

# Chester



# Events

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Volume 13 • Quarter 4 • 2014



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## First Selectman's Corner

**North Quarter Park Master Plan & Library Construction Grant Application Submitted.** On July 15th, the Board of Selectmen endorsed the North Quarter Park master plan which illustrates potential multiple uses for this 22 acre parcel. The plan recommends the majority of the park, 18 acres, be reserved for open space-conservation purposes to protect the unique fresh water tidal wetlands along the edge of Chester Creek. Associated with this open space are concepts for a nature trail looping along the easterly side of the Creek and a "trolley trail" connecting to Laurel Hill Cemetery. These are low impact passive recreation uses that could be created over a period of years. The remaining 4 acres adjacent to Main Street could be improved with a new driveway entrance, larger parking area, multi-purpose play field, new playscape and library space.

In conjunction with the Park master plan, the Library Building Committee, working with LLB Architects, successfully completed schematic plans for a two story library building fronting on Main Street with connections to shared parking and adjacent open space. Using the North Quarter Park master plan layout and the schematic floor plans, the Library Building Committee prepared a comprehensive State of Connecticut Library grant application requesting \$1 million for construction funding. This application was reviewed by

the Board of Selectmen on August 26th and authorized for submission to the Connecticut State Library on August 29th. Announcement of these construction grant awards is expected to be made in November 2014. If Chester's grant request is successful we will have three years to develop construction plans and secure local funding. Once Town funding is assured, the Library Construction grant appropriation will be submitted to the State Bond Commission for approval and the new library construction must commence within 18 months of the bond awards.




First Selectman Ed Meehan

**Main Street East Reconstruction Project Status.** This fall the plans for the Main Street east reconstruction project will advance from schematic design to construction documents which includes engineering standards and draft bid specifications. On August 18th, the project was granted a conditional inland wetlands permit for the necessary drainage work at Laurel Hill Cemetery parking area and new Main Street brook culvert adjacent to the Post Office and Stark Agency. In November the

*continued on page 3*

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## Special Events Planned by Merchants of Chester

On Friday, Oct. 31, the Chester Merchants will celebrate Halloween evening with their annual Festival in the center of town. Stores, galleries and restaurants will welcome children with treats (and some adult treats too). A DJ will play haunted Halloween music for street dancing in front of Century 21 Heritage Company.

On Friday, Dec. 5, the Holiday Night Festival, co-sponsored by the Town of Chester, Chester Rotary Club and the Merchants of Chester, will be held in the town center with the annual tree-lighting and caroling. Most shops, restaurants, and galleries will be open for the evening from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Details are still being finalized on both events. Watch for more details in the weekly town hall e-newsletter or on Facebook.com/VisitChesterCT and finditinchesterct.wordpress.com.

The 25th annual Chester Winter Carnivale will be held on Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015. This may be the last year for this event, because the center of town will be closed in February 2016 for the Main Street bridge repair. So let's all plan to make the 25th Carnivale a really special event. The Merchants group needs your donations to cover the huge expenses incurred to make this free event happen. The expenses include police coverage, buses, blocks of ice, prizes for carvers, street performers, beads, balloons, etc. Please send your donation in any amount to Chester Winter Carnivale LLC, 16 Main Street,



*Dress up in your Halloween finest on Friday, Oct. 31 and celebrate with a townwide party in Chester Center.*

*Photo by John Stack.*

Chester 06412. If you'd like to help on the planning committee or help during the event itself, call Leslie Strauss at 860-526-1200. You can also stay informed about Carnivale through Facebook.com/ChesterCTWinterCarnivale.

Call today for a private tour: 860-345-3779

*Phyllis Donohue in her new apartment with her cat Francey.*

**I found it Easy to Move to The Saybrook at Haddam... However, My Cat Francey Found the Move to be Traumatic.**

Everyone at The Saybrook at Haddam has helped make Phyllis and her cat Francey's move from their home in Madison to their bright and spacious apartment – a wonderful experience! Francey is becoming more comfortable with his surroundings, while Phyllis is enjoying time in the gardens, meals in the elegant dining room, exercising and social activities.

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

construction plans, prepared to 70% completion, will be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission for its review and approval as a municipal improvement project.

State STEAP grant awards in the amount of \$980,000 are in place to pay for the Main Street east reconstruction work. The preliminary total cost estimate, based on the schematic design, is \$1.2 million. Prior to public bidding in early 2015 the project engineer will prepare a detailed probable cost estimate and the additional funds needed for construction. Soft costs will be requested from the Town's capital improvement account which has over the past five years set aside \$375,000 for Main Street projects.

In October Main Street property owners will be contacted and asked if they intend to connect to the Town's sanitary sewer system and coordinate their connection with the reconstruction project. To encourage new connections, the Water Pollution Control Authority has agreed to temporarily reduce their application fee from \$2000 to \$1250 for property owners within the project area. Also some property owners will be requested to grant the Town temporary construction rights to insure that new grading, lawn replacement and sidewalks are coordinated. In the area of the Stark Agency, replacement of the deteriorated brook culvert will require construction access onto the abutting properties to install the new box concrete culvert and reconstruct the brook's retaining walls.

On August 26th the Connecticut Water Company met with the Main Street Project Committee and agreed to proceed with replacement of the 80 year old 12" water main in advance of the reconstruction work. The installation of the new water main from Middlesex Avenue through the center to West Main Street will begin later this fall, weather permitting and resume in early spring 2015.

The Main Street Project Committee will hold additional public informational meetings this fall with the goal to have the 90% construction documents completed by December. Residents are invited and encouraged to stop by the First Selectman's office to review the plans and get specific information on new sidewalk, driveways and grading work that may impact their property.

**Introducing the Town of Chester Prescription Drug Discount Cards for uninsured and underinsured residents.** The Town of Chester, through its association with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), the statewide association of towns and cities, is now providing a new prescription discount card that will provide uninsured and underinsured residents steep savings on prescription medicines.

Chester is a member of CCM and this program is only available to CCM member-communities. One hundred and nineteen municipalities have joined this program and saved CT residents over \$4.8 million dollars in prescription costs.

In Connecticut, over 800,000 residents lack prescription plans, have very high deductibles or have restrictions on Medicare reimbursements.

The "Town of Chester Prescription Drug Discount Card" helps residents save money on their prescription medications

any time their prescription is not covered by insurance. This new prescription discount card will provide immediate fiscal relief at the pharmacy counter and offers the following features and benefits:

- Anyone can participate regardless of age or income – there are no forms to fill out – cards are automatically activated upon receipt;
- There is no cost to the municipality or to participating residents;
- All prescription medications are covered including pet prescriptions that are human-based and can be filled at a pharmacy;
- Cost savings are on brand name and generics medications. Generic prescriptions do offer the highest savings;
- There are over 63,000 participating pharmacies nationwide, including CVS, Rite-Aid, Walgreens, Wal-Mart, Stop and Shop, and Big Y, and many local pharmacies;
- Discounts are also offered on other medical services including vision, hearing and Lasik services.

Ensuring that our underinsured residents have easy, no cost, access to better prescription coverage is a win-win situation for the town government, and our residents.

"CCM is pleased to offer this valuable community service to the town of Chester," said CCM Director of Member Services and Marketing, Gina Calabro. "This program will help residents save money on their medications if they don't have prescription insurance or any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance."

Each residence in Chester will receive a "Town of Chester Prescription Discount Card" by direct mail in the next few weeks which they may use at any participating retail pharmacy. Cards may be used by all town residents regardless of age, income or existing health coverage. There are no enrollment forms, membership fees, restrictions or limits on frequency of use for residents.

Once the cards have mailed, they can also be printed by visiting [www.CTRxDiscountCard.com](http://www.CTRxDiscountCard.com) by selecting Town of Chester from the drop-down menu. The website also contains a "Learn the Perks of the Card" where a resident can locate a participating pharmacy, comparison shop their medication, and find the information on the discounts that are also available on vision, hearing and LASIK services.

*First Selectman Ed Meehan*

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**Stay Informed:** Sign up for the Chester Townwide Email Blast! This list is used by the First Selectman's Office only and provides useful information and updates on town events. To have your contact information added please email [info@chesterct.org](mailto:info@chesterct.org) with the subject "town email list."

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# Events

MAGAZINES



## Chester Events

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## Registrar of Voters

The Registrar of Voters have completed the 2014 canvass. If you received a letter from our office and did not respond, your name has been put on the inactive list. If you wish to vote in the November 4 election, you will have to fill out a reinstatement card which is available in our office on Tuesdays between 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm or at the polls prior to voting.

November 4 is an election for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Representative, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, Judge of Probate and Registrar of Voters. There will also be a question on the ballot regarding changing the state Constitution to allow unrestricted absentee balloting. This will remove the restrictions for obtaining an absentee ballot. The polls will be open from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm at Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue.

The last day to register to vote in this election is Tuesday, October 28. Election Day Registration will be available on November 4 in the registrars' office for residents who did not register by October 28. Residents will be required to provide a form of identification and proof of residential address.

