

Canterbury Town News

Oct 2, 2007

SELECTMEN'S OFFICE



In November, I will be retiring as First Selectman. I have enjoyed serving the citizens of the Town of Canterbury as Selectmen for two years and First Selectman for ten years.

I would like to thank the Republican Party for their support, the Boards and Commissions I worked with over the years and especially the Town employees.

The best part of the job was meeting with, talking to and helping the Canterbury residents in any way I could.

Neil A. Dupont, Sr.

First Selectman

TOWN CLERK AND TAX OFFICE



The Municipal Elections will soon be upon us! November 6 is the date when town officials will be elected once again, so please take the time to cast your vote for your town leaders. Also, absentee ballots will be available October 5 in the Town Clerk's Office.

Tax bills were sent out later than normal; therefore, you have until October 15 to pay without late fees.

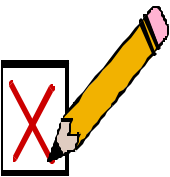
It has been my distinct pleasure and honor to serve the town of Canterbury in the Town Clerk and Tax Offices since 1998. However, I am at a point in my life in which I need to prepare for my retirement and ensure that my family medical benefits are secure. My current concerns and needs have led me to accept an appointment as Town Clerk in the Town of Windham.

It is with sadness that I end my tenure here in Canterbury, but also with a heart full of joy for the many wonderful friendships that have been made over these past years.

Patricia P. Spruance

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Important dates



Saturday, October 20, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm - Registration session.

Tuesday, October 23 - Registration by mail deadline.

Tuesday, October 30, 9:00 am-8:00 pm - Last regular voter registration session. Applicants must appear in person.

Monday, November 5, 9 am - 12 pm - Limited Registration

Session to admit those seeking to vote in election whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence was attained since October 23.

Tuesday, November 6 ELECTION DAY Hours: 6:00 am - 8:00 pm.

RECREATION COMMISSION



Rebecca Collins is offering her After School Care Program for elementary and middle school children every day after classes at the Canterbury Elementary School. Call Rebecca for information or to register (546-9094).

Elena Ferragatta is offering French language classes for children after classes at the Elementary School (Mondays) and Baldwin Middle School (Fridays) during the school year. Contact Elena at 774-9680 (Brooklyn) for information.

Susan Miner is offering her Movie Making for Kids Technology classes at the Elementary School again this school year. She can be reached at 889-1909 (stonewallprod@sbcglobal.net). Recreation volleyball is playing outside at Manship Park on Monday evenings (7 pm; Dan Kildea, 546-2219), and will be moving indoors to Baldwin School starting in October. Sunday evening men's (young adults) basketball continues at Baldwin gym (7 pm; Anthony Pukalo, 546-9637) this fall.

The Recreation Commission made contributions during the summer to the CAA for the purchase of new soccer nets at Manship Park, and for the purchase of a new volleyball net for Manship Park.

The Recreation Commission meets on the second Monday of each month (except in October) at 6 pm at the Town Hall Community Center. The October meeting will be held on October 15. We're always interested in having new volunteers attend the monthly meetings - contact Prentiss Balcom (546-9085).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Economic Development Commission has been planning additional activities now that the Town Survey has been completed and presented to the community.

It's important that we support our local business community. Shopping locally brings us closer together as Canterbury citizens and helps broaden the goods and services that we can actually buy in town. In order to further promote our entrepreneurs, we are in the process of completing information forms that list the goods and services offered, the names of the owners, their business location, email address, phone number, hours of operation, etc. The data will be edited and published

in a Canterbury Business Directory which may be picked up in the Town Hall and other downtown locations. The directory will be available to consumers by Thanksgiving. Any Canterbury based business can be included as long as it is properly registered with the town. Call EDC member, AmyJo Labbe at 546-2056 for further information.

The results of the Town Survey were explained to the community at the Middle School in June, as well as to six other boards and commissions. After the November election, various members of the EDC will be visiting with those groups to review the survey results with elected officials as to how the Town's People viewed their performance and a list of suggestions that they would like to see put in place. Chris Barnes, who conducted the survey with his staff, noted that the data gathered would be accurate for at least two years and even longer if there is no change in outside influences. Copies of the survey are available in the Town's Building Office. By surveying 350 of our 4,000-plus citizens, Chris feels the data is very definite in guiding town officials in exactly what we as taxpayers want as the future of Canterbury unfolds.

