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# First Selectman's Corner

Happy Holidays! The Board of Selectmen, consisting of First Selectman Carl P. Fortuna, Jr. and Selectpersons Scott Giegerich and Carol Conklin, hope you are able to get out and enjoy the winter weather. We thank you for entrusting us with running your local government. With the election of a new selectman, we say goodbye to Steven Gernhardt, who served 4 years on the Board. Steve is a scientist by trade and was always inquisitive and engaged. Steve and his wife Diana have 10 year old twins (who often attended our meetings) and he simply became too busy to continue to serve. The Town is a better place because of Steve Gernhardt's participation on the Board of Selectmen. Thank you Steve.

The Town is moving forward with many community projects, one of which is Mariner's Way. In 2012, I brought forward to the Board of Selectmen the concept of creating a committee to examine the area of town east of Mystic Market all the way through Ferry Point. The purpose of the committee was to redefine this area of town with the goal of increasing economic investment and creating additional commercial and recreational opportunities for Old Saybrook residents, businesses and our visitors. The ad hoc committee, over the course of 18 months and assisted by Town Planner Christine Nelson, developed a blueprint that has been widely distributed throughout our community and beyond. We presented this blueprint to regional

groups which were impressed with the thoroughness and thoughtfulness contained in the end product. Subsequent to the blueprint being completed, the town's Economic Development Commission has undertaken an effort to examine this area to determine how our zoning regulations may be amended to foster activity and future responsible development. The Economic Development Commission, Economic Development Director Susan Beckman and the town's Zoning Enforcement Officer, Christine Costa, all spent long hours and many months developing a proposal that will be placed before the Zoning Commission for review. This process to date has taken nearly 4 years, but getting it right the first time is important as we look forward 20 years and to the future of our town. As we have moved through this process, the town (again looking long term) has applied for multiple grants that will eventually assist re-development in this area. The property that has received the most attention is formerly occupied by Custom Marine (and other related businesses). This property consists of 9 pieces of land and nearly 20 acres. At least one of the buildings on the property is in bad shape and there may have been environmental damage on the




Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.,  
First Selectman

Continued on page 2


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## Selectman, continued from page 1...

property many years ago. We applied for and received a grant to determine the extent of any potential environmental hazard. Having this baseline study is imperative for this property to ultimately have a new owner. Additionally, the town received a grant to study possible marketing alternatives for the old trolley power plant which has beautiful views of the Connecticut River. More recently, the town has applied for a Brownfield Area Revitalization (BAR) grant. This grant would be for as much as \$200,000 and would serve the purpose of prioritizing and furthering the concepts for public and private implementation prescribed by the geographic section of the town's plan of conservation and development entitled: "Mariner's Way: Gate to Connecticut River Recreation". With this grant, we will assess conditions along Mariner's Way, work with the community and develop a comprehensive plan to upgrade the quality and multi-modal capacity of transportation infrastructure, to mix uses efficiently and effectively through infill and redevelopment and to market potential business opportunities for sustainable vitality. Mariner's Way is not a short term project but one that will take many years to pay dividends. However, this is a good example of how Old Saybrook is planning for its economic future.

One consistent theme that I continually write and talk about whenever I am given the opportunity is the need for volunteers from our community. The Town has many boards and commissions that need or will need volunteers to serve and I would ask you, the reader, to consider becoming involved. Certainly, there are boards and commissions that can be contentious sometimes, but most boards simply seek reasonable people to consider the information placed before the board. If you have never been involved on a board, you may think you are not qualified. Au contraire! We have staff in town hall that can offer you training. Your citizenship in town is your qualification to serve on a board. Please consider contacting me if you are interested. If something that suits you is not available right away, there is constant change on our boards and commissions and it is likely an opening will occur within a reasonable period of time.

Old habits die hard but you should know that you can dispose of your residential recycling in a different way than you have in the past. Our transfer station currently collects bottle redemptions, corrugated cardboard, plastic and metal cans and newspaper and magazines all separately. However, when they leave our transfer station, they all (except bottle redemptions) get mixed together. This is called single streaming. Phone books, large plastic items such as toys, coolers and recycling bins, newspapers, cereal boxes, egg cartons, milk and juice cartons, cardboard, glass food and beverage jars and bottles, steel tin and aluminum trays and foil and non-toxic aerosol cans can all be thrown together. This means that on most trips, you can make two stops: Recyclables on your left and trash on your right. There is no need to separate newspaper from cardboard from metal cans and plastic. As we continue to work on a better flow at the Transfer Station, this should speed up many customer trips.

As we turn the page to a new year, let us all reflect on the great place we live. There are problems everywhere; locally, statewide, nationally and internationally. But all in all, our town maintains civility, offers superior services and maintains financial good sense. The Board of Selectmen wishes you a happy and safe winter.

Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.  
First Selectman

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# Middlesex Hospital Joins Mayo Clinic Care Network



Middlesex Hospital is the first health care organization from Connecticut to join the Mayo Clinic Care Network. Through the network, Mayo and Middlesex physicians will collaborate so more patients can get answers to complex medical questions and gain additional peace of mind, all while staying close to home. Network members remain independent, but share a common philosophy, commitment and mission

to improve the quality and delivery of health care.

As a member of Mayo Clinic Care Network, Middlesex will have access to the latest Mayo knowledge. Network tools and services include:

- eConsults that enable Middlesex physicians to connect electronically with Mayo specialists when they want additional input on a patient's care.
- AskMayoExpert that provides Middlesex physicians with point-of-care, Mayo-vetted information on disease management, care guidelines, treatment recommendations and reference materials for medical conditions.
- eTumor Board Conferences that enable Middlesex physicians to present and discuss management of complex cancer cases with a multidisciplinary panel of Mayo Clinic specialists and other network members.

Through network resources, Middlesex providers also will be able to consult with Mayo Clinic on operational and business processes such as patient engagement; quality, safety and accreditation; nursing leadership; and physician engagement. Providers also will have access to Mayo's extensive library of educational materials for use with their patients and grand rounds presentations that feature Mayo physicians and scientists.

Since its inception in 1904, Middlesex Hospital has continuously maintained the highest standards in medical care while focusing on delivering the very best patient experience possible. It does this through state-of-the-art medical technology and innovative approaches to care, along with a highly experienced staff that embraces the mission and culture of the organization.

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Rick Lacey, Kyle, oil on panel, 5" x 8", 2015

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[www.lymeacademy.edu](http://www.lymeacademy.edu)

Marguerite d'Aprile Quigley, Director  
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**PUBLISHER**  
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## Friends of Acton Public Library



The Friends are happy to announce that we have purchased a slat wall display area for picture books in the Children's Room, which should be installed soon. This will replace the cork bulletin board so that new picture books are easily displayed.

We would encourage you to make use of the Library Passes for many of the attractions in the area. If you are not aware of these passes, please contact the library or check out their website.

The library is offering several concerts during the winter months which the Friends are supporting. We encourage you to attend. The Friends are also collecting unused, old cell phones. Please place them in the receptacle in the library.

The Friends' Mini Book Sale will be held on March 11th from 9 to 5, on March 12th from 9 to 4, and on March 13th from 1 to 4. Please make plans to come and see the offerings. We are also selling backpack/book bags at the circulation desk for \$5.00 each. Volunteers are needed to help with the book sale. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please call the co-presidents at the numbers below.

The Annual Membership Drive will begin in late January 2016. If you do not receive an envelope to join and need one, there are envelopes in the library.

Co-Presidents, Pat Flanagan (860.395.1062), Joe Breindel (860.388.5131)



William Pitt

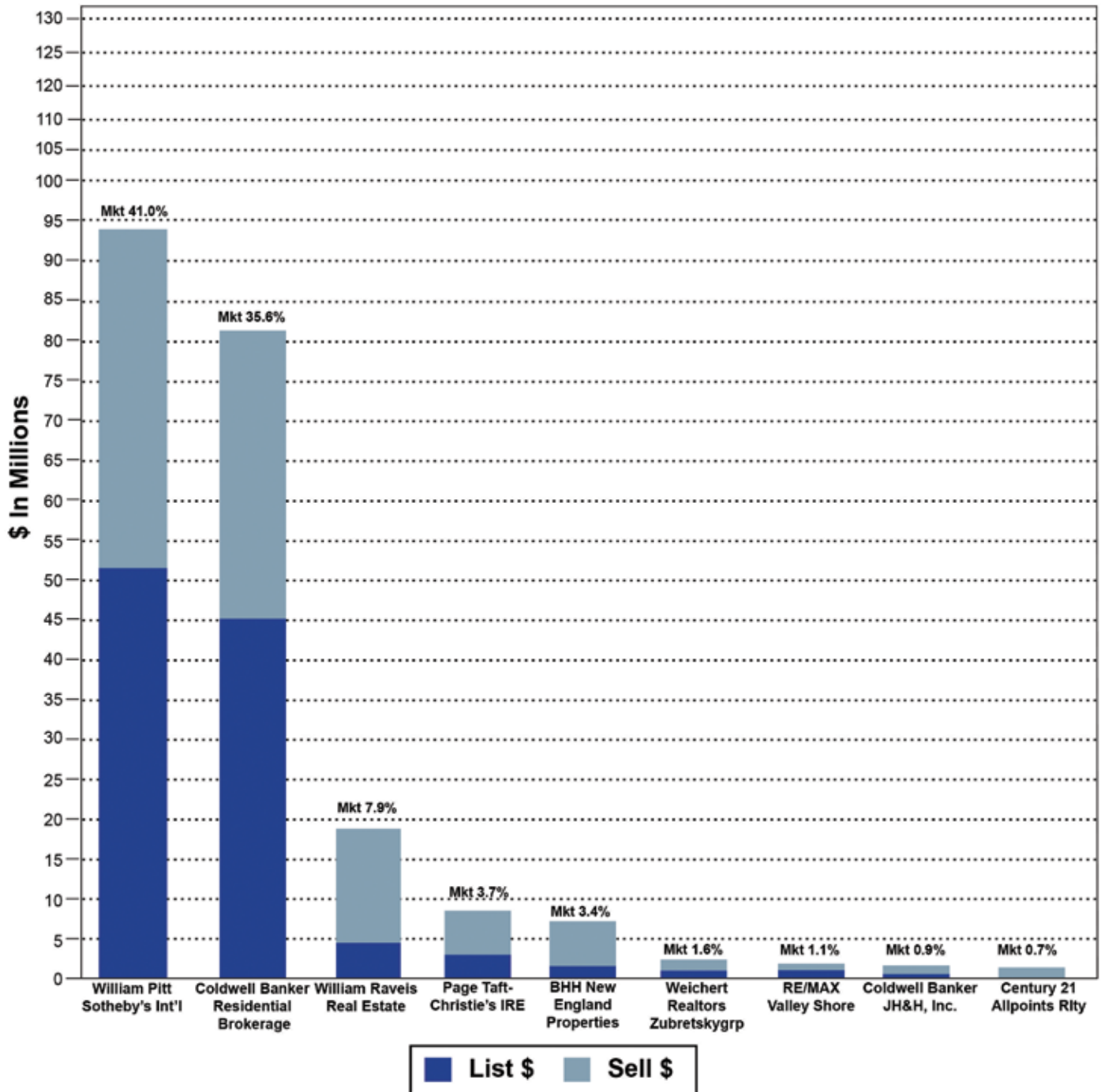
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# Old Saybrook Garden Club Winter News

Autumn was busy for the Old Saybrook Garden Club! A new executive board took the reins for the next two years, the median gardens were cleared of their summer beauty earlier than usual thanks to that early frosty night in October, and five (!) new members were installed after having participated in many group activities to help prepare them to become part of our "working" club.