## 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.
- Please remove any basketball hoops from the roadside and town right of way – they could potentially be caught and destroyed by the plow going by.

## Town Hall Hours

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:**

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

**Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**



## Town Clerk

**To All Sportsmen:** Please note that the town clerk's office no longer sells sportsmen licenses. After having numerous problems with the kiosk, I have decided to discontinue the selling of the licenses. You can go to the Deep River Town Clerk to get your license. Her office is open late on Thursday evenings until 6:30 pm and they close at noon on Fridays.

**Absentee Ballots:** Absentee ballots become available for the November 4th state election on Friday, October 3rd. If you are going to be away for the election, contact the town clerk's office for an application.

*Debra Germini Calamari, Chester Town Clerk*

## Social Services

**Energy Assistance.** As the weather turns colder, statewide energy assistance programs that help residents with heating bills and conserving energy will begin. Programs are available from September 1 through March 30. 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 early, as deliveries will begin November 12th. To make an appointment to fill out an application, please contact me at 860-526-0013 x213, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings or leave a message with your name, phone number, and best time to reach you.

**Operation Fuel.** Operation Fuel is a statewide private, nonprofit organization that provides emergency energy assistance to: low income and moderate income, elderly, and disabled households, which are either ineligible for government energy assistance or have exhausted their benefits. Eligibility is determined by Chester Social Services and is based upon review of a client's completed application and satisfactory documentation of household's income, liquid assets, and crisis situation. For the 2014-2015 program year, household income for a 12-month period must fall between 151% of the federal poverty guidelines and 100% of the state median household income.

The Operation Fuel season began January 1, 2014 and runs through May 30, 2015 or when funding runs out. Contact Human Services (860-526-0013 X213) to see if you qualify.

*Rosie Bininger, Human Services Director*

*For town updates & information:*

**[www.chesterct.org](http://www.chesterct.org)**

## CHESTER TOWN HALL

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Robert Jenkins	860-767-3219	
<b>ASSESSOR</b>		
Loreta Zdanys	512	Assessor@chesterct.org
<b>ASSISTANT ASSESSOR</b>		
Sheila Ahearn	512	
<b>BUILDING</b>		
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<b>FINANCE</b>		
Peter Evankow	215	Finance@chesterct.org
<b>ACCOUNTS CLERK</b>		
Sharon Echtman	216	
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	860-526-0019, Non-emergencies	
<b>FIRE MARSHAL</b>		
Richard Leighton	212	FireMarshal@chesterct.org
<b>FIRST SELECTMAN</b>		
Ed Meehan	202	FirstSelectman@chesterct.org
<b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>		
Rosie Bininger	213	HumanServices@chesterct.org
<b>INFORMATION</b>	202	Info@chesterct.org
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Anna Sweeney	212	InlandWetlands@chesterct.org
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Elizabeth Netsch	223	ParkRec@chesterct.org
<b>PLANNING AND ZONING</b>		
Judy Brown	208	ZoningOfficial@chesterct.org
<b>POLICE SERVICES</b>		
Trooper Matt Ewing	860-526-3605	PoliceServices@chesterct.org
<b>PUBLIC LIBRARY</b>		
Linda Fox, Library Director	860-526-0018	
<b>PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT</b>		
John Divis, Foreman	860-526-0020	
<b>REGISTRARS OF VOTERS</b>		
Charlene Janecek / Tracey Ohaus	211	chesterregistrar@chesterct.org
<b>SANITATION</b>		
Lee Vito	206	Sanitarian@chesterct.org
<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b>		
Madaline Meyer	513	TaxCollector@chesterct.org
<b>TAX CLERK</b>		
Tracey Ohaus	513	TaxClerk@chesterct.org
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>		
Debra Germini Calamari	511	TownClerk@chesterct.org
<b>ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK</b>		
Sharon Echtman	511	
<b>TREASURER</b>		
Elizabeth Netsch	214	Treasurer@chesterct.org
<b>WPCA</b>		wPCA@chesterct.org

**[www.chesterct.org](http://www.chesterct.org)**

## The Chester Garden Club

Invites you to our 16th Annual Tea on Saturday, November 1st at 2:00 pm at the United Church of Chester, 29 West Main Street, Chester.

Join us for a presentation on *Thinking Small: A Day in the Life of a Wee Faerie Architect*. David Rau will give an illustrated talk on exploring the enchanting world of making faerie homes and gardens.

The impresario responsible for the Florence Griswold Museum's Wee Faerie Village projects, Rau will share the history of the project, his own artistic journey, and the process of thinking small.

David D.J. Rau is the Director of Education & Outreach at the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, and most recently the coordinator of the Museum's outdoor October events including numerous Wee Faerie Village presentations. He participates in the events as an artist, honing his skills by building faerie houses, sculpting scarecrows, and decorating birdhouses. Rau is one of the featured artists and author of the Introduction for a new publication *Fairy Homes & Gardens* (Schiffer Press, 2014).

Rau holds a Masters at the University of Michigan in Art History as well as a Certificate in Museum Studies. Prior to moving to Connecticut, Rau worked at Cranbrook Art Museum in Bloomfield Hills, MI; the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Dearborn, MI; and The Currier Gallery of

Art in Manchester, NH. He currently teaches Museum Study courses in the Art History Department at Connecticut College.

When not making faerie houses, Rau works in both collage and assemblage. Rau's art has been featured at the Sylvan Gallery in Clinton, the Chester Gallery, and The Cooley Gallery in Old Lyme. Rau studied collage with Maureen McCabe at Connecticut College. He has also taken several classes in papermaking and small books at RISD-Continuing Education, and the Center for Book Arts in New York City. His home and studio is in Chester, CT that he shares with Maevis & Hector, a brother/sister longhaired dachshund dynamic duo.

Tables for four and eight guests will be decorated by Garden Club members. The tea menu will include savory sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and jam, as well as an assortment of delectable desserts that will be served by members.

**Reservations:** \$25. Tickets are available in advance, by returning your response with \$25 per guest, to: Chester Garden Club, P.O. Box 415, Chester, CT 06412. Seating is limited to 100. Please reply promptly.

Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish to have your tickets mailed to you, otherwise they will be held for you at the door.

For additional information contact Brenda Johnson at (860) 526-2998.



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# Chester Fife and Drum Corps 1868



## 146 Years Young

Welcome to this quarter's review of your home town Fife and Drum Corps. As you all know by now, Chester Fife and Drum Corps was established in 1868 and has been providing martial music without a break to the present day. This makes our corps one of the oldest continuously operating drum corps in the country. Here are a few facts about our corps that you probably did not know:

At the muster held in Westbrook this summer, the Muster committee honored all Corps members who had been active in the Corps community for 40 years or more. At the present time, Chester Drum Corps has 7 members who qualified and were so honored. Not bad for a small hometown Corps.

Our membership is steadily increasing. Our full membership consists of: 5 Fifers, 6 Snare drummers, 6 Bass drummers, 4 in the Color Guard and one Major. We can always use new members. Our Music Instructor is a public school music teacher. We also have several fifers and drummers with years of experience who are great teachers. We provide free lessons for beginner and advanced fifers and drummers.

One part of our Corps could use more members and that part is the Color Guard. We currently march with only one American Flag, a guard or two and one guide on. We also have in storage many more flags that we would love to display on the field and on the street. We have the 13 Star Flag, Don't Tread on Me Flag, the Irish Flag, Betsy Ross Flag, a couple of Muskets, a Sword, and a Corps Banner that can be carried in front by a couple of members. So we have many openings in the Guard. We teach marching and maneuvering, which is not all that difficult. (The key is to follow the beat of the drums). Here is a little history of the color guard and why it is so important to have a color guard.

"Color guard began in the U.S. Military during the time of the Civil War. A band would accompany the soldiers to keep the soldiers marching in step and to keep their spirits high. Alongside the band were a few flag bearers. Color guard was the combination of military drill, or marching, and the use of flags,



sabers, and rifles. In its early years, color guard was defined as 'the duties of which shall be the care, custody, and proper official display of the Colors, Flags, and Standards of the society.' Today, it has evolved into a sport of the performing arts."

Our modern lives are very busy. With commitments to sports, school, and family there seems to be little time available for organizations such as ours. However, how many groups can offer music instruction, an opportunity to play the music in both parade and muster formats, an ongoing history lesson, and genuine fellowship for adults as well as children all in one package? This is what we are. Consider us and join us at a practice or two to see who we are and what we do. We are aiming for our 150th anniversary and would love to add some new members to help us achieve this. We are also in the process of getting new uniforms reminiscent of the old Chester Uniform.

We play colonial style music, with some pieces that date back to the beginning of our corps; some of it has been lost thru the decades. We have a repertoire of nearly 60 pieces of which we barely play 20 on the street. We choose not to change the tempo of our music to a faster, modern pace. We are consciously trying to preserve the music in its original form, because we believe in its value. We value our musical tradition and feel it is important to maintain the "Chester style."

