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The Selectmen's Corner

Happy Holidays and welcome winter! 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.

The Town continues to move forward with our Mariner's Way project. Originally a concept that started with an ad hoc committee of the Board of Selectmen in 2012, we are now creating an action plan. This process to date has taken nearly 5 years, but getting it right the first time is important as we look forward 20 years and to the future of our town. In prior newsletters, I discussed the Brownfields Area Revitalization (BAR) Grant for which the Town applied and was successful. This grant is a planning tool to further prioritize 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: Gateway to Connecticut River Recreation." While we continue to assess conditions along Mariner's Way, our community discussion has commenced. The first public session occurred on November 3 at Hunters Ambulance. Understandably, there were many questions about the Town's intent. However, the planning exercise and purpose is to gather the community's input in an effort to upgrade the quality and multi-modal capacity of transportation infrastruc-

ture, to mix uses efficiently and effectively through infill and redevelopment and to market potential business opportunities for sustainable vitality. This will have to be done primarily with private investment. Local government will assist in all ways we are able, whether that be with "in kind" services or soliciting state and federal grants. We look forward to future community involvement. 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.



First Selectman Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.

Shortly after this edition of Saybrook Events is published, our State Legislature will go into session. The State is seeing revenues fall and fixed expenses (long term pension and health obligations) skyrocket. Over the years the State has modified its pension plan but still offers a defined benefit pension plan. The health benefits offered at the state level are also generous with the base plan being a preferred provider option (PPO) with co-pays. Over the

Continued on page 3

A photograph of a well-decorated living room. In the center is a light-colored sofa with a yellow throw pillow and floral patterned pillows. A white coffee table is in front of it. To the left is a patterned armchair. To the right is a side table with a vase of flowers. A large window with patterned curtains is in the background. A dark oval logo with white text is overlaid on the coffee table.

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next few months, we will all be reading and hearing about what is surely to be the most difficult biennial budget session the State has ever encountered. The State faces an approximate \$3 billion operating deficit over the next two years, over 8% of its yearly operating budget in each '17-18 and '18-19. This comes on the heels of the last two year cycle where the original budget that was passed needed to be "fixed" multiple times as it continually sprung leaks, i.e., deficits. As a result, State aid to towns was reduced. Old Saybrook took a 42% reduction over the course of one fiscal year. Our education cost sharing (ESC) funds were reduced by nearly \$400,000 and other aid to the Town was reduced an additional \$100,000. The Town now receives a total of \$695,000 from the State for our local education budget and other town services, down from \$1.2 million. Clearly, we must brace ourselves for additional reductions, and that has been my message to all our employees as the Town begins preparations for its 2017-18 budget cycle. Fiscally responsible and conservative budgets that fund necessary services have been the Town's mantra for the last 5 budget cycles. These budgets fund our infrastructure, including road resurfacing, replacing machinery and heavy equipment and taking good care of our buildings. Government is a service industry, so properly compensating personnel that will take good care of the taxpayer is of course one of our largest expenses. I regularly review Town government salary structures (primarily union salaries) all over Connecticut to make sure that Old Saybrook pays

fairly and in line with State averages. The Town has negotiated with all its labor unions high deductible health insurance plans in an effort to control the continuous upward pressure of health care expenses. And just last year, the Town refinanced a significant portion of its long term debt, locking in lower interest rates while bond yields were at an all time low. Finally, Old Saybrook must move away from its defined benefit pension plan in an effort to address long term outstanding financial obligations. As First Selectman, I have placed before the Town's Pension and Benefits board a defined contribution pension plan that will fix the Town's retirement obligation long term. No longer can government offer benefits that have long ago expired in the private sector, particularly as government pay has come to parity with similar employment in the private sector. The defined benefit pension plan is an "old school" benefit that does not make financial sense in today's world. Old Saybrook has been a leader in modifying what are seen as traditional public sector benefits and thereby controlling short term and long term expenses. It is now time for the State, and our legislators elected statewide, to govern effectively so that we at the local level are not constantly waiting for the next shoe to drop from Hartford.

On a much lighter note, the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc. annually gives awards to individual Garden Clubs for
Continued on page 4



Tamera "T.J." Jackson
Owner & Team Member



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Selectmen's Corner... continued from page 3

their service in many areas. The Old Saybrook Garden Club received the Award of Excellence in Horticulture and a traveling pewter tray for outstanding horticulture activity. The Old Saybrook Garden Club, Inc. plants 23 large planters in the median of Main Street every spring with thousands of annuals, and maintains them throughout the season. They also planted and maintain a garden at one of our major intersections, further adding to the beauty of the business district. The Old Saybrook Garden Club's annual plant sale is a major community event. They have horticulture reports from September to May where members research plants of interest. Each June they hold "open gardens" where members invite other club members and their families to view their gardens. The Old Saybrook Garden Club is just one of the many volunteer groups that make Old Saybrook the unique and special place it is. Thank you and congratulations.

As we turn the page to a new year, let us all reflect on the great place we live. While there are always challenges to overcome - locally, statewide, nationally and internationally - all in all, our Town maintains civility, offers superior services and maintains financial good sense. The Board of Selectmen wishes you an enjoyable and safe winter, and a very happy new year.

Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., First Selectman

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Old Saybrook Garden Club



Our co-president accepting the Award of Excellence in Horticulture



Floral design workshop at one of our member's home.

Autumn is always a busy time for the Old Saybrook Garden Club. We start a new year of meetings and activities, many of which will be featured in May at our annual Gardeners' May Market. Our club members have been busy cleaning up the beautiful summer median gardens, including the Constitution Garden, attending floral design and horticultural

workshops, and providing the floral arrangements in Acton Library.

In October, Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut held its annual Awards Meeting and Luncheon at the Aqua Turf in Southington. Our club was invited to prepare a trifold display and was pleased to discover that we won the Federation's

Award of Excellence in Horticulture. The award consists of a silver tray and a framed certificate which recognizes the club's work on the Main Street median planters, the Constitution Garden, Acton Library containers, and the Old Saybrook Firehouse gardens as well as our annual plant sale in May, our monthly horticultural meetings and our Open Gardens program.

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As October became November, members were busy fluffing the wreaths and trees for the Main Street lamp posts. Residents and visitors will notice a change on Main Street this year to the trees as some of our trees were in declining shape and not fit for display. Thus, the presentable trees will be grouped and placed in only a few of the median planters. Nevertheless, Main Street will be lit up in the holiday spirit just in time for the Old Saybrook Stroll and the Torchlight Parade.

The winter months are very busy for club members as we prepare for our annual Gardeners' May Market. Our members are meeting monthly, if not more, preparing for the new Market Craft portion of our May Market. This is our ReClaim, RePurpose and ReNew project which will include cutting flower holders, Old Saybrook Lighthouse birdhouse, pallet garden planters and much, much more. This is an exciting under-

taking for the club! Many members have also been digging and dividing plants then repotting them, winterizing them and we will be selling them at the market. We potted about 175 plants!!! They will be gorgeous come May.

The Club is also planning and coordinating the OS Garden Club's "open to the public" meeting in April. This year's guest speaker is Sylvia Nichols, Director of the Northeast Floral Education Center, a shop owner for over 25 years, design instructor, and national industry spokesperson. Mark your calendars for April 3, 2017 - and put on your spring bonnet and be prepared to enjoy a series of springtime designs.

To follow the Club, please visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/oldsaybrookgardenclub) and "like" us. Prospective members are welcome to call 860-395-1268 for more information about membership.



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Old Saybrook Historical Society



Herb and Sherry Clark, recipients of the Historical Society's first "Achievement in Historic Preservation" Award

HERB & SHERRY CLARK PRESENTED PRESERVATION AWARD

In recognition of their significant contribution to education and public involvement in preservation programs, the Old Saybrook Historical Society recently presented its first "Preservation Award" to Herb and Sherry Clark, in ceremonies at their historic 1678 Bushnell House and Farm, Boston Post Road.

OSHS President Marie McFarlin presented the Clark's with the Society's "Preservation Bowl" and lauded the longtime thoughtful and generous efforts of the couple in maintaining and sharing the historic site. The house and farm, one of the oldest in Connecticut, is located on 22 acres of prime commercial land. In 1995 developers had town approvals to build a shopping mall but they went bankrupt and the property remained vacant. Five years later, the land was purchased by another developer who planned to construct a concrete box-like facility to house Town Fair Tire. Luckily for those interested in preserving this unique piece of history, the potential developer went to his friend Herb Clark to build the structure. Herb Clark, who heads Clark Development, is a well-known and highly respected developer with a serious interest in collecting and preserving valuable historic resources. He offered to buy, and thereby save, the house and farm. Since that time he has maintained the house,



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outbuildings and farm land and hired former CT River Museum executive director Brenda Milkovsky, a highly regarded historian and curator, to oversee the property and offer programs for public education.

The Bushnell House and Farm reflects agriculture and enterprise in the pre-industrial age and offers an insightful look into the 17th century lives of ordinary citizens. The Bushnell's were farmers and weavers who also sold lumber to local merchants and shipbuilders. There are five original buildings on the site, including the 1678 home of Joshua Bushnell, the 1790 barn with a later carriage house addition, the 1800 loom house, a store thought to date from 1790, and the 1840 caretaker's cottage.

Along with the "Preservation Bowl" from the Historical Society, State Representative Devin Carney presented the Clark's with a special proclamation from the CT General Assembly. In addition, they received a proclamation from the Town of Old Saybrook honoring "Herb and Sherry Clark for preserving this house and farm, and for making it available for educational purposes for schools, historical societies and families to learn together about the agricultural heritage that all of us share."

SEARCHING FOR SAYBROOK FORT


Archaeologists and historians from the Mashantucket Pequot



Artifacts presented to OSHS, l. to r. Kevin McBride, U. of CT; Ashley Bissonnette and David Naumec from Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, and Marie McFarlin, president of Old Saybrook Historical Society

Museum and Research Center have concluded more than two years of field work and documentary research and have identified the location of Saybrook Fort and its role in the Pequot War, 1636-1637. Dr. Kevin McBride, Univ. of Connecticut archaeologist and Kevin Naumec, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center historian, directors of The Battlefields of the Pequot War project, including the Siege and Battle of Saybrook Fort, presented **continued on page 10**

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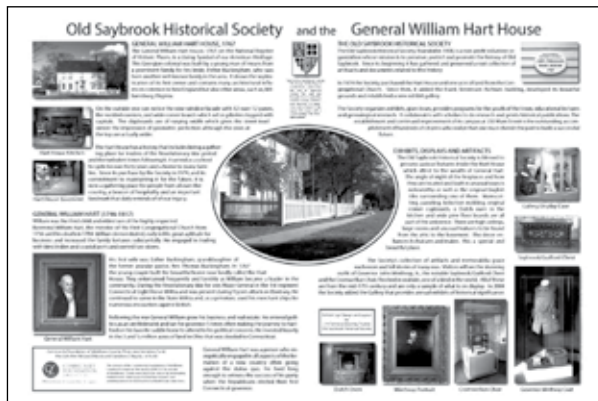
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Statue of Lion Gardiner, commander of Saybrook Fort, at Saybrook Point

Historical Society... continued from page 9



Interpretive sign installed at General William Hart House

concluded that the Fort, the first in Connecticut, was located in the area of today's Cromwell Place and Cromwell Court, the high point of land in the 1600s, some 300-500 yards north of the Lion Gardiner statue. The Historical Society is currently processing the extensive collection of artifacts and is seeking ways to make the research findings available to a larger audience.

SIGN OF THE TIMES

Local residents often express surprise when they first visit the Gen. William Hart House or the Frank Stevenson Archives, and marvel at the variety of colorful plants

their findings in September at the Vicki Duffy Pavilion to some 130 residents. Funded by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program, their work included an extensive archaeological investigation of Saybrook Point which resulted in uncovering several hundred artifacts. These items were carefully examined at the Mashantucket Museum and then catalogued, preserved and presented, along with an extensive research report, to the Old Saybrook Historical Society. The McBride and Naudemec team identified battle sites along today's College Street and

in the gardens. To highlight some of these special features, and provide information for the many residents and visitors who pass by, the Historical Society submitted a proposal for funding to the Community Foundation of Middlesex County to erect interpretive signs that highlight some of the special features of this beautiful campus. The proposal was successful and funds were provided to research and install two interpretive signs. One is located in front of the Gen. William Hart House and the other is near the Frank Stevenson Archives as you approach the gardens. Each sign



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includes information and photographs that highlight these special historic resources.

