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TECHNOLOGY WITH A HUMAN TOUCH

First Selectman's Corner

There are many events and projects that are very important to Westbrook. I direct your attention to some of the more salient activities that are occurring. It is always appropriate to begin by thanking all of our many volunteers who meet weekly with their respective boards and commissions to address your concerns as a community. Also, I would like to acknowledge all of the municipal employees whose service to the Town is being recognized by our Annual Report being dedicated to them. I would urge all of you, the next time you come to the Town Hall, take time to thank a municipal employee for their continuous service. Additionally, I encourage you to read all of the articles in this current publication since they reference, among other things, information on our new policy regarding beach passes. We are simplifying the process of obtaining the passes and the Town has subsidized some of the financial costs as an expression of our willingness to provide this benefit to our residents at no cost.

- Congratulations to Lester Scott who received the Chief Michael Green Award from the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce. This is the first time that a Westbrook resident has been recognized with this honor. Lester is an example of a volunteer who has committed his entire life to serving

in multiple roles to our Town. On June 6, 2012, Lester will be honored at the Middlesex Chamber's Annual Dinner. If you are interested in attending, please contact Suzanne in the Selectman's office at 860-399-3040 or shelchowski@westbrookct.us.

- On April 11, 2012, a major press conference was held by Congressman Courtney at Pilot's Point Marina. As a result of Federal and State financial commitments of \$1.4 million, the entire harbor, including the river up to the Singing Bridge will be dredged, starting in October, at no cost to Westbrook. This is a major initiative that has a significant impact on our economy. Please see article "Dredging Update" on page 10.

- The annual budget referendum will be held on May 24, 2012. Everyone is encouraged to vote on both the municipal and educational budget. It is a significant referendum since the Town went through a revaluation this past year. As a result, our mill rate will be affected.



First Selectman Noel Bishop

continued on page 4




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Special Interest Camps Half-day or full-day camps that focus on one specific interest or activity.

Little Giants Designed for children who have not yet entered kindergarten, this provides summer fun with activities like water play, arts and crafts and singing.



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• *First Selectman continued from page 1* •

• The construction of our new train station is on schedule and is anticipated to be completed in the Spring of 2013. It includes parking space to accommodate over 200 cars. If you are interested in what the new design will be, take a drive to

Guilford since our new station is a mirror image of Guilford's.

• We received state bonding money for \$100,000 to construct a Regional Animal Control Shelter in Clinton. The towns of Westbrook and Clinton will share the facilities. This is an example of municipalities cooperating at a regional level to provide services to our respective communities.

• The Town has provided, at no cost to our residents, at our Transfer Station a place to dispose of all electronic waste. This service alone has saved taxpayers, to date, approximately \$15,000.

• As a result of Hurricane Irene, CL&P has contributed an article "What Happens After the Storm Hits?" in this issue of Westbrook Events.

• CL&P has met with Town officials and in response to our question of whether Westbrook has a good tree trimming management program in place, they responded: "The Westbrook Public Works Department has been and continues to be very helpful with any tree trimming or identified risk tree removals that need to be completed to improve reliability. The support that your town has shown towards the vegetation management program and regular maintenance work that we have is very much appreciated."

• Finally, I want to thank all of the businesses in Westbrook who in so many ways contribute their time, energy and financial resources to make our community the special place it is. Enjoy the Summer!

— *First Selectman Noel Bishop*

Town Hall Hours

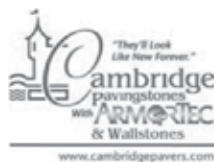
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Left to right: Noreen Saunders, Physical Therapist;
 Susie Bishop, Administrative Assistant,
 Deborah Lovelette, Administrator,
 Diana Recchia, RN seated in her car, and Janis Reep, RN.

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Department of Public Works

The Transfer Station at 154 McVeagh Road has moved to single-stream recycling as of January, 2012. This means that all newspaper, cardboard, glass and plastic may be placed in the same container, and no longer need to be separated. Transfer Station hours are Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 8:00 to 3:00. Passes may be obtained in the First Selectman's Office at the Mulvey Municipal Center, 866 Boston Post Road.

Cleanup from Tropical Storm Irene continues down at West Beach. The seawall has been re-built, and the sidewalk along the seawall is complete. The parking lot will be repaved in May.

May will also bring the reconstruction of Old Clinton Road. This project was originally scheduled for September, 2011, but was delayed as a result of Storm Irene.

Westbrook Fire Department

The Westbrook Fire Department is a group of dedicated volunteers that protect Westbrook citizens and visitors and their properties in emergencies. You could be living next door to one of the sixty-five members that respond to everything from a false alarm at any structure in town or to a natural disaster that can strike at anytime. You can be part of this dedicated group. In addition to our firefighter division, we have a junior division for anyone over the age of 14. If you are interested, please contact the Department at 860-399-9492 or stop by on a Wednesday night at 7 p.m.

During the calendar year of 2011, the Department responded to 814 incidents. 52% or 426 of the incidents were Rescue or Emergency Medical incidents. Beyond structure fires, the members respond to medical, service, hazardous conditions, false alarms and severe weather and natural disasters.

The Department took delivery of the new heavy rescue truck manufactured by HME. The new apparatus will carry rescue equipment needed for all types of rescues that can happen in Town.

The apparatus number is 494. Look for it on scene or come to Fire Headquarters, 18 South Main Street any Wednesday night. We will be proud to show it to you.

We have received many calls asking us about the annual carnival. The Westbrook Chemical Engine Company No. 1 Inc. annual carnival will be July 11th to July 14th this year. Wristbands for rides will be available all four nights for \$20. Rides, games, and, of course, the wonderful food booth with hamburgers, hot dogs, clam fritters, french fries, fried dough, pulled pork, baked potatoes, soda, water and baked goods.

Rain Barrels

If you are looking for an innovative way to collect and store rainwater from your roof area, you might consider directing it to a rain barrel. You can conserve water and decrease the impact of excess stormwater runoff to streams. While researching for this article, I was surprised at the wide assortment of sizes, styles and colors to choose from. You can construct your own barrel using a 55-gallon barrel. Rain barrels are also readily available for purchase at local hardware and garden supply stores. The rainwater can be used to water your garden, top off your pool, and prevent scour on your lawn. Check out this useful website for more information www.rainbarrelguide.com.