*continued on page 9*



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• *Fife and Drum Corps continued from page 8* •

If you are interested in becoming part of history and are interested in joining our corps, please feel free to call me at 860-691-1735.

Just as a reminder, we are neither a Junior nor Senior Corps. We are a family oriented organization and intend on remaining so.

So, come on down and see what we are about. We practice from 6:30 till 8:00 p.m. at the Chester Elementary School, every Thursday night. Please call ahead to verify our practice nights just in case schedules change. Summer practice nights may vary depending on our schedule. Hope you had a most enjoyable summer. Hope to see you at a muster or at a parade this fall.

Here is the remainder of the 2014 schedule:

Oct 18 – Moodus Muster

Oct – Chester Halloween Parade and Haunting

Nov – Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

Dec – Old Saybrook Torchlight Parade

Torchlight thru Feb 1 – Break – no Corps practices or events

*Frenchy Cordeau, Major and Business Manager*

## Literacy Volunteers Valley Shore

### Illiteracy is a Crisis in CT

Literacy Volunteers Valley Shore, now in its 35th year, in collaboration with Pro Literacy who on September 8, 2014 marked the 47th annual International Literacy Day, is working hard to end adult illiteracy. LVVS is a non-profit organization teaching literacy through confidential, free, one-on-one tutoring services. Did you know that in Chester 237 adults between ages 18-64 years have academic skills below basic levels and 14,000 in the valley shore function below secondary levels? Literacy skills aid adults in the care and teaching of their children, support productive employees, provides GED prep, citizenship and promotion of life and work skills to become acclimated and active in the community-YOUR community.

We work to recruit and train new tutors, and are proactive in community outreach through event participation and partnering with other agencies/organizations to stamp out illiteracy. With a lack of available funds, maintaining our mission of providing tutoring services to all those who request it is compromised. How can you help? Consider tutoring, serving on one of our many committees, or becoming a member.

Share our mission of improving lives through literacy by contacting LVVS at [www.vsliteracy.org](http://www.vsliteracy.org), email [info@vsliteracy.org](mailto:info@vsliteracy.org) or call 860-399-0280.

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–Frederick Douglass.*

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# Chester Public Library

**Chester Library Building Update.** The Town of Chester has applied for a \$1 million CT State Library Construction Grant that would assist with building a new library in North Quarter Park. Coordination and collaboration between the Library Building Committee, North Quarter Park Master Plan Committee and the Selectmen, and the creative efforts of LLB Architects have resulted in a concept for a new library that includes complete handicapped accessibility, ample access to computers, expanded collections, comfortable reading areas, and meeting/program space that would be available for use even when the library is closed. Developing this concept is just the beginning of the planning process and there will be many opportunities for community input before any plans for a new library are finalized. Grant awards will be announced in November.

**Introducing the Human Library.** The Chester Human Library is just that—a library where the “books” are your neighbors who volunteer to share their stories, unique interests and life experiences with “readers”—members of the community. Want to chat with a fantasy football player, learn about living gluten-free, or start learning to play the ukulele? Borrow one of our living books for a 30-minute conversation at the library.

How does it work? Living books can be checked out of the library or online with a Chester Library card. Your book will contact you, and together you can schedule a 30-minute,

one-on-one session at the Chester Library. All ages are encouraged to both become living books and check them out. Parents must accompany children who are below high school age. Why a Human Library in Chester? This project is the brain child of Sue Zirlen, who sees the Human Library as a way of enhancing connections across generations, lifestyles, religion, ethnicity etc. in order to increase awareness of community resources and understanding of differences, using our traditional library as a vehicle. What the Human Library is NOT: It is not a resource for paid services but rather a place to have a 1:1 conversation and share a life experience (WWII) or hobby (gardening) to increase someone else’s understanding of your specific experience or interest.

Drop by the library to look at the current catalog of ‘books’ in the Human Library, or search the library catalog online using the subject “Human Library.”

### Coming Up This Fall and Winter

**October Book Discussions.** We’re offering an opportunity in October to talk about a book in a discussion facilitated by Martha Bansavage at the library. *Dear Life*, a collection of short stories by Alice Munro, will be discussed on Tuesday, October 21, noon-1 pm. Bring your brown bag lunch; beverages and dessert provided.

Books in multiple formats will be available at the library while ebooks of both titles are available through Overdrive. Please register in advance either at the library or online at the library’s website.

**Game Nights.** Plans are afoot to host board game nights at the library. Matt Sanders, an experienced and enthusiastic gamer, will introduce novices to some of the popular board games. Don’t be thinking Monopoly or Risk... more like Settlers of Catan, 7 Wonders, or Ticket to Ride. Come see what it’s all about and perhaps develop into a dedicated gamer yourself! Open to those ages 14 and up.

**Book Sales (that’s right, plural!)** This winter brings not one, but two opportunities to find reading riches at downright miserly prices. This December, for the first time ever, we’ll have a Holiday Book Sale, with top-quality books suitable for holiday gifts. Rumor has it there may even be giftwrapping! Dates and details TBA; check the library website, visit the library’s Facebook page, or subscribe to the Friends monthly newsletter for information as it becomes available. Then at the end of January, we’ll have our annual Winter Book Sale. We’ll be looking for your donations of gently read books, DVDs and recorded books beginning at the end of December.

We’re always looking for volunteers willing to help sort and set up for our sales. Contact Diane Lindsay at 860-526-2443 or leave your name at the library desk. All proceeds from book sales benefit library programs and collections.

**Crafting.** In Stitches, the library’s adult knitting group, welcomes needle workers of all skill levels to join them on Monday evenings from 6 to 8 pm. Drop in once for help solving a problem, or become a regular, whatever works for you.


*continued on page 11*

*Continue the Excellence*

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- Assisted thousands of families through the Probate process
- Addressed numerous Senior Groups, Civic Organizations and presented Library Series to educate the public about the Probate process
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Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Terrance D. Lomme, Christopher Quinn, Treasurer. Approved by Terrance D. Lomme

• *Chester Library continued from page 10* •

Kids Knit, a group of upper elementary school-aged knitters, gathers on the rug on Saturdays from 12:30 to 2 p.m. with Anne Winslow.

Gingerbread Workshop is in the planning stages; be on the lookout for more information on this December program for kids.

**Holiday Gift Shopping?** Do you buy online? Amazon offers to donate .05% of your purchase total to the Friends of Chester Public Library, IF you make your purchases through AmazonSmile. All you need to do is sign up and remember to make your purchases through AmazonSmile (we've found it works best to just bookmark AmazonSmile and use it as the way we regularly get to Amazon). Your account remains just as it has been (no new account number or password to remember), purchasing is the same as always, but a bit of philanthropy is added to the mix. So, c'mon, SMILE on your library! To learn more, or get started with AmazonSmile, go to <http://smile.amazon.com/> - it won't hurt a bit! Thank you!

**Kudos:**

- to Diane Lindsay and her merry band of booksellers for undertaking two successful summer book sales and raising about \$2200 for the Friends' support of the library.
- to the Friends of Chester Library for creating and sponsoring programs and pop-ups including Grill Pizza (Dominic Bosco), Zentangles (Sue Zirlen), Cider Making (Tracy and Karl Ohaus). (By the way, we're always looking for other programs to present, so do let us know if you have an idea for something interesting).
- to Sue Zirlen for bringing the Human Library program to Chester.
- to Rafi Moore and Robin Hawkes for donating a concert ukulele complete with a hand-crafted carrying case that is available for check out at the library.
- to Jonathan Rapp, River Tavern and OTTO for supporting "Literary Elements," our online summer reading program.
- to Sosse Baker, Al Malpa and Sally Murray for donating their glorious pieces of art to the Friends' raffle.
- to all of the members of the Library Building Committee for their serious work planning for a new library and meeting the Library Construction Grant deadline and especially to Denny Tovey for chairing the committee.

## Septic Tank Pump Out

Chester residents are reminded that the Town ordinance requires septic tanks to be pumped out and inspected every five years by a licensed sewage disposal company.

Pumping out and inspection of the septic tank is really preventative maintenance and can save on costly repairs later on. It is much cheaper to pump out the septic tank than to have to replace the septic system later on!

If you have questions, please call Lee Vito, Town Sanitarian, 860-526-0013 ext. 206.



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## Collomore Music Series

### Jazz at the Meeting House on Nov. 23

The Robbie Collomore Music Series will present a jazz concert by Fred Hersch and his trio on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 5 p.m. in the Chester Meeting House.

Six-time Grammy nominee Fred Hersch has been called “the most arrestingly innovative pianist in jazz over the last decade or so” by Vanity Fair magazine. Downbeat magazine calls Hersch, “one of the small handful of brilliant musicians of his generation.”

He has collaborated with an astonishing range of instrumentalists and vocalists throughout worlds of jazz (Joe Henderson, Stan Getz and Bill Frisell); classical (Renée Fleming, Dawn Upshaw, Christopher O’Riley); and Broadway (Audra McDonald).