Research and design of the signs was conducted by OSHS Trustee Torrance Downes. Researching and erecting the signs was made possible by generous funding from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. The signs were officially dedicated in ceremonies held in December. The Historical Society is grateful to The Community Foundation and to the generosity of two funds at CFMC, the Riverview Cemetery Fund and the Sally Ann McGee D'Aquila and Salvatore D'Aquila Jr. Fund.

CHAPMAN LECTURES SERIES

Chapman Lectures are a pleasant and informal opportunity to learn more about our history. Most presentations start at 7:00 pm (note that the Jan. 26 program begins at 6:30 pm) and conclude around 8:00 pm. The public is invited and there is no charge.

Upcoming programs include:

January 26, 2017

When the Warner Brothers film crew visited Old Saybrook in 1960 they used the old Terra Mar hotel for several scenes in a film called "Parrish," starring Troy Donahue, Claudette Colbert, Karl Malden and other well-known film stars. The film will be the featured attraction at the Acton Public Library, Thursday,

January 26, 2017 at 6:30 pm. Sponsored as part of the Chapman Lecture series by the Historical Society, in cooperation with the Acton Library, both organizations are extending a special invitation to attend to those area residents who remember when this film was made and who might share their memories.

The story is about a young man named Parrish McLean who lives with his mother Ellen on a tobacco plantation. After his mother marries he is forced to learn the tobacco business while his life becomes entangled with a series of romantic relationships.

Several other Connecticut locations were used in producing the film including the First Congregational Church in Essex, Mystic Seaport, New London, and Windsor.

February 23, 2017

Stories about the fight for American independence continue to inform and inspire and a hot-off-the-press publication has just been released titled "Revolution in the Lymes." Written by Jim Lampos and Michaelle Pearson, and published by The History Press, they are the featured speakers for the Chapman Lecture at the Acton Library on February 23, 2017 starting at 7:00 pm.

Long before colonists rebelled against King George III, residents **continued on page 12**



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Historical Society... continued from page 11

of the Lymes were among the leaders challenging his policies and actions. In 1765, Reverend Stephen Johnson wrote incendiary missives against the Stamp Act. A few years later, the town hosted its own Tea Party, burning one hundred pounds of British tea near the town green. When the alarm came from Lexington in 1775, Lyme's citizens were among the first to answer.

THINK GONE FOREVER: DELAYING THE LOSS OF COMMUNITY CHARACTER

With a growing number of concerned residents troubled about the increased threat to our unique historic resources, the Historic Society presented a proposal for a "Demolition Delay" ordinance to the Planning Commission for its consideration. The purpose is to encourage the preservation of architecturally and historically significant buildings by delaying any proposal to demolish historic buildings, defined as being over 75 years old, so that alternatives may be considered. These structures represent the architectural, cultural, economic, political or social history of the town, and to demolish them has a detrimental effect on community character and heritage.

After several meetings and revisions suggested by the Commission's legal advisor Atty. Mark Branse, the Planning Commission unanimously approved the proposal and sent it to the Board of

Selectmen. If approved by the Selectmen the proposed ordinance will be presented at a Town Meeting. The waiting period before demolishing these buildings is 180 days during which time the owner of the property is encouraged to discuss and consider preservation, restoration, rehabilitation or relocation as alternatives to demolition. If no resolution of the matter is reached within the 180 days the owner may proceed with demolition.

"Demo delay" ordinances exist in numerous Connecticut towns and are designed to alert the community to the potential loss of a cultural resource and to encourage owners to give the community an opportunity to propose alternatives to this loss.

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD

At the Society's annual meeting in October, several new officers and board members were elected, including Marie McFarlin, President; Donna DiBella, Vice President; Stephan Brodeur, Treasurer; and Judith Chace, Recording Secretary. Newly elected members of the Board of Trustees include Kenneth Reid and Wayne Harms who join 'old-timers' William McLaughlin, Matthew Rubin, Ed Armstrong, Tom Stevenson, Linda Kinsella, Ed Mosca, and J.H. Torrance Downes.

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40th Season

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19
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Assessor's Office

In addition to setting the values for property and real estate in town, the Old Saybrook Assessor's office maintains a computer for the public's use in researching town properties as well as facilitating a number of state programs for eligible town residents. As we prepare to begin a new year, many of these programs will again be accepting applications. It is important to file your application during the designated period. The information, including filing deadlines, for the main programs for the 2016 benefit year are listed below. If you have questions about other exemptions or rebates, please call our office at 860-395-3137.

HOMEOWNERS'

- Elderly/Disabled (Circuit Breaker) Tax Relief Program

State law provides a property tax credit program for Connecticut owners in residence of real property, who are elderly (65 and over) or totally disabled, and whose annual incomes do not exceed certain limits (\$35,200 for single filers, \$42,900 for married couples). The credit amount is calculated by the local assessor and applied by the tax collector to the applicant's real property tax bill. The amount of the credit that may be granted is up to \$1,250 for married couples and \$1,000 for single persons. Credit amounts are based on a graduated income scale. Application may be made with the Assessor's Office between February 1 and May 15, 2017. For additional eligibility questions, please

contact Patrick Sullivan at the state Office of Policy and Management (OPM) at 860-418-6406 or Patrick.j.Sullivan@ct.gov.

RENTERS'

- Rebate For Elderly/Disabled Renters Tax Relief Program

State law provides a reimbursement program for Connecticut renters who are elderly or totally disabled, and whose incomes do not exceed certain limits (\$35,200 for single filers, \$42,900 for married couples). Persons renting an apartment or room, or living in cooperative housing or a mobile home may be eligible for this program. Renters' rebates can be up to \$900 for married couples and \$700 for single persons. The renters' rebate amount is based on a graduated income scale and the amount of rent and utility payments (excluding telephone) made in the calendar year prior to the year in which the renter applies. Application may be made at the Assessor's Office between April 1st and October 1, 2017. We continue to require a Form SSA1099 or its equivalent for each renter applicant. For additional eligibility questions, please call the renters' rebate hotline at 860-418-6377.

Applications for all programs can be made at the Assessor's Office from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. If you are unable to come to the office to apply, please call the office at 860-395-3137 and alternate arrangements will be made.

continued on page 14

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Assessor's Office... continued from page 13

QUICK YEAR IN REVIEW

During 2016 many new construction programs began in town as a result of tear-downs and remodeling. In addition, this year, Village Centre Residences produced 3 remodeled and 9 new condos. Construction also began on a new 186-unit apartment complex known as Post & Main. As usual the assessment on these properties will be based on what existed on October 1, 2016. Any changes to the assessments on those properties will be made based on the date of the Certificate of Occupancy or on the date of their completion.

The following are the 2015 top ten highest taxpayers by type in Old Saybrook:

REAL ESTATE

Rubin Matthew succ trustee	18,550,200
Max's Place LLC	16,217,900
Saybrook Point Marina LLC	15,345,698
Haviland, Nancy P	8,009,450
Two Seventy Three Water Street LLC et.al.	7,828,800
Cubesmart LP	6,772,400
Gladeview LLC	6,714,300
Water III LLC	6,141,300
Mill Rock Leasing LLC	5,736,300
Mill Meadow Development LLC	4,806,900
Total	96,123,248

BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Connecticut Light & Power Co	16,097,600
Connecticut Water Co	4,305,810
Hilex Poly Co Inc (Fortune Plastics)	3,048,910
Big Y Foods Inc	3,015,250
Saybrook Point Inn LLC	2,092,130
FBM Holdings LLC	1,941,390
Stop & Shop Supermarket Company	1,559,270
Ocean Surveys	1,398,630
Yale New Haven Hospital	1,362,900
Sound Manufacturing Inc	1,192,300
Total	36,013,600

MOTOR VEHICLE

Ean Holdings LLC (Lease)	3,468,095
Toyota Lease Trust	1,304,403
VW Credit Leasing LTD	878,378
Honda Lease Trust	804,127
M & J Bus Inc	797,230
Nissan Infiniti LT	712,042
Financial Ser Veh Trust	680,610
Daimler Trust	659,340
Hyundai Lease Titling Trust	621,699
Acar Leasing LTD	580,820
Total	10,506,744

The Assessor's Office would like to thank Old Saybrook property owners for their cooperation, patience, and support throughout the year. Please feel free to contact our office at 860-395-3137 with any questions concerning the assessment process or regarding the application process for exemptions. You can also find a lot of useful information on the Assessor's webpage at www.oldsaybrookct.org.

Norman B. Wood CCMA II, Assessor, Town of Old Saybrook, CT 06475

Town of Old Saybrook Office of the Tax Collector

Town Hall, 302 Main Street

Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475

Telephone (860) 395-3138 • FAX (860) 395-5014

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

Monday through Friday (except holidays or as posted)

LEGAL NOTICE for TAX INSTALLMENT DUE GRAND LIST OCTOBER 1, 2015

Tax Due - January 1, 2017

The second installment of Town Tax on Grand List of October 1, 2015, and the Motor Vehicle Supplemental list thereto is due and payable January 1, 2017. If not paid on or before February 1, 2017 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, 2017.

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 post-marked (U S Postal Service postmark only) on or before February 1, 2017 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 by mail. Payment may also be made electronically from the Town's web-site: www.oldsaybrookct.org – scroll down to bottom of page click on 'Look Up & 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

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, Jr., First Selectman	395-3123	Carl.Fortuna@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Georgiann Neri, Administrative Secretary		Georgiann.Neri@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Elaine Seaforth, Administrative Clerk		Elaine.Seaforth@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Lee Ann Palladino, Finance Director	395-3127	leeann.palladino@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Larry Hayden, IT Manager	510-5000	Larry.Hayden@OldSaybrookCT.gov

ACCOUNTING

Sharon Migliaccio, Accounting Supervisor	395-3132	Sharon.Migliaccio@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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ASSESSOR

Norman Wood, Assessor	395-3137	Norman.Wood@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Rick Pine, Assistant to Assessor		Rick.Pine@OldSaybrookCT.gov

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Don Lucas, Building Official	395-3130	Don.Lucas@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Kathleen Marshall, Administrative Secretary		Kathleen.Marshall@OldSaybrookCT.gov

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Susan Beckman, Executive Director	395-3139	Susan.Beckman@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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FIRE MARSHAL

Donn Dobson, Fire Marshal	395-3133	Donn.Dobson@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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LAND USE

Christine Nelson, Town Planner	395-3131	Christine.Nelson@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Christina Costa, Enforcement Officer		Christina.Costa@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Sarah Lyons, Administrative Assistant		Sarah.Lyons@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Sandy Prisløe, Environmental Planner & GIS		Sandy.Prisloe@OldSaybrookCT.gov

PARKS AND RECREATION

Ray Allen, Director		Ray.Allen@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Jonathan Paradis, Assistant Director	395-3152	Jonathan.Paradis@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Judy Sherman, Office Manager		Judy.Sherman@OldSaybrookCT.gov

PUBLIC WORKS

Larry Bonin, Director	395-3123	Larry.Bonin@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Joan Broadhurst	395-3134	Registrar@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Joan Strickland		Registrar@OldSaybrookCT.gov

TAX COLLECTOR

Barry E. Maynard	395-3138	Barry.Maynard@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Wendy Morison		Wendy.Morison@OldSaybrookCT.gov

TOWN CLERK

Sarah Becker, Town Clerk	395-3135	Sarah.Becker@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Christina Antolino, Assistant Town Clerk		Christina.Antolino@OldSaybrookCT.gov

TREASURER

Robert Fish	395-3073	Robert.Fish@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Stephen Mongillo, Program Administrator	510-5001	Stephen.Mongillo@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Robbie Marshall, Coordinator	395-2876	Robbie.Marshall@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Gratia Lewis, Financial Manager	510-5076	Gratia.Lewis@OldSaybrookCT.gov

OTHER TOWN DEPARTMENTS

Acton Public Library - 60 Old Boston Post Road

Michele Van Epps, Director	395-3184	mvanepps@actonlibrary.org
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Police Department - 6 Custom Drive

Non-emergency	395-3142	
Michael A. Spera, Chief of Police	395-3142	mspera@oldsaybrookpolice.com

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	Susan.Consoli@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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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	Heather.McNeil@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Linda McCall, Administrative Assistant		Linda.McCall@OldSaybrookCT.gov

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Old Saybrook Zoning 101

Frequently Asked Questions

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

These general answers may vary depending on site-specific conditions or pre-existing non-conformity with current regulations for these typical questions. Consult the full set of Zoning Regulations for further information at www.oldsaybrookct.gov or visit the Land Use Department, Town Hall, 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook, between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm for a one-on-one consultation. The Zoning Enforcement Officer has office hours Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to noon. If you have a survey or other information depicting what you are proposing to build, then please bring it with you.

