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First Selectman's Corner

Recently, I sat down with Tom ODell, Chairman of the Conservation Commission and we discussed a variety of issues that are important to the Westbrook community.

Tom has been a Westbrook resident since 1963. He joined the Conservation Commission in 1968. His love of nature was nurtured by his mother who spent much of her childhood among American Indians in Wisconsin.

What is the history of the Conservation Commission?

A: The Conservation Commission was developed by Ordinance in 1966 to address concerns regarding the potential development of an area known as Dee's Pond, an area commonly used by Scouts. The Town proposed to purchase the property and required a Conservation Commission to recommend land as "Open Space" and apply for open space grant funds.

What is the major purpose of the Conservation Commission?

A: The Conservation Commission's major purpose is protection of the town's natural resources; the commission's primary objective is to preserve forest lands that protect the water quality of the Town's wetlands, streams, rivers and Long Island Sound.

Currently, how much land in Westbrook is designated as permanently protected Conservation Land?

A: Approximately 2,000 acres or 20% of Westbrook, including federal, state, town and private property is designated as Conservation Land.

Is the Conservation Land available to the public, if so, what are the guidelines?

A: All federal, state and town Conservation Land is open to the public. The resources are protected through the Management Plans that have been developed to protect the natural resources yet allow recreational access.


What is the approximate amount of dollars that has been set aside by the Conservation Commission for Conservation Land?

A: In 2002, the Town voted by Referendum to bond \$2.2 million for the purchase of Open Space. The referendum also gave the Conservation Commission the ability to apply for grants. To date, approximately \$1.9 million has been received in grants for Conservation Land purchases.



First Selectman Noel Bishop

Continued on page 3



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New Urgent Care Center

Middlesex Hospital will open a new urgent care walk-in medical center this spring at 1687 Boston Post Road in Old Saybrook, CT (at the intersection of Spencer Plains Road). The Center will provide patients with a lower-cost alternative for non-emergency medical care. The Hospital has two other urgent care centers, in Madison and Middletown.

More and more people are seeking lower-cost, more convenient options for their health care needs. As a result, urgent care centers have begun to spring up in many communities to address this consumer preference.

The Middlesex Hospital Center is unique from other such centers because of the electronic patient medical records system that ties together all hospital medical records, as well as medical records from all Middlesex primary care physicians. This gives the providers at the urgent care center access to a patient's medical history, as well as allowing for results of the urgent care visit to be reviewed by the patient's primary care provider.

The new urgent care center treats non-emergency health problems, including colds, coughs, earaches, moderate fevers, minor cuts, bruises, severe sprains and more. Patients should seek immediate emergency care for things such as head injuries, broken bones, uncontrolled bleeding, chest pains and any signs of a stroke.

The urgent care center is staffed with physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses, and also has x-ray capabilities. More information on Middlesex Hospital Urgent Care Centers can be found at www.mhurgentcare.com.

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What specific role has the Scouts and other volunteers played in maintenance of signage, etc. in our Conservation Land?

A: The Conservation Commission has received tremendous support from the Scouts and the Trust for Public Land (TPL). The TPL has been instrumental in providing training. The Westbrook Planning Commission has also provided guidance and support for the Commission's land conservation initiatives.

Why is it important for a community like Westbrook to be vigilant regarding Conservation Land?

A: Because much of the tax base in Westbrook is dependent on Long Island Sound, the Patchogue River and the Menunketesek River. It is important to protect the land which in turn, produces clean water. Tom shared Selectman John Hall's sentiments that in preserving forest land we are protecting our rivers and streams for future generations.

What is your answer to the question "how do we determine what is the proper balance between Conservation Land as compared to utilizing land for development that generates more tax revenue?"

A: While Conservation Land may erode the tax base, the additional costs associated with infrastructure maintenance (bridges, roads, storm water management) of developed land and the long term cost of resolving flooding problems makes

investment in the preservation/acquisition of lands protecting water resources good land use planning.

Finally, what do you see is the single most important objective of your Commission in the next five to ten years?

A: The Conservation Commission will begin to focus on protecting land via easements, not purchases, along small streams to prevent pollution. Another focus of the Conservation Commission is education and protection of the Barrier Islands (Duck Island, Salt Island and Menunketesek Island). These islands provide one of the largest nesting areas for shore birds in the State of Connecticut and provide substantial protection to homes and the town harbor during storms.

Town Hall Closed

Memorial Day May 25th

Independence Day - Closed at 4 pm July 2nd
Closed July 3rd

Labor Day September 7th

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The Nurses' Corner

**Deborah Lovelette, RN, CHCE,
Administrator**

For the third year in a row, the Westbrook Visiting Nurses hosted student nurses from Quinnipiac College.

This year Tiffany Mackinnel and Molly Wojtuski "joined" our staff in January for one day a week learning and observing what it is like to be a community health nurse in the schools, public health and homecare environment.

On Tuesday, April 21st, their last day with our agency and as part of their community health project, Tiffany was joined here at the town hall by fellow student nurses, Elite Paul, Nicole Gardner and Michelle Dassa. They presented a short PowerPoint demonstration on Keeping Our Older Adult Population Safe and Injury Free. Orthostatic blood pressure screenings were provided to all in attendance.



The Westbrook Visiting Nurses enjoyed working with these young nurses over the last three months

and want to wish them the very best on whatever nursing careers they choose upon graduation in May.