Following the concert, the audience is invited to stay for refreshments, courtesy of First Niagara Bank, and to meet the performers. Tickets for the concert are \$24 for adults, \$5 for students. For more information about tickets, call (860) 526-5162, or visit [www.collomoreconcerts.org](http://www.collomoreconcerts.org).

## Troop 13 – Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts

Troop 13 Boy Scouts serves the boys ages 11-18 of Chester and Deep River. The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America is to help young men develop their character and life skills all while having fun. There is much emphasis placed on assisting these young men to develop into strong healthy citizens who will lead our communities and country in the years ahead. The Boy Scout methods help to promote these ideals through the challenge of putting them into practice with the Troop Program. This is done in a way that is both challenging and fun.

**Summer Camp 2014.** Troop 13 attended June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT for Summer Camp on July 13-18. The boys enjoyed swimming, boating, archery, rifle & shotgun shooting, sports, and camping. The 26 Scouts earned 114 merit badges during the week in topics such as: Archery, Canoeing, Citizenship in the Nation, Swimming, Geocaching, Metal Working, Welding, Camping, Shotgun Shooting, and Wilderness Survival plus many more. Three Scouts completed the JNW Iron Man Triathlon and one Scout and one leader earned their BSA Lifeguard certification.

**Bike Trip to Block Island, RI. By: James Ruty, Troop Historian.** Troop 13 Boy Scouts went to Block Island, RI June 20-22nd. Thirty-two Scouts and leaders went on the trip. The trip began in Point Judith, RI where the Scouts took the ferry over to the island. After docking at Old Harbor they cycled to their campsite. They cycled around the island and visited the Mohegan Bluffs, the Southeast Lighthouse and many other places on the island. The troop camped at the Sandsland Scout Reservation on Block Island.

**Philmont Scout Ranch Trip - 2014.** A crew of 10 Boy Scouts from Troop 13 along with Assistant Scoutmasters Alex Toles and Rich Dalterio went to Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM this summer to hike in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of the Rocky Mountains. They hiked 87 miles on this trip.

**New Eagle Scouts.** Troop 13 would like to congratulate our newest Eagle Scouts: Josef Lenz, Bobby Hamblett and Dillon Eriksson of Deep River and Benjamin Swartzell of Chester.

Josef’s project was to establish and mark a new 0.3 mile long foot trail located at the Florence Bidwell Sanctuary on Rattling Valley Road in Deep River. The project included fabricating and mounting a trail map on a cedar post at the site



entrance and the clearing and placement of two processed stone parking spots on an underutilized 12.8 acre property of the Deep River Land Trust.

Bobby’s project was to clear and grade an existing aged tree stump and sod area to replace it with a commemorative live pin oak and a newly laid handicapped accessible brick patio with two reflecting benches at the entrance to the Deep River Elementary School.

Dillon’s project was the construction of a crush stone base, blue stone slate walkway using historic site pieces on the property of the Deep River Congregational Church. The completed project provides an important service to the members and guests of Deep River Congregational Church, in particular the youth members by providing for a more stable ground area connecting the hall to the play yard.

Ben’s project was to replace the boardwalk through the historic Cedar Swamp at Bushy Hill Nature Center in Ivoryton. The old walkway had deteriorated over time and was posing a safety risk for campers. The walkway allows campers to walk through the swamp to view ecological diversity at the camp.

**Information.** To learn more information about joining Troop 13 please contact our Scoutmaster, Steven Merola @ 860-526-9262.

## Chester Community Fund/ Emergency Fuel Fund

As the chilly winter months approach, we ask residents to be reminded of our neighbors in need. The Town of Chester works to provide for those in need through various funds, two of which are the Community Fund and the Emergency Fuel Fund. These funds help to defer such critical expenses such as food, fuel, energy, and other basic necessities, and are funded by the generosity of our community. If you would like to assist your neighbors, you may send a gift to: Town of Chester, Human Services Department, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, CT 06412; or call me at 860-526-0013 X213.

Rosie Binger, Human Services Director

## Tri-Town Youth Services

Something to think about! Here is a thoughtful exercise for anyone to take – it will help you appreciate who you are and why. One person or more can make a major difference in our lives – think about it!

### Asset Builders in My Life

Even though the list of 40 Developmental Assets was created relatively recently, we have all experienced asset builders in our lives, whether we're 10 or 50 years old. In the spaces below, jot down the names of people who have built assets for and with you and how that person has made a difference in your life. If you are younger than 20, you may want to think about people who currently build assets for and with you. If you're older than 20, either think about someone who does this for you now or think back to your own childhood and adolescence. It's okay to leave some spaces blank if no one comes to mind. It's also okay to list the same person in several spaces.

#### Think of someone who has...

- **Shown you love** and understanding during a time when you really needed it (support assets).
- **Helped you** know that you have something important to contribute to others (empowerment assets).
- **Set clear boundaries** for you to help you stay safe (boundaries-and-expectations assets).
- **Helped you get a lot out of** activities in your school, a youth-serving organization, or a congregation (constructive-use-of-time assets).
- **Made learning about new things really fun** and interesting (commitment-to-learning assets).
- **Been a role model for you** in living with honesty, integrity, and caring (positive-values assets).
- **Helped you develop important social skills**, such as how to get along with other people (social-competencies assets).
- **Encouraged you to feel good about yourself** and optimistic about your future (positive-identity assets).

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## Chester Parks and Recreation

**American Red Cross Babysitter's Training.** American Red Cross Babysitter's Training will be offered at Chester Elementary School on Thursday and Friday, October 23 and 24, from 1:00 pm until 4:45 pm, 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 grades 5 and 6. The fee is \$40.

**American Red Cross First Aid and CPR Classes.** American Red Cross First Aid and CPR/AED will be offered at the Chester Town Hall on November 19. First Aid will be from 5:30 until 8:30 pm with the option to add Adult and Child plus Infant CPR and AED until 10:00 pm (CPR/AED only meets 7:30 until 10:00 pm). The cost is \$35 for one class, \$45 for both classes. Classes are free to Chester Parks and Recreation employees and volunteers.

**Youth Basketball Coaches and Referees Needed!** Adults interested in volunteering to coach youth basketball are requested to contact the Director at 860-526-0013 extension 223 OR e-mail parkrec@chesterct.org by October 16. 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 Thursday, November 6 or Wednesday, November 12 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 on Wednesday, November 19.

**Youth Basketball** meets at the Chester Elementary School multipurpose room November 17 through March 14, 2015 for Chester residents in grades K through 6. Confirmation of all scheduled times will be based on enrollment. The schedule will be available as coaches volunteer. The children will be divided into equal skill level groups in grades 3 through 6 when more than one clinic is available for a particular grade. Unless notified otherwise, please have your child attend the first grade appropriate scheduled clinic, beginning November 17.

*Registration Is Due November 6.* A \$15 registration fee is required for participants in grades K, 1 and 2 and \$30 for grades 3 through 6. Please add \$15 if your child would like a shirt. Only 3rd through 6th graders must have a shirt. Shirts from previous years may be used. Return registration, with the fee payable to "Chester Park & Rec" to Chester Elementary School, the Parks and Recreation mailbox in the Town Hall or mail to: Town of Chester, Parks and Recreation, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, CT 06412.

**School is Dismissed at 1:00 pm on Fridays: November 7, January 16, and February 13.** Join the Parks and Recreation Staff for Vacation Camp at Chester Elementary School, for grades K through 6. Basketball clinics will be offered as well as traditional camp crafts and games. Dismissal is at 4:30 pm.



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## *Chester Historical Society's 11th Antiques & Jewelry Appraisal*

What is it worth? Find out on November 8th.

Do you ever watch "Antiques Roadshow" and wish some expert would announce that "treasure" you inherited from your grandmother, a rare, valuable piece of history?

Do you ever watch the commercials for buying gold and wonder if there's any money in the gold necklaces in your jewelry box?

Have you wondered about the value of that old stamp collection your dad left you or the sterling silver flatware your kids don't want to inherit from you?

Stop thinking about it! Dig out your treasures and take them on Saturday, November 8, to the 11th Chester Historical Society Antiques & Jewelry Appraisal. It will be at St. Joseph's Parish Center from 8:30 am to noon.

Ten appraisers will be on hand to appraise everything from jewelry, silver, paintings, books, tools, coins, stamps, glassware, to quilts and textiles and furniture from every century.

You may bring up to three separate items to be appraised. If the item is too large to carry, bring photographs (if it's a table or dresser, bring in a drawer too). Verbal appraisals will cost \$10 for the first item; \$20 for 2 items; or \$25 for 3 items. All proceeds will benefit the programs and museum of the non-profit Chester Historical Society.



*Paul D. Indorf and Gay Sherman Weintz, both Chester residents, are donating their time and expertise to appraise jewelry at the Chester Historical Society's 11th Antiques & Jewelry Appraisal on Sat. Nov. 8.*

Information on all the appraisers will be at [www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org). If you have any questions or need more information, email us at [chestercthistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:chestercthistoricalsociety@gmail.com) or call 860-558-4701.

