



Canterbury Town News



May, 2016

Canterbury, Connecticut

SELECTMEN'S CORNER

After a very unusual and warm winter, we are now enjoying April Showers and the signs of spring are beginning to sprout. Like everyone else, I am glad to see spring arrive and warmer weather just around the corner.

One sure sign of spring has been the festivities of Opening Day for both Fishing and Little League. Last weekend, I had the pleasure of marching in the SFC Parade in Baltic and being able to throw the "first pitch" of the season. It was very enlightening to see all of the smiling faces of our young ball players out on the field. They, too, were very excited to get the season started. I wish each one the best for the season.

Our planning group for the July 4th Parade is hard at work getting things organized for our annual parade. The parade will kick off at 10 AM at the Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School and will proceed west on Route 14 to Municipal Drive and end at the Town Hall. Festivities are being planned for after the parade at the Town Hall complex, so please join in on the fun and food after the parade.

The renovations to Manship Park have been completed and, with the exception of a few minor touch-up projects, the ball field, soccer field, volley ball courts and the child's play area are open and ready for use. The walking track has been open and is used on a daily basis by walkers and joggers alike. Although the park is open, we ask that all pets are kept off of the ball field and the soccer field. In addition, pets are not allowed on the field area inside the track, on the volley ball courts or in the kid's play area. When walking your pet around the track area, they must be kept on a leash at all times and please pick up after your pet for everyone's sake.

Once again, I would like to thank each of you for your continued support and cooperation.

Roy Piper

First Selectman

Canterbury Agricultural Commission

From gardens to fields; the cover crop that protected the soil from erosion all winter is being turned in. Nutrients like composted manure or fertilizers are being added. Feeding the family, growing for customers, or feeding animals on the farm; the process is similar but different in approach and scale.

Check out the "Canterbury Grown" brochure, at the town hall, to find farms near you to make local connections for farm and garden supplies, plants and food you need this year. You can also visit www.buyctgrown.com to search for farms and activities in our town and nearby.

Our new member is Deborah Plantamuro who will join us on the fourth Thursdays at 7:00 pm each month; with no July meeting. We want to express a heartfelt thank you to Lee Wrigley for his commitment to agriculture and for his extra efforts each year to provide beautiful flowers and the float for the 4th of July parade. We will miss him on the committee but wish him well in his new endeavors.

Summer Farmers Markets start up in June. In addition to the Buy CT Grown site you can find locations and hours at www.nectfarmersmarket.org.

Enjoy fresh & local!

Dawn S. Pindell

County Executive Director

NEW Transfer Station Stickers

The new Transfer Station Stickers for your vehicles are available for **Canterbury residents only**. You must present a valid Canterbury Registration for each vehicle that you need a sticker for and they must be affixed by April 30 to continue using the transfer station. If you do not have a new sticker on your vehicle after that date, you will be denied entrance to the transfer station. The stickers are *available in the Town Clerk's Office* at the Town Hall and are valid for two years (until April 30, 2018). Please affix your new Transfer Station Sticker to the bottom corner of the driver's side windshield.

Assessor's Office

Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Credit Program

If you turned 65 in 2015, 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 13th.

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 2016 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.

Lynn Byberg

Canterbury Historical Society

Canterbury Historical Society has had a busy start to 2016! It's been an eventful year to date, including exciting programs and planning for the rest of the season.

Mark your calendars for Old Home Day, September 17th on the Congregational Church grounds, from 10am-4pm. Old Home Day celebrates our heritage with period exhibitors, local artists and craft vendors, live music, tours of the Green School, rides in an antique vehicle, and great food. If you are interested in being a vendor or exhibitor at the event please contact Sarah Noiseux via the website.

High school students needing volunteer hours are encouraged to contact the society; we have unique volunteer opportunities available.

The society is always open to new members; the only requirement is to enjoy and appreciate history! We meet once a month on the second Friday at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Community Center (except for June and July). Programs are free and open to the public. Read more about our program calendar on the website, www.canterburyhistorical.org.

