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First Selectman's Corner

Westbrook Traffic

I always appreciate when our residents take the time to come to our office and express concerns on issues of importance. Consistently, especially in the summer months, the major issue is always about traffic and the impact it has on our residents; specifically speeding on all of the major roads especially the roads adjacent to our beach communities.

As one resident stated, "Westbrook has been discovered" and consequently these changes have dramatically affected our traffic patterns. Accordingly, the overcrowding, at times, of our public beach areas places a tremendous strain on our local residents and especially on our Constables and State Troopers. It is important; however, to bring to your attention the many proactive measures that your municipal government is doing to address the problem.

• We have a very active Police Advisory/Traffic Authority Commission that takes seriously their responsibility to respond to requests related to traffic matters. They recommended, for example, that we have an additional speed monitoring machine that is rotated to different well-traveled roads. Members of this

Commission also conduct "site visits" throughout the community to be familiar with individual complaints. The safety of our residents has, and continues to be, one of their major objectives.

• Currently, there are five part-time Constables and three State Troopers assigned to Westbrook. They do a great job but given the modest size of their staff, they can only be in one place

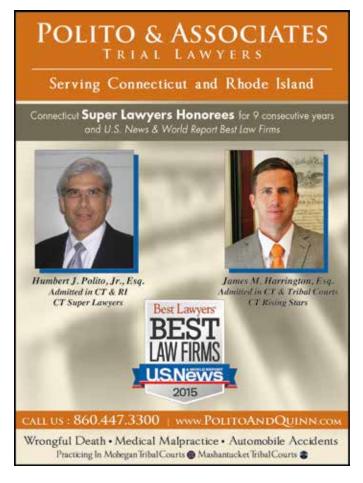


First Selectman Noel Bishop

for a limited amount of time given the demands of the entire community. They do, however, place more emphasis during the summer months on the beach communities. Trooper Buck, for example, uses a bike to patrol these areas and as many of you know, he is very visible and will always take the time to stop and talk to anyone to address your questions. By comparison, Old Saybrook has approximately 30% more population than Westbrook and has at least 22 full-time police officers. Comparatively speaking, it is obvious like with so many other services, we expect a lot of our personnel including so many

Continued on page 3





2015 Vista Tour de Shore

SUNDAY OCTOBER 18



Event takes place at Westbrook Elks Lodge, 142 Seaside Ave. Register to ride 5, 25, 40 or 60 miles at: www.vistatourdeshore.com



Biking through barriers



Vista provides services and resources to assist individuals with disabilities achieve personal success Net proceeds from this fundraising event will benefit the Vista Endowment Fund For more information: www.vistavocational.org or call 860-399-8080















SELECTMAN'S CORNER...continued from page 1

volunteers to make Westbrook a community that can maintain relatively low taxes and et deliver great services to our residents.

- We take considerable pride with the rapport that our enforcement personnel have developed with this community. Furthermore, as a result of their increased vigilance, more tickets are being written for traffic infractions including driving while texting. I have asked that we now publish, at least on a quarterly basis, all of the police reports on activities, without names, since it is already a matter of public record.
- I encourage you to call 860-399-7304 which is our Constable's office and it will roll over to the Troop F Barracks if there is no answer. Any issue regarding traffic or other perceived disturbances should be reported to this number as soon as possible.
- Trooper Wayne Buck has submitted an application that has been approved for a Speed Enforcement Grant for the Town of Westbrook. The goal of the Federal 2015 High Risk Rural Roads Speed Enforcement Program is to reduce the speed of vehicles traveling on both the secondary rural roads and rural state roads through the Town of Westbrook. To achieve this goal, the plan will be to increase patrols on these roads and conduct speed enforcement utilizing both laser and radar. The program start date was July 1 and Federal funds will reimburse the Town for 100% of the cost.

These are some of the major initiatives that have been taken to address your concerns regarding traffic. As our enforcement officers often remind us, as individual citizens, we have a collective responsibility to obey the laws. Every stop sign; every speed limit sign; every illegal texting while driving; every crosswalk and all of the other visible reminders that are present, are only effective if we acknowledge that obeying the law is the primary responsibility of every citizen. Let's all work together to make Westbrook a safe community.

2015 Household Hazardous Waste Facility

Essex, Saturdays from 9 am – 1 pm August 22nd September 12th

October 10th and October 24th

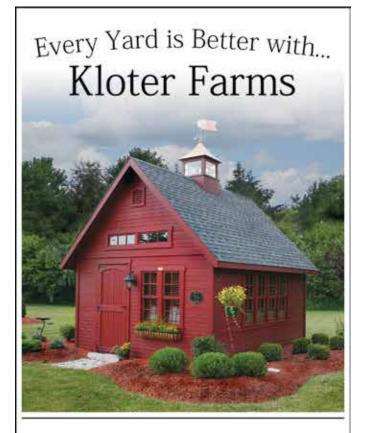
Consumer Electronics: Electronics can now be brought to the town's transfer station.

Paper Shreddring:

9:00 - 12:00, Essex HHW facility on September 26th

Contact: www.rivercog.org, info@rivercog.org,

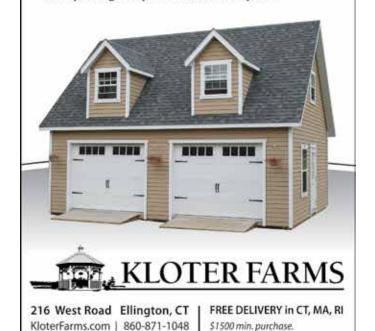
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92 MEADOWBROOK RD

WESTBROOK - \$334,900 - Beautiful Waterfront Cottage on a 1.8 wooded acre lot with magnificent elevated views of the Patchogue River and Marshes. This year round 3 bedroom home offers beamed LR w/ stone fireplace, and large knotty pine cathedral ceilings on 2nd floor. FRANK PURDUE



488 GROVE BEACH ROAD

WESTBROOK - \$399,900 - 4 bedroom 2 bath Cape, Circa 1745 with River Frontage. Four bay carriage house with water and electricity. Can be purchased with guest house (currently rented for \$925/mo) for \$485,000. OWNER/AGENT MARY BETH JOYCE 860-227-5801.



