

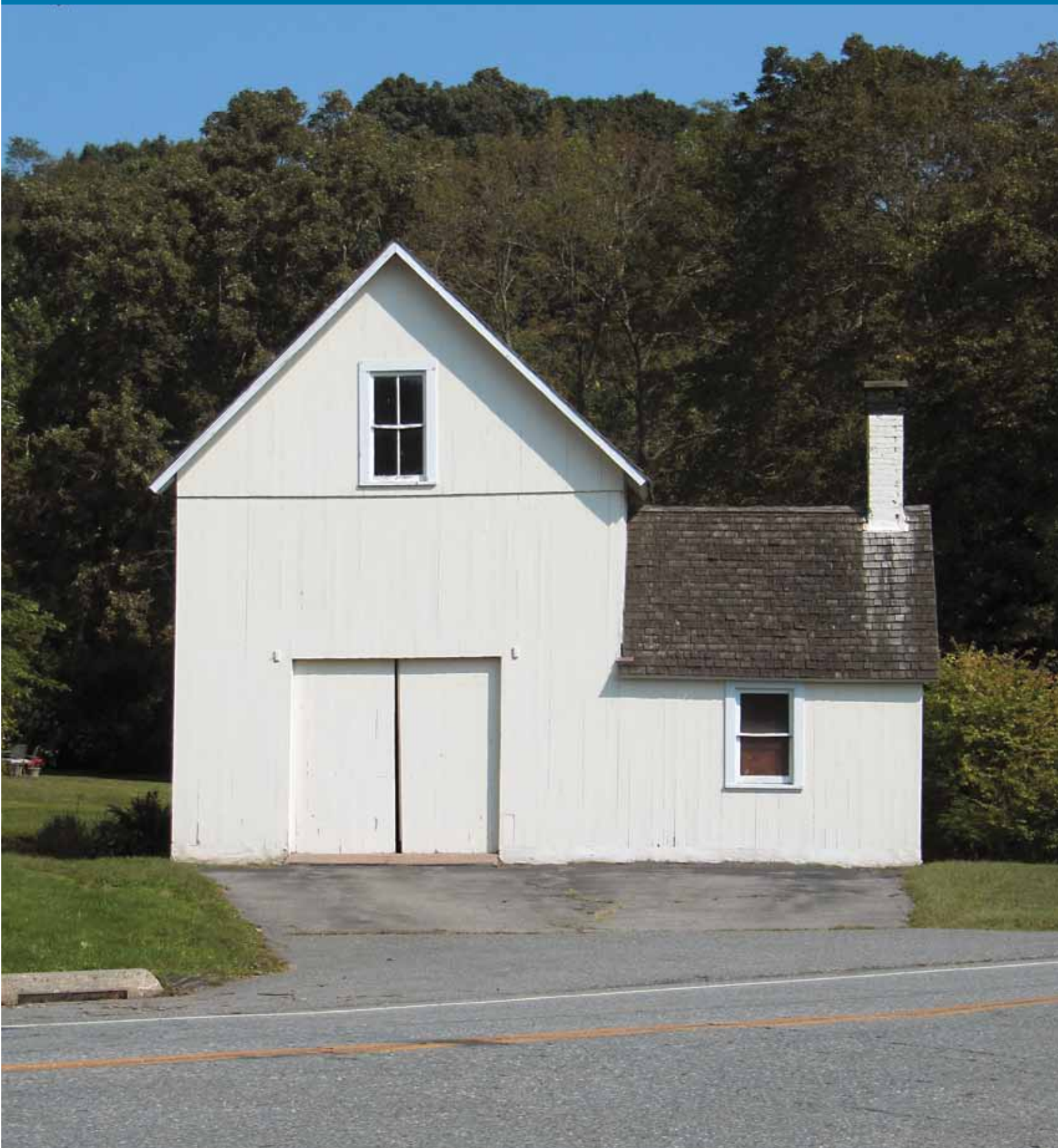
Chester



Events

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Volume 10 • Quarter 3 • 2011





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First Selectman's Corner

My name is Tom Englert and I have been appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of First Selectman Tom Marsh as he continues his career in public service as Town Manager of Windsor, Vermont. Upon his August 1st resignation, the remaining members of the Board of Selectmen, Selectman Larry Sypher and myself, had, by state statute, 30 days to name an interim First Selectman. At our August 16th Board of Selectmen meeting, Selectman Sypher agreed to appoint me to fill that position. The remainder of the term runs through November 22nd, when the winner of the November 8th municipal elections takes office.

Since I am employed full time and my time in office will be only thirteen weeks, the Board of Selectmen will continue to work cooperatively to administer the business of the Town as I fulfill the administrative role of First Selectman. This will provide Town employees and residents with a point of contact within the Selectman's office while drawing upon the experience and guidance available from the entire Board for decisions affecting Chester as a whole.

I would like to take a moment to thank Tom Marsh for his three terms as Chester's First Selectman, as well as his many years serving on the Board of Finance, Board of Education and Economic Development Commission. Certainly his commitment to our Town extended well beyond these formal positions. Thank you also to Tom's wife Kathy, who not only had to "put up" with Tom's busy schedule, but also served Chester as Republican Registrar of Voters for many years. To Tom, Kathy and family, congratulations on your new endeavor and best wishes for a successful future.

HURRICANE IRENE

Thank You!

Chester's Public Works Department, Chester Hose Company, Chester Police and Emergency Management all worked continuously before, during and after the hurricane to keep Chester's residents safe. Hundreds of man-hours have been spent ensuring the safe shutdown of the Chester Fair, clearing roads for safe travel, logging downed and damaged utility lines, monitoring flooding along the river, and checking on

the well-being of residents. Hose Company members also prepared food and drinks for our volunteers, Town crew and police and emergency management personnel during and in the days immediately after the storm. We should all be extremely proud of our volunteers in the Hose Company as well as our Public Works and Police employees for their dedication to our Town. Town Hall employees, despite having only partial generator power, no phones and no email/internet service, kept Town Hall open Tuesday through Friday to assist residents in any way they could. Being in only my second week as First Selectman, I greatly appreciate their response during this emergency.

The efforts of Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent of Region 4 Schools, and her staff to provide food, showers and comfort at John Winthrop Middle School to hundreds of residents of Chester, Deep River and Essex were amazing and certainly went above and beyond their normal responsibilities. The school was staffed by district employees around the clock to ensure a safe and welcoming environment.

I know there are many others not specifically mentioned here who stepped up to help in many different ways during this emergency. Whether organizing the public forum on the Meeting House lawn or simply checking on friends and neighbors, it is this caring-for-community that makes Chester the wonderful town we all enjoy.

Thank you to all!

Register for CT Alert Reverse 9-1-1.

