

# Canterbury Town News

Jan 2010

## SELECTMAN'S CORNER



We recently received the final auditor's report for fiscal year 2008/2009. All things considered, we have maintained a sound financial status in the midst of a very uncertain economic situation at the State and Federal levels. Sincere thanks to all who contributed to "tightening our belt" during 2008/2009, as well as within our current 2009/2010 fiscal year.

"911" address signs purchased through a Justice Assistance Grant are still available in the Selectmen's office. Once Spring arrives, I will be making them available at the Town Transfer Station on selected Saturdays as well.

You might have noticed some changes at the Kinne Road transfer site. We are in the early stages of upgrading the site, which will result in a safer, more economical and much more technologically advanced operation. This will also result in our Solid Waste Transfer operation becoming fully permitted by the Department of Environmental Protection. Thanks to a STEAP grant, we are receiving \$200,000 to cover upgrade costs.

A warm welcome to our new Town employees: Erik Swanson, Municipal Building Maintenance & Custodian, and Cherri Richardson, Agent to the Elderly, and a sincere thank you to Public Works crew member George Burroughs, who will be retiring March 31 after more than 23 years service to the Town.

On a practical note, Butts Bridge will be closed for reconstruction from April 1 to August 16, with a contractor cost incentive to shorten closure by up to 10 days. While this will present significant detour challenges, it is a far shorter time frame than D.O.T.'s original plan, and will result in a sound and attractive structure. We were recently notified that Butts Bridge will be considered by the State Historic Preservation Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at the Board's March meeting in Hartford.

Stay warm and dry and think of Spring!

Brian Sear

## H1N1 CLINIC



The Northeast District Department of Health will be giving H1N1 flu shots in the Community Room on Thursday, February 11 from 1-3 p.m. All age groups qualify for this free service.

## TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR



The Tax Office has implemented a new system that will allow you to pay all current tax bills online with a credit card or by transferring funds from your savings or checking accounts. You can access this by going to the Town's web-site: <http://canterbury-ct.org>, select Town Departments--Tax Collector's Office--then follow the instructions provided to register, log-in and pay. This system has been up and running since mid-December and is working well.

Just a reminder: February 1 is the last day to pay the second installment of your real estate bills and all supplemental motor vehicle bills without interest. Interest accrues at the rate of 1 1/2 % per month from the due date (January 1) per State Statute.

The latest copy of the Town Audit is available for viewing in the Town Clerk's Office. Also, copies of the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 will be available shortly. This report includes information regarding the activities of the various Town Departments and Boards and Commissions, as well as financial data for the year.

Please feel free to call our office at 860-546-9377 if you have any questions.

Natalie, Beth & Joy

## ASSESSOR'S OFFICE



**Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Credit Program:** If you turned 65 in 2009, 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 \$39,500 and for a single person the maximum income is \$32,300. Proof of income is required. The filing period is from February 1 through May 15. Please call the Assessor's Office for more information about this program.

**Additional Veteran's & Local Option Veterans Exemption:** These programs are designed to provide property tax exemptions for veterans whose income is within certain limits. To receive these exemptions, an application must be filed between February 1 and October 1 for the 2010 Grand List. Proof of income is required. Check with the Assessor's Office for the income limits.

**Please note that all of these programs require a biennial filing.** If you last filed in 2008, another application needs to be completed in 2010 in order to continue receiving the benefit.

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

### LAND USE OFFICE



The Planning and Zoning Commission is working hard on updating the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development. A draft is available for you to review on the P/Z webpage on the Town website. Please send any comments to the Land Use Office or to [StevenSadlowski@Canterbury-ct.org](mailto:StevenSadlowski@Canterbury-ct.org). A public hearing will be scheduled for sometime in March to discuss the plan. Please check the P/Z website for updates on this document and any important dates.

Several businesses have approached the Land Use Office and the P/Z Commission to further update our sign regulations to make the Town more pro-business. Staff and the Commission are starting to work on these changes as well as others, to make Canterbury more business friendly – while preserving the Town's rural character that the residents overwhelmingly appreciate.

Just a reminder that permits are needed for any work done on your home that is structural in nature, including roofing, siding, windows. It is also a requirement that permits be obtained for improvements such as wood stoves, gas fireplace inserts and pellet stoves. Without proper permits on home improvements, it may be more difficult to sell your home or to collect on any needed insurance claims. At only \$5.22 per thousand dollars of improvement value--it is cheap insurance!

