

Canterbury Town News

Oct 2009

SELECTMAN'S CORNER



We are well into the Fall season, enjoying all the various activities that make life in a small New England town so enjoyable. Let's remember these beautiful days when the wind is howling and the snow's drifting!

The "911" address signs we received from a JAG (Justice Assistance Grant) are available for residents to pick up and install. Please visit the Selectmen's office Monday-Thursday to pick up a sign and numbers. Please consider your sign's placement before you come in so we can help you position the numbers. NOTE: These signs are available for residents who choose to use them; they are not required.

The State finalized a budget at the end of September. We will be receiving a bit more in the TAR (Town Aid Roads) line item than we budgeted; otherwise we're pretty much where we expected to be. A nice surprise was the State's decision to bond the STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program). We were awarded a STEAP grant for \$200,000 to upgrade and help permit our Solid Waste Transfer Station at Kinne Road. More info on this as the process unfolds.

The past two winters have been pretty rough in terms of buying salt and sand, and expending necessary public works overtime to keep our roads safe. I hope Mother Nature will ease up a bit this winter so we can get a good jump on planned projects for the Spring.

Have a great Thanksgiving and holiday season.

Brian Sear First Selectman

TOWN CLERK -- TAX COLLECTOR



Here we are with another season already—summer sped by quickly. Municipal Election activities are in full gear and we have been busy issuing absentee ballots. Sample ballots are available in our office—please feel free to stop by and pick up a copy in order to be better prepared on Election Day. Absentee ballot applications are available on our web page and in the office. They will need to be returned to our office by November 3 in order to be counted. The last day to register to vote is October 27.

I have been looking for many months to find a vendor that could provide service to allow for credit card payments for taxes, but would not incur any additional expenses to the Town Budget. It seemed as though it would have been a simple enough process to integrate into our office, but I ran into issues that I had not even considered. The two "systems" I looked into were credit card swiping (at the Tax Counter) and on-line bill paying. Credit card swiping required that the Town be PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard) compliant—which would end up cost-

ing the town a significant amount of money in computer software and hardware. The town essentially would be considered a merchant (like TJ Maxx or Wal-Mart), would be responsible for all the financial data stored on the credit card equipment, and would be held liable for any security breach in the stored data. After meeting several times with the Board of Finance, we determined it would not be in the best interest of the town to use such equipment. MCC (Metropolitan Communications LLC), is an on-line bill paying company, is PCI compliant and has the necessary computer programs to safeguard taxpayer's financial data. There will be NO cost to the town for using this method of payment--the taxpayer will be charged a nominal convenience fee to pay bills on-line. I have signed a contract with MCC and all systems should be up and running within the next week or so. We will keep you posted on the Tax Collector's page on the town website, will be available to answer any questions, and assist you as necessary during the integration of this new service.

Have a great fall!

Natalie Cordes

CANTERBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Office of the Superintendent



School has been in session for approximately six weeks and positive change has and continues to transform the school district. Over the summer, the maintenance and custodial staff worked hard to prepare the school buildings.

Not only were the rooms cleaned from top to bottom, but the interior and some of the exterior of the Middle School received a fresh coat of paint. The stage and some classroom window sills were replaced, completing the repairs due to the termite damage of several years ago. The gymnasium at DHBMS was gifted a state-of-the-art sound system by the Canterbury Athletic Association. At CES, the driveway and playground was repaved. When children, faculty, and staff returned to school after the summer break, the buildings and grounds were ready and welcoming.

A special thank you to the community for passing the 2009-2010 budget at the first referendum. We were able to purchase textbooks and supplies in July. Also purchased were math resources for grades K-7. These materials were funded through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009. The faculty received professional development and the materials are being implemented in the classrooms.

New legislation requires schools to house and train faculty and staff on Automatic External Defibrillators (AED). There are two located at the DHBMS and one at CES. The district purchased one, another one was donated by the Larry Pontbriant Athletic Safety Fund and the Community Foundation of the Tri-County Area, and the third was donated by the Canterbury Athletic Association. A cross section of fourteen administrators, faculty, and staff has been trained in use of the AED and has received CPR training since the start of the school year.

The Dattco Company was awarded our bus bid and we will be adding the new 71-passenger bus to our fleet in mid-November. Also, we were able to purchase two, used 10-passenger buses. They are at the Town Bus Garage and are being prepared for use.