Downtown Old Saybrook is now in the midst of its winter glory. Main Street always looks beautiful for the Winter Stroll, the Torchlight Parade, and the entire Christmas season. The shops are decorating with swags, garland, and the festive colors of red and green, and the medians have been transformed from summertime planters to wintertime hosts of Christmas trees and wreaths hanging from the gas lamp lights. The Old Saybrook Garden Club has always been proud to be a part of it.

Last year when readying the wreaths for display, the club realized that it was time



*New wreaths "fluffing" workshop*

for the old wreaths to be retired. Research was done by several members to determine cost, and, with the help of all those who patronize our May Market, we were able to buy new wreaths this year. Perhaps a casual glance will not catch the "newness," but the club members know. We are very proud to help our town look its best and thank those who help us make it happen.

The rest of the winter will not be one of idleness. In November, members learned much on the topic of "winter sowing." Imagine cutting a plastic milk jug

horizontally almost all the way through, filling the bottom with soil, scattering seeds according to packet directions, and then setting them outside from January onward. Guess what? The seeds sprout and grow and you have the beginnings of flowers and/or vegetable for next year. In February, two members will teach the club how to grow microgreens at home for some crunchy fresh flavor when the snow flies.

Looking forward to the rest of the winter months, the May Market committees will meet and work hard for a successful sale. Our general meetings will cover club business as well as provide time for interesting guest speakers such as meteorologist Art Horn and Dan Furman of Cricket Hill Garden of Thomaston. Smaller horticulture meetings will help members with the questions concerning growing roses, hydrangeas, and mushrooms. All of these activities point to spring, something much needed in the dead of winter!

## Is Your Painter Lovable?

"My husband and I work long hours so the thought of painters in the house was scary, the mess and smell!

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Another great thing about them? They have many ways to reach them and it's so easy, and their website is packed with valuable tips and information! Check out their blogs!

P.S. Their website is [www.coastlinepainters.com](http://www.coastlinepainters.com) or call (203) 458-2073 or text at (203)738-9090 or email: [coastlinepaintersllc@comcast.net](mailto:coastlinepaintersllc@comcast.net)"

Extremely professional work on my home, interior and exterior, my wife and I are very pleased! - Ford & Abby Gurall, Branford CT

Terrific work. Attention to detail, friendly and helpful team and a gorgeous job - Nancy Creel, Guilford CT

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While those meetings are for members only, the club invites all to its "open" April meeting to hear Maureen Haseley-Jones. Readers may recognize her by her more common title - "The English Lady." She will speak, in an entertaining and humorous way, as to how we can become more enriched by working with the earth and, in turn, become more in tune with it. Mark your calendars now and plan on joining us on Monday, April 4 at 2:00pm (tickets are \$10.00) to listen to Maureen and enjoy refreshments following the presentation.



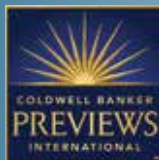
New members and their sponsors

Prospective members are welcome to learn more about the Old Saybrook Garden Club and its activities. For more information, please call 860-395-1268. To follow the Club and keep up on current happenings, please visit our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/oldsaybrookgardenclub](http://www.facebook.com/oldsaybrookgardenclub)). "Liking" our page will keep you aware of club happenings and any gardening info we may share.

Pictures by Marsha Finkeldey, Vice President of the Old Saybrook Garden Club

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## Old Saybrook Parks & Recreation

### OSPR Hands out Ben Novinski Coaches Award

Thursday, November 12th OSPR announced the Ben Novinski Coaches Award recipient for 2015. This award is given out to a community member who has coached many seasons and various sports for OSPR, as well as for other local sport organizations.



This year's recipient is Kevin Lane, a father of two young boys who has been coaching with OSPR since 2011 with fall outdoor soccer (K-3rd), indoor soccer (K-2nd) and t-ball (K-2nd). Kevin has also coached with OSSC for two seasons with teams in the U6

and U8 division. He is also coaching a U8 indoor soccer team in the Waterford Indoor Soccer league.

Kevin has also been instrumental in getting the new adult indoor soccer league at OSPR up and running. He has, along with others organized a group of roughly 30 adults to start the inaugural season. Kevin has demonstrated all of the great qualities that made Ben such a respected and valued member of our community. Ben's passion for youth sports and athletics and inclusion of all players made him a great role model for all the youth whose lives he touched.

### Saybrook Teen wins Youth Leadership Award



On Tuesday, November 24th at the Connecticut Parks and Recreation Association's (CRPA) annual conference at Mohegan Sun Hotel and Convention

Center, Kameryn King was awarded the Youth Leadership Award. This award is handed out during the annual awards luncheon in front of roughly 200 P&R professionals and industry leaders as well as municipal and state leaders. The award is given to any teenagers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in park and recreation programs. Last year as an 8th grader at OSMS, Kameryn volunteered 75 hours with afterschool programs at Goodwin Elementary and with various other programs throughout the year including out summer Jr. Camp Counselor program.

### Teen Center Winter 2016

As we round out the year 2015, we have some fun events planned for 2016 in the Teen Center. To welcome students back from Winter Break, we will hold our annual Black & White Party on January 8th, 2016. We'll ring in 2016 Teen Center style; with music, friends & fun. All attendees are encouraged to wear



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Black and/or white to make it a great night! On February 12th & 19th, our Soccer Tournament returns for its third year. The first night will consist in a round robin to determine seeding for our bracket-style tournament the following week. Participants can put together teams of 4 and construct creative names and costumes, for a chance to not only sign the coveted Soccer Ball, but win the ever popular Spirit Award! As we head into March, we'll garner up some March Madness and host our annual 3 on 3 Tournament. Student-picked teams will compete on Friday, March 11th in a bracket competition to win it all.

Have an idea for an event or simply want more information about what we have to offer at the Teen Center? See Samantha Wilson at the Rec Center!

### Teen Trips Winter 2016

Our Teen Trips return for another round of fun! Trips are open to students in 7th-12th grade and offer those in attendance the opportunity to spend time with friends outside of school in a fun, supervised and safe setting. Trips will be held during school breaks and/or professional development days in order to provide parents with a peace of mind that their child is engaged and provided for while off from school. Monday, January 18th we will return to Summer Camp favorite Laserquest to spend the day battling against friends in an interactive environment. In February, we will get our Picassos on when we head to TDP Art Studio in Westbrook. On Tuesday, February 16th students will have the chance to create a painting through step-by-step instruction; perfect to decorate any room in your home! To register for these or any other Teen Trips, visit our website at [www.oldsaybrookrec.com](http://www.oldsaybrookrec.com)



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'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house,  
The owners were selling with Brian and spouse.  
The listing was signed and explained with care,  
The photos were taken and disclosures were there.

The owners were nestled all snug in their beds,  
While visions of moving danced in their heads.

Brian and Leslie were working so fine  
On the web, in the papers, ads all the time.

When out on the lawn there was placed a sales sign  
"Call TeamJermainne" it said, any old time.

And what to the seller's eyes did appear,  
But a qualified buyer who loved the house dear.

With a little negotiation, a deal is struck  
Now is the time to call a big moving truck.

More rapid than eagles the deposit it came  
The inspections were done, not a problem to name.  
Now sorting, now packing, now boxing and stacking.  
Onto walk thru and closing and conveyance taxing.

To the attorneys they went, ready to sign  
Brian, the sellers, the buyers...oh my!

Brian and Leslie were more than just agents,  
Friends they'd became over time and with patience.  
Better service the sellers never have found.  
From Old Saybrook to Essex and all other towns.

And now a year later, the owners at home,  
Get a call from Brian with a happy tone.  
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"Yes," said the owners, "you're such a nice pair."  
"Our friends need to sell can we refer them to you?"  
"Of course you can," said Brian "referrals we do!"  
"Oh, one more thing to make this call right,  
Happy Holidays to all and to all a good night."



# HAPPY

# HOLIDAYS!



# Neighborhood Watch Program Revitalized



Over the past three years, the Department of Police Services has been in the process of enhancing its Community Policing Initiatives by revitalizing Old Saybrook's Neighborhood Watch Program.

Old faded and rusted Neighborhood Watch signs have slowly been replaced with fresh signage as new groups of neighbors came together to form groups with the goal of

fostering effective communication between residents in their neighborhoods and our Police Department. The Neighborhood Watch Program encourages mutual assistance from neighbors to maintain community awareness and observation skills. It allows the concerns of the neighborhood to be presented in a unified voice to the Police Department, and trains our citizens in techniques and strategies to make their home and community more informed, secure and safe. The Neighborhood Watch Program has resulted in action plans and activities that continue to address important quality of life issues and crime affecting Old Saybrook Neighborhoods. We have been able to work as one

team to ensure our neighborhoods stay as safe as they can be.

Each Neighborhood Watch Group has a "Block Captain" who acts as a liaison between their Neighborhood Watch Group and the Old Saybrook Police Department. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Block Captains Robert Rutchik of Indian Town, Roger Fink of Great Hammock Beach Association, Julien Brookson of Cornfield Point, Estelle Rich of Fenwood, and Frank Henderson of Knollwood, as well as the members of each group for their volunteer time, dedication, efforts, and vigilance. These groups have exemplified the true spirit of community involvement with the Neighborhood Watch Program. It is the active participation we consistently see in these areas of Town that makes Old Saybrook's Neighborhood Watch program a success.

If you are interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch group in your area, talk to your neighbors, gather those interested in the commitment, and contact Sergeant Stephen Hackett at our police department. (860-395-3142)

The men and women of the Department of Police Services are truly honored and privileged to serve our community and are committed to working with our citizens in keeping Old Saybrook the safe, special community it is!

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## Historic Preservation & Economic Development

Little evidence remains that electric trolleys ran along the shoreline providing transportation for area residents. In Old Saybrook, remnants of trolley track push through the pavement on Old Boston Post Road. Two buildings, the Trolley Barn on Ford Drive and the Shoreline Electric Trolley Powerhouse on Ferry Road, also serve as reminders of the role trolleys played in local transportation history.

Most notable is the Shoreline Electric Trolley Powerhouse sitting prominently on the shore of the Connecticut River in the south yard of the Between the Bridges Marina at Ferry Point. The three story building, constructed of poured concrete over a century ago, housed the coal-fired boilers and turbines that provided electric power for the trolleys running from New Haven to New London and from Old Saybrook to Chester. Large windows stretching two stories from floor to ceiling in the cavernous second floor of the 20,000 square foot building flood the interior with light and provide a panoramic view of the Connecticut River all along the eastern side of the building.

This remarkable structure is currently underutilized and deteriorating. Although the redevelopment potential is great, the cost of restoration and the risk of choosing an unmarketable use are significant challenges.

