

Canterbury Town News

May, 2017

Canterbury, Connecticut

SELECTMEN'S CORNER



SPRING 2017 has finally arrived. I'm glad that we had a relatively mild winter and I hope that each of you are looking forward to enjoying the outdoors as much as I am. Spring signals baseball and the Sprague-Franklin-Canterbury Little League Baseball have held their opening day parade Saturday, April 22nd in Sprague. Our 4th of July Parade Committee is already making plans for our annual parade, with lots of participants and many other 4th of July activities for Canterbury families to enjoy. I hope that each of you will be able to enjoy the many events and summer activities planned for Canterbury and the surrounding towns.

In the Selectmen's office, we've been busy the past few months working on the 2017-2018 budget and assessing how the needs of the Town can best be met. Our goal in preparing the 17/18 budget was to be as frugal as possible in these tight economic times without sacrificing essential Town services. The budget proposal that we sent to the Board of Finance represents a 0.21% decrease over last year's budget. This proposed decrease is a result of some additional "belt tightening" and minor cuts in other areas, without eliminating any services. The real question at this point is what sort of cuts, and how much, will the State reduce our revenues. These proposed reductions could have a drastic effect in the overall budget for the Town.

Enjoy the remainder of spring and I hope that you have a Wonderful Summer.

*Roy Piper
First Selectman*

Community Room Usage Fee Increase

Due to the increased costs associated with maintenance, upkeep, and cleaning of the Community Room at the Town Hall, residents that utilize the facility for private parties and functions will be charged \$100 for use of the Room, plus an additional \$50 if the kitchen is utilized. There will still be a \$100 deposit required for use of the Room, but will be fully refunded if the facility is cleaned and no damage has occurred.

Town Clerk & Tax Collector's Office

Dog Licensing: Reminder notices for dog licenses will be sent the last week of May. Once you receive your notice, you may come in to purchase your dog's license. Rabies vaccination expiration dates will be printed on the postcard. If the rabies vaccination expired since your last visit, please bring the updated rabies certificate with you when you renew the license.

YOU MUST include a self-addressed stamped envelope for all dog license transactions sent by mail.

Hunting/Fishing Guides: The 2017 Hunting and Fishing Guides are available in our office. If you are over 65 years old, you are eligible to receive a free fishing license (and hunting, if you have previously qualified for a hunting license). Over 65 licenses must be renewed every year.

Transfer Station Stickers: The current stickers are good through April 30, 2018. If you have an orange sticker that says that, you are all set until next year! If you still have a green or blue or red sticker, you should come into the office and get the most current sticker in order to use the Transfer Station.

Budget/Tax Bills: The Annual Town Budget Meeting will be held on **May 18**. The budgets (General Government, Education and Capital Improvement) will be voted on at referendum (date to be determined). Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Clerk's office for those that will be out of town on the day of the referendum.

If the budgets pass at referendum, then the Board of Finance sets a mill rate, and tax bills can be processed, with June 30 as the target mailing date. Taxes are billed with a 30-day grace period. Interest accrues at a rate of 1½ % from the due date. Please read your bill carefully, as all the pertinent information regarding due dates is clearly written on every bill. If the budgets do not pass, then revisions will have to be made, another Budget Meeting will take place, and then another referendum. If the budget fails again, then the process is repeated. Your taxes this year are based on the October 1, 2016 Grand List.

Natalie Ellston

Canterbury Agricultural Commission

We welcome Jessica Vincent to the Commission. Jessica and her husband Matthew will also be selling their farm grown produce and meat at the Market.

The market opens Tuesday, May 23rd from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm and will continue every Tuesday through the fall, at the Town Hall parking lot. Jessica and Missy Gil have worked hard to put together a good blend of local growers, crafters and special guests. Please note that you must complete a registration to sell items in these markets. Visit the "Canterbury Farmers Market" Facebook page for more information.

We also want to send a huge thank you to Kevin Lindell for his service and support during his term. He will be missed but we wish him the best!

Be sure to visit your local farms this spring and summer. All the best in your farming and gardening too.

Happy Spring!
*Dawn S. Pindell
Chairman*

Canterbury Seniors

The Canterbury Seniors were honored to host another Quilts of Valor presentation for six U.S. veterans at our April meeting. We were also entertained by talented Elvis impersonator, Robert Black. Our Annual Appreciation Luncheon will be held May 11. Tickets are \$5.00 in advance, and reservations are required. Your 2017 membership dues must be paid in order to attend.

Our meetings and potluck luncheon are held the second Thursday of every month at 11:00AM in the Town Hall Community Center. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for June 8 and July 13, which is our cold dish luncheon. There is no meeting in August. We will gather again on September 14.

