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Youth & Family Services
Recreation Board
Adopt-a-Spot
*and more!***



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First Selectman's Corner

In the course of each month, there are many events, activities, and services available to our residents. I wish to direct your attention to just some of the major developments that occur thanks to all of our dedicated volunteers; staff; board and commission members; business and community leaders; and elected officials at the local, state, and national level. It is the synergy of all of these entities that make it possible for the following to occur:

- As many of you know, when you received your annual tax bill, you noticed a slight decrease from last year. Thanks to the efforts of all our municipal employees, Board of Education, Board of Finance, Finance Director, and others who put forth a budget that required NO NEW TAXES. This was done at a time of great uncertainty at the state and federal level, and also there were no cuts in any services or programs for Westbrook.

- The outer channel of the Patchogue River has been completely dredged again with an appropriation from Congress. The inner channel, up to the Singing Bridge, will also be dredged at no expense to Westbrook as a result of state bond money in the amount of \$750,000 that was approved on July 8, 2011 and an additional sum of \$683,000 that has been reallocated from unused dredging funds from Old Saybrook. The economic impact of this funding of \$1.4 million dollars cannot be underestimated in Westbrook since our marine industry is vital to the continuous economic growth of our community.

- Old Clinton Road has been repaved as a result of funding from the State of Connecticut (approximately \$350,000).

- Westbrook was one of six towns that was the recipient of a \$240,000 Regional Energy Grant to assist our respective communities to be more "green." We anticipate procuring our energy on a regional basis, thereby reducing our own local costs.

- Southern Connecticut Gas, at no expense to the town, installed a gas line up East Pond Meadow Road and McVeagh Road to the high school for two new boilers that have been replaced.

- All electronic waste can be taken to our landfill and, at no cost to our residents, will be picked up by an outside contractor. As of 7/1/11, three months into the program, at least \$7,000 of resident's money has been saved because of this service. The alternative would be to take the material to the Essex landfill at a cost of \$40 per vehicle.

- This is the second year that we have made beach passes available at no cost to our residents. At last count, over 1,200 individuals have come to the Selectman's Office to obtain their beach



First Selectman Noel Bishop

continued on page 2

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

passes. Westbrook is extremely fortunate that we are located on Long Island Sound and so many individuals enjoy our beaches.

- Obviously, the above projects have saved considerable taxpayer dollars.

- Our tax collection rate is over 99 percent. Because of your support through taxes, our community can continue to offer many services and programs.

- From July 6 through July 9, our Annual Fireman's Carnival. Hundreds of families come, as they have for the past 40 years, to enjoy the rides, games, and food. Loren Baker was one of the original individuals who helped organize this event, with excellent support from many dedicated committee members. All of the firemen, and many of their families, are there each night providing service and support, primarily in preparing the food. Many of us don't realize that our fire department is totally voluntary and this is but one example of what all of them do to be of support and service to this community. Congratulations to all of you.

- I would like to extend our thanks for the excellent fireworks display on July 5, 2011, sponsored by Water's Edge. Water's Edge is just one example of corporate support and the majority of our other businesses contribute time and financial resources each year as sponsors to dozens of our programs and activities.

- As First Selectman, I want to thank all of our municipal employees and the volunteers who serve on our boards and

commissions for the tremendous support that they provide on a daily basis to our residents. This past winter, despite multiple snow storms, our Public Works Department kept our roads open and safe. I would encourage you to take the time to thank an employee who works either for our municipal government or school for their continued service on your behalf. Did you know, for example, that over \$650,000 of scholarship money was made available to this year's senior class?

- Westbrook has submitted a Plan of Conservation and Development as required by the state. This major document represented almost two years of hard work by many volunteers, including our Town Planner. Its importance cannot be underestimated as we move forward with all aspects of development for our community.

- Our Park and Rec Department continues to expand and offers dozens of programs for our youth.

In summary, these are just some of the major highlights of events in Westbrook and by no means is an exclusive list. Each of you individually, and by your collective participation, do so much to make Westbrook a great community.

— *First Selectman Noel Bishop*



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Miss Mulvey Says Thanks

As I sit here and write this article, Miss Mulvey lies contentedly purring in my lap, and I can't help but wonder what she would say, if she could talk, to all of the generous people who have donated money to her. Even if she could talk, I think that she would be unable to find the words to express her gratitude for the overwhelming response to our earlier plea for help paying for her dental procedure. She pulled through her surgery perfectly, with no complications or issues, and made a speedy recovery. Thanks to the generosity of the Town Hall employees and the many Westbrook residents, and residents throughout the shoreline, the Miss Mulvey Fund is well on its way to recovery as well. We at Town Hall, along with Miss Mulvey, want to express our sincerest thanks to everyone who contributed. We would also like to give a special shout out to the second graders at Daisy Ingraham Elementary School who, after a field trip to the Mulvey Center where they met Miss Mulvey and learned of her surgery, went back to their classes and collected funds for our beloved kitty. It was an incredibly kind and heartwarming gesture, and we are truly touched. You will always be welcome to come and say hi to Mulvey, as is everybody. You have all made sure that our happy, healthy kitty will stay that way. So while she can't talk, I think Miss Mulvey's purrs say it all. We would also like to thank

Dr. Fedorich and his staff at the Animal Hospital of Old Saybrook for taking such good care of her.

Thank you.

— Catie Marino and Jill Brainerd



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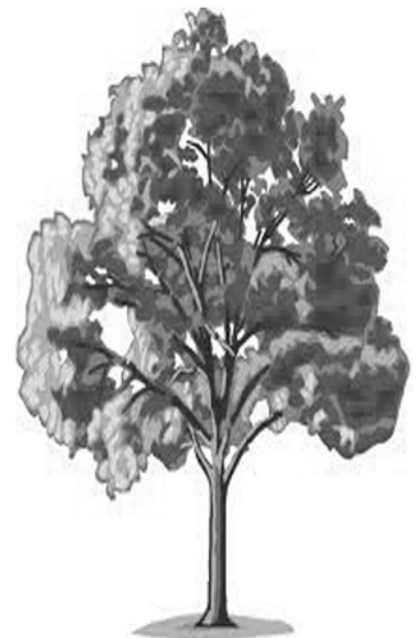
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Events

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Westbrook Events

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Social Services

The primary responsibility of the Westbrook Social Service Dept is to temporarily help people in need as well as refer them to programs or agencies that may be more appropriate for their needs. The director attends meetings that can assist those in need, as well as to become aware of programs that are available in the surrounding towns. Social Services works with the Salvation Army and Youth and Family Services as with other agencies in town.