0 OLD SALT WORKS ROAD

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WESTBROOK - \$274,500 - One floor living! Delightful 3 bedroom Ranch on a level 2.55 acre lot. Great floor plan, deck overlooking private backyard- surrounded by woods. Large basement, and attached 2 car garage. Central air & house wired for generator. SARAH MARCINEK



314 CHAPMAN MILL POND RD

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WESTBROOK - \$269,900 - New construction... 1498 Sq. Ft. 3-Bedroom , $2\frac{1}{2}$ Bath, end-unit condo with central air, stainless appliances, granite counter tops, wood floors on first level. 1 Car attached garage. CALL JOE WREN.



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Westbrook Recreation Department

This fall we will be very busy with registrations and attendance in all our programs. From tots to seniors, we have programs that will interest everyone and all ages. Our K-4 Karate program has children doing this program twice a week after school at the Daisy Elementary School. Archery is another fun after school activity that has children 8 - 12 years old doing it on Tuesday at Wren Park.

Soccer is the sport's program everyone loves during the fall. We always have a large number of children participating in our Tot and Recreational soccer program on Saturday mornings. This year we will also have the Connecticut Rush Soccer Academy doing a weekday program on Wednesday nights from 5:30-6:30 PM. Sessions will focus on individual and small

Transfer Station Hours

Mon., Wed., Sat. from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm Phone: 860-399-6356

Town Garage

185 Horse Hill Road, Exit 64 860-552-4496 group play. Children will receive more touches on the ball and develop better foot skills in a fun environment. Children must be between the ages of 6 - 13 years old.

After soccer is over we will jump right into our recreational youth Badminton. Badminton starts on November 14th and will run for five weeks. Children between the ages of 5 - 13 years old are all welcome to register. Your children will love playing with their friends as we teach them how to serve, set and spike.

Our after school child care program at the Middle School is also available to busy parents who need to pick-up their children after work. Your child will be in a safe and well supervised environment where they can study, do their homework and play with their friends. The cost is less than \$10 per day if you sign-up by the month. Drop-in's and individual days will be available at a higher cost. Please call us at 860-399-3095 if you have any questions?

If you're interested in finding out more about all our other programs, please check us out at westbrookrec.com. We have programs available for tots, youth, teens, adults and seniors. All our programs are available to everyone (resident and nonresidents). Why pay expensive membership fees when you pay as you go and stop whenever you wish.

Westbrook Recreation Board





Westbrook Youth & Family Services, Inc

NEW PROGRAM ALERT: Parent Exchange. WYFS teams up with the Valley Shore YMCA and the Valley Shore Collaborative to offer single parents opportunities to build their social network of support, learn about resources in their community and enjoy some good, old-fashioned family fun with their children. Register at wyfs.org.

Helping Hands Every Thursday this summer. High School teens have been donating their time and talents this summer at the Valley Shore YMCA's community garden which provides fresh produce to the Shoreline Soup Kitchen for distribution to families. They've also been Happy to Help at Senior Center cookouts. More opportunities for your High School teen coming this Fall. Register at wyfs.org.

Back to School

In each school, we will be offering structured peer groups and new programs that focus on positive youth development and leadership skills. Check us out at the Open Houses and pick up some WYFS goodies. Need our School Supply Closet? Contact Jacqueline at 860-399-9239.

Fall Programming also includes Halloween Bingo, Peer Groups, Leadership groups and more!

For more information on these programs and more, visit wyfs.org. Sign up for our email newsletter so you don't miss our fresh slate of programs throughout the year.

Thank You Jon Lorensen of Lorensen Auto Group! Mr.Lorensen has been a generous and loyal donor to us and many other organizations in this community. We are grateful!

Counseling Services

WYFS offers affordable, quality counseling services in a warm, welcoming judgment-free zone. Life transitions and challenges are frequent



Kimberly Bratz, WYFS Chair and Jacqueline Ward, WYFS Director accepting a check from Jon Lorensen.

and can be difficult for everyone. We can help. Services are offered on a sliding-scale fee basis or some insurances are accepted. Please call Macdara MacColl at 860-399-9239 to set up an appointment.

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Shoreline Buddy Baseball

Shoreline Buddy Baseball Challenger Little League is a skill building, non-competitive recreational league for boys and girls with special needs. This program focuses on experience of team play, exposure to a lifelong skill and participation in one of America's favorite past times. This is a free program for developmentally and physically challenged youth on the shoreline, helping to enjoy the full benefits of Little League participation in an athletic environment structured to their abilities. This program continues to grow with participants from 18 of our neighboring towns from North Branford to Middletown to Waterford. Games were held on Sundays in May and June in Westbrook on Ted Lane fields. This program also provides community service hours for our youth. Each player is paired with a "Buddy" to assist the player as needed. The Buddies primary responsibility is to encourage the players, keep them safe, share in the excitement of the game, and create a fun and successful opportunity for each player. The league fosters friendships and breaks down barriers. Not only do the players experience the thrill of participating, they also get to experience team play, being cheered on by a crowd, and camaraderie. All involved will have fun as friendships are formed and skills are developed.

BUDDY stands for: "Because Unbelievable Dedication Deserves You!"



"We count smiles, not runs." It's all about acceptance, self-esteem, team spirit, and a positive learning experience!

