

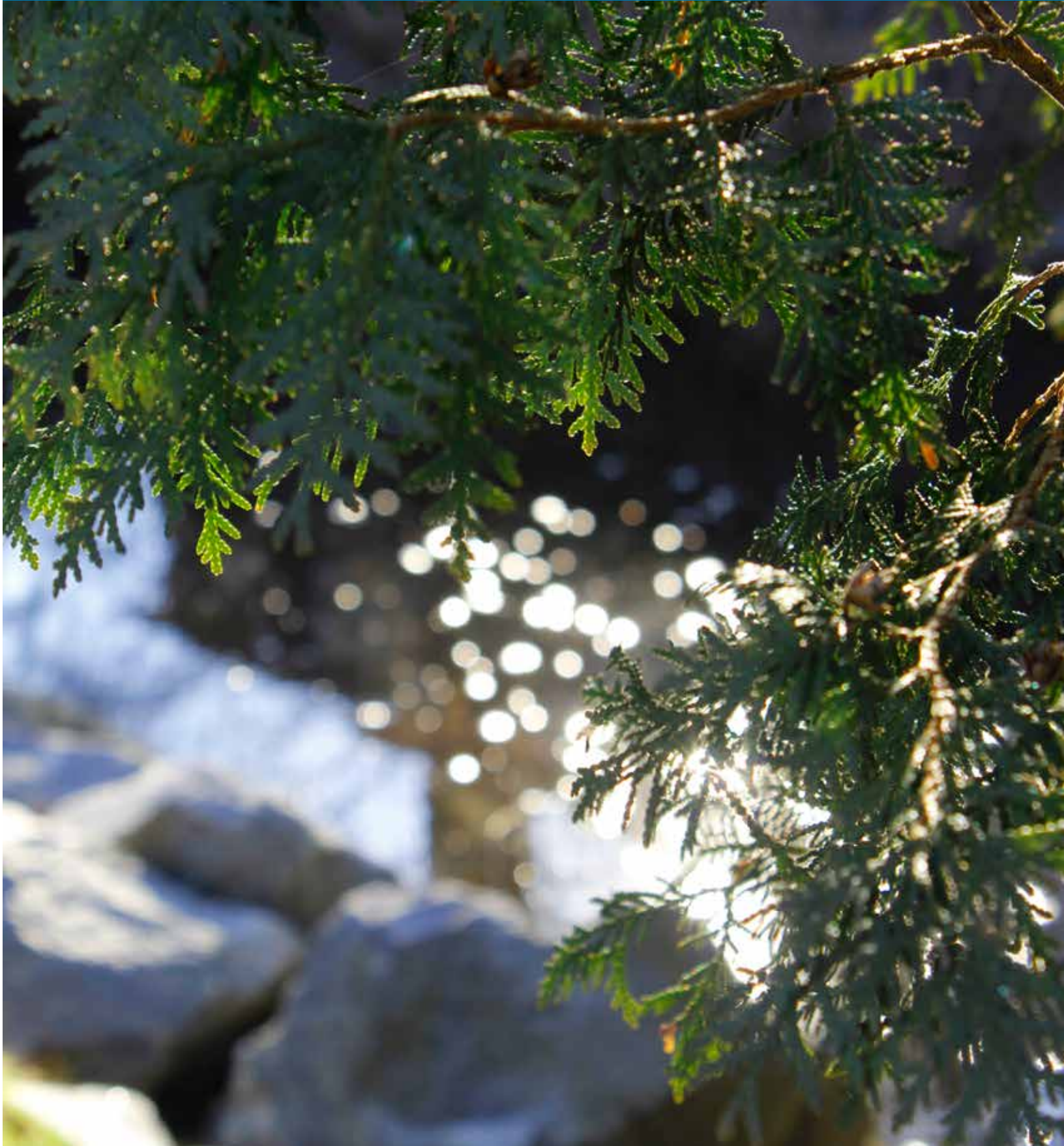
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Events

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Volume 11 • Quarter 4 • 2012



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TECHNOLOGY WITH A HUMAN TOUCHSM

First Selectman's Corner

This fourth quarter *Chester Events* report is an opportunity to reflect on the past year and express my appreciation to Chester's Town employees, the Chester Hose Company, and the 120 residents who generously give their time and expertise by their service on our boards and commissions. I also want to thank Selectmen Larry Sypher and Tom Englert for their good counsel and positive collaboration to keep Chester one of the best small towns in Connecticut.

Working together, Chester's boards and commissions have accomplished much in 2012. Here are some of the highlights:

- The fiscal year 2012-2013 budget, \$12,748,081, was unanimously adopted at Town Meeting on May 15th. The increase in spending was held to 1.5 percent, .34 of a mil. 70 percent of the budget is allocated to education, 27 percent to Town operations and 3 percent to fund capital projects such as road repairs and vehicle replacements.
- The Middlesex Avenue – Denlar Drive water main project was completed in July. 1,800 feet was installed and three hydrants to serve the apartments and commercial properties. This infrastructure work was 100 percent funded by a grant from the Connecticut Department of Health.
- The Town of Chester and Essex Savings Bank signed a 10 year lease at \$67,599 per year plus 20 percent cost share for utilities for the 3,200 square feet the Bank will occupy

in the Town office building.

- The Water Street bridge reconstruction project was completed on time by the Department of Transportation's contractor. The new sidewalks on Water Street safely connect the municipal parking lot with Main Street businesses.
- The Main Street Project Committee selected the firm of Kent and Frost as the design consultant to prepare the Town Center streetscape master plan, phase one preliminary construction plans and cost estimate. The Committee will hold a series of public participation workshops early in 2013 prior to completing the project in March.
- The Library Board of Trustees completed the Design Feasibility Study for Expansion and Renovation to the 1906 Library building. The Board of Trustees will begin to hold community workshops to explain the needs for building improvements and cost estimates. The concept design proposed by the Board would double the building's size from 2,100 square feet to approximately




First Selectman Ed Meehan

continued on page 4


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A Note from the Public Works Foreman

It is not too early to think about WINTER and PLOWING...

- Please remember to move your vehicles off the streets during winter storms for efficient snow plowing.
- Please do not place your garbage receptacles into the street as the road crews will need to plow your street—keep receptacles at the inside end of your driveway otherwise the plow will have to go around and not be able to plow the snow completely from in front of your driveway. The trucks have long arms and can reach into your driveway.
- Sand and salt will be available at the Town Garage on Grote Road. Please, only one pail per household.