Besides working within the community for the holidays, Social Services helps its clients fill out applications for programs such as SSD, Social Security, Title XIX, and Food Stamps. The Social Service Department is located in the Senior Center in the Town Hall. The Social Service Dept. is now accepting canned foods for the food pantry located at the Town Hall for residents in the Town of Westbrook. I would like to thank all the people for their generous donation to the food pantry. Please continue to donate canned foods to the pantry.

— Sharon Lessard, Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Registrar of Voters

The Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at the Mulvey Municipal Center, 866 Boston Post Road, Westbrook, CT in the Multi-Purpose Room from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are not a registered voter, you may get an application at the Registrars' or Town Clerk's Office. The regularly scheduled Registrars' Office hours are each Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and Thursday from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. You may also call to make an appointment at 860-399-3042.

A reminder to all registered voters: Please inform the Registrars if you have had any change of name, address, telephone number, or want to change your party affiliation. It is important that we have your most current information for our records so that your right to vote is not compromised.

Any registered voter on the active list, if unable to vote in person, may vote by absentee ballot for one of the following reasons: 1) absence from the town during all hours of voting, 2) illness, 3) physical disability, 4) active service in the U.S. Armed Forces, 5) religious tenets that forbid secular activity on the day of election, primary, or referendum, 6) service as an election official at a polling place other than the official's usual place of voting during all hours of voting. Absentee ballots are available only from the Town Clerk beginning on the 31st day before an election and the 21st day before a primary, upon application properly made, either in person or by mail to the Town Clerk.

— Barbara G. Lupa, Nancy R. Moore, Registrars of Voters

For town updates & information:

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Westbrook Harbor Management Commission

After several false starts, the entry channel from Duck Island Roads to Westbrook Harbor has been thoroughly dredged to a minimum of nine feet by the Army Corps of Engineers dredge, the *Currituck*. A sum of \$768,000 in federal funds originally allocated to Old Saybrook for dredging in North Cove is in the process of being redirected to Westbrook to allow dredging of Westbrook Harbor's federal channel, which goes up the Patchogue River to the Singing Bridge at Route 1. That redirection is being orchestrated by our federal lawmakers, Joe Courtney, Joe Lieberman, and Richard Blumenthal with the assent of both the First Selectman and the Harbor Management Commission Chairman in Old Saybrook. Another \$750,000 in funding was approved by

the State Bond Commission Meeting on July 8. The combination of those funds will allow the Army Corps of Engineers to contract for dredging the entire harbor to its design depth of 8+1 feet in the fall of 2012. The last time the entire harbor was completely dredged was in 1984, with a touchup in 1997.

The HMC is also working on a state-required comprehensive Harbor Management Plan. Thus far new ordinances regarding docks above Route 1 on the Patchogue River and the town mooring area in the federal anchorage in the Patchogue have been proposed and will go to town meeting shortly.

— John Rie, Chairman

Westbrook Historical Society

Located on the Town Green and open Saturdays 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and Wednesday 10:00 a.m.-Noon. *Westbrook History: Happenings and Hearsay* has been reprinted and is available for purchase. Our 32nd "Day on the Green" will be held on September 17, with a rain date of September 18. There will be a special exhibit in the building, crafters, antique dealers, bake sale, and

tag sale on the green. The Boy Scouts will provide food. Come out and see over 300 years of local history and look for that special something at the tag sale, enjoy lunch, and start your Christmas shopping early at the crafters' booths. Mark your calendars. Call (860) 399-7361 or (860) 399-7294 for more information.

Save the Dates

August 20th – Westbrook Lions Club
Potato Fest. Town Green.
Rain Date August 21th.

August 27th – Westbrook Drum Corp
52nd Annual Muster Parade.

August 27th – First Congregational
Church Fair. Town Green.

September 5th – Labor Day.
Town Hall Closed.

September 17th – Historical Society Day
on Green. Rain Date September 18th.

Turtle Café

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What's Happening in the Town Clerk's Office?

Greetings, Fellow Townspeople.

One of the many duties of the Town Clerk's office is to receive notifications of various town and public meetings, hearings, etc. A few examples of these notices that require posting for the public's information are legal notices, public hearing notices, special and regular meeting agendas, and minutes for those meetings.

Each board and commission is responsible for filing their minutes and agendas with our office in a timely fashion to be in compliance with state statutes and the Freedom of Information Act (FOI).

The statute that addresses the location of where the notices are to be posted for public information is CGS Section 7-3.

Warning of town and other meetings.

Not only are there special requirements for filing dates with newspaper publication deadlines and circulation; in addition, all notices shall "be placed upon a signpost or other exterior place near the office of the town clerk of such town and at such other place or places as may be designated."

The Town Clerk's Office will continue to post all notices as it has in the past, in the same locations. These two locations are a) inside the Municipal Building; inside the cabinet on the wall just before the town clerk's office and b) outside posting cabinet at the rear entry of the Mulvey Municipal Building.

I wish you all a safe and peaceful summer.

— Joan S. Angelini, Westbrook Town Clerk

The Leukemia Cup Regatta

The Leukemia Cup Regatta presented by Comcast will be held in Westbrook on Saturday, August 27, 2011. This ECSA Bonus Point Race is organized by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) in partnership with Duck Island Yacht Club, North Cove Yacht Club, and Brewer Pilots Point Marina and includes

spinnaker, non-spinnaker, and CR-914 model yacht racing. This fundraising event supports the crucial fight against blood cancers. To register, donate, or sponsor and for more information, please contact the LLS at 203.427.2045 or visit www.leukemicup.org . Thank you, Westbrook, for helping save lives!

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Westbrook Recreation

Summer Westbrook Events

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 do programs for children from Westbrook and for nonresidents from all over the shoreline. Go on line or call our office for information on the next sessions. Our popular Summer Day Camp and Teen Camp programs are for children between the ages of 5 to 15 years old. Our Little Folks Camp is a three-hour (9:00-12:00) program for



children ages 3 & 4 years old. This preschool camp runs all year long and provides an excellent start for kindergarten.