Q: What is a Certificate of Zoning Compliance?

A: A **Certificate of Zoning Compliance** ("CZC") is a local permit to use your property or improve your building or structure. Connecticut law requires a property owner to apply to the Zoning Commission to certify that any proposed construction, reconstruction, enlargement, extension, movement or structural alteration of a building or structure meets the Zoning Regulations. Additionally, a change from the current use of the property may require a CZC.

Q: Once I have my CZC, do I need a Building Permit?

A: **Usually.** If a property owner proposes to do work that involves constructing, reconstructing, enlarging, extending, moving or structurally altering a building or structure, then the Building Official may require you to obtain a Building Permit. However, it is best to be certain – so always ask if the proposed work needs a Building Permit after obtaining the CZC.

Q: Can I obtain a Building Permit without a CZC?

A: **Yes.** If a property owner proposes to do work that does not involve constructing, reconstructing, enlarging, extending, moving or structurally altering a building or structure, then the Building Official may accept an application for a Building Permit. However, it is best to be certain – so always ask if the proposed work needs a Certificate of Zoning Compliance before the Building Permit.

Q: Where do I find the zoning map and regulations that apply to my property?

A: **www.oldsaybrookct.org** under Boards & Commissions/ Zoning Commission. The map will help you determine which zoning district your house is located in and the regulations for that district will provide you with "bulk" regulations including setbacks and height.

Q: Are there other regulations that apply to my house?

A: **It depends on where your house is located!** Typically, the Town certifies compliance of a proposed house or a renovation



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with only a handful of “bulk” regulations – height, setback from property line or wetlands, amount of land covered by building footprints, etc. However, there are often other permits or reviews for properties located in any of Old Saybrook’s environmental jurisdictions, including flood hazard zones, Connecticut River Gateway conservation zone, aquifer protection area, or site near inland or tidal wetlands, or coastal area management zone.

Q: I am interested in adding on to my house. What do I need to do?

A: Visit the Land Use Department. Before you apply for a Building Permit, the Town requires you to obtain a Certificate of Zoning Compliance. Due to the distinct location of each property, the individual features of each property, and the particular characteristics of each building on the property, you need to look at a map that shows the whole picture. Rather than email or call in with questions, we recommend that you visit the Land Use Department for a one-on-one consultation. We will review the Town’s master permit file to see what information has been generated in the past for the property; if you have a survey or information depicting what you are proposing to build, then please bring it with you.

Q: Can I put an addition or a garage onto a house?

A: Good question! It is important for real estate agents and prospective buyers to review the Town’s master permit file for each property listed for sale to learn its limitations and its potential as a part of contract. We recommend that you visit the Land Use Department for a one-on-one consultation.

Q: What do I do if my proposed improvement cannot meet the regulations?

A: Apply for a Variance. A variance is a request to deviate from the Zoning Regulations to legally violate a specific standard or use regulation. To obtain a variance of the zoning regulations, a property owner needs to convince the Zoning Board of Appeals that there are circumstances unique to the property that warrant the Town to vary the way the use performs or the bulk of a building sits on a site that is different from every other site in the district or zone. In making its decision, the Board needs to find that the variance of the regulations is in harmony with the general intent of the district or zone.

Q: Do I need a variance to add a story to a house or reconstruct a section of a structure that already fails to meet the setbacks?

A: Yes. The Zoning Regulations prohibit alterations to a non-conforming structure that are not in conformance with current regulations, including setbacks from the streetline (property line), then you need to ask for a variance of the regulations you cannot meet. We recommend that you visit the Land Use Department for a one-on-one consultation.

Q: If fire or other casualty destroys my nonconforming house, then can I rebuild it as it was?

A: Yes. The Zoning Regulations state: “If any nonconforming building or structure or any building or structure containing a nonconforming use will be damaged or destroyed by fire or other casualty, the building or structure may be restored and the nonconforming use resumed to the extent that the building, structure or use existed at the time of the casualty, provided that the restoration is started within a period of two (2) years from the casualty and is diligently prosecuted to completion.”

continued on page 18



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Zoning 101... continued from page 17

Q: Do I need to apply for a CZC to “winterize” my seasonal dwelling?

A: No. Chapter 170 of the Town Code governs conversion of a seasonal dwelling to extend its restricted duration of use, which is available to read on the Town’s web-site. Check with the Office of the Assessor to learn if the Town Clerk’s records list your structure as “seasonal”, then contact the Office of the First Selectman to get the instructions and application form to convert the seasonal dwelling to year-round use. The property owner must obtain final approval of all necessary work from the Building Official and the Health District as a prerequisite to the Board of Selectmen removing the restriction from the land records.

Q: Do I need a CZC to put up a shed, gazebo or accessory structure?

A: Yes. Old Saybrook considers these permanent “accessory” structures, so you need to apply for a Certificate of Zoning Compliance and then a Building Permit. There is no exemption for a structure that is located on cinder blocks or has no foundation, nor for a structure that one can easily move such as a hoop house, pre-fabricated shed, gazebo or pool.

Q: Can I have poultry or rabbits on my property?

A: Yes. The Town permits you to keep five (5) or fewer chickens, poultry, rabbits, or combination on any residential lot if kept in a building or enclosure conforming to the setbacks for buildings and other structures in the zoning district. Visit the Land Use Department to find out what zoning district your property lies in and apply for a Certificate of Zoning Compliance for the building or roofed enclosure.

Q: How many unregistered vehicles can be stored on a residential property?

A: One.

Q: What are the regulations for installing a fence on my property?

A: Thanks for asking! You can install a fence on the property line if it is six feet (6’) or less in height. There is no “good side/bad side” rule in Old Saybrook. You cannot place a fence within the Town right-of-way or in any manner that will obstruct a driveway or vehicular line-of-sight. Please consult with the Zoning Regulations and the survey for your property to determine the location of fences proposed along the frontages of a corner lot. Otherwise, the Town does not require a Certificate of Zoning Compliance to install a fence less than six feet (6’) in height.

Q: My neighbor installed a fence, structure or other item over my property line. Is this a zoning matter?

A: No. You can address this matter by speaking to your neighbor in person or in writing. Otherwise, contact an attorney.

Q: Do I need a CZC to construct a patio on my property?

A: No. If the patio is less than six inches (6”) in height from existing natural grade and not located within 50 feet of a tidal wetland or 100 feet of an inland wetland or watercourse. Otherwise, yes.

Q: Do I need a CZC to construct a handicapped accessible ramp on my property?

A: No. However, a Building Permit is required if the ramp meets the minimum size permitted by the Building Code.

Q: Does the Town have an A-2 survey of my property?

A: Maybe. If you or a previous property owner provided the Town with a copy of an A-2 survey, then we may have it in the Town's master permit file. Otherwise, no; the Town does not prepare or hire a surveyor to prepare A-2 surveys of individual properties.

Town Clerk's' Office

Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Phone Number (860)395-3135

Town Website: www.oldsaybrookct.org

CONGRATULATIONS!!

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Michael Paktinat and Julia LaMotte | - August 27th |
| Paul Rescigno, Jr. and Melissa Conte | - September 2nd |
| Cameron Burnett and Taylor Nesbit | - September 3rd |
| Timothy O'Brien and Avery Eddy | - September 4th |
| Greg Dione and Ashley Troiano | - September 4th |
| Tristan Marineau and Elayne Lunch | - September 10th |
| Garen DuChette and Lea Zubretsky | - September 16th |
| Matthew Florio and Amelia Conley | - September 17th |
| Robert Girard, Jr. and Megan Christopher | - September 23rd |
| Dominic Solari and Lucy Domenie | - September 24th |
| Robert Ginter and Nicole Foust | - September 25th |
| Bryan Molinaro and Mara Ricciardelli | - October 8th |
| Jordan Gleason and Christina Heinssen | - October 8th |
| Michael Hennessey and Alisa Patasuis | - October 9th |

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| Gloria Deluca | Clara Roos |
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| Pearl Kogut | Bette Simoni |
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Sarah V. Becker, Town Clerk
Christina Antolino, Assistant Town Clerk
Cindy Kane, Assistant Town Clerk

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THE OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

As part of our Veterans Day Celebration, our Middle School students participated in the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest. The theme for this year's essay was, "The America I Believe In" and it was for students in 6-8 grade. The two winners, Megan Hampton and Tsering Choedhar, both received the Patrick Henry Award on the Town Green from the American Legion during the Veterans Day Celebration.

Megan Hampton, Old Saybrook Middle School

THE AMERICA I BELIEVE IN

The America I believe in is an America with kindness, resilience, protection, and freedom. Our founding fathers came to America in hopes of finding a better life where all people can achieve their dreams free from oppression. Our Veterans have fought in many wars over the last 200 years to preserve our freedom and protect us from our enemies living abroad. Today we have several military branches in the United States that continue to fight for everyone and risk their lives at any given moment. This commitment shows us how much people believe in America and would die protecting all Americans and our allies.

The America I believe in permits the people to vote and welcomes different cultures, ethnicities, and beliefs. Every four years, Americans over 18 years old can choose to vote for the next President of the United States and other local government representatives. America also welcomes many different cultures by allowing immigrants to enter the United States through legal immigration paths and VISA's. Many Americans speak different languages such as Spanish, Italian, French, Chinese, and even Sign Language. Many schools accommodate these students by offering English as a second language class and hiring interpreters to translate teacher instruction so deaf students can learn in the same classroom with their peers.

The America I believe in allows everyone to express themselves as afforded under the first amendment and to feel free to be who they are. America allows people to express themselves by writing a song, publishing a book, attending church, or speaking their opinions. People are free to be who they are by deciding on how to dress, what music to listen to, where to live, what extra-curricular activities to participate in, and what college to attend. Most people in America believe that being who you are is an important factor to humanity or the idea of humanity. Personally, I express myself through my designs, singing, songwriting, acting, and dancing during my free time.

In conclusion, the America I believe in is where language is welcomed, people are free to be themselves, everyone is safe, kindness is contagious, and people are allowed to vote for what they believe in. Belief is the most important thing in the world and I believe in the America I live in today.

Tsering Choedhar, Old Saybrook Middle School

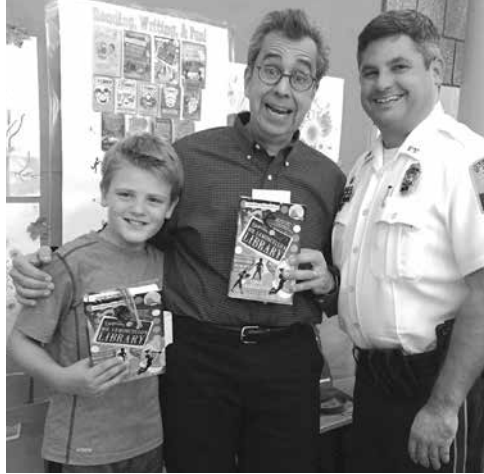
THE AMERICA I BELIEVE IN

The America I believe in is a place where you have the right to speak, where you don't have to be afraid to be yourself. America is where everyone dreams of coming too, a place where you have an option, you have a say. The America I believe in is where you can belong no matter your race or culture. I believe in a place where you shouldn't be afraid of what others think of you, where the color of your skin, your gender, or anything else define you. Where we shouldn't be known for our wrongs but for all the good that comes out of this country.