Earlier this year, the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation offered Making Places Grants to assist in devising redevelopment concepts for historic buildings. The Town of Old Saybrook applied for the grant to encourage rehabilitation of the Powerhouse building and support redevelopment goals in the Mariner's Way Plan. The Mariner's Way Plan includes creating a walkable neighborhood environment along Ferry Road where the Shoreline Electric Trolley Powerhouse is a landmark.

A successful application for a \$48,750 Making Places Grant allowed the Town of Old Saybrook to hire consultants Goman+York. Goman+York conducted a market feasibility study of the building and area to determine the best potential uses that would preserve the structure and ensure its successful redevelopment.

Community meetings provided a number of ideas for redeveloping the building. A brewery and pub, a museum, a restaurant, a marketplace, housing and co-working space were some of the ideas proposed. Goman+York found through their research that a mix of uses including housing and collaborative work space would be the most feasible and marketable use for the building.

Ultimately, the Town of Old Saybrook hopes the study assists the building owners in their efforts to redevelop the property resulting in preservation of the historic Powerhouse structure and the creation of an asset for the community.



*Historic Shoreline Electric Railway Powerhouse in a post card circa 1910*

# Middlesex United Way

## Volunteers needed for tax preparation assistance

Volunteers are needed for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to help low- to moderate-income households prepare and file their taxes to ensure they get back the money they have earned.

VITA is a national program of the IRS, and volunteers are trained and certified to ensure that working families and individuals are filing for all of the appropriate tax credits. The program also helps families who might be struggling financially by saving them costly fees associated with tax preparation and rapid refund loans.

The program is looking for volunteers for two VITA sites located in downtown Middletown to provide free tax preparation assistance for eligible taxpayers. Tax preparation is offered January 23–April 12, 2016 at Middlesex United Way's office in 100 Riverview Center and at NEAT's office on Main Street.

No prior experience is necessary. Volunteers complete training and are certified by the IRS. Training will be held January 4-7 or January 11-14, 2016, and volunteers need to attend consecutive evening sessions. Volunteers will be trained to let taxpayers know if they qualify for additional tax credits, such as the federal and the state Earned Income Tax Credits and the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit. VITA volunteers must complete a minimum of one 4-hour shift per week during tax season in the late afternoons and evenings or on Saturdays; maintain confidentiality of all client information; and interact with the

public in a helpful and supportive manner. Opportunities to become certified as an advanced tax preparer are also available.

In 2015, the two VITA sites in Middletown helped more than 570 Middlesex County area residents file their taxes for free and returned more than \$770,000 back to taxpayers. Those who filed with Middletown VITA sites had an average adjusted gross income of about \$21,000 and received an average refund of \$1,656, money they have earned. This impacts not only those who filed their taxes, but also their families and the local economy.

To volunteer or learn more, contact Leah Meyer at 860-227-7409 or leah.meyer99@gmail.com.



Volunteer Jay Keiser helps a client prepare their tax return at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance site.

VITA is a free program offered by the federal government. Local VITA sites are coordinated by the Middlesex VITA Coalition, a partnership of Middlesex United Way and the North End Action Team. The Middlesex VITA Coalition receives support from the Connecticut Association of Human Services.

# CHERYL AIUDI & SON<sup>L</sup><sub>LC</sub>

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# Real Estate Transactions in the Wastewater Management District (WWMD)

The 1900 properties located in the WWMD require septic system upgrades as mandated by the 2009 WWMD Ordinance. Reference to the Ordinance is recorded in the Town Clerk's property files and the list of properties is attached to the Ordinance. The WWMD also appears on the Assessor's Field Card for each property [under Notes]. The ordinance can be viewed at [www.oswpca.org](http://www.oswpca.org) and in the Town Code. The website and WPCA office provide an overview of all 15 focus areas as well as individual maps.

When a buyer, seller, or realtor is involved in a transaction with one of these properties they may contact the WPCA for further information. The following are responses to some of the frequently asked questions.

**Q: Is the property in the WWMD?**

A: Using the address and map and lot we ascertain if it is and which neighborhood it's in. The Town GIS, accessed from the website, [Maps and Assessment Data button] shows the areas by turning on the

Wastewater Management District map overlay; highlighted in different colors.

**Q: When will the upgrade need to be completed?**

A: It depends on the area and schedule; check with the office for updated information.

**Q: What type of upgrade does the system need?**

A: Based on the information in our files and the determination made by the CT River Area Health District (CRAHD), we have an idea of what the upgrade might involve: a new tank, a tank and leaching, or leaching only. Note: without an "as built" drawing for an upgrade dated 2000 and later, the CRAHD will not designate the property as "Upgrade Compliant."

**Q: How much will it cost?**

A: We will not know until; the property is investigated and soil conditions are evaluated, a final upgrade designation is assigned, and the bid on a group of properties returns. Each area and property is unique and may present its own challenges. Property owners can request estimates from local installers to gauge the price range of the upgrade.

**Q: How can the upgrade be financed?**

A: An owner can choose to take advantage of the Clean Water Fund program, accepting a 25% grant from the State and 25% from the Town. Owners are then responsible for the remaining 50% which can be paid in full or financed for 20 years at 2%. Further information can be obtained from the WPCA Financial Manager. There is an Elderly and Disabled Relief Ordinance whereby eligible primary residence owners are only obligated to pay the interest on the loan until the house turns over.

**Q: Can a property owner terminate the Clean Water Fund (CWF) application after accepting the funding?**

A: Only if the contract has not already gone out to bid. To re-execute the Clean Water Fund acceptance agreement, an owner must submit the CWF Termination form and required fee. The fee includes administrative, engineering, and CRAHD services.

**Q: What happens when a property has already had an upgrade and there is a lien?**

A: The lien must be paid in full by the seller upon closing. Contact the office for specifics.

**Q: What happens when an owner chooses to upgrade with CWF money and sells the home in the process?**

A: The new owner is obligated to continue with the WWMD program as the CWF application has committed the property to the program. A Caveat is placed on the land records upon receipt of the CWF application to ensure this.

**OLD SAYBROOK WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT SEPTIC SYSTEM UPGRADE GUIDELINES**

- At the time a property is scheduled for entry into the program the owner will be offered the use of Clean Water Fund Money to assist with the required upgrade. The owner may elect to accept the funding or pay for the required septic system upgrade using their own funds.
- If a property owner for whatever reason decides to upgrade their system before their neighborhood is scheduled, the work is not eligible for Clean Water Fund (CWF) Money.
- The only circumstance under which a property owner may obtain CWF money for a septic system upgrade prior to their area schedule, is if the system is failing. This determination is made by the Connecticut River Area Health District. If the system is found to be in a condition that results in sewage on the ground, is backing up into the house, or the occupant cannot use the system, that property will be considered for the WWMD program before the rest of its neighborhood.
- A septic system inspection for the purpose of a real estate transaction in which the septic system pumper notes deficiencies is not a reason for that property to enter into the WWMD Program sooner than the schedule indicates. The decisions regarding those findings are part of the real estate transaction. Any upgrade done as a result of the inspection is funded outside the WWMD Program.



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## Managing Grief During the Holidays

As the leaves turn color and the air gets chilly, our thoughts turn to the approaching holiday season. Holidays can be both joyous and stressful, but for those who have faced loss or trauma, they can be especially difficult. Some hope the days will pass quickly and that they will find ways to avoid the gatherings where one is expected to be cheerful, and others may find unhealthy ways to cope such as drinking too much or overeating.

If you are someone who has experienced losses or trauma which have made just getting through the day a challenge, it may be helpful to talk to friends, a therapist or a clergy member who can help you find ways to make this a time of hope and renewal. A new tradition or reconnecting with people who you've lost touch with are ways to feel as if one is moving forward, and a symbolic gesture to acknowledge the losses may help bring a sense of peace. If there are children involved, use this as an opportunity to show them that we can acknowledge pain and still allow new joy into your lives, and that one does not have to grieve alone.

Faith Marrion, LCSW, East Lyme Psychological Associates

## Estuary Council Regional Senior Center

220 Main Street, Old Saybrook (860) 388-1611

The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. (ECSI) is a community resource for the nine-town Estuary region's residents over 50 years old providing nutrition, transportation, health support services, education opportunities and socialization. We have been serving Seniors and promoting healthy and active lifestyles for adults 50 and better through quality programs and services in the nine-town Estuary region for over 40 years. Please visit our website at [www.ecsenior.org](http://www.ecsenior.org) for additional information or call us at 860.388.1611.

New Year Fitness Resolution? Keep Moving! Join the Marshview Fitness Center at the Estuary Council! State of the art equipment designed for older adults, open Monday – Saturday, access to a Certified Fitness Trainer. Contact us for more information!

The Estuary Council offers social & educational programs, health screenings, exercise classes for many levels, a variety of trips, and much more! View our newsletter on our website or sign up to receive it monthly.

Newly retired or looking to help your community? The Estuary Council has volunteer opportunities to fit your busy schedule. The time and talents of our many volunteers are an integral part of our organization. Find out how you can make a difference!

Have any shopping needs? Our Thrift Shop offers the best bargains on the shoreline! Clothing, housewares, decorations, and jewelry are just a few of the things you will find. Every day is different! All ages are welcome to come in and shop.

The Estuary Council relies on donations and fundraisers throughout the year to raise the funds needed to provide the vital services such as Meals on Wheels and medical transportation. Thank you to everyone who continue to support us with a donation or attend a fundraiser.

Old Saybrook Events Quarter 4, 2015



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## Rising Tides

Several years ago, two tropical storms in subsequent years; (Irene & Sandy) precipitated an increased awareness of the approaching impact of sea level rise (SLR) and climate change. These storms were major factors that led to the formation of the Sea Level Rise & Climate Adaption Committee (SLRCAC) by the First Selectman.

The SLRCAC was asked to develop policy recommendations and an action plan for the town of Old Saybrook to mitigate against and adapt to the effects of SLR and climate change in the near term (20 years), as well as in the longer term (70 years) concerning the town's natural resources, infrastructure, and public health. The SLRCAC provided recommended policies and actions for the town to adapt to and mitigate against the effects of climate change and sea level rise in Old Saybrook in the final report, as well as the reference materials used to support the recommendations. The final report will be available to the public by the end of the year.

Modeling by the Army Corps of Engineers of current NOAA data predicts the potential increases in sea level of 1 to 6 ft by the end of the current century. A recent analysis of the data by a group of scientists lead by Dr. James Hansen, suggests the increase in sea level rise could be greater than 6 ft in the next 100 years. What does this mean for Old Saybrook? Here are some facts. More than thirty-five percent (3,000 homes) of residences are in the FEMA 100 year flood zone, almost thirty-two miles of roads (25%) are in the FEMA 100 year flood zone, nuisance flooding currently occurs in some parts of town during the monthly high tides and will increase in depth, frequency and area with SLR. It is evident that SLR is happening and will have significant economic impact on the town.

Issues associated with SLR and climate change cannot be solved by one shoreline community alone; therefore, it is imperative that forward planning by our town and other communities on the shoreline take SLR and climate change into account in order to make the best use of our resources. Old Saybrook and the surrounding communities must begin or continue discussions on how to best adapt and mitigate against predicted changes in sea level and climate change.