Our regular Summer Day Camp program is extremely popular and fills up quickly. This camp is for children between the ages of 5 – 10 years old. Each year this program grows in size and registrations come in earlier and earlier. Is your teenager bored being home alone all summer long? Give them an option next year and register them for the 2012 season. Our Teen Camp is one of the hottest new camp programs on the shoreline. We have tennis, badminton, hiking, pillow polo, and many other age-appropriate activities.

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.

All our youth sports programs will be starting September 10. This fall, as always, we have our very popular Tot Soccer, Recreational, and Travel Soccer programs. New this fall Challenger Sports will be running our 1st – 4th Grade Recreational Soccer program. Challenger does our April and Summer Soccer Camps and will bring their international skills and knowledge. We would also like to thank Andy Caldaroni, our previous instructor, for his many years of service helping to teach soccer to all our Westbrook youth. Andy has helped so many children develop their skills and love for the game. Thank you so much!

This will be the second 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! We also have our other popular youth programs such as K – 4 Karate, Archery, and Red Cross courses such as Babysitting and When I'm In Charge.

The Westbrook Recreation Board hopes that all of our residents are having 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



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It's Storm Season – We're Ready, Are You?

As the person ultimately responsible for keeping the lights on in Westbrook, I pay close attention to weather forecasts. Right now is peak season for summer storms in Connecticut. Customers also remind me that it has been twenty years since Hurricane Bob hit our state and ask me if it could happen again. I tell them that we never predict hurricanes or any other storms. Our job is to be ready no matter what the weather is. Then I ask them, "Are YOU ready?"

CL&P encourages our customers to be proactive and informed. Do you have a "storm kit" (also called a 'lights-out kit')?

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has an extensive list of recommendations for what to put into the kit in order to be prepared for situations beyond power outages. FEMA's recommendations begin with the following:

- Water - one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days for drinking and sanitation
- Food - at least a three-day supply of nonperishable food and a hand-held can opener for any canned food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a weather radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both

They also recommend a flashlight and extra batteries, a first aid kit, prescription medication, a whistle to signal for help, dust mask to help filter contaminated air, plastic sheeting and duct tape to build a shelter-in-place, moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation, a wrench or pliers to turn off utilities, local maps, and a cell phone with charger.

CL&P reminds customers with life-support equipment to develop a plan. It should 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.

Generators should be installed by a licensed electrician. Improperly installed generators can feed electricity back into power lines, creating a deadly situation for line workers. Always operate generators outdoors to avoid carbon-monoxide hazards.

During any storm, always stay at least ten feet away from all wires! Assume any downed, hanging, or burning power lines are live and dangerous. Call 9-1-1 immediately. If a power line falls on your vehicle while you're inside, stay there. Don't touch anything outside the vehicle and wait for emergency crews.

Report your power outage by calling CL&P at 800-286-2000. We prefer you call even if you think someone else already called it in. The more accurate information we get from our customers, the better we can plan and respond to these situations. Our automated phone system rapidly processes your report and helps us speed restoration efforts. It also provides restoration estimates as soon as they're available.

For more helpful tips, visit our web site – www.cl-p.com. You can also follow CL&P on Twitter at twitter.com/CTlightandpower.

— *Brian Davis, Manager – Customer Operations,
Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P)*



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Student Volunteers and Teamwork: Conservation at its Best in Westbrook

Chapter One: You could see the weeds flying out of the ground as eighteen 5th and 6th grade students and two teachers from Daisy Ingraham Middle School pulled invasive plants/weeds from the native planting behind the Mulvey Community Center. The bus arrived June 8 at 1 p.m. and left at 2 p.m. In one hour the students, with assistance from teachers Anna Kuebler and Tammy Overchuck, loaded a pickup truck to overflowing. It

was amazing. Sweet fern and low bush blueberries, previously overwhelmed by invasive plants, now have a chance to grow and reproduce.

With guidance from the Conservation Commission Chairman, Tom O'Dell, the native planting and wildlife education signage along the walkway behind the Mulvey Community Center were established in 2000 by the Conservation Commission. Native plants were selected to provide food and habitat for birds, add texture and color to the landscape, and stabilize the bank to prevent sediment from reaching the salt marsh and Patchogue River. This spring Adopt-A-Spot (Libby Waldren) was asked to find volunteers to help weed out invasive plants from particularly overgrown spots along the walkway. Libby contacted the school and arranged for students participating in the Middle School Advisory Program to assist the commission. We are sure all those who use and enjoy the walkway overlooking salt marsh and the Patchogue River will appreciate the students, teachers, and, of course, Adopt-A-Spot's stewardship in helping to keep this peaceful "sense of place" attractive to wildlife and people.

Chapter Two: Trooping through the brush bordering Salt Island Overlook and neighboring Oxford Academy, thirteen senior students and five staff members from the Academy joined conservation commissioners to clear brush, logs, and debris along the



Students, teachers and Adopt-A-Spot w/ pickup truck and one hour of weeds. Photo by Tom ODell.

Busy...Busy...Busy!

It's hard to believe we're already half way through the year. So how has 2011 been treating you? Us? We've been busy, busy, busy. Helping both sellers and buyers in their real estate transactions.

Hey - it's what we do.

And here's what they have said...



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"You were ALWAYS available, you went above and beyond! Thank you." C.B., Old Saybrook, CT

"I feel your service and follow-up were fantastic! I have already recommended you to others."
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Students and staff with dumpster of logs and debris. Photo by Tom O'Dell.

birds. In the last three years invasive trees, shrubs, and vines were cut and the site cleaned for planting with native trees and shrubs. A planting plan is presently being developed to restore the site as a coastal forest with trails and coastal resource educational signage.

The commission also appreciates the town's Roads and Maintenance Department for bringing and hauling away the dumpster.

Chapter Three: You can help write the next chapter. Please contact Tom O'Dell; phone, 860-399-1807 or email, todell@snet.net. You are also invited to our monthly meeting the third Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m., South Meeting Room at the Mulvey Community Center.

border. It was a hot and sticky day in late May yet the "team" filled a dumpster to overflowing and created three more dumpster-size piles for later removal. This was the third time Oxford students have assisted the Conservation Commission with conservation projects. Many thanks and best wishes to all the seniors as they leave Oxford Academy and a special thanks to Dean of Students Leah Zell for coordinating and participating in a very successful work day to benefit the town's open space program.