You are eligible to join the senior club if you're at least age 50. Dues are \$8.00 annually. New members are welcome anytime throughout the year. Come learn about our many trips and activities. Call Debbie Kinne at 860-546-6136 with any questions. Additional contact information will be provided per your needs.

Canterbury Senior Trips

There are so many destinations and shows that are offered – it can be hard to decide which ones to choose!

There are certain shows we always enjoy -- Newport Playhouse and all-you-can-eat lobster – and they will be repeated this year. Other shows are new – The Gatlin Brothers, the Neil Diamond Tribute, Shoji Tabuchi.

How about enjoying “Evita”; Saint Clements Castle; the Tall Ships in Boston? We also have multi-day trips – relax at the Rocking Horse Resort; cruise on a steamboat; spend New Year's with your friends in Nashville! All these trips are described on our flyers hanging on our town Library bulletin board. Take a newsletter to have your own list to read and dream about at your leisure.

Our travelers have enjoyed many trips in the past and look forward to those in the future. For more information you may call Joanne at 860/546-9830. Hope to hear from you.

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Energy Assistance Has come to an end for the 2016-2017. The 2017-2018 program will begin back up in September 2017.

Medicare Saving Programs enrollments are always open; if you need assistance paying your Medicare Part B Premiums please contact my office to apply.

AARP Driving Classes: All classes are currently full in the area and no available instructor to set up a class in Canterbury in the near future. I will post any classes available on the town web page at Canterburyct.org.

Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Credit Program

If you turned 65 in 2016, or you are totally disabled, you could be eligible for our Homeowner's tax credit program if your income is within certain guidelines set by the State of Connecticut. The maximum income allowed for a married couple is \$42,200 and for those who are single the maximum income is \$34,600. Proof of income is required. The filing period is from February 1st through May 15th. Please call the Assessor's Office for more information about this program.

Farmers Markets Coupons: I have ordered the 2017 Senior Farmers Market Coupons in February. Due to the high demand last year I have doubling my request of booklets. My office usually receives these coupons at the end of June. Please contact my office and leave your name and number as I will be making a list for those interested... First come first serve. : Anyone 60 years of age or older and an income of \$21,590 for single and \$29,101 for Couples can receive this booklet of checks valued at \$18.00 and can be used at any CT Farmers Market. These checks are good from May 1, to October 1, 2017. If you would like a booklet please feel free to stop by my office.

Renters Rebate Program: My office has started taking Renters Rebates for the Town of Canterbury. The Tax Assessor will be still completing homeowners and Veterans Benefits. State law provides a reimbursement program for Connecticut renters who are elderly or totally disabled, and whose incomes do not exceed certain limits. Persons renting an apartment or room, or living in cooperative housing or a mobile home may be eligible for this program. Renters' rebates can be up to \$900 for married couples and \$700 for single persons. The renters' rebate amount is based on a graduated income scale and the amount of rent and utility payments (excluding telephone) made in the calendar year prior to the year in which the renter applies. Application may be made at the town social service agency, or the Assessor's Office, depending on the town, between April 1st and October 1st. Recipient or spouse must be 65 years of age or older, or be 50 years of age or older and the surviving spouse of a renter who at the time of the renter's death had qualified and was entitled to tax relief provided such spouse was domiciled with such renter at the time of the renters' death, or 18 years of age or older and eligible to receive Social Security Disability benefits. Must meet a one year state residency requirement. Grants are based upon income requirements.

Programs for Spring and Summer

Art Classes for over 50 years of age Mary Bingham Abbey

Thursdays 1:30-3:30 pm Community Room \$5.00 a session
Bring your own canvas and picture, all other supplies provided
No classes during summer months

Tai Chi Class with Instructor Paula McNally

Fridays 9:30-10:30 Community Room \$20.00 per 8 week session

Senior Exercise Class

Christine Bernier

Tuesday 9:30-10:30

Thursdays 9:30-10:30 except the 2nd Thursday of the month
Community Room \$2.00 per session All equipment provided

Please stop by my office if you would like to have your Blood Pressure checked.

My office is always looking for new ideas for programs to serve our senior. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any suggestions.

Ella Hebert

Friends of the Canterbury Public Library

Please join us for the Friends of the Canterbury Public Library's annual meeting on May, 24th at 7:00 PM at the Canterbury Public Library. After a review of our accomplishments of the past year, we are proud to present authors Vic Butsch and Tommy Coletti work to promote Connecticut's own Aaron Dwight Stevens in their latest book, 'A Journey to the Gallows', which tells the amazing and vital story of Aaron Dwight Stevens to our country and its history.