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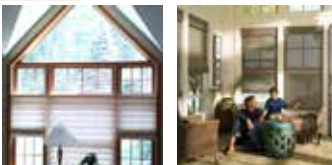
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The Long Island Sound Blue Plan

State Representative Devin Carney

Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Westbrook

On April 22nd, the State House of Representatives unanimously passed HB 6839, An Act Concerning A Long Island Sound Blue Plan And Resource Use Inventory, a bill I co-sponsored. It requires the completion of an inventory of the Sound's uses and natural resources and the development of a plan to preserve and protect them.

The bill creates a 16-member advisory committee who will come up with the plan by 2019. The committee includes representation from UConn's marine sciences faculty, shoreline towns, and industries such as oil & gas, boating, shellfishing, and commercial/recreational fishing. The tourism industry and waterfront businesses will also have the opportunity to discuss their thoughts and concerns.

Under the bill, a "Long Island Sound Inventory and Science" subcommittee would take an inventory of the plants, animals, and habitats in the Sound and also how it is currently being used (boating, fishing, shellfish beds, pipelines, power lines, etc.). This inventory would enable the DEEP to easily make recommendations when reviewing applications for requests such as shellfish grounds leases, dredging, placing fill, or laying down utility lines.

In addition, the bill's advisory committee will make recommendations for more effective stewardship of the Sound's waters, better management practices, protecting sensitive marine life, promoting public access, and, most importantly, fostering sustainable uses that capitalize



on economic opportunity with little or no detriment to the Sound's natural beauty.

The Sound is Connecticut's greatest natural resource and the driving force behind many local businesses, industries, and jobs, so it's important we have a plan for the future. This is both good for the environment and good for the economic vitality of towns like Westbrook.

As always, please contact me at any time with your questions or concerns. I can be reached by e-mail at repdevincarney@gmail.com or by phone at (860) 240-8700.

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Westbrook Town Clerk

Joan Angelini, CCTCCMC

Happy Spring Westbrook Residents and friends.

I know you will find this hard to believe but we are now into another municipal election year for Westbrook. This year, Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd.

Many of the offices are two year terms such as First Selectman, Board of Selectmen, Town Treasurer and Tax Collector. There are board and commission seats that run for six year terms. Some the boards that will have seats up for election this year are: The Board of Finance, The Board of Education and The Board of Assessment Appeals, The Library Board, The Planning Commission, The Zoning Commission and The Zoning Board of Appeals.

Be sure to check with our Registrars of Voters to be sure you are properly

registered to vote. In addition to the Municipal Elections in Westbrook this coming November, there are vacancies on several boards and commissions that are looking for volunteers. Be sure to contact the Selectman's Office at 860-399-3040 for more information.

Our Registrars of Voters, Nancy Moore, Republican Registrar and Mary Labaddia, Democratic Registrar, can be reached at 860-399-3042 or at nmoore@westbrookct.us and mlabaddia@westbrookct.us

If you need to contact one of the Town's Party Chairs, you can reach out to: Harry Ruppenicker, Jr., Westbrook Republican Town Chairman and Pat Labaddia, Democratic Town Committee Chairman.

For any town election, whether it be primary, referendum, municipal, state or Federal Election, please notify us if you are

going overseas, moving, or wish to vote absentee and we can provide you with all the information you need.

Don't forget that June is DOG licensing month and renewal cards will be mailed the end of May. If you own a dog and live in town, please make every effort to get your dog registered. The cost is low; a spayed or neutered dog license costs \$8.00 for the year. If the dog is not spayed or neutered, the cost is \$19.00 for the year. Proof of rabies is required to obtain a dog license. This process is helpful not only in keeping your pet safe from rabies but we are able to locate a lost dog by the registered tag number.

Be safe and have a great summer!

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Satellite Dishes

A word from Zoning about Satellite Dishes:

The placement of Satellite Dishes, according to FCC rules, cannot be regulated by Zoning, however, owners are asked to be diligent about having satellite dishes that are no longer in use removed at the time of discontinuance. Unfortunately,

many carriers do not remove discontinued satellite dishes and they are left in place.

As you can imagine, this can be a particular problem in multi-family developments where there are several dishes on one building. The Land Use Office gets many complaints about this situation and asks for the cooperation of

residents to minimize the visual impact of satellite dishes by placing them as sensitively as possible and making sure that they are removed when no longer in use.

Remember, it's the small things that can make a difference. Your neighbors and fellow community members will thank you!

Town Events

Westbrook Fire Department Auxiliary Spring Expo & Open House, May 30th 9 am - 2 pm, at the Fire House

WDTC Spring Arts and Crafts Fair, June 7th, Town Green

Westbrook Family Day, June 13th, Rain Date June 14th, 12:00 noon – 2 pm, Town Green

Westbrook Chemical Engine Co #1 Carnival, July 8th – July 11th, Ted Lane Field

Westbrook Drum Corp Tattoo, August 21st, 7 pm, Ted Lane Field

Westbrook Drum Corp 56th Annual Muster Parade, August 22nd

First Congregational Church Fair, August 22nd, Town Green

Annual Fall Garden Market, September 12th, Town Green

Day on the Green, September 19th, Town Green



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Westbrook Memorial Day Parade Route Change

May 25th Rain or Shine. Starts at 10 am. Parade begins and ends in the parking lot behind the former town hall, known as the Riggio Building.

Departs the Riggio building parking lot, heading west, out the entrance. Riggio building will be on your left and Wilcox Fuel will be on your right. Turn left onto US 1/Boston Post Road, heading south. Then left onto South Main Street (There will be a short ceremony at the cemetery on right on South Main Street).

