

VOLUME 2 • QUARTER 1 • 2016

# OLD LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM





TO EVERYONE IN TOWN



# New England Properties

# Work with the Best



Cheryl Auerbach 860-235-9099



Jill Bach 860-908-3758



Carol Barnes Craig 860-460-0943



Ann Bergendahl 860-460-3909



Ann Buffurn 860-460-2154



John Edmond



Henri Gourd 914-954-3897



Randy Conradi 860-235-0151



Robin Hall 860-334-9679







Judy Heylman 860-460-4806



Brenda Pelt 860-961-7887



John Vincent 860-460-3463



Lucia Johnstone 860-912-4144



John Ragsdale 860-235-9110



Paul Weinblatt-LaFever 860-303-0749



Genevieve Stoll 475-434-0743

A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC @

Mystic | 2 Williams Ave. | 860-536-4906 Stonington | 163 Water St. | 860-535-2490



Renee McCammon 860-705-8084



Amy Swan 860-908-2568



Morag Morse 860-460-5270



Jamie Vangieri 401-742-5779



bhhsNEproperties.com

# Selectmen's Corner

#### Vision for 2016

One of the most significant events in the Town of Stonington in 2015 was the election of a "tripartisan" Board of Selectmen including Republican First Selectman Rob Simmons, Unaffiliated Selectman Mike Spellman of Pawcatuck and Democrat Selectwoman Kate Rotella of Mystic. At our swearing-in ceremony, we all expressed our interest in working together as a team for the best interests of the Town of Stonington. So what does that mean? For starters it means working together with the Boards of Education and Finance as well as members of the community to come up with a 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget that meets the needs of our children and our town without over burdening the taxpayers. Regarding Freedom of Information, we believe that openness and transparency is the best policy. Our Democracy relies on an informed electorate to make critical

choices and a responsible media that conveys accurate information to concerned citizens.

We believe that good government relies on good people. We pledge to find and retain the best people we can to staff our Town Hall, teach our children, plow our roads and provide public safety. In addition to our elected officials, however, the town also relies on over 100 appointed Members and Alternates on 15 boards or commissions to serve the varied interests of the town. We honor those who serve and welcome others to volunteer for positions posted on our web page. Above all, we wish to instill a philosophy of service to our community. All three of us know the meaning and the practice of public service - in our lives and in our careers. We ask all Town employees, contractors and members of the community to look for ways to help in these difficult times.



We three are honored to serve our wonderful town on the Board of Selectmen. And we look forward to the coming year to improve our town for all who live and work here.

Rob Simmons, First Selectman Mike Spellman, Selectman Kate Rotella, Selectwoman



# events

TM Ventures, LLC dba Essex Printing & Events Magazines 18 Industrial Park Road, P.O.Box 205 Centerbrook, CT 06409 860-767-9087 Fax 860-767-0259 email: print@essexprinting.com www.essexprinting.com

> PUBLISHER William E. McMinn

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING/OPERATIONS Suzanne Spires 860-391-5534 suzanne@essexprinting.com

ART DIRECTOR / ARTICLE COORDINATOR Kathy Alsop 860-391-4372 kathy@eventsmagazines.com

> **COVER EDITOR** AC Proctor 860-767-9087

#### SALES REPRESENTATIVES

VERNON • TOLLAND Tom Fortin 860-299-4568 tom@eventsmagazines.com

ESSEX • WESTBROOK • CLINTON • MADISON Ward Feirer 914-806-5500 wfeirer@gmail.com

OLD SAYBROOK • OLD LYME • EAST LYME Betty Martelle 860-333-7117 betty@eventsmagazines.com

MONTVILLE • NEW LONDON • STONINGTON Chris Angeli c 860-391-5725 cangeli@eventsmagazines.com

BRANFORD • GUILFORD • WOODBRIDGE Nancy Lee Salk c 203-219-3282 nancy@eventsmagazines.com

EAST HADDAM • HADDAM • CHESTER Office 860-767-9087

> MAGAZINE LAYOUT Amy Bransfield / Liz Pester

**COVER PHOTO** Roger Kizer IT Manager, Town of Stonington

#### www.eventsmagazines.com

#### 1.2 MILLION READERS 18 TOWNS EVERY QUARTER

Copyright © 2013 Events Magazines. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system without written permission. Not responsible for omissions or typographical errors. All advertising material created by Essex Printing and Events Magazines is to be considered proprietary. Essex Printing and Events Magazines reserves the rights and license to all ad designs and photographic images produced by Essex Printing and Events Magazines. Reproduction rights for individual use in other publications is offered and available by purchase directly through Essex Printing and Events Magazines. Editorial appearing in this magazine is submitted by municipal agencies and other approved sources.

CONTENTS
Selectmen's Corner1
Tax Office3
Town Clerk's Office4
Stonington Human Services5
Youth & Family Services6
Social Services9
Senior Services10
Recreation13
Autism Awareness Month!18
Stonington Transfer Station18
Assessor's Office19
Mobile Food Pantry20

CONITENITO

Want to Advertise? Call Chris Angeli at 860-391-5725

# The Tax Office Connection to The Department of Motor Vehicles



With all the bad publicity surrounding the DMV these days, I almost hate to admit that there is a connection between the tax office and the DMV, but there is and it is very real. In some ways, the tax office is happy to have the connection because taxes get paid that might otherwise not; but in other ways, when a person is held up at DMV, many taxpayers blame the tax office.

When motor vehicle taxes are delinquent, the DMV knows it and won't let the taxpayer register a car. How does the DMV know that someone has not paid their taxes? Tax offices are mandated by State statute (Sec. 14-33) to report to the DMV. DMV then flags the delinquent taxpayer who in turn is not allowed to register a vehicle until the back taxes are cleared up. Conversely, when a taxpayer has paid the delinquent tax, the tax office now has two options to "clear" someone with the DMV. Every afternoon, the tax office does what is called a "take-off", i.e., we upload a file to the DMV of all the people who have paid delinquent taxes that day, and DMV updates its records overnight. In the case of someone who needs to immediately register a vehicle, the new DMV software allows the tax office to clear the taxpayer immediately upon payment. This would allow a taxpayer to be able to register online within minutes of being cleared (if it's a renewal). The DMV no longer accepts our stamp on the back of the registration form or the paper slip saying the taxpayer is clear. In addition, according to the Town of Stonington Tax Ordinance #3, "Any taxpayer shall pay any delinquent taxes by cash, certified bank check, or money order if said taxpayer requires a clearance from the Town of Stonington for the Department of Motor Vehicles."