The preparations and purchases for the new school year are important, but most important is the quality of education that the students are receiving. The Canterbury Public School district employs an outstanding faculty and staff and the results of the Connecticut Mastery Tests are proof. Many students scored in advanced levels in the three areas of testing: mathematics, reading, and writing. The principals presented the exemplary results, reflecting student achievement and the competitiveness of our scores with towns as far reaching as Darien and Avon, at the October 13 Board of Education meeting. Canterbury's public report card puts the district in Connecticut's top-achieving category. If you would like to view some of the students' assignments and art work, please visit the Town Hall or the Town Clerk's office. There are impressive displays in both areas.

As an extension of the district's Community Conversation, which was held last spring, it was decided that students should be more involved in their communities. Thus, the district is promoting community service. This year, students are being asked to complete specific forms noting their task, hours of service, and for whom. The hours of service will be logged both individually and collectively. Another topic raised at the Conversation was the sponsoring of a Career Fair. This spring, the Baldwin Middle School will be holding a Career Fair to introduce students to various professions.

Due to the difficulty that students are experiencing when making high school choices, the informational sessions for students and parents and the student transition will be enhanced this year. A High School Fair will be held at the Baldwin Middle School in December. Representatives from the Canterbury list of high schools will be onsite to describe their respective programs and answer questions from participants.

By mid-October, the Canterbury Public School district will begin the 2010-2011 budget process. It is a multi-level process. Input and requests, with rationale, are initiated by faculty and staff. The information is given to the administrators, who, in turn, discuss it with the Business Coordinator and Superintendent. When a fiscally responsible budget is framed, it will be presented to the Board of Education for their review. Once approved, it will be forwarded to the BOF and ultimately, the Town. It is very important that everyone have an opportunity to have input into the budget. I invite you to stop by my office to share your thoughts, questions, or concerns. All suggestions will be considered and all questions will be answered. It is with honesty and fluidity that a zero-based budget will be generated.

Lastly, I invite and encourage the parents and community members to become part of the school culture. Our doors are open and we want you to feel welcome to attend sports activities, concerts, etc. Classroom volunteers are always welcome. By working together we can make the Canterbury Public Schools an even better place to learn, grow, and succeed.

Janet M. Tyler

CANTERBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
A. Catherine Ferguson, Principal



Important Dates:

We have a busy schedule here at CES this year! Our first Conferences of the year will be held on December 10 and 11. Spring conferences will be March 18 and 19. Teachers will be involved in a myriad of professional development opportunities on October 30; November 9 and 10. Report cards will be distributed December 7, March 15; and the projected last day of school which will be June 10.

The Grade 4 Send Off will be held on the last day of school. The Grade 4 awards Presentation will be the evening of June 9. The Winter Concert will be held in January; the Spring Concert in May; and Kindergarten Celebration in June with specific dates to be determined.

Our assemblies will be held again on Wednesdays at 2:00. All community members are invited to attend. We love every opportunity to showcase the talent we have here at CES. The assembly dates are as follows: October 28, December 16, January 27, March 17, April 14 and June 9. We hope to see you there!

We awarded 127 summer reading awards at our first assembly for books read by our students in Grades 1-4 over the summer. Our reading specialist, Mrs. Mehringer-Macina (Mrs. M&M), always does a "book talk" in the spring to kick off the summer reading challenge which she did last May. Fifty-seven percent of the students participated in this project. Next year, our aim will be for 100% participation!

We have all been very busy at CES, both students and staff! The students have transitioned well back into a new school year. The Superintendent and I have been in and out of all the classes and the students are learning and appear comfortable in their new classrooms. The children are delighted with the new blacktop; it certainly is enhancing their kickball games during recess!

The administrators were very busy over the summer updating and revising the entire Social Studies Curriculum which is aligned with the State of CT Social Studies Framework based on national standards. Basically, the focus at each grade level Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 4 here at Canterbury Elementary School, is connections between people, places and things.