The CT Alert Emergency Notification System proved to be an invaluable tool to notify Chester residents of important information following the hurricane. The CT Alert System uses the state's Enhanced 9-1-1 (E9-1-1) database for location-based notifications to the public in emergencies. However, the E9-1-1 database includes only traditional land-line wired

continued on page 3



First Selectman Tom Englert



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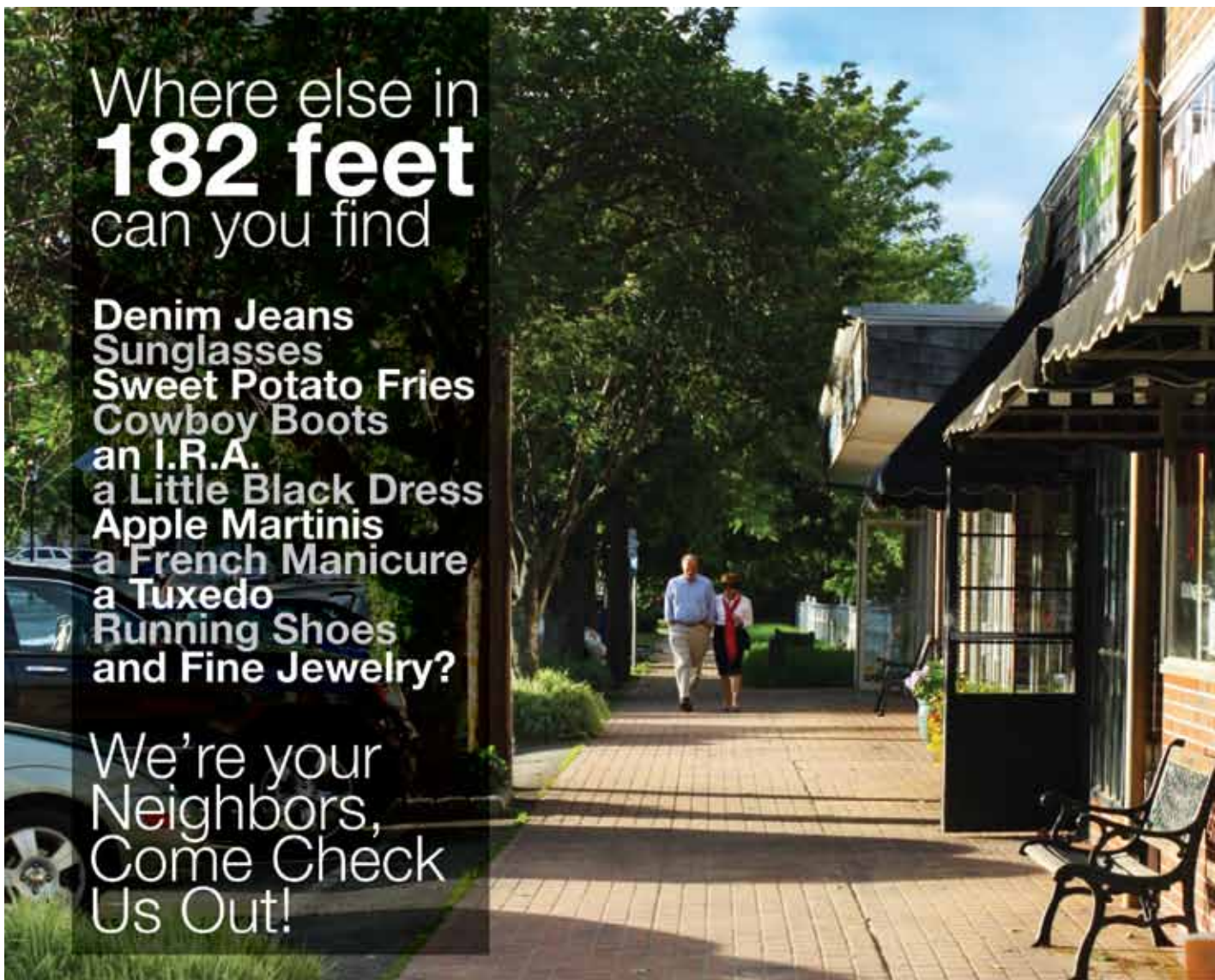
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continued on page 4

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

telephone numbers. Please go to www.ctalert.gov to register to receive alerts via cell phones, email and text/instant messaging. Registering is simple and takes only a few minutes.

Brush Pick-up

Chester's Public Works Department will be picking up and chipping branches that have been stacked neatly at the curb. Branches cannot be more than 4 inches in diameter and should be placed with the cut end toward the street to facilitate feeding into the chipper. Please do not criss-cross branches. This process will be undertaken as time permits and is expected to continue through October.

Budget Update

June 30th marked the end of Chester's 2010-2011 budget year. While the official audit has not yet been completed, preliminary numbers show actual expenditures coming in approximately \$1500 under budget. With actual revenues exceeding budgeted revenues, the fiscal year should close out with an approximate \$150,000 surplus. This positive performance is due to the hard work, cooperation and responsible spending of all Town departments.

Main Street Update

The Board of Selectmen is in the process of naming interested residents to a Main Street Committee which will be responsible for designing and implementing the reconstruction and overall improvement of the Main Street area. This project will include the resurfacing of the roadway itself, curbing, sidewalks, plantings and many other elements to create a welcoming village environment. Committee meetings will be open to the public with a public information meeting scheduled in the future to present the comprehensive plan and solicit additional public input.

Library Update

The Chester Library Building Expansion Committee, chaired by Cliff Vermilya, has received many proposals for the expansion and updating of the Chester Library building in response to their RFP advertised in early July. The committee now faces the task of reviewing these proposals to select three or four for further interviews before making their final selection. The committee has also been busy actively seeking out and applying for various grants to aid in the funding of this project.

Events Update

While summer is rapidly winding down, autumn in Chester is a beautiful time of year and there are still many upcoming events to enjoy what Chester has to offer. We are fortunate to have an active and vibrant village center with a unique mix of shops, galleries and restaurants, and most importantly, no empty storefronts. Watch for the upcoming Pumpkin Festival (October 28th) and Holiday Night (December 2nd) all generously sponsored by our Chester merchants.

continued on page 4

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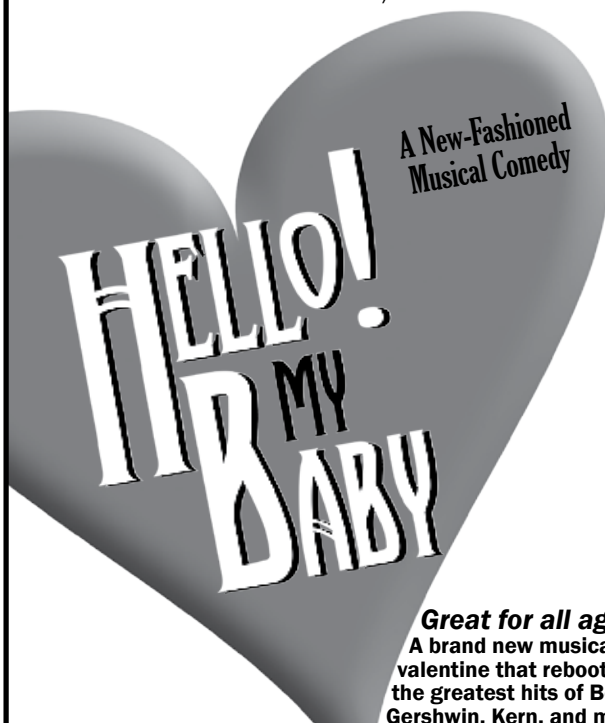
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MAGAZINES



Chester Events

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• *Selectman's Corner continued from page 3* •

Bridge and Road Construction Update

Connecticut DOT plans for the replacement of the Water Street bridge are on schedule for mid-summer through early fall of 2012, with actual road closure during the latter portion of this time frame. The Main Street bridge will not be replaced until 2014 at the earliest. The public water line extension along Route 154 to service the Denlar Drive neighborhood is moving forward with the goal of completing the project within this year's construction season, if possible. Locally, town road resurfacing and drainage work on High Street between Ridge Road and North Main, and Story Hill Road is underway and should be completed shortly.

Elections

Municipal elections are scheduled for November 8th with all three of Chester's political parties, Republican, Democrat and Common Ground, fielding candidates for elected positions. All candidates are to be commended for their willingness to serve Chester in the various roles and responsibilities required to allow small town government to function. Be a part of the process and cast your vote on election day.

Stay Informed

Signing up for the Chester email list provides weekly information and updates on events in Chester from the First Selectman's office. The list is used solely for this purpose by the First Selectman's office only. To be added to the list, email your contact information to firstselectman@chesterct.org with the subject "town email list".