The bottom line is, to avoid many headaches at the DMV, pay your tax bill in a timely fashion. Don't be the person who waits in line for three hours at the DMV only to be sent away because you owe taxes. That is one sure way to ruin your day.

By Linda Camelio, Stonington Tax Collector



# **Town Clerk's Office**

Where can you get a marriage license, a dog license, a hunting and fishing license, fill out an absentee ballot application, use the land records and search your ancestry?



#### The Town Clerk's office!

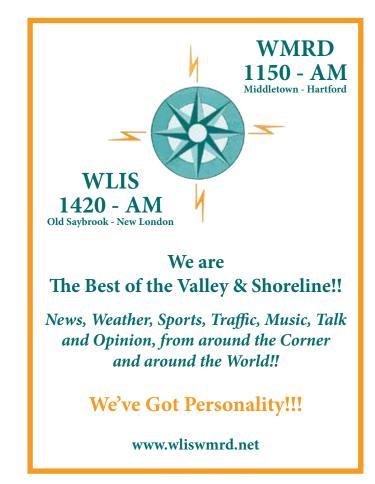
We perform a wide range of services for a wide range of people. On any given day we have lawyers recording deeds in the land records, title searchers looking through the land records, couples getting married, people applying for all kinds of licenses, and during an election, people can vote by absentee ballot. Working in the Town Clerk's office requires a vast amount of knowledge about a wide array of subjects. I have been Town Clerk for 18 years, but have worked in the Clerk's office for 38 years.

Like the tax office, almost everything we do is dictated by State Statute. We have procedures we must follow and deadlines to which we must adhere. And since the laws are constantly changing, we in the Clerk's office must stay current. We do this through various means of training. Luckily the Town Clerk's Association is very strong and they keep us informed of changes in the State Statutes and advise us on best practices.

All in all, the Town Clerk's office is a very busy place and we look forward to working with the public every day.

By Cindy Ladwig







TRUST - CARING - COMMITMENT - EXCELLENCE

The mission of the Department of Human Services is to enhance the quality of life for Stonington residents from all age groups and all economic backgrounds by advocating for their basic needs and promoting self-sufficiency.

The Department is one of five administrative departments established by Town Charter. Four Human Services divisions exist as a means of providing aid to residents that is both relevant to their needs and beneficial in purpose - Senior Services; Social Services; Youth & Family Services; Recreation. The divisions are interdependent in order to effectively utilize departmental resources to provide program excellence and offer advocacy, information and referral.

#### **Human Services Team**

Human Services Manager/ Youth & Family Services Administrator Leanne Theodore

> Social Services Administrator/ Municipal Agent for the Elderly Carol Umphlett

Recreation Administrator Richard Ward

Administrative Assistant Michelle Larese-Casanova

> Receptionist Amanda Johnson

Program Coordinators Kristen King Lynda MacKenzie

> Preschool Jenni Llaguno Leslie Weber

#### Counselors

Molly Kunka Linda Cunningham Miranda Krause-Cahill

#### Thank You

to our donors and to those who continuously provide support to our many programs! First United Methodist Church of Mystic; Mystic Congregational Church; Mystic Woman's Club; Mystic Lions Club; Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce; Pawcatuck Fire Department; Pawcatuck Lions Club; Rotary Club of Mystic; Rotary of the Stoningtons; Savings Institute Bank & Trust; Stonington Borough Fire Department; Stonington Community Center; Stonington Pizza Palace; Stonington Police Department; Stonington Veterinary Hospital; United Church of Stonington.

#### Like us on Facebook!

Follow the 'Stonington Human Services' page and stay in the loop with current program events and happenings.

#### Volunteers

The Human Services Team is very grateful for our volunteers who share their time and talents with us. Some join us monthly, while others share their time weekly. Volunteers are especially needed for reception, clerical support and gardening. All ages are welcome!

#### Program Registration

All classes register in person at the Stonington Human Services,

166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, Monday-Friday between 9 am -4:30 pm, by mail, or outdoor drop box after normal business hours. Starting Feb 1 online registrations will be available at http:// stonington.recdesk.com. If registering in person, completed forms and payment are required at the time of program registration. Download forms for all programs at www.stonigton-ct.gov (located under Human Services Department). REGISTER EARLY! If a program does not meet minimum enrollment one week prior to the start date, it will be cancelled. Register early to avoid disappointment due to a full or cancelled program.

#### New!

Online Registrations: http://stonington. recdesk.com. Stonington Human Services is happy to announce that participants may now register for all our programs online at the above link. First time visitors must set up an individual and family profile. Not computer savvy? No worries -paper registration forms will continue to be available. Set up your individual and family profile on the RecDesk Community portal. Click on the Create Account button to begin process of entering your profile Fill out all fields and click Save to complete the profile setup process. Be sure to do this for ALL FAMILY MEMBERS. New family members can be added by going to your profile page and clicking the Add New Group/Family Member link as shown below.

#### **Registering for Programs**

Once you have set up a profile on the RecDesk Community portal, log in to begin registering for programs. Click on the Login button in the lower left-hand pane. Registrations can be initiated by either clicking on the Register button on the Program List page or by clicking on the Register Now button while viewing the Program Detail.

This will display the Program Registration dialog. Choose the Family Member registering for the program (not the Parent/Guardian), the appropriate Fee Type and then answer any additional questions that may be required for the program.

The new Registration will be added to your shopping cart and is ready for payment. At this point, you can add more registrations to the shopping cart or complete the registration(s) by going through the Payment/ Checkout process.

#### **Checkout and Payment**

Registrations are NOT complete until you go through the Checkout process. If there are pending registrations in your cart, click on Checkout. You will be directed to the Waiver page where you must click Accept to continue. Fill out credit card information and click Continue.

#### continued on page 6



# HUMAN SERVICES ... continued from page 5

You will then be presented with a summary of the transaction (including processing fees). Click OK to complete the transaction or Cancel to go back. If you clicked OK, your credit card will be processed and the registration process will be complete.