— Heidi Wallace

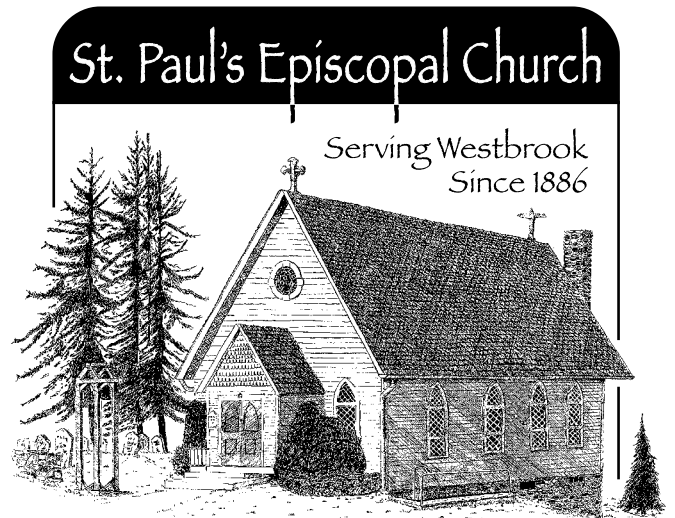
Town Hall Employees “TOPS” Off Their Hat to...

TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensible). They use the town hall for their meetings (Thursday nights) and every year they donate an item to the town hall. This year they have donated a brand new convection oven for our lunch room and a beautiful pot for one of our trees. Thank you TOPS!

— Town Hall Employees

Save the Dates:

- May 28** Memorial Day Parade, 10:00 a.m. rain or shine
- June 3** WDTC Craft Fair - Town Green – 10:00 a.m.
- June 9** Westbrook Family Day - Town Green - 11:00 a.m.
- July 2** Fire Works – Waters Edge; Rain date July 3rd
- July 4** Town Hall Closed
- July 11-14** Fire Department Carnival – Ted Lane Field
- Aug. 18** First Congregational Church Fair – Town Green
- Aug. 25** Westbrook Drum Corp. Muster Parade



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Dave Cahill, Sr Warden
Gary Nolf, Jr. Warden
Heather Soroko, Coordinator

What makes the congregation special

We are a supportive community in which members are richly and warmly connected to each other, and always welcome newcomers. We are committed to serve others in Westbrook and the shoreline and work for justice and healing around us.

Directions: Heading north on Route 1 turn right at 4-way traffic signal onto south main Street. Heading south on Route 1 turn left at 4-way traffic signal onto South main Street. We are almost across from the fire station.

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From the Nurse's Corner

This year the Westbrook Visiting Nurses and Public Health celebrates its 85th year of serving the community!

On November 1, 1927, our agency was started with Mary Dorothea Savage at its helm taking care of the health of the town's school children and assisting mothers at home with the birth of their children.

Times have certainly changed our practice. The schools now have their own nurses on staff and we no longer assist in the delivery of newborns in the home. In its place, we are involved twofold in the field of actual homecare nursing/therapy and preventive instruction, giving service during acute conditions and teaching families the proper care of sickness and how to prevent the spread of disease.

We are still very much committed to the town of Westbrook, its residents and the general community including local businesses and services. We still make ourselves available for the public, offer advice and assistance for healthcare concerns, provide blood pressure, immunization and foot care clinics in the town. In addition, we offer community outreach education, such as proper hand washing techniques at the elementary and preschools as well as working closely with the town of Westbrook's Senior Center. We provide the town's Public Health Department assistance with the town's Emergency Management/Public Health Nursing issues, i.e., lead investigations and communicable diseases (epidemiology) follow-up.

We are Medicare certified and State licensed. We hold contracts with most insurance plans and State waiver programs. Our number has grown from one nurse to five full-time employees, five part-time nurses, home health aides and multiple therapy contracts. We are very fortunate to have on staff a certified, wound care specialist and a certified homecare/hospice executive.

Our mission has never changed. We are still here for you. Today, this is not only a growing service but one championed by the State of Connecticut recently recognizing national reports which include the value of quality home health care for patients by their showing improved mobility and avoidance of hospitalizations after utilizing the services of the visiting nurse.

Our goal is to keep you safely at home, help you obtain better health with care and education, hopefully, preventing you from needing acute care or have heightened medical needs. We still consider ourselves your greatest ally and health care advocate. We represent what many love about Westbrook... small agency where people feel empowered and safe in their community.

If you are in need of homecare following a hospital and/or a skilled nursing facility stay or your doctor feels you could benefit from medical-related assistance in your home, we hope you will remember to ask for us, the Westbrook Visiting Nurses.

— Deborah Lovelette, RN, CHCE Administrator

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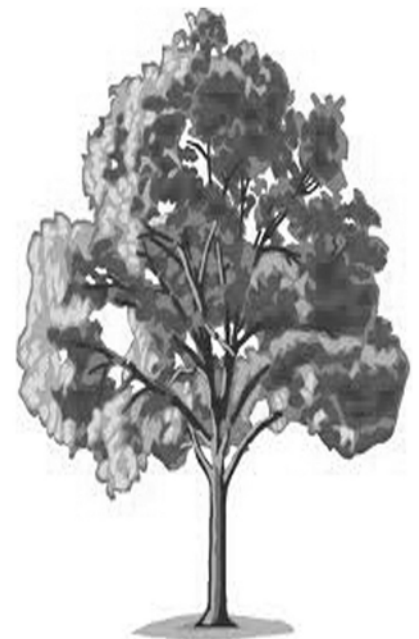
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Reminders from Westbrook Emergency Management

Westbrook Emergency Management has started recruitment for its Volunteer Program. Volunteers will be trained in setting up and maintaining an emergency shelter or family assistance center. The program will include public notifications, working with target groups and inside the Emergency Operation Center. There is still time to join. For more information, go to our website at www.westbrookem.com or call Emergency Management at (860) 577-0622.



send out mass notifications to your cell phone, Android, iPhone and tablet. The message is sent as a voice, text and email. You choose how you want to receive it. This includes information of evacuations, hazards and life safety to the public. Can you choose multiple addresses for notifications; your home, family member, work place etc.

Emergency Management's website continues to grow and gain in popularity. The website provides emergency information and planning resources for you and your family. In addition, the Facebook page is also gaining recognition. Preparing today will help you tomorrow.