The America I believe in is a country where you shouldn't be terrorized for being yourself, but instead express your differences because that's what makes our country so great. Where the lives of everyone matter, because we are all only human. People from all around the world come to this country for a better future, for opportunities. To support their family, or so their kids will have a better future. I thank these people, two being my parents that not only came to this country to benefit themselves and their family, but for me and my sister. This is the America I believe in. This country is made up of bravery and hope. From the courage of everyone to when our country was just forming until now, that risked everything to come here, all out of hope. Hope for a better future, hope for this country.

I believe in us, the future of our country, the kids of our generation to help make this country grow and develop into an even greater place. Where all of our wrongs and ignorance for the rights of different groups of people to be in the past. I dream of a country where I won't wake up the next morning to find there has been another terrorist attack, or killing, or uprising over the opportunities for certain people. I dream of a place where we'll look back and wonder how we could ever hate anyone just for being there selves, for something they can't help. I dream of a place where being yourself is okay. This is the America I believe in.

Author Chris Grabenstein



Old Saybrook Middle School was excited to welcome author Chris Grabenstein through a partnership with RJ Julia bookstore and their

Children and Young Adult Events Coordinator, Karen Rosenthal. Mr. Grabenstein is the author of many books including three series that he has co-written with James Patterson.

His New York Times bestseller, *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*, is a 2017 Nutmeg Book Award nominee. Mr. Grabenstein held the attention of over 350 students in grades four through seven with tales of his adventures as an author. Students learned about story elements and the writing process as he led the audience to create their own story that included a protagonist, antagonist, and surprise ending. Mr. Grabenstein graciously signed copies of his books for students and staff following the presentation.

Old Saybrook High School

OSHS DRAMA CLUB

OSHS Drama Club students recently performed in the play *The Diary of Anne Frank*. The play was under the direction of Elise Murphy Mulligan. Though several months away, drama and music students are already focusing their talents on the spring musical, *The Addams Family*, with

tryouts set to happen before winter break.

DISTRACTED DRIVING

OSHS students recently participated in a distracted driving presentation sponsored by the CT Department of Transportation. A speaker shared statistics on the impact of distracted driving and students watched

a short documentary focusing on how accidents relating to distracted driving changed lives for both the victims and the drivers. Simulators were set up in the gym so that students had the opportunity to experience the difficulty of driving while texting on a phone. They were also invited to sign a pledge not to text and drive.

Securing the Data Mine

We live in an incredible age of technology. Almost everything we know about every subject on earth is instantly available at the fingertips of anyone with a smart phone. There isn't a question that can't be answered. There isn't a problem that can't be solved. But there's more. Now, the infinite ether of knowledge knows you. The more you browse, the more your online experience becomes customized to fit your needs, desires, and wants. It's a wonderful convenience that makes being online even more accessible and user friendly than before. But wait. How did the internet know you were looking for a new pair of jeans? How does a site that you've never been to before know your credit card number? Why are the advertisements you see while waiting for your YouTube video to load all for shops and products that you like and visit frequently? How does the internet know so much about you? The answer is simple: data mining.

The reason the internet is able to customize your experiences online is because you leave traces of who you are every time you stop anywhere on the internet. For example, let's say you buy a shirt online from your favorite clothing store. The internet remembers that you shopped there and if you allow it, will store your credit card data so that it is easier for you to make purchases in the future. It's convenient and easy and a little scary. As adults, we consciously make this trade off every day. We invite convenience into our lives and willingly trade away little bits of information about ourselves because we want our lives to run efficiently. We want what we want when we want it. But we're adults. It's our right and our responsibility to make informed decisions about what we do on the internet. The same cannot be said about our students.

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Data Mine... continued from page 21

The goal of any company is to cultivate a life-long customer. Every business wants to know who you are and what you like so that they can tailor their sales pitch for you. The earlier you can hook a potential customer, the better, which makes online data for students very valuable. As such, it is the responsibility of the school district to protect the online identity of its students while they browse online during school hours for educational purposes. Herein lies the problem. There is a wealth of online educational tools, capable of enhancing classroom learning. These tools vary drastically in application and purpose, but they all have the potential to help individual learning. This seems like a good thing, right? Well, not exactly. The problem is that some of these online tools are data mining our students and selling the information they receive to other, non-education entities.

The solution to this issue has come in the form of new legislation aimed at protecting student identities. Among other things, the new legislation requires that districts no longer use student names or force students to create online accounts to use educational tools. Instead, students will need to be given non-identifying pseudonyms or numbers they can use to create their accounts.

The state is also currently working with online vendors and encouraging them to adopt an updated set of student data privacy criteria so that these vendors can continue to work with schools and maintain the highest level of student data privacy. This process is ongoing because the new standards will take time for some vendors to fully implement. In the meantime, the district is reviewing and updating board policies regarding student confidentiality and student data privacy to ensure that our students can continue to have a positive online experience, while simultaneously reaping the benefits of the multitude of online educational tools available to them.

We can all agree that protecting our students from the pitfalls of data mining is paramount. As we continue to update our list of vendors, policies, and regulations regarding the uses of technology, we will keep the community informed about any changes regarding the district website, third party educational tools, or any other online accounts utilized by our students. The process will take some time to fully implement but the wait will be worth it to ensure that private student information is kept secure.

Old Saybrook Rotary Club



Pictured above is: Front row L to R: Stan Mingione, Controller of the Estuary; Gerri Lewis, OS Rotary
Second row: L to R: Rotarians, Charles Norz; Jan Perruccio; Rick Beck; Sandra Miller; Amber Scherber; Bill O'Shaughnessy

Old Saybrook Rotary is helping to keep the Estuary Council's MEALS ON WHEELS on the road. The Old Saybrook Rotarians are dishing out \$5k to aid the elderly nutrition program at The Estuary senior center.

The Old Saybrook Rotary, led by Gerri Lewis, is donating \$5k to the Estuary Council of Seniors Meals on Wheels program. Gerri, also an Estuary board member, knew about the Estuary's need for assistance since its funding for their elderly nutrition program for the 2015-2016 fiscal year had run out in July, leaving the Estuary to foot the bill for meals for August and September of 2016. The Estuary Council's new

fiscal year began in October 2016.

Concerned about the Estuary having a deficit to end their fiscal year, Gerri approached her Rotary Club, and they stepped up to help keep Meals on Wheels rolling along! The \$5k donation will help to ensure that Meals on Wheels will continue without any interruption of service. The Estuary Council of Seniors serves both Meals on Wheels and congregate meals in the nine town Estuary Region. During the fiscal year Oct 2015 – Sept 2016, the Estuary Council served approximately 80, 000 home-delivered and congregate meals to area seniors in the nine towns that it serves.

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Old Saybrook Education Foundation



At the September meeting of the Old Saybrook Education Foundation (OSEF), longtime leaders Michael "Mike"

Rafferty and Rebecca "Becki" Renshaw retired from the Board. Both Mike and Becki worked tirelessly to ensure that funds were available for grants and scholarships within the Old Saybrook Public School District. The Board would like to thank them for their commitment, hard work and vision in leading the Board for several years. We wish them all the best.

At the same meeting, the OSEF appointed new officers and members to its Board. Leading the Board this year are Sally Ann Lee, President; Nico Condulis, M.D., Vice President; Colby Redway, Treasurer and Julie Pendleton, Secretary. The Board would like to welcome new members Jill Hartenstein, Bob Hibson, Maureen Kapij, Seana Nygard and Star Rueckert.

The Foundation is committed to supporting innovative and enhancement grants for all three of Old Saybrook's public schools, which provides programming for teachers in their classrooms and students. The OSEF is excited to move forward

with several ideas on how best to utilize current funds and for some new ideas for our fundraising efforts. We look forward to strong support from our community to benefit the students of Old Saybrook schools!

Through generous donations and extensive fundraising, since 1997 the OSEF has provided over \$450,000 to educational enrichment programs and post-secondary educational scholarships.

For more information, please visit oldsaybrookeducationfoundation.org or call Sally Ann Lee at 860-235-3220.

Friends of Acton Public Library

The Friends of Acton Public Library hope that this winter is a good one for all of you. This year the Friends have made several major purchases for the library at a time when money has become short for the library. We purchased a new projector and big screen, a new display wall for the children's room, the LAT-Stena disc machine and the NIX digital information monitors, plus funding many of the library's programs. We are very pleased and proud that we could assist the library with these purchases. Also, many thanks go to all the patrons who supported both book sales. Without the help of our patrons we could not have made these purchases.

The Friends' Mini Book Sale will be held on March 23rd from 5 to 8 pm, on March 24th from 10 to 4, and on March 25th from 10 to 4 pm. Please make plans to come and see the offerings. 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. We are also selling backpack/book bags at the circulation desk for \$5.00 each. The Friends also collect unused, old cell phones. Please place them in the receptacle in the library.

We would encourage patrons to make use of the Library Passes for Mystic Aquarium, Mystic Seaport, the Connecticut River

Museum, the Florence Griswold Museum, Wadsworth Atheneum, the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, plus many other attractions in the area. If you are not aware of these passes, please contact the library or check out their website.

Our Annual Membership Drive will begin in February 2017. Please consider joining the Friends of Acton Library with a membership donation. 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)

Action Public Library

The winter season will feature a variety of programs at the library, for all ages.

Poetry Contest

This year, the library proudly announces the 23rd annual Poetry Competition. This contest is open to Connecticut residents of all ages, with submission categories for five divisions: Adult; Grades 9-12; Grades 7-8; Grades 4-6; Grades 1-3. Poems must be original and unpublished, and are limited to three poems per person. Submission forms, and complete rules, will be available at the library and on the website in January. Submissions will be accepted

from January 13th – February 26th, 2017. Winners will read their poems at the annual Poetry Night Celebration, which will be held on Wednesday, April 26th. This evening is delightful, and a special occasion to celebrate the creative minds in our community!

Adult Programming

The Old Saybrook Historical Society's Chapman Lecture series continues during the winter months with the following: January 26, 6:30 pm: A showing of the film, Parrish. This 1961 film, based on the novel by Marian Savage, was filmed in Connecticut. It features locations in Essex, Mystic Seaport, New

London, Windsor, and Old Saybrook (Saybrook Point). Directed by Delmer Daves, it stars Troy Donahue and Claudine Colbert. February 23, 6:30 pm: Revolution in the Lymes: From the New Lights to the Sons of Liberty, by local authors Jim Lampos and Michaelle Pearson. The new book, published by The History Press, explores how Lyme's patriots shaped an epic revolt in 1775. The original Saybrook Colony is discussed extensively in the opening chapters of the book. Copies of their book will be available for purchase and autographing.

OUR READING GROUPS WILL CONTINUE TO MEET MONTHLY.

The Wednesday Morning Book Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am. The upcoming titles to be discussed are:

- January 4: My Name is Lucy Barton, by Elizabeth Strout
- February 1: The Summer Before the War, by Helen Simonson
- March 1: The Pearl that Broke its Shell, by Nadia Hashimi
- April 5: The Girl on the Train, by Paula Hawkins

The Mystery Book Discussion Group meets on the Fourth Wednesday of the month, at 1:00 pm. The upcoming titles to be discussed are:

- January 25: Death at La Fenice, by Donna Leon
- February 22: Maisie Dobbs, by Jacqueline Winspear
- March 22: Everywhere that Mary Went, by Lisa Scottoline
- April 26: Rag and Bone, by James Benn

The Library's Film Series, LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTON!

Continues, throughout the winter months. Films are shown on the second Friday at 1 pm. Enjoy the films on the new large screen and projector system given to the library by the Friends of the Acton Public Library!

- January 13: film title to be announced
- February 10: film title to be announced
- March 10: film title to be announced
- April 14: film title to be announced

The Shoreline Civil War Roundtable meets monthly, sharing a common interest in the rich history of the Civil War. Speakers are either members of the group who have done research on a particular topic, or guest speakers who are invited to discuss their area of interest. All are welcome. Meetings are held at the library on the first Tuesday of the month, at 6:30 pm.

- January 3: to be announced
- February 7: to be announced
- March 7: to be announced
- April 4: to be announced

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

January 18, 6 pm: New Year, New You: The women from Tru-Balance Wellness will be talking on women and wellness. Open to all, registration requested.