Chester Registrars of Voters are Looking for Moderator

The Registrars of Voters are looking for anyone interested in becoming a Moderator. On primary day and Election Day, the Moderator is the chief public official at each polling place. The Moderator is the responsible representative of all the citizens of the municipality at the polls. The Moderator must preside over the polling place in accordance with the election laws, and must exercise authority in a completely impartial manner. It is the Moderator's job to make the process of voting as smooth as possible for the elector. This person must be a registered voter in either the Republican or Democratic Party.

Please call a Registrar at 860-526-0013 ext. 211 for more information.

Cookie Platoon

The Cookie Platoon is a group of volunteers from various towns, including Chester, Deep River and Essex, dedicated to the proposition that soldiers presently serving, those who are recovering, and military veterans need never be without reminders of home and the people who love them and respect the job they do. What better way to show our appreciation and provide a few moments of familiar comfort than to send fresh-baked cookies?

We meet every other month or so to pack cookies for our troops. It also gives us a chance to make friends and to share the fulfillment that comes from knowing we're helping to make the tough work of our soldiers just a little bit easier. In each shipment, every soldier receives five containers of cookies. Each container holds approximately a dozen assorted cookies. All boxes are shipped through the United States Postal Service.

If you have a soldier currently serving, or if you know of a veteran or a recovering soldier, please let us know. With your help we can continue to put smiles on our soldiers' faces by sending a taste of home to the protectors of home.

Our next shipping date is scheduled for Saturday, November 19 at Whelen Engineering on Winthrop Road at 9 a.m. The November 19th shipping date is our largest shipment of the year as it is our Christmas shipment. We send to over 500 troops.

If you would like to learn more about helping us bake for the troops, please email Debbie Schaefer at cookieplatoon@sbcglobal.net or visit our website at www.cookieplatoon.com.

Septic Tank Pump-Outs

In an effort to reach all households and save postage money at the same time, property owners are reminded to have their septic tanks pumped out and inspected a maximum of every 5 years and sooner if there is heavy usage.

The Town of Chester does have an ordinance that requires all septic tanks to be pumped out every 5 years as a safeguard for the entire septic system and to also benefit the property owner from potential costs with repairing a replacing the septic system. It is much more economical to pay a small expense for preventative maintenance than to have to pay substantial costs for a repair!

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

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

For town updates & information:
www.chesterct.com

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	EXT.	
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Robert Jenkins	860-767-3219	
ASSESSOR		
Patricia Stevenson	512	Assessor@chesterct.org
ASSISTANT ASSESSOR		
Sheila Ahern	512	
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FINANCE		
Peter Evankow	215	Finance@chesterct.org
ACCOUNTS CLERK		
Sharon Echtman	216	
FIRE MARSHAL		
Richard Leighton	212	FireMarshal@chesterct.org
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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT		
John Divis, Foreman	860-526-0020	
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TAX CLERK	513	
TOWN CLERK		
Debra Germini Calamari	511	TownClerk@chesterct.org
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK		
Sharon Echtman	511	
TREASURER		
Elizabeth Netsch	214	Treasurer@chesterct.org

www.chesterct.org

Chester Historical Society Begins a Busy Fall

From awards for exhibits to cemetery tours and antiques appraisals, the Chester Historical Society continues to be very busy this year.

Only two more months remain for visitors to see the new exhibit, *Chester Voices of the Civil War*, at Chester Museum at The Mill at 9 West Main Street. The exhibit, along with the award-winning *Streams of Change: Life and Industry along the Pattaconk* permanent exhibit, can be visited on Saturdays from 10 to 4 and Sundays, 11 to 2, through October.

And yes, we do mean "award-winning." The *Streams of Change* exhibit received one of only two awards presented this year by the Connecticut League of History Organizations. In addition, a national Award of Merit was presented to the Chester Historical Society by the American Association for State and Local History at its annual conference in Richmond, Va., in September. The AASLH Leadership in History Awards, now in its 66th year, is the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history. According to the AASLH, "the winners represent the best in the field and provide leadership for the future of state and local history."

If you haven't been to the Museum at The Mill yet, this fall is an ideal time to go. Admission is free for members; for nonmembers, adults - \$4, seniors or students - \$3,

youths (12 and under) are free. Do stop in before we close for the winter.

Cemetery Walk

Chester Historian Rob Miceli and Chester native Cheri Ferrari Habersang will lead a walk through Laurel Hill Cemetery (in the center of town) on Saturday, Oct. 29 at 2 p.m. Some of the families that will be discussed will be the Katie Wilcox family, the Sillimans, and the Brooks. To participate, just meet at the cemetery. Light refreshments will be served.

Antiques Appraisal

Do you wonder if the clock that your great-aunt left you is valuable? The Historical Society will offer its 7th Antiques Appraisal event at Chester Village West retirement community on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Experts in a variety of fields, from furniture to paintings and ephemera, will give verbal appraisals of your items for a \$5 fee. Judging from our past years of offering this event, this will be very popular and very informative. We will have a complete list of all the experts on our website, www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org, prior to the event. The proceeds from the day benefit the Historical Society. "Coffee and" will be provided by Chester Village West. Parking is easily accessible.

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**HOD #
591**

For Office Use Only:

Date Received _____ Payment Received _____ Check Number _____

Chester Parks and Recreation

American Red Cross Babysitter's Training. American Red Cross Babysitter's Training will be offered at Chester Elementary School on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 19, 20, and 21, from 1:00pm until 3:45pm, following the early dismissal from school. The training will help participants develop skills in leadership and professionalism, basic care, safety and safe play and first aid. The program is open to participants in grade 5 through age 15. The fee is \$40.

Mystic Aquarium Field Trip. There is no school on Friday, October 7, 2011. Chester Parks and Recreation will sponsor a field trip to the Mystic Aquarium for children in grades 1 through 8. The cost is \$38. Please bring a lunch and beverage. The bus will depart from Chester Elementary School at 8:45am and return at 3:30pm. The activities include a class in Beluga Echolocation, a sea lion show, exhibits, and a virtual rollercoaster!

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING PRESENTED BY THE CHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO AND CHESTER PARKS AND RECREATION

All programs follow the 3:00 dismissal and meet until 4:15 at Chester Elementary School.

Music Workshops. Fischer Music School presents a program to introduce children in Kindergarten through grade 3 to the basics of music such as singing in tune and performing correct rhythm through games, a variety of musical instruments,

dance and songs. Students will participate in jam sessions, sing, make music with egg shakers, bongos and kazoos, hear live guitar, dance, play the tambourine, learn about music notation, watch slide presentations and have plenty of silly fun! The program meets on Mondays, September 26, October 3, 17, and 24. The fee is \$45.

Volleyball. Get your friends together for a great indoor team sport! Join experienced volleyball player Christine Perry for a fun after school activity on Tuesdays, October 4, 11, 18, and 25 in the Chester Elementary School gym. This program is open to students in grades 4 through 6. The fee is \$20.

Theatre Workshops for Children. Children in grades 1 through 6 may attend theatre workshops on Tuesdays, conducted by Elise MurphyMulligan of Tigertale Theatre. The program will meet at Chester Elementary School on September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, and 10. Create a character! Dream up a play! Perform it for your family and friends! The fee is \$40 per session.

Science Fun. Children in Kindergarten through grade 6 may participate in after school science camp with the Parks and Recreation and PTO staff, at Chester Elementary School on Tuesdays November 1, 8, 15, and 22. Participate in a variety of experiments and take home some of your creations. The fee is \$25.

Karate for Children. Karate classes will be held in the multi-purpose room at Chester Elementary School by Valley Shore Martial Arts. Children who are in grades 1 through 6 will meet on Wednesdays, November 2, 9, 16, 30 and January 11, 18, 25, and February 1, with snow make-ups of February 8 and 15, to learn the Kempo style of Karate. The cost of the program is \$20 per session.