This program has been ongoing for the past 6 years, however, last year the program changed to become its own entity separate from the local little leagues. The Westbrook Foundation provided a grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the Shoreline Buddy Baseball program in Westbrook for seed money to start up the new challenger league in the community. We are incredibly grateful

Continued on page 9

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BUDDY BASEBALL...continued from page 8

to the Foundation's grant which allowed us to start up this league, as well as purchase some much needed equipment like uniforms, batting helmets, bases and new equipment shed. This grant will allow us to grow our program and ensure the longevity of the program in the future.

Rain did not stop our closing day ceremonies. The Town of Westbrook was gracious enough to open up the Multi-Purpose room so that our players and buddies could receive their much deserved Trophies and Certificates. In attendance was Harry Ruppenicker, Jr from the Westbrook Foundation, First Selectman, Noel Bishop, Devin Carney State Representative for Old Saybrook and Westbrook as well as teachers and principals from our local school districts.

Board Members:

President: Dr. Kim Walker

Vice President/Director: Chris Walker League Information Officer: Peter Scotella

Treasurer: Paul Winch

League Manager: Andy Marciniec Safety Officer: Carlos Uphold **Umpire and Chief:** Mike Esposito

Website: Shorelinebuddybaseball.org

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Tropical Storm – Hurricane Preparedness

Donald Izzo, Emergency Management Director



The Town of Westbrook and the entire southern New England region encounter the highest probability of a tropical storm or hurricane annually from August 15th through November 1st. We want to ensure that you have the resources to be

prepared. As noted with the past Tropical Storms (Irene and Sandy), each storm caused damage for many residents and forced wires down resulting in no power for 4-8 days. When electricity is disrupted you will lose TV, telephone and Internet services. With severe damage, cell sites can also experience disruption too. Tropical Storms produce sustained winds of 39-73 mph. Hurricanes wind speeds range from 74 to over 155 mph. Along with dangerous winds, these types of storms will produce heavy, long periods of rain and storm surge damage to the coastline. Preparedness actions, before the storm on your part include:

- Appropriate Disaster Plan and Disaster Kit
- · Awareness of Westbrook Notifications

Appropriate Disaster Plan and Disaster Kit 5-7 Days of Supplies

The Emergency Management Department recommends every family to have an appropriate Disaster Plan in place that includes you leaving your residence and temporarily relocating. Storm surge and flooding is common for residents located along Boston Post Road (and all roads south) including the adjacent areas near the Menunketesuck River and Jensens / Green Acres mobile home parks. In other areas of the town, residents need to be aware of falling trees and power lines due to the extreme winds. Emergency services (Police-Fire-Ambulance) are suspended when sustained winds are 45 mph or greater.

We recommend you have a plan in place to evacuate 12-24 hours prior to the storm's arrival; going to family, friends or consider staying at a local hotel. If you have no other option, Westbrook or other towns will open a pre-storm disaster shelter. Shelter locations are announced via news media, social media and 211 Info-Line. After the storm has passed and when it's safe, residents

Continued on page 11

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Bathrooms
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Flooring
General Remodeling







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HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS...continued from page 10

can return to their home. If needed, Westbrook will open a post storm disaster shelter.

Disaster Kits are essential to your survival when there is no power for more than 24 hours. Everyone needs to have an appropriate kit that contains suitable food, water, along with other important items (medication, infant supplies) to last at least 5-7 days. Disaster Kits are not just for weather events throughout the year. They can be used for other disaster events that can affect Westbrook.

Town Notifications

Westbrook Emergency Management works closely with State and Federal agencies, including the National Weather Service when a storm is forecast to impact our area. We highly recommend you follow our website and social media sites on Facebook or Twitter. These sites are uploaded regularly with Westbrook preparedness, warnings and post storm restoration information.

In extreme circumstances with life and safety concerns, we can notify you via the CT ALERT System, with brief, concise information. You can receive this information by registering your cell phone (voice/text) and/or email. Go to our website, following the link to CT ALERT. If your information has changed, please update the information at this time.

Where Do I Get More Information?

The Westbrook Emergency Management website, www. westbrookem.com will provide you with complete information on disaster preparedness topics. The site also includes topics on disaster shelters, Eversource, generator and food safety, pets, elderly, special needs and more. The website is outfitted with videos and written material. Options also include viewing the web site in different languages. If you need access to a computer, please visit the Westbrook Library at 61 Goodspeed Drive, family or friends.

We don't have the power to stop a weather related event; however you have resources to become resilient, which will help you and your family. By following our recommendations, you will be prepared for almost any disaster that can affect the Town of Westbrook throughout the year.

Town Hall Hours

Mon – Wed: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Thursday: 9:00 am – 7:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am - noon

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Westbrook Public Schools Preparation for 2015-16 School Year

It's hard to believe that summer is already giving way to the start of the Fall semester and students will soon be returning for the 2015-16 school year. Our opening day celebratory convocation is set for August 24th with the first day of school for students and staff is August 26th. It is no secret that the minute school ends, Principals and staff begin preparing for our students to return. That preparation has involved new hiring to replace retiring staff or those moving on to other positions, planning for the upcoming school-year professional development and trainings, as well as the care and refurbishment of our indoor and outdoor school/town facilities. The following are some of the highlighted summer projects to improve our schools.

Security Camera installation - Camera installation and repositioning of cameras has been completed giving our school staff a much greater capacity to monitor and deter any security problems within our schools and on our campuses.

Pass-through Windows for School Main Offices – Passthrough windows have been installed in all three buildings. Once training is completed, office staff will begin using the pass-through windows to collect identifying information from visitors wishing to enter or visit our schools. Staff will be trained in new visitor procedures.

Phone Project - Working with a digital phone company which was awarded the State Bid contract for school phone systems installation, this past spring an assessment of existing useable wiring/network capability was completed as well as a design of a new phone system with all of the features that have been identified as essential. The system installation has occurred throughout the summer with a "go-live" date of August 22nd. This new equipment is tied into the newest solar back-up system that was recently installed on and in the high school to provide continuous, non-interruptible service.