MATTRESS RECYCLING PROGRAM

at the Canterbury Transfer Station

Canterbury is now involved with the Mattress Recycling Program for the State of Connecticut. If you have old mattresses and/or box springs that you need to discard, we have set up a special container for used mattresses and box springs at the Transfer Station. Instead of putting these items in the Bulky Waste container, please place used mattresses and box springs in the blue container located at the far end of the Transfer Station (next to the old dog pound building). This program is sponsored by the Mattress Recycling Program is free to Canterbury residents. The program helps to reduce our costs associated with bulky waste.

About the Mattress Recycling Council: The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a non-profit organization established by the mattress industry to develop and operate the Connecticut mattress recycling program. MRC submitted an implementation plan to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) on July 1, 2014. The plan was approved on December 31, 2014. The

Connecticut Mattress Recycling Program began on May 1, 2015. Canterbury was one of the first in the State to take advantage of this program.

**Examples of
UNACCEPTABLE Items:**

- Severely damaged, twisted, wet, frozen or soiled mattresses.
 - Mattresses infested with bed bugs or other living organisms.
 - Sleeping bags.
 - Pillows and cushions.
 - Loose bedding, blankets or sheets.
 - Car beds.
 - Juvenile products, i.e., a carriage, basket, dressing table, stroller, playpen, infant carrier, lounge pad, or crib bumper.
 - Water beds.
 - Camping air mattresses.
 - Fold-out sofa beds.
 - Futons and furniture.
 - Loose mattress pads and toppers.
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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

Transfer Station Stickers: All residents must get a new orange sticker by April 30 to continue to use the transfer station. If you do not have a new sticker on your vehicle after that date, you will be

on May 20, 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 (it takes about three weeks to have the bills printed and envelopes stuffed and sealed), 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, 2015 Grand List.

Natalie Cordes

YOU MUST include a self-addressed stamped envelope for all transactions done through the mail.

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.

Hunting/Fishing Guides: The 2016 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.

denied entrance to the transfer station. You must provide a current, valid vehicle registration certificate to the Town Clerk's office in order to receive a free sticker.

Budget/Tax Bills: The Annual Town Budget Meeting will be held on **May 20**. The budgets (General Government, Education and Capital Improvement) will be voted on at referendum to be held on **May 26**. Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Clerk's office

THE LAST GREEN VALLEY

We invite you to connect with the many delights in The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor.

With Earth Day and cleanups in our rearview mirrors, it is now time to get out, explore and enjoy!

Grab hold of the all-new, comprehensive adventure and recreation guide to our National Heritage Corridor. **Explore! Outdoor, Indoor & Around Town Adventures in The Last Green Valley** is hot off the presses and 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. The Canterbury Town Green is featured in the "Walking" Section and the Canterbury Historical Society shines in the "Museums/Historic Sites" Section. Call us to get your free copy. 860-774-3300.



Spring Outdoors is a new program organized by The Last Green Valley, Inc. (TLGV) that started this year. Each April & May Land Trusts and Conservation Commission will showcase their preserves and stories. Be sure to host a walk if you can and we invite you to attend walks, too!

If you are looking to connect to the natural resources in the Heritage Corridor, there are opportunities to dive into the water quality monitoring program! Training is provided, and we match up to your interests and schedule.

Love greeting folks with a big smile? Our volunteer Rangers attend scores of community events, festivals and fairs each year, including Canterbury's 4th of July Parade Day & Canterbury Old

Home Days. New Rangers are always warmly welcomed, Ranger training is also included, plus you get your own Ranger t-shirt!

Monthly programs connect you to the plethora of places in our 35 town region. Acorn Adventures (aimed at families and kids of all ages), Mystery Member Meanders (activate your inner explorer and discover a new secret trail each month) and diverse Member Programs are always on the calendar!