Proceed to the end of South Main Street and go straight onto US 1/Boston Post Road, passing Kingfisher Lane and Dunkin Donuts on your left. At the Intersection of US 1/Boston Post Road/Wesley Avenue/Seaside Avenue, turn right onto Wesley Avenue. Proceed to the end of Wesley Avenue. At the "T" intersection of Old Clinton Road and Wesley Avenue, turn right onto Old Clinton Road. (There will be a short ceremony at Clark's Bridge on Old Clinton Road).

Continue East on Old Clinton Road to the Intersection of Old Clinton Road, US 1/Boston Post Road, South Main Street and State Route 153/Essex Road. At that intersection turn left onto US 1/Boston Post Road. Then left again, immediately on to SR

153/Essex Road. Proceed around the green on both sections of SR 153/Essex Road. Half way around, turn right on SR 153/Essex Road heading East toward Walgreens and US 1/Boston Post Road. Turn right when you get to that intersection: US 1/Boston Post Road and SR 153/Essex Road (There will be a ceremony at the War Memorial on the Town Green, located on the right on US 1/Boston Post Road).

Continue South on US 1/Boston Post Road. Turn left at the parking lot entrance to the Riggio Building. As you turn left, Wilcox Fuel will be on you left and the Riggio Building will be on your right.

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Open Burning Official

John E. Palermo, Open Burning Official

Most residents don't realize that a permit must be obtained to do almost all outdoor burning. The goal of a permit is to make sure that any fire remains safe and properly controlled and that persons and property remain protected and safe. Please remember it is against the law to burn brush without a permit and the burning of leaves is not allowed at any time by the state DEEP. A permit is to make sure that outdoor burning is done correctly and meets state standards. Any resident seeking a burning permit should call the First Selectman's office at 860-399-3040 or call me directly at 860-399-6521.

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From The Tax Office

Kimberly Bratz, Tax Collector

The Westbrook Tax office would like to remind you of several important issues.

Tax bills are due in July and January. You have the whole month to pay without penalty. If your tax payment is received after the due date you will be charged a 1.5% interest rate on the balance due back to the original due date. You will not be re-billed for the January installment. If you would like to receive a receipt for your payment, please come in with your full tax bill or mail it in with a self addressed stamped envelope. Please provide the tax office with all of your tax bills when paying.

If you can't make it into the office to pay you can always mail your payment to 866 Boston Post Road, Westbrook or on line at www.westbrookct.us. Credit cards are excepted with a fee of 3.5% charged by the credit card company.

The time to dispute your assessment was in the month of March. Applications must be received by the Board of Assessment Appeal no later than February 20th. Postmark is accepted.

This year the tax office will not be mailing a beach/transfer station pass with your tax bills. These are no longer needed. When using the beach or transfer station please provide a copy

of your tax bill, driver's license or registration if it has a Westbrook address to prove you own property in Westbrook.

If you should have any questions or concerns about your tax bills, please do not hesitate to contact the Tax office at 860-399-3043. We look forward helping in any way we can.

2015 Parking Beach Pass Policy

The Town will no longer be issuing transfer station/ beach stickers. You will need to show your ID. One of the following: drivers license (valid), tax bill or mail.

Residents: FREE. No parking pass needed at the gate. You must show a valid driver's license, mail, or tax bill.

Non-resident: \$20 per vehicle/daily pass only sold at the gate.

You must come to the town hall to purchase passes for the following: **Temporary Resident** - \$10 visitors of Westbrook residents. **Motels** - \$20 owner must purchase/limited to number of rooms. **Cottage Rentals** - \$20 rental agreement required, vehicle registered to renter only. **Boaters** - \$30 seasonal slip agreement required/vehicle registration to slip renters only. **Business** - \$10 owner must purchase/town reserves the right to limit the number of passes. **Timeshare Owners** - \$10 temp. pass for the week. Show proof of ownership.

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Westbrook Land Conservation Trust Annual Open House

Sandy Towle, WLCT

Westbrook Land Conservation Trust's Open House was held at the home of Kristin and Mark Leas in Westbrook on Sunday, February 8th.

Farmers John and Bonnie Hall spoke about their life and work on Maple Breeze Farm in Westbrook. They are the tenth generation of Hall's to run Maple Breeze Farm, specializing in raising pure bred registered American Milking Devons, which would have gone extinct if not for John and his ancestors. The audience interest was evident by the number of questions they asked John and Bonnie.

Songs for Uganda Concert

Friday, June 5th at 7 pm at Daniel Hand High school welcoming back and featuring "Destiny Africa Children's Choir" from Kampala, Uganda!

Join us for an evening of awareness, energy and excitement with drumming, dancing, singing and an all-around amazing cultural experience. A special welcome performance from DHHS's own award winning "Encore" acapella group.

Tickets available at RJ Julia's (Madison), Flutterby (Guilford) and Savvy Tea Gourmet (Madison) and DHHS office. Voices filled with HOPE, Faces bright with JOY, Lives touched by LOVE.

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May 30th

June 13th and June 27th

July 11th and July 25th

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September 12th

October 10th and October 24th

Consumer Electronics: Electronics can now be brought to the town's transfer station.

Paper Shredding:

9:00 - 12:00, Essex HHW facility on

June 6th and September 26th

Contact: www.rivercog.org, info@rivercog.org,
or 860-581-8554

Animal Control

Sandy Bannon ACO

With the warmer weather approaching, I would like to remind the residents of our town ordinance regarding dogs on the beach. As of April 30th they are no longer allowed on the beach until October 1st. After the summer, dog owners are welcome with their dogs under control and they must also clean up any waste their canine companions leave behind. I issued a few warnings last year and everyone was very

understanding. I do hope that this continues. I do patrol the beach areas often and at various times including after dark.