• *Selectman's Corner continued from page 1* •

- 4,000 square feet.
- The Board of Selectmen endorsed a plan to replace the Community Center's lost space and functions by making renovations to the second floor of Town Hall. These renovations would increase the size of the meeting room to accommodate 65 persons and reallocate existing areas for increased Park and Recreation and food pantry storage. The cost for renovations will be funded by the insurance payment; project bids will be received in December with construction starting in February.
 - The Clean Energy Committee's recommendations for reduced electrical usage at Chester Elementary School have been addressed by the installation of more efficient lighting. A savings of up to \$14,000 per year is projected; this savings is approximately 20 percent of the School's annual electrical bill. Another project for electrical cost reductions will be the installation of a 8,000 watt solar system, and this is expected to save \$1,500 per year and provides an educational benefit for students learning about clean energy alternatives. The Board of Finance approved funding \$8,000 for the Town share to match the \$32,000 Connecticut Energy Finance Investment Authority's Grant.
 - During 2012 2.5 miles of road construction was completed. Cedar Lake Road, Straits Road, Maple Street and a short section of Hoop Pole Hill Road were paved. Also a new ambulance was purchased with funds set aside over the past five years in the Town's Capital Improvement Program.
 - The Town's web site was modified to present a new look and organized for easier access to meeting notices, agendas and minutes. The new format provides users with calendar meeting dates for boards and commissioners as well as community events.

— *First Selectman Ed Meehan*

American Legion and Chester War Memorial

“The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation’s largest veterans service organization, committed to mentoring and sponsorship of youth programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans.”

(From the American Legion in Connecticut website homepage.)

The American Legion Post 97 serves our veterans as they have served to protect our freedom. With these thoughts in mind, the American Legion is asking for donations to help offset the costs of placing American 500 flags on veterans’ gravesites in five local cemeteries twice a year. Gravesite markers have also been stolen and need to be replaced.

Support our veterans. Send a donation to the American Legion Post 97, c/o Bruce Watrous, P.O. Box 54, Chester, CT 06412.

Animal Control Winter News

As everybody knows, Mother Nature has been playing games with us. First, a very hot summer, a destructive hurricane, and then a mysterious fall with snow in October. What will she bring this winter?

Well, let’s get a jump on her, by checking on our dog houses. Are they cozy, such as hay on the floor, and a flap to cover the doorway? Also, beware of “extra” friends that may try to move in, such as raccoons and squirrels. They may be cute, but they can cause problems.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

— Bob Jenkins

Chester Town Hall

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Town Hall Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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Chester Office of Emergency Management

Do you have a Family Disaster Plan? Do you have a family GOBAG. Have you included your pets? Three sites with suggestions to help you prepare are:

1. Go to the Town website (chesterct.org)
 - a. Click on **Town Services**
 - b. Open **Emergency Management**
 - c. Scroll down to **Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit**
2. Go to the American Red Cross website (redcross.org)
 - a. Go to the bottom of the page; under PLAN & PREPARE, Click on **Prepare Your Home and Family**.
 - b. On left side of page click on **Make a Plan**, then
 - c. On right side of page Be Red Cross Ready, click on **Make a plan**
3. Go to the Federal emergency management site; **Ready.gov**
 - a. Under Make a Plan, click on **Plan to Protect Yourself & Your Family**
 - b. Click on **Download the Family Emergency Plan**

Do You Have Septic Tank Pump-Out Questions?

The Sanitation Office is updating its septic pump-out database program. Therefore, in an effort to reach all households, property owners are reminded to have their septic tanks pumped out and inspected a maximum of every 5 years and sooner if there is heavy usage. If you do not know when your pump-out was last done, stop in the Development office or call the Sanitarian or the First Selectman's office to help you.

The Town of Chester does have an ordinance that requires all septic tanks to be pumped out every 5 years as a safeguard for the entire septic system and to also benefit the property

owner from potential costs with repairing a replacing the septic system. It is much more economical to pay a small expense for preventative maintenance than to have to pay substantial costs for a repair!

In addition to septic tank pump-outs residents are encouraged to conserve water, repair any leaking fixtures, spread out laundry times and days, etc.

Please contact Lee Vito, Sanitarian, at 860-526-0013 extension 206 if you have any septic system questions or concerns.

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A Busy Winter for the Historical Society

During the winter, while the Chester Museum at The Mill is closed, members and committees of the Chester Historical Society are studying how our ancestors traveled to and around Chester. We're preparing for our Museum's next exhibit, opening in May 2013, which will be named "Over the River and Through the Woods."

Five exhibit areas, each related to a different mode of transport – roads, ferry, train, trolley and steamboat – will show how the progress of transportation impacted our town. We will demonstrate how the evolving methods of transportation were key to the town's population, industry, and commerce.

In November 2012, we hosted a program by CT Valley Railroad Historian Max Miller about Chester's trains and train station. During the winter we're hosting a program on the trolley that came to Chester in 1916, presented by Bruce Edgerton. We're also hosting a concert by Leif Nilsson's Side Doors band on April 20 in the Meetinghouse. Maybe they'll sing "I've been working on the railroad"? More information will be on our website, chesterhistoricalsociety.org.

Information about historical society activities, as well as new gifts to our archives of Chester history, is in our monthly



For about one year, in 1916-17, Chester was served by the Shoreline Electric Railway Company trolley. (Photo owned by Chester Historical Society)

e-newsletter. If you're interested in receiving the newsletter (even if you're not a member of the historical society), please send your email address to chesterhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. All addresses are kept confidential.

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Chester Fife and Drum Corps 1868



Welcome, we hope this finds you all well, and that you enjoyed a great Thanksgiving and very Joyous Christmas and New Year.

As the 2012 season closes with the traditional Old Saybrook Torchlight parade, we say goodbye to yet another successful year of Fifeing and Drumming. While some Drum Corps may fall into a deep winters nap, The Chester Fife and Drum Corps will be busy honing our musical repertoire and preparing for the 2013 season.

There is lots to do before our historical group steps off again in March at the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in New Haven. Currently the corps is sporting a rather healthy number of participants enjoying a somewhat peaceful animation of what one might consider "Whoville" but with a colonial twist. We have uniforms to mend, drum heads to replace and schedules to fill as there is no doubt that the 2013 season will be fast upon us. We hope that our ranks will swell yet again as we strive to attract new members with a peaceful pledge of just belonging to one of the oldest continuously active Fife and Drum Corps in the United States of America.

Currently, the Chester Fife and Drum is honored to have in its ranks two 2012 CT Junior Women's Champion drummers who also competed in the 2012 Northeastern Championships. They



The Chester Fife and Drum Corps.

competed against drummers from New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Both Megan Cordeau and Haley Armstead competed in the competition with Haley Armstead placing on the snare drum and Megan Cordeau came home with the Junior Female Bass Drumming championship. Congratulations to all.

If you possess quality social skills and have some spare time and would like to be a part of history, we would love to meet

continued on page 9

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• *Fife and Drum continued from page 8* •

you. Please don't be shy and come to one of our practices. You will be welcomed with open arms and quickly offered a role to fill. We could start you in our Color Guard, so you would be marching with the unit right away. Perhaps you could pass an informal 10 piece musical test as a fifer or drummer? This could place you in the ranks fast as a musical member. This is a unique opportunity to get involved as a family and or individual and start interacting with our Fife and Drum Family.

We provide drum and fife lessons if you provide the willingness to learn while having fun. We would like to have a greater number of local members from Chester getting involved as most of our current members are from out of town.

The Chester Drum Corps is still seeking donations of any old articles, pictures (past and present) of the Corps. Some can be donated to the Company of Fifers and Drummers Museum, which houses memorabilia of all Fife and Drum Corps past and present, and/or some can be donated to the Chester Historical Society. You can contact Frenchy Cordeau or Roberta Armstead to schedule a meeting and/or pick up if necessary.