Roller Rink! The Chester Elementary School multi-purpose room will become a roller rink after school on Mondays, March 19, 26, and April 2. Skate to your favorite music! Bring your roller skates or rollerblades and a helmet. The activity is staffed by the Parks and Recreation Camp Counselors and open to students in grades 1 through 6. The price is \$5 per day.

Children's Creative Dance. Dance for children is offered on Tuesdays at Chester Elementary School for grades K through 4. The program will meet in the gym on March 6, 13, 20, and 27. Help choreograph moves to your favorite music! Dance, learn basic technique, develop strength and teamwork skills, become familiar with basic choreographic phrases, explore a new style of movement and perform your dances with returning instructor Christine Perry, BFA in Dance Performance. The fee is \$25.

In addition, the Chester Elementary School PTO will be offering costume making, drawing, Fun Fitness, Leggos, jewelry, reptiles, photography, and MORE!

Please call 526-0013, extension 223 for information or to register for a program!

Forms are available outside the Parks and Recreation office and at <http://www.chesterct.org/parks.php>.

Youth Basketball Coaches and Referees Needed! Adults interested in volunteering to coach youth basketball are

continued on page 9

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October 16, 2011. Trio Solisti Piano Trio – crowned the most exciting piano trio in America by the New Yorker Magazine, Trio Solisti is comprised of three brilliant instrumentalists – violinist Maria Bachman, cellist Alexis Pia Gerlach and pianist Jon Kliboneff. The Washington Post reviewed them as playing with unrelenting passion and zealous abandon in a transcendent performance. These qualities will be highlighted in a performance including Beethoven's great "Archduke Trio".

November 20, 2011. Bill Charlap jazz Piano – one of the world's premier jazz pianists, Charlap is best known for his performances with the renowned Bill Charlap Trio. Returning to Chester after an absence of 18 years, we will have a rare opportunity to hear Charlap in a solo performance. He is the great jazz piano performer of the American Popular Songbook. Jazz at Lincoln Center, Blue Note Records, multiple Grammy nominations, he has done it all.

• Parks & Recreation continued from page 8 •

requested to contact the Director at 526-0013 extension 223 by October 22. Please provide your phone number, e-mail and mailing address, and indicate the grade you would like to coach and days of the week and times you are available. Referees must be at least 14 years of age and may be compensated at a rate of \$12 per game. All coaching and referee candidates must meet reference and background check requirements, attend an orientation on Monday, November 14 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at the Town Hall, and complete first aid training within one year of beginning to coach or referee. First aid classes are offered free of charge.

The basketball program is scheduled for December 5, 2011 through March 4, 2012 for grades 1 through 6, Monday through Friday in the Chester Elementary School multi-purpose

room. Games for grades 3 through 6 are held on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings. The registration fee for grades 3 through 6 is \$40 and \$20 for grades 1 and 2. Shirts will be available for sale for \$15 for children in grades 3 through 6 who do not already own one. Basketball shirt purchases are optional for grades 1 and 2.


Adult Recreational Basketball. This program meets from October 28 through April 5 at the Chester Elementary School multipurpose room on Thursdays, from 6:45-8:30 pm. There is no basketball on school vacation days, when the school closes due to severe weather, or when there are special school events in the evening. Registration is required BEFORE playing. The registration fee is \$10 for Chester residents and \$15 for nonresidents.

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Friendly Reminders from the Tax Collector and Tax Clerk

Our July collection rate was excellent and the month of July went very smoothly but the last week, like usual, was extremely busy. One thing that we noticed this time, people did not read their bills. In some cases, the motor bills were doubled and we think the taxpayer was trying to pay the January bill at the same time, but there is only ONE payment for MV and that is in July. So we hope people read their bills a little better next time, and do not double the MV amount. The only time another MV bill comes out in December for January payment, is when a new MV is purchased, or DMV missed the

October cut off because of a late MV registration. The double payment causes a lot of extra work and extra time.

One other problem that arises is that more and more people are using the online payment at their banks. The online payment can take almost a week in some cases for the bank to process, and then so some of those payments were late. The checks were clearly marked by the bank as having August dates, thus being late and adding 3% interest. The interest is 1½% for July and 1½% for August and every late month after that becomes another 1½% interest. In the future, plan to do the online payment around the middle of the month, and certainly no later than the 22nd of the month, to be sure the check is dated correctly and postmarked correctly. Your name could be submitted to DMV as being delinquent if you payment is even one or two days late.

For those on the sewer line, keep in mind that the Benefit Assessment bills and the Usage bills for this year will be coming out together during September. Whoever's home is hooked up to the sewer will have the usage bill along with the benefit assessment, if that one did not get paid in full already. These bills will be due and payable during the month of October. We started the billing for Benefit Assessment in October 2010 and we received permission to extend the next collection to October 2011 and it will continue to be October from now on. This agrees now with the Sewer year of October 1st. There were originally 79 accounts and now 25 of them are paid in full, either because people did not want to have to worry about them in the future, or because the house sold, and the lawyers are requiring the benefit assessment to be paid off at or before the closing, so a lien does not stay on the original owner's name. With that in mind, anyone can pay off their benefit assessment at anytime during the next 19 years to be finished with it and not to worry about it in the future.

Our last bit of information is that we will be mailing out information for aircraft registrations sometime during the month of September and the new requirement is that the owner of the aircraft appear in person, and must bring their FAA registration with them for verification of all information. Our hours in the office are limited, so please don't wait until the last minute, but come in early during October on a Tuesday or Thursday or on a Wednesday morning to get the paperwork completed before the deadline of October 31st. Good luck and safe flying!

— Madaline Meyer, Tax Collector
and Deborah Pagel, Tax Clerk

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The United Church of Chester

September was a busy month at the United Church of Chester. The Sound and Spirit Concert on September 17th featured the Maranatha Band from the Dominican Republic, local favorite Cantico and the VRHS Jazz Ensemble. Proceeds will go to the Good Samaritan Hospital in the Dominican Republic and The Reverend MJ Hinchliff Mission Scholarship Fund. Also on that date, the Chester High School Reunion was held in Fellowship Hall.

On Saturday, October 22nd, the United Church of Chester will once again host its popular POT ROAST SUPPER. The menu will include tender, flavorful pot roast, real mashed potatoes and gravy, glazed carrots, tangy coleslaw, rolls, beverage and a special dessert. There will be two seatings, one at 5:00 p.m. and the second at 6:30. Tickets cost \$13 for adults, \$3.50 for children, (little ones under five are free) and may be purchased in the church office. Space is limited, so get your tickets early!

The United Church of Chester's CHRISTMAS FAIR is going to be held on Saturday, December 3rd from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Pick up some delicious holiday foods – breads, jellies, cookies, fudge, muffins, etc. – take a stroll through “Grandma’s Attic,” or just enjoy shopping for hand-crafted items, decorations, toys, knitted goods or Christmas greens and so much more – either for yourself, or to give as gifts to those special people on your list. While you’re shopping you can also enjoy coffee and a hearty lunch of soup and sandwiches

all home-made by the fine cooks of the UCC Women’s League. (Lunch will only be served between 11 and 1:00 p.m.)

On December 19th at 7:00 p.m., the United Church of Chester will hold a BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE, for remembering those we have loved and lost.

The CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE with children’s choirs, music and candlelight will be held at 5:00 on December 24th. The TRADITIONAL SERVICE of lessons and carols, closing with candlelight and moving outside to sing “Silent Night” to ring in Christmas Day, will begin at 11:00 that evening. On Christmas Day the service will be at 10:00 a.m.