The Wetlands Commission wants to remind all residents that wetlands are an important resource in Canterbury - especially with all residents relying on well water. Please contact the Land Use Office before you start any project involving excavation in or within 100 feet of a wetland or water body. In many cases, the permit can be issued by the Wetlands Agent very quickly. If you have questions, contact the Wetlands Agent -- he is here to help you work through the process.

### 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. FAHS returns to Thursday evening meetings on April 1 (see calendar below).

In November, FAHS members remembered and honored the passing of two active members: Roy Rautio and Linda Gault. Roy Rautio was honored with the dedication of the Men's Dressing Room in his honor. Roy had been a life-long, active member of FAHS and is especially known for his participation in a variety of performances, most recently, "The Hatbox" written by Hannu Mäkipuro. Hannu recalled that when he wrote the

play, he had Roy in mind for the role. The woman's dressing room at the Finn Hall is dedicated to Roy's cousin, Ruth Rautio who directed and acted in many plays at the Hall. The FAHS Hall has been standing for over 80 years and has hosted musical and theatrical performances since the 1930's.

A Celebration of Life was held in November to commemorate Linda Gault, a long-time member and leader of FAHS. Linda had been employed by the Canterbury School System for 25 Years and was a key player in the development of the **HUGS** (Human Understanding and Growth Services) program which focuses on success in school. At the Celebration of Life, Linda's beloved husband, Rick, along with other family members and friends, shared their fond, loving memories of Linda's impact on their lives--her optimism, her wonderful giggle, her passion for life, her love of reading, her sense of humor and outgoing personality.

December events included the Pikkujoulu Christmas Party which was a fun time of good food, good fellowship, presents and visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus! Thanks to John and Judy Galinat and family for sharing their Christmas village complete with trains. All the children were completely enthralled with the magical miniature town. The other main event is the celebration of Finnish Independence Day – a Finnish National Holiday. Finland gained independence from Russia on December 6, 1917 when the Finnish Declaration of Independence was signed, changing its status from an autonomous Russian Grand Duchy to an independent sovereign nation state. Independence Day is marked by a series of celebrations that take place throughout the country and particularly in the bigger towns and cities.

New FAHS officers were elected at the Annual Meeting on January 10; Matti Huhta, President; Ellen Buffington, Vice President; Stan Karro, Treasurer; Linda Zurowski, Recording Secretary; Linnea Courtemanche, Membership Secretary; Mary Ellen Harmon, Correspondence Secretary; Eila Makipuro, Ilma Tikkanen, Pauline Andstrom, Bob Harmon, and John Bennett, Trustees.

Coming events at the Hall (all open to the community) include the Third Annual Youth Talent Show with auditions February 18-20 and two performances March 27 at 7 pm and March 28 at 2 pm. If you are a young person age 10-18 with a performance talent to share and if you are interested in the opportunity to gain performance experience and just plain have fun, please call Judy Galinat at (860)546-2189 or e-mail at [jagalinat@charter.net](mailto:jagalinat@charter.net) for more information or to sign up for auditions. There are cash prizes awarded and refreshments will be served at the March performances.

Other popular community events coming this spring include the Pancake Breakfast (complete with the delicious Finnish oven pancake) on April 17 and the Finnish Culinary Delights (demonstration and sampling of Finnish dishes) on April 24. And save the date for the Annual Chicken Bar-be-que (chicken prepared with the FAHS secret basting sauce) on May 15.

**Calendar:**

- Feb 7: 1:30pm: Membership Meeting (social hour at 12:30pm)  
18-20: Talent Show Auditions: 18 & 19: 6pm-8pm,  
20: 12pm-3pm  
20: 10am: Laskiainen Day (traditional Finnish fun day of snow sledding & pea soup) and Pulla Sale
- Mar 7: 1:30pm: Membership Meeting (social hour at 12:30pm)  
14: 1-5pm: St. Urho's Day Celebration  
27: 7pm: Talent Show Performance  
28: 2pm: Talent Show Performance
- Apr 1: 7pm: Membership Meeting (social hour at 6pm)  
17: 8-11am: Pancake Breakfast  
24: 1:30pm: Finnish Culinary Delights
- May 6: 7pm: Membership Meeting (social hour at 6pm)  
15: 4-6pm: Chicken Bar-be-que

The Hall is available for rental for events and includes a full kitchen, a large meeting room and a performance stage. For more information, e-mail [hallrental@fahs-ct.org](mailto:hallrental@fahs-ct.org) or call 860-546-6671 and leave a message. Please visit our website at [www.fahs-ct.org](http://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.