Aaron Dwight Stevens, born in Lisbon, Connecticut and raised in Norwich, was a tumultuous, at times ill tempered, as well as zealous and noble young man, and is an American Hero often overlooked. Through historical facts and fictional flare authors Butsch and Coletti resurrect the story of a true 1800s adventurer and legend. Paired with the emotional credence of Dwight Steven's beliefs, and the unwavering devotion of his fellow abolitionists, this book brings history to life in the most entertaining way. After the program refreshments, will be served. We look forward to seeing you.

*The easiest way to support The Friends of the Canterbury Library -
Shop with Amazon Smile*

When you shop AmazonSmile at smile.amazon.com, the Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to The Friends of The Canterbury Public Library. To select **The Friends of the Canterbury Public Library** as your charity, sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account." Search for The Friends of the Canterbury Public Library, then select. Then make your Amazon.com purchases through https://smile.amazon.com. Amazon does the rest.

Organic Fertilizers

"I recently hired an organic landscaping company to get my lawn in shape. They recommend three organic fertilizer applications over the season. I just heard that phosphorous fertilizer is now banned on home lawns. I'm wondering if organic fertilizer is phosphorous free. And if not, what else can I use?"

All phosphorous containing fertilizers, amendments and compost are covered by Connecticut's law, **PA 12-155**, that addresses phosphorous pollution. The law went into effect January of 2013. It turns out this necessary nutrient is a major cause of the pollution to our lakes, rivers and ponds. Excess phosphorous, or more accurately "phosphate," results in algal blooms — that green, yucky stuff on freshwater ponds and lakes — that deplete oxygen and endanger fish and other aquatic creatures.

Organic fertilizers and amendments are derived from plant and animal nitrogen sources, and always contain some phosphorous. In contrast, nonorganic or "synthetic" fertilizers can be manufactured without phosphorous. Most of the phosphorous in synthetic fertilizers comes from environmentally damaging mining of phosphorous containing rock which is becoming scarce. Either way, fertilizer use on established lawns is now limited by the need for phosphorous as determined by a soil test. The law doesn't ban phosphorous, but for an established lawn it does require that an approved lab (such as UConn, www.soiltest.uconn.edu) indicate that your soil is lacking in phosphorous by a soil test taken within the last two years. If it's lacking in phosphorous you can apply an organic fertilizer. If it's not lacking in phosphorous you can only apply one if it contains .67% or less phosphate which the new law defines as phosphorous-free.

The synthetic fertilizer industry now produces phosphorous-free fertilizers. However, all organic products will naturally contain phosphorous, as it is found in all living creatures. This includes compost, that wonderful product derived from the breakdown of leaves in our yards and towns. Leaf composts typically have low amounts of phosphorous in them and could be used to top dress established lawns, according to Dawn Pettinelli, a soil scientist at UConn.

Phosphorous fertilizer may also be used if you are establishing new grass or repairing your lawn with seed or sod. Other things to keep in mind with the new legislation: 1) phosphorous containing lawn fertilizers can't be applied between November 15 and March 15. (UConn recommends only fertilizing between April 15 and October 15 when plants are actively growing), and 2) phosphorous containing fertilizer may not be applied on lawns less than 20 feet from a waterway like a brook, river, lake, pond or the Sound.

St. Augustine Church

144 Westminster Road
(Route 14)

Annual Plant Sale

Our annual plant sale will be held on the church lawn on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Stop by to pick up flowers for Mother's Day or plants for your garden; vegetables, perennials, annuals, Something for everyone!

2017 Car Cruise

Our annual Car Cruise will be held on Tuesday, August 22nd (rain date August 24th), from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Come socialize as you view vintage cars and enjoy food from our kitchen and ice cream from Canterbury Cones, as you enjoy our DJ and his music.

Assessor's Office

Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Credit Program

If you turned 65 in 2016, or you are totally disabled, you could be eligible for the Homeowner's Tax Credit program if your income is within certain guidelines set by the State of Connecticut. The maximum income allowed is \$42,900 for a married couple and \$35,200 for a single person. Proof of income is required. The filing deadline is May 15th.

Additional Veteran's & Local Option Veteran's Exemption

These programs are designed to provide property tax exemptions for veterans whose income falls within certain limits. To receive these exemptions, an application must be filed between February 1st and October 1st for the 2017 Grand List. Proof of income is required. Check with the Assessor's Office for the income limits.

Call the Assessor's Office (860-546-6035) if you have any questions or if you would like to make an appointment to file an application for these programs.

NOTE: For the month of May, the Assessor will only be in the office on Mondays and Thursdays.

Lynn Byberg

The Prudence Crandall Museum

The Prudence Crandall Museum opens for the regular season on May 4, and has a full complement of programs and special events planned for the 2017 Spring and Summer Seasons!

Museum Docent Training!