# **Day Trips**

Trips are open to Stonington residents AND non-residents.



#### Boston Flower Show / Quincy Market

Fee includes full-size motor coach transportation and optional ticket to Flower Show

Age: Day/Date: Time:

Fee:

All ages Friday, March 18 Depart Human Services at 8:00 am Return approximately 6:30 pm \$45 Flower Show (includes ticket)

\$30 Quincy Market Drop off only



#### Boston Celtics vs. Miami Heat

Room is still available as of press time! There is no experience quite like a live NBA basketball game! Come watch the 17-time World Champion Boston Celtics take

on Dwyane Wade, Chris Bosh and the rest of the Miami Heat in a key Eastern Conference game. Fees include round-trip motor coach transportation and tickets to the game. Depart at noon and return after the 3 pm scheduled game.

Location:	Humans Services. Max of 50 participants
Age:	All ages
Day/Date:	Saturday, February 27th
Time:	Depart Human Services at 12:00 pm
	Leave Boston after the 3:00 pm game
Fee:	\$75/Resident - \$85/Non-Resident

# Stonington Book Club



Do you love to read, and socialize? Come join our book club!

Participants will gather to discuss one common book. Book picks will be determined by the group. Participants will choose a member of the group to facilitate the discussion each week.

Ages:	30+
Day/Date:	Wednesdays, Begins March 3; Ongoing
Time:	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Location:	Stonington Human Services

# **Youth & Family Services**

The programs and services that are offered by Youth and Family Services are done so as a means of promoting positive youth development and supporting improved family and community relations.

#### Immersion (Marine Mammals of the Arctic)

In partnership with the Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration, students will explore ongoing scientific expeditions to ignite their interest in discovery learning.

Ages:	Grades 3-4
Day/Date:	Mondays; Beginning Feb 22
Time:	3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Location:	West Broad Street School
Fee:	\$30 / 8-Week Session
Facilitator:	Kristen King

### **KidzLit**<sup>®</sup>

This popular program encourages reading through fun activities which promote learning and creativity. Children hear engaging books, read aloud or independently and make connections to their own lives. They express their feelings and grapple with big ideas through discussion, drama, art, movement and writing.

Ages:	Grades 1-2
Day/Date:	Monday (Gr 1) / Wednesday (Gr 2);
	Began February 10
Time:	3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Location:	West Vine Street School Library
Fee:	\$30 / 8-Week Session
Facilitator:	Lynda MacKenzie

### Songwriting with Local Singer/Songwriter Cyra Morgan!

11

This class focuses on lyric writing and phrasing, song composition, creating melodies and singing. The workshop concludes with a performance of student's original pieces.

Ages:	10+
Day/Date:	Mondays, March 7 - April
Time:	2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Location:	MMS, RM: TBD
Fee:	\$75.00

### **Teens to Tots Preschool**

Every parent wants a nurturing environment for their young child's early education. Get off to a good start and enroll in our program! Open to potty-trained children ages 3-5. Quality Affordable Program, Certified Preschool Teachers. Encourages social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth. Structured classroom setting with a well balanced schedule of activities. Weekly curriculum themes.

2015 - 2016 School Year

Ages:	3-5 years old
Day/Date	Monday - Friday (choose 2-5 days/week)
Time:	9:00 am - 1:30 pm
Location:	Stonington High School, Room 123
Monthly Fee:	Residents: 2 days \$160; 3 days \$235;
	4 days \$310; 5 days \$385

Non-Residents: add \$25/month \$25 registration fee applies to all

# Lentz & Lentz SAT Preparatory Program

Lentz & Lentz has had proven results helping thousands of students prepare for the SAT exams for over forty-two years. This SAT preparatory program includes course materials, extra help at no charge, live make-ups, a practice testing session, online downloads for review or as a supplement for missed lessons and complimentary fall review sessions.

The course features test-taking skills, vocabulary development, advanced math review, shortcut math, reading interpretation, speed reading improvement techniques, essay writing, grammar skills, and tip sheets. We use our own copyrighted curriculum in conjunction with SAT type questions, designed to reflect the most recent changes in the format of the "NEW SAT." For more information call 1-800-866-SATS (7287) or visit our website www.lentzsatprep.com.

Positive SAT results may translate into thousands of dollars saved on tuition.

Day/Date:	Wednesdays, March 2 - April 27
Time:	6:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Location:	Stonington High School, Room 107
Fee:	\$348

# Individual & Family Counseling

Counseling services are offered to Stonington residents at no cost. Call (860) 535-5015 to schedule an intake appointment.

#### Support Groups

All groups are held at Stonington Human Services and are provided at no cost to Stonington residents. Call (860) 535-5015 to register.

# **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren**

A supportive environment to discuss challenges, shareresources, and network with other grandparents.Day:First Thursday of Every MonthTime:11:00 am - 12:00 pmFacilitator:Molly Kunka, LCSW

#### **Stonington Networks**

Has winter got you feeling down? Lonely and looking to connect with other people? Then this is the group for you! Day: Second Thursday of Every Month

Day:	Second Thursday of Ev
Time:	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Facilitator:	Molly Kunka, LCSW

#### continued on page 8



# COME TO THE COMO!



Traditional and Full Day Preschool Art & Technology • Before & After School Care School Vacation All Day Childcare Summer Camps • SAT Prep • Driver's Education Athletic Programs • Paddle Tennis Courts Beaches • 'Ihrift Store • Pottery Studio Birthday Parties • Facility Rentals ... and more!



VISIT THECOMO.ORG TODAY! 28 Cutler Street, Stonington | (860) 535-2476

#### YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES ... continued from page 7

### Parents of Children with Autism

An opportunity for parents of children on the spectrum to share experiences and learn from each other. First Tuesday of Day: Every Month Time:

Facilitator:

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Dr. Lori Liguori, School Psychologist

#### **Healing Hearts Young Widows Group**

Day:	Second Thursday
	of Every Month
Time:	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Facilitator:	Antonio Okosky,
	Hospice SECT

#### **Juvenile Diversion Board**

The purpose of the Juvenile Diversion Board (JDB) is to provide an alternative to Juvenile Court for juveniles who have committed minor criminal violations in Stonington, and to assist youth who have exhibited problems in the home, school, and community. The goal is to provide a plan for each individual by utilizing community programs, services, and other resources, which will effectively deal with the particular incident, assist in positive development, and encourage responsible behavior.