Other Summer Projects at Daisy Ingraham Elementary

School – Some overhead support columns at Daisy were damaged by water and ice expansion over the winter and those have been refurbished. New roofing is being applied to the existing roof, in the area of the overhang to allow for better and more strategic water run-off to prevent ice dams from forming in the future. Of course, the massive sinkhole which opened up in the middle of the

Continued on page 13







PUBLIC SCHOOLS...continued from page 12

Daisy first parking lot during the Spring recess was the site of a large project to dig out and refill with appropriate fill materials. Repaying of the parking lot has been completed as well. The Daisy cafeteria carpet has been removed and a colorful new tile floor has been installed to greet all of our K-4 students, families and staff for the start of the new school year.

These are just a few of the examples of the cooperative work to care for our schools; made possible through the collaborative relationship between the Board of Education and the Westbrook community of residents and town officials. Our Westbrook community can be proud of its schools.

Valley Shore YMCA Marlins Participate In The Dave Parcels Open Water Championship

Swimmers representing the Valley Shore YMCA Marlins Team swam an Open water course at Quassy Amusement Park on June 27th. Kyle Wisialowski Placed 2nd in the 11-12 boys mini-mile. Isaac Waide placed 5th in his age group and Kayla Mendonca placed 3rd in her age group for the mile swim.

The Marlin's Long Course swim season ended on July 20th. The Short Course season begins in the fall and the Marlins will be actively recruiting new members. The team is composed of swimmers ranging in age from 6 to 18. This swim

program is designed to be rewarding for all levels of swimmers – from those new to swimming, to swimmers who place at the top of their age groups in competitive swimming. The program helps swimmer-athletes develop to their highest level of swimming and personal achievement. Along with learning competitive swimming skills, swimmers learn self-discipline, respect, loyalty, good sportsmanship, and have fun. For more information go to vsymca.org or contact coach Teddy Weeks at the Valley Shore YMCA.



Garrett Smith (Westbrook), Isaac Waide (East Haddam), Chris Thomson (Old Saybrook), Sam Fuchs (Old Lyme), Kayla Mendonca (Madison), Kyle Wisialowski (Old Saybrook) and Audra Giugno (Old Saybrook).

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Killingworth \$629,000 Georgian Colonial



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Madison \$337,500 Spacious Colonial



Clinton \$131,000 Sunny Condo





Fair Rent Commission

Census data shows that almost 20% of All Westbrook housing is rental.

The Westbrook Fair Rent Commission provides a no expense information and mediation service for Westbrook tenants and landlords. If a resolution cannot be obtained, with the exception of seasonal rentals, the commission, upon formal application by the tenant, will hold a hearing with both the tenant and landlord and determine, if appropriate, temporary or permanent rental adjustments under the following 14 factors the Fair Rent Commission can legally consider.

- 1. The health and safety conditions of your apartment;
- 2. The rents charged for similar apartments in the city or neighborhood;
- 3. The number of bathtubs or showers, toilets, kitchen sinks and bathroom sinks in your apartment;
- 4. Services (such as utilities, furniture, furnishings and equipment) supplied by the landlord;
- 5. The size and number of bedrooms in your apartment;
- 6. The repairs needed to make your apartment livable;
- 7. The amount of taxes and other expenses of the landlord;
- 8. Whether your apartment complies with the housing code and State statutes relating to health and safety;
- 9. Your income and whether there are other apartments you can afford;
- 10. What utilities you have in your apartment and whether you or your landlord pays for them;
- 11. Damages, other than ordinary wear and tear, which you have caused to the apartment;
- 12. How much the landlord has raised your rent in the past;
- 13. How much of the rent increase will be used to improve your apartment and the building;
- 14. Extra fees and charges are also covered.

Manufactured home complexes and trailer parks are included. Note Fair Rent has nothing to do with Rent Control — which does not exist in Connecticut. Fair Rent Commissions consider individual cases only. Lawyers are not required however Commission decisions are appealable to the court system by either side. Tenants or landlords may choose a spokesperson.

No one wants a hearing. The focus of the Westbrook Fair Rent Commission is to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of both the tenant and landlord and insure the comfort, health and safety of all.

Continued on page 15

Want to Advertise?
Call Ward Feirer at 914.806.5500

FAIR RENT COMMISSION...continued from page 14

If the commission determines, after a separate hearing, that a landlord has retaliated in any manner against a tenant because the tenant has complained to the commission, the commission may order the landlord to cease and desist from such conduct.

Fair Rent Complaint forms and Fair Rent Commission information booklets are available at the Town Clerk's office.

Richard Holton, Chairman
Jeffrey Kriete, Commissioner, Secretary
Sherry Seidman, Commissioner
Julius Angelini, Commissioner
Joseph Cotrona, Commissioner

Town Hall Closed

Labor Day September 7

Columbus Day October 12

Veteran's Day November 11

Thanksgiving November 26-27

Westbrook Senior Citizen's Club

The Westbrook Senior Citizen's Club is celebrating its 40th Anniversary, on September 23, at the Westbrook Town Hall Senior Center, 866 Boston Post Road starting at 12 pm. A special event will be held please R.S.V.P. by September 9.

We have lost contact with some of our past and present members. We look forward to seeing you. Our first meeting will be held on September 9. On our October 28th meeting, Claire Bellerjeau from the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry will be our quest speaker at 1:30 pm.

For more information contact: Ray Gaudet: 860-575-5915 Marg Wills: 860-399-2599

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B# 1997 Commercial and Residential

Westbrook Garden Club—Grow with Us!