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## Chester Parks

### Wonderful Areas for a Walk or Observe the Leaves' Fall Colors

**Cedar Lake.** The Town of Chester owns Cedar Lake and maintains two public beaches on its shores. The area of the lake is about 80 acres and is fed by two springs and two inlet streams with outflow into the Pattaconk Brook. The lake is about 60 feet deep in the middle. The Town owns approximately one third of the shore. Another third is owned by Camp Hazen YMCA. The remainder is private residences and State owned property, including a boat launch. Chester's main beach, on West Main Street, has a 50,000 square foot swimming area that is as deep as 20 feet in one corner during the spring. The park at the shore is named Robert H. Pelletier Park in memory of the Chester resident who was the Head Lifeguard for more than two decades. The park area is 0.7 acres and includes seasonal lifeguard coverage, picnic tables, a pavilion, grills, and a food concession. The smaller waterfront facility is located on Cedar Lake Road and was named Lake View Park in 2012. It is unstaffed and has no designated swimming area. The beaches require patrons to have a permit.

**North Quarter Park.** North Quarter Park is a 22 acre, multi-use facility, located at the corner of Main Street and Middlesex Avenue. It includes a playground, picnic area, volleyball net, baseball field, and a multi-use practice field in a wooded setting. The northern section of the park has a well-maintained .5 mile nature trail loop. The end of the trail offers beautiful views of the wildlife and habitat of the Chester Creek. A variety of water fowl, birds, and vegetation can be seen along the trail and in the creek.

**Parker's Point Boat Launch.** This .6 acre boat launch facility is located at the end of Parker's Point Road on the Connecticut River. It offers boat trailer parking and a picnic area with a beautiful view. The shore is a favorite winter eagle viewing location. A permit is required for parking.

**L'hommedieu Park.** This old mill site is located on Spring Street, along the Pattaconk Brook. It is a peaceful setting with a dam, rushing waters, a picnic table, and views of Mallards, Wood Ducks, Great Blue Heron, and beavers. A historic narrative is located in the park.

**Chester Creek Overlook.** The overlook is a .4 acre waterfront spot with a deck, seating area, and parking lot on the Chester Creek, just a stone's throw from the Connecticut River. It is located at the end of Railroad Avenue. The Town dock at the overlook houses marine rescue and law enforcement watercraft.

**Chester Elementary School Baseball Fields.** Three baseball fields are maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department at Chester Elementary School, on Ridge Road. The property was originally donated to the Town in 1928 by Jessie C. Bates, Hilton C. Brooks, and William P. Holden for athletic fields. The fields may be available for group usage by submitting the Group Use Application for Chester Park Facilities form.

**Dog Owners:** Please abide by the statutes of our State and ordinances of our Town. Dogs are not permitted on playgrounds or beach parks, except guide dogs. Dogs in other areas of the parks must be controlled by a leash. Dogs may not roam on the property. Any waste material deposited by your dog must be removed before leaving the immediate area.

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# Chester Hose Company

Summer has come and gone around the firehouse and Fall is in full gear! Our new slate of officers has been smoothly transitioning. From July 1 to September 1, we have responded to a total of 114 calls.

We wrapped up our summer season at the Chester Fair selling breakfast sandwiches and grinders while providing first responder coverage for the weekend. You may have noticed too that the dunk tank got a much needed make over during it's off season and now stands out in a lovely shade of Fire Engine Red.

As the nights get cooler, we remind you that October is Fire Prevention Month. We urge you to exercise caution against brush fires as you begin your Fall clean-up projects. Kindly contact the Fire Marshal for burn permits. Don't forget to check your batteries and test your smoke detectors. A group of our volunteer firefighters will be on hand at Chester Elementary School during Fire Prevention week to work with the children in various aspects of fire safety.

For the most up to date happenings check our Facebook, website and sign board.

We invite you to join us at the following events:

- Apple Pie Night
- Kids Night
- Wreath Sale
- Santa Comes To Town by Fire truck

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

## Chester Hose Company Reminds You to Number Your Buildings

There is an Ordinance requiring the numbering of buildings, enacted March 3, 1998.

- Number should be at least 3 inches in height.
- Should be visible from the street.
- Should be located on the top or side of the main entrance.
- Reflective numbers will attain the best results.
- Applying numbers to a mailbox would also be helpful.

Numbers that meet the Town requirement can be purchased locally or ask a member of the Hose Company for availability.

*James E. Grzybowski, Chief, Chester Hose Company*

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**ESTUARY COUNCIL OF SENIORS, INC.** has been serving seniors in the nine-town Estuary region for 38 years. Call us to receive our Gazette Newsletter or go to [www.ecsenior.org](http://www.ecsenior.org) for our online newsletter, events calendar, menu, and more.

**MEALS ON WHEELS:** Hot meals for homebound seniors, delivered to your home. A donation of \$3 is requested for those aged 60+. Meals are supported by Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds available under the Older Americans Act. Call Carol at 860-388-1611.

**CAFÉ MEAL SITES:** Clinton, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook. Reservations required by calling 860-388-1611 by 11 am, 24 hours in advance. Lunch is served at noon. Meals are served to those with reservations first; if meals remain those without a reservation are then served.

**STAN GREIMANN ESTUARY MEDICAL OUTPATIENT TRANSPORTATION:** For medical appointments to any medical location beyond the nine-town estuary region. Call Judy at 860-388-1611. Suggested donation of \$35 for a roundtrip doctor appointment up to 5 hours. Suggested donation of \$70 for appointments over 5 hours.

**CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES:** Zumba Gold, Tai Chi, Board Games, Billiards, Ping Pong, Yoga, Stretch and Strength Exercise Classes, Mah Jongg, Wii, Cribbage, Writer's Group, Book Club, Quilter's Group, Needlecrafters, Hand and Foot. Instructional classes for Mah Jongg and Bridge. Check monthly Gazette for all of our programs. The Estuary Gazette is available online by following the link at [www.ecsenior.org/news\\_gazette.php](http://www.ecsenior.org/news_gazette.php).

**ESTUARY THRIFT SHOP:** Open 10 am - 3:45 pm, Monday - Friday; and from 9 am - 12:45 pm on Saturdays. Clothes (men, women, and children), kitchen items, crafts, etc. Donations accepted and volunteers always needed.

**THE GYM AT THE ESTUARY:** Expanded hours-stop in for more information. There are seven different pieces of weight equipment and four cardio machines, including a NuStep. Member packages include a fitness assessment and three (3) training sessions on all machines (required). Gym Membership Options: Three months - \$50, Six months - \$90, Full year - \$150. To schedule an appointment with our Fitness Trainer, Skylar Miers, ATC, call 860-388-1611. The gym is available for use only after payment of membership fees and completion of the required fitness assessment and training sessions. Gym Hours are posted at the Estuary.

**THE MARSHVIEW GALLERY AT THE ESTUARY:** Open daily 8 am - 4 pm, and Saturdays from 9 am - 1 pm. The art on exhibit changes monthly and highlights the talents of local artists from along the shoreline. Join us on the second Thursday of each month for the Artist Reception from 5 - 7 pm. Refreshments are served, and a door prize is drawn. All ages are welcome. Call 860-388-1611 for information.

**DONATE YOUR CAR OR BOAT TO THE ESTUARY COUNCIL:** Turn your car or boat into a tax deduction by calling: 1-800-716-5868. Proceeds benefit the vital services we provide for seniors in the nine-town Estuary Region.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:** Call Judy at (860) 388-1611.

**HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR: Saturday, November 22.** Local crafters will display an array of hand crafted items including quilts, handbags, scarves, jewelry, photo cards and much more! We will also have a wonderful "Bake Shop" filled with homemade desserts and candy.

**Chester Town Hall**

**203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, CT 06412**

Ph: 860-526-0013 • Fx: 860-526-0004

## Fall And Winter Reminders From The Tax Collector

First, I hope everyone is enjoying the FALL colors and weather and of course, the raking that goes along with this time of year! And even though the only bills owed to the Tax Collector right now, are the usage bills and benefit assessment bills for those on the sewer line, it is never too early to think about the January tax payment for real estate, personal property and any new MV's purchased during the year! Be sure to remember to verify your tax payment before writing your check. Do NOT include the MV amount that was due just in July. If you are not sure of the amount due, try calling our office at 860-526-0013 x 513, and we will try to check the amount for you. And of course, when you do write the check, be sure to SIGN YOUR CHECK before mailing it to us, to prevent any delay in getting your account paid! Also, be sure to double check the hand written part of the check to be sure that you did not leave out a word...like "hundred" or "thousand." You would be surprised how often that happens, slowing down the whole process of posting your payment, since the bank must go by the legal line, and not just the number written in the amount spot.

Second, we do NOT mail out another bill for January, so it is the Taxpayer's responsibility to remember that their taxes are due during the month of January. After reading this, PLEASE put a reminder on your calendar, so you will not be late and try not to wait till the last day or week. If bad weather arrives, you will not have to panic and worry about paying...thanks!