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
Janet M. Tyler, Superintendent of Schools**



There are many community-related and civic efforts taking place in the Canterbury Public School district. H1N1 inoculation clinics were held at both the Canterbury Elementary School and the Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School. Over one hundred fifty students received the shots. The faculty and staff partici-

parted in the *Home for the Holidays* fundraiser initiated by Governor Rell. Its purpose was to bring troops home to Connecticut to be with their families over the holidays before being deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq. Most recently, the students and staff are raising money to fund supplies to be sent to Haiti.

Innovations are also taking place to generate funding. Mark McQuillan, Commissioner, Connecticut State Board of Education, has applied for the *Race to the Top* grant, which is a competitive \$4.35 billion education reform program enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). One hundred twenty CT school districts, including the Canterbury Public School district, has partnered with the Commissioner in supporting this initiative to implement comprehensive educational reform. The four areas to be addressed include adopting standards and assessments, building data systems, recruiting and retaining effective teachers and administrators, and narrowing achievement gaps. The first submission for the grant application was January 11, 2010. If unsuccessful, a revised grant will be submitted to Washington, DC in June 2010. If awarded the Canterbury Public School district will receive approximately \$77,500 to be equally divided over the next four years.

As you know, with winter comes the Budget season to all school districts and Canterbury is no exception. The process began with the faculty and administrators who identified educational needs in October 2009. After several months of scrutiny by administration, the Superintendent's proposed budget was presented to the Board of Education members at their Business Meeting on Tuesday, January 26. The proposed budget reflects a 1.3% increase over the current year (2009-2010), a budget which reflected a 0% increase from the previous year (2008-2009). The budget is fiscally responsible and respectful of the community's ability to pay and the difficult economic times. The Board of Education will be reviewing it at their Budget Workshops on February 2 and February 9 beginning at 7:00 in the Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School Library. I encourage parents and community members to review the budget and share their thoughts with the BOE members. I would be happy to meet with you to answer questions or provide more information on the budget. I believe you will find the budget book, which includes much detailed information, reader-friendly. I look forward to working with you to make this a prudent, student-centered budget, meeting the needs of the children of today and the adults of tomorrow.

**CANTERBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
A. Catherine Ferguson, Principal**



Our first conferences of the year were held on Dec 10 and 11. One of the highlights was discussing what support is needed at home in partnering with parents in the education of their children which is critical for their success. We were most pleased that they were well attended.

Our validation visit from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) took place in November. The NAEYC representative documented observations, reviewed parent surveys, examined teacher questionnaires and evaluated of classroom/school environments as part of the certification process. It has been an extremely ambitious project taken on by our Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Teams. It was a pleasure to have the evaluator here to share our program with her. We look forward receiving this prestigious designation which will be determined in the next few weeks.

We again are delighted to begin serving our students K through Grade 3 through a Primary Mental Health Grant called HUGS. This grant is aimed at providing services in a stress free environment for students who are at-risk. Students will participate once a week for a half hour and be involved in a situation where they are directing their own play and empowering themselves through their selections under the supervision of counselor assistant, Mrs. Amy Marsalisi.

Our thanks to our PTO, a group of extremely dedicated parents, for all they do to add to the experiences of our CES students. Through their efforts, we have an enhanced playground; stu-

dents have the opportunity to attend field trips and the fine arts presentations, as well as, participate in fun social events such as family nights.

Students in grades 3 and 4 will be participating in a pilot for the CT State Department of Education with regard to Benchmarks Assessments, in other words, what students need to know and be able to demonstrate. The purpose of the pilot is to provide a resource to aid in increasing student achievement in Math and Reading Comprehension by providing assessments based on the state's model curricula and comprehension pacing guides using items that are keyed into the CT standards by state department curriculum consultants. The assessments are administered on-line in our Technology Lab. There are 2 assessments, math and reading, that last for 60 minutes each. The students participated in the fall and are scheduled to participate in the winter administration which is coming up. The data gleaned should provide us with information with regard to our students' skills, as well as, students' test taking abilities.

As always, our assemblies provide us a great opportunity to come together as a school, have the public in and celebrate the talent we have here. Our assemblies are always on a Wed at 2:00p.m. The dates for the rest of the year are as follows: Jan 27, Mar 17, Apr 14, and Jun 9. We hope you can attend. We delight in every opportunity to showcase the talent we have here at CES. There will be a spring concert which is scheduled for May 14 at 6:30. All concerts will be held in the CES cafeteria. Other important dates include Field Day on Jun 9 and Grade 4 Awards Ceremony which will be Jun 10. The last day of school is presently Jun 11 which is subject to change due to school cancellation.