Register on Connecticut's secure website at www.ctalert.gov. All information is held confidential and not shared with any telemarketing. The system is not used for local, non-emergency news, elections, etc. Westbrook Emergency Management recommends all residents register their cell phone/smart phones or other devices. "We can't alert you if we can't reach you".

Finally, Westbrook is affiliated with the CT Alert Emergency Notification System, known as CT ALERT. The system can


— Donald Izzo, Emergency Management Director

1st Annual 5K Run for Chris



1st Annual RUN FOR CHRIS 1-3-5 Oddman/Woman 5K: Saturday, June 23, 2012; Essex Town Hall. Benefits Chris Belfoure Memorial Fund at MCCF for education. Chris was a 2005 graduate of VRHS. Registration opens at 7:00 a.m. Kids Fun Run - 8:15 a.m., 5K - 8:45 a.m. Walkers' welcome. Register online: www.raceit.com/register/?event=9564.

\$20.00 (\$23.00 after June 9th). T-shirts to the first 200 applicants. Challenge yourself to this new course of rolling hills in beautiful Essex. Prizes awarded to 1st, 3rd, and 5th place in 10-year age groups. Any questions contact Robin Chapin: robinc83@gmail.com; 860-767-1541, OR Cathy Bishop: cbishop56@sbcglobal.net; 860-767-0354.




GUESS WHAT???


Brian has been named a FIVE STAR Real Estate AgentSM FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW!!!!

To keep it short and sweet, here is how it works...An independent research company finds people who bought/sold property and/or worked with a real estate agent (they call them "industry peers") and ask them tons of questions about how well the agent did their job in 9 important areas. They are: customer service, integrity, market knowledge, negotiation communication, closing preparation, finds the right home, marketing of home, and overall satisfaction. No agent can "buy" their way onto the list. Only 3% of agents in a market area ever get this honor two years in a row - like Brian did.

So enough about Brian - what does this mean for YOU? It means that you know who can give you exceptional service and attention when you need to buy or sell your property. You just have to do one thing...contact Brian! He (and Leslie) will do their very best for you too!



Brian Jermaine, ABR, ASR, CRS, ePRO, GRI, SRES, SRS
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Dredging Update

Congressman Courtney, Senator Eileen Daily, Rep. Jim Crawford, Ed O'Donnell, Army Corps of Engineers, municipal leaders, marina owners and community members attended press conference on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at Pilot's Point Marina to announce a federal funds transfer that will enable the planned dredging of Westbrook's Patchogue River inner harbor channel. A recent Congressional action approved a recommendation to move \$650,000 from one Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) budget account with leftover North Cove dredging funds to the account that will fund the long-planned Patchogue River dredging project. The new funds, coupled with \$750,000 in state bond funding approved in 2011, completes the \$1.4 million financing package to dredge Westbrook's inner harbor channel. There will be no financial cost to the Town of Westbrook for this project.

With the funding now in place, the Army Corps of Engineers will work to execute a memorandum of understanding with the state to ensure ACE access to the state-approved project funds. The dredging project would return the inner harbor channel to its authorized design depth of 8 feet at low tide. The inner channel would be cleared from a point near the gas docks along the Patchogue River to within 100 feet of the Singing Bridge. First Selectman Bishop commented that "keeping the harbor channel open and having the dredging done benefits the marinas, but also the economy of the town.



leaving space for caption...

The marine industry is vital to the town's economy; this project will benefit the entire community."

The Army Corps of Engineers plan to bid the project to dredge the Patchogue River inner channel in early June to allow work to begin in early October, after the close of the boating season.

The article was prepared by Suzanne Helchowski, Administrative Assistant in the Selectman's Office, and includes excerpts from an article written by Becky Coffey, Harbor News.



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Literacy Volunteers Valley Shore

We have a lot of fun and exciting events planned for the affiliate. We have the Dine Out for a Cause program in full effect. For those of you not aware of the program or the way it works it's really simple. You go to the restaurant on the chosen night and let your server know that your there to support literacy and a portion of your check not including tax & tip goes back to literacy.

Monday May 21st New Deal Steak Place in Westbrook will donate 10% of the proceeds for from your total bill (excludes tax and tip).

Sunday September 16th Oliver's Taverne in Essex will donate 15% of the proceeds for from your total bill (excludes tax and tip).

Please contact me with suggestions for future "Dine Out for A Cause" events.

On June 23rd, friends of Literacy Volunteers Valley Shore, Dolly and Joe Mezzetti will put on a spaghetti supper to benefit the organization. It will be held at Clinton's Town Hall in the Green Room (basement) between 5:30 and 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children and \$20.00 maximum for families. Tickets can be purchased in advance from the office by calling (860) 399-0280. A few tickets will be available at the door, but they are certain to go fast.

— Peter Mezzetti, Communications

Senior Travel

May 24: 4 Troops-Salute to Armed Services. Aqua Turf. Family style lunch (chicken, pasta, baked salmon, etc. \$80.

June 5: The Concert That Never Was (Barbra & Frank) All you can eat family style lunch. \$71.

July 17: Newport Playhouse & Cabaret – The Fox on the Fairway (subject to change).

Our Big Trip This Year is to **Mackinaw Island** ending at the Canadian Niagara Falls. Passport required. (August 17-24). Seriously Interested? Call Lucile at (860) 399-6065.

September 16: Hudson Valley Wineries. Lunch. \$76. Walk through underground cellars and learn of wine making.

Linda Nolf



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Westbrook Saves Energy and Money

The Town's ad hoc Energy Committee, led by Selectman Christopher Ehlert, and composed of Westbrook personnel and citizen volunteers, meets monthly. Committee members succeeded last fall in having Southern Connecticut Gas Company extend a natural gas main from Route 1 to McVeagh Road, which will enable the High School and Middle School to convert to natural gas from oil.

The Town received bids in March to replace the boilers at the High School and burners at the Middle School with more efficient units that can burn either natural gas or oil. With approval at a Town meeting, this equipment should be installed in time for the next heating season. Natural gas costs are considerably lower than oil and expected to remain so in coming years.

The Town's Facilities Manager, Loren Baker, has worked to lower energy costs at several buildings. To date, the Town has:

- Replaced fluorescent bulbs with more efficient ones in Town Hall, reducing consumption by 9,000 watts. Combined with CL&P's reduction in rates, this has resulted in savings of \$12,000 a year.
- Replaced windows in the Riggio building with more efficient ones, resulting in a reduction of approximately

1,500 gallons of heating oil used annually, resulting in a current savings of over \$4,500 a year.