Do you enjoy History? Would you like to earn more about Prudence Crandall and teach others what you know? Are you over the age of 14? Become a Museum Docent! The Museum is hosting a two-day Museum Docent Training program. **Cost \$25 (includes training materials and admission to Symposium)**

Saturday May 13, 10am to 4pm – Lisa Joseph, Museum Guide, will lead an in-depth tour of the Museum, focusing on the “A Place at the Table” installation, the portrait of Prudence Crandall, and the museum collections.

Saturday May 20, 10am to 4pm – Participants will attend the annual *No Small Courage Symposium* “Lives and Legacies.” Speakers include: Dr. Anna-Lisa Cox (Hutchins Center, Harvard); Dr. Barbara Beeching (Author); Dr. Jennifer J. Rycenga (Author, educator, and Crandall biographer.) Location: Canterbury community Center. Symposium is funded in part by the Dept. of Economic and Community Development, and sponsored by Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum Inc. It is open to the general public / Call for tickets!

On display through the end of October will be the exhibit “Lives & Legacies: Prudence Crandall’s African-American Students.” The exhibit highlights the lives of the African-

American young women who attended Prudence Crandall’s academy during the 17 months it was open. The exhibit reminds us that these girls didn’t just leave, but went on live full and rich lives in their own right. The exhibit draws on information that’s recently come to light regarding the students, and though it’s in no way the definitive discussion of who the students were, we hope it’s a solid beginning.

Through the end of October, the Museum’s regular hours are: Thursday through Sunday, 10am to 4pm (last ticket sold at 3:30pm). Admission: \$6 adults / \$4 Sr Citizens and Youth / Ages 5 and under, free.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day the museum will once again participate in the “**Blue Star Museums**” program by offering free admission to all active duty members of the armed services and their families with proper ID. For more information and to find out what other historic sites are participating: www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

Reminder – Members of the Friends of the Museum get free admission and a discount in the museum shop, which has a wide assortment of books, period toys, souvenirs and gift items. For membership, either call the museum at 860-546-7800 Extension 7, or go to www.friendsofprudencercrandallmuseum.org

To find out more about Museum programs and events, call: 860-546-7800 or go to www.cultureandtourism.org. Follow the Museum and Friends of the Museum on Facebook!

FINNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Our annual Finnish Culinary Delights event was held on Saturday March 11th with a standing room only audience in our kitchen lower level meeting room. Patti Folsom arranged for many members to offer an outstanding variety of foods with an Easter Season theme. The event started with three young girls (Addison Cuff, Kaydence and Taylor Coupe) dressed in farm type older traditional dress performing an old Easter Finnish custom of the season.

On Friday March 24th the Connecticut Historical Society in Hartford hosted the opening reception of the Finnish American immigrant historical exhibit. The Finnish American Heritage Society of Canterbury held its monthly Board meeting prior to the reception at a CHS conference room. The exhibit consists of many items from the Finnish Hall museum and archives along with many items from personal member heritage collections. The exhibit continues through May 6th.

A bus tour of Finnish American immigrant heritage sites in Eastern CT is being arranged by the CT Historical Society and is scheduled for Saturday April 22nd and will feature a Finnish lunch at the Finnish Hall and tour of the museum and archive.

On the morning of Sunday March 26th, FAHS hosted its annual Pancake Breakfast at the Hall with nearly 100 attendees. It was an outstanding fundraiser for the society with the popular pulla bread sold out.

On Wednesday evening March 29th the Finnish American Heritage Society with the Canterbury Public Library presented movie night at the Community Center featuring the documentary, Eero Sarrinen: The Architect Who Saw the Future. The start of the evening featured Finnish appetizers as refreshments.

Prior to the movie, Nick Lehto of Killingly gave an overview of current Finnish residential home building designs with a focus on energy conservation and insulation approaches to the cold weather conditions in Finland. About thirty participants enjoyed the film which takes the viewer on a tour of Saarinen’s most famous buildings such as the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, the General Motors Technical Center (Warren, Mich.), the TWA Flight Center at JFK, the Main Terminal of Dulles Airport, and Ingalls Skating Rink at Yale University. Many of Saarinen’s buildings are listed as National Historic Landmarks.

On June 3rd Jobina Linkkila Miller, our Treasurer and resident of Canterbury will complete her Run 169 challenge in the Town of Chaplin where she grew up. Since September 2014 when she signed up to join her sister Rachel in the running group that had an objective to run a race in every Connecticut town, her sisu (Finnish word for determination and challenge against all odds) had driven her to the finish line or is it “Finnish” Line.

Save the date:

Saturday May 6th TORI/OPEN MARKET 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Finnish Hall. Homemade Crafts, many delicious food items including salmon chowder, pulla bread for sale.