**Important Dates**

- Feb 17 - H1N1 Clinic (Second Dose) 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- Feb 26 - Bingo Night - 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 10 - Gr. 1 to Veteran's Memorial Auditorium in Providence to see *Click! Clack! Moo!*
- Mar 17 - School Assembly - 2:00 p.m.
- Mar 20 - Basket Bash/Craft Show, 9:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Mar 22 - CES Spring Picture Day
- Apr 1 - Gr. 4 to Garde Arts Centre in New London to see *Freedom Train*
- Apr 12 - Gr. 3 to Hyde Cultural Center in Woodstock to see *New Haven Symphony*
- Apr 14 - School Assembly - 2:00 p.m.
- May 5 - Gr. 4 to Hartford State Capitol and Museum of Conn. History
- May 22 - School Dance - 6:30 p.m.
- Jun 3 for the Kindergarten Celebration - 6:00
- Jun 9 - School Assembly - 2:00 p.m.

**DR. HELEN BALDWIN MIDDLE SCHOOL  
Kathleen Boyhan-Maus**

The Booster Club is held a Winter Sport Fundraiser on Jan 23. A wonderful Italian dinner was served. The funds support our athletes in their pay-to-play sports throughout the school year.

Our team does an incredible job. The coaches as well as the athletes have been complimented by other towns on their sportsmanship conduct. We are very proud of our students and coaches.



The PTO will be holding a very different fundraiser this year. The definite date will be forthcoming; but, the night in Mar on a Sat in Plainfield will be a Comedian Night. If anyone is interested, we will be selling tickets soon. The night should be one of laughter

and fun; families and friends are invited to attend. The major members of our PTO consists of parents of grade 8 students. They have been selfless in supporting the middle school for their entire four years. We truly appreciate their hard work and enthusiastic endeavors over the years. Please consider becoming a PTO member before the end of this school year; the students and staff need you.

The eighth grade has been invited to Woodstock Academy to participate in the high school band. They will be listening and learning. By the end of the evening, our students will be part of the performance. Mr. Beit has worked hard to make our connections with our receiving high schools. The students are elated to perform with their high school acquaintances.

The Cheerleaders have been attending summer workshops as well as a special weekend cheer camp. They cheer for all of the basketball home games. They add such spirit to our entire school. They will be competing on February 6 at Tourtellote High School in Thompson for Miss Cherry Pie. All are welcome to support our athletes. Their program is not only strenuous but also requires incredible agility and strength. Our coach has been practicing with our students for months, and we are quite encouraged by their expertise and enthusiasm.

Parent conferences will be held on Jan 28 and 29. The meetings are critical for student success. Every parent is invited, and if the times are not convenient, each team will make additional times available for all families. We meet with all team members on each grade level, but each special teacher is available throughout the entire time as well. Invitations will be going out soon.

The Connecticut Mastery Tests will begin on Mar 2. All students work diligently to perform their best. The items on the tests are directly aligned with state and national standards in each content area. They are a great blueprint for schools to identify areas of strength and weakness; consequently, we expect all students to be at their best, well rested, nourished, and practiced. The middle school has been doing so well over the past few years. Our scores have been improving each year. We truly expect to maintain those high expectations each year and demonstrate how well our students learn.

**Important Dates**

- 2/26 CMT Pep Rally and Student Faculty Volleyball Game
- 3/20 PTO comedy Night

- 4/7 Art Trip to New York Museum of Modern Art
- 5/7 Career Day
- 5/26-28 Eighth grade trip
- 6/1 Eighth grade to Cave Hill

**PUPIL SERVICES**  
**Mary Carter, Interim Director**

The Office of Pupil Services is in a period of transition. Bryan Klimkiewicz, former director, left Canterbury Public Schools to become the Director of Special Education at Woodstock Academy on January 4. The position has been posted and advertised with a goal of hiring a new director as soon as possible. To assist during this interim period, Mary Carter has been hired as the interim director. Ms. Carter has worked in the area of special education for over thirty-five years as an administrator and educational consultant. During the first few days on the job, meetings were held with all the Pupil Services staff to discuss their assignments. She and Mr. Klimkiewicz have discussed the priorities in the district with a goal for a smooth transition for the new director.