#### **Family with Service Needs Review Board**

Families with children who are engaging in risky behaviors such as running away from home, school truancy, and defiance of family or school rules often rely on state operated programs to help address these problems. The state of Connecticut has defined such children and parents as a Family with Service Needs (FWSN). Beginning in 2005, Connecticut began enacting a series of legislative, policy and procedural changes to address these issues. These changes were grounded in the belief that swift, community-based family services were the best approach for Families with Service Needs. The new approach to at-risk youth and families rejected the use of the justice

system as the first response to FWSN cases. Research demonstrates that these behaviors are strong predictors of continued involvement with juvenile, criminal and child welfare agencies. Therefore, intervening with appropriate services at an early stage is crucial to reducing future involvement with the justice systems. Based on a need in the community, in 2015, Stonington Human Services and the Stonington Public School District, in collaboration with the Stonington Police Department, Juvenile Court and DCF, developed a Family with Service Needs (FWSN) Review Board. The purpose of the Board is to intervene and divert at risk children from entering the court system. The Board recommends diversions that encourage positive, pro-social development, school attendance, family engagement and participation in community-based programs.

#### Stonington Prevention Council

The mission of the SPC is to permanently change attitudes, laws,

and policies to stop substance abuse and establish a safer community. Established in 2001 and comprised of community members representing youth, parents, police, youth-serving organizations, educators, religious organizations, and health care professionals, the SPC works to educate the residents of Stonington in taking a community-approach to support youth in making healthier decisions regarding alcohol & other drug use. Past grant-funded council activities have included breathalyzers purchased for Stonington High School; alcohol establishment compliance checks in Police Department; video presentations and media coverage; school/community educational forums; established tobacco--free parks and recreation areas in Stonington in 2014. Though many resources exist in New London County to assist those individuals and their families that are struggling with addiction, many still report that they do not know where to turn for help. Currently, the SPC is working on developing information to disseminate to the public (grocery bag flyers, magnets, billboards, etc) promoting local resources available to assist with addiction - with a focus on opiates and heroin.

#### Prescription Drug Drop Box at the Stonington Police Department

Do you have unused, unwanted or expired medications? In partnership with the Stonington Prevention Council, the Stonington Police Department now has a permanent Prescription Drug Drop Box located in their main lobby. Accepted items: prescriptions (including patches, medications and ointments); over-thecounter medications; vitamins; samples; pet medication. The following items are not accepted: needles/sharps; ointments/ lotions/liquids; aerosol cans; inhalers; hydrogen peroxide; thermometers. The box is a free service and no paperwork is required to participate! This past September, in recognition of National Prescription Take Back Day, Stonington Human Services visited our local senior housing facilities to educate residents on the importance of safely disposing unused/expired medications.

#### **Stonington Community** Garden

1 Since the garden's inception STONINGTON in 2010, over 100 Stonington Garden harvesting their own organically-grown produce. The annual fee for a 4'x16' plot is \$25. Join our network to learn how to grow your own vegetables, cut food costs and learn about four season square foot gardening. Over this past summer, Stonington Human Services partnered with Stonington High School families to the maintain and harvest the many SHS garden plots, while school was out for the season. The project was a great success - the gardens flourished and fresh produce was provided to residents in need at no cost! Thank you to the families that took ownership of the school gardens this past summer to make this partnership possible.

We would also like to thank the Stonington Community Gardeners for their generous regular produce donations to the "farmer's market," located in the lobby at Human Services.

# **Social Services**

Social Services programs address poverty issues within the Town of Stonington and help to increase self-sufficiency. Services include: Case Management; Energy Assistance Programs; Eviction Prevention / Budgeting Workshops; Budget Coaching; Home Visits for Homebound Residents; Insurance and State Program Applications; Job Coaching; Paperwork Assistance; and the State of CT Renters' Rebate Program.

### State of CT Renters' Rebate Program

State law provides a grant program for Connecticut renters who are elderly or totally disabled, and whose incomes do not exceed certain limits. Persons renting an apartment or room, or living in cooperative housing or a mobile home may be eligible for this program. Renters' rebates can be up to \$900 for married couples and \$700 for single persons. The renters' rebate amount is based on a graduated income scale and the amount of rent and utility payments (excluding telephone) made in the calendar year prior to the year in which the renter applies. Applications will be taken between April 1st and October 1st.

# **United Way Mobile Food Pantry**

Serving over 100 local families each month, the United Way's Mobile Food Pantry makes a stop in the Stonington Human Services' parking lot\* the first Monday of each month from 5-6 pm. The pantry is set up similar to a farmers' market and has a "no questions asked" policy. Those in need are asked to bring a photo ID when visiting the pantry. Call (860) 535-5015 for more information, or if you have an interest in volunteering. \*Please note, the program will take place within Stonington High School from November-April.

# **Energy Assistance**

Stonington Human Services has been a local fuel bank for the last fifteen years, participating with Operation Fuel, TVCCA, and United Way energy assistance grant programs. Income guidelines for TVCCA's programs cap at 60% of the State Median Income (CHAP). A family of four, for example, is eligible if their total gross income is no more than \$63,715.80 (FY16). It is important to note that liquid assets in excess of \$15,000 for home owners (\$12,000 for renters) are treated as annual income. Assistance amounts are based on established guidelines regarding family size and vulnerability. Please be aware of these important dates:

#### continued on page 10



www.countyhearingandbalance.com



- Unlimited Support One Low Price
- Server, Network & Workstation Maintenance
- Network Security & Proactive System Monitoring
- Local and Online Backup and Recovery
- 2 Free Hours or Free System Analysis Just to Give Us A Try (Offer for 4 or More Computers)

Now Celebrating 10 Years of Helping Business' Increase Productivity and Profits!



#### SOCIAL SERVICES ... continued from page 9

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 is the last day you can call for a fuel delivery; Monday, May 2nd is the last day that you can apply to establish eligibility for benefits for the 2015-2016 heating season; Tuesday, May 31st is the last day you can submit bills for deliverable fuel that were incurred between 11/10/2015 and March 15, 2016.