Salt Island Overlook was purchased by the town in 2004 to preserve and protect coastal resources on a site with visual access to Long Island Sound and restore a coastal forest for migrating

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Herb Clark Receives the John H. Filer Philanthropy Award

Middlesex County Community Foundation is delighted to announce that Herb Clark has been selected as the 2011 recipient of the John H. Filer Philanthropy Award by the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy which was presented on Thursday, May 5th at the Council's Annual Luncheon. Herb and his wife, Sherry, have contributed time, resources and expertise to countless nonprofit organizations to ensure a brighter future for all who live and work in Middlesex County and beyond.



Herb & Sherry Clark

The John H. Filer Philanthropy Award is given annually by the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy. The award honors the life and work of John Filer, former chief executive of Aetna Life & Casualty Company. Mr. Filer was known for his tremendous support of corporate citizenship and for helping reassert the American commitment to private philanthropy in the 1970s. The award recognizes someone who embodies an entrepreneurial spirit and leadership in promoting the field of philanthropy and who demonstrates extraordinary commitment to help in others in his/her community.

"We are thrilled to have nominated Herb for this honor," explained Cynthia H. Clegg, President & CEO of Middlesex County Community Foundation. "Herb is a true asset of Middlesex County and he has such heart, and such a strong commitment to this community. He believes in the many nonprofit organizations which work tirelessly to make Middlesex County the best place to live. We are also proud to have him as a founding member of the Community Foundation and Director Emeritus of our Board."

Director Emeritus of our Board."

Leading by example sums up Herb's approach to all he undertakes. He quietly reaches out to help others and, without a word and by his actions, he encourages all of us to do more. He lives by the motto "Philanthropy Matters. Philanthropy Works."

Herb truly deserves the John H. Filer Award and is, indeed, a Good Person Doing Great Things.

[The Middlesex County Community Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in Middlesex County. Its two-fold mission is: (1) to work with charitably-minded individuals and organizations to build permanent endowments and other charitable funds and (2) to support local nonprofit organizations through effective grant making to address community needs. Since its founding in 1997, the Community Foundation has provided more than \$1.8 million in grants to more than 220 organizations for the arts, cultural and heritage programs, educational activities, environmental improvements, and for health and human services. For more information call 860-347-0025, email info@MiddlesexCountyCF.org or visit the website: www.MiddlesexCountyCF.org.]



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Care Packages for Soldiers

Shoreline Community Women has been sending care packages to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2006. We have sent over 800 boxes to date and do this through continuous community support from businesses, schools, scout troops, churches, and everyday citizens. We send boxes all year – not just during the holiday season.

We generally have 25-30 military addresses on our list – some are local servicemen and women. We welcome military addresses from anyone all year long – it doesn't matter where the soldier is from, since they are all fighting for us.

Our boxes are generally 20-25 lbs and are about the size of a copy paper box. Shipping costs are paid through donations we collect. Each box costs an average of \$20-\$25 to send, and includes toiletries, socks, wet wipes, drink mixes, paperback books, healthy snacks, and notes, letters, and cards from school children. The notes from the children are a big hit with the troops and we are always looking for more from teachers and scout troops. We put plenty of everything to share in each box!

We receive heartfelt thank you's from many of the soldiers, and they've said that it means so much to them that people they don't know take time to think of them. We are happy to show our gratitude to them for their service, and we know the boxes brighten their day.

Items we need: wet wipes, socks (white or dark), hot and cold drink mixes, nuts, hard candy, gum, instant oatmeal, sunscreen,

bug repellent (not aerosol), men's razors, movie DVD's (used or new), sudoku/crossword books, foot powder, healthy snacks/raisins/granola bars, trail mix, etc.

Drop off locations: Madison town clerk's office (see Nancy), Clinton library children's room, Clinton Sport Shop, Northeast Fitness Factory, Spazzo salon, Stewards Ace Hardware in Clinton. Monetary donations can be made to Shoreline Community Women, P.O. Box 51, Clinton, CT 06413.

For information, or if you'd like to give us a military address, contact Cindy Stevens, 860-669-1109, or email snowsblock@aol.com, or call Brenda Farrel at 860-669-0750. Thank you!

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

Learn how you can help at:

www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org



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Shellfish Committee

In October of last year, a five-member committee was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to determine the feasibility of opening Westbrook's shellfish beds to recreational shellfishing. Since then, this group has collected ten rounds of water samples and brought them to the state Department of Aquaculture Labs in Milford for testing. The preliminary results of the ten rounds of testing show that the water quality at many of the shellfish beds is good enough to allow the beds to be reopened to recreational shellfishing. Fifteen rounds of water testing are required. New ordinances must be drafted to set up methods and procedures to allow licensing and policing of recreational shellfishing.

In order for recreational shellfishing to become a reality, a minimum of twelve active volunteer members of a new shellfish commission must be found. Those volunteers will:

- Maintain rain records, collect and deliver water samples to Aquaculture department labs
- Set up and be responsible for enforcement, signage, and notices of opening and closing the beds
- Set up and maintain public outreach (a website is contemplated)
- Set up and maintain methods and procedures to maintain (reseed) the beds.

If we get enough volunteers and results continue to be as good as they have been, we would expect to be able to open our

shellfish beds for recreational shellfishing early in 2012. If you are interested, please contact the town clerk with your telephone number and e-mail address.

Westbrook Lion's Club Annual Potato Fest

Bring a chair and some cheer,
the potato fest is finally here!

Saturday, August 20th
Rain Date - Sunday, August 21st

Look for signs on the Town Green
for more information.

WHAT PROJECT IS ON YOUR LIST THIS FALL?

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Grandparents and Visitation Rights

It can happen in any family, as one generation disagrees with another. Sometimes that might be the teenage children having a different idea of “family fun” than everyone else, or maybe it’s a grandparent disagreeing with how their child is raising the grandchildren. Family friction is normal.

Sometimes, though, these normal disagreements can turn extreme. In Connecticut, the case of a parent refusing grandparent visitation resulted in new legislation to address the issue of grandparents and visitation rights.