We live in a unique and wonderful area with many opportunities to enjoy our small New England community and the marshes and waters associated with over 20 miles of shoreline. Our shoreline is at risk and therefore our community as we know it today, is at risk as well. We need the commitment from our residents and the local government to start now to discuss and prepare for changes in sea level and the climate. We urge you to contact the town hall and ask what you can do to help.

Michael Momparler  
Secretary/SLRCAC

# Acton Public Library - Winter 2016

## Children's Programs

### STORY TIMES

Weds, Jan. 6 - Fri, May 27, 2016

### WIGGLE BOOKWORMS

Wednesday mornings, 10:30 - 11:00 am

Drop in and share stories, songs and simple rhymes together. This program is designed for children birth through age two and their families. Stay and socialize after the story time with our special toddler toys.

### STAY AND PLAY

Wednesday mornings, 11:00 - 11:30 am

Expand your baby's story time experience with a 1/2 hour of social time immediately following Wiggle Bookworms. Parents and caregivers can mingle as babies enjoy social play with toys provided by the Library.

### FANTASTIC FRIDAYS

Friday mornings, 10:00 - 10:30 am

A drop in preschool story time for children ages 3-5. Have lots of fun sharing stories, music and a craft together.

(Special Music with Miss Martha on the 3rd Friday of every month. See below.)

### MUSIC WITH MISS MARTHA

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri. of every month, except Feb. 10:00 - 10:45 am
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri: Jan. 15; March 18; April 15 and May 20.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Fri: Feb. 26.

Join Miss Martha from the Community Music School for a special musical story time! For ages 3-5 and siblings.

### About our Story Times:

Our Story Time Goals:

- To foster a love of language and books.
- To develop early literacy with stories, movement, and music.
- To provide young children with an early group experience.
- To foster parent connections through shared story and play experiences.

All story times are drop-in and free and open to all. No registration is required.

Although each program is designed for the specific developmental needs of its intended age group, siblings are welcome to attend with their parent or caregiver.

### TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY

Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016

### GREAT MASTERS ART PROGRAM WITH KIM LARKIN.

Feb. 6, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Kids! Celebrate the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Take Your Child to the Library Day at Acton Public Library with a special children's art program. Children will create their own masterpiece based on the style of Mattise, with painting, drawing and collaging techniques. This event is open to children in grades K through 4. This program is free and all supplies are provided but seats are limited, so please be sure to register by calling 860-395-3184.

### TREEHOUSE PLAYERS

Saturday, February 6

Treehouse Players will be celebrating Take Your Child to the Library Day at Acton Public Library with a special "Fractured Fairy Tales" drama workshop for children ages 5 - 12. With Treehouse Players, your child can use his or her imagination through song, speech, creative movement, theatre games and acting out stories! This program is free, but space is limited; please register by calling 860-395-3185. See our website at [www.actonlibrary.org](http://www.actonlibrary.org) for more information.

## Young Adult Programs

Due to a staff vacancy, there are no teen programs scheduled at this time. The library is in the process of hiring a new Reference/Young Adult Librarian, and programs will resume once the position is filled. In the meantime, come in and explore our wonderful collection of books and audiobooks!

## Adult Programs

Speaker, Jan. 14, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Dr. Edward S. Lim -

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Edward S. Lim, MD is a board certified ophthalmologist specializing in diseases and surgery of the retina and vitreous with offices in Branford, Old Saybrook, and Norwich CT.

### FILM SERIES

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- Friday, Jan. 8, 1 pm - Parrish (1961)
- Friday, Feb. 12, 1 pm. - Ragtime (1981)

### After Hours Concert

Friday, March 18, 7:00 pm

Poor Richard - join us for an evening of Irish music by a talented trio from Eastern Connecticut.

Look for more concerts in April and May!

### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Wednesday Book Discussion Group

Jan. 6, 10:30 - 11:30 am

*Waiting for Snow in Havana*, by Carlos Eire

Feb. 3, 10:30 - 11:30 am

*The Hot Pink Farmhouse*, by David Handler

March 3, 10:30 - 11:30 am

*The Nightingale*, by Kristin Hannah

### MYSTERY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

- Weds., Jan. 27, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

*House Rules*, by Jodi Picoult

- Weds., Feb. 24, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

- Weds., March 23, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Check with the library for titles to be discussed.

### SHORELINE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Shoreline Civil War Roundtable meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The topics for upcoming meetings are:

Tuesday, Jan. 5: *Carry Me Back, an American Journey in Time and Place* Berryville, Clarke County, VA - Tales of the Antebellum South, Civil War and the Lost Cause. Presented by Arthur Pope.

Tuesday, Feb. 2: *The Real Uncle Tom*. Presented by David C. Smith.

Tuesday, March 1: *Love Letters of a Union Private and His Wife*. Guest speaker Lisa Saunders.

### GALLERY EXHIBITS

Jan. '16: Jane White, Feb. '16: Michele Holt

### POET LAUREATE SEARCH

Acton Public Library is now taking applications for the honorary position of Old Saybrook Poet Laureate. Applications can be requested from the library or downloaded from the library's webpage. The deadline for application submissions is January 21, 2016. All applications received will be reviewed by a selection committee, appointed by the library board. The Old Saybrook Poet Laureate will be announced on March 18. A formal recognition will

Continued on page 18



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## Acton Public Library, continued from page 17...

take place in April, at the library's annual poetry night celebration.

At their October meeting, the Acton Public Library voted to begin the search process for the first poet laureate for the Town of Old Saybrook, joining other communities throughout the state who have appointed residents to this position.

The mission of Old Saybrook's Poet Laureate Program is to communicate the value of poetry and use poetry as a means to inspire, inform, and entertain the community at large. The Poet Laureate of the Town of Old Saybrook will serve as the ambassador of the community's vibrant literary life, promoting its literary community and celebrating the written word.

To be considered for the position, a nominee must be a poet and resident of Old Saybrook, over 21 years old, and available and willing to collaborate with other Connecticut town poets to develop and present poetry-related activities that address the objectives of the laureate

program. Interested poets can self-nominate or be nominated by others. Applications are available at the library, or may be downloaded from the library's website. For more information, please contact the library at 860-395-3184, or our website: [www.actonlibrary.org](http://www.actonlibrary.org).

## Coming this Spring: Passport to CT Libraries

This year, Acton Public Library is participating in the second annual Library Passport program during the month of April 2016. Based on the CT Wine Trail Passport program, library patrons register at a participating library, receive a passport and then visit at least 5 different participating libraries to be considered for the four raffle prizes. This will encompass National Library Week and also many school vacations, enabling more children to participate. Look for more information in the Spring edition of Saybrook Events!

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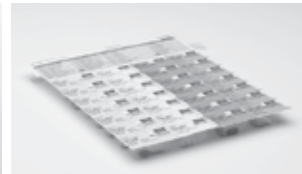


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# THE BEACON

## THE OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

### Goodwin School Math Night

Submitted by Heston Sutman, Principal, OSGS



Kathleen E. Goodwin School welcomed parents on October 8th for Family Math Night. Mathematics has become a hot educational topic with the release of the Common Core Standard Standards, which focuses on in depth learning of mathematical concepts. Often times the taught strategies are not what parents experienced when they were in school. Therefore, families in grades 2 and 3 were invited to participate. Multiple tables were set up throughout the cafeteria and gymnasium. Students and parents navigated from table to table and participated in math games such as Addition and Multiplication Bump, Salute, Memory and different dice games. At the end of the night each family received a math game packet for home practice. On March 31st all Early Childhood, Kindergarten, and Grade One will participate in a Family Night Math designed to meet the needs of this age group. The community is welcome to visit on the 31st.

### Veteran's Honored

Submitted by Heston Sutman, Principal, OSGS

The Children at Goodwin School warmed the Veteran's Hearts with an array of patriotic songs on Veteran's Day. Each grade level had their turn to stand proudly and perform in front of a packed house of Veterans and family members. Third grade students also had an opportunity to ask Veterans questions about uniforms, what they ate in the military and staying in touch with old military friends. We are so very appreciative of the town's support to hold school on this sacred day. We all feel students learn a great deal about

our country by studying and interaction with real life heroes.

### Student Art on Display

Submitted by Anita Mokoid, OSMS Art Teacher

Students in the art classroom have been busy at work this fall season decorating the school bulletin boards and displaying their work in the O.S. Board Room office at Central Office. The new Digital Media course under the guidance of teacher, Sara Menga, has proven to be a favorite among the students in 8th grade during their second specials of the day. The new Art Skills classes for 6th and 7th grade students have concentrated on improving their drawing skills and relaxing through the creation of Zentangle Art with Mrs. Mokoid. The students seem to all agree that the second daily Special is a wonderful addition to their curriculum.

### OSMS Morning Newscast

Submitted by Nicole di Fillippo, OSMS Technology Teacher

Old Saybrook Middle School has a new class schedule this year. Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth grade students will now have the opportunity to delve deeper into art, technology, music, and physical fitness through several new elective opportunities. 7th graders are even learning video production. During the 1st trimester, the students worked in groups of 3 to find an area of need that a 5-minute or less video could help with. Topics covered included how to open a locker, how to ask someone to the swing dance, bike helmet safety, how to keep your binder organized, bullying awareness, and a behind the scenes look at the Old Saybrook Middle School morning news program.

The morning news program is a daily live-streamed event that is run by eighth grade students. During the last two years, the news studio has grown from a handful of students with one camera to over twenty students who manage an impressive production utilizing a sound board, green screen, professional lighting, lapel microphones, a news desk, and soon, a second camera. The beginning of this school

year has been an exciting time for morning news students due to the equipment and furniture donations arranged by Mr. Frank Glowski. Mr. Glowski is the News Media Manager at WFSB TV Channel 3 and the father of 2 OSMS students. As Channel 3 purchases new equipment, the OSMS morning news program has been the recipient of many pieces of former professional broadcasting equipment. Together with Mr. Glowski's volunteered time and knowledge, the program has grown dramatically.

In fact, during the second trimester there will be opportunity for the 8th graders to study and practice video journalism. In addition, 8th grade students have opportunities to apply the basic skills in more sophisticated ways. They produce special reports about school and community events, critique and improve recorded versions of the morning production, research and solve technical issues that come up with the news set, create job/equipment training guides for the 6th and 7th graders who will join the morning news program, and plan for the future growth of the morning news program.

Once the current members are trained in multiple news crew jobs, the crew will be split into two teams with one team producing the news on A, C, & E days and the other crew responsible for production on B, D, & F days. This change will allow more students to participate in the morning news program, while also allowing members time to participate in other school activities. The goal for the 3rd trimester is to offer a 6th & 7th grade video journalism that will flow into the advanced 8th grade class the following year. What will be next? Collaboration with the music and art departments to incorporate digital music and digital art are already in the works.

### High School Students Learn About the Holocaust

Submitted by Christine Bairos OSHS Library Media Specialist

On Monday November 9th, Old Saybrook High School hosted Henny Simon, Holocaust Survivor and Ben Cooper, WWII Combat Medic. Ms. Simon and Mr. Cooper spoke to the 11th and 12th

graders for approximately two hours sharing their life's stories and their eyewitness accounts of WWII. Henny wrote "Am I My Brother's Keeper?", The Story of a Holocaust Survivor. Her books can be purchased for \$15 and she can be contacted through the Jewish Federation of New London.