So please come and see what we are about, do and play. We will also be spending some time, this coming summer, at Cedar Lake and North Quarter Park.

If you are interested in becoming part of history and are interested in joining our corps, please feel free to call Don at 203-915-7215, Frenchy at 860-691-1735 or call our corps President at 860-526-2178.

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 from 6:30 till 8:00 p.m. at the Company of Fifers and Drummers in Ivoryton. Hope you have a healthy and safe winter season. Hope to see you at a muster or at a parade.

— *Don Buell, Major*
Frenchy Cordeau, Business Manager



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Loli Marquez-Sterling in a Cuban Cabaret



Loli Marquez-Sterling

Loli Marquez-Sterling brings her cabaret act -- brimming with humor, song and Cuban culture -- to Chester on Sunday, March 24 at 5 p.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek.

"Loli's music comes from within, strong and hot as café Cuban," wrote Cabaret scenes. "Her Latin influenced music, her ebullience and the patter about her life reveal a knockout singer with her own sound who is charismatic and playful."

She is the winner of the New York City Outstanding Bistro Act of 2010.

The concert, which also features members of Ms. Marquez-Sterling's band, kicks off the fifth season of Music & More at CBSRZ (cbsrz.org). For ticket information (\$25 for adults, free for children under 16), please call the synagogue office at 860.526.8920, and ask for Wendy. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Chester Parks and Recreation

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21, February 22, 2013, Indoors or Out, Weather permitting. Games, Crafts, Science & Nature, Sports, and Special Theme Activities! Camp Days at School are open to children in Kindergarten through age 12. Call 526-0013 extension 223 OR e-mail parkrec@chesterct.org for information or a reservation. The program is offered January 18, February 19, 20, 21, and 22, 2013 at Chester Elementary School, 8:00 am until 3:30 pm, for \$25 per child, per day. Activities include sports,

continued on page 11

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• *Park & Recreation continued from page 10* •

crafts, games, science and nature, indoors and/or outdoors as the weather permits. Bring a lunch, a snack and wear sneakers. PLEASE REGISTER AT LEAST ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE. Call 860-526-0013, x223 or e-mail parkrec@chesterct.org for information, to reserve a space, or for a registration form or visit http://chesterct.org/?page_id=476 Hard copies of the registration form are also available at Chester Elementary School, on request.

Early Dismissal - Hotshots Basketball Competition - This program, for students in grades 1 through age 15, will begin with a practice in the multi-purpose room at Chester Elementary School, following the 1:00 pm dismissal on Friday, February 7. Children will practice for the contest, have a snack, and compete in the contest between 2:45 and 4:45 pm. There will be additional activities for children until 5:30 pm. The fee is \$15. Winners in the 9 and 10 year-old, 11 and 12 year-old, and 13 to 15 year-old Hotshot competition are eligible to compete in the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association's State finals. Last year, Josh Ross, from Chester, was the State champion for the 9 and 10 year old boys' division. Students who are younger than 9 years old on 12/31/12 are not eligible to compete on the State level, but are welcome to participate in the Chester program.

Chester Youth Basketball March Madness! March Madness, for those students in grades 1 through 6 registered in Chester Youth Basketball, will be held on Sunday, March 3, between 3:00 and 6:30 pm. Parents will have an opportunity to challenge their child's team on the court and a pizza dinner will be served. No fee or registration is required.

Adult Recreational Basketball: This program meets from December 4 through March 14 at the Chester Elementary School multipurpose room on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 7:15 until 9:00 pm. There is no basketball on school vacation days, when the school closes due to severe weather, or when there are special school events in the evening. Registration is required BEFORE playing. The registration fee is \$10 for Chester residents and \$15 for nonresidents.

American Red Cross Babysitter's Training and Pediatric First Aid and CPR/AED: American Red Cross Babysitter's Training will be offered at the Chester Town Hall during April school vacation week on Thursday and Friday, April 18 and 19 from 9:00 am until 2:30 pm. The schedule will be adjusted if these emergency days become school days. The training will help participants develop skills in leadership and professionalism, basic care, safety and safe play, first aid and CPR. The program is open to participants in grade 5 through age 15. The fee is \$60. ADULTS or those who have previously taken Babysitter's Training may register for Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED, only, on April 19 for \$40.

New Britain Rock Cats Baseball Game during School Vacation Week: A field trip to the Rock Cats v the New Hampshire Fisher Cats is offered on Wednesday, April 17th, during the school vacation week. We will depart by school bus from Chester Elementary School. Participants will be supervised from 9:00 am until 3:30 pm and lunch will be provided. The fee is \$36. Please call or e-mail if you are interested.



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Chester Public Library

Welcome to Winter! Welcome to days when curling up at home sometimes seems far preferable to venturing out in the storm. Welcome to a wealth of information available to you online through your library. Here's some of what you can do from the comfort of home.

Visit JobNow! for free, online, live job assistance. Here you can create a new resume or have a professional review your existing one, take job aptitude tests, practice interviewing for a job, prepare for the GED test, learn how to use Microsoft Office, bone up on your reading and math skills, or practice for the U.S. Citizenship test. It's private, it's convenient and it's effective. To get to JobNow!, simply click on the JobNow! icon on the log in page for the library (<http://chst-verso.auto-graphics.com>), type in the 14-digit barcode number from your library card and select the area you want to explore; Interviewing, Resume, or Adult Learning Center. Live help is offered from 2-11 pm, but the site is available to you 24/7.

Download an audio or eBook. Visit the Library Connection/Overdrive website at <http://libraryconnection.lib.overdrive.com> for access to a collection of about 3900 audio books and 4600 eBooks. First time users may want to take a look at Digital Media Help and Supported Portable Devices in the 'Getting Started' box on the left side of the page. Many popular titles will have waiting lists, so be ready to place holds on titles you want (especially if you are a Kindle user) or look at 'Additional eBooks Always Available' on the left-hand side of the page. Chester also participates in Overdrive's Advantage program and is developing a collection of popular eBooks that is available only to Chester Library users. Understandably, this collection is quite small but will be growing over time. Be sure to log in first to take full advantage of all that Chester offers.

Check your facts in the Encyclopedia Britannica. Britannica Online Public Library Edition contains comprehensive content, and provides separate home pages for adults and children. Whether it's frogs or physics, gardening or geography, Britannica Online Public Library Edition covers it all.


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Renew or reserve library materials. Access your library account 24/7 at <http://chst-verso.auto-graphics.com>. Log in to your account using the 14-digit barcode number on your library card and your password. When logging in for the first time, use the password "userpass" (without quotation marks). From this website you are able to renew items you have checked out, search Chester library's collection (and the holdings of libraries statewide), place reserves on items you'd like to have, request interlibrary loans and more. It's worth a look. For more general information about the library, its programs and services, visit http://chesterct.org/?page_id=286

To access any of these online resources, visit the library at <http://chst-verso.auto-graphics.com> and click on the appropriate button on the splash page. Log in using the 14-digit number from the back of your library card (be sure the card has not expired).

continued on page 13






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• *Library continued from page 12* •

Book Sale. While away a winter's day with a new (to you) book from the Friends of Chester Library used book sale. The sale begins on Friday, January 18 at 10 am and runs for two weeks during regular library hours. As usual, there will be a wide selection of hardcover and paperback books for both children and adults, offered at great prices. Of special interest is a collection of vintage Science Fiction paperbacks. Volunteers interested in helping sort for the sale on January 17 should call Diane Lindsay at 860-526-2443.