Quarterly Historic Collaborations have begun. Aiming to work together to share our precious stories and to promote all of the region's history, we meet at a different location and enjoy a different topic each quarter. Killingly was host at their genealogical library in January. Thompson covers lithic sites and cairns on May 20th, and the Huntington Homestead will be featured sometime this summer. If you love history, contact Marcy@tlgv.org for more information.

Tastes of the Valley and Walktober are headed our way in the fall! Stay tuned to see what transpires!

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.

The Last Green Valley, Inc. (TLGV) is the nonprofit, member supported organization that works with you in the National Heritage Corridor.



Together we want to enjoy it, care for it, and pass it on.

St. Augustine Church

Annual Plant Sale

Our annual plant sale will be held on the church lawn on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Stop by to pick up flowers for Mother's Day or plants for your garden's -- vegetable, annuals, perennials. Something for everyone!

2016 Car Cruise

Our annual Car Cruise will be held on Tuesday, August 23rd (rain date August 25th), 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.

2016 Canterbury Recreational Women's Volleyball League -- Season 8

Manship Park in Canterbury will prove to be the "Hot Spot" this summer, as twelve teams consisting of nearly one hundred women, will take to the sand volleyball courts for some stiff competition! Each team will square off against their opponents in an eleven week schedule, in hopes of the opportunity to qualify their team's advancement on to the Final Playoffs. Regular season matches will kick off the first week of June, immediately followed by three weeks of Playoffs, carrying us through the end of September. Matches are played at 6:00 and 7:00pm on Monday evenings. Whether you are an avid fan, or just curious about this awesome sport of beach volleyball, please feel free to stop by and check out the action!

2016 commemorates our 8th Season of the league's existence. I am blessed and honored to be surrounded by a terrific group of ladies who are so supportive and committed to keeping the volley going. I cannot wait to get our season underway and look forward to seeing everyone back on the courts!

Wendy Dayger, Director
Canterbury Recreational Women's Volleyball League

Editor's Note

The next issue will be published in August 2016. 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.

Canterbury Recreation Commission

The sand volleyball courts at Manship Park will be set up by June 1st. The Canterbury Women's Volleyball League and the adult co-ed volleyball Rec. program are the primary users of this facility, and these groups maintain the facility, but the courts are also open for public use.

The Baldwin School baseball team is using the renovated field at Manship Park for the first time this spring. Thanks to Jim Molkenthin and the baseball coaches & parents, Jerry Renaud and the Baldwin Boosters, and Scott Marshall of Marshall Landscaping for getting the baseball field ready this spring.

The Rec. would like to thank Jeff Warcholik and crew for the work they did installing the new outside staircase at Frink Park.

This was a much needed improvement at the field used by the Little League teams during the spring, summer and fall.

We encourage individuals interested in recreational activities to attend our meetings and provide input. We meet on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Town library conference room.

The current Rec. program schedule at the Baldwin gym:

Adult Women's volleyball Mon. 7:30-9:30pm

Adult co-ed pick-up volleyball Wed. 7:30-9:30pm
(play outside after 5/25)

FINNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY



The Finnish American Heritage Society will host a fundraiser supper for a grandson of Rita Kelley, a founding member of FAHS. Lucas, who has chronic granulomatous disease, will need a bone marrow transplant in the near future. The pasta supper

which will be open to the public is planned for Saturday June 11, from 4 to 6 p.m. and is chaired by Josie Stenback and the Trustees of FAHS. Please support this important cause. A silent auction will also be featured with donations welcomed from members and friends to support this very important fundraiser. Several local musicians will be providing music.

In addition on Thursday June 2 the hall will hold a Finnish food menu potluck for members in conjunction with our monthly meeting where donations for Lucas will be requested.

FAHS will be supporting a Connecticut youth from Stamford who is applying to attend Salolampi Finnish Language Village in Rochester, MN this summer. Our group will provide a \$300 grant towards a scholarship for this program. We look forward to a successful school experience for him.