Few things make us happier than promoting education in horticulture and the environmental sciences, so we were delighted to award our annual \$1,000 college scholarship to Christopher Tragakes, a highly qualified 2015 Westbrook High School graduate. Christopher, who began his own small landscape maintenance company when he was 12 and this year teamed with a friend to start a maple sugaring operation, will study Environmental Horticulture at Colorado State University. Congratulations!

We're growing. This spring we welcomed seven new members, along with several new officers. Vivian Partridge is our new vice president; Ali Shlien steps up as recording secretary; and Charlotte Parisi is the new corresponding secretary. Mindy Gordon and Penny Sisk graciously agreed to continue as president and treasurer, respectively.

If you're struggling with weeds in sidewalk cracks and between paving stones, try this garden club favorite safe-for-kids-and-pets weed killer. Mix 1/2 gallon apple cider vinegar, 1/4 cup salt, and 1/2 teaspoon Dawn dishwashing detergent. Apply with a spray bottle.

Enjoy all that's green and growing, because fall is on the way. Fall is the time to divide spring and summer blooming perennials, as lower temperatures and increased rainfall provide optimal conditions for the divisions to re-establish themselves. Choose now which plants to divide and where to place new plants. While you're at it, reserve some spots in the garden for the chrysanthemums you'll buy at our Fall Mum Sale, September 12. Stay tuned to local publications for information on how to preorder our spectacular mums starting in mid-August.

Making a Property Complaint

Tis the season that property owners find issues and bring them to the attention of the Land Use Office. The Complaint Form is on the town website: http://westbrookct.us/Docs/Landuse/complaint form.pdf. Or, it can be mailed, emailed or picked up in the Land Use Office.

It is encouraged that people try to work things out before filing a dispute, but all complaints are taken seriously. Please know that if you are filing a complaint about your neighbor, they will let us know if your property has potential violations. Your complaint does not always lead to an enforcement action. When it's investigated, sometimes the owner has already fixed the problem or we find out the owner has done nothing wrong.

We might use your contact information for follow-up questions. Although it is understood that some complaints wish to remain anonymous, those do not have the highest priority and could take longer. Sometimes we may not be able to see the violation.

If you don't get the response you are seeking, please talk to the appropriate party (Zoning, Building, Health, Inland Wetlands) or, you may hire your own legal counsel.

If you don't have a valid email address, you can visit us in person at: 866 Boston Post Road, Westbrook, CT 06498 – Monday -Wednesday 9:00-4:00; Thursday 9:00-7:00; Friday 9:00-12:00. Or, send a letter to the Land Use Department, 866 Boston Post Road, Westbrook, CT 06498.

Estuary Council Regional Senior Center

The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. (ECSI) is a community resource for the nine-town Estuary region's residents over 50 years old providing nutrition, transportation, health support services, education opportunities and socialization. Detailed information is available at our website, http://www.ecsenior. org. The Estuary Council is the sole provider of Meals on Wheels for the Shoreline region. Mark your calendars for a delicious way to support this vital program:

SHORELINE CHEFS - Sunday, September 20. This first time event will bring together local professional and home Chefs as well as some local dignitaries; all making small plate tastings



for those in attendance to sample. Join us on the Old Saybrook Town Green from 3-6 pm. The afternoon will be filled with fabulous food, beverages for purchase, music, and the chance to vote for your favorites (food, chef, booth decorations). Food. Fun. Wine. Beer. Support Meals on Wheels - Join us September 20th. If you are interested in being a Chef, or being a Sponsor of this event, call (860) 388-1611 x 211.

Probate Court Changes in the Budget

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

On June 3rd and June 28th, respectively, the Connecticut legislature passed both the budget and implementer for the biennium starting July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2017. I voted 'no' on both bills for many reasons – tax hikes, increased overall spending, and the implementation of Keno, just to name a few. One other reason is the zeroing-out of funding to the state's probate court division from the general fund. This change will increase costs to close a decedent's estate and could prove to be detrimental to the core and, oftentimes, cost-saving services the courts provide.

Effective July 1st, the budget and its implementer cut all \$32 million dedicated to subsidize the probate court system. Prior to this change, the courts relied on both user fees and statefunded subsidies to pay for salaries, benefits, and operating costs. In order to make up the loss, there is no longer a limit on probate court fees (previously it had been set at \$12,500) and

most filing costs have been raised from \$150 to \$225. In addition, the court fee on estates worth more than \$2 million was raised to .5% of the value - now the highest in the nation (and is retroactive to January 1, 2015).

The exclusive reliance on user fees, especially from larger estates, could prove problematic as these high fees could drive people away from probate



courts or from Connecticut altogether. The potential for reduced revenue could affect necessary probate services such as appointing guardians to children (avoiding foster care), assisting in getting treatment for those with mental illnesses, and appointing/ supervising conservators to those who may otherwise require state-funded institutional care.

As always, I welcome your thoughts and opinions on this or any other state-related issue. Please feel free to contact me at repdevincarney@gmail.com or (860) 240-8700.

A Message from your Town Clerk

The 2015 Connecticut Hunting and Trapping Guides have been issued and we have many copies available in the Town Clerk's Office. This year there is a new fee called "2015 Fishing/ Hunting Guide Registration Fee" which is available for \$100.

There are many new licensing fees for hunting and fishing for resident juniors (ages 16 & 17 years old) in Connecticut.

- The Pheasant Stamp which is valid October 1 through February 2016 is \$14 for juniors.
- The State Stamp Connecticut Migratory Bird Hunting Authorization for juniors is \$7 for the calendar year.
- The HIP permit for juniors is now \$2 for the calendar year.

Some of the other New Permits for juniors (Ages 16 & 17 years old) are:

- Firearms Hunting License is \$10
- Fall Turkey Hunting Permits are \$10
- Deer Permits for juniors are \$10
- Spring Turkey permits for juniors are \$10
- Marine Fishing Licenses for juniors are now \$5

If you need assistance obtaining your license, we are a license vendor for the State DEEP and we can issue permits during regular business hours. We can also provide you with duplicate copies of your license at no charge.