As of May 1st, our Animal Control Department office number will change to 860-399-3040, ext. # 149. Please make a note of this and of course I can always be reached for emergencies via cell phone.

June is also dog license time. I do encourage all dog owners to get their dog's licensed and to keep the tags on their dogs collars. These can be very helpful in getting your dog home quickly if found. It is also state law. You can receive your license with a current rabies certificate and 8.00 dollar fee at the Town Clerks Office. I wish all our residents and their pets a safe and happy summer.

Westbrook Fire Department Auxiliary Spring Expo Open House & Recruitment Day

May 30th, rain date May 31st
from 9 am to 2 pm at the
Westbrook Fire House.

The Auxiliary spring craft fair
and tag sale will have a variety of
vendors, crafters and a bake sale too.

The following Westbrook authors
will be there for a book signing:
Dorie Greenspan her latest book
Baking Chez Moi from 10 am
to 11 am and Thomas Fleming his
latest book *The Great Divide* from
1 pm to 2 pm.

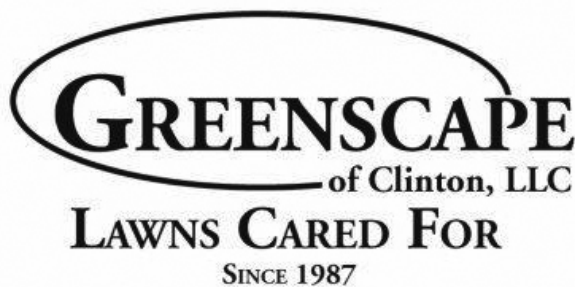
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Dry Eye

Everyone will likely experience the symptoms of dry eyes at some point in our lives. Blinking replenishes our tear film providing the moisture the eyes need. The prevalence of electronic devices has resulted in a decrease in blink rate. Red, itchy, sandy, gritty, burning, and tired eyes are some of the more common complaints. Excessive tearing is also a sign of Dry Eye disease, often a result of poor tear film quality. Many dismiss and accept these symptoms as “normal.” This is an incorrect assumption. Though dryness can be transient, it becomes problematic and potentially vision threatening when it persists into Chronic Dry Eye disease.

The tear film not only keeps the eyes lubricated, it also maintains the optical and anatomical integrity of the ocular surface. It provides a smooth interface between the eyelids and the eye itself. It also helps remove environmental debris that can cause ocular allergies. The tear

film partially supplies nutrients to the cornea, as well as help defend the eye from infection. Without a sufficiently healthy tear film, the front surface of the eye is more susceptible to irritation, infection, and allergic reaction. The ocular surface insult dry eyes are subject to eventually lead to inflammation of the cornea which can lead to blurry vision. In severe cases, corneal scarring may lead to permanent vision impairment.

Certain medical conditions may also cause Chronic Dry Eyes. Autoimmune disease (e.g. Sjogrens, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Lupus, etc.), Bell’s Palsy, Menopause, Skin disease (e.g. Rosacea, eczema, etc.), and Thyroid disorders are only some of the more common conditions. Medications such as anti-histamines, anti-depressants, birth control pills, tranquilizers, and certain blood pressure medications can also cause dry eyes.

Fortunately, there are many treatment options available for dry eye disease. Though, it is important to customize and tailor these treatment options to each individual. Regardless of the severity or cause, dry eye disease should be addressed and treated accordingly before it threatens vision, and before it affects the quality of your life.

Dr. Scot Yap, Middlesex Eye Physicians
(860) 669-5305

Town Hall Hours

Mon – Wed: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
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Report of the Westbrook Public Library

What is a library? This is a time when information is presented in a variety of new formats accessed by a bewildering array of technologies. Yet, our community still relies on the library to perform its traditional role of selecting and managing a collection of books and other print and non-print media. The challenge is to continue to support the traditional role and incorporate the new media and technology to serve the information needs of the community.

People continue to ask for books, magazines, maps, newspapers, pamphlets, and local history files. Audiobooks and music are still sought out. Requests for film and television programs in a variety of video formats come in each day. We receive requests in person, over the phone, and online. Materials that are checked out or we don't own are borrowed from libraries throughout the state on interlibrary loan.

Whenever the library is open, community members are using the public computers purchased with generous grants from the Westbrook Foundation. Folks are accessing the internet through the library wifi with their laptops, tablets, and smartphones. Westbrook library cardholders can even access library services outside the library at home or elsewhere. Overdrive e-books and audiobooks, Zinio electronic magazines, ICONN- the statewide

database service, World Book Encyclopedia, Learning Express test preparation services, and Job Now career skill and resume building help are available free online. Within the library, there is free access to the popular genealogy program, Ancestry.com.

The community, conference, and study rooms provide community groups with places to meet and hold programs. The Friends of the Library sponsors programs and partners with groups like AARP tax volunteers, Literacy Volunteers, Potapaug Audubon Society, Senior Resources medicare counseling, Westbrook Early Childhood Council, and the Westbrook Land Conservation Trust. Programs include book discussions, concerts, craft workshops, nature education, parent education, and story hours. Last year the library sponsored or hosted 519 programs with attendance totaling 7,383. The Angelo Della Rocco community room was used 396 times and the library conference room was booked 58 times.

During the year the generator was installed and tested. The library should have full power available during power outages. The Library Board gained approval from the Board of Selectman and the Board of Finance for the addition of a new assistant librarian position. The assistant librarian will work 35 hours per week.