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Tri-Town Youth Services

Tri-Town Youth Services has many programs and events planned for the fall. All are held at Tri-Town, 56 High Street in Deep River, unless otherwise indicated. Please join us whenever you can!

Babysitter Training. Learn how to become a safe and responsible babysitter! This American Red Cross program includes basic child care, first aid for breathing and bleeding emergencies, and injury prevention as well as topics to prepare young adults for babysitting. This class is an excellent opportunity to help students build self-confidence as well as job leadership and decision-making skills. Completion of this

course is a plus on your Job Bank application. The \$70 fee includes book, course and certificate.

The class will be offered on October 18, 25, and Nov. 1 from 6:00-8:15 p.m. This course fills up quickly, so please be sure to call 860-526-3600 to register soon.

A.I.M. "A.I.M." support group for families with special needs children meets every 3rd Thursday at Tri-Town from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Telethon 2011: Volunteer callers, your friends and neighbors from Chester, Deep River, and Essex will be making calls to fellow residents of the tri-town area during the evenings of Nov. 1, 2, and 3 to seek your support. A nonprofit agency, Tri-Town receives some state and municipal funding, several miscellaneous grants, holds fundraising events, collects program fees, and is dependent on donations to meet its annual operating budget. In these difficult economic times, your donations in response to our twelfth annual Telethon will be deeply appreciated, as they will help us to continue to provide a wide array of services to local youth and families as we continue to build youth assets.

If you would like to volunteer to help make some calls, please let us know by calling our office at 860-526-3600.

Fall Family Fun: Yoga Families! One of the best ways to help our children stay fit is to be good role models by exercising ourselves. Let's take that one step further and get moving TOGETHER using the fun, relaxing practice of yoga. Our instructor, Jennifer Ryley-Welsh, will keep you laughing, moving and breathing through one hour of family bonding. No experience necessary – wild imaginations and listening ears are the only requirements! Open to parents and their children (ages 4 and older).


Date: Saturday, November 5th. Cost: \$10 per family. Time: 10:00 a.m. Please call 860-526-3600 to register by Nov. 1.

Early Childhood Council Panel Presentation "Talking About the Preschool Years: Anticipating Full-Day Kindergarten." In September 2012, kindergarteners in Region 4 will be going to a full-day schedule. Come hear our panel discuss what full-day kindergarten will mean for your children. The panel will include a school administrator, teacher, social worker, and parent from another district whose child attends full-day kindergarten.

Meet: Chester Elementary School. Date: Monday, Nov. 14th. Cost: FREE! Time: 7:00-8:30 p.m. Please call 860-526-3600 to register by Nov. 7.

1.2.3 Magic! Parenting Workshop. 1,2,3 Magic! is a discipline tool that you can add to your parenting toolbox. It helps parents stop problem behaviors, encourage positive behaviors, and strengthen family bonds. Meredith Adler, Tri-Town's Parent Resource Coordinator, will run a quick interactive workshop on the basics of this discipline tool. Books will be available for purchase for those interested in learning more.

Date: Monday, October 17th. Cost: FREE! Time: 7:00-8:30 p.m. Please call 860-526-3600 to register by October 11.



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Chester Library

Monday Stories and Crafts.

Preschoolers age three and up are invited to join the Monday morning fun at Chester Library. Story time takes place at 10:30 a.m. and includes a creative experience in addition to the read-aloud story. The first Monday of the each month features music and movement as Judy Potter presents It's Theatretime! No need to pre-register—just join us. Story time is held each Monday that school is in session.

There's an App for that: iLib2Go

That's right, if you are an iPhone, iTouch, or iPad user, there is now a FREE app that allows access to the Chester Library catalog and your library account from your device - anywhere! Check to see if that movie you've been itching to watch is available as you leave work. Renew those books on your way to the airport. Download the App from the iTunes App store or visit the library website for instructions on obtaining iLib2Go. It's so, well, 2011!

What's New for Young Adults

Visit the library website at www.chesterct.org/library.php to find a list of the most recent additions to the Young Adult collection. Find summaries of the books, reserve titles that

are of interest. It's all there in the box headed "Young Adult Landing" under "What's New".

Top Ten Reasons to Visit Chester Library this Fall

10. Find newly released movies every month.
9. The copier makes great color copies for only 2 bits!
8. More than 200 cookbooks offer inspiration for the holidays.
7. Skip the gym, the steps to the lower level provide a great cardio workout.
6. Recommendations for good reads are free.
5. Bumping into old (or new) friends is common.
4. Passes to eleven, count 'em, 11, local museums and attractions are here for you.
3. See who's in the news on our Chester wall of fame.
2. New York Times bestsellers arrive regularly.

And the number one reason to visit? OK, we only mostly know your name, but we ARE ALWAYS glad you came!

Library Hours

Monday 10-8; Tuesday 2-6; Wednesday 10-6; Thursday 2-8; Friday 10-6; Saturday 10-2; Sunday Closed.

LOOK BACK

THINK AHEAD



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A Valley Shore YMCA Membership Saved My Life

The mission of the Valley Shore YMCA is to develop and encourage the growth of all individuals in Spirit, Mind and Body, in an atmosphere of mutual respect. This means different things to four generations of women in my family. To our six year old granddaughter, it means showing her family that she can swim independently, without a bubble. To her mother and aunt, the Y means swim and gymnastics lessons, as well as summer camp and teenage employment. To her great grandmother, the YMCA means mastering the mind-over-matter challenge of learning to swim in her 70s, despite a lifelong fear of being in water over her head.

I have enjoyed regular exercise at the Valley Shore Y for four decades, where I am a member of our local Board of Directors. I have also been influenced by the world community leadership of the YMCA, with its ability to connect people across the world and train them for community leadership and social service.

I recently experienced a health crisis which served to underscore the mutual importance of the three worlds of mind, body and spiritual health. I contracted a bacterial staphylococcal infection, for which my medical team could not find a cause. The infection rapidly spread to my heart and my brain. Treatment required three surgeries and

intravenous antibiotics to stem the infection. My cardiologist informed my family that there is a 40% mortality rate associated with endocarditis, and that the risk of three surgeries boosted that rate exponentially.

But one week after the surgeries, I was alive and lucid. Clinicians from other medical specialties (internal medicine, infectious disease, neurology, orthopedics, and ENT) joined my cardiology team and treated me over the next month. Three weeks at a rehabilitation facility followed the hospitalization. Although there are many unanswered questions about the cause of the staph infection, there was universal consensus about WHY I survived the ordeal. All agreed that my state of health enabled me to endure the surgeries and fight the infection. The recurring comment from the medical community was that "I did not look like my chart"; I seemed stronger than my records indicated.

The fitness I have acquired at the YMCA and often take for granted provided the strength to survive the surgeries and jumpstart a return to health. "Mind" and "spirit" components also formed a net that carried me through the pain and worry of losing my health. The strength of my family, friends and YMCA colleagues prevailed whenever I had doubts about recovery. I am now enjoying regular, although modified workouts at the Valley Shore YMCA. My cardiologist predicts that I will "return to baseline", eventually resuming normal activities.

My granddaughter learned to swim at the YMCA, and my daughters formed life-long connections with the Y. My mother-in-law conquered her fear of water at the Y. And I reclaimed my appreciation for the mind-body-spirit power of the YMCA. Thanks, Y colleagues, for supporting so much more than my physical recovery alone.

— Kathleen C. Laundry, PsyD, LMFT

Phase-out of Incandescent Bulbs Begins in January

The federally mandated phase-out of some incandescent bulbs is about to become very real. Sales of standard incandescent bulbs are up by 10 to 20 percent over a year ago at The Home Depot, according to the chain's chief bulb buyer. The new law won't ban all bulbs. Specialty products, including three-way bulbs, appliance bulbs, and those under 40 watts or over 150, are still OK. But not the bulbs that are most common in everyday use. Starting Jan. 1, manufacturers can no longer make traditional 100-watt bulbs, and following years will bring the elimination of the 75-, then the 60- and 40-watt bulbs as we know them.