Our staff has been busy working on their SMART Goals for the present school year. SMART Goals, developed at every grade level, are those that are **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ttainable, **R**esults-oriented and **T**ime-bound. After analyzing our 2009 CMT data and other assessment information, we met as a faculty to develop school goals which are aligned with the BOE goals. More specifically, we are focusing on enhancing teaching and learning related to primary areas of need with regard to Reading (making reader/text connections), Writing (composing and revising), and Math (estimating solutions and mathematical applications). Rubrics (guidelines for assessing performance) for reading comprehension,

sistency for everyone and students have clear expectations. Our Grade 4 teachers and students have benefited from the modeling of consultant, Dr. Robert Pauker, in composing and writing a first draft. Dr. Pauker has been going into the Grade 4 classes and teaching writing using techniques and strategies he has developed to enhance students writing skills. The teachers have been delivering lessons based on his techniques and the students have been collecting their work. Both their experiences will be shared with him when he returns in October.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten will continue their efforts on attaining continued national accreditation through NAEYC. This has been a huge undertaking especially in light of the new standards. Since it is a requirement of the School Readiness Grant of \$107,000 per year for 5 years, it is well worth our time and effort. We have completed our Program and Classroom Portfolios and await the validation visit which will happen in the next few months. We are hopeful that we will meet all standards and thus gain accreditation for the next 5 years.

Monies have just been allocated from the state for the PMHP Grant, better known as, the HUGS Program. The grant will be formulated and the BOE approval sought in order to submit it to the state. Although it is extremely competitive, I am hoping we will be awarded one of the limited number available. We have been most fortunate to have wonderful staff involved in the delivery of services to our students in need. This valuable program provides us with another layer of support for the students which we hope to continue.

Have you been to the Town Hall or CL Services on Knollwood Drive? On display are students' works that include essays, drawings, paintings and dioramas all related to what they are learning. If you haven't seen them, please drop by and see the talent we have here in town!

DR. HELEN BALDWIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Kathleen Boyhan-Maus, Principal



Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School has been very busy with an outstanding school opening. The entire grade 7 and 8 student body held a "Town Meeting" on Constitution Day with an attorney who specializes in Constitutional Law. Students asked outstanding questions. Every year, our middle school students become more and more

involved with the Constitution.

During the week of October 26, the guidance and health teachers lead the way for the school's awareness of our anti-drug programs. The week is identified nationally as Red Ribbon Week. Students have multiple activities to foster their knowledge of the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

Trips to our receiving high school have also begun. This year we shall have a special evening for students and parents to celebrate the options our grade 8 students have for high schools. More information will be disseminated soon.

Grade 5 is involved in an outstanding opportunity to connect with

They will be taking a trip to fort Griswold and the Submarine Museum. Throughout the school year, students will become familiarized with community assets. Writing and literacy is the end product of the grant.

Parent Conferences will be held on November 9 and 10. Monday will be from 1:30-7:00 and Tuesday will be from 1:30-3:00. Our expectation is that every parent is welcome and we will definitely find time to review every student's progress even extending those dates and times. The team of teachers like to meet with parents so that a thorough review of progress is available to families. Parents are also welcome to check all assignments on our website. Homework is available as well as short-term and long term assignments.

Students in grades 5-7 have passwords to use a technology program called TestPrepFun. The students have the opportunity to improve their science, math, and reading skills even at home.

Field Day is scheduled for Friday, October 16. The entire school is excited about the events. Students are on teams with grades 5-8 combined. The theme is working together and supporting each other. The final activity is tug-o-war. The cheering is great. Students represent their teams through color. It is an amazing morning.

We have a new Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) in the school. Many adults have been trained in CPR and using the AED. We also reviewed the abdominal thrust for a choking incident. Hopefully, we will never use the training; however, safety for students and adult visitors is critical. The CAA has donated a second AED for downstairs so that evening activities will also be safer.

The Principal's Advisory Council is in full swing already as well. The initial school spirit activity was Hat Day. Students also identified potential careers in which they have an interest. We will be having a Career Day in spring, and the council is preparing to insure a myriad of careers will be represented for our students. Any parent may volunteer to be a representative of a career at any time.

On October 23 the seventh and eighth grade students have a masquerade dance from 7:00-9:00. Their creativity is outstanding with their costumes. We have the regular monsters, but also jellyfish, stars, and a multitude of interesting creative attire. Again, the behavior of our students has been sterling over the years. Supporting the socially developmental needs of adolescents is a true pleasure in our middle school.

Our book fair will be in November 5-10. All community members are welcome to view the books and make purchases. To make sure everyone is aware of our concert date; the music chorus and band will be playing on December 17 in our gymnasium at 6:30. We gratefully thank the CAA for generously providing \$17,000 for a new audio system in the gym.

PUPIL SERVICES
Bryan Klimkiewicz, Director

Best wishes to recently retired Special Education Secretary, Lorraine Ledoux. Lorraine has been an integral part of the Canterbury Special Education program for the past 12 school years. Al-

nity to wish her well in the next chapter of her life. Happy Retirement!!