## Code Comes to OSHS

Submitted by Christine Bairos OSHS  
Library Media Specialist

High school students (through their math class) will be participating in the Hour of Code December 8th and 9th. The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics. The Hour of Code is a global movement reaching tens of millions of students in 180+ countries. Anyone, anywhere can organize an Hour of Code event. One-hour tutorials are available in over 40 languages. No experience needed. Ages 4 to 104 Check it out -

hourofcode.com

## High School Happenings...

Submitted by Joseph Anastasio, Associate Principal, OSHS

Holocaust survivor, Henny Simon and WWII Veteran Liberator of Dachau, Ben Cooper, recently shared firsthand accounts of some of their experiences with juniors and seniors at OSHS. This unique opportunity came about through the work of the English and social studies departments, in partnership with the Library Media Specialist, Christine Bairos. Students listened to both speakers describe their struggle and perseverance during that tumultuous time in history. Following the program, students interacted with the speakers and viewed artifacts from the WWII era.

OSHS students participated in the Anti Defamation League (ADL) Names Can Hurt Us Program. This full-day program empowered students and adults to train individuals in the

school community about common respect for one another's differences, similarities and overall experiences. Student panelists shared their personal stories related to the roles we sometimes play: Perpetrator, Target, Bystander and Ally. Students shared in small group discussion and reflected on elements of the program throughout the day.

## What's Coming Up...

World Renowned Forensic Scientist and Professor Dr. Henry Lee will present the art of forensic science to our student body on December 2. Dr. Lee's overarching message will be about finding one's passion and persevering to achieve goals.

Members of Wreaths Across America will pay a visit to OSHS on December 8, to spread the message about the importance of remembering fallen heroes, those who are serving, and teaching about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms.



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## Safe Grad Night 2016

### Launches Fundraising

June 2016 will mark the 16th year that the Old Saybrook community has sponsored a substance-free all-night party for the graduating senior class of Old Saybrook High School. The hard work of parent committee members and the generosity of the local community are the main ingredients to assure success. Financial donations are accepted throughout the year at Graduation Night Inc. c/o Old Saybrook High School, 1111 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, CT 06475, and two major fundraisers are held to garner the resources needed to host the event.

The 3rd annual Ladies Night at The Kate will take place January 22, 2016 from 7-10pm at the Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center. Sold out in prior years, the \$40 tickets for 2016 may be purchased through The Kate's box-office or from local parent Patrice Stangel. Enjoy product displays, service demonstrations, and free samples of pampering products and tasty delights from local specialty shops.

The annual Marshall Law Golf Tournament will be held in May 2016 at Fox Hopyard Golf Club and will feature prizes, food, and silent auction for golfers from the shoreline and beyond. Donations of raffle and auction items are being accepted.

Safe graduation and after-prom parties are popular across the USA for good reason. According to the CDC, teens aged 16-19 are nearly three times more likely than older drivers to be involved in a fatal crash, and use of illegal substances by teens is one of several factors that contribute to this frightening statistic. Community-sponsored parties help keep young people safe so celebrations don't end in tragedy. Along with other strategies such as graduated licenses, safe grad parties have helped reduce teen fatalities. Old Saybrook is proud to be a community that safeguards its young adults through the annual Safe Grad Night party. Parents and community members are always welcome as volunteers and donors.

## Cappella Cantorum

**Who:** Cappella Cantorum  
**MasterWorks Chorus**

**What:** Registration/Rehearsal for  
**Mozart Requiem**

**When:** Jan. 4 & 11

**Where:** Deep River, CT

Mozart Requiem, Registration- Rehearsal Registration/Rehearsal for Cappella Cantorum's performance of Mozart's "Requiem" will be Monday, Jan. 4, 7 p.m. at John Winthrop Middle School, 1 Winthrop Road, Deep River. No auditions are necessary. Register, order Music and pay online at CappellaCantorum.org. The concert is April 10 at JWMS, Deep River. Soloists: Patricia Schuman, Heather Petrie, Brian Cheney+Christopher Grundy. Late registration, Monday, Jan. 11, same time and place. Rehearsals are Mondays at 7:30 pm.

**Who:** Cappella Cantorum  
**What:** Mozart REQUIEM

**When:** April 10

**Where:** Deep River

Cappella Cantorum will present the Mozart REQUIEM, April 10, 3 PM, in John Winthrop Middle School, 1 Winthrop Rd, Deep River. Cappella Cantorum, a community chorus, with professional orchestra and soloists is under the direction of Barry Asch. The soloists are: Soprano-Patricia Schuman, Alto-Heather Petrie, Tenor-Brian Cheney and Baritone-Christopher Grundy. The concert will also include Mozart's REGINA COELI.

**Who:** Cappella Cantorum Men's Chorus

**What:** Registration/Rehearsal Activity  
**through June 12**

**When:** Monday, April 11, 7 pm, **Where:**  
**Deep River**

**When:** Monday, April 18, 7 pm, **Old Saybrook.**

Cappella Cantorum Men's Chorus non-auditioned Registration/Rehearsal starts on

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PLUMBER**

**ARTHUR LEWIS**  
Owner

44 Center Beach Avenue  
Old Lyme, CT  
06371

**860**  
**434-5862**

Monday, April 11, 7 pm at John Winthrop Middle School, 1 Winthrop Rd., Rte 80, (exit 5, CT 9) Deep River, CT.. The male chorus is conducted by Barry Asch and accompanied by Deborah Lyon. Rehearsals are on Monday nights at 7:30 pm at John Winthrop Middle School. Late registration will take place on Monday, April 18, 7 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 56 Great Hammock Rd. Old Saybrook, 06475. Music includes: Spirituals, Gospel Classical and Broadway Selections Contact Barry at (860) 388-2871 for information. The first concert is Sun. June 12, at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Contact: Barry Asch 860-388-2871  
barrybasch@gmail.com for more info.

# Old Saybrook Holds Conservation Symposium & Light Bulb Swap for Residents

On Sunday, September 13, the Old Saybrook Conservation Commission hosted the Nature of Old Saybrook Symposium event, and light bulb swap for residents.

The Symposium, held in the town's Parks and Recreation Department, offered residents conservation information from the Conservation Commission, the Old Saybrook Land Trust, The Old Saybrook Garden Club, the University of Connecticut Extension System, the Old Saybrook Seal Level Rise Committee, the work of the Preserve Management Committee, the Old Saybrook Ecology Club and the 9 Town Transit, among others.

During the bulb swap, Old Saybrook residents were able to exchange old incandescent and CFL bulbs for five free LED light bulbs. In addition to the light bulb swap, energy experts from Eversource and members of the Old Saybrook Conservation Commission were on-hand to answer questions and provide information about further actions residents can take to save money by making their homes more energy efficient.

The light bulb swap was phenomenally successful. Residents were provided with approximately 2,000 free LED bulbs. This is equivalent to \$20,000 in annual energy savings for participating residents of Old Saybrook, with a lifetime savings of approximately \$660,000. A single LED bulb has a life expectancy of 23 years and can save homeowners as much as \$10 per year versus a traditional incandescent bulb, which has about a 2-2.5 year lifespan.

The Town of Old Saybrook used part of a \$5,000 Bright Idea Grant for the exchange, earned through their participation in Energize Connecticut's Clean Energy Communities (CEC) program. In 2013, the town signed the CEC pledge, committing to make efforts to reduce municipal building energy consumption by 20 percent, to attain 20 percent of municipal electricity needs from renewable sources, and to take other actions to support the deployment of clean energy by 2018.

Residents and businesses looking to save energy and money should visit [EnergizeCT.com](http://EnergizeCT.com) or call 877.WISE.USE (877-947-3873).

If you are interested in the activities of the Old Saybrook Conservation Commission you can sign up for agendas and minutes on the town website: <http://www.oldsaybrookct.org/subscriber>.

Also, you can subscribe to the Conservation Commission's newsletter, the Old Saybrook Conservation Circular, at <http://tinyurl.com/OSCCNews>.

## WPCA Update

Happy New Year from the WPCA staff and board members.

The end of 2015 finds construction in 2 more WWMD focus areas completed: Ingham Hill and Meadowood. The 5 Maple Avenue North construction contracts are in progress or being released for bidding. In the meantime, all of the focus areas have been surveyed.

Contracts are being prepared for the 2 Group I areas of Indiantown and Saybrook Manor for spring 2016 bidding.

At this time, Cornfield Point soil testing is beginning and is planned to continue over the winter as weather permits. It is anticipated that a public information session for this area will be held in the summer of 2016, with construction to begin in 2017.

Soil testing will be conducted in the 3 remaining areas (Chalker Beach, Great Hammock Beach, and Plum Bank), in 2016 and 2017.

Included in this issue is an article titled, "Real Estate Transactions in the Wastewater Management District (WWMD)."

Home buyers should have the septic systems inspected by licensed service providers and realtors should encourage buyers to do so. A detailed full system inspection with pictures of the components is important for the both the buyer and seller. While we do not have a septic system replacement statute [upon real estate turnover] in Connecticut, this is a good time to evaluate the health of a system and implement the appropriate upgrades.

For further information, please feel free to visit our office, call (860) 395-2876, or attend our Board meetings on the 2nd and 4th Mondays in Town Hall. You can also visit [www.oswpc.org](http://www.oswpc.org) or our pages on the Town website.

## Pilates for Life

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**Joseph H. Pilates**, originator of **Pilates Method**... trained **Romana Kryzanowska**, Master Teacher NYC... Romana trained **Marlene Powers**, let Marlene train you in the true tradition...

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# Old Saybrook Lions Club

The Old Saybrook Lions Club celebrated its 65th Anniversary with a gala at the Castle at Cornfield Point on September 12, 2015. What an evening! There were wine and beer tastings, a basket raffle and a silent auction, music provided by "Save the Train," delicious hors d'oeuvres and a 65th Anniversary cake. There were dignitaries from the international level, the district level and our local lions clubs. Congratulatory citations were presented by our legislators: Congressman Joe Courtney, Representative Devin Carney, 23rd District; Senator Paul Formica, 20th District; Senator Art Linares, 33rd District and from our own 1st selectman, Carl Fortuna.

The highest recognition of the Lions Clubs International Foundation is a Melvin Jones Fellowship. On September 12, 2015, Lion President Ed Gaffney presented this recognition to Lion David Tiezzi, a lifelong Old Saybrook resident and a 40-year

member of the Old Saybrook Lions Club. Congratulations Dave! "Wear your Melvin Jones lapel pin with pride. It represents your dedication to humanitarian service to the highest degree." The Melvin Jones Fellowship is named for Melvin Jones, the founder of Lions Clubs International.

As we begin the New Year 2016, we look forward to the publication of the 12th edition of our community telephone book – Lions Club of Old Saybrook 2016 Phone Book. Look on page 33 of your 2015 telephone book to learn how you can be a part of the 2016 edition or call the Lions Club telephone number: 860 924-5459.