Saturday May 20th Annual Chicken BBQ at the Finnish Hall from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Always a successful community event with takeout available.

Thursday June 1st at 5:30 pm Celebrate 30th Anniversary of Finnish American Heritage Society with Potluck following.

Saturday June 10th Open House Featuring Birch Bark Basketry GroupWeaving Exhibit and Tour of the Finnish Hall. Enjoy refreshments and meet the instructor and apprentices.

CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY



*Buy a book - Make a Donation -
Volunteer Your Time*
Sponsored by the FRIENDS of the CPL.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

(Sign-up is required)

Bouncing Baby Tales with Melissa Lennon
Children, ages birth to 18 months old. 8 week program beginning Mar. 28 & 29
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:30am—10:00 am

Music & Movement with Melissa Lennon
Children, ages 18 months to 3 years old. 8-week program starting Mar. 30th
Thursdays, two sessions at 9:30 and 10:30 am

Ladder to Literacy with Melissa Lennon
Children, ages 3 1/2 to 5 years old. Program runs September—May.
New session begins September 2017.
Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 am

FAMILY PROGRAMS - All Ages!

Build a Better World

Building a better world means getting my community to feel they are making a difference in their own lives and in the lives of others.

We'll Build a Better World For the Following Bioindicator Species:

- Dragonflies
- Bees
- Monarch Butterflies
- Frogs

Wednesday crafts starting in July:

- Changing butterflies
- Seed Bomb
- Dragonfly paper airplane
- Beaded Bee
- Sculpey Clay Frog
- Build a bird bath

Creativity Through Construction

Four Saturdays: April 15th, May 20th, June 17th, July 15th, August 19th; 10:00 - 11:00 am. Sign-up required.

Children will explore the fun and imagination that comes with architecture and construction Activities will use Legos, Keva Planks, nanobugs, and other materials. Ages 7+.

Drop-In Crafts: Every Monday starting June 26 ending Aug 7
10:00 - 11:00 am. All Ages

Building and Books (4 sessions) with Melissa Lennon

Tuesday, June 27, July 11, 18, 25.
10:00-11:00 am. Ages 3-5 years old. Read stories and do crafts. Sign-up required.

Lego Brick Challenge: Monday, July 31, 10:30-11:15.

Come and challenge your creativity by designing and building LEGO vehicles. Ages 7+. Sign-up required.

First Friday Family Movie

Library is open 5:00-8:00. The movie starts promptly at 6:00.

May 5th—TBA

ADULT ACTIVITY PROGRAMS

(Sign-up is required)

Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:00 am

In the Canterbury Town Hall Community Room with Kathleen Hart

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|------------------------------|------------------------|
| April 19th | - Painting Bird Houses |
| May 17th | - Beading |
| June 21st | - Card Stamping |
| July 19th | - Stenciling |
| Sept 20th | - Card Stamping |

ADULT AND TEEN PROGRAMS

Book Discussions

3rd Tuesday of each month 7:05 pm
Call either library to reserve a copy of the book, Scotland P.L. 860-423-1492 or Canterbury P.L. 860-546-9022.

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|-------------------------------|---|
| April 18th | Canterbury—Louise Penny Month (your choice) |
| May 16th | Scotland - <i>A Piece of the World</i> by Christina Baker Kline (QCR Author) |
| June 13th | Pomfret School - QCR Event - Speaker: Christine Baker Kline. Tickets at Canterbury and Scotland Public Libraries. |
| June 20th | Canterbury— <i>The Circus Fire</i> by Stewart O'Nan |
| July 18th | Scotland— <i>The Hillbilly Elegy</i> by J.D. Vance |
| August 15th | Canterbury— <i>The Outermost House</i> by Henry Beston |



Creating Community Connections

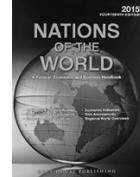
Hours: Monday-Wednesday 9am - 7pm; Thursday 9am - 8pm; Saturday 9am - 2pm

Website: www.canterburylibrary.org

Phone: 860/546-9022 **Fax:** 860-546-1142

LIBRARY SERVICES

See our Website for easy access



OneClickdigital – FREE Downloadable Audio and eBooks are now available @ the Canterbury Public Library on our website.

LIBRARY PASSES

Connecticut State Parks Pass (No Child Left Inside Initiative): Covers parking at all four state beaches, as well as several inland parks. Free admission for 2 adults & 4 children.

Florence Griswold Museum: Free admission for 2 adults & 2 children (under 12).

Mystic Aquarium: Half-priced admission for 2 adults & 2 children.

Mystic Seaport: Half-priced admission for 2 adults & 3 children.

Roger Williams Park Zoo: Reduced admission for up to 4 adults, seniors, and/or children.