I would also like to announce our new Special Education Secretary, Aeryn Barry. Aeryn has been a welcomed addition to our Special Education team. Aeryn has outstanding organizational skills, a positive attitude, excellent technology skills, and a strong desire to work as part of a collaborative team in a public school setting. Aeryn has been working with us for one month and has already positively contributed to our programs and services.

It has been a very positive start to the school year. We have already had several PPT meetings for students that are new to our district. We have students that have transferred from other districts, states, or are new to their high school. I would like to thank our teams for their collaboration and the appropriate transfer and documentation of crucial information regarding each of these students.

Response to Intervention (RTI) is the process of providing research based interventions for struggling students. The concept is to get students that are having difficulty, behaviorally or academically, the assistance they need quickly and monitor their "response to intervention" to determine future interventions or supports. The State Department of Education has created a Family Guide describing this process that is being implemented in all school districts across the state. You can download this guide at: <http://ctpirc.org/s/> (Connecticut Parent Information and Resource Center). Please read below for a brief description, as written on the site.

Connecticut's Framework for RTI: A Family Guide

Using Scientific Research-Based Interventions: Improving Education for All Students. "Teachers, administrators, and families want all children to succeed. There are many ways to get children who are struggling to learn the additional help they need to be successful. One way is with the use of "scientific research-based interventions" (SRBI).

This booklet reviews what SRBI are and includes questions you might want to ask your child's school or program to learn more about how they are using SRBI as a framework to improve teaching and learning. Also included here are ways families can be a part of the decision making process and what to do when you have concerns about your child's progress."

My new secretary, Aeryn Barry, and I have conducted a thorough file review of each of our students with IEPs this month to ensure that student data is accurately reported to the state on October 1. This process included collaborating with each of our receiving high schools to ensure that our high school students' transition assessments and post secondary goals were documented within their IEPs. Each district has additional reporting requirements in these areas, as the state has modified page 6, 7, and 12 of the IEP. I would like to thank Aeryn for her efforts in this monumental task as we strive for 100% compliance.

After School Instruction for students with special needs.

October will bring a new, exciting opportunity for students with special needs. We will provide the opportunity for students to receive additional math and/or reading support after school for up to four days per week. The goal of the program is to help students close the gap in their area/s of weakness without "pulling

is also supported by a late bus to remove any transportation barriers that parents may have in their children accessing the program.

LD Guidelines

New state guidelines (July 1, 2009) for identifying students as Learning Disabled. We are embracing these guidelines this year. Thus far:

We have reviewed the Executive Summary from the state, including new eligibility forms. (Still awaiting full guidelines)

We have received Professional Development (in district) from the state to highlight changes and the relationship between LD guidelines and SRBI.

To Determine that a child has a specific learning disability in CT, a school district now must:

Determine that the child's achievement is not adequate.

Determine that the child's response to SRBI is not adequate.

Ensure that the process was appropriate.

Ensure that there are no alternate explanations for the child's performance.

Determine that the disability adversely affects the child's educational performance, and as a result, the child requires special education to address his or her unique education needs.

Restraint/Seclusion Guidelines

The state has provided notification of updated Laws Relating to the use of Seclusion and Restraint in the Public Schools.

Restraint is defined as any mechanical or personal restriction that immobilizes or reduces the free movement of a child's arms, legs, or head. To be used solely as an emergency intervention to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the child or to others.

Seclusion is defined as the confinement of a child in a room, whether alone or with staff supervision, in a manner that prevents the child from leaving.

Every parent must be advised of these laws at the initial Planning and Placement Team meeting (PPT) held for their child, even if the emergency use of physical restraint or seclusion or the use of seclusion as a behavior intervention in a child's IEP is not likely to occur with their child. You may find the state statutes on the Legislative website at <http://www.cga.ct.gov>.

The Canterbury S.T.E.P. (Support and Training for Educators and Parents) group's vision remains to create and foster a collaborative relationship between parents and educators for the success of our children. The STEP group meets on a regular basis to plan activities and coordinate resources to provide valuable experiences for parents, educators, and community members. If you have suggestions or recommendations for an event or a speaker for the following school year please contact the Pupil Services office at (546-1040).

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS!

CPAC: Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center:

Please read below for a brief summary as documented on the CPAC website: www.cpacinc.org.

Free Workshops for parents, students and professionals.

Tuesday, October 6, 2009 (6:30-8:30 pm): Exploring the Tools of

Thursday, October 22, 2009 (7-9 pm): Preparing Students for Work.