In late February several members from Finnish American Heritage Society had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Pasi Sahlberg at a luncheon meeting in Cambridge, MA where he is a visiting Professor of Practice at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education. Dr. Sahlberg has a career in education and was previously a key leader in the Ministry of Education in Helsinki, Finland. Our initial contact with Pasi Sahlberg was an invitation for him to speak at the FinnFunn weekend in October 28-30 in Troy, NH as he did at our event in 2014... Unfortunately, he and his family will be returning to Finland in several months.

Our conversation with Dr. Sahlberg as always was very interesting as we discussed an update on Finland's educational environment and some movement in the U.S. to address programs that may simulate the success in Finland. Dr. Sean Tate who has over 3 decades of experience in global educational development, Anita Smiley, a retired teacher and former President of Finlandia Foundation National, and Stan

Karro, previous President of FAHS and a member of FinnFunn Committees were members who met with Pasi Sahlberg. Dr. Tate will share much of our educational conversation with his presentation during the FinnFunn event in October.

FAHS has continued to host a monthly movie night at the Finnish Hall with the latest film shown "Letters to Father Jacob" by Klaus Haro. The story is of Leila who's serving a life sentence for murder and is pardoned and offered a job in a secluded parsonage reading and composing letters for Father Jacob, a blind priest. Prior to the film, a casual pizza meal was served to members. Our next movie night is planned for Wednesday April 13 at 6:30 pm with the showing of "Letters from Karelia".

The heritage society hosted the annual St. Urho's Day celebration on Sunday afternoon March 13 with a different theme. Although we acknowledged the accomplishments of St. Urho and the demise of the grasshoppers, our discussions centered on "what is it like to be married to a Finn". The question was responded by an overwhelming number of positive responses by the attendees...? with a few challenges to the relationships and the questionable quality of those of Finnish background.

The annual pancake breakfast was held on Sunday April 10th with Sue Coupe of Chepachet RI chairing the event. It was a successful event with a varied menu with a wonderful group of volunteers

On Friday April 15th several FAHS members Jobina Miller, Matti and Marcia Huhta, Mike Kotowski, and Stan Karro participated in the Plainfield CT Middle School's International Day event. The group provided an overview of Finnish culture, history, life style, music, and key attributes of the country.

Our Annual Chicken Barbeque will be held on Saturday May 21st from 4:00-6:00 pm and will feature Finlandia Foundation National's Performer of the Year Sara Pajunen of Minnesota. She is an outstanding violinist and fiddler and will play two sets during the event. This added attraction will add to an exciting and entertaining afternoon. This event is always very well supported by the Canterbury community. Please join us for this new venue at the Chicken Barbeque.

Agent for the Elderly

Energy Assistance Has come to an end for the 2015-2016. The 2016-2017 program will be begin back up in September 2016.

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: April 25, 2016. Town of Canterbury, 10-1, Community Center, call 860-546-9845 to register.

Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Credit Program

If you turned 65 in 2015, 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 2016 Senior Farmers Market Coupons in February. Due to the high demand last year I have doubling my request of booklets. We usually receives these coupons at the end of June. Please contact me 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, 2016. If you would like a booklet please feel free to stop by.

Renters Rebate Program: My office will be completing all Renters Rebates for the Town of Canterbury effective immediately working under the Tax Assessor. 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. Renters' rebates can be up to \$900 for married couples and \$700 for single persons. Application may be made at 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.

PROGRAMS FOR SPRING & SUMMER

Art Classes for over 50 years of age

Mary Bingham Abbey

Thursdays 1:30-3:30 pm

Community Room \$3.00 a session

Bring your own canvas and picture, all other supplies provided

Tai Chi Class with Instructor Paula McNally

Fridays 9:30-10:30

Community Room \$15.00 per 8 week session

Canterbury Senior Trips

Our year started off very well with a great cruise in the Caribbean. We had smooth sailing and good weather. Plenty to do on board for those sea days! Look at the cruise we are offering for next January. We are flying to Fort Lauderdale and staying overnight. This is a little different from the past year when we've bused the ship. We're traveling on a beautiful Princess liner – The Royal Princess.