During this recently passed session, the Connecticut General Assembly passed legislation to look into the issue of grandparent visitation rights. House Bill 6453, “An Act Establishing a Task Force to Study Grandparents’ Visitation Rights,” won approval by the General Assembly. The task force will study the legal and social issues related to grandparents’ access to visitation.

Connecticut General Statutes (§ 46b-59) allow grandparents and third parties to petition for visitation under specific circumstances. In the case where a parent forbids visitation, the Connecticut Supreme Court ruling in *Roth v. Weston* set a very narrow exception for such visits when a parent objects. It’s known as “the Roth test.”

In *Roth v. Weston*, a maternal grandmother and aunt petitioned for visitation with children whose father had terminated it after the children’s mother committed suicide. The relatives claimed that visitation was in the children’s best interests, although they did not contend that the father was unfit as a parent. In his response, the father presented reasons why he believed visitation was not in the children’s best interest.

The Connecticut Supreme Court said a petition should not be granted. It ruled that the above mentioned statutes would be unconstitutional unless it required any third party, including a grandparent or a great-grandparent, seeking visitation to make specific and good faith allegations that (1) a parent-like relationship exists between the child and the person seeking visitation and (2) denial of the visitation will cause real and significant harm to the child. These two points make up what is known as “the Roth test” for visitation. The degree of harm caused to the child would have to be more than a simple determination that visitation would be in the child’s “best interest” as argued in the case by the grandmother and aunt. It must be a degree of harm analogous to a claim that the child is “neglected, uncared-for or dependent” within the meaning of Connecticut’s child abuse statutes in order for a visitation petition to be granted.

Once this high threshold is met, the petitioner must prove the allegations by clear and convincing evidence. The reason for this is to guard parents’ rights against unwarranted intrusions to parents’ custody and authority.



State Representative Marilyn Giuliano

Should you be interested in this legislation or any other passed by the General Assembly, please contact my Hartford office at 800-842-1423.

— State Representative Marilyn Giuliano

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

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Deadline for the next issue of

WESTBROOK EVENTS

is September 30, 2011.

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.

Save the Date! Our annual Autumn on the Dock Wine Tasting and Auction will happen on Sunday, September 18 – so mark your calendars now.

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.

Estuary Quilt Raffle Tickets Available. Diana Britt, formerly



Left to Right: Camille Blok holding the second-prize quilt "I Love Life" and Mike Neville with first-prize Autumn quilt by Diana Britt. Tickets are only \$1 each!

of Westbrook, and Camille Blok of Old Saybrook have each donated original quilts they created just for the Estuary. The first prize autumn theme quilt is being displayed by Mike Neville. The "I Love Life" quilt by Camille will be the second prize in the raffle. Tickets are available at local fairs, our board of director members, and the Welcome Desk for \$1 each. Drawing will be at the Autumn on the Dock Auction on September 18th. Winner need not be present to win.

INTERESTED IN SCRABBLE? – Call Deb at 860-388-1611.

WOODCARVING CLASS: Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 9 a.m. Beginners to advanced levels welcome. This group of men and women met and did their first project. Call Ed Gorman at 860-388-5737 for more

information.

MASSAGE THERAPY AT THE ESTUARY: Weds. from 10 a.m. to noon. Massage is one of the oldest forms of healing. Soothe anxiety and depression, increase joint mobility, and help with chronic pain, to name just a few of the benefits. Call Sarah at

continued on page 17




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What every family should know about at-sea burial options.



Fulfilling a loved one's last wish to have their ashes scattered at sea is not always an easy task. SeaCeremony offers a dignified and convenient way to bid farewell at sea.

Operating out of Saybrook Point Marina in Old Saybrook, SeaCeremony offers any number of burial-at-sea options, including a special service for veterans.

For more information, please log on to www.seaceremony.com.

Or call 860-598-9090.

SeaCeremony

• *Estuary Council continued from page 16* •

860-710-1330 with questions or for an appointment. Sarah has been busy, so don't wait to make your appointment.

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 \$25. EMOTS is supported by the Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds available under the Older Americans Act.

MEALS ON WHEELS – hot meals delivered to your home. Call Diane at 388-1611. A \$2.50 donation request for those aged 60+ ; otherwise cost is \$6.25. Meals are supported by Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds available under the Older Americans Act.

Westbrook Youth and Family Services, Inc.

Check out our website at www.wyfs.org.

Kids in Our Community: We would like to thank the Youth Asset team and their Chairman Corey Thomas for donating the proceeds from Field Knight to WYFS. Thank you!

Counseling Services: We offer individual, couples, and family counseling services. We can help in times of transition, with parenting support, peer conflicts, and daily stressors. You don't have to do this alone! We offer a sliding scale fee and nobody will be turned away regardless of their ability to pay.

We are available to Westbrook students in the public schools during the school day and at our agency location. Let us know how we can help. Please call for an appointment 860-399-9239.

Programming

Autism Spectrum Programming: Throughout the year we offer programming for children on the spectrum or with disorders presenting similar challenges.

Look for our **Adventure Program** in the fall where children will learn age-appropriate behavioral skills through a variety of experiences in an outdoor setting. Curriculum includes opportunities for socializing, coping with stress, conflict resolution and dealing with anger, role playing and social rehearsal, verbalizing needs/volume control, relaxation techniques, artistic expression, and self-esteem building.

ASD Parent Support Group: An open support group for parents with children diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (PDD-NOS, Asperger's Syndrome, etc.). This group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, from 7-8:30 pm. Drop-in format. Facilitated group addresses current topics and relevant concerns of parents and their children. Note: Bring your child(ren). We have skilled clinicians available and a large group room with a Wii sports system, as well as other team games, to encourage socialization while you meet with other parents.

NEW Substance Abuse and Recovery Program: This program is designed to support people in recovery with their immediate needs (employment, housing, etc.) and in making long-term changes by helping them identify and cope with stressors and

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.

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.

triggers. Please contact us to indicate your interest and for more information.

Youth and Family Support Groups

We lead a number of groups where youth and families can find comfort and support in directed sessions with their peers and others sharing similar situations.

Our **Women's Group** is designed for women in transitions to support each other in life changes such as divorce, career, children leaving the home, or daily stresses. We will cover coping with stress, self-care, adjusting in difficult times and much more. Please check our website for the start of the next session.