Saturday, November 14, 2009 (9:30-11:30 am): Helping Student Transition to College.

Registration is required. All sessions will be held at Dime Savings Bank, 290 Salem Turnpike in Norwich, CT. Please contact Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center for more information or to register at 1-800-445-2722.

The Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress, (<http://www.ctdownsyndrome.org>) Down Syndrome Congress Convention, Saturday, November 7, Crowne Plaza, Cromwell.

Final Note: Please visit the school web-site (<http://www.canterburypublicschools.org>) for important links to helpful/informative web pages.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Your Economic Development Commission has finalized three projects that have been in the works for many months.

1. Business Sign Program

Seven companies are taking advantage of this service which shows the way to their places of business. Others are in process and their signs will soon be appearing along our highways and byways. Every company in the latest Canterbury Business Directory was notified of the program in a June mailing. Businesses which are properly registered with the Town are eligible. The signs utilize our town seal and official color and are very attractive.

2. Olde Home Day

EDC members manned the business exhibit during the 2009 Olde Home Day celebration offering coffee and donuts to those wanting to learn more about the services offered by residents of our town. A beautiful Fall day enhanced attendance and many copies of our latest Business Directory were passed out.

3. EDC Website

Thanks to the hard work of commission member, Larry Northrup and his wife, we have created a website which not only contains the companies listed in the business directory but links which show rental space available and other pertinent business information. It is available as part of the Town Website and encourages people to consider starting or expanding a commercial venture in our town. www.canterbury-ct.org.

NEW PROJECTS

1. Guide to New Business in Canterbury

A simple brochure explaining how to start a new business in Canterbury is in the works. Commission member, Rich Curtis is creating the piece which will be a guide as to where to start, who to see, permits needed, and general advice about a number of things one must do as a business plan is being created. A draft will be circulated to the appropriate commissions and committees for their input. The Guide should be available in print and on the website by mid-November.

2. Advocate Membership

Two members of the EDC will be part of a regional advisory commission on

Early expectancies of the commission include: agricultural management advice and protection of the right to carry on an agricultural pursuits on one's property.

Please remember that the purpose of your EDC is to expand the commercial tax base of the community so that the home owner will bear less of the tax burden. Commission members meet 9 times per year spending more than 600 hours of volunteer time in various projects and publications.

CANTERBURY SENIOR TRIPS



We are getting started on 2010! We had some great trips this past year and are looking forward to even more in the coming year! There are two cruises - one to the warm Caribbean in January and another to the island of Bermuda in May.

Look over our list of trips on the library bulletin board; pick up our newsletter either there or in the Town Clerk's office. There are plans in the works for a great trip to the unique island of Iceland (the third best place to live - according to the U. N.), see Bobby Vinton, enjoy an Irish Cabaret or a Cranberry Festival, travel to PA to see the new show "JOSEPH" at Sight & Sound, take a cooking lesson and eat the results in Maine, travel by bus, train and boat in NY and VT, enjoy 2 nights at Niagara Falls! More trips to follow. Everyone is invited to join us for these fabulous trips! So pick up our newsletter, and if you'd like more information - call Joanne at 860-546-9830.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE



The Town has completed its 2009 Revaluation. Impact notices were mailed the first week of October notifying all property owners of their new assessments.

Do not apply the current tax (mil) rate to your new assessment, as doing so will result in an inaccurate calculation. The new mil rate cannot be determined by the town until spring 2010.

Please keep in mind that if you have recently filed an application for a **PA490** program for the 2009 Grand List it will not be reflected in this notice. You will be notified whether your application has been approved once the application period has concluded.

Property owners wishing to have their new Assessments reviewed with a representative of **Vision Appraisal Technology** may do so by calling (888) 844-4300 to set up an appointment. Calls will be taken from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM through October 23, 2009. Informal Hearings will be held at the Canterbury Town Hall **by appointment only** beginning on October 19, 2009. Please keep in mind that the operators making appointments cannot discuss values or data.

You may also review your new assessment on the Vision Appraisal Technology web site - www.visionappraisal.com. This site will allow inquiry access to the Assessor's database, including value summary, property data, and general revaluation information.

Personal Property declaration forms were mailed out at the beginning of October for the 2009 Grand List. If you received one

sonal property that you own. Please don't ignore the form; call this office so we can answer any questions. If you did **not** receive a personal property declaration but you have property that needs to be declared, please call the Assessor's Office or go to the website at <http://www.canterbury-ct.org>. All personal property forms are available to download. Remember to return these forms no later than **Monday, November 2** to avoid a penalty.