GENEALOGY INTEREST GROUP

This new program, introduced in December, will meet on Thursdays from 10:30 am to 12 pm. If you're interested in doing family research or genealogy, come and learn how to use Ancestry Library Edition and other online sites to search for your ancestors. Beginners are welcome, as are all interested people. This program is led by Norma Wright, cataloging librarian at the Acton Library, and an experienced researcher. Registration is requested.

ITALIAN FILM CINECLUB

Join Yale Italian professor Monica Georgeo, as she screens Italian films, and moderates the discussion of the five selected films in Italian with English subtitles.

- January 10, 1 – 4 pm: La Grande bellezza, Sorrentino comedy/drama, 2013
- January 17, 1 – 4 pm: Il divo, Sorrentino, politics/drama, 2009
- January 24, 1 – 4 pm: Se Dio Vuole, Eduardo Maria Falcone, comedy, 2015

SPRING CONCERT

Join us for an evening of rollicking Irish music, as we welcome back the popular singing group, Poor Richard in March! Date and time will be announced for this performance. If you've heard them before, you know what a fun evening this will be!

NATURE PROGRAM

April 5, 6:00 – 7:30 pm: Sam Ducharme will share his adventures hiking the Appalachian Trail. All ages welcome.

TECH ASSISTANCE

Mondays & Wednesdays, from 6 – 8 pm, library staff are available to assist with technology questions, and provide assistance with using Overdrive, Zinio, or any of the library databases. Simple computer issues can also be addressed.

Saturdays, from 1 – 3 pm, Tech Time with Tim will feature staff member, Tim Kellogg providing individual assistance in the conference room upstairs. Once a month, he will teach a class on a specific subject.

Young Adult Programming

A BIRD IN THE LIBRARY IS WORTH...

In February, Old Lyme's office of the Connecticut Audubon Society will bring Cookie, the barred owl, to meet guests of the Acton Library. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity to dissect owl pellets, view bones and ask questions. This presentation is geared to humans 12 and up. Young Adult/Adult.

TEEN CHOCOLATE MAKE AND TAKE PROGRAM

Kim Larkin highlights young chocolate entrepreneurs, the history of chocolate, chocolate trivia, and make and take chocolate
continued on page 26

Action Public Library... continued from page 25

creations with a demonstration of her commercial tempering machine. January 28 from 1-3 pm. Young Adult.

YOUNG ADULTS: BEAT THE WINTER BOREDOM.

Watch our website: www.actonlibrary.org and school announcements for Creative Arts workshops in the library. If you are interested in a particular topic or skill write Mr. Sweeney and share your interest. msweeney@actonlibrary.org.

TEEN ARTISTS wanted to contribute coloring pages to the library's gigantic coloring page project. If you have a sketch or line drawing that could be transformed into a large coloring page, contact Mr. Sweeney by email: msweeney@actonlibrary.org.

Children's Programs

STORY TIMES:

WIGGLE BOOKWORMS

Wednesday mornings

10:30 - 11:00 am.

Drop in and share stories, songs and simple rhymes together. A program for children ages birth through age 2 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 half 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

10:30 - 11:00 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.)

ABC AMIGOS

The 1st Friday of every month

10:30 - 11:00 am.

Free and drop-in preschool bilingual story time on the first Friday of every month beginning January 6 from 10:30 am to 11:00 am. Sing songs, play games and listen to stories in both English and Spanish. This series is open to children regardless of Spanish-speaking ability.

MUSIC WITH MISS MARTHA

The 3rd Friday of every month

10:30 - 11:00 am.

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

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.

OTHER CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Parent and Child Art Together Workshop

Saturday, January 14 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.

Parents! Enjoy a creative art experience together with your child.

Create your own individual work of art, side by side with your child (age 6 and up), to bring home. Enjoy cocoa and snacks as you design together! All paint and canvas supplies are included. No experience necessary. Registration is required as seating is limited. Free and open to all.

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY

Saturday, February 4, 2017

OWL PROWL

Sat. Feb. 4 from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

The Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center is bringing a live owl for you to meet. Learn about the unique adaptations of owls, dissect an owl pellet, and make a craft to bring home. Open to children ages 6 and up. Registration is required. Free and open to all; children under age 8 must be attended by an adult.

HENNA WITH JAMILAH HENNA CREATIONS

Sat. Feb. 4 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Learn about the origin of the beautiful ancient tradition of henna and get your own intricate and professionally applied henna design! Free and open to all. No registration required. Suitable for ages 9 and up.

PETE'S DRAGON (2016)

Saturday, January 28 from 3:00 to 4:45.

Join us for a showing of Pete's Dragon on our new 10' screen! Free popcorn included. Rated PG. Run time is 103 minutes. Free and open to all; drop in.

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries (SSKP) provides food and fellowship for residents in need in the towns of Old Saybrook, Westbrook, Clinton, Chester, Killingworth, Essex, Deep River, Madison, East Lyme, Old Lyme, and Lyme. Founded in 1989, SSKP supports 8 meal sites and 5 pantries; all located and hosted by communities of faith. Last year with a small staff and over 900 dedicated volunteers, SSKP served food for over 1 million meals to over 8,000 shoreline neighbors in need. Visit www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org for a full listing of SSKP's shoreline meal sites and pantries.

SSKP's OLD SAYBROOK PANTRY: Every Tuesday from 3-5:00 pm, at First Church of Christ, 366 Main Street in Old Saybrook. The pantry provides fresh and non-perishable food for those who live in Old Saybrook, Westbrook, Clinton, Chester, Killingworth, Essex, Deep River, Madison, East Lyme, Old Lyme, and Lyme. Residents in need receive enough food for three meals a day for three days for all those in their household. Guests are reminded to bring bags. All are welcome to attend one SSKP pantry per week.

WEDNESDAY LUNCH: SSKP serves a family-style hot lunch prepared fresh by

volunteers every Wednesday from Noon – 1:00 pm at Grace Episcopal Church, 336 Main Street in Old Saybrook. All are welcome for food and fellowship.

How You Can Help: Call (860) 388-1988 or visit www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org for more information on how to plan a food drive, or become a pantry or meal site volunteer. Donations can be mailed to PO Box 804 Essex CT 06426. Donate securely online at www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org. Your help makes a place at the table for all those in need in Old Saybrook and the shoreline.

Social Services Help Days

DSS, SNAP, HUSKY, MSP, CT Food Bank Truck

This winter we will continue Social Services Help Days at Grace Church Hall, 336 Main Street in Old Saybrook with State of CT DSS Speakers Bureau and additional help for state applications for SNAP and HUSKY with Cornell Scott Hill Health. The CT Food Bank truck mobile pantry will come between 1:30 and 2:30 to provide food. No application needed, please bring a bag.

The Old Saybrook dates are:

January 26, Grace Church, 10 am – 3 pm
February 23, Grace Church, 10 am – 3 pm
March 23, Grace Church, 10 am – 3 pm

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 – 1 pm. Dates are:

January 9, Clinton Town Hall Annex, 10 am – 3 pm
February 6, Clinton Town Hall Annex, 10 am – 3 pm
March 6, Clinton Town Hall Annex, 10 am – 3 pm

Appointments should be made for DSS and for state application processing so that you may have proper documentation with you to process your application 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.

Ray of Light Farm Receives Donation for Horse Feathers Veterans Program



On November 25, 2016, the Ray of Light Farm in East Haddam was the recipient

of a pre-owned Silverado from Jackson Chevrolet in Middletown. Along with the work truck, Jackson Chevrolet presented Ray of Light Farm with a check in the amount of \$1000.00 towards its Horse Feathers veterans program. Senator and veteran-advocate Richard Blumenthal was in attendance as were numerous veterans from the Council of Veterans in Middletown, the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce, and East Haddam First Selectman Emmett Lyman. Ray of Light Farm is an

equine rescue organization that focuses on connecting humans and animals in many ways. The Horse Feathers program is a new program that matches veterans with PTSD to a certified Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) instructor and a volunteer. Jackson Chevrolet is an active community supporter and is grateful to be able to support Ray of Light Farm as part of Jackson's 80th anniversary celebration; 'Great Deals and Great Deeds.'

Connecticut Regional Mental Health Board

As a member of the state's Regional Mental Health Board, Catchment Area Council #10 (CAC10), I welcome you to my publication initiative to reduce the stigma around mental health while providing information and resources to the county residents. The goal is to broaden both conversation and awareness here in our community.

A quick internet search to define what exactly mental health is, will return multiple options. A 'little' agency called The World Health Organization (WHO) explains that mental health is "A state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease." The WHO clarifies that mental health is "the promotion of well-being,

the prevention of mental disorders, and the treatment and rehabilitation of people affected by mental disorders."

So, if the definition is positive, why does the term mental health resonate in such a negative way for so many? What is it about owning an association to mental health that we are ashamed to claim? We keep our experiences hidden as if it's a bad thing to admit. In fact, the term behavioral health is often now substituted for mental health, presumably in an attempt to soften perception.

People exhibit great pride about exercising or eating healthy to care for their physical selves and yet keep silent efforts taken to care for their mental health. Social media

is filled with images of friends buying new sneakers and eating low-carb meals, which is awesome. But, I think others would be okay knowing they are caring for their inner self as well. Together we can bring discussions about mental health out of the shadows. Through open communication we may realize that our experiences can help others. Who knows, perhaps someday we'll even see selfies posted on social media with one's therapist or support group!

http://www.who.int/topics/mental_health/en/

Jackie Boudinot, LMFT, NCC, CDM
Middlesex Wellness & Mediation, LLC
Connecticut Regional Mental Health Board – CAC10

A Cold or the Flu? How to Tell the Difference



The deep winter months of January and February are peak season for contagious diseases like colds and influenza (flu),

both of which are caused by viruses. The influenza virus has just a few variants, which is why flu shots are so effective. The common cold, on the other hand, can be caused by rhinovirus or one of hundreds of other viruses passed from person to person during these indoor months. There is no vaccine to protect against colds, and of course, no cure. Colds and flu are both respiratory illnesses and have many of the same symptoms. How then can you tell which one is making you sick? Old Saybrook's VNASC Town Nurse, Tina Belmont, RN, suggests you ask yourself these three questions:

Q. How did your symptoms come on?

- A. A cold begins gradually – a runny nose, slight headache, and that funny feeling in the back of your throat. These symptoms usually blossom into a cold, but it takes a few days.
- A. The flu starts suddenly with respiratory symptoms similar to a cold but much more severe. The flu usually is accompanied by a fever of 101° F+ that can last for several days, headache and muscle pain, and physical fatigue that may linger for two or three weeks.

Q. Where does it hurt?

- A. Cold symptoms are predominantly above the neck – sneezing,

stuffiness, cough, headache. You're sick but can still get things done.

- A. With the flu, in addition to severe upper respiratory symptoms, your entire body aches, you have fever, chills, and are too weak to function.

Q. What can you do to feel better?

- A. Prevention is the best protection: get a flu shot (it's not too late – ask your VNASC nurse or your doctor today); frequent handwashing and avoiding sick people will also help you stay healthy.
- A. If you do catch a cold or the flu, take it easy: rest up, increase your intake of fluids, and eat a healthy diet to maintain your strength. If your symptoms worsen, call your nurse or doctor. Anti-viral medication may be prescribed to reduce flu symptoms, speed recovery and decrease the risk of complications, but must be started within 48 hours of the onset of flu symptoms.

For more information on staying healthy this winter, call the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeastern Connecticut at 860-510-0035, or visit www.vnasc.org. VNASC is a fully-accredited, nonprofit home healthcare and community wellness organization which has cared for the people of southeastern Connecticut for more than 100 years. VNASC: Bringing the healing home.

Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services

AFTERSCHOOL CLUB STUDENTS MAKE NEW (AND INTERESTING) FRIENDS IN ANIMAL CARE CLUB

Students participating in the OSMS Youth and Family Services Afterschool Clubs program have the opportunity to learn an unexpected skill: Animal Care.

Each week, students load up into the Youth and Family Services bus to go out into the community to better learn about animals and how to best care for them. Students have cleaned kitty boxes at Valley Shore Animal Welfare League, met a parrot, lizard and blowfish at Shoreline Pets and Aquarium, and will soon be visiting horses at Spring Valley Farm, and learning the ins and outs of being a veterinarian at the Animal Hospital of Old Saybrook.