Third, for those who use the online payment system with your own bank, where you set the Tax Collector as a company that must be paid, be sure to put pertinent information on the account, so that when the check arrives from the bank, it tells us accurately and easily which account is being paid. An old MV bill number does NOT help us post the account quickly or efficiently. What would help would be the full name of the

person who is paying and maybe the plate number, which usually stays the same for a long time. In the case of a real estate bill or personal property bill, then the full address is a great item for the check to contain. Since the bank does NOT include any portion of the bill that normally comes to us, we really need something definite to know how to apply the money, especially if there is more than one person with your last name living in town. If you are paying for someone with a different last name, be sure to include that name on the account. You might know who you are paying for, but we don't have any idea, unless their name or pertinent information appears somewhere on the memo section of the online check or even your own check.

Keep in mind, that online payments thru your bank could take SEVERAL DAYS to get to us, so give yourself plenty of time, so that the payment does not arrive late, which will cause another mailing, and interest to be added. Do not wait...process or mail early! Thanks!

Lastly, be sure to remember to pay your taxes in January, or before, and have a very healthy and happy Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukah, New Year and every holiday in between. Enjoy! Stay well and take care.

*Madaline Meyer, Tax Collector*

## Chester Cub Scouts Pack 13

Chester Cub Scouts Pack 13 serves boys grades 1 to 5. Lead by parent volunteers, Cub Scouting offers boys an excellent opportunity to learn new things in a fun environment designed to help them succeed. From building his own pinewood derby car to learning outdoor skills and citizenship lessons, your son will LOVE being a Cub Scout. This year Chester Cub Scouts are planning on holding a Scouting for Food Drive for the Chester Pantry, Cleaning up the Chester War Memorial grounds, Singing Christmas Carols at the town nursing homes and attending a sleep-over event at the New England Air Museum. Pack Meetings (all dens) are held at the United Church of Chester the 2nd Thursday of most months. Den Meetings (grade specific) are held 1-2 times per month.

**Information:** To learn more about joining Pack 13 please contact our Cubmaster, Jason Lamark @ 860-526-1243. Or our website: [www.ctrivers.org/Pack-13-Chester-CT](http://www.ctrivers.org/Pack-13-Chester-CT) Our complete calendar of events is posted there.

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## *United Church Of Chester*

**Pot Roast Supper.** On Saturday, October 18th, 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 pm and the second at 6:30 pm. Tickets cost \$14 for adults, \$3.50 for children, (little ones under five are free) and may be purchased in the church office. Reservations are a must as space is limited, so get your tickets early!

**Thanksgiving Baskets.** The United Church of Chester needs your help in providing fixings for Thanksgiving baskets which will be delivered to local families this holiday season.

- Gift cards in any amount to Adams in Deep River are welcome.
- Non-perishable items (canned goods, stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy, etc) are accepted anytime at the Chester Town Hall or the United Church of Chester.
- Perishable items (potatoes, rolls, turkeys, etc) can be donated on Saturday, November 22rd from 9:00 am to

noon at the United Church of Chester. We will have strong arms to assist you!

**Christmas Fair.** The United Church of Chester's Christmas Fair is going to be held on Saturday, December 6th from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. 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 outstanding cooks of the UCC Women's League. (Lunch will only be served between 11 am and 1:00 pm.)

**December 24th - Christmas Eve Family Service** at 5:00 pm, with children's choirs, music and candlelight. **Traditional Service** at 11:00 pm, there will be lessons and carols, closing with candlelight and moving outside to sing "Silent Night" to ring in Christmas Day.

## *Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley*

### **Faith and Health: A Nurse in the Church?**

Why does a nurse belong in a church? Women have been nursing in the church since the early days of church history. Deaconesses such as Phoebe and Fabiola cared for the sick and the poor. Religious orders of women showed God's love by caring for the sick in monasteries. This rich history of compassionate care led German Lutheran Pastor, Theodor Fleidner, to start the Kaiserwerth Institute for the Training of deaconess nurses. The nurses were called "Parish Nurses" and Florence Nightingale was one of the most notable students. Feelings called her to service through nursing and Nightingale combined the roots of Christian care with high professional standards. Nightingale viewed God as goodness, wisdom and love and reflected this belief through nursing care.

Parish Nursing is now called Faith Community Nursing to reflect the growth in many faith traditions. The practice of Faith Community Nursing has grown from a church based clinic in Chicago to an international specialty nursing practice recognized by the American Nurses Association.

Faith Community Nurses check blood pressures, give seminars on health related topics, and assist with navigating the healthcare system according to the values and traditions of the faith community. The skills of observation, listening and "being present" are at the heart of nursing care. Many FCN's find this part of the ministry the most valuable. The FCN provides compassionate, professional care for the whole person.

Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley has been serving the shoreline community since 1920. As a community supported, nonprofit organization we provide compassionate, professional, licensed and supportive home care services of the highest quality to people of the Lower Valley. We recognize the needs of the community.

Spiritual leaders of all faiths are often closely involved with individuals and families who struggle to care for loved ones or manage difficult healthcare issues. The aging of the population, and the complexities of healthcare, have increased the need for supportive home care. VNLV would like to extend a helping hand to assist you, and your congregants with your healthcare needs through home health services and health related programs.

To support the faith community effort to care for people in need, Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley has the Faith Community Nurse available to Shoreline religious communities for health education programs, advocacy, blood pressure screening, and referral. Contact Deborah Ringen, RN, MSN, Faith Community Nurse at (860) 767-0186 for further information.

**About Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley.** Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, Inc. is a not-for-profit, Medicare and Medicaid home health care organization serving Deep River, Essex, Chester and the Lower Valley region. Please check their website ([www.visitingnurses.org](http://www.visitingnurses.org)) or call (860) 767-0186 for service information.



## Retirement Planning?

The future cost of electricity is uncertain, but is guaranteed to rise. Prices fluctuate due to an aging and neglected infrastructure, speculation, conflicts in the Middle East, and unpredictable weather events. This great unknown threatens everyone's financial security.

A wise investment in solar energy will help stabilize your retirement income, while protecting our environment at the same time. Solar energy. The responsible thing to do – for everyone.

*Dean Jacques, Volunteer, Chester Energy Task Force*

(The Chester Energy Task Force offers a comprehensive energy plan called *A Roadmap to Clean Energy* that is available on the Chester Website.)

## Seeking Full Time Digital Pressman

Company is seeking a qualified candidate digital press operator. This position will set-up, run, troubleshoot & maintain a Xerox 700i and Xante Illumina digital press. Candidates must have experience and ability to work closely with others and assist in other departments when needed. Previous experience a plus.

Please forward resume and cover letter to  
[print@essexprinting.com](mailto:print@essexprinting.com)

## The Meeting House Players Present...

The Meeting House Players is proud to present Steven Dietz's 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 including Nancy Cardone, Robb Koehler, Jim Hile, Dan Nischan, Betsey McHaley, Vanessa Vradenburgh and Jeff Elmer.

"BECKY'S NEW CAR" opens on Friday, November 7 and continues on November 8, 14 & 15 at the Meeting House located on 4 Liberty Street in Chester. The curtain rises each evening at 8 pm and at 2 pm for a matinee performance on Saturday, November 15. Ticket prices are \$20 for Limited Reserved seating and \$15 for Open Seating. Reservations for both Limited Reserved and Open seating will be available beginning October 15 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*

## Public Service Announcement from the Town Clerk's Office

**NEW LEGISLATION:** Public Act 12-57, "An Act Concerning Permanent Absentee Ballot Status for the Permanently Disabled" created permanent absentee balloting status for certain individuals and became effective January 1, 2013.

**IN GENERAL:** to be eligible for permanent absentee ballot status, an elector must file with the Town Clerk an absentee ballot application together with a doctor's certificate stating that they have a permanent disability and are unable to appear in person at their polling place. The doctor's note should be on letterhead. There is no prescribed form – the doctor's note and the absent ballot application would satisfy the requirement of the law.

Permanent absentee ballot status enables the elector to receive an absentee ballot for each election, primary, and referendum in the municipality in which they are eligible to vote. Absentee ballots are available 21 days before a Primary and 31 days before an Election.

**ELIGIBILITY:** In January of each year the Registrars of Voters will send written notice to each elector with permanent

absentee ballot status to determine if the elector continues to reside at the address on the permanent absentee ballot application. If the elector fails to respond to the notice, the permanent absentee ballot status will be removed, but the elector will remain on the voter registration list.

For more instructions and an absentee ballot application, please call the Town Clerk's Office at 860-526-0013 x 511.

## What is 2-1-1?

It is Connecticut's free information and referral service. By dialing 2-1-1, a toll-free number throughout CT, callers can reach knowledgeable, multilingual staff and get information, referrals or seek help in a crisis. 2-1-1 operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year. TDD access is available.