Our **High School Girl's Group** is held during the school day at Westbrook High School and is designed to empower and support girls by helping them identify and focus on their strengths and learn strategies for coping with existing and future environmental stressors. Topics will include body image, peer pressure, societal influences, eating disorders, addictions, domestic violence, and relationships. We host Girl's Night at WYFS every other month!

Our **Middle School Girl's Night** allows the girls to come together to discuss a variety of issues that are typical stressors for middle school girls. Topics can range from boys to bullying as initiated by the needs of the participants. This group meets once a month over pizza and refreshments. If you are interested, let us know.

Do you have a suggestion for a group or program that you would like us to offer? We would love to hear from you. Contact us at Jacqueline@wyfs.org.

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Westbrook-Based First Niagara Bank Receives Honors at United Way Campaign Awards

On Tuesday, May 3, 2011, hundreds gathered at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell to honor more than eighty companies and organizations, their employees, and community leaders who contributed \$1,925,723 to the 2010-11 Middlesex United Way 75th Anniversary Campaign. This amount is about 3% over the campaign goal of \$1,875,000.

"Every year around the world, thousands of coordinators and volunteers are mobilized to raise resources on behalf of United Way," said Gary Simonsen of PrimePay, President of the Middlesex United Way Board of Directors. "That cumulative effort results in a total of four billion dollars raised across the globe. You are part of this worldwide movement to advance the common good for all.

"Your efforts are changing lives and moving the needle on community conditions," Mr. Simonsen continued. "And it's working...we are getting results and creating real, lasting change in the areas of education, income, health, and housing."

Middlesex United Way's Director of Development, Andy Heuer, presented First Niagara Bank with an award for topping \$10,000 in total giving as well as an award for over five years of campaign growth.

Other local awards included:

- 10% or more increase in employee participation awards to Wells Fargo of Old Saybrook, Stop & Shop Supermarket



Martha Burgess, John Delgadillo & Marlene Piche accept First Niagara's award for campaign growth and total giving at the 2010-11 Campaign Awards Breakfast.

Co. of Old Saybrook & Clinton, and AAA Allied Group of Old Saybrook.

- First Step Award, which honors businesses and organizations that have taken that first step towards Living United, was awarded to Clinton's Henry Carter Hull Library.
- Awards for campaigns that have topped \$10,000 in Total Giving went to Stop & Shop Supermarket Co. of Old Saybrook & Clinton, Clinton Public Schools, and First Niagara Bank of Old Saybrook & Clinton.

The event brought to a close Middlesex United Way's 75th Anniversary Campaign, and the three co-chairs who oversaw the fundraising effort were acknowledged for their outstanding leadership and advocacy on behalf of United Way:

- Chandler Howard, President and CEO of Liberty Bank
- Larry McHugh, President of the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce
- Michael Roth, President of Wesleyan University

McHugh introduced the co-chairs of the 2011-12 Middlesex United Way Campaign, who will be Harry Eben Burr of McCutcheon Burr & Sons and Arthur "Buddy" McDowell of Middlesex Hospital.

Middlesex United Way is a locally based organization serving the towns of Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook.

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Editor's Note

In Westbrook Events 2nd Quarter the credit line for the Albino Squirrel photo was misspelled. The correct name is Denise Hussy.

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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 GEORGE FLYNN CONCERT (860) 669-1208
 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

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 TOWN CLERK (860) 399-3044
 TOWN GARAGE (NORN'S AVE.) (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
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VISITING NURSES OF WESTBROOK (860) 399-3088

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BUSINESS CALLS (860) 399-7000

FIRE DEPARTMENT (860) 399-9492

FIRE MARSHAL

BUSINESS CALLS (860) 399-3047

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

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WESTBROOK PUBLIC LIBRARY (860) 399-6422

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AUTO SERVICE OF OLD SAYBROOK (860) 388-6838

BANKS

ESSEX SAVINGS BANK (860) 388-3543

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BUSHY HILL NATURE CAMP (860) 767-2148
 PEQUOT/SHERWOOD DAY CAMP (860) 767-0848

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

PEEK-A-BOOQUET N' CUPCAKE (860) 526-2225

GARDEN/LANDSCAPE

GREENSCAPE OF CLINTON (860) 669-1880

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HOSPITALS

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 FOR ER WAIT TIMES www.middlesexertime.com

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TRANSIT

9 TOWN TRANSIT (860) 510-0429

Want to be listed on the Newcomers' page?

Call Ward Feirer at (914) 806-5500

Westbrook Residents... Weather Emergencies – Late Summer Early Fall

The latter half of August through October is considered the highest potential for a hurricane to affect our area. We can become complacent since we haven't had a hurricane in quite some time. Their paths can change daily, and predicting their direct path is challenging and can be frustrating.

Don't wait to the last minute to prepare.

Westbrook residents are reminded of the following steps to ensure your safety.

Before the Storm

- Listen carefully to announcements from the town regarding possibly evacuation notices. They can be viewed on the local TV channels and WLIS 1420AM.

- Disaster Plan: Have a plan with family/friends or attempt to stay at a hotel if a mandatory evacuation is made. Prior to leaving, leave a note on the refrigerator or other appliance noting where you are relocating with a phone number. Remember, you're not inconveniencing family or friends to let you stay with them.

- When staying at an alternate location and if the power goes out, DO NOT use candles. They are a fire hazard. Use light sticks. They are inexpensive, cool to the touch, light up a large area for 10-12 hours and can be stored for 3-5 years. They do not need batteries. They can be found at Walmart and other camping, outdoor stores.

- Disaster Kit: Items vary by family makeup and needs. A three- to five-day supply is recommended. Don't forget to take with you any cell phones, lap tops and their chargers and prescription medication. For more information on recommended items for a kit and plan, go to FEMA's website: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/index.shtm>

- Ensure your vehicle(s) has a full tank of gas.

- Do you have a map in the vehicle incase roads are closed and alternate routes are posted? DO NOT rely on your GPS dashboard device.

- Always have fresh, new batteries for flashlights and your AM/FM radio.

Emergency Shelters

- An emergency shelter is an alternate, temporary facility. Please consider your options of staying with a family or

friend or at a hotel; it will much likely be more comfortable for you.