During the winter months several areas are being addressed by the Office of Pupil Services:

? *Response to Intervention (RTI)* is the process of providing research based interventions for struggling students in the general education setting. Students who are having difficulty receive the assistance they need quickly and the school staff monitor the responses to the intervention to determine future interventions and/or supports. The process in Connecticut is called *Scientific Research-Based Interventions (SRBI)*. Information for parents is available through the State Department of Education. Canterbury continues to work on the implementation of this process in the district. Information gathered as part of his process is discussed during the initial meeting regarding any new student who is referred to the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) to determine eligibility for special education services.

? The *After School Program* for students with special needs was implemented in October and continues at both the elementary and middle school. It provides additional support for student in the areas of reading and math and is available for up to four days per week. Transportation is available for the students. Feedback from staff indicates that the program has been successful in providing the extra help that some students need, particularly in the areas of organization, study skills and homework.

? The transitioning of students from pre-school to elementary and elementary to middle begins during this period as we begin to look at personnel and budget needs within the district. The Office of Pupil Services also works closely with the middle school staff regarding the transition of students to a high school in the region. Once a high school has been determined, the staff work-

ing with students with special needs and representatives from the high school will meet with the student and family to discuss what supports will need at the new school. The goal is to make the transition to the high school as smooth as possible for the student.

The staff has been very welcoming and supportive to the Interim Director and the Office of Pupil Services will continue to respond as quickly as possible to concerns from parents and staff. The Pupil Services secretary, Aeryn Barry started in October and has adjusted quickly to her new job and the busy pace in the office. She has very helpful during this period of transition. Classroom observations are in the process of being scheduled and meetings regarding budget preparation will be on-going during this period.

**MUNICIPAL AGENT TO THE ELDERLY**



I'm pleased to be serving as the Town's new Municipal Agent to the Elderly, assisting seniors with information and referral services. This office completes energy assistance applications and ConnPace and Medicare applications, as well as providing ongoing education on a variety of topics that enhance the quality

of life for our "seasoned" residents.

To be most effective, I would like to meet as many seniors as possible. Please call or stop by my office to introduce yourself. My phone number is 546-9845 and my office hours at the Municipal Building are Mondays 11-2 and Thursdays 10-12. Please contact the Selectmen's office in an emergency.

Cherri Richardson

**LAUNCH OF CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ONLINE (CT ECO)**

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the University of Connecticut Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) are pleased to announce the launching of a new website, **Connecticut Environmental Conditions Online (CT ECO)**. CT ECO is a state-of-the-art website that provides access to a wide variety of state environmental and natural resource information.

CT ECO uses advanced software that combines internet and geographic information system (GIS) technology to provide information in multiple formats for users with varying degrees of technological capability. The site includes simple map downloads, interactive mapping, and map services for GIS software users. Please check it out at:

**[www.cteco.uconn.edu](http://www.cteco.uconn.edu)**

UConn and DEP will be conducting webinars in the near future to demonstrate the workings of the site and some of its many uses. In addition, in the spring brief video tutorials will be posted on the site. Keep an eye out for upcoming announcements. As always, we're interested in feedback and there are

"Dear CLEAR" and "Dear ECO" addresses posted on the site for your commenting pleasure.

Chester Arnold, University of Connecticut, Center for Land Use Education and Research, (860) 345-5230, [chester.arnold@uconn.edu](mailto:chester.arnold@uconn.edu)

### CANTERBURY SENIOR TRIPS



Welcome to our new year of trips! We enjoyed many last year, seeing thrilling sights, great entertainment and enjoying delicious food with great companions! Come join us in 2010 - all are welcome. We have a wide variety of trips to offer - day trips, over-nighters and multi-day.

Just a listing to choose from - Irish Cabaret, Washington DC, Ellis Island/ Statue of Liberty, Bermuda, Custy's, the Riverhouse, lobster trapping, Bobby Vinton, Iceland, "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels", Niagara Falls, Apple Fest, Newport Playhouse.

More information can be found about any of these trips on our town library bulletin board or by calling Joanne Sheridan 860-546-9830. HOPE TO TRAVEL WITH YOU!

### CANTERBURY ESTABLISHES AN AGRICULTURAL STUDY COMMITTEE

In June 2009, Canterbury, along with the towns of Ashford, Brooklyn, Franklin, Sterling, and Thompson, was chosen as an AGvocate Pilot Community. AGvocate towns, through a CT Department of Agriculture "Agriculture Viability Grant," receive staff assistance for one year from a circuit-rider AGvocate, Jennifer Kaufman, to establish a forum for municipal officials, agricultural producers, and other stakeholders to strengthen the farm-friendliness of eastern Connecticut towns.