Residents with Eversource "metered" heating services (electric and natural gas) are also eligible for heating assistance. In addition, applicants who have been approved for the TVCCA program (both CEAP & CHAP) are eligible for the Matching Payment programs (MPP) offered by these companies. The program puts those qualified on a budget plan and will match all payments made during the winter heating month (November through April) dollar for dollar in an effort to reduce the customer's balance to zero. Human Services can help with these programs as well as a low-budget worksheet that may reduce the monthly payment even more. MPP begins each year on November 1st and continues through May 2nd..

ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE POSTED BY APRIL 30TH TO QUALIFY FOR THE MATCH. PAYMENTS MADE ON APRIL 30th WILL NOT POST ON THAT DAY, SO BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR FINAL PAYMENT AT LEAST A WEEK BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH.

### **Success for Life Coaching**

Sustaining self-sufficiency is at the core of maintaining one's housing, employment, and self-esteem. Based on the values presented in Jack Canfield's "Success Principles" and facilitated by a Certified Canfield Trainer, this program is designed to coach clients individually and in group settings.

Are you ready to "take 100% responsibility" for your life and move yourself "from where you are to where you want to be?" Call us for an appointment for information on this new and innovative program that offers you an opportunity to improve self-esteem, develop strong goal-setting proficiencies, and take the steps necessary to take control of your life and your future.

# SNAP Outreach

SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program), is part of the nation's safety net against hunger. The program's debit card system allows for convenience and confidentiality. SNAP applications can be completed at CT's DSS site online and required documents uploaded (at connect.ct.gov). Contact Human Services for more information or application assistance with the online process. Also, check out End Hunger CT's website at www.endhungerCT.org.

Residents are also referred to the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center's Food Pantry and WARM's congregate meal site, which are both supported with town funds.

In addition, United Way's Mobile Food Pantry sets up shop in the Human Services parking lot on the first Monday of every month (and at the Stonington High School cafeteria from November – March), offering fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, and more to residents in need. If you need food, just show up between 5-6 pm, again, on the first Monday of each month.

#### **Stonington SEAT Bus**

The Stonington SEAT bus travels to and from Mystic Village to the I-95 commuter lot in Pawcatuck. A total of twenty stops are included on the route. The bus is equipped with a wheelchair lift. The bus is available Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:15 am and 4:57 pm. The cost for a one way trip is \$1.50 with a reduced fare of \$.75 for seniors and the disabled. Stonington Human Services has bus schedules available and tickets for income eligible residents. SEAT can be contacted at (860) 886-2631 or online at www.seatbus.com.

# **Senior Services**

Acting as an advocate for elderly residents in the Town of Stonington, the Commission on Aging (COA) is a twelve-member commission which meets monthly in order to discuss issues with regard to the elderly. The division provides local and regional access to supportive services, as well as a variety of educational workshops and socialization opportunities\*.

\*Please be sure to check out Youth & Family Services and Recreation program offerings as well, for fitness programs and day trips, open to residents of all ages!

#### Knit & Give

Knitting for a Cause Group Ages 30+ Ongoing

Monday's 10:00 am -11:30 am Meets at Stonington Human Services

Thank you to our dedicated knitters who, over the past three years, have generously crafted hundreds of hats, mittens and scarves for local children in need. Items are also regularly donated to Safe Futures of New London County and the Westerly WARM Center.

#### **Computer Lab**

Monday – Friday 9:30 am – 4:00 pm Do not be intimidated by technology come check out our computer lab! Appointments are available for those in need of basic instruction. We can show you how to get started, create an e-mail account and surf the web!

#### iPhoneology

Day/Date: Location: By Appointment Only Stonington Human Services FREE

Fee:

Are you senior citizen interested in purchasing an iPhone, but concerned that you will not be able to function it? Have you bought an iPhone but just can't seem to figure it out? We've partnered with Stonington High School students to provide one on one instruction to get you up to speed! Leave your appointment feeling informed and equipped with an instructional handout

to take home. Instruction is also available for assistance in navigating the internet, setting up an email account, etc. Call Stonington Human Services to set up an appointment.

# **AARP Driver Safety Program**

**-AARP** This program, offered by AARP, is the nation's first and largest refresher course and has been taking place for over 25 years. AARP's new format reduces classroom requirement to one day and only four hours. Seats are limited – Sign up today! All courses are from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm and located at Stonington Human Services **2016** - April 6th / June 8th

### **Yellow Dot Program**

TRIAD is a national cooperative effort of law enforcement agencies (police/fire/sheriffs), senior citizens, and senior organizations, focused on reducing crimes against our most vulnerable citizens: our elderly population. This national TRIAD initiative affixes a yellow dot in the car's rear window to alert emergency response personnel to senior drivers' and passengers' medical information stored in the vehicle. Information is also utilized to alert emergency personnel of the senior's family members whose care may be dependent upon the senior, such as a homebound spouse. Call Human Services for an appointment to register or for information on upcoming Yellow Dot events.

### File of Life

Store vital medical information on your refrigerator! Emergency personnel are alerted by a magnet on your refrigerator, enabling them to access your medical information, even if you are unable to communicate. File of Life packet magnets are available at Human Services – free to all residents.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Be sure to update your Yellow Dot and File of Life information as your medical needs and prescription drugs change.

### **Cooking Matters**

This past fall Stonington Human Services partnered with Senior Resources to provide a free six week cooking course to 16 residents. Under professional instruction, participants enjoyed many hands-on, creative and fun activities which culminated with a delicious meal at the end of each session. Topics include: healthy eating; weight management; label reading; modified diet; chronic disease management; cooking for 1 or 2; limited mobility and budgeting.