It was a special treat that awaited us at the Celtic Crossing show we attended in March – the musical performance was one of the best!

We've just returned from seeing the spectacular sight and sound show, "Samson". The weather might not have been the best, but the show was! Great message!

During the coming year we offer several more trips which you could join, you don't have to be a member. There's and 8 day trip to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, which includes the largest indoor tattoo. A trip to Mackinac Island with several interesting stops along the way and a stay in Chicago. There are day trips for shows and sights.

Flyers for each trip can be found on our library bulletin board, along with our newsletter.

Hope to hear from you,
Joanne

Canterbury Seniors

We will celebrate our Annual Appreciation Luncheon on May 12. You must be a member in good standing to attend. Tickets are \$5.00 in advance, and reservations are required. Our next general meeting will be June 9 at 11:00 AM. You are eligible to join the senior club if you're at least age 50. Dues are \$8.00 per year. There is no meeting in August. Cost is \$5.00 and reservations are required. Call Debbie Kinne at 860-546-6136 with any questions. Additional contact information will be provided according to your needs.

Senior Exercise Class with Instructor Christine Bernier

Tuesday 9:30-10:30

Thursdays 9:30-10:30 except the 2nd Thursday of the month

Community Room \$1.00 per session

All equipment provided

Bistro Luncheon

12:00 p.m. Every third Wednesday of the Month at Community Hall. A different Menu each month and will be posted in Library and my office, Bring your own beverage. \$5.00 per meal. You will be responsible for payment even if you don't show. Preregistration is required by calling 860-546-2057 or 860-546-6136. Leave name and phone number of who will be attending by the Thursday before Luncheon.

Senior Luncheon 11:00 am- Community Room

Every **Second Thursday of the Month** except August. This is a Pot Luck Luncheon that immediately follows the Seniors meeting and each family is asked to bring in a dish or dessert. Programs scheduled for after the meal and events are posted on Town Web site. A monthly Calendar will be available.

CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY



http://www.librarywishlist.com/wl/WishList_home.cfm?x=89769521

Dreams really can come true with your support.

*Make a Donation
Volunteer Your Time*

People Rely on the Library: In these difficult economic times, more and more people rely on the library. Unfortunately, our budget constraints make it difficult to keep up with the demand. We need your support. Please browse through our WishList and make a donation.

Sponsored by the FRIENDS of the CPL

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

(Sign-up is required)

Science & Nature Programs

Starting again in September!

Creative Construction

Saturday, May 14, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Celebrate your inner engineer! Join us to make mazes for tiny robots, called Nanobugs and constructing marble runs. This is a great STEM enrichment program. Ages 7-12. Limited registration.

Bouncing Baby Tales with Melissa Lennon

Children, ages birth to 18 months old.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

9:30am - 10:00am

Music & Movement with Melissa Lennon

Children, ages 18 months to 3 years old.

8 week program

Thursdays, two sessions:

9:30am & 10:30am

Ladder to Literacy with Melissa Lennon

Children, ages 3 1/2 to 5 years old.

Program runs September - May

ADULT AND TEEN PROGRAMS

(Sign-up is required)

Medicare Savings with Laura Crews

Wednesday, June 1 10:30-12:00

Learn how you could save on the cost of your Medicare premium every month.

Painted Garden Stones (Ages 11+)

Thursday, May 5 6:00-7:00

We will be painting pretty patterns and delightful designs on brick pavers. Limited registration.

Pocket Letter Pals Nancy Ryan

(Ages 11+) Thursday, June 9 6-8:00

A contemporary spin on writing letters! We will use scrapbook paper, stickers, washi tape, etc. to design a letter in a pocket format.