(Boston Globe)



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Community Forum on Youth Issues: Where are We Headed?

Judy Buch, Speaker, Author, and Unique Performer, will headline at the Community Forum, 7-9 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 in the Valley Regional High School Auditorium. Deep River First Selectman, Dick Smith, will open the program, which will present results to the community from Search Institute's "Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors, a survey taken in January by students at John Winthrop Middle School and Valley Regional High School.

Judy Buch's performance will echo what our data reveals about how well we have done in building youth assets and where we need to go. In fact, ECHO is one of Ms. Buch's favorite phrases. She uses it to remind us that Every Choice Has Outcomes.

The Community Forum, organized by the Asset Development Strategy Team, promises to be informing and entertaining for all ages. For additional information, please call Gail at Tri-Town Youth Services at 860-526-3600.



Town Clerk News

This is a reminder that absentee ballots become available on Friday, October 7, 2011 for the Municipal Election, which is on Tuesday, November 8, 2011. Anyone who is eligible to acquire an absentee ballot from the Town Clerk's Office who a) is in active service in the Armed Forces, b) is absent from town

during voting hours, c) is ill, d) is physically disabled, e) has religious tenets, or f) is working at the polls in another town. Please know that there is an application process that has to be filled out first before you can be given an absentee ballot.

— Debra Germini Calamari, Town Clerk

WHAT PROJECT IS ON YOUR LIST THIS FALL?

KITCHENS/BATHS/BASEMENTS/ADDITIONS
PORCHES/DECKS/SIDING/WINDOWS

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A Note from Public Works

FALLING LEAVES....

The Town of Chester does not have leaf pickup. Therefore, the options are...

- mulching your leaves for compost,
- raking them to a corner of your yard,
- or hiring someone to take care of your leaves.

Do not rake your leaves into the road way – this will only plug up the drains and the result will be water damage or flooding when it rains.

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

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

West Nile Virus

The State Mosquito Management Program announced that a Bridgeport resident and a New Haven resident tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV) infection. The residents, between 80-89 years of age, had onset of illness during the 4th week of August before the arrival of the tropical storm. Both residents were hospitalized with encephalitis. Illness in both cases was characterized by high fever, confusion, weakness, and vomiting. WNV-positive mosquitoes have been trapped repeatedly at numerous sites in Fairfield and New Haven counties this season.

“Mosquitoes are still active, and the recent rains have resulted in areas of standing water that provide them with ideal breeding grounds,” said State Epidemiologist Dr. Matthew Cartter. “We ask residents to continue to take steps to avoid mosquito bites, such as eliminating standing water around the home.”

Last week, it was announced that a resident of Stamford had tested positive for WNV infection. Health officials said that August and September are when they usually see human cases of West Nile virus. While most people do not become severely ill from West Nile virus, people over the age of 50 are more likely to become ill and develop serious symptoms when infected.

The latest human surveillance statistics can be accessed at www.ct.gov/mosquito. So far this season, WNV-positive mosquitoes have been trapped in 30 municipalities across the state. Precautions to avoid mosquito bites include:

Minimize time outdoors at dusk and dawn; be sure door and window screens are tight-fitting and in good repair; wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts; clothing material should be tightly woven; use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors; consider using mosquito repellent - the most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin.

When using DEET use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home include: dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, tire swings; drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling; clean clogged roof gutters; turn over objects that may trap water when not in use such as wading pools and wheelbarrows; change water in bird baths on a weekly basis; clean and chlorinate swimming pools; use landscaping techniques to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

For information on West Nile virus and what you can do to prevent getting bitten by mosquitoes, visit the Connecticut Mosquito Management Program web site at www.ct.gov/mosquito.



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Family Go Kit

Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

Water

- One gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation.
- Children, nursing mothers, and sick people may need more water.
- If you live in a warm weather climate more water may be necessary.
- Store water tightly in clean plastic containers such as soft drink bottles.
- Keep at least a three-day supply of water per person.

Food

- Store at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food.
 - Select foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking and little or no water.
 - Pack a manual can opener and eating utensils.
 - Avoid salty foods, as they will make you thirsty.
 - Choose foods your family will eat.
 - Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables
 - Protein or fruit bars
 - Dry cereal or granola
 - Peanut butter
 - Dried fruit
 - Nuts
 - Crackers
 - Canned juices
 - Non-perishable pasteurized milk
 - High energy foods
 - Vitamins
 - Food for infants
 - Comfort/stress foods
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
 - Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
 - Flashlight and extra batteries

- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps

Additional Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit:

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- Cash or traveler's checks and change
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from www.ready.gov
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a coldweather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes.
- Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – When diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Fire Extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children



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Middlesex United Way Announces Funding for Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Other 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 Deep River & Essex supported by Middlesex United Way are:

- Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau – School Readiness Initiative
- Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau – Healthy Communities Healthy Youth
- The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries
- Child & Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut

One of United Way's partners in the School Readiness & Healthy Communities – Healthy Youth initiatives is Tri-Town

Youth Services Bureau. Gail Onofrio of Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau, says "Middlesex United Way funding has been instrumental in helping our youngest learners on many fronts. The funding has enabled us to provide preschool teachers with current professional development, access to best practices in the field, and increased understanding of state educational benchmarks. The social-emotional curriculum utilized in our classrooms has inspired activities throughout the year that builds communication and relationships."

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, 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.

Middlesex United Way serves the towns of Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook.

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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Fire Chief's Corner

Updates from Chester Hose Company:

During the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 the department responded to a total of 709 calls:

29	Fires	13	Service Calls
587	Rescue & Medical Incidents	12	Good Intent Calls
19	Hazardous Conditions	46	False Alarm & False Calls
		3	Special Incidents

We are pleased to announce the results of our annual July election of officers:

Chief	Charles F. Greeney, Jr.
Deputy Chief	James Grzybowski
Assistant Chief	Allen Alonzo
Battalion Chief	James Schaefer
Captain	Mike Whaples
First Lieutenant	John Brainard
Second Lieutenant	John Ahearn
Medical Coordinator	Kim Tiezzi
President	Dave Morrell
Secretary/Treasurer	Rob Wachtarz

Trustees

Bruce Rayner, John Divis,
Peter Tiezzi
David Dengler
Julie Anne Divis

Stewart

Quarter Master

Please watch our sign and come join us at the following Events:
Chester Air and Land Festival – October 1, 2011
Apple Pie Night
Wreath Sale
Santa Comes to Town
100th Anniversary Celebration – Spring 2012

Fall is upon us. Please use caution on the roads as leaves begin to fall. Rake leaves away from your house to ensure safety from possible leaf and brush fires reaching your home. We recommend you have your chimney cleaned and checked for cracks. Remember that you should burn dry wood.

We continue to stand by, proud and committed with highly trained personnel willing to help you in your time of need.

If you are interested in joining us, please stop by the fire-house any Monday night at 7:00 p.m.

— Chief Charles F. Greeney, Jr.

The Meeting House Players Present...

The Meeting House Players is proud to present Steven Dietz's new, laugh out loud comedy "BECKY'S NEW CAR". Have you ever been tempted to flee your own life? Becky Foster is caught in middle age, middle management and in a middling marriage—with no prospects for change on the horizon. Then one night a socially inept and grief-struck millionaire stumbles into the car dealership where Becky works. Becky is offered nothing short of a new life...and the audience is offered a chance to ride shotgun. "BECKY'S NEW CAR" is a delightful romp down the road not taken. Directed by Chester resident Debbie Alldredge, the production features an ensemble cast of talented area actors.