State Museums: Free Admission for 2 adults & 2 youths (6-17 years).

Wadsworth Atheneum: Free admission for 2 adults & 2 children.

Fourth of July Parade

The annual fourth of july parade will be held tuesday july 4th. we are looking for marchers, vendors and entertainment for the celebration following the parade. we also need volunteers and to help organize the parade and community celebration. if you are interested please contact the first selectman's office.

Canterbury Lion's Club

The Canterbury Lions partnered with Lions from the Killingly Quiet Corner Regional Lions Club and Woodstock Lions to conduct free vision screenings at Canterbury Elementary School and Baldwin Middle School in March. The special cameras are used to screen for a number of vision problems in less than 30 seconds; 146 students were tested. We hope to offer additional screenings later this year for the community.

In April, the Lions made a \$500 donation to the Canterbury Cares Food Bank. In partnership with the Friends of Prudence Crandall, we held a ham and bean fundraiser dinner at the Town Hall. We enjoyed the collaboration and thank everyone who supported us while enjoying the dinner and listening to music.

As part of the local Eyeglass Extravaganza, the Canterbury Lions prepped and boxed 678 pairs of eyeglasses and five hearing aids that had been collected over the past year and delivered them to a regional collection center. The eyeglasses and hearing aids are provided to people in need in the US and overseas. Canterbury Lions are always ready to accept donations of prescription glasses or sunglasses, readers, sunglasses and hearing aids. You can bring them to any Lions event, drop them off in the town library.

Upcoming event: Chicken Barbeque fundraiser, June 24 at the Community Center. For more information, email us at canterburylionsclub@gmail.com or check out our webpage <http://canterburyct.lionwap.org/>. We welcome new members interested in helping our community.

Canterbury Public Schools

Signs of spring are coming out all around our school! Hello from Canterbury Elementary School. The daffodils along our driveway that the 4H students planted last fall are starting to bloom. The red tulips that Grades 1 and 4 are studying have come up and we are making plans for spring cleaning of our gardens. We are happy to see the warm weather come back.

We say goodbye to two excellent teachers this spring, Mrs. Opperman and Mrs. Merendina. We thank them for their immense dedication to our students. We wish them all the best in their retirement.

We continue to grow in our access and use of new technology. As a staff, we have been using google applications and training to further our knowledge; this training starts in mid-April.

Students are enjoying the extra time that they get in specials classes. All special teachers offer extra time during recess for the students to learn more about music, art, physical education, computers, and the library. Every morning children visit the library for a quiet alternative to outdoor recess. We were lucky this winter that we were able to go out as much as we did!

In March, we offered comprehensive eye screenings through a volunteer service from the Lion's Club. College students from Eastern University designed science centers for our students who really enjoyed learning about which solids dissolve in water and which don't or why a car rolls down a carpeted ramp more slowly than a slippery ramp.

We celebrated reading last week and the school was alive with spirit. Classes decorated their doors and many of us dressed up in our favorite character.

The school halls are covered with student work and in May, we celebrate the arts. We will have a musical performance and art show mid month. Please call the office at (860) 546-6744 for details. The public is welcome to see the artwork in the afternoon from 3:30-4:30.

The Baldwin Middle School has weathered the long and snowy winter months and all of our community of learners are excited for warmer months and exciting experiences. There are several field trips slated for students including trip to the Boston Museum of

Science, Mystic, the Audubon Society, and a historical day in Boston. The National Junior Honor Society is preparing for their annual induction as well as a week of awareness where students will be informed about various social issues such as hunger, childhood illness, drug use and abuse, and mental health issues. The 8th Grade Recognition Ceremony is scheduled for the evening of June 14th and will take place again on the Baldwin Middle School campus. With help from Mother Nature, hopefully there will be fewer caterpillars joining our audience.

Regarding more academic components of the middle school learning experience, the Baldwin Middle School has successfully implemented a weekly homework club that has shown an average attendance of almost 15% of the student population. We look forward to continue this program into the next school year. As the 2017-18 school year approaches, there are some changes with respect to assessment and instruction. Students and teachers will be gradually implementing a new progress monitoring assessment tool called the Measures of Academic Progress, which is a tool from the non-profit NWEA. Students will also have an additional core class next year focused on writing and language usage. The overarching standards of Reading and Writing are too broad and specific to be taught and learned in only one class per day.

The Baldwin Middle School also wishes to publicly recognize Mrs. Joan Jette-Lotreck who will be retiring at the end of this school year. I will end this month's contribution with a mantra in dedication to Mrs. Jette-Lotreck: "little by little, a little becomes a lot."