- Residents are reminded NOT to automatically go to a shelter for refuge. Each disaster is different and has factors that will determine if a facility can be used. If the town's facilities can't be used, you will be notified of alternate facilities in the region. This information will be relayed to you in advance via TV and radio.

- If you choose an emergency shelter, regardless of the location, pack you vehicle with your disaster kit. Please adhere to all rules of the shelter. Reminder...guns, alcohol and illegal drugs are not permitted.

- Family pets are considered a dog or cat and must be inside an approved pet crate and leashed when walking the animal. In addition, you must bring in your own food for them. Service animal owners are exempt from a crate but need to comply with the other rules. DON'T wait to purchase a crate for your pet at the last moment. This item is a necessity for all pet owners.

After the Storm

- Once determined by officials it's safe, residents can return to their homes to survey any possibly damage. If damage is found, please contact your insurance company immediately. (Make sure you have copies of all insurance and other important family documentation with you in your Disaster Kit.)

- STAY AWAY from all downed wires. Do not try to move them with wood or any other material. It can kill you. Call 911 to report any wires down.

- Depending on the severity of damage in the area and to your property, you might be eligible for assistance from the American Red Cross or state and Federal agencies. Notification will be made to all residents.

- Use the following guidelines from the FDA about power outages and food in your freezer and refrigerator: <http://www.fda.gov/food/resourcesforyou/consumers/ucm076881.htm>

- Home owners using generators: Ensure the generator is installed by a licensed contractor. Failure to do so can cause damage to your home. In addition, the generator can back feed power to wires in your neighborhood possibly hurting or killing someone.

Westbrook Emergency Management (WEM) works throughout the year preparing emergency and recovery plans for its residents. Please help us help you by adhering to the recommendations listed in this article and web links.

The guidelines in this article can be applied to the many types of emergencies we are faced with throughout the year. WEM has set up a Facebook page with other helpful information. Click on Westbrook, CT – Emergency Management for more information. Our website will also be on line soon!

— Donald Izzo, Director of Emergency Services



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Middlesex United Way Announces Funding for Three Local Programs

Middlesex United Way Board of Directors recently approved fund distributions in the amount of \$964,304 for fiscal year 2011-12. This amount is \$45,000 more than was allocated in 2010-11.

This funding includes support to 49 programs in Middlesex County, the installation of multiple Born Learning Trails on Day of Caring on September 7, two future requests for proposal in Education and Housing, and \$30,000 for new opportunities this fall that will help United Way reach its Five Year Goals for the Common Good.

The breakdown of fund distributions by focus area is: \$148,156 for education; \$141,350 for income; \$498,080 for health; and \$130,433 for housing.

Programs in Westbrook supported by Middlesex United Way are: **Literacy Volunteers-Valley Shore, CT, Inc., Westbrook Public Schools – Healthy Communities Healthy Youth, Westbrook Public Schools – School Readiness Initiative.**

One of United Way's partners in the Healthy Communities-Healthy Youth initiative is Westbrook Public Schools. Patricia Charles, Westbrook Public Schools Superintendent, says "Our United Way Healthy Youth Healthy Community program is focused on enhancing the assets of Westbrook youth. Youth with greater asset capability are well adjusted and maintain healthier life styles. Our work engages Westbrook community members as role models and youth as valuable resources through a wide variety of collaborative activities."

In addition to these distributions and included in the overall amount, United Way 2-1-1 was allocated \$16,285. 2-1-1 is a 24-hour information and referral helpline that is available free of charge to anyone in Connecticut. 2-1-1 is a partnership between

Connecticut United Ways and the State of Connecticut.

Leading the program review and fund distribution each year are Community Impact volunteers who bring experience and expertise in health and human services. Four volunteer teams, based on the four focus areas meet regularly throughout the year, evaluate program performance and financial health, and analyze program results. United Way's Community Impact Council then makes funding recommendations to the full board of directors for final approval.

Kevin Wilhelm, Middlesex United Way Executive Director, notes "This hard work is done by dedicated individuals who volunteer their time to make important decisions. They have a passion for giving back and strengthening our community."

If you are interested in becoming a Community Impact volunteer or would like to volunteer on Day of Caring on September 7, please contact Middlesex United Way at (860) 346-8695 or visit www.middlesexunitedway.org and click on 'Volunteer.'

Middlesex United Way advances the common good by creating opportunities for a better life for all. Our focus is on education, income, health and housing – the building blocks for a good quality of life. United Way recruits people and organizations who bring the passion, expertise and resources needed to get things done. You are invited to be part of the change by giving, advocating and volunteering.

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

The primary function of the Municipal Agent for the Elderly is to respond to the needs of the elderly and the disabled and refer these residents to programs that they may qualify for.

The Municipal Agent helps the elderly and the disabled fill out applications and explains programs that they are eligible for, such as, but not limited to, Veterans Benefits, Conn PACE Fuel Assistance, Tax Relief Programs, Visiting Nurse, Title XIX., Homeowners programs, Transportation, Nutrition Sites, and other programs available to the elderly and the disabled.

The following programs run at various times of the year:

Conn PACE	Year around
Energy Assistance	Nov 5th – March 15th

The Municipal Agents office is located in the Town Hall at the Senior Center.

– Sharon Lessard, Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Care 4 Kids

Care 4 Kids helps low to moderate income families in Connecticut pay for child care costs. This program is sponsored by the State of Connecticut's Department of Social Services (also called DSS).

To learn more about Care 4 Kids, take a look at www.ctcare4kids.com. It has information for both parents and child care providers. You can look at the site to find out how the program works, who is eligible, and more. You can also print the forms you need to apply for the program; go to the forms page.

For more information, call 1-888-214-KIDS (5437), 8 am - 5 pm, Monday - Friday, 8 am - 6 pm Thursday. Care 4 Kids, 1344 Silas Deane Highway, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

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A Letter to our Loyal Readers from the Publisher

During the last 30 months our local area merchants have been overwhelmed by a deep recession. Many have closed, unable to weather the storm of financial uncertainty, while others are just hanging on, waiting for an improved economy.

We at Events Magazines are extremely aware of the problems facing local merchants and service providers. Closed storefronts and going out of business signs are now more the rule, rather than the exception.