LET'S TALK ABOUT BOOKS

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.

May 17th Scotland — *Good Harbor* by Anita Diamant

June 14th Pomfret School—Quiet Corner Reads Evening with Anita Diamant - Tickets are \$15 and available at the circulation desk.

June 21st Canterbury—*Entry Island* by Peter May

July 19th Scotland—*Etta and Ottoa and Russell and James* by Emma Hooper
Canterbury—One Book, One Region Selection: TBA

First Friday Family Movie

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

May 6th— *The Jungle Book* (1967)

June 3rd—TBA

ADULT ACTIVITY PROGRAMS

(Sign-up is required)

Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:00 In the Canterbury Town Hall Community Room with Kathleen Hart & JoAnn Brustolon

May 18 - Birdhouse Decorating

June 15 - Coloring to Relax

July 20 - Decorative Stenciling

August 20 - Beading



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

Website: www.canterburylibrary.org

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

Email: canterburypublic@yahoo.com

LIBRARY PASSES

Connecticut State Parks Pass (2): No Child Left Inside Initiative. Free admission for 2 adults & 4 children.
Mystic Aquarium: Discounted admission for up to 2 adults and 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 and 2 children.



SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Prospective start date: **Saturday, June 18th, 2016**

This year's theme is *On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!* The 6-week program will feature fitness-related crafts, games and activities. Check back in June for more information.

Starting June 20th:

» Mondays: Drop-in Crafts, 10:00-11:00

» Tuesdays: Storytime, time TBA

» Wednesdays: STEM Activity, time TBA

Canterbury Public Schools

Central Office Happenings

as reported by Superintendent Dr. Lois C. DaSilva-Knapton

As always the students at Canterbury Public Schools are thriving. As the year winds down we reflect on our successes and ponder next steps for the future. As we continue to follow our strategic plan, our technological infrastructure has become much stronger, our instructional practices have improved, and the BMS roof committee is up and running. This budget season has been particularly busy and stressful and I am happy to be on the other side. I continue to work closely with the Board of Finance Chairperson, the Board of Education chairperson, and the First Selectman. We are a united front. We really are all in this together and I thank you for your continued support.

Canterbury Elementary School

as reported by Principal Sarah Cary

Hello from the top of the hill at Canterbury Elementary School! Reading Week is in full swing right now. It is our spirit week in which we celebrate reading in many ways. Every classroom has a door decorated to match a selected book cover. The students tour the school and vote for their favorite creation. On Thursday of this week, we participate in an activity called "Switcheroo."

Staff members read a favorite book and the children sign-up to listen to whom they wish. On Friday, it is character day and we dress up in our favorite characters and parade through the school or around the circle, depending on the weather. We love reading and books!

Spring is a time to begin planning for our coming year and in recent weeks, we have hosted the Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten registrations and screenings. It is wonderful to see the younger siblings of current students and families new to us. In this process, we welcome former students back as parents and reunions with former teachers.

Grade levels are going out on Field Trips in the last months of the school, studying first hand the subjects they have been studying at school. Some examples include whaling at Mystic Village, the animals at the zoo, and minerals in our natural world at Audubon Nature Center. Children also get a chance to hear the Connecticut Symphony Orchestra and visit the Pequot Museum.

We bring the Arts alive here at our school. Two plays are currently in production; the 3rd and 4th grade chorus will present "Hats" during our Celebration of the Arts, on May 12th at 6:30 and the other play is an in-house production of the second grade. We invite the public to view our art show which will be on display between May 10th and May 13th. Best viewing hours are from 3:30-4:30.

We thank the PTO for their active work to help support these special activities for our school. It would not be possible without them. Bingo Night, a family event, is at the end of April. In June, Field Day is planned for the last week of school.

Students get a chance to engage in fun activities like water games, hoola-hoops, jump houses, and other outdoor fun. We serve a picnic lunch on that day.