For those that receive the farm machinery exemption, please remember that these forms are due **October 31, 2009**. The M-28 forms were mailed with the personal property declarations to all those that currently receive the benefit. If you do not currently receive the benefit but think you may be eligible, please call the Assessor's Office or go to the website.

PA490 applications for farm, forest, or open space designations are available in the Assessor's Office and on the website. They must be filed on or before **Thursday, December 31**. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact the Assessor's Office.



PLANNING AND ZONING

POCD: The Planning and Zoning Commission has been busy working on the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) with our consultants, Planimetrics. After holding many public meetings and work sessions, a working draft has been developed and is posted on the Planning and Zoning page of the Town's Website (www.canterbury-ct.org). Please take a few minutes to review this important document!

This Draft Plan discusses many things, including ways to protect our natural resources and community character, to promote open spaces and greenways and to enhance our villages and community structure. It also looks at promoting compatible business development, future housing needs and the necessary infrastructure improvements (schools, recreation fields, parks, roads, etc.) to support the community. Contained within the plan, is a selection of recommendations that the Town can consider as it moves forward.

We have scheduled a public information meeting to discuss the Draft Plan and receive input. It will be held on October 29 at 7PM here in the Town Hall Community Center. Our consultant will be on hand to present the Draft Plan and receive input. Please plan on attending – while advisory in nature, this Plan will have a direct effect on our Town's future and is very important!

Farmer's Meetings: As part of the planning effort, we have been holding some farmers listening sessions to get their input on ways the Town can make their lives a bit easier in this tough farming climate. As a result of these meetings, the Selectmen are going to create an agricultural working group in Town. Several farmers have expressed an interest and more are certainly welcome. Please contact the First Selectman's Office for more information. Our next working group will be on October 22 at 7PM here in the Community Center. All are welcome and remember agriculture includes forest management, so large woodlot owners are farmers too!

Reminders: A permit is needed for any work done to your house

services, fixtures, etc) or major repairs. Things like roofs, siding, windows, and any kind of woodstove or furnace also need permits as do any demolitions (to get them off the tax rolls). Permits are pretty cheap in Town (\$5.22/\$1,000 of project value) and can save you many headaches if you ever sell or re-finance your property, as appraisers check for these things! Also, it helps on any insurance claims that you may have in the future if your work was inspected!

Permits are also needed from Inland Wetlands or the Agent for any building, excavating, clear-cutting, grubbing, etc. either in or within 100 feet of a wetland – please inquire before doing any work that may fall under this requirement. Again, many can be approved administratively, so it is easy to keep legal.

Call our office with any questions 546-6857. Have a great fall!

CES PTO

Calling all Canterbury residents, businesses and community groups! The Canterbury Elementary School PTO is looking for individuals and groups to host car trunks at the 2nd annual Trunk or Treat event, from 5-7:30 pm Saturday, October 31 at the Canterbury Town Hall.

Trunk or Treat is a spook-tacular Halloween event that provides a safe and fun way to celebrate Halloween with the whole family. Children will enjoy going from trunk to trunk to receive pre-packaged candy from costumed car owners. All cars are welcome, but must be properly registered to participate. The spooky evening event includes trick-or-treating, live entertainment and much more! Trunk or Treat is free and open to all Canterbury residents.

For more information about Trunk or Treat contact Christine Bright at 546-9484 or Theresa Bodinger at 546-6932.

FINNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY



The monthly meetings of the FAHS have moved to the fall-winter schedule of Sunday afternoons at 1:30 pm at the Hall, located at 76 North Canterbury Road. There is a social hour before the meeting and all are sincerely welcome to join us for meetings or events.

Members from FAHS were pleased to participate in the Canterbury Fourth of July parade; thanks to the following members: June Leiss, Ian Courtemanche, Linnea Courtemanche, Paul & Donna Santoro and grandson, Matti & Marcia Huhta, Val & Aili Galasyn, Ritva Langlois and John Bennett. Several individuals wore traditional Finnish costumes.

The FAHS Wine Tasting social event was held on September 11 with a Silent Auction that contained a variety of items ranging from practical to decorative to just plain fun. A big "Thank You" goes out to all the individuals and local Canterbury businesses who contributed to the Silent Auction. Be sure you don't miss the 2010 Wine Tasting Social and Silent Auction!