## *The Chester Inland Wetlands Agency Urges Proper Leaf Disposal*

With Fall upon us, the Chester Inland Wetlands Agency urges that residents properly dispose of leaves. Leaves cannot be discarded in stream banks, lakes, or ponds where they cause filling and aquatic growth. Putting this kind of material in such areas adds phosphorus and other nutrients directly to waterways. Phosphorus is a fertilizer that promotes aquatic plant growth such as algae. In the past some residents have deposited their leaves on the top of the bank of Jennings Pond on the south side of West Main Street. In addition to adding nutrients to the pond, this type of disposal causes filling of storm drains. All Chester residents are encouraged to find more proper methods of leaf disposal.

Composting of leaves and other yard waste such as weeds and twigs is a good alternative. The finished compost can be

returned to the soil in the garden, or can be used as mulch around shrubs and other plants. There are many sources of information about composting. The Cooperative Extension System has many pamphlets available. Many gardening books in our library have information about composting. Also in our library is a copy of the video, Home Composting: "Turning Your Spoils to Soil", produced by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Recycling Program, an excellent resource.

Leaves, as well as brush and grass clippings, can be disposed of at the Deep River Transfer Station on Winthrop Road in Deep River. You can call the transfer station at 860-526-6047 for details.

## *The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries*



This year The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries (SSKP) marks 25 years of feeding the hungry along the shoreline in 11 towns, including Chester. Food is provided through 8 meal sites and 5 pantries, all located and hosted by communities of faith. Last year with a small staff and over 900 dedicated volunteers, we distributed more than 1 million pounds of food to over 7,200 shoreline neighbors in need.

**Chester Sunday Dinner:** SSKP serves a family-style hot dinner prepared fresh by volunteers every Sunday from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm at the United Church of Chester, 29 Main Street in Chester. All are welcome for food and fellowship.

**Chester Sunday Dinner:** SSKP serves a family-style hot dinner prepared fresh by volunteers every Sunday from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm at the United Church of Chester, 29 Main Street in Chester. All are welcome for food and fellowship.

**Food Pantry Every Week For Chester Residents:** Any resident of Chester may attend 1 of SSKP's 5 food pantries each week, located in Westbrook, Clinton, Old Saybrook, Old Lyme

and East Lyme. The pantries provide fresh and non-perishable food for those in need. Chester residents will receive enough food from the pantry for three meals a day for three days for all those in their household. Guests are reminded to bring bags. Visit [www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org](http://www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org) for a full listing of SSKP's pantry and meal locations or call (860) 388-1988.

**Chester Food Drives Needed:** Please help your neighbors by organizing a food drive. Call (860) 388-1988 or visit [www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org](http://www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org) for suggestions on how to make your drive a success.

**Support SSKP:** With your support, we can continue providing food to all needing help in Chester and on the shoreline. Donations (payable to Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries) can be mailed to P.O. Box 804, Essex CT 06426 or visit [www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org](http://www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org) to donate online.

## *Teenzone For Boys*

Do you have a young man, aged between 13 - 17 years of age with low self esteem? Teenzone for boys will be starting a new program in October, date to be determined, here on the Shoreline. The program will help the boys socialize with their peers, and learn some fun stuff along the way.

Sessions will include Music; Woodworking; Etiquette; Mindfulness; Bike building (an off site trip to Bikes for Kids in Old Saybrook); Martial Arts (an off-site visit to a Dojo); Internet Safety & Predator Awareness; Journaling etc. The facilitator for the group is Jeff Sasso, from Killingworth.

If you would like to refer a young man to the program, which is 8 weeks long, 1.5 hours per session, please contact Victoria Taylor, 860-995-8238 or visit [www.teenzonect.com](http://www.teenzonect.com).



**campaign**  
for bully-free  
**communities**

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

STAND UP TO BULLYING AND  
MEAN-SPIRITED BEHAVIOR.

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

STAND TOGETHER FOR CHANGE.  
TAKE THE PLEDGE.

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





# Probate Court Update

It is hard to believe that it has been almost four years since the individual town courts were merged into a regional court, serving nine towns of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. The total population of these towns is over 62,000 citizens. The Court is now a full time court and is open week days from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. It is located on the second floor of the Old Saybrook Town Hall, at 302 Main Street.

The statewide consolidations continue to be a financial success in that it has saved the taxpayers almost \$12 million dollars, over the past three fiscal years and those savings will continue. Despite the increase in files, the Saybrook Court has been able to keep its budget the same over the last three and a half years.

We open and process approximately one thousand new matters, of all types, per year. As a result, I have presided over more than 3,000 hearings since the consolidation. In addition to Decedent's Estates, the two areas which create a substantial amount of hearings are Conservatorships and Children's matters. Because there is an aging population and there are several facilities in this area, the Court receives numerous applications for the appointment of a Conservator. These applications require a hearing at which information is presented including medical and financial reports. If the person proposed to be conserved cannot come to the Court, I will go to them and we will have the hearing there. Children's matters usually involve granting or removing custody from a parent. If the parents are removed, often the child is placed with a grandparent. There is usually an investigation by the Department of Children and Families. These can be difficult matters but the Court's focus is always on what is in the best interest of the child. We have also had the pleasure of approving adoptions which is always an uplifting event.

Last time I mentioned that the legislature had adopted extensive new rules for probate court proceedings which went into effect on July 1, 2013. Additionally, new forms, consistent with these rules, are available online at [www.ctprobate.gov](http://www.ctprobate.gov). Most of these new forms are fillable for the convenience of the public. The implementation of these new rules and forms has been going well. One of the major changes is that someone filing documents with the Court must certify that they have sent copies to all the other interested parties. Another significant change is that the prior, somewhat confusing, Final Account form has now been replaced with a simpler Financial Report.



In addition to the normal duties of a Probate Judge, I was fortunate to be the only new Judge elected to the Executive Committee of the Probate Court Assembly. The Executive Committee meets monthly to discuss the rules and policies of the Connecticut Probate Courts. I am also a member of the National College of Probate Judges, so that I can stay current with the national probate trends and procedures. In addition to attending state seminars regularly, I also attend national seminars annually. I have also had the opportunity to address several of the local senior's groups as well as civic organizations, and I have presented a three part series at the local library.

Thanks to the efforts of the chief clerk Valerie Shickel, and the other clerks and assistant clerks, Sharon Tiezzi, Marjorie Calltharp, Stella Beaudoin, Helene Yates, Peggy Schroeder and Jackie Craco, I am pleased to say the Court continues to operate smoothly and efficiently.

*Terrance D. Lomme, Judge of Probate, 33rd District*

## Chester - Community Listings

### CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Chester Land Trust . . . . . (860) 526-2619
- Chester Fair . . . . . (860) 526-5947
- Chester Democratic Town Committee . . . . . [www.chesterctdems.com](http://www.chesterctdems.com)
- Chester Garden Club . . . . . (860) 526-2998
- Chester Historical Society . . . . . (860) 526-5781
- Chester Merchants Association . . . . . [www.visit-chester.com](http://www.visit-chester.com)
- Lions Club . . . . . [deepriverchesterct.lionwap.org](http://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

## Tri-Town Youth Services

Tri-Town Youth Services has many programs and events lined up for Fall 2014. Please join us when you can!

**Tri-Town Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition.** The next meeting will be held at Tri-Town Youth Services at 9:00 am on Wednesday, November 5. The Tri-Town Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition is a grassroots organization whose membership is open to all who live and work in the tri-town area who are concerned about substance abuse and committed to its prevention. Many "sectors" of the community are represented on this council: schools, youth serving organizations, law enforcement, government, civic groups, parents, students, the faith community and healthcare to name a few.

Future meeting dates for this year: January 21, 2015, March 11, 2015, and May 20, 2015. For further information, please call Tri-Town at 860-526-3600.

**Counseling.** Tri-Town continues to offer confidential, short-term counseling to youth and families residing in Chester, Deep River, and Essex, with daytime and evening appointments available. If you would like to come in to discuss issues of concern to you, please contact our office at 860-526-3600 to schedule an appointment with licensed professional counselor, Gail M. Onofrio, M.S. or our intern, Melanie Meyer.

**Parenting Program: Sensory Integration.** Many children (and adults) have difficulties processing sensory information, which can make them uncomfortable. Examples are strong reactions to loud noises, light touch (tickling, clothing tags, hair combing), problems with balance, and issues with water. This program will allow families to share what successes they have had and what help they still need. Families will brainstorm strategies and resource recommendations will be given. Please contact Meredith Adler, Parent Resource Coordinator for more information.

**Let's Go Lego! Family Fun.** We know it. You know it. Legos are the best toy, hands down. But do you play with them as a family? Each family will try out the following Lego stations: building a Lego marble maze, making a Lego family portrait, building a Lego diorama, and more. We will provide the Legos; you provide the creativity and ingenuity.

Meeting at Tri-Town, 56 High Street, Deep River at 1:00-2:30 pm on Saturday, November 15. Tuition is free.