Pupil Services

Annual review season is in full bloom for the Pupil Service Office. For every IEP eligible student in the district, a Planning and Placement Team meeting must be held annually to review progress and to plan for the year ahead. We are looking at data and making decisions to support all of our students! The New England Center for Children are continuing with monthly community outings to the Post Office, Better Value and Dino's in order to support independent living skills of our students. Canterbury Public School thanks you for your continued support.

THE LAST GREEN VALLEY

Spring is springing, and Spring Fever is in the air. Our new program, Spring Outdoors, is just the cure. Like Walktober, Spring Outdoors offers guided hikes, bike rides, paddles, events, tours, runs and more throughout the National Heritage Corridor's 35 towns. Spring Outdoors adventures are offered from March 20 through June 21, the entire Spring season. Last year we started small, but this year there are over 170 choices. Since Spring Outdoors is still a new program, there is no printed brochure yet, so we need your help spreading the word. Please take a moment to check out Spring Outdoors, and take care of your Spring Fever!

It is also time for the all-new, updated, comprehensive adventure and recreation guide to our National Heritage Corridor. ***Explore! Outdoor, Indoor & Around Town Adventures in The Last Green Valley*** comes hot off the presses late May each year. ***Explore!*** features places to hike, bike, paddle, swim, shop, tickle your taste buds, dally in a museum,

enjoy farms open to the public, and all sorts of adventures enabling you to become a modern day explorer. The Canterbury Town Green is featured in the "Walking" Section and the Canterbury Historical Society and Finnish American Heritage Society shine in the "Museums/Historic Sites" Section. Call for your free copy.

Love paddling, fishing or just enjoying the waters in our region? Dive into the volunteer water quality monitoring program! Training is provided, and we match up your interests and schedule. Paddlers pick up a new paddle guide. The Quinebaug, Willimantic & Shetucket Rivers have miles designated as National Recreation Water Trails.

The UTAP (Universal Trails Assessment Process) team is looking for volunteers/teams to assist with an important accessibility project along the Air Line State Park Trail to help measure slope, distance, and other features at the public launch and trail locations. This

information is very helpful to people with limited mobility or disabilities in determining the accessibility of the site for their own use. Dress for the weather and bring drinks. TLGV will provide snacks. If you are interested in joining or have questions, please call 860-774-3300 or email Lyann@tlgv.org.

Farmers in the Valley Tours are also brand new in 2017! Join us for family-friendly tours, kids' activities, local foods, Last Green Valley Rangers, and more with our partner farms. These are free events.

Tastes of the Valley is headed our way in the fall! Stay tuned to see what transpires, as we're serving up a new dish. A plated several course meal, with a Farmer at Your Table! Sponsorships (that include tickets) and tickets will be available mid-summer.

Keep up to date with all the news and happenings in The Last Green Valley on our website www.thelastgreenvalley.org and on our facebook page.

Canterbury Historical Society

Warm weather greetings from the Canterbury Historical Society. We hope you'll join us for one or more of our upcoming events listed here, all of which are **free and open to the public**. Monthly meetings meet at 7pm in the community room. You're cordially invited. Bring a friend.

May 12: Stephen Spignesi Discusses His Book: *Grover Cleveland's Rubber Jaw and Other Unusual, Unexpected, Unbelievable But All-True Facts About America's Presidents*.

June 9: Connecticut State Archaeologist Dr. Brian Jones on "Five things everyone should know about Native American archaeology in Connecticut."

June 10: Stop in at the 19th Century One-Room Green District Schoolhouse on Connecticut Open House Day. 10 AM to 3 PM on Canterbury Green,

June 25 and thereafter: Historic One-Room Green District Schoolhouse

season schedule. In addition to June 25, the school will be open for visiting from 2:00 to 4:00 PM on the second and fourth Sundays of July, August, and September. You can also call 860-546-9062 to request an appointment for a different date and time. Located on the Canterbury green, South Canterbury Road at Library Road.

Although we hold special events over the summer months, we don't have regular meetings in July and August.

September 8: Velya Jancz-Urban Presents "Pudd'nheads: Childhood in Colonial America."

October 14 OLD HOME DAY: Finally, be sure to mark your calendar for the Canterbury Historical Society's **Old Home Day**. This old timey event on the Canterbury Green allows folks of every age from across the community and nearby towns to enjoy a day filled with demonstrations of traditional crafts and

trades; live music; friendly animals; reenactors; great food; exhibits inside the 19th century one-room Green district schoolhouse; and children's activities. Admission and parking are always free. Exhibitors by prior invitation only. This event goes on rain or shine, 10 AM to 4 PM.

Get more details and stay up to date on all our activities, events, and musings by visiting our always-current website and social media sites. Or call 860-546-9346. www.canterburyhistorical.org; CanterburyHistoricalSociety.CT; <http://twitter.com/CantrbryHistory>

We also invite you to join our email list. No need to be a member, just send a request with your full name and email address using the "Contact" page of our website. We never share your contact information, and you can opt out at any time. Even better, become a society member.