- All municipal buildings (except schools) have been upgraded to energy efficient lighting, one with Town funds and the rest through a CL&P rebate program
- Two buildings have already had their boiler or furnace replaced with a more efficient model

Westbrook is a member of the Regional Energy Commission (REC) formed by six towns in 2010 with a goal of saving at least 5% of the towns' expenditures on energy by June 2012. They hired a consultant, Source One, to assist in the project, which was paid for with federal stimulus funds through a grant from the State's Office of Policy & Management.

The Energy Committee's Outreach group coordinated participation of the REC at the annual Green Lifestyle Fair at Water's Edge in March and helped staff the booth. The REC booth highlighted how many residents and businesses among the six towns have participated in statewide energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Watch for a new Energy Committee page on the Town's web site, coming soon, which will have a copy of the Town's Strategic Energy Management Plan, and provide more information on state efficiency and renewable energy programs that can save you energy and money. Those interested in joining the Energy Committee may contact the Selectman's Office at 860-399-3040.

For town updates & information:

www.westbrookct.us

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Legislative Update

By the time you read this piece, the year's legislative session will be finished. Many issues were researched, debated, and voted up or down. One issue, however, remains front and center demanding our attention. The exodus of our young people age 24-35 to other parts of the country is a dangerous trend.

Connecticut has one of the poorest records when it comes to keeping our young people in-state. The limited availability of employment opportunities, a vibrant social scene, and reliable mass transit are often cited as key factors influencing the move to other areas.

One factor, however, seems to trump them all. Attainable/affordable housing is very scarce in our area. Lenders require 15-25% down payments that are out of the reach of most young workers and families. The housing stock includes very few starter homes or even affordable apartments. Along the Shoreline, the average two bedroom unit rents for about \$1,200 per month. Even with mortgage rates at historic lows, potential buyers can't begin to access the market.

The state provides incentives for communities to investigate and identify properties that might serve to alleviate this problem. Local groups, similar to the HOPE partnership in Old Saybrook, have joined with towns to bring projects to fruition. I encourage you to check out the newly completed units on Ferry Road. This group of volunteers is reaching out to other local leaders in an effort to spread the word and garner new advocates for the cause.

Towns that fail to retain and attract young people suffer in many ways. Volunteer fire departments, EMS, and ambulance organizations are unable to staff their ranks and the only alternative is to hire the needed talent. Young teachers, manufacturing workers, and service providers are forced to live in outlying towns. Our children and grandchildren have little prospect of staying close by.

I encourage you to engage in the community conversations that will become more frequent in the near future. Addressing this critical demographic trend will play a major role in the future of our town and our state. As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions. If I can be of help, please don't hesitate to contact me at (860) 399-0260.

— Jim Crawford



*You are the wellspring
of yourself and
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If an emotional or growth
path seems blocked for you
or yours, seek help.*

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To all Westbrook Residents

I encourage you to read the following important communication from CL&P regarding their protocols for any and all storm related events.

— Noel Bishop, First Selectman

What Happens After the Storm Hits?

In Connecticut Light & Power's 100-year history, no storms have caused as much damage or as many outages as Tropical Storm Irene or the October snowstorm last year. As the person ultimately responsible for keeping the lights on in Westbrook, I continue to receive a lot of constructive feedback regarding CL&P's response to the storms, which is very much appreciated. I also get a lot of questions about how we go about getting the lights back on after a storm hits?

Safety is Priority One

Our first priority is the safety of our employees and you, our customers. As soon as conditions are safe following a major storm, workers patrol to locate dangerous areas and take steps to make them safe by de-energizing downed wires. Working with town officials, we determine the extent of outages and damage and make a preliminary assessment of the time and resources necessary to restore power to most customers.

We first restore power to our substations and "priority" customers. These include your police and fire departments, hospitals, water and sewage treatment plants and key

commercial areas. Simultaneously, we are keeping state and local authorities apprised of conditions and we continue to work with municipal officials to address their particular concerns.

Working Together

In Westbrook, we're working very closely with First Selectman Noel Bishop and the town's Emergency Management Director, Don Izzo to make sure we're well-coordinated and able to communicate effectively during emergencies like large power outages.

Our line and tree crews also work closely with local public works departments and the state Department of Transportation to unblock roads so emergency responders can gain access and the utility crews can get to, and repair the damage. During the snowstorm, we had to deal with about 1,500 blocked local and state roads across the 149 towns and cities that CL&P services.

While crews are working in the field, hundreds of CL&P employees are answering phone calls from customers around the clock, working to collect outage reports, relay orders, and advise the media and customers of what they can expect, based on the information available at the time.

The Process of Restoring Power

Restoration speed depends on the extent and nature of the storm's damage. The heavier the damage, the longer repairs can take. It takes hours to replace a single broken pole before downed wires can be put back in service.

I find that using a tree analogy also helps to explain the process.

We begin at the substations (or tree roots), move to the main feeders (tree trunk) and continue to primary and secondary wires (limbs and branches). It is from these branches that electricity flows to individual homes and businesses. It does no good to repair the limbs if the trunk is dead. Therefore, the trunk must be repaired before any work can be done on the remaining elements.

Where you are within our electric distribution system can affect when you get your power back. For example, if you are at the far end of a circuit and the substation it gets power through, you will probably be among the last to have power restored after a major storm. It often takes longer to restore power to the more remote, less populated areas as we try to restore power to the largest number of customers in the shortest length of time.

Where are the Trucks?

I hear customers sometimes say that they "don't see the trucks in my neighborhood." The reason you may not see them is that often, the problem affecting your local area can be on the other end of the circuit that serves you, which can extend into the next town or two or to a nearby substation. You may not see them, but they are out there working.

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continued on page 15

MISS MULVEY



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**Stop by and pick up
your 2012 calendar...**



and a lollipop!

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CT CONTRACTOR # SM1-4890 HOD - 416

• *Westbrook Residents continued from page 14* •

Ultimately, our crews go street by street — in some cases, house by house — to restore individual service. We keep working until every home and business has electricity again.

Be Prepared, and Be Safe

There will be other storms and CL&P continues to encourage our customers to be proactive and informed. Have you put together your “storm kit” (also called a ‘lights-out kit’)? For customers with life support equipment, do you have a plan? Does it include an alternate source of electric power such as a battery backup system or a generator for the life support equipment; emergency telephone numbers (doctor, fire, police and ambulance) and a procedure to vacate your home during a prolonged outage?