The production opens on Friday, October 28 and continues on October 29 and on November 4, 5, 11 & 12, 2011 at the Meeting House located on 4 Liberty Street in Chester. The curtain rises each evening at 8 p.m. Tickets prices are \$15 for Limited Reserved seating and \$10 for Open Seating. Reservations for both Limited Reserved and Open seating will be available beginning October 10, 2011 by calling 860-526-3684. The Meeting House Players is a not-for-profit community theatre organization. We pursue the theatre arts with the talents and interests of people throughout Connecticut.

— Debbie Alldredge, *The Meeting House Players*

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If You are Entitled, Then You Should Take Advantage!

Healthy, Happy and Satisfied... Out of the many senior citizens in the United States, **only one in three who qualify for food stamps are actually receiving them.** Some seniors are not aware of the Food Stamp Program or they do not feel that they qualify. While benefits continue to decrease in our country, the EBT program continues to offer more. This newly revised program could be the key to keeping seniors healthy and well nourished.

What does the program entail? The new Food Stamp Program involves an EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) food card, which is issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and replaces traditional paper food stamps. This card eliminates the need to carry food stamps and allows you to use your benefits in complete privacy! Your purchase will look like any other customers' who uses a bank or credit card. EBT is a food assistance and farm subsidiary program. Those eligible can receive help in paying for food. You can even have other people shop for you while using the EBT card, allowing those who are disabled to effectively use the system. Most supermarkets accept EBT payment.

How much help does the EBT offer? The food card offers at least \$16 a month; however, most seniors receive more than that amount. The amount given depends upon your household's income and the amount of bills you have to pay in your household. Some applicants may receive over \$100 a month.

The amount on the EBT card may be saved for three months; however, it is necessary to use your card every three months for it to remain active. Once you have been accepted into the program, you will receive your food stamps within 30 days from the date your application was received.

Who is eligible for the EBT Card? For anyone over the age of 60, there are a few guidelines to follow:

- You may own a home.
- You may qualify for this program even if you do not qualify for other programs
- You can apply for the EBT card regardless of income that you receive monthly
- You may not be a resident of a public institution, such as a nursing home
- An EBT caseworker will review your expenses and your income to see if you qualify
- If you receive SSI benefits, you may automatically qualify for EBT
- Single income limit \$1669.63 – Couple income limit \$2246.21

Can I buy everything with my card? Households can use food stamps to buy any food or food product for human consumption, as well as seeds and plants for use in home gardens in order to produce food. Households cannot buy: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, lunch counter items or food to be eaten in the store, vitamins and medicines, pet food and any non-food items.

How do you apply? Call Rosie Binger for an application at 860-526-0013 X213.

Comprehensive Energy Plan

The Energy Subcommittee of the Chester Conservation Commission has recently completed a Comprehensive Energy Plan for the Town which was endorsed by the Board of Selectman in July 2011. The Subcommittee was headed by Sandy Prisloe and Richard Holloway. Implementation of the Plan will be overseen by an E-Team appointed by the Selectmen. The purpose of the plan is to provide information and guidance to the Board of Selectmen and Town officials and to Chester residents regarding actions that will reduce overall energy use and the use of carbon-based energy sources and to increase the utilization of renewable energy sources.

The Plan determined that the major uses of energy supported by the Town are the schools (Elementary and Regional Middle and High Schools), street lighting and the Town Hall. The E-Team will develop specific recommendations for carrying out energy audits and other activities to determine the best approaches for achieving the goals of the Plan for these and other Town facilities.

In addition, the E-Team will work with the Chester Public Library, schools, Chester merchants and civic groups to

continued on page 21



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Chester Air & Land Festival

On Saturday October 1st the Chester Airport will present the CHESTER AIR and LAND FESTIVAL. The gates will open at 10:00 a.m. The festival is a celebration of airplanes, antique and classic cars, and tractors. World-famous acrobatic pilot Mike Goulian and his airplane will also be on hand to take pictures and sign autographs. The airport, located on the grounds of Chester-based Whelen Engineering Company, has long been recognized by local pilots as one of the premier general aviation airports in New England. The festival will be fun and exciting for the entire family.

The event will feature many of the airplanes that call Chester their home airport. The festival will also feature a car show with over 200 classic and antique vehicles sponsored by the Chester Hose Company. Whelen Engineering is also sponsoring a Tractor Pull. There will be plenty of great food provided by the Chester Hose Company and Deep River Lions Club. The Chester Rotary will also be selling "Historic Flight Sightseeing Trips" as part of the fundraiser. The 25-minute trips are being offered for \$125 dollars each. The charitable flights will all be scheduled with and flown by local pilots.

The event will truly be a community event. The Chester Pilot's Club, the Chester Hose Company, the Chester Rotary, the Deep River Lions, the Civil Air Patrol, and the Boy Scouts, along with Whelen Engineering, have all been working together for months to put the event together. The event is a not-for-profit fundraiser for local organizations. Tickets will be sold at the gate. **Ticket sales will be cash only, no checks or credit cards. The cost of admission will be \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under 12.** The Chester Airport grounds will be open from 10:00 a.m. thru 4:00 p.m. on Saturday October 1st, 2011. The rain date is Sunday October 2nd, 2011. Parking will be available at the airport and nearby parking lots along Route 148. Shuttle service will be available. For additional information contact Tom Riedy @ 860-227-4844 or AirportFestival@aol.com

— Debbie Alldredge, Chester Rotarian

• *Energy Plan continued from page 20* •

provide information concerning available incentives and assistance for residents and businesses to reduce their energy usage and bills and to increase the use of renewable energy sources.

The Town website now contains a page for the E Team which will include the Comprehensive Energy Plan and updates on E-Team activities.

WANT TO ADVERTISE?
Call Ward Feirer at (914) 806-5500

So Here's The Story...

(of why we started our new business Choice Modular Homes.)

For the past several years we have been searching for a great modular home manufacturer to represent and when we found the right one, we started our company Choice Modular Homes. In July we completed our first "build" and now our new company is fully underway.



Check out a few photos from our first build in Old Saybrook. www.ChoiceModularHomes.com



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Leslie Jermaine, #PRO
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14-A Elm Street, Deep River 860-526-8777

96 Cedar Lake Road, Chester 860-526-1433

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.

NEW! CHRONIC ILLNESS SUPPORT GROUP: Meets last Wednesday of each month. Call Eileen at 860-339-5531.

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.

STAN GREIMANN ESTUARY MEDICAL OUTPATIENT TRANSPORTATION For medical appointments, to any medical location beyond the nine-town estuary region. Call Judy



Representatives from the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme speaking with potential volunteers at a previous Volunteer Open House.

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.

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 pm on Saturdays. Clothes (men, women, and children), kitchen items, crafts, and more available! Donations are accepted and volunteers always needed.



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Nine Town Transit is Operated by the Estuary Transit District

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

CHESTER NEWCOMERS' GUIDE

Welcome to Chester!

On behalf of *Events Magazines*, welcome to Chester. Whether you are new to Connecticut or just new to Chester you will find wonderful people and places to visit in town. From the Winter Carnival to the Chester Fair, Chester 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!