The EDC meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Community Room. The Commission brainstorms how to best expand the commercial tax base while retaining the rural nature of our fine town. Everyone is invited to attend and participate in these open forums which try to discuss the kinds of goods and services Canterbury citizens would support if they were available locally. The EDC will utilize the survey as a guide and your input would be greatly appreciated. We hope to see you at our next meeting. Avery Tillinghast, Chairman.

CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Tel: 546-9022 Fax: 546-1142
canterburypublic@yahoo.com

Hours

Monday – Wednesday 10:00-1:00; 3:00-7:00
Thursday 10:00 – 1:00; 3:00 – 8:00
Saturday 10:00 – 4:00

Website: canterburylibrary.org



We have a new online circulation system. You may access your account to see what you have checked out and when they are due by going to <http://cby-verso.auto-graphics.com>. You can renew material, reserve materials, and see what we have on the shelf -- all from the comfort of your home.

Calendar of Events

Banned Books Week — Everyone is invited

September 29 – October 6

Read a banned book from the ALA Banned Books Website, <http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bbwwlinks/100mostfrequently.htm>. Stop in and tell us what you think about it and receive an “**I Read Banned Books**” button.

Young Adult to Adult

Bead Craft, Skull Earrings — October 15, 5:30-6:30 pm. Signup is required.

Card Stamping with Arlene Sweet — 6:00-8:00 pm. Sign-up is required. October 18, November 6 February 7 April 10

Book Discussions, -Second Monday of each month at 7 pm.

In November we will discuss **Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time** by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. Reserve your copy today.

Children's Programs

Our children's programs continue to grow thanks to the **Jewett City Savings Bank**.

Music and Movement: Ages 18 mos. – 3 yrs on Thursdays at 9:15 and 10:15. Sign-up is required. This program is full but will begin with new sign-ups in January.

Ladder to Literacy: Ages 3½ - 5 on Wednesdays at 10 am. Sign-up is required. A child and parent may join this class at anytime during the school year.

Story time: Ages 3 - 4 on Tuesdays at 9:30 am. Begins October 1. Sign-up is required. This program is full but will begin with new sign-ups in January.

Nutmeg Book Discussion Series: Grades 4 – 8, Call for time and dates. Discuss the newest Nutmeg nominees with Teale. Snacks and great conversations await you, so get reading!

Other programs in the works: (Thanks to our Friends Group and your donations)

Bubble Fun for all ages

Feeling Fantastic with Feng Shui

Low Carbon Diet: A 30-Day Program to Lose 5000 Pounds

Movies

Your movie fines buy new DVD's each month. Stop in and take a look!

CANTERBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Looking for something to do this fall? The Canterbury Historical Society has several suggestions:



Friday, October 12 – Members of the CT Bluegrass Music Association will deliver a presentation and music on Bluegrass music and its origins.

Friday, November 9 – Ernie & Anita Eldridge of Windham return for their 2nd CHS presentation this year. This time, the topic is world-famous Steiff stuffed toys, including those collectible Steiff teddy bears.

Friday, December 14 – Our Annual Potluck Dinner at the Finnish Hall. (This event is for CHS members only.)

The October and November meetings will be held in the Community Room at the Town Hall. Our business meetings start at 7 pm, and the program portion of the meeting generally begins about 7:30 pm. Meetings are free and open to the public. Light refreshments are served after the program presentation.

Our membership year began in September, and our regular meeting featured a viewing of Larry Northrop's completed documentary, "Samuel Huntington, From Farm Boy to Colonial Statesman." More than 50 people attended this meeting. Visit our website (www.canterburyhistorical.org) for more information on membership and meeting schedules.

September's **Old Home Day** was a great success, despite a nasty start with poor weather. More than 200 people (including lots of alumni of Canterbury's District School system) toured the Green School, as well as strolled around the Green visiting the various vendors and seeing the displays by town organizations. Thanks to all who attended! **Old Home Day 2008** has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 13.

We're gearing up for two more big fundraising events this fall. We sincerely hope you'll join us for one or both of these events:

Saturday, October 20 – 6 pm --- *Harvest Dinner at the Finish Hall*. Tickets to this popular dinner are very limited, but please call Jackie to check availability (546-6238).