Chester Library is now on Facebook. Like us! You'll receive inclement weather closing notifications, program information and lots more.

Library Renovation/Expansion Update. The first in a series of two community meetings on the possible renovation of the library is planned for Saturday morning, February 9 at the Meeting House. Everyone is encouraged to become part of this conversation.

The recently completed Library Renovation/Expansion Feasibility Study provides the answer to two frequently asked questions, "Can our library building be made accessible to all?" and "Is there any way we can make our library building bigger?" The answer to both is, "Yes!"

The feasibility study, which was funded by a \$20,000 grant from Connecticut's State Historic Preservation Office, was wrapped up in late summer and the results presented to the Library Trustees and the Selectmen this fall. The scope of the study, which looked at only the existing library building and property, was determined by a 2009 Community Needs Assessment from which it was learned that there was strong community interest in preserving, but expanding and updating the current building.

Working under the guidance of the Chester Library Building Expansion Committee, which was appointed by the Selectmen in January 2011, Ken Best of DRA (Drummey, Rosane, Anderson, Inc.) brought in experts to assess the existing building (including mechanicals, air handling, and hazardous materials), available land and suitability of soils for septic installation. Mr. Best then developed preliminary conceptual designs for an expanded, fully accessible library. These were reviewed, discussed and modified in meetings with library staff and the Building Expansion Committee and eventually narrowed to one possible approach.

The concept:

- provides for a handicapped accessible entrance on the parking lot side of the building
- maintains the historic entrance and façade
- adds an elevator and accessible restrooms
- creates a reading area by the old fireplace
- adds new children's and teen spaces
- includes space for tutoring and quiet study, as well as work space for the staff
- features flexible programming/meeting space that can be used by the community when the library is not open.

Current collection size will be maintained, housed comfortably and accessible to all patrons. In all, the new plan would approximately double the size of the existing library. As part of his charge, Mr. Best was asked to develop a cost estimate for this conceptual plan, which came in at approximately \$3 million.

Mr. Best, a CT-certified Historic Architect, and DRA were selected from a group of 17 firms who submitted proposals for the feasibility study. Both DRA and Mr. Best have extensive library planning experience and their work in the area includes the Essex, Old Lyme and Westbrook Libraries.

Meanwhile, drop by the library to look at the conceptual plans and add your thoughts to the conversation.

Mark Johnston Book Discussion Series. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain and *The Souls of Black Folk* by W.E.B. DuBois will be under discussion this April when Charlotte Rea returns to lead the series. Dates for the discussions are Wednesdays, April 10, 17 and 24 from 7:30-9:00 pm. Books on paper and on CD will be available at the library. Ebook versions of both titles can be downloaded from Overdrive. Please call the library to register, or visit the library website to register online.

Library Hours. Your librarians are available to assist you on Mondays, 10 am - 8 pm; Tuesdays, 2-6 pm; Wednesdays, 10 am - 6 pm; Thursdays, 2-8 pm; Fridays, 10 am - 6 pm and Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm. The library will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 21, 2013, of Presidents Day on Monday, February 18, 2013 and of Good Friday on March 29, 2013. Weather related closings and delays will be announced on the library answering machine (860-526-0018), and posted on the website and the Library's new Facebook page.



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Complete Care for Lung Cancer Patients

According to the national Centers for Disease Control (CDC), more than 350,000 people in the United States have been diagnosed with lung cancer. Although lung cancer is very serious, if it is detected in its earliest stages and appropriate treatment is provided, a cure is possible.

The Middlesex Hospital Total Lung Care Center offers a coordinated approach to providing everything patients with lung cancer need - including the one-to-one services of a specially trained nurse navigator, Gean Brown, R.N., O.C.N., increased surveillance improved screening, and appropriate treatment options, including surgery, chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

Surveillance. When Brown first arrived at the Cancer Center in 2009, she realized there wasn't a coordinated system to help patients suspected of having lung cancer "navigate" the steps from diagnosis through treatment, and on to potential recovery. Since then, Brown and a number of physicians have worked hard to change that. The first step in developing the Center was to begin a quality assurance program to ensure that any abnormal lung testing done through the Radiology Department would automatically be sent to her. Brown takes the results and informs the patient's primary care physician if the finding looks serious, and then recommends a consultation with a pulmonary physician or thoracic surgeon to review the findings further. The clinicians then refer to what is called the "Fleishner Society" guidelines to assess the lung nodules. The Fleishner Society

comprises a group of thoracic surgeons who developed standard guidelines to follow for appropriate actions to take based on the differences in lung tumors, i.e., size, whether or not the person is a smoker, has a history of lung disease, etc.

Screening. The Total Lung Care Center offers screening for lung cancer using low-dose CT scanning. Studies have shown that these low-dose CT scans have the potential to catch lung cancer in its early stages, which means that it is more likely to be cured (Stage 1 or 2). The test takes ten minutes and there is no preparation needed. In addition, Hospital pulmonologists utilize an endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) machine, which employs sound waves to detect cancerous tumors in the lungs.

Treatment Options. Thoracic surgeons work in concert with other Middlesex Hospital surgeons to treat lung cancer, using minimally invasive techniques.

The Total Lung Care Center is a coordinated and comprehensive one, which includes radiologists, oncologists, pulmonologists, surgeons, radiation oncologists and Brown, the Lung Nurse Navigator. The cost for the low-dose CT scan is \$250 and is not covered by insurance. A physician order is required for the scan. If you do not have a physician, Brown can assist you in getting a referral. She can be reached at (860) 358-2066. Middlesex Hospital also offers a smoking cessation program that provides information and counseling to motivate smokers to quit tobacco use. Call (860) 358-3003 for more information.

Chester - Community Listings

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Chester Land Trust (860) 526-2619
- Chester Fair (860) 526-5947
- Chester Democratic Town Committee www.chesterctdems.com
- Chester Garden Club (860) 526-2998
- Chester Historical Society (860) 526-5781
- Chester Merchants Association www.visit-chester.com
- Lions Club deepriverchesterct.lionwap.org
- Deep River and Chester VFW (860) 526-3521
- Tri Town Youth Services Bureau (860) 526-3600
- Chester Meeting House (860) 526-0013

LIBRARY

- Chester Public Library (860) 526-0018

POST OFFICES

- Chester Post Office (860) 526-2780

SCHOOLS

- Superintendent of Schools
- District 4 (860) 526-2417
- Chester Elementary School (860) 526-5797
- John Winthrop Middle School (860) 526-9546
- Valley Regional High School (860) 526-5328

USEFUL NUMBERS

- Consumer Protection (860) 566-2294
- Middlesex Community Foundation (860) 347-0025

WORSHIP SERVICES

- St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church (860) 526-5495
- Congregation Beth Shalom - Temple (860) 526-8920
- United Church of Chester (860) 526-2697

SPOTLIGHT!