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

CHESTER LAND TRUST (860) 526-4037
 CHESTER FAIR (860) 526-5947
 CHESTER DEMOCRATIC TOWN
 COMMITTEE WWW.CHESTERCTDEMS.COM
 CHESTER GARDEN CLUB (860) 526-3459
 CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY (860) 526-5781
 CHESTER MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
 WWW.VISIT-CHESTER.COM
 LIONS CLUB DEEPRIVERCHESTERCT.LIONWAP.ORG
 DEEP RIVER AND CHESTER VFW (860) 526-3521
 TRI TOWN YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU (860) 526-3600
 CHESTER MEETING HOUSE (860) 526-0013

LIBRARY

CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY (860) 526-0018

POST OFFICES

CHESTER POST OFFICE (860) 526-2780

SCHOOLS

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
 DISTRICT 4 (860) 526-2417
 CHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (860) 526-5797
 JOHN WINTHROP MIDDLE SCHOOL (860) 526-9546
 VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (860) 526-5328

USEFUL NUMBERS

CONSUMER PROTECTION (860) 566-2294
 MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (860) 347-0025

WORSHIP SERVICES

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH (860) 526-5495
 CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM - TEMPLE (860) 526-8920
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER (860) 526-2697

APPAREL

AZUL (860) 388-0016
 SOUTHERN EXPOSURE (860) 399-4445

ARBORIST

BOMBACI TREE EXPERTS (860) 767-1752

AUTO SERVICE STATION

WEST MAIN STREET SERVICES (860) 526-4004

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ESSEX SAVINGS BANK (860) 767-2573
 LIBERTY BANK (860) 526-6002

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BURIAL AT SEA

SEA CEREMONY (860) 598-9090

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HIGGANUM DENTAL ASSOCIATES (860) 345-4538

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CYR DRYWALL (860) 669-5488

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COLIN'S TUX SHOP & TAILORING (860) 395-0004

FURNACE COMPANY

FOLEY FURNACE (860) 526-5244

GARDEN CENTER

GREENSCAPE OF CLINTON (860) 669-1880

HOSPITAL

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL www.middlesexhospital.org

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BUDGET BLINDS OF OLD SAYBROOK (860) 399-6442

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 PETER CHARBONNIER (860) 526-1780
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 POLITO & QUINN (860) 447-3300

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 TEAM JERMAINNE (860) 662-0230

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Want to be listed on the Newcomers' page?

Call Ward Feirer at (914) 806-5500

Food Pantry

The town of Chester needs your help. We will be collecting non-perishable food items to help stock the food pantry for the fall. Items commonly requested include:

- Tuna & other canned meat
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Chunky soups & beef stew
- Macaroni & cheese
- Canned vegetables & fruits
- Fruit juice (cans, bottles, boxes)
- Powered milk
- Cereals
- Baby items (baby food, liquid baby formula, diapers)
- Personal care items (shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet paper, etc.)
- Coffee and tea

This is only a suggested list; we will accept anything. Please pay careful attention to the expiration dates, as we cannot use any item that is already expired. Thank you for supporting the Chester Food Pantry.

Energy Assistance

Statewide energy assistance programs that help residents with heating bills and conserving energy will be available starting in late September. Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) helps income eligible households pay their heating bills. State Appropriated Fuel Assistance (SAFA) helps the elderly and disabled individuals with their heating bills. If you received assistance last winter, you must reapply each year to receive additional assistance. Deliverable fuel applicants,

(oil, propane, kerosene, coal, wood) are urged to apply in late September, as deliveries for fuel begin November 1st. To make an appointment to fill out an application, please call Rosie Bininger at 526-0013 x213.

Animal Control

Well, another summer has come and gone. As we get set for Fall and Winter, we are reminded that while fall clean up can be fun, it can be dangerous to our pets. Pets are playful in the leaves, so be sure to check your pets and yourself for ticks.

As we get ready for winter, let's make sure our pets are all set too! Don't forget that the oil man is coming, so make sure your pets don't have issues with his coming into the yard. UPS and FedEx drivers will be delivering packages, postal workers will be delivering the mail and packages. There were many dog bites this summer which can be very costly – so be prepared - keep your pets and the drivers safe. Kids will be trick or treating and playing outdoors in all kinds of weather, so be mindful of how your pets interact and have yourself some fun and safe holidays!

– Bob Jenkins









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Comcast Launches Internet Essentials Program in Connecticut

An exciting new program by Comcast designed with the assistance of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to help bridge America's digital divide, is called Internet Essentials. In conformity with the National Broadband Plan, the program addresses key barriers to Internet access and adoption by providing affordable Internet access, the opportunity to purchase a computer and training to low-income families with at least one child receiving free lunches under the National School Lunch Program.

The Internet Essentials program will be available in the 2011 "back to school" season.

Eligible participants will receive:

- Comcast home Economy Internet service for \$9.95 a month plus applicable taxes and fees, with no activation fees, no additional equipment rental charges, no credit checks, no price increases and no long-term contracts;
- The option to purchase a pre-configured computer for \$149.99 (plus applicable taxes); and
- Access to online, in print and classroom based digital training.

An entire household will be eligible to participate in the

program if the household 1. located where Comcast offers Internet service; 2. has at least one child receiving free lunch through the National School Lunch Program; 3. has not subscribed to Comcast Internet service within the last 90 days; and 4. does not have an overdue Comcast bill or unreturned equipment.

Participating families may be able to benefit from Internet Essentials for the entire life of their child's K-12 education, as long as they remain eligible.

Additional information on the Internet Essentials program can be found at www.internetessentials.com. If you have any questions regarding the Internet Essentials program please feel free to contact John Bairos at (860) 505-3349 or email to john_bairos@cable.comcast.com.

Deadline for the next issue of
CHESTER EVENTS
is November 28, 2011.

reliable re-li-a-ble adj. Consistently good in quality or performance; able to be trusted

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Portable Generator Safety Tips

Portable home electric generators can provide peace of mind in the event that there is a loss of power. The Connecticut Light and Power Company encourages customers to understand how to properly use these machines to minimize electrical and carbon monoxide hazards.

Please keep the following safety tips in mind:

- **A portable electric generator should be used only when necessary, and only to power essential equipment.**
- **Read and adhere to the manufacturer's instructions for safe operation as well as state, local and national fire and electric codes.**
- **Make sure your generator is properly grounded according to the manufacturer's manual.**
- **Never use a generator indoors or in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces.**
To avoid carbon monoxide hazards, generators should never be used in enclosed spaces. Units should be located far from doors, windows and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to come indoors, which could be deadly. Install battery-operated carbon monoxide alarms in your home, following manufacturer's instructions.
- **Use the proper power cords.**
Only use heavy-duty, outdoor-rated power cords with an adequate wire gauge. Never use extension cords with exposed wires or worn shielding.
- **Don't connect the generator directly to your home's wiring.**
Have a qualified electrician connect the generator with a transfer switch so that it is not connected directly to your home wiring. If not installed properly, generators can feed electricity back into power lines that are connected to your home, and pose a deadly situation for electrical workers in the area.
- **Don't overload the generator.**
Do not operate more appliances and equipment than the generator can handle, as overloading your generator can seriously damage your appliances and electronics.
- **Keep children and pets away from electric generators at all times.**
- **Always turn off the generator while you sleep or are away from home to avoid a possible fire hazard.**
- **Turn off all equipment powered by the generator before shutting down your generator.**

To learn more about electrical safety, visit CL&P's Web site at www.cl-p.com, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission at www.cpsc.gov, Electrical Safety Foundation International at www.esfi.org or The National Fire Protection Association at www.nfpa.org.

Emergencies

The room brims with humanity's
rumpled look of something having happened.

They sign in and wait, sign again and wait
sitting in a narrow deep trough of silence.

Parents grasp children
brave and naïve before the sewing-up.

The name-call is relief
and so the soft civilities of the nurse
before the doctor enters, all assurance, answers.

A boy is hooked by his own fishing lure.
Cupping his eye, a man walks feebly by.

Systems chart the run of blood,
the start of mending muscle, bone.

The hospital trees bud and thrive
in the spring sun.
While everyone plans to live their lives,
and can't.

— Gerard Feeney

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- ★ Automobile
- ★ Personal

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- ★ Construction
- ★ Commercial Term
- ★ Line of Credit
- ★ SBA



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