We're sponsoring an Eagle Watch on the RiverQuest departing from the East Haddam landing on March 19, 2016, 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$45.00/person. For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Shirley Annunziata at 860-434-2871.

Used eyeglasses and hearing aids are collected at various locations throughout town and the club has a "local eyesight assistance" fund available to Old Saybrook residents who are in need of eye exams or eyeglasses, but who cannot afford them. We will be participating in two more projects in the coming months, a "Homeless Initiative" program to support Lions Clubs' efforts to help the homeless with donated articles and a Pediavision program, which is a Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation (CLERF) program to screen children in order to detect eye abnormalities.

The club is selling Old Saybrook Outer Lighthouse pins for \$5.00 each. For more information about this or any other Lions Club activity, please call 860 924-5459 or write to: Old Saybrook Lions Club, P.O. Box 21, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

## Public Works Snow & Ice Removal

The Public Works Director would like to remind everyone that it is the property owner's responsibility to clear the sidewalks of snow and ice as described by Town Ord. No. 25 Removal of Snow and Ice (§ 185-1).

Also, it is crucial that all Main Street business owners not use rock salt on the Main Street sidewalks, as the rock salt will damage the sidewalks. Main Street business owners need to use Safe Step Ice Melt or other comparable ice melts that specify "safe for concrete, brick and stone".

The Public Works Department is responsible to remove snow from approximately seventy-two miles of town roadway. Snow being thrown by the plow blade can be forceful and the weight of the pushed snow can cause damage to a mailbox. If it is determined a mailbox was struck directly by the snowplow, the Town will replace the existing mailbox with a standard mailbox and post. Standard mailbox replacement consists of a black metal mailbox. Post replacement will be a pressure treated post.

### **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL A MAILBOX OR POST BE CONSIDERED FOR REPLACEMENT IF:**

- The post shows dry rot, is unstable or placed too close to the roadway.

- If a mailbox is popped off the cross member, shows no damage, and is lying there, the mailbox, most likely, was not hit by the plow but the weight of the pushed snow took the box off the support. Mailboxes must be firmly fixed to a durable post anchored in the ground to withstand the impact of thrown snow.

All qualifying mailboxes that were damaged by a Town snowplow need to be reported by March 31, 2016.

Avoid parking on Town roads during snowstorms to allow the plow trucks to clear the snow. Make certain that basketball hoops, sprinkler systems and other items are at least 8 feet from the road to avoid damage by the Town plows. Basketball hoops, sprinkler systems and other items within the Town right of way are not permitted and will not be replaced, repaired or reimbursed by the Town.

Residents and business owners contracting privately for plowing... **DO NOT PUSH SNOW INTO THE ROADWAY, THIS IS ILLEGAL.**

Thank you for your cooperation.

Larry Bonin  
Director Public Works

# Community Treasures Variety Show

## PERFORMERS – NOW IS THE TIME TO PLAN YOUR PERFORMANCE!

An Asset-Rich Tradition in Old Saybrook

Brrr – it may still be Winter but Spring and warmer weather is just around the corner. And what does Spring mean in Old Saybrook? Why, it means it's time for friends and neighbors of all ages to dust off their dancing shoes, tune up their instruments and warm up those vocal chords in preparation for the Annual Community Treasures Variety Show, of course!

Old Saybrook Healthy Communities Healthy Youth (HCHY) initiated the first town-wide variety show in 1999 as part of their efforts to “fulfill a vision of Old Saybrook as an ‘asset building’ community”. The first variety show playbill went on to explain their vision thusly, “The assets we speak about are not financial or physical attributes. Rather they are opportunities, skills, relationships, values and self-perceptions that all young people need in their lives”. This vision is alive and well today and continues to inspire HCHY and Youth and Family Services to offer our community a myriad of multi-generational asset

building opportunities through their family programs throughout the year.

So put on your dancing shoes, tune up your instruments, practice your magic tricks and prepare to show us a preview of your act in late winter/early spring. Watch for our community email with all the specifics to register and schedule your preview with our volunteer committee. (If you are not yet on our community email, sign up so you don't miss the news! There is a link to sign up for community email on the OSYFS website: [www.oldsaybrookct.org/youth](http://www.oldsaybrookct.org/youth).)

The 16th Annual Community Treasures Variety Show will be brought to you once again by Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services through the Healthy Communities Healthy Youth initiative in May. Come witness for yourself all the talent right here in our community. For more information or to help with the planning please contact Wendy Mill, Program Coordinator at Youth and Family Services at 860-510-5050 or [wendy.mill@OldSaybrookCT.gov](mailto:wendy.mill@OldSaybrookCT.gov) or visit the agency's website at [www.oldsaybrookct.org/youth](http://www.oldsaybrookct.org/youth).

## What kind of Smoke Detector Should I Buy? Do I Need A Carbon Monoxide Detector?

Many residents have called our office asking about smoke detectors, and how to determine whether or not they need a carbon monoxide detector.

### Regarding smoke detectors

- Choose smoke alarms that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Install smoke alarms inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- On levels without bedrooms, install alarms in the living room or near the stairway to the upper level, or in both locations.
- Smoke alarms installed in the basement should be installed on the ceiling at the

bottom of the stairs leading to the next level.

- Smoke alarms should be installed at least 10 feet from a cooking appliance to minimize false alarms when cooking.
- Mount smoke alarms high on walls or ceilings. Wall-mounted alarms should be installed not more than 12 inches away from the ceiling.
- If you have ceilings that are pitched, install the alarm within 3 feet of the peak but not within the apex of the peak.

### Regarding Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- If you have fuel-burning appliances on more than one level of your home, you should have a carbon monoxide detector

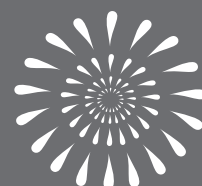
on each floor. For example, if you have a gas range on the main floor and a wood-burning fireplace on the lower level, you should have detectors on each floor.

- Such fuel-burning appliances are generally tested and safe to use, but should there be a clogged vent line or any part of the appliance becomes faulty, it could release hazardous levels of carbon monoxide in your home and death can occur within minutes.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the Fire Marshal at 860-395-3133 or [Donn.Dobson@oldsaybrookct.gov](mailto:Donn.Dobson@oldsaybrookct.gov).



*Happy New Year  
from Essex Printing & Events Magazines!*



# Office of the Tax Collector

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(860) 395-3138 • FAX (860) 395-5014

## LEGAL NOTICE for TAX INSTALLMENT DUE

GRAND LIST OCTOBER 1, 2014

Tax Due - January 1, 2016

Town of OLD SAYBROOK

Office of the Tax Collector

Town Hall, 302 Main Street

Office hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Monday through Friday (except holidays  
or as posted)

The second installment of Town Tax on Grand List of October 1, 2014, and the Motor Vehicle Supplemental list thereto is due and payable January 1, 2016. If not paid on or before February 1, 2016 the installment becomes delinquent and subject to interest at a rate of 18% per annum (1 ½ % for each month or fraction thereof) dating back to the original due date of the bill. A minimum interest charge of \$2.00 is applicable to each delinquent tax bill. Two months of interest

(3%) will be due on February 2, 2016.

Payment can be made at the Tax Office, Town Hall, 302 Main Street, or you may pay by mail. Please return payment coupon(s) attached to bill with your payment. Mail postmarked (U S Postal Service postmark only) on or before February 1, 2016 is to be considered an on time payment. If you would like a receipt returned to you send the entire bill, your payment and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Tax Office. A receipt will be returned as soon as payment is processed. No self-addressed stamped envelope / no receipt when payment is made via mail. Payment may also be made electronically from the Town's web-site: [www.oldsaybrookct.org](http://www.oldsaybrookct.org) – scroll down to bottom of page click on 'Look Up or Pay Tax Bill.' Using a Credit Card or Debit there is a 2.5% fee – electronic check flat fee of \$2.50.

No credit / debit cards processed at Tax Collector's Office.

Please consider making your payment by mail to avoid waiting/standing in-line.

As a matter of law, the taxpayer is liable to the Town for the tax installment(s) as they become due and payable. Liability is not created by, nor dependent upon the taxpayer having received a tax bill. Therefore, failure to receive a bill does not relieve the taxpayer of the requirement to pay statutorily required interest when a late payment is made. Note: we do not re-bill in December for January installment of tax due – the original bill was sent in mid June for July and January installment(s) (payment coupons attached for each payment due).

Barry E. Maynard, C.C.M.C.  
Tax Collector

## Town Clerk's Office

**Sarah V. Becker, Town Clerk, Christina Antolino, Assistant Town Clerk,  
Cindy Kane, Assistant Town Clerk**

Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm • Phone Number (860)395-3135 • Town Website: [www.oldsaybrookct.org](http://www.oldsaybrookct.org)

### Congratulations!!

Nathan Taylor and Courtney Craig – September 4th  
Steven Manning and Anne Ju – September 5th  
Michael Jamroz & Jennifer Moran – September 12th  
Bruce Guilbault and Anna Blissit – September 19th  
Collins Webber and Christie Jackson – September 19th  
Bruce Devanney and Lydia Lucci – September 19th  
William Patterson & Alexandra Moore – September 26th  
Corey Francis and Caitlin Fitzpatrick – October 2nd  
Justin Feldman and Samantha Morrissey – October 3rd  
Samuel Fanelli IV and Brooke Lord – October 4th

Michael Pompei and Kate Nealon – October 10th  
William Fedorko and Michelle Bacry – October 10th  
Justin Stepnowski and Karrie Tomany – October 16th  
Christopher Lane and Joy Despres – October 17th  
Adam Goralnik and Danielle Voyer - October 18th  
Nicholas D'Acri and Barbara Laraia – October 25th  
Harrison Guzman and Stacey Sankow – October 25th  
David Towle and Elena Leo – October 30th  
Michael Schmidt and Julie Chomich – November 14th  
Brian Toney and Elizabeth Garcia – November 28th

### With Sympathy

John Alberini  
Jessica Baigert  
Pietrina Baldi  
Carolyn Barter  
Roberta Briggs  
Joan D'Arconte

Rita DiNoia  
Gaetano Devito  
Thomas Doak, Jr.  
Peter Gibbons  
Alliston Gifford  
Martin Hills

Pamela Jones  
Marion Kahl  
Anna Lamprecht  
Rodman Larson  
Marie Medeiros  
Betty McDaniel

Joe Passanesi, Jr.  
Philip Scalora  
Kathryn Van Utt  
Julia Vitali  
Thomas Walsh  
Ida Young

# Social Services Help Days

DSS Mobile Office Applications

SNAP, HUSKY, MSP

CT Food Bank Truck Food Delivery

This winter we continue having Social Services Help Days at Grace Church Hall, 336 Main Street in Old Saybrook with the DSS Bus coming down from Hartford as well as sponsoring Access Health on site to provide health care enrollments. CT Food Bank will also be coming here between 1:30 and 2:30 with their mobile pantry truck to provide food. The Old Saybrook dates are:

Jan. 28: Thurs, Grace Church, 10am – 3pm

Feb. 25: Thurs., Grace Church, 10am – 3pm

March 24: Thurs., Grace Church, 10am – 3pm

Social Services Help Day is also being hosted in Clinton and Old Saybrook residents are welcome at Clinton Town Hall annex building on the first Mondays of the month. The CT Food Bank truck stops there at 12 – 1pm. Dates are:

Jan. 4: Monday, Clinton Town Hall Annex, 10am – 3pm

Feb. 1: Monday, Clinton Town Hall Annex, 10am – 3pm

March 7: Monday, Clinton Town Hall Annex, 10am – 3pm

Appointments should be made for both the DSS bus for state application processing and for the HUSKY and AHCT Health Insurance Enrolments so that you may have proper documentation with you to process your application that day but Walk-ins are also welcome. Please contact Susan Consoli, MA, LPC, Social Services Coordinator at 860-395-3188 or by email at [susan.consoli@oldsaybrookct.gov](mailto:susan.consoli@oldsaybrookct.gov)

## EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS AND JOBS

CT WORKS, CT Workforce Alliance and Employers On Site!