We would also like to send a great big hug off with our two retirees this year, Mrs. Leeann Riviera and Mrs. Eileen Taylor. They have served many fruitful years in Canterbury and we wish both them a bright future with keen memories of our Canterbury students.

We thank the town of Canterbury for your continued support of our children.

Baldwin Middle School, as reported by Principal Ryan Earley

BMS has worked diligently throughout this school in preparation for a smooth and fruitful culmination of learning for all in our community. The eighth grade students have put their best foot forward during the past 4 years and have made their high school decisions and are preparing to don new colors as they will be joining new communities of learning. It is important that even though they move outside of the Canterbury boundaries, they remain students of Canterbury and continue to be supported by the school district and bring

much pride to our community. The continual goal of the faculty and staff at Baldwin Middle School is to help produce a most vibrant and knowledgeable student body to move on to high school and all that it has in store. In order to do so, many new learning programs are being reviewed and implemented for our teachers and students. There has been an increased focus on technology tools this year as the ground work is being prepared to implement Google Applications for Education in the coming year. Students will be able to utilize free tools through Google that connect directly into the classroom and with increased access to hardware technology to support this tool. The tools we seek to use with Baldwin students are those that are expected to be used as they become high school students. In addition to the in-school components of technology, there will be increased access of technology tools to reach out to the community and increase awareness of the happenings on 45 Westminster Road with all in the community. This task will be accomplished by giving teachers access to maintain their own classroom websites, revamping the current district website to provide up to the date important information, and then utilizing Twitter and Instagram as tools to inform the community. The social media tools will be used increasingly based on feedback provided and can be accessed using addresses below:

Twitter: @baldwinmsct

Instagram: balwinmiddleschoolct

As a point of information and awareness, the Baldwin Middle School Community would like to recognize and thank Mrs. Dennise Vincent for her over 35 years of dedicated service to the learning (academic and social-emotional) of the young people of Canterbury. Best of luck in your retirement.



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Canterbury Cares

Canterbury Cares is a food pantry located in the lower level of First Congregational Church of Canterbury. We distribute on the third Monday of the month from 10 am to noon and invite town residents in need of food assistance to visit the pantry or contact the church at (860)546-9007.

We are so grateful to everyone who has donated funds, food and time to Canterbury Cares. A special thank you to Samantha

Rizer and the Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School, for their generosity in making Canterbury Cares one of the recipients of this year's Empty Bowl Project. We have been so blessed to have the support of our town's wonderful churches, schools, local organizations and individuals.

Thank you so much!

Earthquake Preparedness & Safety

Although we have not encountered any earthquakes thus far this year, as we had several in late 2014, it is never too late to think about the possibility of Canterbury encountering an earthquake at any time. With that in mind, and in light of several questions that residents have asked recently, I am providing some information that could be helpful before, during, and after an earthquake.

An earthquake is a sudden, rapid shaking of the earth caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface. Earthquakes strike suddenly, without warning, and they can occur at any time of the year, day or night. Forty-five states and territories in the United States are at moderate to very high risk of earthquakes, and they are located in every region of the country.

The American Red Cross has an Earthquake Preparedness Checklist, written in English, Spanish, and seven other languages. The link to the website is: <http://www.redcross.org/>

prepare/disaster-safety-library. If you do not have access to the internet, a copy of the Earthquake Preparedness Checklist may be picked up in the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall. For more information on disaster and emergency preparedness, visit www.redcross.org.

In addition, the State of Connecticut has produced a very helpful planning document called "Connecticut Guide to Emergency Preparedness". This guide is useful to each and every household in the planning and preparedness for all types of emergencies and natural disasters. Copies of the CT Guide to Emergency Preparedness are available at the Town Hall in the Town Clerk's Office, and are free of charge.

No one can predict where, or when, a natural disaster (such as an earthquake, tornado, or hurricane) or a man-made disaster will happen. But you can get through it, if...*"you learn to live prepared"*.