"Good People Doing Great Things."



Student volunteers help tend to the Our Community Cares' Food for All Garden in Clinton, just one of the many projects supported by the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. Learn more online or by phone.

At the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, we know that it's the little things that count, that can change a community and improve the quality of life for all. TOGETHER we feed the hungry, shelter families, teach young and old to read, preserve local history and land, help people of all ages explore the arts, teach children to swim, support anti-bullying programs in our schools, help those with disabilities experience independence, and so much more. We do this by developing endowments, making grants that have impact, and assisting donors in meeting their philanthropic goals... all made possible by so many good people doing great things throughout Middlesex County. We invite you to join us.

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Estuary Council Regional Senior Center

ECSI is a community resource for the nine-town Estuary region's residents over 50 years old providing nutrition, transportation, health support services, education opportunities and socialization. We have been serving Seniors and promoting healthy and active lifestyles for adults 50 and better through quality programs and services in the nine-town Estuary region for over 40 years.

The Thrift Shop at the Estuary Council is the home of the best bargains on the Shoreline and quite possibly the best kept secret (until now) Stop by 220 Main Street on weekdays from 10 am - 3:45 pm and Saturdays from 9 am - 12:45 pm to check

out the treasures. There is a new selection of items every day. This is the place to get all of those must have items at bargain basement prices. Shoppers of all ages are welcome. Our merchandise is from the generous donations of people in our local communities. We offer a full line of clothing for the whole family, household goods, craft items, games, puzzles as well as seasonal and home decorations and sometimes gently used furniture. Donations* are accepted daily, up to one hour before closing. (*Please, no electrical items, upholstered items, books, sporting good or luggage without wheels.) For more information, visit us at <http://www.eccsenior.org>.

Registrars of Voters

Mary Labbadia and Nancy R. Moore

The Registrars of Voters have been conducting their 2015 canvass from January through the end of May. **Those registered voters who have received a "Confirmation of Voting Residence" form to fill out and did not respond by the date indicated on the form, will have their name put on the "Inactive List" as mandated by State Statutes.** Only those registered voters who have made some type of change through the Postal Service will receive a notice. It is important for us to maintain accurate voter registration lists. Please help by reporting to the Registrars whenever you have made a change to your resident address, mailing address or name, or would like to change your party affiliation. Please call our office (860-399-3042), send a note, or stop by the Office on Tuesdays from 11:00 am

-1:00 pm or Thursdays from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. The Registrars are also in the Office on other days at unscheduled times. Please call if you would like to make an appointment. Please note that Registration forms are available in the Registrars' and Town Clerk's Offices and on a table outside the Registrars' Office.

When you have made a change to your voting resident address or name, please remember to also notify the Department of Motor Vehicles. If you are not registered to vote, please do so. It is important for everyone to take an active role in the future decisions for our town, state, and country. Your vote will make a difference. Look for the date for the Upcoming Town Budget Referendum . The date and time will be posted on the Notice Board in front of the Town Hall, in the local newspapers, on the Town Green and on the Westbrook Town website.



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Deadline for the Next Issue of Westbrook Events is

July 17. Contact Jill in the First Selectman's office
860-399-3040 ext 111 or E-MAIL jbrainerd@westbrookct.us
to submit an article or press release.

Westbrook Garden Club Grow with Us!

Thanks to everyone who helped make our May Garden Market a success, from hard-working club members to Boy Scouts, and most of all the crowd of shoppers who purchased plants and garden whimsies. Together we all helped to support the club's program of public education, town beautification, and college scholarship.

By now you've seen the new square, white planters that replace the old barrels all around town. The selection, fabrication, and purchase of the containers was a collaborative effort: The Westbrook Foundation and the Garden Club financed the project, the Town Center Revitalization Committee advised on the design, The Garden Gate LLC built them and many club members researched paint and materials. We hope you like the new planters as much as we do. Our Spot Minders are eager to fill them with annuals in this year's "hot" palette —a burst of color to chase away the chill of a long, cold winter.

If you're considering decorating the porch or deck with a pot of annuals, try this easy formula for foolproof design. Choose a "thriller," one or a few identical tall plants that will hold the center and dominate. We like spikes or grasses, or angelonia, heliotrope, or geraniums. Next you'll need "fillers," shorter plants like marigolds or begonias to fill in around your "thriller." Last, plant a few "spillers" like ivy, sweet potato vine, or petunias, whose foliage and flowers will spill over the pot's edge to add the perfect finishing touch. Happy gardening!

2015 Edgar Rice Burroughs/ Dum Dum Convention

Edgar Rice Burroughs Bibliophile Convention (aka Dum Dum) from August 20-22. Includes a movie marathon, panel discussions and a Tarzan yell competition. Open to the public for FREE at Andrews Memorial Town Hall, 54 East Main Street, Clinton, CT. A banquet at the Clinton Country Club (for a fee) at 6:00 pm on August 22nd. Followed by a Chamber of Commerce fireworks extravaganza at the Clinton Town Beach. August 23rd: Dum Dum Dutch Treat farewell breakfast, also at the Clinton Town Beach.