As part of the AGvocate program, Canterbury hosted two listening sessions with the agricultural community in July and September of 2009 to determine how to improve the farm-friendliness of the Town. Listening session attendees recommended that the Board of Selectmen establish an ad hoc Agricultural Study Committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen appointed the committee in October 2009.

So far, the ad hoc Agricultural Study Committee has provided input to the agriculture section of Canterbury's draft Plan of Conservation and Development and the section of the revised zoning regulations that applies to agriculture. Both the zoning regulations and the Plan of Conservation and Development will go to public hearing and hopefully will be adopted by the Town sometime in 2010.

In addition, the committee is considering proposing an ordinance to establish a permanent agriculture commission and a right-to-farm ordinance. An Agriculture Commission is advisory, with no regulatory power. It serves as a voice for farmers, farm businesses, and farm interests. The commission is a forum to provide visibility for farming; work with other town

boards concerning issues that affect agriculture; help limit farm and non-farm conflicts; and work to protect farmland and natural resources. A Right-to-Farm Ordinance is a local policy statement that reinforces the State Right-to-Farm statute and emphasizes a town's support for local farms and farm businesses.

The Agricultural Study Committee had its first meeting on October 22, 2009 and continues to meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 pm in the Canterbury Community Center. Meetings are open to the public and members of the agricultural community and interested citizens are encouraged to attend. Also, Canterbury will host an AGvocate workshop on Wednesday, March 31 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm in the Canterbury Community Center. For more information about the AGvocate Program, Canterbury's Agricultural Study Committee, or the AGvocate workshop, contact Jennifer Kaufman, AGvocate, at [AGvocate@yahoo.com](mailto:AGvocate@yahoo.com) or 860-450-6007 or Steven Sadlowski, Canterbury's Town Planner & Zoning / Wetlands Enforcement Agent at [stevensadlowski@canterbury-ct.org](mailto:stevensadlowski@canterbury-ct.org) or 860-546-6857.

### CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY



Hours: Monday-Wednesday 10 am – 7 pm,  
Thursday 10 am – 8:00 pm, Saturday 10 am – 4 pm.

Website: <http://www.canterburylibrary.org>,

Email: [canterburypublic@yahoo.com](mailto:canterburypublic@yahoo.com).

Phone: 860-546-9022, FAX: 860-546-1142

**Card Stamping**: Thursdays 6:00-8:00 p.m. Sign-up is required. January 28, February 4, March 25, April 1.

**Canterbury Stitchers**: Drop in and work on your sewing projects, knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. Meets every Monday, 1 – 3 pm and Thursday, 6 – 8 pm.

**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](mailto:paulacoughlin@charter.net) or call the library. Seasonal Projects Presented:

Vernal Pool Inventory: Spring—April/May

Pilot Grassland Bird Habitat Survey: Summer—June/

July

Stream Walk: Summer—July/August

Rapid BioAssessment: Fall—September/November

**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. Check out our website for more details. Our next training hike will be in Canterbury on Saturday, January 30, 2010.

**The Connecticut Authors Trail and Kiddie Cat**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Connecticut Authors Trail will begin soon. In the meantime join us the first Children’s Author Trail. As with the adult authors trail, all events are free. The finale will take place at the Canterbury Public Library on March 27, 2010 at 10 am with author Deborah Freedman.

The trail consists of a consortium of libraries in Eastern Connecticut who have invited a variety of authors from our Nutmeg State to showcase their books and share their stories. Additional details and the complete list of libraries and authors can be found at: <http://sites.google.com/site/connecticutauthortrail/> for the adult website and at <http://sites.google.com/site/kiddiecatlibraries/> for the children’s author trail.

**Senior Gaming --** Join us for Wii Sports (bowling, boxing, tennis, golf, or baseball) on Wednesdays from 1 – 3 pm. Bring a partner, start a competition. Senior Pizza Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month. Please call to ahead so we can plan on having enough pizza.

**Computer Education --** Interested in computer classes? Would you like to learn more about Excel, or how to create a PowerPoint presentation? Have you been thinking about creating a MySpace page or joining Face Book to connect with your friends? Whatever it is, let us know, and we will create a class for it.

**Free Downloadable Audio Books --** Do not forget to check out our website for new downloadable audio books.

**Canterbury Green Group --** Meetings are at the Canterbury Public Library the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 10 am. Next meeting date is Saturday, February 13, 2010. Are you interested in learning more about Green living? Join us to learn and share ideas about how to protect our environment. One way to start is by recycling. The Green Group collects certain items for recycle at the library. Please bring your small appliance batteries, printer cartridges, used eye glasses, discarded compact disks, and old cell phones to the library for recycling.