The number one rule for being in Animal Care Club? Don't fall in love with the animals! And of course, we all break this rule. Every week. (How can we help it? That blow fish was adorable!)



Jeromy Reynolds showing a lizard at Shoreline Pet and Aquarium

Thank you to Jeromy Reynolds at Shoreline Pet and Aquarium (pictured above), Christie Moore at Valley Shore Animal Welfare League, Tracy at Animal Hospital of Old Saybrook, and Spring Valley Farm.

The group is led by YFS Coordinator Jodi Kelly and YFS intern Jean Lorenz. For more information, please call Jodi Kelly at 860-510-5051.

OLD SAYBROOK YOUTH ACTION COUNCIL MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN WALK LIKE MADD

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) was founded after a mother lost her daughter to drunk driving. The mission of MADD is to prevent and protect families from drunk driving and underage alcohol consumption. MADD's signature fundraising event, Walk Like MADD 5K (3.1 miles), focuses on raising awareness and funds to rid our nation of drunk driving. Supported by Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services, the OS Youth Action Council (YAC) participated in WALK LIKE MADD on October 1 beginning at Branford's town green and circling the town's marina to show their support for eliminating drunk driving. The Old Saybrook YAC (gr. 9-12) is actively involved in prevention efforts within the community, and has been invested in this event with

MADD for the past 6 years. They eagerly await next year's walk to further raise awareness "one step at a time!"

STICKER SHOCK CAMPAIGN

Have you found strange green stickers on your cases of beer this



Photo of Delaney Moore by Jodi Kelly

holiday? No, it's not an extra fee for alcohol. Not a new tax. Not even a notice that you've won something! It's part of the Youth Action Council's (YAC) annual Sticker Shock Campaign. This teen driven initiative has been running during the holiday season for the past seven years in Old Saybrook. The green stickers simply remind adults that it is illegal to serve to minors.

On Friday, November 18th, 2016 YAC students visited our local businesses who sell alcoholic products to adhere stickers to multi-packs of alcoholic beverages (beer, wine coolers, etc.). Over 1,100 stickers were distributed thanks to our generous community partners: Gene's Package Store, Old Colony Package Store, Seaside Wine and Spirits, The Wine Cask, Stann's Package Store, The Cordial Shop, and Walt's Food Market.

According to the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, approximately 9.3 million Americans between the ages of 12-20 report current alcohol consumption; this represents 24% of this age group for whom alcohol consumption is illegal. Recent data from our students has confirmed that this national data is consistent with underage drinking in our community. We thank our local business owners for their annual support in this campaign and their efforts toward keeping our youth safe.

CLASS OF 2020 KICKS OFF HIGH SCHOOL WITH FRESHMAN RETREAT

Old Saybrook High School, in conjunction with Youth and Family Services and Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth (HCHY), is thrilled to continue our overnight transition program for the Class of 2020! This year's freshman class participated in a two-day team building experience at Camp Hazen YMCA in Chester, CT that promoted leadership skills and fostered positive relationships among classmates. Joining the freshmen were 18 designated high school seniors who served as mentors and cabin guides throughout the program. Students departed from Old Saybrook High School at 8:15 am on Thursday, September 1, 2016, and returned at 2:00 pm on Friday, September 2, 2016.

continued on page 30



Above, Old Saybrook High School freshman class participated in a two-day team building experience at Camp Hazen YMCA in Chester, CT. Below, YAC members participate in Walk Like MADD.



Research shows that students who start their year with a positive experience and feel connected to faculty and staff are more likely to get involved in healthy activities that promote scholastic success. The program has been a huge success since 2007 and students have carried valuable experiences forward through their time at the high school. We believe this type of experience has lasting positive impact on school climate and on student well-being and achievement. Feedback from students themselves supports our belief that this experience helps lay a foundation for students to build upon throughout their high school career.

This program is made possible through the determined efforts of the OS Public School system, OS Youth and Family Services and the Old Saybrook/Westbrook Exchange Club, a Community Partner.

YOUTH ACTION COUNCIL WINTER/SPRING 2016/2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

OS Youth Action Council is a group for high school students (gr. 9-12) who live in Old Saybrook no matter which school they attend, or are home-schooled. These students are involved in community-based activities year-round, and develop relationships

with adults and others in the community in a way that fosters their growth and commitment to the town where they live.

This is the schedule for 2017, and 8th graders are able to attend where indicated. If your student would like more information, please call 860-395-3190.

Meetings are held at the Vicki Duffy Pavilion (Thursdays) YAC (grades 9-12) from 6 - 8 pm/JAC (8th grade) as listed

- 1/12/17 JAC 5:45-7:15
- 1/19/17 YAC
- 2/2/17 YAC
- 2/16/17 YAC
- 3/2/17 YAC
- 3/16/17 YAC
- 3/23/17 JAC 5:45-7:15
- 4/6/17 YAC
- 4/20/17 JAC 5:15-6:45 & YAC
- 5/6/17 YAC
- 5/18/17 JAC 5:15-6:45 & YAC



Special Events/Trips for Registered YAC Members

- 12/27/16 YAC Movie Adventure
- 1/5/17 YAC Alumni Night
- 3/4/17 Chili Fest
- 6/1/17 Senior Farewell & Incoming Freshman YAC Initiation

*....and other opportunities as they become available!! *

ASPERGER'S/HIGH FUNCTIONING AUTISM PARENT SUPPORT GROUP SCHEDULE AND UPCOMING TOPICS

Offering camaraderie, encouragement and hope for parents, grandparents and other caregivers of children on the Autism spectrum, this support group meets on the second Thursday of each month at Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services, 322 Main Street, Old Saybrook.

Each session addresses a specific, timely topic; topic-specific handouts with insights from experts are available at every meeting. To accommodate work schedules and childcare needs, two meeting times are available, 12:30-2 pm and 5:30-7 pm. The group is facilitated by Joanne Deal, M.A., Professional Counseling. For more information or to pre-register for a meeting, call Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services at 860-395-3190.

- | | |
|---|--|
| January 12 – Conditions that Often Co-Exist with Asperger’s Syndrome:
Depression, Anxiety, and/or OCD | June 8 – Summer & Schedule Disruption
Beach/Vacations and Sensory Processing Challenges |
| February 9 – Social Struggles: Your AS Child’s Preference for Adults over Peers
Helping our AS Children develop “Small Talk” and Telephone Skills Listening and Responding Appropriately. | July 6 – Working with our AS Children’s Meltdowns
Brainstorming Ideas for Family Support in Assisting our AS Children to Develop Listening and Appropriate Response Skills.
(Note: July meeting date is in first week of the month) |
| March 9 – PPTs & IEPs: Communicating your AS Child’s Needs to School Personnel | August 10 – Preparing for Back-to-School: Schedule Transitions
Role Playing for Peer Interactions and Classroom Settings
Communicating with School Personnel (Teachers, Administrators, Staff) |
| April 13 – Teens and Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum: Different Needs, Different Issues | |
| May 11 – Stresses on the Neurotypical Sibling
How Can I Best Accommodate My AS Child’s Hobbies & Obsessions? | |

Estuary Council Regional Senior Center

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

The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. is a community center for the region’s residents over 50 years old providing meals, transportation, health services, educational classes, exercise programs, and socialization activities. We have been promoting healthy and active lifestyles through quality programs and services in the nine-town Estuary region for over 40 years. Please visit us at www.ecsenior.org for additional information or call us at 860.388.1611.

BINGO AT THE ESTUARY!

Our Thursday night Bingo is hibernating until spring! Watch for our announcements for its return in April!!!

ESTUARY GYM IS SILVER SNEAKERS APPROVED!

The Estuary Gym is a Silver Sneakers wellbeing fitness location! If you are a member of a Silver Sneaker participating health plan in CT, the Silver Sneakers plan will pay for your gym visits. Does NOT apply to fitness classes. Check eligibility by contacting the Estuary at 860-388-1611.

THE MARSHVIEW FITNESS CENTER

– The Estuary has a gym – and it’s affordable! Stay healthy and strong by working out in our gym. Membership Options: \$50 for 3 months, \$90 for 6 months, \$150 for a

year. Includes: Mandatory fitness assessment, three training sessions on each piece of equipment, and a one-hour individualized program consultation with our certified fitness trainer. Stop by the Office for a tour and learn how to become a gym member.

ESTUARY THRIFT SHOP

The Estuary Thrift Shop offers the best bargains on the shoreline! Clothing, furniture, 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. Open Saturdays! Daily Specials!

Shoreline Bus Fares to Increase

9 Town Transit will increase its fares on all services beginning January 2, 2017. The increase will up the regular cash fare to \$1.75 on bus routes and \$3.50 on the Dial-A-Ride services and off-route trips.

9 Town Transit officials say the increase is necessary to help offset a decrease in funding from the Connecticut Department of Transportation. The fares were last increased in 2012.

The increase will be offset by the introduction of a senior and disabled fare. It will allow seniors 65 or over and people with

disabilities to ride any bus route for \$.85, or \$31 for unlimited trips with a monthly pass. To qualify, a Medicare card or a Connecticut reduced fare I.D. must be shown on boarding. I.D.’s can be obtained by visiting www.9towntransit.com. Seniors 60 and over residing in the region will still be able to obtain and utilize 9 Town Transit Senior Fare Cards.

9 Town Transit provides four bus routes service the valley-shore region and Dial-A-Ride service to twelve towns. For more information or to purchase passes and tickets, visit www.9towntransit.com.

Old Saybrook Lions Club



The Old Saybrook Lions Club extends its best wishes to all for a happy and healthy New Year!

Our major endeavor at this time is preparing to publish THE LIONS CLUB OF OLD SAYBROOK 2017 PHONE BOOK. Throughout the month of January, we are obtaining new advertisements and renewed advertisements. Here is an opportunity for owners of new businesses and restaurants or for those who have been in business here in Old Saybrook and surrounding areas for some time, but just have not advertised in the past 12 editions, now is the time to contact us and to advertise in this "lucky 13th edition, which is expected to be completed this spring. Copies are mailed to nearly 6000 residences and businesses throughout Old Saybrook. Additional copies will be available at our Chamber of Commerce, Town Hall, Acton Public Library and other public locations throughout town in plenty of time for the returning summer residents and visitors to pick up a copy and see your advertisement. For advertising information and costs, contact the Old Saybrook Lions Club via email: oldsaybrooklionsclub@yahoo.com, by telephone: 860 924-5459 or by mail: P.O. Box 21, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

Our two newest programs, the "Homeless Initiative" and the KidsSight Program are up and running. For the "Homeless Initiative," we are collecting new and gently used items such

as toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, bath soap, hotel/sample size shampoo, combs, shaving cream and disposable razors, wash cloths and towels, 50x60 fleece blankets, laundry detergents, deodorant, wet wipes/baby wipes, diapers – any size, men's, women's and children's socks, underwear, gloves, hats, scarves, sweatpants; also, individual snacks such as Vienna sausage, peanut butter/cheese crackers, granola bars or breakfast bars, peanuts; also, note pads, pens, pencils. We then package them up in handy storage bags for distribution to those in need both locally and at our district level.

On December 1st, we held a "KidSight" eyesight screening at the Goodwin Elementary School. This is a free screening program with a goal to screen children between the ages of 3 and 5 for eye abnormalities such as nearsightedness, farsightedness and irregularly shaped corneas or lenses and/or other abnormalities. The screening is done in minutes, using a "camera," computer and printer in a darkened room. An image is taken of the child's eyes from about 3 feet, then analyzed by a computer; then a printer produces a report immediately for the parent or guardian to take home. We tested about 250 students on December 1st.

For more information about these services or any of our activities or services, please email us at oldsaybrooklionsclub@yahoo.com, call: 860 924-5459 or write to Old Saybrook Lions Club, P.O. Box 21, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

Fire Safety Tips for Our Loved Ones with Oxygen

This time of year, when the weather is cold and we spend a lot of time indoors with fireplaces crackling and scented candles burning, it's important to remember safety for our family and friends who use oxygen.

The air is normally 21% oxygen. Medical oxygen can be up to 100% oxygen. When more oxygen is present, any fire that starts will burn hotter and faster than usual. More oxygen in the air means that things such as hair, plastic, skin oils, clothing, and furniture can catch fire at lower temperatures.