Organizer & Contact Person: Peggy Adler
ERBDUMDUM2015@gmail.com
(860) 669-7706, www.tarzan.com/meets

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Westbrook Events Quarter 2, 2015

www.eventsmagazines.com 17

Westbrook Public Schools Highlights

It may be hard to believe, but Westbrook Public Schools are already preparing for the close of the 2014-15 school year. It was a year of many student and staff accomplishments, the first of which was welcoming two new principals, Ruth Rose at Daisy Ingraham and Tara Winch, at the High School. Their personal and professional approaches to leadership very quickly became a part of our Westbrook tradition for delivering distinguished education in a climate of connectedness for all students, staff and parents. They have come a long way since the December 2014 Town Green Tree Lighting ceremony where they were introduced to the community and joined Cori DiMaggio, M.S. principal throwing the light switch.

This year we will have completed the Smarter Balanced Assessments (known to students, parents and staff as the SBAC tests). After years of preparation, changing teaching dynamics and curriculum adjustments, students in all three schools took on the statewide computerized mastery tests with no major glitches. The SBAC tests and our success with them will remain as we move

forward. Our schools saw an increase in new students with English language needs. We were able to add a highly qualified, teacher of speakers' of other languages (TESOL). While our students enjoy the benefits of this diversity, we are meeting our state-directed obligations. With all the new education initiatives, our students continue to place in statewide rankings for art and music, theater and sports categories.

We can thank the Town/Board of Education (BOE) for the many facilities projects we have been able to launch/complete. We have been able to continue with our state-directed safety and security projects. Apart from the visible changes to school entry ways, we have completed upgrades to our security camera arrays, our ability to secure our schools with the push of a button and begin work on upgrading the school district's phone system. Our High School is nearly completely re-carpeted as are areas in the Elementary School. All of our schools' food service kitchen appliances and our science labs have been converted to natural gas. A major generator project has resulted in all of the High School &

Board of Education offices, the Town's emergency radio tower and critical HVAC for computer server rooms now connected to emergency generator back up. In keeping with our efforts to support the Town's interest in energy efficiency with our solar projects, our High School has been given (at no cost) a solar photovoltaic system to supply power back-up to the school's internet system. Finally, look for the newly paved parking lot at Daisy Ingraham. The upgraded parking lot is a bit ahead of schedule and that is courtesy of a large sinkhole that developed during spring vacation week. The Town very quickly responded and the repairs were made during the vacation, with the paving saved for school year end. We are proud of the continued Town and School District partnership, supporting our students with distinguished education opportunities.

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The American Legion

Meetings: 4th Monday, 7 pm Westbrook Library Community Room. Meetings are held during the following months: September, October, November, January at the high school, February, March, April, May on the 3rd Monday and June (elections). **Contact person:** Frazier Brinley 860-669-0336.

2014-15 Post Officers

Commander: Thamus (Tami) Morgan
Vice Commander: Robert Kareliusson
Adjutant/Finance Officer: Frazier Brinley
Chaplain: Gary Gavigan
Sgt-At-Arms: Tom Cote
Past Commander: Mark Bennett
Auxiliary Contact: Joyce Brinley

2014 Scholarships - \$1000

Richard Wade and Robin Schreck

2015 Oratorical Contest

1st Place – Rachel Gosselin \$500
2nd Place – Madeline Farrell \$300
3rd Place – Meredith Farrell \$200

Memorial Day May 25, 2015

The placement of US Flags on Honorably Discharged Veterans in Westbrook's four cemeteries has become an annual event on the Wednesday (May 20, 6pm) prior to Memorial Day. As the Legionnaires have aged, more and more scouts have volunteered to help. Coordinating the Legionnaires is Phil Einsmen and the

Scout Coordinator is Doug Thomas. Flags are removed from the cemeteries as soon as possible after the 4th of July by state law.

Baseball: 1989-2014 The Officers and members of the Westbrook American Legion wish to thank all the coaches, players, volunteers and parents for your participation and help. Every year, we were lucky to have many dedicated coaches, who saw the future of their boys and gave them the skills to make it at college, the pros and in life. THANK YOU.

The American Legion
Anderson-Hoxsie Post 103, Inc
P.O. Box 795
Westbrook, Ct 06498

Westbrook Senior Center

Courtney Burks, Director

Our cookouts began May 20th and are the first and third Wednesday through September.

Our Annual Hoedown is scheduled for May 21st with a Country Western dance performance by Dancin' in the City. Lunch will be served at noon, performance at 1:00 pm.

On May 28th at 11:00am; Jennifer Cotter a Coordinator of Phillips Lifeline program will speak about Lifeline services.

On June 17th at 11:00am; Blue Moon Raptors (a nonprofit rehabilitation and education center) will be here with live birds of prey.

Lastly, our Annual Luau is scheduled for August 13th at 3:00pm. Dancin' in the City will be back to perform their amazing Polynesian/Hula program.

For program information and to RSVP for programs please call: 860-399-3048.

The goal of the Westbrook Senior Center is to improve the quality of life for the

Senior citizens of Westbrook and our neighboring shoreline towns. The senior center welcomes citizens 60 years of age or older to participate in our many daily activities directed by staff and volunteers. The goal of these programs is to promote the physical and mental well-being of our senior community. To see our scheduled calendar of events and upcoming special events, please come down to the center Monday-Friday. We look forward to seeing you.

Solar Challenge

Westbrook looks to add participants in Solar Challenge for them to save \$. Additional residential installations can double Town's free solar array.

There have been enough new residential solar installations in Westbrook to reward the Town with a solar array for one of the municipal buildings through the CT Solar Challenge program. Representatives of Aegis Solar Energy, Westbrook's chosen installer for the program, are convinced there's enough momentum that the town can double the rewarded array.