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Chester Rotary is Looking For "A Few Good Men"



The Chester Rotary will be holding their 3rd Annual Womanless Beauty Pageant on Saturday, April 6th, 2013 and are looking for a few good men to say "yes to the dress" in support of our local community.

Last year's pageant was a great success, raising close to \$7,000 used for supporting many local charities.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact Susan Wright at (860) 526-3294 or Suzie Woodward at (860) 322-4012.

You can see clips of last year's contestants by going to the Chester Rotary website at www.chesterrotary.org.

Chester Land Trust



Boy Scout troop 26 Lyme/Old Lyme provided a community service that benefitted the Chester Land Trust by clearing and improving the trails between the Scudder and Carini Preserves and donated bird-houses and a great bench and sitting area to view the Chester Creek wildlife.

Would You Like Someone Else To Buy You a House?

Well you can make that happen. It's called an investment property. And now is a GREAT time to begin or expand your real estate investments. Why? Mortgage rates can be under four percent and demand for housing in some communities is exceeding supply. That's why!

You probably just read the words "investment" and "mortgage" and saw money going out of your pocket, and sure there is an investment that is needed to get started, but once you have your new investment property rented and that income is paying for the house and expenses - someone else is paying that house off for you! And guess what...there are other benefits too! Tax benefits, increased equity as prices rebound and more.



You think "I don't want to be a landlord". Well, it can be a very profitable investment with a little work. Or if you wanted, you can hire a management service to deal with the landlord's duties.

There are a lot of things to know to make your real estate investment a good one. Let us help you find out if it's right for you and then find you the right property for your investment.

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Reminders From the Tax Collector for the January Tax Payment

First: I hope everyone is enjoying the holiday season. But right after the holiday season comes the January tax payment for real estate, personal property and any new MV's purchased during the year! Be sure to remember to verify your tax payment before writing your check. Do NOT include the MV amount that was due in July, if you have already paid it in July. MV bills are just once a year, unless you have bought a MV after October 1st. If you are not sure of the amount due, please call our office at 860 526-0013 x 513, and we will try to check the amount for you. And of course, when you do write the check, be sure to sign your check before mailing it to us, to prevent any delay in getting your bills paid!

Second: This winter will be our first time implementing a bounced check fee, since we have gotten quite a few returned checks recently and the bank is now charging the tax office for that bounced check. So be sure to double check your bank balance, before you pay your taxes, so that your check does not bounce, which will then incur a \$15 fee from our office, beside the fee that your own bank might charge you, and your bill could then incur more interest because another month might pass during the time when you wrote the check originally and when you replace the check. So a word to the wise,

double check your bank balance first before paying your taxes or any other bill.

Third: We do NOT mail out another bill for January, so it is the taxpayer's responsibility to remember that their second half real estate and personal property taxes are due during the month of January. After reading this, PLACE A REMINDER ON YOUR CALENDAR, so you will not be late. Also, try not to wait until the last week or last day, so if bad weather arrives, you won't have to panic or worry about paying on time. Remember, the rule that tax offices must abide by is "LATE IS LATE"....no matter what the weather or emergency or reason in your life might be!

Fourth: For those who use the online payment system with your own bank, where you set the Tax Collector as a company that must be paid, be sure to put all pertinent information on the account, so that when the check arrives from the bank, it tells us accurately and easily which account is being paid. An old MV bill number does NOT help us post the account quickly or efficiently. What would help would be the full name of the person whose bill is being paid and the plate number of the vehicle, which usually stays the same for a long time. In the case of a real estate bill or personal property bill, the full address is a great item for the check to contain. Since the bank does NOT include any portion of the bill that normally comes to us, we really need something definite to know where to apply the money, especially if there is more than one person with your last name living in town. If you are paying for someone with a different last name, be sure to include the name of that person, whose bill you are paying, on the account set up for the online payment. You might know who you are paying for, but we don't have any idea, unless their name or pertinent information appears somewhere on the bank check.

Keep in mind that online payments through your bank could take SEVERAL DAYS to get to us. Give yourself plenty of time so that the payment does not arrive late and cause another mailing with interest added. Do not wait...process early or mail early! Thanks!

Lastly, be sure to remember to pay your taxes in JANUARY, or before, and have a very Healthy and Happy New Year.

– Madaline Meyer, Tax Collector
and Tracey Ohaus, Tax Clerk

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Essex Winter Series

For over 30 years, the Essex Winter Series has brought a variety of musical concerts to the Shoreline area. Our patrons come from far and wide. These concerts range from classical to jazz, for young and old. In 2010, the "Fenton Brown Emerging Artists Concert" was inaugurated. Each year a benefit has raised the funds to sponsor an annual concert featuring talented but undiscovered musicians as well as an outreach program in local schools and the community...bringing the music of these young musicians to hundreds of children and elderly at no cost to them. Following is the concert agenda for 2013.

On Sunday, January 13 at 3:00 p.m. at Valley Regional High School, the EWS will kick off the season with a **Special 35th Anniversary Concert: "Romance on the River"**. Opening this anniversary season is a unique concert celebration of love by two local couples, who are all internationally acclaimed artists in their own right. Soprano Patricia Schuman and bass-baritone David Pittsinger will join forces with Essex Winter Series Artistic Director and pianist Mihae Lee and French hornist William Purvis in an unforgettable recital that will warm your heart. Don't miss your chance to experience this collaboration of talents in an imaginative program that includes romantic works by Robert and Clara Schumann, Schubert, Copland, Dvorák, Verdi, and many more. Concert sponsored by Essex Savings Bank

The Sunday, February 10 concert at 3:00 p.m. Valley Regional High School, features **The Orion String Quartet with emerging artist, clarinetist Romie de Guise-Langlois**. The Orion String Quartet is one of the most sought-after ensembles in the United States and abroad. Since its inception, violinists Daniel Phillips and Todd Phillips (brothers who share the first violin chair equally), violist Steven Tenenbom, and cellist Timothy Eddy have been consistently praised for the fresh perspective and individuality they bring to their performances. They will delight us with two of Schubert's extraordinary string quartets, No. 13 Rosamunde and No. 14 *Death and the Maiden* and, for Mozart's beautiful Clarinet Quintet, they will be joined by our 2013 Fenton Brown Emerging Artist, a rising star, clarinetist Romie de Guise-Langlois.

Concert sponsored by Guilford Savings Bank and Landscape Specialties and by the Friends of the Fenton Brown Emerging Artists Concert

Sunday, March 3 at 3:00 p.m. at Valley Regional High School, brings one of the public's favorite concerts, **The Northeast Traditional Jazz Ensemble with band leader Scott Philbrick**. More than a decade after their appearance in the Essex Winter Series' inaugural jazz concert, the Northeast Traditional Jazz Ensemble with bandleader Scott Philbrick, is back to warm up a chilly winter afternoon with some smokin' hot jazz. Seven equally outstanding jazz musicians will come together to form the band for this one special concert event. They will take the audience on a journey through the early jazz forms of ragtime and the introduction of improvisation, to New Orleans with the blues and Dixieland, to prohibition-era Big Band, to the much loved Swing. You'll be dancing in the aisles! Concert sponsored by Tower Laboratories and The Clark Group.