Ages:50+Day/Date:4 week session beginning Wednesday March 16Time:2:30 pm - 5:00 pmLocation:Stonington High School RM 124Fees:Residents Free / Non- Residents \$10

continued on page 12

# **Town of Stonington**

#### STONINGTON TOWN HALL

152 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378 Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

#### STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES

166 South Broad Street – Pawcatuck, CT 06379 Monday-Friday - 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

#### STONINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

173 South Broad Street - Pawcatuck, CT 06379

#### **TRANSFER STATION**

151 Greenhaven Road – Pawcatuck, CT 06379 Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri – 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (Closed Wed) Sat – 8:00 am - 3:00 pm; Sun – 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Administrative Services(860) 535-5000
Animal Control Officer(860) 599-4411
Assessor's Office
Building Official(860) 535-5075
Emergency Management(860) 535-5050
Engineering(860) 535-5076
Finance Department(860) 535-5070
Highway(860) 535-5055
Human Services
Planning Department(860) 535-5095
Police Department(860) 599-4411
Public Works(860) 535-5055
Registrar of Voters
Sanitarian
Sanitarian(860) 535-5010
Sanitarian(860) 535-5010 Selectmen's Office
Sanitarian(860) 535-5010 Selectmen's Office
Sanitarian

# www.stonington-ct.gov

#### SENIOR SERVICES ... continued from page 11

# **Friday Luncheon Series**

From October to May each year, seniors are invited to join us for lunch, one Friday per month, from 12-1:30 pm at various local venues. This very popular program includes a delicious meal, followed by a brief educational presentation or entertainment. Thank you to our 2015-2016 host locations: Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration; Steak Loft; Latitude 41° Restaurant; Go Fish; Bridge Restaurant; 84 Tavern on Canal; and St. Edmund's Enders Island at Mystic.

# Winter blues have you feeling down?

You're not alone. Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that's related to changes in seasons - SAD begins and ends at about the same times every year. If you're like most people with SAD, your symptoms start in the fall and continue into the winter months, sapping your energy and making you feel moody (www.mayoclinic.org). Stonington Human Services offers free counseling to all Stonington residents. Call for an appointment or for more information.

#### Need help with light snow shoveling or yard cleanup? Hire-A-Teen!

The Hire-A-Teen Program matches Stonington residents with students interested in working odd jobs. In order to hire these students, you must first register as an "employer." Be sure to register now before the season's first snow fall! Please keep in mind that this program is appropriate for small jobs only. Payment is left up to the student and resident "employer" to work out.

# Medicare Insurance Counseling (CHOICES)

Are you confused about the difference between Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage Plans) and supplemental insurance plans (Medigap Insurance)? Do you need help navigating through the various CHOICES in plans and services? Would you be interested in knowing if you are eligible to have your Part B premium (\$104.90/month) paid through the Medicare Savings Program? Did you know that you may be able to get half of your spouse's Social Security and build value in yours while you continue to work past your full retirement age?

First and foremost be careful! Much of the mail you are receiving (if you are approaching retirement age) may look "official," but may actually be advertising. Seniors have reported getting phone calls from people they do not know soliciting "Medicare" programs. Be safe! Contact us for the information you need regarding your Medicare programs. Human Services has an experienced CHOICES counselor on staff offering personal & confidential appointments for Stonington residents to discuss Medicare options, supplemental insurances, Medigap policies, HMOs, "special help" for Medicare Part D, Medicare Buy-in programs, state pharmaceutical programs, Social Security, and more. Home visits are also available for residents who are homebound.

### Medicare Savings Program (MSP)

You may be eligible to have your Medicare Parts B and D premiums paid for you! Medicare Part B, the part of your Medicare that pays your doctor's visits, out-patient testing, etc. costs \$104.90/month. Medicare Part D premiums for your prescription drugs vary depending on the plan you choose. Both are required unless the Medicare beneficiary has creditable coverage through employment, a retirement plan, VA, or other "credible" plan. The State of CT offers a program called the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) that will pay these premiums for income qualified seniors. The income limits for 2015 are \$2413.26/mo for an individual and \$3266.88 for a married couple. The program also guarantees that your prescription drugs will never be more than \$7.40 per prescription (with a generic drugs as low as \$2.95) starting in January 2016 and there is never a "donut hole" or open-enrollment period. Furthermore,

the program offers seniors with monthly incomes under \$2069.91 (\$2802.08 for a married couple) supplemental insurance coverage when participating providers are utilized.

So, where can you apply? Stonington Human Services has the application for this program, as well as trained staff to help. Because it is a "self-declared" program, the application is the only paperwork needed; DSS will check all income through the appropriate state and federal agencies.

More questions? Contact us at Stonington Human Services for more info, an application, or an appointment with a CHOICES counselor, who will explain program guidelines.

# Senior & Disabled Transportation for Stonington Residents

The Eastern CT Transportation Consortium, Inc. (ECTC) provides Stonington seniors, age 60+ (and disabled residents, age 18+) with medical transportation. The Town currently funds the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center to provide senior transportation. These grant funds enhance the current programs and provide Stonington residents with Dial-A-Ride transportation. They also reimburse caregivers for medical mileage expenses for those who have access to a driver. The Dial-A-Ride grant funding provides transportation for residents to medical trips within New London County and Westerly. Transportation is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please contact Human Services for further information and to register.

# Eastern CT Travel Voucher Program

This transportation service provides subsidized taxi, livery or wheelchair accessible rides for residents of eastern CT. Sponsored by the New Freedom Initiative, the program provides an affordable alternative when existing transportation services are not able to meet an individual's needs. Enrolled participants purchase travel vouchers from ECTC. A book of 10 vouchers, normally costing \$50, cost \$25 through this subsidy program. A maximum of three books per month per enrollee can be purchased. Contact Human Services to obtain an application.

# **CT Home Care for Elders**

This CT Department of Social Services program assists the elderly by providing the support services needed so they may remain in the community, rather than in a long-term care facility. "To be eligible, applicants must be 65 years of age or older, be a CT resident, be at risk of nursing home placement and meet the program's financial eligibility criteria. To be at risk of nursing home placement means that the applicant needs assistance with critical needs such as bathing, dressing, eating, taking medications, toileting. The CHCPE helps eligible clients continue living at home instead of going to a nursing home." (Source: http://www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2353&q=305170). Call Stonington Human Services for more information or if you'd like to apply for this program.

# Recreation

The Recreation Commission serves as an advocate for meeting the recreational needs of all the residents within the Town of Stonington. The division provides youth and adults an abundance of seasonal and year-round recreational opportunities to participate in camps, clinics, leagues, open runs, day trips, family movie nights and fitness programs.

### **Spellman Recreational Park**

Our recreation complex consists of four athletic playing fields, a large playground area, outdoor exercise equipment area, two outdoor basketball courts, six tennis courts and two pavilions. Add Stonington High School's Palmer Field (turf) and their baseball field, and we have one of the finest recreational facilities in the area. Any organized, non-scholastic, sport using the fields for games or practices at the Park or both middle schools, must be registered with the Recreation Division. Please contact Richard Ward at rward@stonington-ct.gov for additional information.