When Westbrook's participation in CT Solar Challenge began last fall, there were about 20 residential solar power installations in town, and 12 new contracts have been signed. The idea is to double that number; the program runs through September, but there will only be one more full workshop provided this spring. The Town has contracted with Aegis for installation costs among the lowest of shoreline towns, and Aegis is a local installer with decades of experience.

According to Aegis, 130 people registered online at CTSolarChallenge.com to receive more information about the program. "Not everyone is a good fit for solar, but whoever is interested will receive a free site assessment," Lenda said. Lease or installment purchase costs for a system to replace Eversource (formerly CL&P) as the electrical supplier are designed to be less than a resident's monthly electric bill, especially with the recent rate hike. Included in the savings is the cost of power from the wires to the home when the sun is not producing electricity.

Aegis Solar, with the Town's Energy Committee, are planning one more presentation in Town this spring on solar power covering the financial aspects involved, aesthetics and how the technology works. It will be held on Tuesday, June 2nd in the Community Room of the Westbrook Library from 7 to 9 pm.

Residents can request a free site visit or get more information at www.CTSolarChallenge.com/Westbrook.

Contact: Maggie Treichel, 1 Research Drive, Branford, CT 06405, 203-451-3449.

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Senator 33rd District
 Art Linares

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Rep. 35th District
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Senator Chris Murphy
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 Washington, DC 20510
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 215 Cannon House Office
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-2076
www.courtney.house.gov

Westbrook - Community Listings

USEFUL NUMBERS

Middlesex Community Foundation (860) 347-0025
 George Flynn Concert (860) 669-1208
 Consumer Protection (860) 566-2294
 9 Town Transit (860) 510-0429
 Visiting Nurses of Westbrook (860) 399-3088
 First Congregational Church
 of Westbrook (860) 399-9367
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church (860) 399-5402
 St. Mark's (860) 399-9207

IMPORTANT TOWN HALL NUMBERS

Assessor (860) 399-3045
 Building/Sanitarian (860) 399-3047
 Animal Control Officer (860) 790-1075
 Emergency Management (860) 577-0622
 Web site www.westbrookem.com
 Harbor Master (860) 399-2477
 Landfill (860) 399-6356
 Probate Court (860) 510-5028
 Recreation (860) 399-3095
 Registrar of Voters (860) 399-3042
 Selectman's Office (860) 399-3040
 Social Service (860) 399-3040
 Tax Collector (860) 399-3043
 Town Clerk (860) 399-3044
 Town Garage (860) 552-4496
 Town Web site www.westbrookct.us

Treasurer (860) 399-3040
 Westbrook Senior Center (860) 399-2029
 Westbrook Youth & Family Services (860) 399-9239
 Zoning/Planning/Wetlands (860) 399-3046

SCHOOLS

Daisy Ingraham Elementary School (860) 399-7025
 Junior-Senior High School (860) 399-6214
 Middle School (860) 399-2010
 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (860) 399-6432

HOME HEALTH CARE

Visiting Nurses of Westbrook (860) 399-3088
 Ambulance & Oxygen
 Business Calls (860) 399-7000

FIRE DEPARTMENT (860) 399-9492

FIRE MARSHAL

Business Calls (860) 399-3047

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Resident Trooper (860) 399-7304
 State Trooper (860) 399-2100

LIBRARY

Westbrook Public Library (860) 399-6422

Westbrook Recreation

Westbrook is the best place to be during the summer months! Our Recreation Department has specialty camps and programs for everyone. Field Hockey, Soccer, Baseball, Basketball, Tennis and Theatre Camps are available to every child. We do programs for Westbrook children and for nonresidents from all over the shoreline.

It's time to sign-up for our Summer Day or Teen Camp programs. We provide inexpensive, safe and quality childcare for children between the ages of 5 to 14 years old. Arts & Crafts, Sports, Field Trips, Beach Day and many other activities are all part of the day camp experience. Your child will make new friends, learn new games and visit interesting places. Make this summer a special one for your child and sign-up now!

Week at the Beach will be August 10th - August 14th. It's a perfect way to finish the summer and go out with a week full of fun! Each day, parents will drop off and pick up their children right here at the Westbrook Town Beach. Drop-off will be at the Westbrook Town Hall, if it rains on any of these days. Please remember that there are two field trips during this week and that each camp has assigned days!

The week after summer camp is over has always been difficult for finding dependable childcare. Hangout Week will be August 17th - 21st, at the Westbrook Library. This week has no field trip but is a great way for children to start thinking about school. Access to library books and other materials will be available so children can catch up on summer reading. Hours during this week are limited to 8:00- 4:00 pm, due to staff availability.

The Westbrook Recreation Board hopes that all of our residents have a happy, safe and fun summer. Everyone can now register on line at westbrookrec.com If you are not a



Westbrook Summer Camp Sing A Long Circle.

Westbrook residents and want to receive our brochure, please call us at 860-399-3095. Nonresidents are always welcome to join us. Find out why people everywhere are saying: "Westbrook Recreation has programs for everyone and the benefits are endless!"

Park and Recreation Summer Concerts on the Green

Fridays at 6:00 pm: July 10th, Caribbean Beach Bums; July 17th, Late for Dinner; July 24th , Creedance Fogerty Tribute Band; July 31st, Prelude.

Fridays at 5:00 pm: August 7th, Number 9; August 14th, The Musical Cavaliers; August 21st, The Shoreline Connection.

Think Ahead for Westbrook Foundation Fall Grants

The Westbrook Foundation will be accepting grant applications all summer long for the upcoming fall season. The application deadline is October 1.

All grant applications will be reviewed by the Westbrook Foundation Board of Directors and must include the need for the project and its uniqueness as well as a mission statement from the organization wishing to receive funds.