You can also go to www.ct.gov/deep/hunting and obtain your permits on-line.

Also in the 2015 guide is a list of Junior Hunter Training Days. The regulations designate these dates for youth hunting in Connecticut. Junior Hunters (12 to 15 years old) may hunt when accompanied by a licensed adult hunter (18 years old or older). There are specific dates listed for Pheasant, Waterfowl and Deer hunting in the 2015 guide as well as instructions for the adult mentors.

Should you have any questions contact our office at 860-399-3044 or visit the Connecticut DEEP Website for updated information.

Best wishes for an enjoyable late summer and fall season. Joan Angelini Westbrook Town Clerk

Deadline for the Next Issue of Westbrook Events is October 16. Contact Jill in the First Selectman's office 860-399-3040 ext 111 or E-MAIL jbrainerd@westbrookct.us to submit an article or press release.

The American Legion

Meetings: 4th Monday, 7pm Westbrook Library Community Room. Meetings are held during the following months: September, October, November, January at the High School, February, March, April, May on the 3rd Monday and June (elections).

ANNUAL DUES: \$27.50

Contact person: Frazier Brinley 860-669-0336

Auxiliary Contact: Joyce Brinley

2015-16 Post Officers

Commander: Thamus (Tami) Morgan Senior Vice Commander: Robert Kareliussen Junior Vice Commander: Thomas Cote Adjutant/Finance Officer: Frazier Brinley

Chaplain: open Service Officer: open Sgt-At-Arms: Jack Dempsey Past Commander: Mark Bennett

Past Commander: Robert Post (has belonged for 69 years)

2015 \$1000 Scholarship Recipients: Kaitlin Carlile and Julia Honan

July 10, 2015 Annual American Legion State Convention was held in Trumbull, CT. Westbrook Post 103 received the Richard J. Heath Plaque for the best High School Oratorical

Contest promotion and student participation.

Sales Representative Wanted

Due to expanded growth we are seeking a full time sales representative to sell advertising in our publication. We seek someone experienced that understands the consultative sales process. Responsibilities include maintaining ongoing relationships with existing clients including daily contact over the phone and in person, meeting and exceeding sales goals, identifying and capturing new business through cold calling. Apply if you are an overachiever. Send resume to print@essexprinting.com.

Amniotic Tissue for the Eye

Patients with corneal issues often suffer with long term eye irritations, such as dryness, infections, degenerations or related systemic disorders. These are special patients where no other forms of ocular medications or other treatments have completely worked. Prokera Amniotic Tissue, a therapeutic device, is used at Middlesex Eye Physicians, for our chronic patients, to aide in reducing the inflammation, leading to quicker healing, less pain, less scarring caused by underlying eye disease. The properties that are within the amniotic tissue allow for the rapid control of this inflammation. Much like the protection of a bandage, the biologic tissue covers the area like a contact lens and stays within the eye until the cornea recovers, usually a period of 5-7 days. Many patients see an improvement shortly after its insertion and state they feel and see better. Prokera is approved by the FDA as safe and effective

For Town Updates & Information: www.westbrookct.us

therapeutic device for the cornea. Prokera is made by clipping amniotic membrane tissue placed between a ring that is placed over a patient's cornea either in the office or in the operating room depending on the severity of your corneal issues. Only your eye physician can determine the need for Prokera.

Dr. Peter Shriver, Ophthalmologist Middlesex Eye Physicians Offices in Westbrook and Middletown

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.

Registrars of Voters

Mary Labbadia and Nancy Moore, Registrars of Voters

The Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at the Mulvey Municipal Center, 866 Boston Post Road, Westbrook, CT in the Multi-Purpose Room from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm. All registered voters please inform the Registrars if you have had any change of name, address, telephone number, or want to change your party affiliation.

Voter registration applications may be obtained from the Registrar of Voters Office, Town Clerks Office, or on- line at the Secretary of the State's website (www.ct.gov/sots/site/default.asp). Registrars' Office hours are Tuesday from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, and Thursday from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

Registered voters on the active list may vote by absentee ballot for one of the following reasons: 1) absence from the town during all hours of voting, 2) illness, 3) physical disability, 4) active service in the U.S. Armed Forces, 5) religious tenets which forbids secular activity on the day of election, primary, or referendum, 6) service as an election official at a polling place other than the official's usual place of voting during all hours of voting.

Absentee ballot applications may be obtained at any time prior to an election from the Town Clerk during their regular business hours by request in person, by phone, or by mail. An application

may also be obtained on-line from the Secretary of the State's website (www. ct.gov/sots/site/default.asp) or from the Town of Westbrook's website (www. westbrookct.us/town-clerk.php). Once applications have been received and verified the Town Clerk will begin mailing the ballots to the applicants on October 2.

College students requesting absentee ballots should provide their away from home address on the application so that the ballot can be sent directly to them.

Thank you for participating in the election process.

From the Department of Public Works

Effective July 1, the Town Garage has a new, full-time administrative staff position on site. This means that Westbrook residents may now contact the Public Works Department directly, at the Town Garage location – 185 Horse Hill Road. The phone number is 860-552-4496. We are also working to expand the webpage – check us out under Town Services at www.westbrookct.us.

You may have noticed some recent changes at the Transfer Station, too. We are working to improve traffic flow in and out of the facility, and are now collecting fees prior to any unloading. Be prepared to stop and declare your load prior to proceeding to the appropriate area. We have also recently added the option to pay fees by credit card. There are no convenience fees for these transactions.

Household Hazardous Waste collection is located at 5 Dump Road, Essex. They are open on selected Saturdays, through October 24. Please see the website to view the complete schedule.

Also of interest:

- Annual street sweeping has been completed.
- Catch basin cleaning will begin again in the fall.