Canterbury Residents can obtain a free permit from the Town Hall and deliver their recyclable materials to the Canterbury Transfer Station 111 Kinne Road on the following days: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 8 am – 1:45 pm, Saturdays: 8 am -2:45 pm.

**Transfer Station Accepted Recyclable Items:**

**Bottles and Cans (mixed):** Glass bottles and jars (any color), metal cans. All containers must be empty and rinsed—do not bag them.

**Paper (mixed):** Newspapers, magazines, junk mail, cardboard, office paper, cereal boxes, shoe boxes, soda/beer boxes, etc. NO paper with food waste. (Paper may be loose, tied together, or bagged).

**Metal:** All metal objects go into the metal dumpster

**Waste Oil, Antifreeze, and Car Batteries:** See the attendant

**Tires:** All tires go into the tire dumpster

**Freon Appliances:** Refrigerators, Air Conditioners, Dehumidifiers, etc. go into the designated area

**Bulky Waste:** Furniture etc.

**Household Trash:** Placed into the household trash dumpster

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

The variety of backgrounds brought to the table by various commission members has your Canterbury EDC supporting and enhancing local businesses in a number of ways. The business community is working to promote each other’s enterprises as well as marketing their own particular goods and services.

**1. Monthly Meet-and-Greet Sessions:** Twenty-two businesses were represented at the first Meet & Greet session hosted by Martello’s Pub. Suggestions and comments were discussed. All will be considered at the regular EDC monthly meetings. Next event will take place on February 9th at 5 pm. All businesses are welcome to attend which will hopefully develop into a Canterbury business association.

**2. Business Sign Program:** Three more businesses have taken advantage of the program that points potential customers to your location. Others are welcome to become involved. Melissa Gil at the Land Use Office has the forms. Temporary or on-site signage regulations are being re-written and EDC is directly involved in the discussions.

**3. Canterbury Advocate Program:** Four EDC members have attended a series of meetings designed to allow farm-type businesses the right to operate and prosper. Such rights are being thoroughly reviewed and EDC is advocating for our farm friends.

**4. Planning & Zoning Meetings:** EDC members will now attend Planning & Zoning meetings in order to advocate for various business interests. We intend to become part of the solution, not part of the problem. This includes helping businesses work through the planning and regulatory process.

**5. Business-of-the-Month Program:** Various veteran business operations will be honored at each monthly EDC meeting. Ed’s Garage was the first honoree. A plaque of appreciation along with appropriate publicity is provided. The businesses explain their products and services to the commission members

**6. Starting a Business in Canterbury:** EDC members, Rich Curtis and Alisa Mierzejewski combined to create a brochure showing potential commercial enterprises how easy it is to start a business in Canterbury “**1-2-3**”. Connecticut’s Smart Start program feels it’s the best piece they’ve seen in the State. Copies are available at the Town Hall lobby.

**7. EDC Meeting Participation:** All Canterbury citizens are welcome to attend and comment at the monthly EDC meetings. We look forward to greater public participation in order for us to do a better job for Canterbury. Our dates are Feb 23, March 30, April 27, May 25 & June 29.

**CANTERBURY VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**



The Canterbury Volunteer Fire Department will be celebrating its 61<sup>st</sup> year of operation at our Annual Dinner Dance at Wrights Mill Farm on March 27, 2010 at 6 pm. All are encouraged to help us celebrate another successful year. Tickets are \$40 a couple, \$25 per person and are available from any member, or you may call Betty Patridge at 860-546-6096 after 5 pm.

**Activity Report for 2009**

The firefighters and medical providers were dispatched to 390 incidents from January 1 to December 31, 2009.

Fire incidents

- 7 structure fires
- 5 chimney fires
- 4 car fires

Ambulance/Emergency Medical incidents

- 198 medical house calls
- 60 car accidents

Other incidents that we were dispatched to handle: trees and wires down, haz-mat spills, water in basements, fire alarms, carbon monoxide incidents/

Of the 390 incidents, 40 were mutual aid to neighboring towns. We also received mutual aid 33 times from our neighboring fire departments.

Thank you for continued support

Cory Kasacek, Fire Chief

**CANTERBURY BOY SCOUTS**



Troop 86 Boy Scouts will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner at the Canterbury Community Center on Saturday March 20 from 4:30 pm - 7 pm. Tickets are: Adults - \$7.00, Seniors and Children 5 - 10 - \$5.00, Under 5 - free.