The last concert in the 2013 series is Sunday, March 17, 3:00 p.m., at John Winthrop Middle School. **The American Brass Quintet**. Now in its 51st season, the American Brass Quintet has been internationally recognized as one of the premier chamber music ensembles of our time and an icon in the brass world. The ABQ's rich history includes performances in Europe, Central and South America, the Middle East, Asia, Australia and all fifty of the United States; a discography of over fifty recordings, and the premieres of over one-hundred contemporary brass works. To close our 35th season they will perform music spanning centuries; from a collection of Elizabethan Dances and works by Monteverdi to the music of 21st Century composers Lacerda, Sampson and Tower. What a fanfare to end the season! Concert sponsored by the Edgard and Geraldine Feder Foundation.

ICE SKATERS

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*Essex
Winter
Series*

Mihae Lee, Artistic Director

*Save These
2013 Dates!*

Sunday, January 13

Special 35th Anniversary Concert – a unique concert celebration with soprano **Patricia Schuman**, bass **David Pittsinger**, French hornist **William Purvis** and pianist **Mihae Lee**

Sunday, February 10

World-renowned **Orion String Quartet** with our 2013 Emerging Artist, clarinetist **Romie de Guise-Langlois**

Sunday, March 3

Jazz Concert featuring **The Northeast Traditional Jazz Ensemble** with band leader **Scott Philbrick**

Sunday, March 17

American Brass Quintet, an internationally recognized ensemble that has expanded the realm of chamber music for more than 50 years

All concerts are held on Sundays at 3 p.m. at Valley Regional High School in Deep River, CT, except for the March 17 concert, which will be held at John Winthrop Middle School in Deep River, CT.

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What Does the Chester Energy Group Really Do?

A Good Question that we would like to answer.

We are a group of six Chester residents deeply interested in assisting our Town government, residents and businesses in taking advantage of all available energy saving innovations and rebates that lower their energy costs and taxes.

It all started when the Chester Conservation Commission put together a Task Force to write an Energy Plan or Roadmap (on the website) that was approved and supported by the Selectmen and accepted by the State which then led to our designation as a Clean Energy Community.

With this accomplished, the Task Force evolved into the Energy Group with an initial focus on reducing energy costs for all the municipal buildings and cost centers, including the elementary school and street lighting. This is ongoing with primary effort on energy audits focusing on performance contracts with outside vendors that use zero tax dollars by financing improvements out of savings. This effort includes making sure that all municipal building expansions and upgrades incorporate energy cost reductions in the projects.

The group is now starting to focus on energy savings for residents and businesses by:

- Encouraging residents to switch the “supplier services” portion of their electrical bills to a lower cost supplier and /or a “green supplier”(CtEnergyInfo.com). This will either reduce your costs or allow you to buy from a supplier using alternative clean energy sources, while continuing to get delivery and billing from CL&P.
- Persuading residents (home, condo or apartment) to sign up for energy checkups through the Home Energy Solutions (HES) program. For a minimal fee (ranging from \$75 to zero for income qualifiers), property owners can make a guaranteed dent in their energy costs.
- Businesses can also participate in these energy surveys through the DEEP’s Small Business Advantage Program. A new PACE program is currently being rolled out to provide low cost, long term financing for big and small energy saving business projects. Go to the DEEP web site for specifics.

Most importantly, the Energy Group continues to monitor and digest all the existing and new State and Federal programs to make sure that Chester is maximizing our participation. There are private and State sponsored programs being developed right now to provide solar electricity and solar hot water for homes and businesses at significantly reduced costs by grouping the projects in an area with a single approved supplier. These and all future programs will continue to be “localized” and communicated to Chester residents and businesses through mailings and the Town website.

We hope that we have answered your questions. Email us at info@chesterct.org if you need more information. The Energy Task Force web page can be found under Town Services on the chesterct.org website.



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Celebrate Winter in Chester with the Carnivale

Who can object to winter when it's celebrated with awesome ice carvings, a chili-tasting contest, and a decorated tractor parade? Throw in some Mardi Gras-style beads, face painting, and street performers, and you'll never hate winter again!

Chester celebrates its 23rd Annual Winter Carnivale on Sunday, February 17. The event, which takes place in the center of town in snow, rain, or shine, is free, with the exception of the Chili Cook Off.

Starting in the late morning, the Ice Carving Competition, with professional and semi-professional carvers, is sponsored by the Chester Merchants, who also bring in street entertainers and face painters. The Chili Cook Off is sponsored by the Chester Hose Company. Buy a ticket and enjoy tasting all the different chilis made by various chefs and restaurants. In the afternoon, enjoy watching all the tractors parade down Main Street in the highly anticipated Chester Tractor Parade.

Details are still being finalized. Watch for information to come from the different organizations or check with visitchesterct.com.



Enjoy watching ice carvers at work at the 23rd Annual Winter Carnivale on Sunday, Feb. 17. Photo by Bill Bernhart

Support our Local Youth With Tri-Town Youth Services Job Bank

Youth looking for part-time work are encouraged to apply to the Job Bank. Raking, babysitting and yard work are examples of the type of work possible through the Job Bank. Adults from the tri-town area can utilize this program by requesting an employer application form from the Tri-Town office or by downloading from the website – www.tritownys.org. Upon receiving the completed application, we will contact you with the names of local youth interested in working for you. The Job Bank gives you the chance to get jobs done around the house while giving youth valuable work experience.

**Deadline for the next issue of
CHESTER EVENTS
is March 1, 2013.**

S

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WARM THE CHILDREN

Providing New Winter Clothing For Needy Children

In the Valley Shore, needy children will go cold this winter without your help. The Warm the Children Fund is neighbor helping neighbor. Events Magazines and the Old Saybrook Rotary Foundation are asking readers to donate to the fund, and all proceeds will be used to buy new winter clothing for needy area children. This is the 20th Warm the Children campaign. Children who benefit from the program live in Essex, Chester, Deep River, Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Westbrook. Social service agencies in each town will work with coordinator Jason Smith, assisted by Dick Campbell, John Donnelly, Ken Roche, Bret Taylor, Bill O'Shaughnessy and Stephen Brinkmann. The coordinators will make arrangements with Wal-Mart in Old Saybrook and assign Volunteer Shoppers to take the families shopping for their winter clothing. Shoppers are local residents who want to help out by donating their time for this worthwhile cause.

As donations are received, volunteer shoppers are asked to call a family to set up a shopping trip to Wal-Mart. Shoppers then meet the family at the store and assist in picking out approximately \$90 worth of clothing per child. All \$90 is spent on clothing whether it be coats, hats, gloves, mittens, boots or winter clothing. There are no administrative costs of any kind.

Simply complete the coupon and send it to the address on the coupon. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you!



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Estuary Council

ESTUARY COUNCIL OF SENIORS, INC. has been serving seniors in the nine-town Estuary region for 35 years. Call us to receive our *Gazette Newsletter* or go to www.ecsenior.org for our online newsletter, events calendar, menu, and more.