Mowing and trimming of approximately 50 miles of roadways takes place once per year. Depending on conditions and available time, some areas may be done twice.

Please be patient while the above yearly maintenance issues are being taken care of. The Public Works crew addresses all these items diligently, while working at the same time on the many functions of the Department around town.

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

Learn how you can help at: www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org

How to Reach Your Elected Officials

STATE

Governor Dannel P. Malloy State Capitol Building, Room 200 Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 566-4840 – (800)406-1527 Fax (860)524-7396 Governor.Malloy@po.state.ct.us

LT Governor Nancy Wyman State Capitol Building, Room 304 Hartford, CT 06106 860-524-7384, Fax (860) 524-7304 Itgovernor.wyman@ct.gov

Secretary of the State Denise Merrill 30 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 509-6000 Fax (860) 509-6209 http://www.sots.state.ct.us/

State Treasurer
Denise Nappier

55 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106
(800) 618-3404 Fax (860)-702-3043
http://www.state.ct.us/ott/

Attorney General George Jepsen 55 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106 (860)808-5318 Fax (860) 808-5387 http://www.cslib.org/attygenl/

Rep. 23rd District
Devin Carney
CT House Republican Office,
L.O.B. Room 4200, Hartford, CT 06106
860-240-8700, 800-842-1423 Toll Free
devin.carney@housegop.ct.gov

Senator 33rd District
Art Linares
Legislative Office Building, Room 3400
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 240-8800
Art.Lineras@cga.ct.gov

Rep. 35th District Jesse Maclachlan CT House Republican Office L.O.B. Room 4200, Hartford, CT 06106 860-240-8700, 800-842-1423 Toll Free jesse.maclachlan@housegop.ct.gov

FEDERAL

Senator Richard Blumenthal 90 State House Square 10th Floor Hartford, CT 06103 (860) 258-6940 Fax (860) 258-6958 702 Hart Senate Office Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-2823, Fax (202)224-9673

Senator Chris Murphy
One Constitution Plaza, 7th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103
(860) 549-8463 Fax (860) 524-5091
SD-B40A Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4041 Fax (202) 224-9750

Congressman Joe Courtney 101 Water Street Suite 301 Norwich, CT 06360 (860) 886-0139 215 Cannon House Office Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-2076 www.courtney.house.gov

Westbrook - Community Listings

Assessor	(860) 399-304
Building/Sanitarian	
Animal Control Officer	
Emergency Management	
Web site	
Harbor Master	
Landfill	` '
Probate Court	
Recreation	` '
Registrar of Voters	
Selectman's Office	
Social Service	
Tax Collector	
Town Clerk	(860) 399-304
Town Garage	
Town Web site	
Treasurer	(860) 399-304
Westbrook Senior Center	(860) 399-202
Westbrook Youth & Family Services.	(860) 399-923
Zoning/Planning/Wetlands	(860) 399-304
SCHOOLS	
Daisy Ingraham Elementary School	(860) 399-702
Junior-Senior High School	
Middle School	

Superintendent of Schools......(860) 399-6432

HOME HEALTH CAREVisiting Nurses of Westbrook
FIRE DEPARTMENT (860) 399-9492
FIRE MARSHAL Business Calls
POLICE DEPARTMENT Resident Trooper
LIBRARY Westbrook Public Library (860) 399-6422
USEFUL NUMBERS Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025 George Flynn Concert (860) 669-1208 Consumer Protection (860) 566-2294 9 Town Transit (860) 510-0429 Visiting Nurses of Westbrook (860) 399-3088 First Congregational Church of Westbrook (860) 399-9367 St. Paul's Episcopal Church (860) 399-5402 St. Mark's (860) 399-9207

Essex Printing Wins 2015 Award of Excellence

For the past 3 years Essex Printing has been honored to be a multiple award winner for its quality of printing from the Print Industry of America (PIA) and the Print Industry of New England (PINE).

In 2014 Essex Printing received the highest award from PIA the "International Bennie Award." Winners are considered "The Best of the Best" in the printing industry.

Bill McMinn from Essex Printing and Gary Parrington from Lyme Art Association are shown in photo with Lyme Art Association "Incredible India Invitation." The invitation was recognized by PINE and awarded the 2015 Pinnacle Award for its exceptional use of design, print and use of paper to create a bright and lively invite. The Pinnacle Award is given to the most outstanding entry in its category. Given the high standard the entries must be flawless to win.



Walks On The Wild Side Needed

The Westbrook Forest Commission needs volunteers to regularly walk the Town Forest to report unsafe or unusual conditions.

The Town Forest is adjacent to the town transfer station and is a fifty acre woodland with semi rough trails, streams, lake and cliffs with dramatic rock formations. Local residents use the area and there is a need for walkers familiar with the site, to walk the trails for signs of safety issues on at least a monthly basis and simply report to the commission any signs of camping, debris, construction, etc.

If interested please contact Jeff Kriete, Forest Commissioner 860-669-8833.







Westbrook Conservation Commission

Share the Sound



Photo by Carol ODell

This summer, armed with a defining logo and slogan, volunteers and interns (Island Keepers) are interacting with adults and children on town beaches, Salt Island and Menunketesuck Island to let them know how critical it is to respect and not disturb shore bird nesting areas, and to

encourage them to pass along this "Share the Sound" message.

Westbrook Barrier Islands, Salt, Menunketesuck and Duck, add intrigue to our picturesque waterfront, and provide opportunities to boat and fish in the water surrounding them and attractive habitats for shore birds to forage, nest and

Please tell our advertisers that you saw them in Westbrook Events!

reproduce. In summer when both shore bird and vacationer activities are at their highest the islands become attractive destinations. During July and August protection of shorebird nests, eggs and young from predators and sneakers is critical.