The purpose of the Westbrook Foundation, Inc. is to receive and administer funds and other property to help meet the medical and educational, social, welfare, cultural, recreational, and civic needs of the citizens of the town of Westbrook, Connecticut.

For more information: <http://www.westbrookfoundation.org/>.



Westbrook Youth & Family Services

Counseling Services. WYFS provides support and therapy for individuals, families and couples. Our therapists help strengthen family functioning, and support children and families working through life's challenges, including emotional and behavioral issues, stress, anxiety, grief, depression, trauma, peer issues and life transitions. Call 860-399-9239 for an appointment.

Thank you Oxford Academy! For another beautiful evening featuring art, refreshments, prizes and comedy as ticketholders scurried to pick out a favorite photo to take home at the end of the night. Proceeds were donated to WYFS. Special thanks to Waters Edge Resort & Spa for its sponsorship and to our other local businesses and photographers for their invaluable donations.

School Climate Rocks! With 24 school groups this academic year and over 100 students participating, WYFS focused on supporting our kids through family transitions and helped them develop connections to each other and to at least one adult who sees and validates their strength and positive qualities. Connection and security in schools is integral to successful school climate and WYFS is proud to support this initiative in our programming.



WYFS's Susan Scott wins "SandPants" by local photographer Larry Dinger at Lights on Westbrook at Oxford Academy.

Look for these upcoming programs and more on our website at WYFS.org:

Over the Summer, look for us collaborating with our community partners at Westbrook Senior Center Conversations, WMS Healthy Youth Awareness Day, Westbrook Early Childhood Council's StoryWalk, the Exchange Club of Old Saybrook/Westbrook fundraiser, Westbrook Rec's Family Day and more.



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Westbrook Historical Society

Catherine Neidlinger Doane, President

Where is Westbrook's "Old Burying Ground," once known as "God's Acre?" Originally, the land was owned by Peter Murdock. It is located along the Old Clinton Road and across from the Congregational Church. The first known burial in this cemetery is Robert Lay, Jul 1, 1738. Of note is that Lay's original stone was replaced in 1930 by Lay descendants. This practice is seen in old cemeteries as the old brownstone markers deteriorate over time. The Congregational Church's first two ministers, Reverend William Worthington d. 1756 and Reverend John Devotion d. 1802, are buried here. The cemetery was open to the highway until fenced circa 1782. Today, there stands an impressive rock wall roadside.

Through the efforts of the Works Progress Administration, all gravestones were indexed through the Headstones Inscription project under the direction

of the W.P.A. and the F.E.R.A., and sponsored by the Connecticut State Library in 1934. These inscriptions can be found online, at the Historical Society, and at our Public Library and are an invaluable tool for genealogical research. The Historical Society is creating a gravestone location and picture database of these treasures.

Our Annual Day on The Green will be held on Saturday, September 19th,



Old Burying Ground from church steeple. Rev. John Devotion grave fenced. F. W. Bull photograph, ca. 1926.

from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Be sure to send in your application if you intend to sell your wares as spaces are limited. We also feature a tag sale, baked goods, food, and good olde fashioned Westbrook history.



1930 replication of earliest grave – Robert Lay who died July 1, 1783.



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MISS MULVEY



Cat-in-the-Box

Westbrook Senior Citizen Club

The Westbrook Senior Citizen Club would like to invite new members to our club. We are a social club of seniors over 50+ we have been a club for over 25 years. Our meetings are held twice a month second and fourth Wednesday except for January and February we only meet once a month. There are no meetings for July and August. Our meetings are held at 1:00 pm in the Senior Center (lower level) located in the Westbrook Town Hall at 866 Boston Post Road.

During the month of June and December we have a group luncheon at local restaurants. On the second Wednesday is our business meeting and on the fourth Wednesday is a business meeting plus social activities. During our social meeting we will have guest speakers or things of interest. On April 22nd we had a guest speaker on the subject of Preventing Elder Financial Abuse and on May 27th at 1:30 pm our guest speaker will be John Hall, III owner of Maple Breeze Farm on E. Pond Meadow Road the family farm has been in business since 1710. The public is invited.

For more information please call Raymond Gaudet at 860-575-5915.

Come To Our Open House June 2nd, 3-7 p.m. RSVP 860-345-3779

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Dorothy McGlynn enjoys playing piano for her friends.



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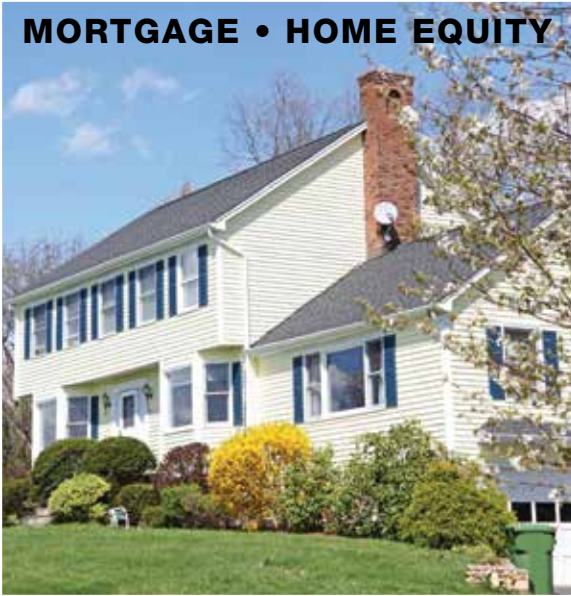
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