CAFÉ MEAL SITES - Old Saybrook, Old Lyme, Chester, Clinton, and Westbrook (Thursdays). Reservations required by calling 860-388-1611 by 11 am, 24 hours in advance.

MEALS ON WHEELS – hot meals delivered to your home. Call Diane at 860-388-1611. A \$3.00 donation request for those aged 60+. Meals are supported by Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds available under the Older Americans Act.

STAN GREIMANN ESTUARY MEDICAL OUTPATIENT TRANSPORTATION For medical appointments, to any medical location beyond the nine-town estuary region. Call Judy at 860-388-1611. Suggested donation of \$35.

CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES: Board Games, Billiards, Ping Pong, Yoga, Exercise Classes, Mah Jongg, Wii, Cribbage, Writer's Group, Book Club, Quilter's Group, Needlecrafters, Hand and Foot, and more! Check the Gazette for all of our programs.

ESTUARY THRIFT SHOP: Hours are from 10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. Mon. – Fri. and 9 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. on Saturdays. Clothes (men, women, and children), kitchen items, crafts, and more available. Donations are accepted and volunteers always needed.

DONATE YOUR CAR OR BOAT TO THE ESTUARY COUNCIL. Turn your car or boat into a tax deduction by calling 1-800-716-5868. Vehicle does not have to run. Proceeds benefit the vital services we provide in the nine town Estuary Region.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL! - Be the first to know what is happening by getting our newsletter emailed to you. Visit our website at www.ecsenior.org and click on the Newsletter icon to follow the link and sign up! Please let us know to remove you from the mailing list once you've decided to go paperless.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Call Judy at 860-388-1611.

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

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



New Service in Haddam!

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and CT Transit Hartford in Middletown

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www.9towntransit.com



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Collomore Concert Series

To lift your spirits before filing your income taxes, plan on going to the Chester Meetinghouse on Sunday, April 14, to hear the Grammy Award-winning Parker String Quartet.

Brought to Chester by the Robbie Collomore Concert Series, the quartet consists of four musicians, all in their late twenties, who have been performing professionally for ten years. They have consistently won prestigious awards, including a Grammy Award for Best Chamber Music Performance and the esteemed Cleveland Quartet Award from Chamber Music America. They have been called "something extraordinary" by the New York Times. Their concert is sponsored by Ceramica.

The final concert in the 39th season of the Collomore Concert Series will be on Sunday, May 12, with singer and songwriter Nellie McKay, who has been described by one

reviewer as "an amazing performer; quirky and brilliant, smart and adventurous" and by another as having "staggering musical talents." Not only has she performed on "Prairie Home Companion," she has also acted on Broadway and in a movie with Hilary Swank. Her concert is sponsored by First Niagara Bank.

Tickets for the 5 p.m. concerts cost \$21. A student ticket (elementary through graduate school) is just \$5. All ticket-holders are invited to stay for a reception after the concert to meet the performers.

For more information about purchasing tickets, and for links to the performers' websites to hear samples of their music, go to www.collomoreconcerts.org. You may also call (860) 526-5162 for ticket information.

Essex Savings Bank

Opening Chester Branch

Essex Savings Bank President and CEO, Gregory R. Shook reported that he has negotiated and executed a lease agreement with the town of Chester in the former Bank of America branch. It is expected the branch will begin operations in December after modest renovations. Mr. Shook stated: "We are thrilled to have the opportunity to bring back Community banking to Chester. Since 1851 we have been a safe financial harbor providing a value added formula comprised of outstanding advisors and officers that take pride in building long term personal relationships... Essex Savings Bank is proud to offer a full complement of financial services for the individual, business, trust and investment clients in Madison and the surrounding communities." He noted that John W. Rafal, President of Essex Financial Services the Bank's subsidiary, was ranked number one in Barron's Top 100 Independent Financial Advisers article for several years including Barron's

Top 100 Financial Advisers. Most recently he was featured in their, The Best Advice article in their November 10, 2012 "an Optimist's agenda". "Our team also includes, Granville Morris, Senior Vice President, the leader of the trust department who as an experienced Trust Attorney leads an extraordinary team who fulfill the individual needs required in the protection and preservation of clients' assets," Shook stated. The Bank's capital far exceeds regulatory requirements for "well capitalized" banks. Mr. Shook further added, "We do not have shareholders to please and continue our long heritage as a mutual savings bank, a non-public organization with a far-reaching vision for our customers and the communities we serve. Our Community Investment Program, which returns 10 percent of our after tax net income to non-profits, is a testament to our commitment to the quality of life we strive to support in our area of operations."

The Rotary Club of Chester Celebrating 56 Years of Service

The Rotary Club of Chester is excited to be celebrating 56 years of providing community service throughout 2012. Since its establishment in 1957, the club has striven to exemplify Rotary International's "Service Above Self" maxim. As a result of our community supported fund raising efforts, we have been able to provide financial and volunteer assistance to numerous local organizations including The Chester Community Fund, Camp Hazen, Tri-Town Youth Services, Shoreline Soup Kitchen, Bikes for Kids, Chester Park & Recreation, Chester Boy Scouts, Chester Winter Carnivale, Chester Early Childhood Program, Annual Chester Elementary School Dictionary Presentation, BRAYCE, and The Citizenship Scholarship Program. The Chester Rotary is also proud to have taken part in providing resources for a variety of international philanthropic ventures including relief efforts Haiti, water projects in Niger, Africa and programs to eradicate polio worldwide.

Our initial 2013 fund raising event will be the sequined sequel of last years' outrageously successful womanless beauty pageant, **A Few Good Men**. The details for this April 6th affair are now being finalized. In 2013 the Rotary Club of Chester also invites you to join us for our **36th Annual Four on the Fourth Road Race** on July 4th and to the **43rd Annual Lobster Festival** on September 14th.

The Rotary Club of Chester is a 501c(3) not for profit organization. We encourage you to visit our website at www.chesterrotary.org for more information regarding our club and it's fund raising efforts, updates for our upcoming events and links to Rotary International.

– Debbie Alldredge, Chester Rotarian

Region 4 Education Foundation, Inc.

The Region 4 Education Foundation is a non-profit corporation organized in 1998 to broaden and enhance the educational experience of our students at Valley Regional High School and John Winthrop Middle School. The Foundation provides independent, financial assistance for the development of enrichment programs, worthy educational projects and other learning initiatives that are not ordinarily included in the school budgets.

R4EF accepts applications for funding from both John Winthrop and Valley Regional on an ongoing basis throughout the school year. Some of the programs R4EF has supported include:

- Solar Track Lighting
- Wellness Day at John Winthrop
- Arts Alive Programs
- Start-up costs for boys and girls lacross
- Buzzers for Valley's Bowl team
- Start-up costs for the French/Spanish Honor Society
- Photo enlargers at Valley Regional
- Anti-Defamation Program

Most recently the Hubbard, Willets, Pratt endowment has provided start-up costs for funding the Valley Media Studio. The R4EF has provided the funding of cameras, laptops and a Mac workstation for the students to use in creating videos and shows which can be seen on our cable network TV. A safe driving video was created by the students as well.