**Raising Young Children in the Digital Age.** Your three-year-old watches Sesame Street. Your four-year-old plays on your smartphone while you wait in line at the grocery store. Your five-year-old knows which restaurants have free WiFi. Or maybe not. We raise our children in a world filled with screens. Does it matter? What impact is it having? Come hear what child health advocates and educators have to say about our young children's exposure to the media world.

Date: Coming soon. Watch newspapers and our website for more info. Cost: Free.

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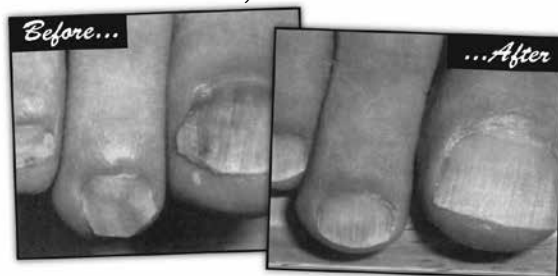
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# Calendar of Events

Reminder: Dates and times of events and meetings may change. Please be sure to check the town hall bulletin board or website [www.chesterct.org](http://www.chesterct.org) before attending.

October 20	Zoning Board of Appeals – Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Energy Task Force – Town Hall	9:00 am
	Economic Development – Town Hall	7:15 pm
	Library Board of Directors – Chester Library	7:30 pm
October 21	Water Pollution Control Authority – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Board of Selectmen – Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 28	Main Street Project Committee – Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 29	Park and Recreation Commission – Town Hall	7:15 pm
	Conservation Commission – “Economic Benefits of Open Space”	7:00 pm
November 3	Inland Wetlands Commission – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Citation Review Committee – Town Hall	7:00 pm
November 4	Election Day – Second Floor Town Offices Closed to the Public	
November 5	Conservation Commission – Town Hall	7:30 pm
November 10	Energy Task Force E-Team – Town Hall	9:00 am
	Economic Development – Town Hall	7:15 pm
November 11	Town Offices Closed	
November 13	Planning and Zoning Commission – Town Hall	7:30 pm
November 17	Zoning Board of Appeals – Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Retirement Committee – Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Library Board of Directors – Chester Library	7:30 pm
November 18	Board of Selectmen – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Water Pollution Control Authority – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Chester Land Trust – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Main Street Project Committee – Town Hall	7:30 pm
November 19	Board of Fire Commissioners – Hose Company	7:30 pm
	Library Building Committee – Town Hall	7:00 pm
November 20	Board of Finance – Town Hall	7:30 pm
November 25	Main Street Project Committee – Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Board of Selectmen – Town Hall	7:00 pm
November 27, 28	Town Hall Offices Closed	
December 1	Inland Wetlands Commission – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Citation Review Committee – Town Hall	7:00 pm
December 2	Board of Selectmen – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Harbor Management – Town Hall	7:30 pm
December 3	Conservation Commission – Town Hall	7:30 pm
December 8	Energy Task Force E-Team – Town Hall	9:00 am
December 9	Workplace Safety – Town Hall	9:30 am
	Main Street Project Committee – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Chester Land Trust – Town Hall	7:00 pm
December 11	Planning and Zoning – Town Hall	7:30 pm
December 15	Economic Development – Town Hall	7:15 pm
	Zoning Board of Appeals – Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Library Board of Directors – Chester Library	7:30 pm
December 16	Board of Selectmen – Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Water Pollution Control Authority – Town Hall	7:00 pm
December 17	Board of Fire Commissioners – Hose Company	7:30 pm
	Library Building Committee – Town Hall	7:00 pm
December 18	Board of Finance – Town Hall	7:30 pm
December 24, 25	Town Offices Closed	
December 31 & January 1	Town Offices Closed	



## Today is Tomorrow's History

### What's New with Chester Historical Society

**Visit Chester Museum!** Have you been through the Mill? If not, you are missing an opportunity to see two enthralling exhibits of Chester's history in our Chester Museum at The Mill. Visitors repeatedly tell us how "surprised" they are that a small town has a museum of such depth and quality. Chester natives tell us they're excited to find so much fascinating Chester history.

From our 54-inch Columbia Allbright "ordinary" on loan from the Connecticut Historical Society to display cases of Chester-found arrowheads and Chester-manufactured inkwells to exhibits of Chester photos since the early 1900s, there is something to appeal to every age. And with free admission, it's easy to drop by and stay as long as you wish with family, friends, or visitors.

The museum is open on Saturdays from 1 to 4 pm and Sundays, 10 am to 4 pm, through Sunday, November 2, for self-guided tours. It'll also be open on Thanksgiving weekend, Friday and Saturday, November 28 and 29, providing just the entertainment you need for your holiday visitors. The museum will then be closed until May 2015. And don't forget – admission is free. It is handicapped accessible. More details are on our website, [www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.ChesterHistoricalSociety.org).

**Society's Collection.** Secure, climate-controlled storage for our Collection was a high priority when we created Chester Museum at The Mill. That opened the door to many more people donating or sharing articles and photos from Chester's past with us.

We continue to be on the lookout for Chester historical items and photos, so we encourage you to think of us when you find something from Chester's past (and remember, the "past" may even be the 1950s or later!).

A team of volunteers, led by Curator Diane Lindsay, a Chester native, meets twice a week to help research, photograph, and digitally catalogue our growing collection. As an item is catalogued, it often is moved either to the Archive Vault or Collection Vault at the museum, both of which are controlled for temperature and humidity. Our goal is to have a computer database of most items available for public lookup and research. It goes without saying that only a portion of the Society's collection and archives can be exhibited at a given time. Thus, we often field questions and requests regarding objects not on display.

If you have something to share with us but don't want to give it up at this point, may we take a photo of it? Or if it's a photograph, we can scan it into our database and you can still hang onto the original. We are always looking for Chester people, happenings and structures. If you want any more information, email us at [chestercthistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:chestercthistoricalsociety@gmail.com).

**Be in the Know.** Information about Historical Society activities, as well as new gifts to our archives, is in our monthly e-newsletter. If you're interested in receiving the e-news (even if you're not a member of the Historical Society), please send your email address to [chestercthistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:chestercthistoricalsociety@gmail.com).

All addresses are kept confidential. We are also on Facebook and regularly post old photos of Chester. Check it out at [Facebook.com/chestercthistoricalsociety](https://www.facebook.com/chestercthistoricalsociety)

**Support for Chester History.** Approximately 400 people take pride in supporting the Historical Society's ongoing mission to share Chester's rich history through exhibits and programs for all ages. If you are not already a member, isn't it time to become one? Annual dues for members are \$30 (family) and \$20 (individual). New membership forms can be mailed to you by leaving your name and address at [info@chesterhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@chesterhistoricalsociety.org). Also, tax-deductible donations in any amount can be mailed at any time to: Chester Historical Society, PO Box 205, Chester 06412.



The Chester Museum at The Mill has a variety of Chester and family-oriented gifts for sale at very reasonable prices. When you're looking for stocking stuffers, consider a DVD of "It Happened to Jane" (just \$15), the children's book "Ferryboat" about the Chester-Hadlyme Ferry (\$12), a copy of the Silliman inkwells, and much more. Historical Society members get discounted prices on all items.



Children and their parents can take the museum's free Chester History Hunt to search the exhibit to answer questions and draw some objects found during their visit. Shown here are Samantha Calamari, Lydia Battey and Jason Camilleri studying the Chester voter list for the election of President Abraham Lincoln. Photo by Skip Hubbard

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## High-Profile Authors Come to Chester

How valuable is an expensive liberal arts education in an era when technology seems to rule? How, in Connecticut's river valley, can you bake like a French pastry chef? What is the texture of life in a country constantly at war?

All of these questions will be answered in three free upcoming Books & Bagels programs at Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek.

Assaf Gavron, an Israeli, is the author of *The Hilltop*, a daring work about life in a West Bank settlement. He speaks on Thursday, November 6th at 8:00 pm. Khaled Hosseini, author of the "Kite Runner," says, "In *The Hilltop*, Gavron's unique gift is on full display in all of its eccentric, genre-bending glory. He treads the line between the serious and the absurd, the tragic and the comical, the sincere and the satirical, and creates a sweeping, complex story that raises more questions than it provides answers."

Michael Roth, president of Wesleyan University, will read from and discuss his new book, *Beyond the University: Why a Liberal Arts Education Matters*, on Sunday, November 16th at 9:30 am. Roth argues that teaching the "practical" turns out graduates trained for "yesterday's jobs" who have not learned the intellectual rigor and flexibility needed to adjust to whatever the future may bring.

Dorie Greenspan talks about her newest book, *Baking Chez Moi*, on Sunday, December 7th at 9:30 am. Called "a culinary guru" by *The New York Times*, Dorie Greenspan is the award-winning author of nine cookbooks, a special correspondent for *Bon Appétit* magazine and a frequent guest on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered* and *Splendid Table*.

Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek is located at 55 East Kings Highway in Chester. All of the Books & Bagels programs are free and open to the public. No reservations are necessary. For more information, visit [www.cbsrz.org](http://www.cbsrz.org) or call the office 860-526-8920.



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