allows for flexibility, space and storage. Walk to train, Seaport, Downtown Mystic and nearby marinas. True Mystic living.

51 Washington St.



Stunning property in Downtown Mystic. Originally built by D.D. Mallory in 1863. Fits in with Downtown Mystic's architecture. Short walk to Downtown shopping, restaurants and events. Short drive to highway. Steps to Mystic Train Depot for easy access to NYC or Boston. Completely rebuilt in 2008. History and modern convenience provide an environment for living, relaxing and entertaining. The exterior has high-end hardy board siding, Anderson windows, designer imitation slate shingles and front porch. Composite decking leads from the back of the home down to a patio opening to a backyard entertaining area. Hot tub is under a cabana adjacent to custom built in-ground pool and water slide. Interior has open floor plan on first floor between the living room, dining area and custom kitchen. 6 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, office, and mudroom. This home is also for RENT under MLS#: 170001742.

100 Latimer Pt. Rd.



Waterfront living at it's finest... Updated year round direct waterfront home, which is one of the few connected to public water. Enjoy unobstructed waterviews and amazing sunsets from almost every room. Open kitchen, dining and living with sliding glass doors that open to a large wrap around deck, drastically increasing the entertaining space. The lower level is also completely finished with another private bedroom and living space with full bathroom and kitchenette. Large lot with plenty of parking as well as mature plantings and landscaping with private/direct water access. Move right in and start enjoying all that Latimer Point has to offer with its 2 beaches, ball field, playgrounds, docks, boat ramp and neighborhood gatherings

23 Lincoln Ave.



Completely renovated home on quiet street in Downtown Mystic. Newly painted cedar siding, Pella windows, cedar roof with copper accents and gutters, lpe wood decking, and blue stone patios. One car detached garage with a bonus space that opens into a rear yard with cedar pergola and mature plantings. Wide plank hardwood floors through the open floor plan of the 1st floor and entire 2nd floor. Custom kitchen with quartzite counters and Jenn-Air appliances opens into a dining area, sitting area, powder room and living area. The 2nd floor has 3 bdms with vaulted ceilings, one full custom tiled bath with stand up shower and jacuzzi tub. Bead board ceilings, propane forced heating and cooling, gas fireplace and spray foam insulation. Home maintains the original craftsman charm of 1922. Steps to Downtown Mystic shops, dining and Amtrak station.