At the Canterbury Old Home Days on September 19, FAHS had a booth that sold pulla (traditional Finnish braided sweet bread, flavored with cardamom) and coffee. The day ended with a Fin-

Accordion Club (CMAC) performed for the dance. This group is from Rutland, MA and has performed on previous occasions at the Finn Hall and at numerous other Heritage venues across southern New England. The CMAC, founded in 2004, consists of fourteen members from four states. They all share a passion for Finnish dance music and a singular desire to promote Finnish-American heritage and culture. Sixty dancers learned a few new steps as they listened and moved to some lively Finnish Folk Music and enjoyed light refreshments provided by FAHS members.

FAHS was honored to host the Finlandia Foundation Lecturer of the Year, Dr. Arnold Alanen on October 10, 2009. To an enthralled group of fifty participants, he described interesting aspects of the Finnish immigrant experience and the transfer of building traditions (including the sauna) from Finland to North America. His program offered numerous illustrations of historic Finnish buildings and cultural landscapes in North America.

- Coming events at the Hall (all open to the community) include:
- ? October 31- 2:00 pm – Children’s Halloween Party (inviting all young children)
 - ? November 1 – 1:30 pm – Membership Meeting
 - ? November 8 – 1:00 pm – Celebration of Life for Linda Gault
 - ? November 13 – 1:00 pm – Pulla Bake
 - ? November 14 – 3:00 pm – Roy Rautio Room Dedication Ceremony
 - ? December 5- 11:00 am – Membership Meeting
Noon – Pot Luck Luncheon
1:30 pm – Pikkujoulu Christmas Party
 - ? December 6 - 1:00 pm – Finnish Independence Day Celebration

Out of Town Event:

On January 24, 2010, Idée Fixe, a woodwind quintet of musicians from Tampere, Finland will be in concert at 3:00 pm at the Valley Regional High School in Deep River, CT. Most have graduated from the prestigious Sibelius Academy, and other renowned music academies in Europe. All now play as members of major Finnish orchestras including the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Helsinki and the Tampere Philharmonic. Tickets at the door.

The Hall is available for rental for events and includes a full kitchen, a large meeting room and a performance stage. For more information, email hallrental@fahs-ct.org or call 860-546-6671 and leave a message. Please visit our website at www.fahs-ct.org for more information. You are always welcome at the Hall-come by for a visit, a meeting or event or to enjoy coffee and pulla.



CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Hours: Monday-Wednesday 10:00 – 7:00, Thursday 10:00 – 8:00 Saturday 10:00 – 4:00
 Website: <http://www.canterburylibrary.org>
 Email: canterburypublic@yahoo.com
 Phone: 860-546-9022 FAX: 860-546-1142

Canterbury Stitchers: The stitchers held their yarn & bake sale on Saturday, October 17, 2009. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Canterbury Public Library Building Fund.

Citizen Science Volunteer Monitoring Programs sponsored by the Connecticut Audubon Society at Pomfret with funds received from the Superfund Site in Canterbury administered by the Department of Fish & Wildlife. For more information please email Paula Coughlin Citizen Science Coordinator at paulacoughlin@charter.net or call the library. Seasonal Projects Presented:

Vernal Pool Inventory: Spring—April/May. Volunteers take a 3-hour training workshop in March and then visit vernal pools in early spring to collect data about amphibian egg masses and other indicators of a healthy vernal pool.

Pilot Grassland Bird Habitat Survey: Summer—June/July. With the CT DEP and the Connecticut Grassland Bird Initiative volunteers will attend and introductory and field training workshops and conduct surveys.

Stream Walk: Summer—July/August. Volunteers attend a 3 hour training to learn how to collect information about a stream channel and surrounding land use as well as document possible impairments to water quality.

Rapid BioAssessment: Fall—September/November. Volunteers attend a 3-hour training to learn how to collect aquatic stream insects that are an indication of water quality.

Mammal Monitoring Project: Winter—December/March. Learn tracking basics and how to document signs of forest mammals such as black bear, otter, bobcat, and moose. Data is collected to assist in preservation of open space and wildlife corridors.

Senior Gaming Join us for Wii Sports (bowling, boxing, tennis, golf, or baseball) on Wednesdays from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Bring a partner, start a competition. Senior Pizza Day on the first Wednesday of the month.

Computer Education: Interested in computer classes? Would you like to learn how to apply for a job online, connect with friends and family through email, or just cruise the Internet. Let us know what you need and we will set up a class for you.