Many people are now looking into or investing in a backup generator. Make sure it is installed by a licensed electrician and has a “transfer switch.” Improperly installed generators can feed electricity back into power lines, creating a deadly situation for our line workers and our customers. Always operate generators outdoors to avoid carbon monoxide hazards.

For helpful tips and news updates, go to our website at www.cl-p.com, follow us on Twitter @CTLightandPower and like us at [Facebook.com/CTLightandPower](https://www.facebook.com/CTLightandPower).

— *Brian Davis*

Brian Davis is Manager of Customer Operations for Connecticut Light & Power's Eastern Division, which includes the Town of Westbrook

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Andy Sez:
Thanks for bringing us into
your home for over
50 Years!

Hot Steamed Jazz Festival

Come celebrate 20 years of The Hot Steamed Jazz Festival on June 22, 23 & 24! Experience a weekend of traditional jazz right in our own back yard. Located on the grounds of the Essex Steam Train, The Hot Steamed Jazz Festival is a three-day event that will make you feel like you're in New Orleans without the travel. The festival will include several great musicians such as Galvanized Jazz Band (CT), John Banker's Riverboat Ramblers (CT), Jeff Barnhart (CT), Dan Levinson's Millennium All Stars (NY), Wolverine Jazz Band (MA), Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band (PA), Heartbeat Dixieland Jazz Band (CT), Midiri Brothers (NJ), Swing Times Five (MA), Funky Butt Jazz Band (CT), Bob Seeley (MI), Sugarfoot Youth Jazz Band and the Festival All Stars led by Jon Seiger!

Proceeds from the festival benefit The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp founded by the late Paul Newman. For session times and ticket information, visit www.hotsteamedjazz.com or call 1-800-343-0003.



Registrars of Voters

Canvass - The Registrars will be conducting the yearly Canvass during the months of January through May. Not all registered voters will receive a "Confirmation of Voting Residence" letter. Again this year, the Registrars will be using the National Change of Address (NCOA) system to update the Registry list. This program works with the State of CT Registry lists and the U.S. Post Office to process names and addresses of electors who show some change in their mailing address or a difference between their resident address and mailing

address. Only those electors whose name is on this list will receive a notice from the Registrars asking them to confirm their present voting residence, mailing address, or to verify any changes. If you receive a "Confirmation of Voting Residence" form to fill out and do not respond by the date indicated on the form, your name will be put on the "Inactive List". If you have made a recent change in your resident address, mailing address or name, and you are not sure if the Registrars are aware of this change, please call our office (860-399-3042), send a note, or stop by the Office on Tuesdays from 11:00am -1:00 p.m. or Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Please call if you would like to make an appointment. Please note that Registration application forms are available in the Registrars' and Town Clerk's Offices and on a table outside the Registrars' Office. When you have made a change to your voting resident address or name, please remember to also notify the Department of Motor Vehicles.

The Budget Referendum will be held on Thursday, May 24. Registered voters and Property owners who are 18 years of age or older who are liable to the Town of Westbrook for taxes assessed against him/her of not less than \$1,000 on the last completed grand list of the town are eligible to vote. No trusts, no corporations, no LLC's, no partnerships and no trustees are eligible to vote.

— Barbara G. Lupa and Nancy R. Moore, Registrars

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Town Garage: New Location

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A Message from the Open Burning Official

Spring is upon us once again and the urge to burn runs through our minds. The burning of brush is permitted if certain criteria are met. If you have a pile of brush that you would like to burn, contact the "Open Burning Official" and I will meet with you to see if it is safe to burn in your location.

Bonfires and campfires are permitted for "ceremonial" purposes only. They should be contained in a stone, concrete block or sunken area away from any dwellings or wooded area. The fire department has been called out to several bonfires that were started with an accelerant and caused flames to reach 10' to 15' into the air. This is a dangerous and illegal method of starting a fire and someone could be injured in the process. Please note that building materials are not

allowed in the use of bonfires. Some paper and dry kindling should work well if you plan ahead for your fire.

NO BURNING OF ANY KIND IS ALLOWED DURING HIGH, VERY HIGH or EXTREME BURNING INDEX.

You can go on the Department of Environmental Protection's web site to check "forest fire danger". <http://www.ct.gov/dep/site/default.asp>.

You may call the "Open Burning Official" at 860-399-3040 for advice and to let him know that you will be having a bonfire at your location.

Have a safe Spring & Summer.

— Loren E. Baker, Jr., Open Burning Official

Westbrook Land Conservation Trust

ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE. WLCT's Annual Open House was graciously hosted by Kristen and Mark Leas at their Pritchett Drive home. Meg Parulis, Westbrook Town Planner, the guest speaker, discussed the Menunketesuck Greenway which runs from south along the eastern border of Westbrook to the north end. Its significance and how it fits into the regional greenway

corridor including the Quinimay Trail was included in her presentation. The greenway corridor will include the towns of Westbrook, Clinton, Killingworth, Deep River, Chester, and Haddam. Designation by the State of Connecticut as a greenway allows points towards project approvals.

— Sandra A. Towle, Publicity

Town Clerk's Office

June is Dog License Month

Every dog, except dogs kept under a kennel license, must be licensed when it becomes six months old and then annually in June. No license may be issued unless a valid rabies certificate, including the date of vaccination and duration of immunity, is submitted to the town clerk. The town clerk issues licenses for the dogs in her town.

When a new dog is acquired, the owner has thirty days in which to license it. A copy of the current rabies vaccination must be presented at the time of registration. License fees are \$8.00 for dogs that are spayed or neutered and \$19.00 for unaltered dogs.

License renewal dates are July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. You have the month of June to renew your dog's license. A penalty of \$1.00 per month or fraction of a month is charged when the license renewal is after July 31st.

Fishing and Hunting Licenses

We can provide you with a new or renewal license or you can go to the DEEP website – www.ct.gov/deep - and print your own license. As a reminder, those 65 years and older are eligible for a free license. Pick up a 2012 Angler's Guide and Hunting & Trapping Guide when you stop into our office.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

— Joan S. Angelini, Westbrook Town Clerk



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Long Island Sound Caucus Forms to Protect the Sound and its Resources

A dozen legislators who represent shoreline communities have come together in bipartisan cooperation to form a steering committee whose purpose is to steward, preserve and protect the magnificent natural resource that we all share - Long Island Sound. Six state senators, five state representatives and myself are working together as the Long Island Sound caucus to address the regional needs and issues confronting this shared natural resource.