We are continuing to bring employment help to those in our community that are unemployed or underemployed and need help with resources, networking, resume writing, job search, application, interviewing and training opportunities. CT Works, CT Workforce Alliance from the New Haven office comes here on the last Mondays of the month to Acton Library in Old Saybrook. In addition to the topic help listed above, available jobs in our area will be presented each workshop by CT Works and employers on site. Old Saybrook is still struggling with higher unemployment rates. Come get the help you need to succeed in finding the job you need!

The schedule of our winter Employment Workshops are:

Jan. 25, 10:15am – 12 noon, Acton Library, Old Saybrook, with CT WORKS

Feb. 29, 10:15am – 12 noon, Acton Library, Old Saybrook, with CT WORKS

March 28, 10:15am – 12 noon, Acton Library, Old Saybrook, with CT WORKS

For more information or to register, please call Susan Consoli, MA, LPC, Social Services Coordinator, 860-395-3188 or by email at [susan.consoli@oldsaybrookct.gov](mailto:susan.consoli@oldsaybrookct.gov)

## State Energy Assistance Operation Fuel H.e.a.t.

Applications can be taken through March 2016 for oil, propane, wood, kerosene or coal and applications can be taken through April for electric. If you fall under the following income guidelines you may be eligible to apply for help:

Household size 1, under \$33,132

Household size 2, under \$43,327

Household Size 3, under \$53,521

Household size 4, under \$63,716

Household size 5, under \$73,910

Household Size 6, under \$84,105

There is an asset limit of \$10,000 for homeowners and \$7,000 for renters after which assets are added to income for total income qualification. Residents must fall below the income/asset limits to apply.

Help is available for all types of heat. The program has tiered levels of help depending on income and family size and the amounts awarded will help families struggling with high heating costs keep warm this winter. Appointments need to be scheduled in advance and information on what documentation you should bring will be provided. Appointments are available here in Old Saybrook at the Social Services office.

Qualified applicants with extenuating circumstances can also apply in the office for Operation Fuel and local H.E.A.T Programs for additional help throughout the winter.

Please contact Susan Consoli, MA, LPC, Social Services Coordinator, at 860-395-3188 or by email to [sconsoli@town.old-saybrook.ct.us](mailto:sconsoli@town.old-saybrook.ct.us)

## Preparing for a Winter Storm

- identify potential home hazards that could develop during a hurricane, such as those involving gas, electricity, chemicals, and structural damage
- install a smoke detector
- buy a fire extinguisher and make sure your family knows where to find it and how to use it
- conduct an evacuation drill for at least two ways out of your home
- provide escape ladders for multi-story structures
- establish an assembly point where the family meets in the event of fire or if a disaster occurs when the family is not together at home
- give your relatives and friends the name of a contact person who will know where you are and how you are doing

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- know the location of your important papers, such as insurance policies, wills, licenses, stocks, etc.
- instruct family members about how to shut off the gas, water, and electric mains
- post emergency phone numbers at every phone; I inform local authorities about any special needs, i.e., elderly or bedridden people, or anyone with a disability
- properly dispose of all chemicals, pesticides, and solvents not being used
- You should stock your home with supplies that may be needed during the emergency period. These supplies should include:
  - several clean containers for water, large enough for a 3-5 day supply of water (about five gallons for each person)
  - a 3-5 day supply of non-perishable food
  - a first aid kit and manual
  - a battery-powered radio, flashlights, and extra batteries
  - sleeping bags or extra blankets
  - a large supply of non-breakable spoons, forks, knives, cups, plates, etc.
  - water-purifying supplies, such as chlorine or iodine tablets or unscented, ordinary household chlorine bleach
  - prescription medicines and special medical needs
  - baby food and/or prepared formula, diapers, and other baby supplies
  - disposable cleaning cloths, such as "baby wipes" for the whole family to use in case bathing facilities are not available
  - a portable toilet, and toilet paper; I personal hygiene supplies, such as soap, toothpaste, sanitary napkins, etc.
  - alternate heat and cooking sources, such as a kerosene heater and a camp stove - use these only in well-ventilated areas
  - shovels and hand tools
  - candles and matches
  - a mop, bucket, and towels
  - one or more rolls of plastic sheeting, a staple gun with staples, and duct tape
  - plastic trash bags and ties
  - an emergency kit for your car with food, flares, booster cables, maps, tools, a first aid kit, fire extinguisher, sleeping bags, etc.
  - a citizens band radio or a cellular phone, if possible
  - extra cash
  - pet food
  - insect repellent
  - rubber boots/rubber gloves

#### During the Storm

- To get through the storm in the safest possible manner:
- monitor the radio or television for weather conditions, if possible
- stay indoors until the authorities declare the storm is over
- do not go outside, even if the weather appears to have calmed -- the calm "eye" of the storm can pass quickly, leaving you outside when strong winds resume
- expect the loss of electricity, gas, and water
- stay away from all windows and exterior doors, seeking shelter in a bathroom or basement. Bathtubs can provide some shelter if you cover yourself with plywood or other materials
- prepare to evacuate to a shelter or to a neighbor's home if your home is damaged, or if you are instructed to do so by emergency personnel
- if you should lose electrical power, eat perishable food first.  
www.ct.gov

## OLD SAYBROOK TOWN HALL

302 MAIN STREET  
HOURS 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

#### Selectmen's Office

Carl P Fortuna, First Selectman	395-3123	cfortuna@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Georgiann Neri, Administrative Secretary		gneri@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Elaine Seaforth, Administrative Clerk		eseaforth@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Roland W. Laine, Executive Assistant	395-3127	rlaine@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

#### Accounting

Sharon Migliaccio, Accounting Supervisor	395-3132	smigliaccio@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
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#### Assessor

Norman Wood, Assessor	395-3137	nwood@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Rick Pine, Assistant to Assessor		rpine@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

#### Building Department

Don Lucas, Building Official	395-3130	dluca@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Kathleen Marshall, Administrative Secretary		

#### Economic Development

Wilma Asch, Executive Director	395-3139	wasch@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
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#### Fire Marshal

Donn Dobson, Fire Marshal	395-3133	ddobson@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
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#### Land Use

Christine Nelson, Town Planner	395-3131	cnelson@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Christina Costa, Enforcement Officer		ccosta@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Sarah Lyons, Administrative Assistant		slyons@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

#### Parks and Recreation

Vicki Duffy, Director	395-3152	vduffy@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Ray Allen, Assistant Director		rallen@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Judy Sherman, Administrative Clerk		jshe@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

#### Public Works

Larry Bonin, Director	395-3123	lbonin@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
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#### Registrars of Voters

Carol Conklin	395-3134	vr.oldsaybrook@po.state.ct.us
Jean Winkler		vr.oldsaybrook@po.state.ct.us

#### Tax Collector

Barry E. Maynard	395-3138	bmaynard@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Wendy Morison		wmorison@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

#### Town Clerk

Sarah Becker, Town Clerk	395-3135	sbecker@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Christina Antolino, Assistant Town Clerk		cantolino@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

#### Treasurer

Robert Fish	395-3070	rfish@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
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#### Water Pollution Control Authority

Robbie Marshall, Coordinator	395-2876	admin@oswpc.org
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#### OTHER TOWN DEPARTMENTS

##### Acton Public Library - 60 Old Boston Post Road

Michele Van Epps, Director	395-3184	mvanep@actonlibrary.org
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##### Police Department - 225 Main Street

Non-emergency	395-3142	
Michael Spera, Chief of Police	395-3142	mspera@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

##### Probate Court - 302 Main Street

Terrance Lomme, Judge of Probate	510-5028	
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##### Social Services - 322 Main Street

Susan Consoli, Social Services Coordinator	395-3188	sconsoli@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
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##### Transfer Station

499 Middlesex Turnpike	395-3187	
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##### Youth & Family Services - 322 Main Street

Heather McNeil, Executive Director	395-3190	hmcneil@town.old-saybrook.ct.us
Linda McCall, Administrative Assistant		lmccall@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

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

# campaign for bully-free communities

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## help make middlesex county a bully-free community.

### STAND UP TO BULLYING AND MEAN-SPIRITED BEHAVIOR.

*Did you know that one out of seven kindergarten through grade 12 students are either a bully or a victim of bullying? And that an estimated 160,000 children miss school every day for fear of intimidation or attack? Bullies are everywhere, on the playground, in the classroom, at the workplace and, more and more often, online. It is up to each and every one of us to put an end to mean-spirited behavior in our communities by learning more about the issue and the resources available for empowering individuals and preventing bullying. For more information call the Community Foundation of Middlesex County at 860-347-0025 or go to [bullyfree.MiddlesexCountyCF.org](http://bullyfree.MiddlesexCountyCF.org).*

### STAND TOGETHER FOR CHANGE. TAKE THE PLEDGE.

*“I will be an agent of change.  
We are all different but we all deserve  
respect.....”*



# Town Assessor

This year to date since April, we have completed most of the assessment duties that are required. All of the building permits have been followed up in the field and all new construction and alterations have been assessed and added to the properties that were changes. Also, we have completed reviewing all of the business personal property declarations that have been returned. Any declaration that was not returned by November 2, 2015 must have, by state statute, a 25% penalty added to that assessment. This year there were more than 200 not returned.

The annual Motor Vehicle Supplemental List arrived on time from DMV and has been reviewed, priced, when necessary, and corrected and keyed into our Quality Data System by Assistant Assessor Rick Pine. We will soon be receiving the regular Motor Vehicle List from DMV by mid-December. That list also has to be reviewed, priced, when necessary, and keyed into the Quality Data System.

We are still computing 2016 Grand List totals, when that is done we will be sending out a notice to every property owner whenever there is an increase in the property assessment. That includes real estate and personal property.

If any property owner has a question concerning the increase in their assessment the Board of Assessment Appeals will be having their annual meetings during late February and early March. If anyone wishes to meet with the Board of Assessment Appeals concerning their assessment, there will be applications to the Board available at the Assessor's Office after the January 1st, 2016.

The Assessor and staff wish to thank all of the Old Saybrook taxpayers for their patience and support.

Norman B. Wood CCMA II – Assessor, Rick Pine – Assistant Assessor



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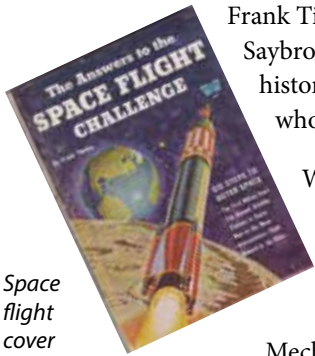
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# Historical Society Seeking Tinsley Material



Space flight cover by Frank Tinsley, a prolific artist and author of early space travel.