Sunday, November 18 – 1:30 pm --- *Bluegrass & Old Time Country Music Show at the Plainfield Town Hall*. Nationally-known Bluegrass performer **David Peterson & 1946** brings his great traditional sound to Connecticut to headline a big afternoon filled with music. Also performing: Connecticut's **Bristol Boys**, as well as Plainfield's **Nick Anderson & Tall Grass**. Tickets are \$17 each or 2/\$30 now, but will be \$20 each at the door. Tickets for kids ages 14 & younger are \$10. To purchase, call 546-9062.

If you're in need of a Canterbury-themed Christmas gift this season, please think of us. We still have several items available, including books, crockery, and note cards.

More information can be found on all of our events and programs by visiting our website: www.canterburyhistorical.org.

CANTERBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO



The new school year is off to a great start! The CES PTO is in full swing, planning many exciting events. Our fall fundraiser will be Yankee Candles. Thanks to generous support, this has proven to be a huge profit for us in past years. The proceeds from the fundraiser will help pay for field trips, class room assemblies, and playground equipment.

In addition to our fall fundraiser, we are busy planning a Hal-

loween themed arts and crafts night, classroom assemblies, move nights, art activities, and a book give away, where each student will be able to pick out a book to keep for their very own.

Keep on clipping those General Mills Box Tops. They add up fast. Proceeds from the Box Tops go directly to our CES library. To benefit AMVETS, collect the pull tabs from soda cans. It's an easy way to give back to the community.

Our PTO meetings are held monthly, in the CES Library at 6:30 pm. Our first few meetings are 10/10, 11/14, and 12/12. Please join us and see what we are all about! Snacks and baby-sitting will be provided. Come and share your ideas!

A CANTERBURY STORY

By Sheila Mason Gale

Beverly Kettle Pukalo was born in Oneco and moved to Sterling when she was 11 years old. Her parents were Ira and Carrie Kettle and they had eleven children: Walter, Gladys, Lillian, Norman, John, Eleanor, Wallace, Donald, George, Beverly and Harold.

When the children were all grown and married, they would get together at Mom and Dad's on Sundays and tell stories about their childhood. Lillian and Donald were the comedians in the family and would keep the whole family in stitches. Every 4th of July the family would gather at Norman's house in Sterling. He had a grove of trees in the back of his property where the family would picnic. Some of the family went quahogging the day before and her sisters would make two kinds of chowder for the picnic. They played horseshoes and had watermelon fights at the end of the day.

As a child she remembers her eighth grade teacher, Julia Miller, who was from Canterbury.

She met Bill Pukalo, who lived in Canterbury, through her brother Harold who played baseball with him in the Twilight Leagues which would be semi pro leagues today. A scout asked Bill to try out for the Boston Braves, but he refused because he was 26 and felt he was too old.

They were married in 1951 and moved to Canterbury and lived with Bill's parents. It was only supposed to be temporary, but 56 years later she is still in Canterbury. When her daughter, LeeAnn, was born Beverly decided she would be a stay-at-home Mom. She remembers LeeAnn always wanted to be a teacher. When she was a child she would sit behind a desk and make her cousin be a student. LeeAnn grew up and became a teacher at Dr. Helen Baldwin School.

Beverly was enjoying her time at home when Mrs. Arlene Strube (wife of Calvary Chapel's minister Henry Stube) asked her to fill in for her in the Baldwin school cafeteria and work with Ida Clark two hours a day. She agreed to take the part-time job since her Mother-in-Law could watch her daughter.

In 1957 Malcolm Wibberley and Helen Laisi took her aside and asked her if she would like to become the school secretary since Doris Becotte Swan was leaving the position. She passed a typing test and the current Principal, Mr. Ferrell, said she could have the job, but Beverly said “no”, but later she talked it over with her husband, Bill, and he thought it was a good idea so she decided to take the job. However, she told Mr. Ferrell she would only stay until June. When June arrived, so did Malcolm Wibberley. He took her aside and said, “I want to talk to you”. He asked her if she would stay a little longer to help since the Canterbury Board of Education had just hired a new principal, David V. Norell. Beverly thought the job would only be a couple of weeks, but she continued as the Secretary to the Principal/Superintendent until her retirement in 1994. When she started at the school there were approximately 325 students. When she retired there were about 625.

When Beverly started her new position, the Principal’s office contained the desks of the Principal and the secretary, facing each other. It also had a couch for the teachers—this was considered the “teacher’s lounge”. It was also the office of the school nurse, Ruth Gorman. I remember just outside of that office in the hall was a large framed photo of Dr. Helen Baldwin.