The Friends of the Westbrook Barrier Islands, with cooperation from the Conservation Commission and the USFWL Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge, are conducting the outreach programs noted above to ask the community, beach goers and boaters to help protect the fragile shorebird nesting habitats on all 3 Barrier Islands; please "Share the Sound".

As we go to press (mid-July) the response to "Share the Sound" has been great. If interested in helping the Friends of the Westbrook Barrier Islands with this program please email John Rie, at jrie06@yahoo.com or Conservation Commission at todell@snet.net. Thank You!

With thanks to Gary Nolf for his vision for logo and B.J. Helander for creative art work for logo.



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Westbrook Historical Society No, It Is Not The Library Anymore

Catherine Neidlinger Doane, President, Westbrook Historical Society

Architecturally, Westbrook has nothing comparable to the 111 year old building on the Town Green. Built for and used as the town's Library for 73 years, this building has been the home of the Westbrook Historical Society since 1978, the last 37 years. Architectural plans were purchased from John Mumford of New York. Henry R. Parker was the builder. The exterior is Milwaukee hydraulic pressed brick, the wide front steps are granite, and the roof is slate. There is ornamentation along the roofline and an interior 14.3' high stamped metal ceiling. This eclectic style building contrasts markedly with the surrounding colonial architecture. Take another look when you drive by. Then, park and see the inside when we are open on Wednesday and Saturday mornings!

When you visit, take note of the Westbrook artifacts that have been donated to our museum. Those who have visited always are surprised there is so much to see. We have early clothing, farm tools, early ship's trunks and a wardrobe,



arrowheads, early stone tools, bicycles, uniforms, millinery, a button collection, postal boxes from the first post office, and so much more. We are developing a very complete genealogy section of many early Westbrook settlers. Early houses research is

Continued on page 24

"Experience the Difference" at The Saybrook at Haddam.

We've Traveled the World and are Still Enjoying Happy Moments Together.

Diane Daudt and her mother, Marie, both enjoyed careers as flight attendants, traveling the world over. "We've shared so many happy memories in the past and continue to enjoy happy moments together now. At Safe Harbor Memory Care Neighborhood in The Saybrook at Haddam, Mom is able to be involved, stay active, and even go bowling with her friends, says daughter Diane."

Safe Harbor offers:

- Stimulating and therapeutic programs that promote self-worth, dignity and independence
- · A kind and specially trained staff 24 hours/day
- · Personalized care and medication management
- A cozy, homelike setting with lovely living/ community room and dining room for shared meals
- · Fresh air and sunshine in our secure "Walking Garden"



Diane Daudt with her mom, resident Marie Daudt, looking at all the places they've flown to as flight attendants.



Expansion Complete - New Openings! Call 860-345-3779 for a personal tour.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY...continued from page 23

much aided with our computer database and recent early town survey maps. We would love to assist you.

Our Annual Fundraiser was begun in 1980. Please come to celebrate our Thirty-Fifth year on Saturday, September 19th, from 10-4. We will feature a Civil War Exhibit, Tag Sale, Food, Neidlinger picture sales, and Antique and Craft Dealers. Share in the fun. Become a member. Your tax-deductible donations in support of the preservation of our town's history are greatly appreciated.



Westbrook Public Library

Summer is always the busiest time at the library. It is often necessary to place reserves on popular books, cds, and dvds. Just give us a call at 860 399-6422 or go online to westbrooklibrary.lioninc.org and click on the LION (Libraries Online) catalog to place holds. While at the library website take a look at the variety of other online resources there like World Book Online, Learning Express, JobNow, and IConn. Or, visit our Facebook page to keep up with the latest events.

This summer reQuest, the statewide library catalog, was closed. A new catalog is under construction. In the mean time, it will take more time and effort to track down materials not owned by the LION libraries. Nevertheless, if we need to search beyond LION we will. Don't hesitate to submit your requests.

Tech Tuesdays continue this summer. Assistant Librarian Brittany Mullen is scheduling appointments on Tuesdays to help folks with electronic devices and resources.

As the new Teen Services Librarian, she has reorganized the Young Adult collection and has added lots of new titles. As summer winds down, the library staff is ready to help students fulfill summer reading requirements. Stop by or give us a call.

The library is open Tuesdays 9 to 8, Wednesdays 9 to 5, Thursdays 9 to 8, Fridays 9 to 5, and Saturdays 9 to 5. The library is closed Sundays and Mondays.







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- Eating Disorder | Body Image Therapy
- Massage | Couples Massage | Reflexology
- Reiki | Healing Touch
- Substance Abuse & Addictions Counseling
- FREE Ongoing "Wednesday Wellness Series" Workshops

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

Tuesdays 10-11:30 AM at 8 Novelty LaneResearch shows mindfulness to address health issues, help lower blood pressure & boost the immune system, fostering well-being. Find your focus.

FREE FRIDAY YOGA ON THE WATER

Fridays 10-11am, on the lawn at the CT River Museum Every Monday 9-10 AM at 8 Novelty Lane
Gentle yoga promoting flexibility, and harmony

TAI CHI ON THE WATER

Thursdays 10-11:30AM on the lawn - CT River Museum All sessions with Master Teacher David Chandler. Exercise, meditation, self-defense and mental therapy in one dynamic yet soothing program. A "must-do!" wellness program!

BALLET BODY CONDITIONING

with Susan: Thursdays 4-5
Strengthen and tone at 8 Novelty Lane.

BEGINNER BARRE Class Mondays 10-11AM

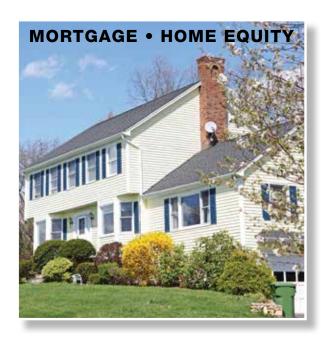
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