SAFETY TIPS

There is no safe way to smoke in the home when oxygen is in use. A patient

on oxygen should not smoke.

- Candles, matches, wood stoves, gas stoves, electric razors, hair dryers and even sparking toys, can be ignition sources and should not be used in the home. Consider using flameless candles for your holiday table. They even come in scented varieties.
- Do not wear oxygen while cooking. Oils, grease and petroleum products can spontaneously ignite when exposed to high levels of oxygen. Also, do not use oil-based lotions, lip balm or aerosol sprays.
- Homes with medical oxygen must have working smoke alarms that are tested monthly.
- Keep a fire extinguisher within reach. If a fire occurs, turn off the oxygen

and leave the home.

- Keep oxygen cylinders at least ten feet from a heat source, open flames or electrical devices

FACTS AND FIGURES

During the four-year period of 2003-2006: Hospital emergency rooms saw an estimated average of 1,190 thermal burns per year caused by ignitions associated with home medical oxygen. Eighty-nine percent of the victims suffered facial burns. These facts are from the NPFA web site and Health Day News.

If you have further questions, please contact the Office of the Fire Marshal at 860-395-3133.

Chronic Dry Eyes

Dry eye is a disease that affects millions of people. Normally, blinking helps replenish our tear film which provides the moisture eyes need to stay comfortable. A healthy cornea facilitates clear vision and a healthy tear film supplies nutrients that are necessary for corneal health. The tear film protects our eyes by fighting off infection and removes environmental debris that can cause ocular allergies.

The high usage of electronic devices has resulted in a decrease in our blink rate causing red, itchy, gritty, burning, and tired eyes. Contrary to what people may think, excessive tearing is a sign of dry eye disease. Though dryness can be transient,

it becomes problematic and potentially vision threatening when it persists into Chronic Dry Eye disease.

A poor tear film on your ocular surface can lead to inflammation of the cornea which can lead to blurry vision. In severe cases, corneal scarring may lead to permanent vision impairment.

Certain medical conditions may also cause Chronic Dry Eyes. Autoimmune diseases (e.g., Sjogrens, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Lupus, etc.), Bell's Palsy, Menopause, Skin disease (e.g., Rosacea, eczema, etc.), and thyroid disorders are only some of the more common conditions. Medications

such as anti-histamines, anti-depressants, birth control pills, tranquilizers, and certain blood pressure medications can also cause dry eyes.

Fortunately, there are many treatment options available for dry eye disease. It is important to customize and tailor these treatment options to each individual and what is best for their eyes. Regardless of the severity or cause, dry eye disease should be addressed and treated accordingly before it threatens vision.

Middlesex Eye Physicians
860-347-7466
Middlesexeye.com

New Stormwater Actions Are in the Pipeline



Stormwater is water from rain or snowmelt that runs off impervious surfaces such as rooftops, sidewalks, patios, streets and parking lots. It's something most of us don't think much about – but we should. Along the way, stormwater can pick up and transport contaminants including litter, motor oils, gasoline,

antifreeze and heavy metals (commonly found on pavement), fertilizers and pesticides (found on landscaped areas and lawns), pathogens (from pet waste and wildlife such as Canada Geese) and soil (from farms and construction sites). Stormwater and the pollutants it carries eventually flow into a local stream, river or lake, or into a storm drainage system where they continue through a network of pipes until being discharged untreated into a local waterbody. Stormwater can significantly pollute receiving waters affecting contact recreation such as swimming

and can kill many types of aquatic life sensitive to pollution.

Beginning next July, the Town will begin to implement a series of new and expanded activities required under Connecticut's new "Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System General Permit" (MS4) to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of Old Saybrook's stormwater. Some of the MS4 activities include mapping of all stormwater infrastructure (catch basins, pipes and outfalls) and determining the catchment area that drains to each outfall; more frequent cleaning of catch basins; increased public involvement and education about what residents can do to reduce stormwater pollution; improved prevention of soil erosion during and after construction projects; promotion of low impact development techniques such as use of pervious pavement, rain gardens, grassed swales, etc.; and the reduction of impervious surfaces, especially in areas with documented water quality problems, to allow stormwater to infiltrate the ground. You can learn more about the Town's stormwater program under Town Initiatives on the Town website (oldsaybrookct.gov).

Water Pollution Control Authority Update

As of November 2016, the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) has begun the bidding and construction phase on septic system upgrades for the last completely conventional focus area; Cornfield Point. The first bid contract was released November 4th, with 7 more to follow through the winter and spring. Since

Cornfield Point is such a large focus area, each contract contains about 30 properties. Therefore the construction period is longer (about 130 days) with an anticipated completion date for contract 'Cornfield Point-1,' in June.

In the meantime, construction of the last

contract for Maple Avenue North will be completed in January, weather permitting.

In February, the WPCA will begin soil testing on 80 properties currently designated by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) as **continued on page 34**

Water Pollution Control Authority... continued from page 33

“Water Proximity” lots. These lots were originally slated for upgrade with advanced treatment systems. However, the DEEP has allowed the WPCA to perform preliminary testing of the water proximity lots in Phase I and some in Cornfield Point for possible conventional system upgrades.

The remediation of the remaining properties in Chalker Beach, Great Hammock Beach, Indiantown, Plum Bank, and Saybrook Manor is in the planning stage. Preliminary engineering evaluations may take from 6 months to a year.

For further information, please feel free to

visit our office, call 395-2876, or attend our Board meetings as posted. You can also visit www.oswpca.org or our pages on the Town website.

We hope Old Saybrook residents have enjoyed the holiday season and wish everyone a bright and healthy New Year.

A “Blue Plan” for Long Island Sound

Connecticut has caught up with our neighbors in Massachusetts and Rhode Island and enacted a program of marine spatial planning for Long Island Sound. After years of background work by a coalition of environmental groups, academics, and Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) staff, Governor Dannel P. Malloy signed into effect HB 6839, An Act Concerning a Long Island Sound Blue Plan and Resource and Use Inventory in 2015.

This “Blue Plan” bill establishes a process by which Connecticut will develop an inventory of Long Island Sound’s natural resources and uses and, ultimately, a spatial plan to guide future use of the Sound’s waters and submerged lands. Currently, Connecticut’s Coastal Management Program (CMP) protects coastal resources and guides development along the immediate coast. The development of a Blue Plan for Long Island Sound will supplement the CMP’s existing authority in the deeper offshore reaches of the Sound. The Blue Plan is intended to prioritize the protection of existing natural resources and uses such as fishing, aquaculture, and navigation from future conflicting or incompatible activities and would not create new regulatory restrictions for them.

LONG ISLAND SOUND RESOURCE AND USE INVENTORY

Under the Blue Plan bill, an inventory of Long Island Sound’s natural resources and uses must be completed by a Long Island Sound Inventory and Science subcommittee that will be convened by the University of Connecticut.

The inventory will be based on the best available information and data on the Sound’s plants, animals, habitats, and ecologically significant areas in nearshore and offshore waters and their “substrates” (surfaces where marine organisms grow).

The inventory must also include the human uses of the Sound’s



Seaweed harvesting and other aquaculture uses will be considered during development of the Long Island Sound Blue Plan.
Photo Credit: Long Island Sound Study

waters and substrates, such as boating and fishing, waterfowl hunting, shellfishing, aquaculture, shipping corridors, and energy facilities and interests including electric power lines, gas pipelines, and telecommunications crossings in the Sound.

LONG ISLAND SOUND BLUE PLAN

Once the resource and use inventory is complete, that information will be used to develop the Blue Plan, a spatial plan that will help avoid user conflicts in the Sound by identifying and protecting special, sensitive, and unique estuarine and marine life and habitats.

The Plan will foster sustainable uses of Long Island Sound that will make the most of economic opportunity without significantly harming the Sound’s ecology or natural beauty. The Blue Plan will also remain “fluid,” adapting as necessary to our ever-evolving knowledge and understanding of the marine environment, recognizing current issues like climate change impacts and sea level rise adaptation while anticipating and addressing future emerging issues. Another significant benefit of the Blue Plan will be the identification of appropriate locations and performance standards for activities, uses, and facilities that are regulated by state permit programs, developing measures that will guide the siting of those uses in ways that are consistent with the Plan. The Blue Plan must be consistent with the resource and use inventory described above and must provide for the ongoing acquisition and application of up-to-date resource and use data, including seafloor mapping. The Plan must also be consistent with the State’s Plan of Conservation and Development and the goals and policies contained in the Connecticut Coastal Management Act.

THE BLUE PLAN IS NOT MARINE ZONING

The Blue Plan will not “zone” the waters of Long Island Sound. There is no need to specify uses or “use zones” over every part of the water surface. But the Plan could establish priority use areas

such as utility corridors or shellfish beds where no other use could interfere with the primary use. The Plan could also identify critical areas that may need greater protection and management of uses, and more intensive regulatory review. These could include important habitat areas where disturbance would not be allowed, or areas important for navigation or recreation where permanent or structural occupation of the water surface or water column would not be allowed. But these priority areas would be established where needed and only where needed.

YOU ARE IMPORTANT FOR SHAPING THE BLUE PLAN

In accordance with the Blue Plan legislation, the Plan must be developed by a transparent and inclusive process that includes widespread public and stakeholder participation and encourages public input in decision making. Development and implementation of the Plan must also be coordinated with the State of New York, and with local, regional, and federal planning entities and

agencies including (1) the Connecticut-New York Bi-State Marine Spatial Planning Working Group, (2) the Long Island Sound Study, and (3) the National Ocean Policy's Northeast Regional Planning Body. The Town of Old Saybrook encourages its residents and businesses to get involved.

- Check the Blue Plan website, subscribe to the listserv and attend quarterly meetings of Blue Plan Committee in towns along the shoreline:
- http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2705&q=574290&deepNav_GID=1635
- Comment form on the Blue Plan website: <http://www.depdata.ct.gov/lis/blueplan/blueplancomments.htm>
- Email the Blue Plan team directly: deep.blueplanlis@ct.gov

By participating, you can help shape the Blue Plan and what it contains. It results in a better plan with stronger buy-in and better human relationships essential to success.

Upcoming Session of the General Assembly



On January 4th, the Connecticut General Assembly's 2017-18 session will commence. As a result of the 2016 election, the State Senate is now evenly split with 18 Democrats and 18 Republicans. Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman will be the tie-breaking vote on any legislation where one

is required. In the State House, the Democrats now hold a slight margin over Republicans of 79-71 with a new Speaker of the House.

Potential issues in the upcoming session include improving our transportation infrastructure, the creation of a special transportation fund lockbox, tolls on Connecticut's highways, pension reform, a third casino, and the formation of countywide health districts. Most importantly, the legislature is faced with a deficit for FY 2018 (begins July 1, 2017 and runs through June 30, 2018) that has been estimated to be as high as \$1.5B. Much of the session will be devoted to solving the state's financial issues, while also looking ahead to the following fiscal year's budget, which is also currently in deficit. The governor will offer his two-year budgetary recommendations in February.

I look forward to serving the people of Old Saybrook for another term. I encourage you to stay in touch and contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas for legislation. The deadline for me to propose bills is Friday, January 13, 2017. Feel free to contact me by phone at 860-240-8700 or e-mail at devin.carney@house-gop.ct.gov. Be on the lookout for upcoming office hours in Old Saybrook and please take my 2017 legislative survey, which can be found on my website: www.repcarney.com.

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

State Representative Devin Carney
Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Westbrook

MARK REEVES, BUILDER 860-388-3825

Winter is Great for Remodeling those Rooms!



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



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Cappella Cantorum

Registration, Medley from Phantom, Les Mis and Die Fledermaus, Monday, Jan. 9, 7 pm, Cappella Cantorum Non-auditioned Registration/ Rehearsal for a Medley of Phantom of the Opera, Les Miserables and the lively, Johann Strauss' Die Fledermaus (The Bat) The Party Scene, in English. Monday Rehearsals 7:30 pm, at John Winthrop Middle School, 1 Winthrop Rd. Deep River. Soloists will be chosen from the chorus. Registration \$40, Les Miserables, arr. Lojeski \$4, Phantom of the Opera. arr. Lojeski, \$4, Die Fledermaus Act 2, \$7. Pay at rehearsal or www.CappellaCantorum.org. For more information call Barry, 860-388-2871. Concert Sun. March 26, John Winthrop Middle School.