### Playgrounds in our Community

The Recreation Division oversees and maintains three playgrounds in our community. Please abide by all posted rules and regulations. Please note, all of our park and recreation areas are tobacco, drug and alcohol-free zones.

**Spellman Playground** - Spellman Drive in Pawcatuck **Borough Playground** - Off of High Street in Stonington Borough **Haley's Way Playground** - Haley's Way in Old Mystic

### **Rec Program Suggestions Wanted!**

There may be an activity or program that you enjoy which is not presently offered by the Recreation Division. You may also have ideas for new programs or constructive comments on the improvement of existing programs and services. In either case, the Recreation Division encourages Stonington residents to express their particular ideas and concerns. Please help us to offer to you the programs and services which you desire. Send ideas and comments to: Stonington Human Services , 166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT 06379, or via email: rward@stonington-ct.gov.

# **Pavilion Rentals**

The Town of Stonington Pavilions, located behind Spellman Park Playground are available to reserve from Memorial Day to Columbus Day Weekend. Cost \$25/day. Call (860) 535-5015. Payment required for reservation; application is available online.

# **Babysitting Certification Course**

Uses video, activities, games and tools to help young people become better babysitters. At the end, you'll take a final exam to demonstrate what you've learned. After you complete the course, you'll get a certificate to print and hang on your wall and, most importantly, your new knowledge and skills will make you a more confident babysitter – which is sure to be good for your business! Please bring a bag lunch and snack to the program.

Age:	Boys & Girls, 11 – 15 yrs
Day/Date:	Friday, March 11 (no school)
Time:	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Location:	Stonington Human Services
Fee:	\$75 Resident / \$95 Non-Resident

# Safe Boating / Personal Watercraft Course

Participants who successfully complete this course and pass the test qualify for the Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation. A Safe Boating Certificate (SBC) will allow an individual to operate any recreational vessel registered in Connecticut except a personal watercraft ("Jet Ski" type vessel) on Connecticut's waters. A Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation (CPWO) will allow an individual to operate any recreational vessel including a personal watercraft ("Jet Ski" type vessel). Visit http://www.ct.gov/ deep for additional information on how to obtain your Safe Boating / Personal Watercraft Certificate. Call Human Services at 860-535-5015 with name and cell phone # to hold your spot, payment in check or cash will be due at the first class. Register early, MAX of 35 participants.

Two classes:

T & Th - Mar 15, 17 / 5:30-8:30 pm. All ages. \$10 Residents & Non-Res.

T & Th - Apr, 12, 14 / 5:30-8:30 pm. All ages. \$10 Residents & Non-Res.

#### Fencing

Acquire the reflexes of a boxer, the legs of a high jumper and the concentration of a tournament chess player. Equipment for these beginner classes is provided. Participants will have access to purchase their own equipment. Instructor Jonathan Reed has been involved with fencing for over 12 years and has coached and officiated for the sport for 10 years.

continued on page 14

#### **RECREATION ...** continued from page 13

As Coach Reed said, "Fencing, to me, is a sport that goes beyond the standard categories, cliques, and groups that people place themselves in and allows people to meet, learn about, and befriend those whom otherwise they never would." He continues, "Fencing is a game of physical chess where your mind is as important as your body in scoring points on offense, preventing points from the opponent on defense, and becoming adept at this truly lifelong sport."

Dates: 8 Weeks, Thursdays,

March 24 - May 19 (no class 4/21). Beginner 7-12 yrs 4-5 pm Beginner 13+adult 5-6 pm Intermediate 13+adult 6-7 pm Fees: \$75/Res; \$85/Non-Res

#### **Hike Stonington**



Grab your friends & family members (or do it for yourself!) and get out and enjoy the numerous walking and

hiking trails in Pawcatuck, Mystic & Stonington! Everybody who hikes ALL the trails during the course of one season and tells us about it will receive a one-of-akind t-shirt to proudly wear at the gym or in the park! Register early and get outside! 1st - Register for it! 860-535-5015 2nd - Hike it! The best part 3rd - Tell us about it! hikestonington@stonington-ct.gov 4th - Get your t-shirt for it! Woohoo!A packet with the complete list of trails and guidelines will be provided upon registration. Info on how to "report back" on each trip will also be given at that time. You will have the whole summer (even into the fall) to complete the hikes and to be eligible for the FREE t-shirt. Fees: FREE! Registration is required

#### **Goalkeepers Only!**

"They say where he walks, the grass never grows." – Eduardo Galeano. Instructed by Richard Ward, Soccer Goalkeepers are one of the most important players on the field – the last line of defense and the first line of attack. To play the position well requires special skills and training. Join Coach Ward and special guest instructors from both the boys and girls soccer teams at Stonington High School for this Goalkeepers Only training. Available for both boys and girls!

Age:	3 groups: Grades 3/4;	
	Grades 5/6; Grades 7/8	
Day/Date	Saturdays, April 30-May 21	
	(4 weeks)	
Time:	AM session - 8:30-9:30 am	
Location:	Spellman Recreation Complex	
	Multipurpose and/or Piver Field	
Fee:	\$25 Resident /	
	\$35 Non-Resident	

#### Summer Camp

Registration for our ever popular summer camp started February 1st. The program has full and half day options - Theme Days - Crafts - Sports - Interactive Games -Field Trips - Fun with Science - Theater - Karate - Art - and much, much more! Held at Spellman Park (behind Stonington High School). The camp takes full advantage of the sports fields, playground and school facilities for a safe, fun filled day of summer adventure! Please contact Stonington Human Services for details and specifics. Register early! Scholarships Available (contact Human Services for details). Dates: Monday-Friday June 9-August 12. Start date may be impacted by snow days! Ages: Boys and Girls entering Grades 1-6 in the fall of 2016. Full Summer Fees: Full Day: 8 am to 4 pm. Fees: \$575 Resident / \$725 Non-Resident AM Only: 8 am to noon / Fees: \$275 Resident / \$350 Non-Resident. PM Only: noon to 4 pm. Fees: \$300 Resident / \$375 Non-Resident. \*All fees includes daily breakfast and lunch, provided through the USDA Summer Food Service Program Grant. Field trips are an added fee.