Long Island Sound is a vast watershed which is home to 8 million people. It is an economic engine of equally vast proportions generating nearly \$10 billion per year in recreational and marine commerce. Long Island Sound is regarded at Connecticut's premier natural resource. The goals of the Long Island Sound caucus will focus on the economic, maritime and environmental dimensions of the Sound, and how best to frame public policy initiatives that affect and protect this important body of water.

As a maritime corridor of commerce, policy making for Long Island Sound must address dredging, clean water initiatives and the shellfish industry. Environmental issues are prominent in balancing commercial and recreational usage. Long Island Sound is environmentally vulnerable. Water quality, storm water runoff and pollutants that threaten its watershed demand proactive interventions that that will sustain the Sound's ecosystem.



State Representative Marilyn Giuliano

As a shared resource with New York, the Long Island Sound caucus seeks to engage our regional neighbor in bi-state cooperative initiatives protective of the Sound.

As shoreline residents were so vividly reminded last Fall during Tropical Storm Irene, living along the shoreline embraces risks and the need for improving storm preparedness. The Long Island Sound caucus seeks to protect the Sound's beaches and businesses, and to protect private property and homeowner rights.

In protecting and preserving this statewide treasure that is Long Island Sound, the caucus has many challenges ahead. Our goal is to enhance the natural resources, recreational, wildlife, commercial and economic interests of this invaluable watershed.

— *State Rep. Marilyn Giuliano*

State Rep. Marilyn Giuliano represents Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Westbrook in the Connecticut General Assembly.

Attention! New 2012 Beach Pass Policy

Residents/Property Owners/Senior Residents/Disabled Residents = **FREE**, no pass issued. Upon entering the beach **YOU MUST STOP** at the gate, vehicles must show proof of residency with a valid driver's license. For out of town property owners in addition to a valid driver's license you will also need a copy of a current utility bill or any other identification that will show you own property in Westbrook.

**You Must Come to the Town Hall
to Purchase Passes for the Following:**

NON-RESIDENT = \$20, Per Vehicle/Daily Pass Only
TEMPORARY RESIDENT = \$10, Visitors of Westbrook Residents
MOTELS = \$20, Owner must purchase/limited to number of rooms
COTTAGE RENTALS = \$20, Rental agreement required. Vehicle registered to renter only
BOATERS = \$30, Seasonal Slip Agreement required/vehicle registration to Slip renters only
BUSINESS = \$10, Owner must purchase/Town reserves the right to limit the number of passes
TIMESHARE OWNERS = \$10, Temp. Pass for the week. Show proof of ownership

Transfer Station Hours

Mon., Wed., Sat. from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

PHONE: 860-399-6356

July 17 - Deadline for the next issue of

WESTBROOK EVENTS

Contact Jill in the First Selectman's office 860-399-3040 or e-mail jbrainerd@westbrookct.us to submit an article or press release.

WESTBROOK NEWCOMERS' GUIDE

Welcome to Westbrook!

On behalf of *Events Magazines*, welcome to Westbrook. Whether you are new to Connecticut or just new to Westbrook you will find wonderful people and places to visit in town. From the Westbrook Fire Department Carnival to the Westbrook Fife & Drum Muster Parade, Westbrook has something for everyone. Below are important phone numbers. Please tear out this page and keep it for future reference. We at *Events Magazines* and Essex Printing support local businesses.

Please use this guide and “Buy Local” – we do!

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 CONSUMER PROTECTION (860) 566-2294
 WESTBROOK GARDEN CLUB (860) 399-8963
 9 TOWN TRANSIT (860) 510-0429
 VISITING NURSES OF WESTBROOK (860) 399-3088
 FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 OF WESTBROOK (860) 399-9367
 ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH (860) 669-7681

IMPORTANT TOWN HALL NUMBERS

ASSESSOR (860) 399-3045
 BUILDING/SANITARIAN (860) 399-3047
 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER (860) 399-9869
 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (860) 577-0622
 WEB SITE www.westbrookem.com
 HARBOR MASTER (860) 399-9406
 LANDFILL (860) 399-6356
 MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY . . . (860) 399-3048
 PROBATE COURT (860) 399-5661
 RECREATION (860) 399-3095
 REGISTRAR OF VOTERS (860) 399-3042
 SELECTMAN'S OFFICE (860) 399-3040
 SOCIAL SERVICE (860) 399-3048
 TAX COLLECTOR (860) 399-3043
 TOWN CLERK (860) 399-3044
 TOWN GARAGE (860) 399-6891
 TOWN WEB SITE www.westbrookct.us
 TREASURER (860) 399-3040
 WESTBROOK SENIOR CENTER (860) 399-2029
 WESTBROOK YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES . (860) 399-9239
 ZONING/PLANNING/WETLANDS (860) 399-3046

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 JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (860) 399-6214
 MIDDLE SCHOOL (860) 399-2010
 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (860) 399-6432

HOME HEALTH CARE

VISITING NURSES OF WESTBROOK (860) 399-3088

AMBULANCE & OXYGEN

BUSINESS CALLS (860) 399-7000

FIRE DEPARTMENT (860) 399-9492

FIRE MARSHAL

BUSINESS CALLS (860) 399-3047

POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESIDENT TROOPER (860) 399-7304
 STATE TROOPER (860) 399-2100

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WESTBROOK CONCRETE BLOCK CO (860) 399-6201

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MIDDLESEX EYE PHYSICIANS (860) 669-5305

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 COMPANY INC. (860) 388-4483

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SCOTT'S FARM & GREENHOUSES (860) 767-7059

FITNESS

VALLEY-SHORE Y (860) 399-9622

GARDEN/LANDSCAPE

GREENSCAPE OF CLINTON (860) 669-1880

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BENTLEY HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING . (860) 388-1967

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BUDGET BLINDS OF OLD SAYBROOK (860) 399-6442
 THE PAINT SHOP (860) 388-2345

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 OR VISIT www.middlesexhospital.org/davinci

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9 TOWN TRANSIT (860) 510-0429

Want to be listed on the Newcomers' page?