**FRIENDS OF PRUDENCE CRANDALL MU-  
SEUM**

We recently received some very exciting news from the CT Commission on Culture and Tourism (CCT) regarding the video, "To All on Equal Terms" which tells the story of Prudence Crandall and was filmed at the Museum. You may remember this video debut



took place last May at the Canterbury Community Room and we were delighted with townspeople's response. CPTV has chosen to air the film three times during the month of February. If you were unable to join us at the premier or if you want to give the film another look, tune in to CPTV February 17 at 8 pm, February 21 at 4:30 pm or February 22 at 11 pm. The film is being submitted to the award committee of the CT League of History Organizations with hopes that it will be found to be a valuable work. Then, after it is shown on CPTV, CCT can nominate it for a regional Emmy - what great publicity that would be for our Museum!

The Friends, with CCT approval and support, also expect to begin a training program for volunteer guides. These guides would be available at the Museum during the May to November season to provide general information to visitors, assist with tours and serve as hosts in the gift shop. By using volunteers this past season, the Museum was able to be open once a week instead of just two days per month. We hope to expand the hours for the upcoming season by using trained volunteers to assist the curator. We plan to begin this program in March and believe it would require four meetings, one per week and each about 1 1/2 hours long. Please read the Selectman's Blog and the local papers for more information as the program is developed.

We anticipate hosting a Spring Tea again in May and ask you to join us at our Annual Meeting that month. There will be more information about those events in the newspapers and also about our annual membership drive, so please keep an eye out for those announcements!

**CERT TEAM**

Recently, eleven Canterbury residents graduated from the 8-week CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training held at the Northeast Council of Governments. They now constitute a formal Canterbury CERT team whose role is to assist first responders and emergency response agencies in the event of a local or regional disaster. Carol Kent was voted team leader, Ray Shinkiewicz is deputy team leader, and Betty Piper is team secretary/treasurer. The team initially plans to organize shelter management functions and develop educational outreach.

Each team member was given basic knowledge of a variety of areas of emergency support, including fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. In the event of an emergency, the team will be activated by the First Selectman or the Emergency Management Director. Information on the CERT program can be found at [www.citizencorps.gov/cert](http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert) and on our Town's Emergency Management web page.

**FRIENDS OF THE CANTERBURY  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

It's a new year, and the Friends of the Canterbury Public Library are proud to announce what's going on in the next few

months in order to support the library. Our goal is to continue raising funds to support a future library renovation, purchase books not covered by the library's regular budget, and promote library programs.



We will be holding a book sale on Saturday, March 6 from 9 am to 3 pm in the Community Center. We made over \$700 at our last book sale in October, and we hope to boost that amount by increasing the hours of the sale. If you have any books that you've finished reading and would like to donate to the Friends' sale, please bring them to the library. Keep in mind that we don't accept textbooks, Reader's Digest Condensed Books, or magazines.

The Friends are also selling heavy-duty canvas bags perfect for carrying your books home from the library. The bags are cream with green handles, and they are available at the library for \$10. Please stop in to pick up a bag and support the Friends. Also, bring your new bag to our sale in March for a special price on your purchase.

We're always looking for new members to join the Friends of the Library. Memberships start at \$5 for an individual membership, \$15 for a family, \$50 for our patron membership, and \$100 for a lifetime membership. You can pick up an application at the library or email any questions to [canterburylibrary-friends@yahoo.com](mailto:canterburylibrary-friends@yahoo.com). We're always looking to increase our membership and get new ideas about how to improve the Friends and help the library.

Our next few meetings will be held on February 18 and April 8 at 7 pm in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend, so please stop by with ideas about what you would like to see the Friends do in order to support the library.

#### **NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**



The next issue will be published and distributed in the April/May time frame. Anyone wishing to submit articles for consideration may do so to the Selectmen's Office. Articles should appeal to the varied interests of the citizens of Canterbury and should be informative in nature without being political. The editor reserves the right in all instances to edit for length and content.

This issue will mark my final as the editor of this publication. I have served in this position for over nine years and it is now time for someone else to come forward and run with this newsletter. Maybe someone out there can make this a profit generating, or at least a break even, operation. Several suggestions have been tendered as to how this can be made to self-perpetuate without relying on tax dollars for its existence. With my busy schedule, I have not had the time or energy to fully explore those suggestions. A sincere thanks goes out to all who have helped in the last nine years to assist in getting this newsletter ready for mailing. There is a lot of work that is done behind the scenes that goes unnoticed and largely unappreciated by the general public. You all know who you are and I have appreciated all of your help.