The Foundation accepts gifts from individuals, families, estates, corporations and other sources. Any gift amount will be appreciated and managed by the Board of Directors for the betterment of our schools. All gifts are tax-deductible and can be made in any of the following ways:

- Cash and Checks
- Gifts of Stocks and Bonds
- Charitable Trusts
- Wills and Estates
- Memorial Gifts
- Matching Gifts

Our annual spelling bee has been a fun way to bring our community together and raise funds for our Foundation. Many local businesses, service clubs, students, faculty and other members of the community participate. Each team is comprised of three members competing in organized rounds to become the best spellers of the evening. It is held every spring at Valley Regional High School and has proven to be a fun and successful evening for all.

Todd Ellison, Essex native, Broadway Musical Director and pianist has performed two concerts to support the Region 4 Education Foundation. He has brought friends and alumni Peter Lockyer, Lee Turgeson and Ryan Driscoll along with several singers from many Broadway shows to perform these outstanding concerts.

If you are interested in making a donation, please make your check payable to: R4EF, P.O. Box 187, Deep River, CT 06417.

Region 4 Education Foundation, Inc. is a Connecticut non-profit corporation. Donations to tax-exempt organizations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. If you have any questions, please consult your tax advisor.

Healthy Eating through Healthier Habits for Seniors

As we age, the make-up of what we eat becomes more and more important to our bodies and our overall well being. With proper nutrition, we are better able to manage health issues such as high blood pressure, cholesterol and sugar levels. We also reduce or eliminate common ailments such as swelling and inflammation, poor digestion, and low energy. While many seniors find themselves on some type of "restrictive" diet, this does not have to mean the end of enjoying a good meal. In fact, with better food labeling and an increasing selection of healthier foods in grocery stores, eating better is really tastier than ever. Here are some tips to eating well: Fresh is best when it comes to fruits and vegetables, and frozen is second best (avoid high-salt or sugary canned foods). The fiber and vitamins in popular favorites such as apples, blueberries, plums, broccoli, cauliflower, and avocados provide countless benefits. Enjoy these foods raw, steamed or sautéed in a little olive oil. Brown (whole grain) is better when it comes to breads, pasta, rice and cereals. For potatoes, sweet ones

are far more nutritious than white. Choose lean, high-protein foods such as fish, turkey, pork, beans, peas, nuts, for higher energy and better bone health. Eggs, cheese and milk have calcium that is also beneficial to bone health. However, these foods should be avoided if cholesterol levels are a concern. Use olive oils or soy-based margarines instead of butter whenever possible, to keep cholesterol counts down. Choose water over high-sugar drinks and fruit juices. Keep bagged salads, canned tuna, and low-fat yogurts on hand for quick meals. If you live in a retirement community, discuss your diet with the chef, nutritionist, or nurse. They will make recommendations for you and prepare foods that meet your special needs. By adopting better eating and shopping habits, we can find the best balance of foods that keep us healthy and help us enjoy a great (and delicious) quality of life.

— *Kathy Ryan, Executive Director,
The Saybrook at Haddam*

Park & Rec Seasonal Employment

Substitute Lifeguard Positions Available for New Employees

Chester Parks and Recreation will accept applications for new substitute lifeguards at Cedar Lake Beach for the summer of 2013. Applicants must hold current Lifeguard Training certification or be completing the training by June, 2013. The rate of pay starts at \$9.00 per hour and increases with experience. Substitute lifeguards will be considered first for vacancies. Lifeguards have additional employment opportunities to be a counselor at the Children's Summer Program, teach swimming lessons, or perform maintenance work in the parks. Call 526-0013, extension 223 for a specific job description, pay rate, or with any questions.

Part Time Summer Day Camp Sports Director

The Chester Parks and Recreation is looking for a Sports Director one day per week at our Day Camp for children ages 4 through 13. The hours are 8:00 am until 4:00 pm at Chester Elementary School, on the six Tuesdays between July 9 and August 13. Additional orientation, training, and planning hours may be required. There may be opportunities to work additional hours if the chosen candidate is interested. Applicants must be a certified coach or teacher certified in First Aid and CPR with two years of coaching or education experience. The pay rate is \$12.50 per hour.

How to Lower Your Electric Bills

A major portion of your electric bill is the charge for "Supplier Services" which represents the amount charged for the generation and supply of electricity delivered to your home. To review current offers, go to the following website CtEnergyInfo.com and click on "Choose an Electric Supplier". The website provides information about the offers and how to contact the suppliers.

Another way to reduce your costs for electricity and heating is to make your home or business more energy efficient. This same website provides information on CL&P programs for energy checkups by trained personnel, available financing and support for energy efficient appliances. The Home Energy Solutions program provides the services of a qualified energy expert who will inspect your residence, make improvements and provide a report on additional opportunities. The Small Business Advantage program provides similar services for commercial buildings.

— Chester Energy Task Force

Part Time Park Maintainer

The Chester Parks and Recreation is seeking an individual to perform general park maintenance duties that include, but are not limited to litter pick up, raking, shoveling, painting, sweeping, mopping, cleaning surfaces, and animal waste removal. In addition the Park Maintainer may repair equipment, assist with equipment construction, perform landscaping duties, and assist with park renovations. Due to the nature of the work applicants must be at least 18 years old. The schedule is flexible, for approximately 50 hours per season. Special projects may require additional hours. The pay rate is \$11.50 per hour.

TO JOIN OUR TEAM please send a letter of interest, including previous experience and availability from June 15 through August 19, by March 28, 2013 to: Town of Chester, Parks and Recreation, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, CT 06412.

Advice

Of all things naughty or nice,
If it's free, it must be advice.
When we ask advice, knowing the answer's "no"
Don't we really want a different one though?

Advice is given "for your sake",
Yet like medicine, it's hard to take.
We ask for advice from friend or mate
But want it, in truth, to corroborate.

Rather than words with sage and spice –
A good scare's worth more than advice.
Advice is for those, after all has ceased,
Who need it most, but like it least.

Those who give you advice are bores;
Except, of course, when they ask for yours.
If you give it to soothe some particular grief
Whatever you do, keep it brief.

Advice is all around and it's ample
The best is in the form of example.
The greatest appeal of advisors who make it,
Are in these words: "You don't have to take it."

Some good advice we like to re-tell.
Like "tip the breakfast waitperson well."
But let this poem advise not to advise,
And you will be healthy, wealthy and wise.

— Gerard Feeney

Season's Greetings



From all of us at
Essex Printing and Events Magazines



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Lisa Berube, Branch Manager

Chester Branch

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For generations, we have continued to provide quality banking services and a commitment to long term relationships. We remain a local mutual savings bank with capital that far exceeds regulatory requirements. In addition, we return 10% of our after-tax net income back into the community to help make our area a better place to live.



Offices: Essex, 35 Plains Road, (860) 767-2573
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Madison, 99 Durham Road, (203) 318-8611 • Old Lyme, 101 Halls Road, (860) 434-1646
Old Saybrook, 155 Main Street, (860) 388-3543
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