Call Ward Feirer at (914) 806-5500

Estuary Council

Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. has been serving Seniors in the nine-town Estuary region for 35 years. Call us to receive our *Gazette Newsletter* or go to www.ecsenior.org for our online newsletter, events calendar, menu, and more.

Donate Your Car or Boat to the Estuary Council. Turn your car or boat into a tax deduction by calling 1-800-716-5868. Vehicle does not have to run. Proceeds benefit the vital services we provide in the nine town Estuary Region.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL! - Be the first to know what is happening by getting our newsletter emailed to you. No more postal delays, winter address changes, or trying to find the newsletter to confirm a date for the great free class or seminar. Go to www.ecsenior.org and click on the newsletter icon to follow the link and sign up. Then email us to remove you from the mailing list.

PAINTED CHAIR AUCTION: Sunday, June 3rd, 5 – 8 p.m. The Painted Chair Auction will feature chairs painted by local artists, which will have been on display at businesses in the nine town Estuary region during the month of May. This event will include wonderful hors d'oeuvres, wine and live music. If you are interested in painting a chair or in adopting a chair for display at your place of business, please call Sandy at 860-388-1611. All proceeds benefit the Meals on Wheels program.

STAN GREIMANN ESTUARY MEDICAL OUTPATIENT TRANSPORTATION For medical appointments, to any medical

location beyond the nine-town estuary region. Call Judy at 388-1611. Suggested donation of \$35.

CAFÉ MEAL SITES - Chester, Clinton, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, & Westbrook. Reservations required by calling 860-388-1611 by 11 a.m., 24 hours in advance.

SATURDAY FAMILY BREAKFAST at the Old Saybrook Café, 8 am - Noon. Join us on Saturdays for made to order breakfast - just \$5 per person! Menu choices include the Estuary Omelet, Pancakes, Oatmeal, or Eggs-any style. All served with home fries and bacon or sausage, juice or fruit, coffee and milk.

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

CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES: Billiards, Ping Pong, Yoga, Exercise Classes, Mah Jongg, Wii, Tai Chi, Cribbage, Writer's Group, Book Club, Quilter's Group, Dominoes, Needlecrafters, Hand and Foot, and more.

ESTUARY THRIFT SHOP: Hours are from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Mon. – Fri. and 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Clothes (men, women, and children), kitchen items, crafts, and more available! Donations are accepted and volunteers always needed.

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



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Guilford \$599,000 - Cul de sac living at its best! Center hall Colonial. Mint! Updated kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck, mature plantings, stone patios, lush gardens. 2500 sq ft does not include finished playroom in lower level. 2 story garage, good for boat, RV or expansion on second floor. 1+ acr. 4 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths.

Westbrook \$719,000 - 2008 3270 sq ft Colonial sited on private 2.34 Ac. / stone walls. Hardiplank siding, wide board flrs, Kit. w/granite, isle, Jen Air stovetop, double ovens, gas heat, great room w/ fireplace. Master w/walk-in shower plus spa tub. 2 laundry areas and town.

Guilford \$341,900 - Completely remodeled Lake House. Kitchen with granite & tiles. Wood floors. 2 BAs w/artisan tiles & granite counters. 2-3 BRs. 2 outbldgs w/electric. Just steps to beautiful West Lake Boat! Call Mike 203-376-7527 Rte 80 to Flat Iron to View #26 at end.

Madison \$275,000 - 4 BR, 2 full BA Ranch. Formal DR and LR warmed by a stone fireplace. Refined wood floors throughout. Kitchen has black granite counters and new stainless appliances. New roof, spacious deck off dining rm. slider.

News from the WPCC

Check Septic Pumpouts On-Line

Westbrook residents are now able to check the date of their latest septic pumpout by linking to the website www.SepticSearch.com. All Westbrook homeowners are required by Ordinance to pump their septic system at least once every five years. The Septic Search system will provide a convenient way to check the date of a property's latest pumpout and inspection.

Pumpers are required to report all septic pumpouts in Westbrook to the Westbrook Water Pollution Control Commission through an on-line computer system. The earliest computerized reports are from the years 2004-2005. The Septic Search link accesses the data on Westbrook's pumpout records, and provides a copy of the report that was submitted by the pumper. If a known pumpout is not found on the database, the homeowner should contact his or her septic pumping company and ask that they report the pumpout on the Carmody system.

How to check your pumpout history:

1. At the Septic Search site, select Connecticut (state) and Westbrook (County/Town), click on "Search for Local Public Records...", and at the next screen choose "Records Search".

You may search by street name or owner last name. Verify the parcel address and click on "View History".

2. If a pumpout has been reported, click on "View" to see the report. It will tell you the date of the pumpout, the pumper's name and the number of gallons pumped, as well as some inspection information required by the WPCC. There may also be a report of a discharge permit. This is issued by the Health Department following initial construction or repair of a septic system. Information other than the date of construction may be obtained from the property file in the Land Use Office in Town Hall.

3. The "Map" button provides a Bing aerial map of the property. "Request a Bid" is not applicable for Westbrook residents. The Land Use Office can provide the names of licensed pumpers who work in Westbrook, or you may refer to the Yellow Pages.

Septic Search provides an easy way for Westbrook homeowners, realtors, and prospective buyers to conveniently access pumpout information from their own computers, eliminating trips to the Town Hall, and to verify their compliance with the Town's pumpout regulation.

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Youth and Family Services

WYFS.org. Visit us online at WYFS.org and find out what programs we're offering. Also, our website features a RESOURCE list, including information about mental health for children and adults, services for children with special needs, and social service offerings throughout the state. Come check us out online!

Lil Tykes. Tuesdays 9-10:30 a.m. For children ages newborn to 5 and their caregivers. During summer months, older siblings are welcome, too! Our favorite playgroup will continue through the summer. Come play, interact and explore with your little one while talking with other adults. Each day includes age-appropriate activities, group games, discussion and support. Free. Drop in anytime!

Summer Adventure Program. WYFS's ASD Summer Adventure Program offers children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD or other similar disorders a chance to play and explore with peers in a fun and safe environment. Our participants are taught social skills and life skills, create arts and crafts projects, play games and have a chance to make summer memories. Our younger participants (ages 5-7) play indoors and out at WYFS, while our older campers (ages 8-13) also take weekly field trips. Interested participants ages 15-17 may serve as mentors with permission from WYFS. The program is led by masters-level Marriage and Family Therapy staff and interns. Group size is small and the excellent staff/participant ratio allows your child to have the attention necessary for a positive experience. Summer Adventure Program offers

children summer fun within a structured environment. Visit WYFS.org for schedule, additional information and online registration. Or call us at 860-399-9239 to find out more.