Library Closings: All closings will be listed on the library’s website. During the winter months we may be forced to close early or open late due to snow storms. Please call the library before venturing out and/or check our website.

November 11 Veteran’s Day, November 25 Closing at 3:00 pm, November 26 Thanksgiving Day, November 28 Closed Saturday, December 24 Closing at 2:00 pm, December 25 Closed, December 26 Closed, December 31 Early Closing at 3:00 pm, January 1 and 2 Closed.

FRIENDS OF PRUDENCE

The Friends of Prudence are in their 2009-2010 annual membership drive and we need your support.



with the Prudence Crandall Museum. The friends obtain grants and raise additional funds to expand the Museum programs, exhibits and outreach.

Members of the Friends of Prudence receive free admission to the Museum, a 20% discount in the Museum shop, a Members -Only event and a newsletter. There are 8 categories of membership. We do hope you will find one suitable for you.

Join us in preserving the Museum and spreading the word that Prudence Crandall's heroic deed happened right here in Canterbury!

For additional information please contact Lynne Pitman, Friends President at 860-546-9266.

To support The Friends of Prudence, please fill out the form below, make checks payable to, and mail to:

The Friends of Prudence
P.O. Box 34
Canterbury, CT 06331

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Annual Membership: **(No increase from previous year)**

- ? \$10 **Volunteer** - Assist at three events - free admission.
- ? \$20 **Individual** - Free admission.
- ? \$35 **Family/Grandparent** - Free admission for 2 adults and 2 children.
- ? \$75 **Patron** - Free admission for 4 adults.
- ? \$100 **Sustainer** - Free admission for 4 adults.
- ? \$250 **Associate** - Free admission for 4 adults.
- ? \$500 **Benefactor** - Free admission for 4 adults.
- ? \$1000 **Lifetime Member** - Free admission for 4 adults.

All information provided will be kept confidential and used only by The Friends of Prudence.

CES PTO

Fall is here and we have embarked on another exciting year here at the CES PTO. This year we have some new faces and some familiar ones, as well. Participating in the PTO is an exciting chance for parents to get involved in the processes needed to provide the enhancements to their child's learning experience.

We have a lot of fun events planned throughout the year. We started off in September with a roller-skating party at the Skate-In of Plainfield. Children were offered the chance to skate and snack at a reduced rate. It was a great time had by all. This past Month, the PTO sponsored a Family Portrait Day, in which CES families had their picture taken by professional photographer, Shannon Patnoad for the reduced price of \$60 (which included an 8x10, 2 5x7's and 8 wallets, as well as the sitting fee). This year, our fall fundraiser was Meadow Farms and Little Caesar's Pizza.

Join us on Thursday, December 3, from 4-8 pm at the G & L Christmas Barn for an evening of fun. Hors d'oeuvres, mulled cider & coffee, and a cooking demonstration are all part of the experience. While there, feel free to start your Christmas Shopping. For any purchase you make that evening, 10% of the proceeds go to the CES PTO.

For all of you who participated in the activities & fundraisers, it is greatly appreciated in these trying economic times. Your generosity and participation has meant a lot to the entire Canterbury Elementary School and its students. We look forward to your continued support, as all that we do is entirely possible because of your contributions of time & resources.

The PTO is always looking for new people and fresh ideas. Please join us for one of our meetings. Our meetings are at 6:30 pm, in the CES library, on the following dates: 11/4, 12/9, 1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12, and 6/9. We truly hope to see you there!

BUILDING WATERBARS

a free workshop sponsored by Joshua's Trust

When: Sunday, Nov. 8 from 1-3 PM

Where: Knowlton Hill Preserve, 76 Knowlton Rd., Mansfield

Bob Schoff, longtime Joshua's Trust volunteer and CFPA Blue Trail Maintainer, will be hosting an instructive hands-on workshop about improving trail drainage with waterbars. (Waterbars are a diversion structure to route water off a trail) After a brief instruction period, we will move to a trail location where attendees will learn why a waterbar is the needed solution in this spot, and then we will all work to install one or more waterbars as time allows.

Work clothes and gloves are recommended. Attendance is limited to the first 15 to sign-up. Don't delay!

Rain will move to indoor location: Joshua's Trust Office, Corner of Rt. 275 and Rt. 32, Mansfield.

Call 228-2849 by noon, Nov. 8 if uncertain about weather conditions

Please RSVP to 860 228-2849 or email jhill003@charter.net.