It is becoming increasingly easier to order products from the internet, rather than traveling a few miles to our local store to purchase the same product. The excuse is almost always the same. . . . "I can buy it for less and I pay no sales tax."

TRUE, but when your hard-earned money goes to an out of state merchant, your local neighborhood store truly suffers as does the State of Connecticut.

Protect your local merchant. Purchase your products from your friendly store owners. If you don't they will disappear and we will be left with empty storefronts. Only you can make a difference.

*Buy Local David V. Winstead, Ph.D., Publisher,
Events Magazines*

Join the Fun and Adopt-A-Spot or Adopt-A-Road

It's been a first year of growth for Westbrook Adopt-A-Spot, with twenty spots and one road now adopted. In late spring Noel Bishop, First Selectman, hosted a luncheon to thank the adopters. Safety vests and safety cones, which were made possible by a grant from the Westbrook Foundation, were distributed to the thirty volunteers who attended the luncheon.

Keep an eye out for adopters sporting their yellow safety vests while they work on their spots. You will find spots sporting a small blue oval recognition sign all over town from the Town Green to several Westbrook welcome signs and to the Toby Hill Road street signpost. Yes, we have added roads as adoptable spots, too! All that adopting a road entails is a commitment to pick up litter along your section of roadway.

Adopting a spot or road gives you a chance to give back to your community; it gives groups and families a project that brings



members together for a common goal. Working in gardens and walking along roads has been proven to be of great benefit to one's health!

There are about twenty spots still available for adoption as well as your favorite road section between two cross streets. You can find the list of spots, an application, and guidelines on the town web site at www.westbrookct.us, or via westbrookadoptaspot@yahoo.com, or pick up information at the Westbrook Land

Use Office in Mulvey Center.

Once your submitted application and tending/development plan has been approved and you have begun work on your spot, an Adopt-a-Spot recognition sign with you or your organization's name will be placed at the site.

So, what are you waiting for? Get started and adopt a spot!

Roses for Autism

Roses for Autism is the first business endeavor for Growing Possibilities – a nonprofit social enterprise founded by Ability Beyond Disability that is dedicated to growing independence in the business world for individuals with autism and other disabilities.

Our Roots: Jim Lyman's dream was to improve the quality of life for his son Eli, through meaningful work and continued opportunities to grow as an individual. Jim's search brought him together with Pinchbeck's Rose Farm, Connecticut Autism Spectrum Resource Center, and then to Ability Beyond Disability. Collectively, they planted the seed that would bloom into Growing Possibilities.

Did you know? Adults on the Autism Spectrum hold many talents...yet today only 12% of adults with ASD are employed.

Our Mission: To grow independence in the business world.

How We Grow: In 50,000 square feet of heated glass greenhouse, our premium roses and lilies are cut and packaged daily.

Working with young adults on the autism spectrum we strive to:

- Build transferable job skills
- Build social independence
- Build generalization of learning

Call us today to plan for your next recognition event. We will customize...so call us with whatever you can dream up! We personally deliver to CT, NY, NJ, MA and we ship ANYWHERE in the United States!

Let us help you recognize your staff! Flowers for every occasion:

- Anniversaries
- Birthdays
- Special accomplishments
- Employee recognition events

Fragrant roses are available in 16 varieties! We offer 3 varieties of lilies too! Say "thank you" or "great job" with:

- Custom arrangements

continued on page 24



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Upcoming Fairs

Hamburg Fair	Aug. 19, 20, 21
Chester Fair	Aug. 26, 27, 28
Guilford Fair	Sept. 16, 17, 18
Durham Fair	Sept. 22, 23, 24, 25
Berlin Fair	Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2
Portland Fair	Oct. 7, 8, 9

• *Roses for Autism continued from page 23* •

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- Engage your employees in supporting a great cause
- Host a corporate rose sale for your employees and help

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We are a local farm planting the seeds of possibilities for the autism community. Your rose purchase supports the development of inclusive work place opportunities for adults on the autism spectrum. Thank You!

Pinchbeck's Rose Farm, 929 Boston Post Rd., Guilford, CT 06437, (203) 453-2186.

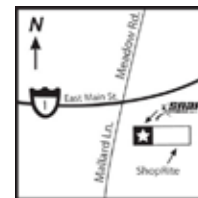
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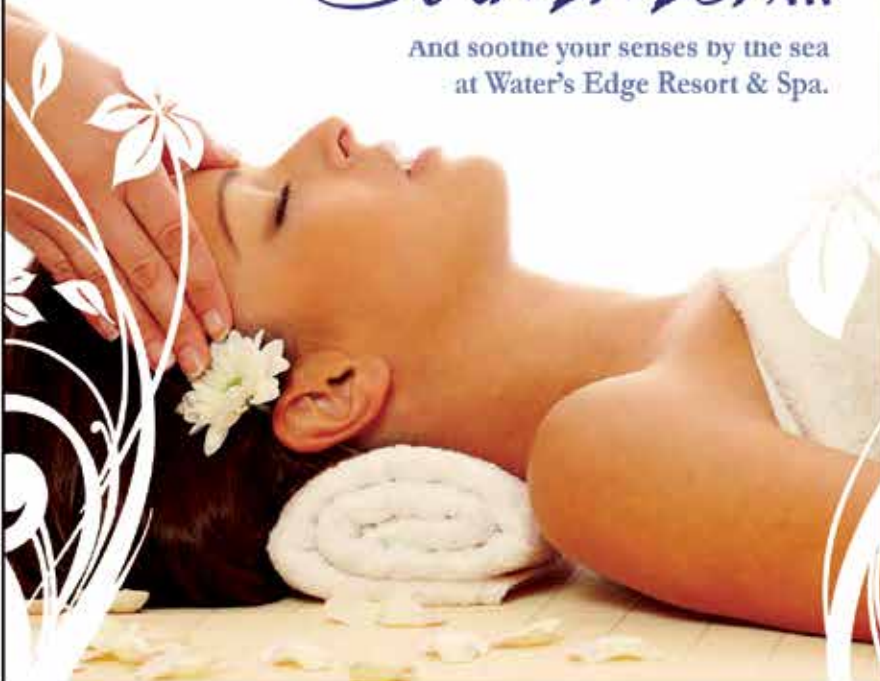
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