Counseling Services. Westbrook Youth and Family Services provides support and therapy for individuals, families and couples. Our therapists help strengthen family functioning, and support children and families working through life's challenges, including emotional and behavioral issues, stress, anxiety, grief, depression, anger management, chronic illness or disabilities, substance abuse, trauma, peer issues and life transitions.

Westbrook Youth and Family Services' clinical staff is comprised of Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) and MFT interns. MFTs are mental health professionals trained in psychotherapy and family systems. They evaluate and treat mental, emotional and behavioral problems with individuals and family systems with a specialized focus on identifying families' strengths and increasing positive interactions.

Our services are offered on a sliding-scale fee basis and state insurance is also accepted. Please call us at 860-399-9239 to set up an appointment.

Our thanks! WYFS gratefully accepted a donation from Oxford Academy's fundraiser entitled "Lights on Westbrook." The photography exhibition held at Oxford on March 10 was part of Oxford Academy's outreach to the community, and the exhibition raised over \$1,700 for Westbrook Youth and Family Services.

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Westbrook Recreation

Westbrook is the best place to be during the summer months! Our Recreation Department has camps and programs for everyone. Field Hockey, Soccer, Baseball, Basketball, Tennis and Theatre Camps are available to every child. We offer programs for children from Westbrook and for nonresidents from all over the shoreline.

It's still not too late to sign-up for "Week at the Beach" or "Hangout Week". Week at the Beach will be August 13 – 17, 2012. Each day, parents will drop off and pick up their children right here at the Westbrook Town Beach. Drop-off will be at the Westbrook Town Hall, if it rains any of these days. Please remember that there are two fields during this week to add to all the fun.

The week after summer camp is over has always been difficult for finding dependable childcare. Hangout week will be August 20th – 24th, at the Westbrook Library. This week has no fieldtrip but is a great way for children to start thinking about school. Access to library books and other materials will be available so children can catch up on their summer reading. Hours during this week are limited to 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., due to staff availability.



Summer Camp kids on field trip at Mystic Aquarium.

Fall Programs

Fall is right around the corner and the children will be back in school soon. This September we will start a new year for all our adult programs. We have Zumba, Yoga, Aerobics, Pilates, Volleyball, Belly Dancing and Senior Fitness classes. We're sure to have a fitness class to fit your schedule and desire. Why pay membership fees when you're able to take our classes whenever you wish and only pay for the ones you use?

All our youth sports programs will be starting September 8th. This fall as always, we have our very popular Tot Soccer, Recreational and Travel Soccer programs. New this fall we will have the Challenger Sports staff running our 1st – 4th Grade Recreational Soccer program. Challenger teaches our April and Summer Soccer Camps and will bring their international skills and knowledge. This program will give your child the solid foundation they will need to play soccer.

This will be the third year for Youth Badminton. Has your child enjoyed playing badminton this summer? Now imagine them playing indoors with all their friends. This class is limited due to the small Daisy gym. Sign up as soon as possible! K-4 Karate has been an ongoing favorite with children and parents for many years. Your child will learn to listen, follow directions, learn self-discipline and focus better. We also have our other popular youth programs, archery and the Red Cross courses such as Babysitting and When I'm In Charge.

This will be our second year of doing the Before and After School program at the Westbrook Middle School. Do you need to drop off your children early in the morning? Do you want your children supervised in a fun and safe environment? Do you want your children to do their homework before they come home, under the supervision of our staff? Each session runs for four weeks (Mon.–Fri.) at a very

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• *WPCC continued from page 21* •

MORE NEWS: The WPCC is updating the ordinance that regulates on-site sewage disposal systems (septic systems) to bring the wording into closer conformity with the Connecticut Public Health Code, which has been updated since the ordinance was originally adopted. The updates are also intended to make the document more readable. There are no changes proposed that will affect the current regulations regarding construction, pumpouts or reporting of septic systems. It is anticipated that the revisions will be presented to the Board of Selectmen this spring and will go to a Town Meeting vote in the summer of 2012.

— Marilyn Ozols, Chairman Westbrook Water Pollution Control Commission

• *Westbrook Recreation continued from page 22* •

reasonable rate. Children may also sign up for certain days each week, at a higher cost per day.

The Westbrook Recreation Board hopes that all of our residents had a happy, safe and fun summer. Please don't delay and register for our Fall programs. If you are not a Westbrook resident and want to receive our brochure, please call us at 1-860-399-3095. Find out why people everywhere are saying: "Westbrook Recreation has programs for everyone and the benefits are endless!"

— The Westbrook Recreation Board

"Hog Wild Smoking Que" Westbrook Beach Concession Stand

The Beach Concession Stand, located at the Town Beach in Westbrook, is under new management with expanded services. Look for Grand Opening end of May. All residents are encouraged to take advantage of this excellent resource for our community.

Westbrook Lions Club Annual Potato Fest

Saturday, August 11 on the Westbrook Green.



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Westbrook Garden Club

Grow with Us! - The Westbrook Garden Club was started in 1957. We are a non-profit organization whose mission is to:

"Promote interest, understanding and education of gardening, horticulture and floral design; beautify our community and conserve our natural resources"

Our members were very busy this winter working on several projects to improve our community. First we decorated forty spots around the town with greens and holiday decorations. Then while preparing for spring planting, we discovered the window boxes surrounding the town green were rotting and needed replacement. We sprang into action. With the help of Jack Keough and Lester Royea twenty two new red cedar window boxes have been built and installed. Thanks also to John Riggio and his team for adjusting the brackets to fit the new boxes. These new boxes are made of a weather resistant material that look great and should last a long time. In May, watch for our spring floral displays in white, lavender and pink all around town.

The club is excited to launch its campaign to add 12 active members in 2012. There are several outings planned to initiate new members. To become a member – and "Grow with Us" - please email westbrookgardenclub@yahoo.com. We are always looking for garden enthusiasts to participate in a wide range of activities to help achieve our objectives.

The Westbrook Garden Club meets on the forth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Westbrook Public Library. All are invited to come and enjoy the club's free educational presentations. May 22nd: "Flower Arranging" presented by Ann Mott.

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