Editor's Note

The next issue will be published in August 2017. Anyone wishing to submit articles for consideration may do so by email to canterburynewsletter@yahoo.com or by dropping them off at the Selectmen's Office before August 15th. The editor reserves the right in all instances to edit for length and content. Submissions are welcome from all Canterbury organizations and institutions as well any suggestions to better the publication.

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A CANTERBURY STORY *by Sheila Mason Gale*

Hannah B. Baldwin Part 7

I recently visited Suffield Connecticut. We drove by Bradley airport and went west on Mountain Road and it took a little over an hour. When Hannah Baldwin, her mother and Fan (the horse) traveled by buggy in 1890, it was a much longer trip with overnight stops along the way in stranger's homes/barns. The academy (Suffield Academy) she mentions in the story was started in 1833 and is still in operation today.

Mother and I were the only women among the fifteen or twenty guests at the hotel table. The men were mostly drummers from New York looking up tobacco and wall paper, the chief industries in that region. During the meal, the men had a hot discussion over the approaching election. I was a little indignant that they did not so much as mention the Prohibition Party, which was going to "bury the great Republican party in a grave so deep it would never rise again." We had a warm bountiful wholesome dinner and Fan looked much refreshed after her feed.

Suffield seems like a thrifty old town. There is an old seminary or academy there – the streets are broad, the churches large, though there is a certain crudeness about the place and it does not satisfy the eye after the Massachusetts towns which have an indescribable air of refinement and finish. Someone told us, before leaving home, that we should notice the difference as soon as we crossed the state line and it was so.

It was snowing before we reached Windsor Locks, a manufacturing village. We stopped at the Post Office; having ordered our mail sent there and received a number of letters from all over the country. The Post Mistress said they had been coming in for several days and she had wondered a good deal who they belonged to.

It snowed the remainder of the day, the wind blew, the air was raw and chilly. There wasn't much fun in driving that afternoon I don't know what we should have done without the letters to cheer us. We read them along the road from Windsor Locks to Old Windsor. There was more difficulty in finding lodgings at Windsor than in any other place during the journey. I went to as many as ten or a dozen different houses in search of accommodations. At last we found a comfortable place for Mother and me and took the horse to the hotel stables where she was well cared for.

We had planned to drive to Saybrook at the mouth of the Connecticut River, but I woke in the morning feeling so tired and lame that I proposed to Mother to let me take the train at the nearest railroad station and go home and send Lucy

(believed to be Dr. Helen Baldwin's sister) to finish the carriage journey to Saybrook with her. But Mother said she would go home too. The country roads on the west side of the Connecticut River are smooth and hard and level and it was a delightful drive from Old Windsor to Hartford that morning.

We drove about Hartford a little and saw the State House. Mother did some shopping and then we crossed the bridge over the Connecticut River to East Hartford unchallenged. East Hartford is only about forty miles from home and there promises to be no more anxiety about finding the way as they told us there that the telegraph line followed the road all the way to Willimantic. The roads are much rougher on the east side of the river and, of course, one had to go over the hill ranges and when we left the Connecticut Valley, we had to encounter the rocks and stones of the hill country.

We intended to pass through Bolton, but were much amused to find we had left in on the hill at one side of us. It is an odd little place and from our distant point of view seemed to compare well with the general sterile appearance of the surrounding country. After exhausting our list of common everyday ejaculations over our stupidity and gazing at Bolton in the distance until we were satisfied, we spied a house nearby and, as usual, stopped and inquired the way and, as usual, they told us to follow the telegraph lines. Such a way as the wires led us down a long frightfully steep hill on a winding road, badly washed by the rains, plentifully sprinkled with rocks and loose stones and bordered with bushes by the wayside and a new growth of woods in the adjoining fields with no houses in sight. Mother remarked that she had heard, "it was a favorite place for murders and robberies near Bolton and the country looked adaptable to that sort of thing." I think that hill was a mile long.

At the foot of the hill, close by the railroad track, there was a little dilapidated old house all alone by itself. And as was her custom, when Mother saw a house she at once proposed that I should get out and inquire the way. I demurred. I didn't want to get out. To be candid, I reminded her that when we were in East Hartford they told us the telegraph line would lead us to Willimantic and that we had been told the same thing at every house where we had enquired since and it was useless for us to stop at the lonely place to enquire. She said if I wouldn't get out, she would. I weighed the matter for an instant and concluded that if either of us was going to be murdered it would better be I and got out of the carriage feeling very angry – a very improper frame of mind in which to be suddenly launched into the next world.

to be continued