Frank Tinsley, the first president of the Old Saybrook Historical Society, was a noted historian, author, and scientific illustrator who died 50 years ago.

We would like to gather material reflecting his life and contributions, particularly his articles and cover illustrations that appeared in numerous publications, including Mechanix Illustrated, Action Stories, Air Stories, Air Trails, Bill Barnes Air Trails, George Bruce's Contact, Lariat Story, North West Stories, Sky Birds, War Birds, and Western Story.

If you have material that you could share so we could make copies, or that you wish to donate, please contact the Society at 860-395-1635.

## Society Seeking Material and Memories of World War II

This coming spring the Society is planning a special program and exhibit on World War II. We are particularly interested in knowing about Old Saybrook service members or their families



Saybrook Sez, monthly publication prepared by local women and sent to those in service during World War II.

who have memories or materials that they could share. If you have questions or would like to discuss this, please call the Society at 860-395-1635.

## Exceptional Chair Showcased

When early American furniture experts at the Winterthur Museum in Delaware visited the Gen. William Hart House to examine a one-of-a-kind Cromwellian chair, made about 1660, they concluded that it represented unique craftsmanship from America's earliest colonial period.

As far as they knew it was the only Cromwellian chair in existence with a sealskin seat cover. Due to its early date and exceptional qualities, they recommended that precautions be taken when the piece was exhibited.

Specially designed museum display cases are particularly expensive and no provision was made in the Society's annual budget to purchase a case for this chair. But the stars were



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aligned at about that time when an outstanding Society supporter and direct descendant of Robert Chapman, one of Saybrook's earliest founders, contributed a substantial amount in honor of her aunt.

The Society received additional attention when Gaylord Archival, the manufacturer of the case, featured Board member Ed Armstrong in their advertisements placing the chair in the new acrylic showcase.

## Coming Attractions

Each year the Society sponsors the Chapman Lectures which feature informal talks by leading authorities on topics related to Connecticut history. This series of lectures is held in cooperation with the Acton Public Library and held at the Library, 60 Old Boston Post Road. The public is welcome and there is no charge.

February 25, 2016: William Hosley, the principal of Terra Firma Northeast and a cultural resource development and marketing and communication consultant, historian, writer and photographer. Hosley is an expert in heritage tourism, and has advised hundreds of museums and heritage destinations around the country.

March 24, 2016: Captain Wes Pulver, U.S. Coast Guard, is the Executive Director of the National Coast Guard Museum

Association and former commanding officer of the CG Barque Eagle, and will talk about the history of the Coast Guard with a focus on southern New England.

June 4, 2016: This year's increasingly popular "Old Saybrook Historical Society's Antiques Sale and Appraisal Day," will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2016. More than 75 quality dealers will offer unique items for homes and hobbies. For further information, contact general chairperson Karen Emack-Dolson of Saybrook Recycled Furniture at 860-388-6180 or call the Historical Society at: 860-395-1635.

June 12, 2016: Folk singer and story teller Rick Spencer will present songs of World War II and period vehicles and exhibits will be on display at the Gen. William Hart House campus with special items on display in the Exhibit Gallery.

September 10, 2016: This is several months away but save the date for this year's "Tour of Hometown Houses." The event will begin at the historic 1767 Gen. William Hart House and be followed by visits to several distinctive homes where owners have graciously agreed to open their dwellings to the public. For further information, contact Chairperson Donna DiBella at 860-395-1458.


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## Advanced Cataract Surgery

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Once diagnosed with a cataract and deemed ready for surgery, our patients are sent to the surgical schedulers. The scheduler will educate the patient and make appropriate appointments. The process begins. Patients will have an ultrasound of their eye with specialized equipment. After this measurement, patients will be placed on a machine that will capture fine details on the eye for surgery such as the eyes external blood vessels and the iris composition (color part of the eye). This precise computer information is transferred to the physician to view and create a plan for cataract surgery. More precise measurements customized to the patient's own eyes means better visual outcomes.

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# Old Saybrook Town Nurse:

## Home Visits to Elderly Residents and Their Caregivers



Old Saybrook's VNASC Town Nurse Tina Belmont, RN, recently announced a program to assist elderly residents and

their caregivers with the health and safety challenges of aging. If you live in Old Saybrook and are over the age of 60 – or if you are caring for an elderly loved one in your home – you can schedule a home visit with Tina to review home safety, discuss your concerns, and locate additional resources to help manage some of the emotional and cognitive problems that can arise in later years.

“Confusion in an older person doesn't necessarily portend dementia,” Tina says. “Unclear thinking can be an early

symptom of a physical illness, such as a urinary tract infection or pneumonia. Also, even if they're life-long optimists, older folks can become depressed when they experience multiple losses – a job ends, a spouse or friend dies, mobility becomes limited, driving privileges are lost. Symptoms of depression can be mistaken for signs of Alzheimer's disease or other neurological disorders.”

At a home visit, Tina can screen for depression and other conditions, and make recommendations for follow-up care. She can advise caregivers about modifications to keep elderly loved ones safe at home, and suggest strategies to maximize their participation in everyday activities.

When a person is diagnosed with dementia, everyone in the family is affected. Here again, our Town Nurse is an invaluable resource, linking families to services, identifying program and support

networks, offering information about what to expect as the disease progresses. “I'm available to help families navigate through this difficult time, and I encourage folks to call me to schedule a home visit to start the process,” Tina notes.

To set up a home visit to discuss your concerns about changes in an elderly loved one's cognitive abilities, call the Old Saybrook Town Nurse at 860-510-0035.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Southeastern Connecticut is a nonprofit organization offering full-service home healthcare. VNASC and its affiliates have provided home healthcare to the communities of southeastern Connecticut for more than 100 years.

For more information on VNASC services or clinics, call 860-510-0035 or visit [www.vnasc.org](http://www.vnasc.org)

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## Shop Love Local

You've no doubt heard the "Shop Local" message lately in the media. "Shop Local" and "buy local" have gained momentum over the past decade, aided in no small part by the American Express "Shop Small Saturday" campaign, which has designated the Saturday following Thanksgiving as a day to shop at independently owned businesses.

"Shop Love Local" debuted in December with an eye-catching "Shop Love Local" poster that is specific to Old Saybrook and the surrounding area. The posters are being displayed in shop windows in Old Saybrook and at Chamber member businesses and organizations across the community as a way of raising awareness for "Shop Local." Old Saybrook Economic Development Director Susie Beckman explained that our local shops and business owners "contribute a great deal to this community that goes far beyond providing goods and services: they offer personalized and professional service to meet each individual's need; they continually contribute to community fundraising efforts; and they provide an opportunity to unplug and socialize the old fashioned way."



Along with the "Shop Love Local" initiative, the Chamber of Commerce has also redesigned and re-launched a "local dollars" program called \$ayBucks (formerly known as Chamber Dollars). Both initiatives were timed with the Old Saybrook Winter Stroll, the traditional start of the holiday shopping season in Old Saybrook. The idea behind \$ayBucks is to keep dollars local, to encourage people to look first to the community when going out shopping. They are used in the same manner as gift certificates and may be purchased at the Chamber office.

\$ayBucks are available in denominations of \$10, \$20 and \$50 and are redeemable at any participating Chamber member business. A list of participating businesses may be found on the Chamber website at [www.oldsaybrookchamber.com/saybucks](http://www.oldsaybrookchamber.com/saybucks)

## Chili Fest 2016

Mark your calendars for the highly anticipated 20th Annual Old Saybrook Chili



*Chef David Ciastko (center) of The Kettle served up gallons of chili. Each chef prepares at least ten gallons of chili for the 3,000 plus attendees.*

Fest, to be held Saturday, February 27, 2016. Last year more than 20 chefs competed in this popular winter event. Proceeds benefit the Old Saybrook Chamber scholarship fund which awards scholarships to high school seniors pursuing post high school education. The Chili Fest is sponsored by Guilford Savings Bank. Here's how you can get involved:

1. Enter the chili competition by completing the application, available online and at the Chamber office.
2. Volunteer. We have many duties that need to be filled, from helping to promote Chili Fest, to selling tickets at the event, and many more including being a chili pepper mascot!
3. Sponsor a Chef. If you are a business but perhaps not a Chili Chef, contact the Chamber office and we can pair you with a restaurant or organization.

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## The Upcoming Legislative Session

By State Representative Devin Carney



I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season! The next legislative session begins on February 3, 2016 and ends May 4, 2016. In this 'short' session, the General Assembly shall consider no business other than budgetary, revenue and financial matters, bills and resolutions raised by committees (virtually anything, but up to the committee chairs), and matters certified in writing by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President Pro Tempore of the Senate to be of an emergency nature.

Much of the focus of the upcoming session will be on the state's ongoing budget deficit. The projected deficit for the next fiscal year 2017 (beginning July 2016) is already well over \$500 million according to nonpartisan analysts, so there is a lot of work to be done. In addition, the deficit in the out years (FY 2018-19) is already estimated as high as \$2.5 billion, so it is important that real structural changes are made. Proposals should include pension reform for new state employees, cutting taxes that encourage the exodus of people, business, and wealth (i.e. the estate tax), and reducing spending to align with what we can reasonably anticipate in revenue without raising taxes.

Transportation funding will also be up for discussion and there may be proposals for tolls and additional taxes (such as a mileage tax, which I would not support) to pay for the governor's 30-year, \$100 billion plan. It is crucial that our infrastructure be repaired, but the state should be hesitant to move forward until there is a guarantee that special transportation funds will be protected in a Constitutional lockbox.

I encourage your participation and partnership in the upcoming session, so please contact me with your thoughts, concerns, and questions. I can be reached by phone at (860) 240-8700 and e-mail at [devin.carney@housegov.ct.gov](mailto:devin.carney@housegov.ct.gov).

## Happy Holidays

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## North Cove Yacht Club

Come learn to sail during our Junior Sailing programs over the summer! Each two week session is packed with both hand-on sailing in Old Saybrook's amazing and protected North Cove and classroom instruction. Our certified sailing instructors ensure your sailors are safe while learning the ropes. This program is open to both club members and non-members. Registration opens to the public on February 1st.

Open to sailors, power boaters, and open water activity enthusiasts alike, North Cove Yacht Club takes advantage of Old Saybrook's remarkable access to both river and Sound. Our cove-side clubhouse has a commanding view of our harbor of refuge and on to the Connecticut River.

Our members enjoy easy access to the Club's fleet of small sailing craft, stand up paddle boards and a beautiful waterfront with plenty of dock space. Our Club is active in both casual cruising around Long Island Sound and beyond as well as weekly racing for both small and larger sailboats. And don't forget about a year-round amazing social function calendar and participation in Old Saybrook events such as the Torchlight Parade and Chili Fest.

For more information about our Summer Junior Sailing Program and all the things that make North Cove Yacht Club a shoreline treasure, visit [www.northcoveyc.com](http://www.northcoveyc.com)



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