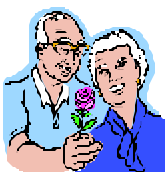
It was too difficult for the children to say Mrs. “Pukalo”, so one of the teachers, Lillian Goodrich, allowed the children to call her Mrs. Bev. She is still known today by many former students and friends as Aunt Bev. Bev worked with the following Principals/Superintendents: Edward Ferrell, David Norell, David Boland, Dr. O’Neil, Myrtle Morse, Jim Gallow and Robert Coffell.

She can recall many stories regarding the children, but the following story stands out in her mind. When there were two separate school buildings, some of the children had to have lunch at 11:15 in the morning. Because it was so early, they were allowed to take something from the lunchroom to have as a snack at 2:00 pm in the afternoon. One First Grade teacher found something dripping from one of the lunch boxes and asked the First Grader what he had saved for a snack. He said he saved his orange popsicle.

Beverly especially loved all the students. It makes her so happy to have the children, who are now adults, come up to her and give her a hug and talk about their childhood days in school. Sometimes they say they were a “bad” kid, but Bev will always say no, you were just a little devilish. Bev said God sent Mrs. Strube to her to give her a job, she wasn’t sure of at first, but a job she grew to love for nearly 40 years.

CANTERBURY SENIORS

What a great year we’ve had so far! We’ve taken some great trips and are looking forward to more! The Canyon Country trip was fabulous – our National Parks are fantastic! We’ve had great meals and have seen wonderful shows



and sights. Experiences we won’t forget!

The trips for 2008 are in the planning stages and will be listed in our October newsletter. We have two multi-day cruises – one to Bermuda and one through the Panama Canal, a day cruise through the Thimble Islands and a whale watch out of Boston. We will see “The King and I”, celebrate St. Patrick’s Day, experience culinary delights at the Hyde Culinary Institute and enjoy Mardi Gras at the Renault Winery.

Our trips are described on flyers in the Library and in our monthly newsletter. All of our trips are open to everyone regardless of age.

BOARD OF EDUCATION



It was a smooth beginning for the start of the 2007-08 school year.

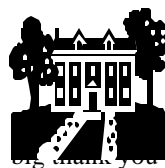
The superintendent’s search is in full swing. Focus groups were conducted in September which was very helpful in realizing the professional qualities that Canterbury, as a whole, desires in our new superintendent. Thank you to everyone that took time out of their busy schedules to attend this important opportunity. To see the compiled information gathered at the focus groups visit www.canterburypublicschools.org.

As many of you know, we have hired a Spanish teacher at Baldwin. The students, staff and parents are excited to re-introduce this language class to our curriculum.

Mark your calendars for the Baldwin Middle School Talent Showcase. Staff, parents, students, and members of our community will be performing various acts for your entertainment. The talent show will be on October 18 at 7:00 pm in the Baldwin gymnasium. Please make an effort to attend this wonderful event.

The board meets the second and fourth Tuesdays each month. Meetings are posted at the Town Hall as well as on the outdoor message board at Baldwin Middle School. We welcome parent and community involvement.

PRUDENCE CRANDALL MUSEUM



The Museum would like to thank everyone who assisted in making the recent 21st Annual Prudence Crandall Day event such a success. If you weren’t able to attend, we hope you’ve noticed the new interpretive sign on the property, which was formally unveiled in September. A big thank you goes out to the crew from our local State DOT garage which installed the sign.

Upcoming events - On Saturday, October 13 and 20, the museum will host a children’s Rug Hooking Workshop, taught by local artisan, Anne Elizabeth Dame, in association with the Vermont Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild. The two-day

workshop is free for children ages 8 to 16, (pre-registration is required as enrollment is limited). Children will make holiday ornaments while learning the basics of rug hooking. Please call Anne at 546-2253 or the Museum at 546-7800 for information.

Sunday, November 4 - The Museum, in conjunction with the Friends of Prudence, will host the annual "Tea with Prudence and Sarah" event. Pomfret resident Donna Dufresne becomes educator Prudence Crandall and Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti takes on the character of Sarah Harris Fayerweather, the first African-American student to attend Crandall's academy. Watch and listen as these accomplished actors bring to life the memories and reminiscences of two dynamic local women. Two seatings are offered - 1 pm and 2:30 pm. Cost is \$20.00 per person. The afternoon includes the performance to be held in the Museum, followed by tea and traditional English scones to be served in the Carter House property. Pre-Registration is required as seating is limited. Please register early since this is traditionally a sold out event! For registration/information: 546-7800.

Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am to 4:30 pm (through December 14). As you begin seasonal shopping, keep in mind that the museum shop is open without admission cost!

CANTERBURY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



The annual CAA Golf Tournament was held July 6, 2007 at The Foster Country Club. With the help of numerous volunteers and sponsors, we were able to raise \$9,500 for youth athletics in Canterbury. A special thanks goes out to Willimantic Waste Paper Company, The Byrnes Agency, and The Lyon & Billard Lumber Company. The money raised is already being put to good use with the purchase of a scoreboard for the Baldwin Middle School gymnasium, as well as for soccer and wrestling equipment. Thank you again to everyone who took part in this event!

Soccer is in full swing! This is our first year in collaboration with the towns of Plainfield and Brooklyn to form The Quinebaug Valley Soccer Association. A big thank you goes out to Troy Gladu who has been tireless in his work coordinating the soccer program.

Basketball season is right around the corner. Basketball registration will take place October 12 and October 26 from 6 - 8 pm in the Baldwin gymnasium. You can also visit www.canterburyathleticassociation.com to view and print a registration form.

The Annual CAA Dinner Dance will be held on February 16, 2008, at the Plainfield Town Hall. Please mark your calendars! More information on ticket sales will be posted on the website.

Don't forget to use the CAA website to get up-to-date infor-

mation on programs, registrations, up-coming events, and contact information!

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE



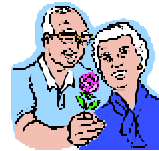
Personal Property declaration forms were mailed out at the end of September for the 2007 Grand List. If you received one of these forms, this office has information regarding some personal property that you own. Please don't ignore the form; call this office so we can answer any questions. Remember to return these forms no later than **Thursday, November 1** to avoid a penalty.

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

Inspections are underway. If you've taken out a building permit in the last year or so, someone from the Assessor's Office will be stopping by your property to update our records.

The phone number for the Assessor's Office is 546-6035.

MUNICIPAL AGENT TO THE ELDERLY



As summer comes to an end, it is time for the Energy Assistance Program to begin. Please call my office if you would like to apply for this program.

I have scheduled the Flu Clinic for October 11 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in the Community Room. Please bring your insurance card. This clinic will follow the monthly senior luncheon. Hope to see you all there.

This year, my office was able to purchase a new computer and scanner and the Registrar's Office donated a printer, which allows my office to keep in contact with the many agencies that I work with via internet and widen my resources to help Canterbury citizens. I will now be able to complete applications for programs and find more resources available in a more timely and efficient manner.

With the colder weather approaching I would like to remind everyone to check on our elder citizens who live alone. With most elderly persons living on fixed incomes, they may not be able to afford or qualify for heating assistance. This may cause them to keep their heat too low and they can become hypothermic and need medical assistance. If you have elderly family members or neighbors living alone, please take the time to periodically check in on them. Sometimes even just a visit from someone can make their day.

I look forward to the coming year and if anyone has any questions please feel free to contact me at any time. My office is located in the Town Hall across from the Building Office.

The Municipal Agent to the Elderly office hours are: Mondays from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and Thursdays 10:00 am to Noon. Office Phone: 546-9845

FRIENDS OF PRUDENCE

The Friends of Prudence are in their 2007-2008 annual membership drive and we need your support.

The friends group came together in 2005 as volunteers to work with the Prudence Crandall Museum. The friends obtain grants and raise additional funds to expand the Museum programs, exhibits and outreach.

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

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

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

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Annual Membership:

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

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

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE



The Canterbury Veterans Memorial Committee requires between \$8,000-\$9,000 to complete Phase 2 of the memorial, which will include those serving from the Vietnam War to the War against Terror.

During the coming months a number of fund raising efforts will take place, including possible door-to-door canvassing for contributions. All are invited to attend our meetings every first Saturday of the month at 10 am at the municipal building.

Thanks to all that helped with the Turkey Dinner September 23 and to those that attended. Contact numbers for committee are 546-9547 or 546-0606.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



The next issue will be distributed in January. If your organization would like to have their information included in that issue, please contact the editor at 546-6301 or by email at rdoesch6301@charter.net. Submissions may also be delivered to the Selectmen's secretary in the Town Hall during regular business hours.