Late Registration for Medley from Phantom of the Opera, Les Mis and Die Fledermaus, (The Bat) The Party Scene, in English, Monday, Jan. 16, 7 pm, Non-auditioned Late Registration/ Rehearsal at Trinity Lutheran Church, 109 Main St. Centerbrook, CT 06409. Cappella Cantorum Registration for Phantom of the Opera, Les Miserables and the the lively, Johann Strauss' Die Fledermaus (The Bat) The Party Scene, in English. Monday Rehearsals 7:30 pm, generally at John Winthrop Middle School, Soloists will be chosen from the chorus. Concert on Sun. March 26, in John Winthrop Middle School. Registration \$40, Les Miserables, arr. Lojeski \$4, Phantom of the Opera. arr. Lojeski, \$4,

Die Fledermaus Act 2, \$7. Pay at rehearsal or www.CappellaCantorum.org. For information call Barry, 860-388-2871.

Cappella Cantorum Men's Chorus non-auditioned Registration/Rehearsal, Monday, April 3, 7 pm at John Winthrop Middle School, 1 Winthrop Rd., Rte 80, (exit 5, CT 9) Deep River, CT 06417/ Rehearsals are on Monday nights at 7:30 pm at John Winthrop Middle School. Music includes: Wade in the Water, Psalm 84, Brothers Sing On. Hallelujah-Cohen, Spiritual and Broadway. \$40.00 Registration, including Music at rehearsal. Contact Barry at (860) 388-2871 for information. The 1st concert is Sun. June 11, 3 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church. 56 Great Hammock Rd. Old Saybrook, CT.

Cappella Cantorum Men's Chorus non-auditioned Late Registration/Rehearsal, Monday, April 10, 7 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, 109 Main St. Centerbrook. Rehearsals are on Monday nights at 7:30 pm at John Winthrop Middle School. Music includes: Wade in the Water, Psalm 84, Brothers Sing On. Hallelujah-Cohen, Spiritual and Broadway. \$40.00 Registration, including Music at rehearsal. Contact Barry at (860) 388-2871 for information. The 1st concert is Sun. June 11, 3 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church. 56 Great Hammock Rd. Old Saybrook, CT.

Cappella Cantorum MasterWorks Chorus Celebrates its 48th Year

Medleys from Les Miserables & Phantom of the Opera, and the lively, Johann Strauss' Die Fledermaus (The Bat) The Party Scene will be presented on Sunday March 26, 3 pm at John Winthrop Middle School, 1 Winthrop Rd. Deep River, CT 06417. Tickets, \$25 at the door or www.CappellaCantorum.org. For more information, call Barry 860-388-2871.

Thinking about your financial plan?

SPEND 30 MINUTES THINKING ABOUT THE NEXT 30 YEARS.

The best place to start the financial planning process is to consider the values and goals that are most important to you. The objective is to clearly articulate what you want and how you plan to attain it, just as you would in the to-do list you create for your day.

1. How do you and your family enjoy spending your time?
2. Where do you see yourself in the next 5 or 10 years?
3. What are the five things you value most in life?
4. What goals do you have for your life?
5. What does it mean to you to be wealthy?
6. What's the best way for you to build your wealth?
7. How would you like to help your community?
8. What would you like your legacy to be?
9. What do you envision your retirement to be like?
10. What assets would you like to leave to your heirs?

Reviewing your long term goals can be a productive exercise for individuals and families. If, for example, a vacation home was once your goal, but now it's education for your kids, that realization may help you re-think your investment strategy. Formulating a statement of your goals requires reflection and analysis. When your family is involved, it is even more ambitious an undertaking. If the process is careful and diligent, your hard work has the potential to be well rewarded. Once you have your mission statement in place, it will serve as a useful framework directing how you move forward and highlighting the effectiveness of your strategy over time.

Maureen Zavatone, Financial Adviser
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Essex, CT.

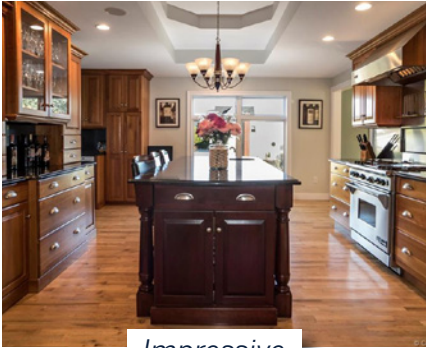
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William Pitt

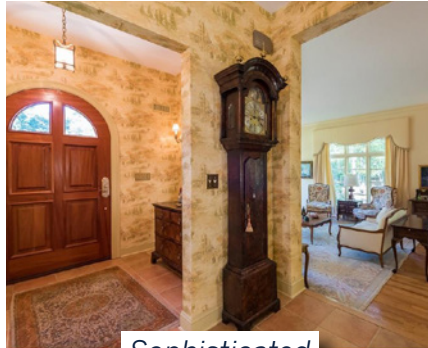
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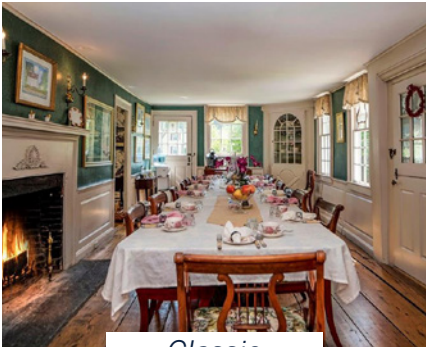
Sophisticated

36 Watrous Point, Old Saybrook | \$1,795,000



Captivating

184 North Cove, Old Saybrook | \$2,250,000



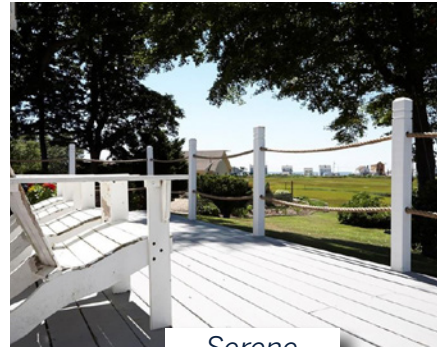
Classic

325 Main Street, Old Saybrook | \$649,900



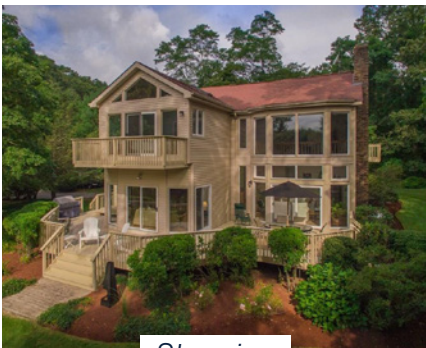
Expansive

102B Sequassen Ave, Old Saybrook | \$3,900,000



Serene

2 Salt Meadow Lane, Old Saybrook | \$449,000



Stunning

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Inviting

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Old Saybrook Economic Development



MARINER'S WAY DISCOVERY + ACTION PLAN GATHERS PUBLIC INPUT

More than 60 residents, business and property owners participated in the Mariner's Way Discovery + Action Plan Kick-Off Meeting hosted by Hunter's Ambulance at their building on Mariner's Way November 3rd. A summary of the meeting presentation and a summary of the meeting with public input responses are available online on the Mariner's Way Discovery + Action Plan webpage: <http://bit.ly/2fQcpD8>.

GET INVOLVED!

More public meetings will be held to gather your input on a number of concepts. Sign up for notices of public meetings via Constant Contact emails: <http://bit.ly/2eY7YZg> or by contacting Susie Beckman at susan.beckman@oldsaybrookct.gov. Additional FAQs can be viewed on the Mariner's Way Discovery + Action Plan website: <http://bit.ly/2eyKN9o>.

EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARD

Excellence in Business Award Recognizes Four OS Businesses
 Congratulations to the Old Saybrook businesses recognized with the Excellence in Business Award from the Old Saybrook Economic Development Commission on November 16. All four businesses have been serving Old Saybrook and surrounding communities for over 50 years.

More information on the Award and photos visit the Economic Development webpage: <http://bit.ly/2gpgsqV>.



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Paul Kozy and Family - Walt's Market



Andy Scott - The Paint Shop

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Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center



Exterior photo of The Kate decorated for the holidays on the left and an interior photo of the Hero's Tree on the right.

The spirit of Katharine Hepburn lives on through her artistic works, those who adore her, and this one-of-a-kind community cultural arts center that serves as an artistic home to all who walk through its doors. We so appreciate the people of Old Saybrook and the region who embrace this organization as a critical resource and take action to ensure its future.

The Kate is a true cultural gift, joining together imaginative partners and collaborators to provide enriching programming and opportunities for our community. This year in particular, we have seen our programming mature through existing relationships with Community Music School, The Florence Griswold Museum, The Saybrook Stage Company, The Old Saybrook School System, Eastern Connecticut Ballet, Salt Marsh Opera, Chestnut Hill Concert Series, Connecticut Public Broadcast Network, and more. We have also been fortunate to grow our offerings and events through new relationships with The Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, the Exchange Club of Old Saybrook and Westbrook, The University of Hartford, and Vista Life Innovations.

A wonderful example of the benefit of cross collaboration is showcased by our relationship with Vista Life Innovations, an organization that empowers people with disabilities throughout various life stages. With Vista, the Kate has the ability to bring accessible performances to those of all ages who may not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in and enjoy the arts. Supporting Vista's work through the "Pirates of Penzance," united the Kate, the community, and Vista members together to bring about a dynamic production for a broad audience to enjoy. Hand-in-hand, the actors, technical staff, and other participants learned, solved problems, created, laughed, and were successful with three near sell-out performances!

The Kate is a key community hub allowing creativity and inspiration to grow, from children's camps and performances, to art films, to MET Opera and Bolshoi Ballet simulcasts. To provide the programming and impact in the community that we do as a cultural non-profit, we continue to appreciate your support and engagement. Learn more about the Kate through the 2015-2016 video and At a Glance on our website at www.thekate.org/donate.

The Kate, 300 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT 06475,
www.thekate.org, Admin: 860.510.0473, Tickets: 877.503.1286.

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Nomination of Cypress Cemetery for the National Register of Historic Places

Cypress Cemetery, also known as the “Ancient Burial Ground” that was likely laid out by Lion Gardiner when the Saybrook Plantation began in 1635, is undergoing review for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The registration process is being carried out by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office as a part of a larger project which is considering protections for shoreline historic properties. State and local officials as well as consultants hired to perform the background work necessary to prove historical significance have met several times at the cemetery to review and collect information on the significant history of the property as well as the significance of those buried there. In addition to discussions with cemetery and town officials, the consultants spent time in the Frank Stevenson Archives of the Old Saybrook Historical Society searching for maps and other information that would prove many of the anecdotal stories often associated with the century’s old colonial burial ground.



Above, Cypress Cemetery fogbound. Inset image right, Cypress Cemetery headstone of Jabez Stow.

If successful, the prestigious designation would open the door to grants that could be used to restore tombstones and support other restorative and protective efforts as well as provide a level of significance above the cemetery’s already renowned place in New England’s storied history as early settlements of the English during the 1600’s.

J. H. Torrance Downes
Trustee, Cypress Cemetery Association
Trustee, Old Saybrook Historical Society
Trustee, Connecticut Cemetery Association

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Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce

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Chili Fest Saturday, March 4, 2017

2016 Chili Fest Winners

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- 3rd Place – The Monkey Farm
- Judges Choice – Old Saybrook Police Department

Proud to Support Our Business Community
The Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce is a champion of the business community. We are proud to have officiated at the grand openings of thirteen member businesses this year. Please see our Ribbon Cutting Collage to the far right. Businesses are numbered left to right. Celebrating with ribbon cuttings were:

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- 8. **Farmers Insurance, Susan Taylor,**
265 Main Street
- 9. **Strong To the Core Pilates,**
123 Elm Street
- 10. **Paradise Wine & Liquors,**
105-2 Elm Street
- 11. **The Medicine Shoppe,**
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- 12. **Joint Effort,**
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- 13. **Blow Dry at the Beach,**
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