### Middle School REC Camp

New this summer! Full and Half day Programs set up specifically for middle school age group (boys and girls entering 7th & 8th grade) Held at Spellman Park (behind Stonington High School). The camp takes full advantage of the sports fields, playground and school facilities for a safe, fun filled day of summer adventure! Please contact Stonington Human Services for details and specifics. Don't be shut out - Register early! Breakfast and lunch is included with the weekly fee. Day/Date Monday - Friday Aug 1- Aug 5 Times: Full day 8 am to 4 pm Half Day: 8 am to noon or noon to 4 pm Fees: Full Day: \$125 / week Resident or Non-Resident Half Day: \$85 / week Resident or Non-Resident

### UK International Classic Soccer Camp

UK International's Classic Soccer Camp program enhances player's technical development & skill building in a stimulating environment. Players are challenged to consider basic tactical components at an age appropriate level, including attacking and defending principles. Over the week, players will be self assessed using standardized National Soccer Tests focusing on the technical aspects of the game, along with the 'UK Quiz', and World Cup Competition. Coaching Curriculum Covers: -Control -Passing -Dribbling -Shooting -Turning -Running With the Ball - Defending. All participants receive their own soccer ball and a camp shirt as part of the cost.

I ·····		
6 to 14 years old		
Monday - Friday;		
July 25 - July 29		
Evening session		
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm		
Spellman Recreation		
Complex – Multipurpose		
and/or Piver Field		
\$135 Resident or		
Non-Resident		

### UK International Mini Soccer Camp

UK International's 'Fun In The Sun' Program is for the youngest players just beginning the game. Our focus is fun, exciting games to build confidence and teach the fundamentals of soccer. Within this curriculum players will cover ball familiarization, small group dynamics, coordination skills and social interaction, all with maximum participation in a fun oriented environment. All participants receive their own soccer ball and a camp shirt as part of the cost.

-	-	
Age :	4 to 6 years old	
Day/Date:	: Monday-Friday; July 25-July 29	
Time:	Evening session 5:00-6:30 pm	
Location:	Spellman Recreation Complex – Multipurpose	
	and/or Piver Field	
Fee:	\$85 Resident / \$85 Non-Resident	

#### Soccer – Middle School Summer Camp

Instructed by Paul deCastro, Mike Hallisey & Mario Costa. Weeklong camp with daily practices, round robin games and skill development with GREAT COACHES! During the course of the camp, participants will work on ball control, passing, dribbling, shooting, turning with the ball, running with the ball and defending. MAX 30.

Age :	BOYS entering grades 7, 8 & 9	
Day/Date:	Monday-Friday; Aug 1 - Aug 5	
Time:	Evening session 5:00-7:30 pm	
Location:	Spellman Recreation Complex –	
	Multipurpose and/or Piver Field	
Fee:	\$75 Resident / \$85 Non-Resident	

#### Soccer – High School Boys Weekly Summer Clinic

Instructed by Marc Davis, UK International & Ben Bowne, Head Coach, Stonington Track & Field. Challenging game related situations are utilized to develop player's technical ability and tactical knowledge. New this summer will be a fitness component lead by Ben Bowne where players will work on agility and conditioning two of the three days the program runs each week. All players will receive an individual evaluation highlighting specific strengths and areas for improvement. Paul deCastro, Boys Varsity Soccer Coach at Stonington states: "Anybody serious about the up-coming high school season should consider signing up for this program even if they miss a couple of sessions because of family vacation or summer job responsibilities." Each participant will receive their own shirt, included in the fees.

Age :	High School Boys entering Grades 9-12
Day/Ti	me: Tue 6:45-9:45 pm – soccer & conditioning
	Wed 6:45-8 pm – conditioning
	Thurs 8-10 am – soccer
Date:	July 12-Aug 18 (6 weeks)
Time:	8:00-10 am
Locatio	n: Spellman Recreation Complex –
	Multipurpose and/or Piver Field
Fee:	\$100 Resident / \$110 Non-Resident

#### Soccer – High School Boys Pre-Season Camp

Advanced Team Program that provides a great opportunity to prepare for the coming season. The aim of the program is to create an environment conducive of both individual and team development. A quality camp experience that includes: Sports and health topics including nutrition, flexibility, strength and fitness for soccer; camp T-shirt for all players; written individual player evaluations and a detailed team evaluation. Instructed by professional soccer coaches from UK International Soccer Camps – the best of the best!

Age :	High School Boys entering Grades 9-12 e: Sunday- Wednesday Aug 21-24	
Day/Date:		
	(HS Season scheduled to start 8/25)	
Time:	5:00-7:30 pm	
Location:	Spellman Recreation Complex – Multipurpose	
	and/or Piver Field	
Fee:	\$85 Resident / \$95 Non-Resident	

# HS Girls Two week Pre-Season Soccer Camp

Advanced Team Program that provides a great opportunity to prepare for the coming season. The aim of the program is to create an environment conducive of both individual and team development. Instructed by Mario Costa, Jeff Lewis & Paul deCastro, boys coaches staff at SHS.

Age :	High School Girls entering Grades 9-12
Day/Date:	Two weeks Monday-Thursday; Aug 8-18
Time:	8:00-10 am (times subject to change
	with school calendar)
Location:	Spellman Recreation Complex - Rec Field
	and/or Piver Field
Fee:	\$50 Resident: \$60 Non-Resident

### Fitness & Exercise Classes

The following fitness and exercise programs are offered through the Recreation Division. All classes are held at Black Bear Traditional Martial Arts Center at 829 Stonington Road (the old Porch & Patio building). Our "new space" provides a stateof-the-art flooring and plenty of space "to get our sweat on"! It will also allow us to add to our offering of classes. If you have any suggestion on the type of fitness classes you would like to see please contact Richard Ward at rward@stonington-ct.gov. Registration for current programs takes place at Stonington Human Services (860) 535-5015.

#### **Baby Boomers**

Incorporate weights into fun cardio routines to tone and strengthen as you scorch calories. Designed specifically for individuals ages 50 and older. Instructors: Michele Gardner; Michelle Tebbets & Yolla Elkhoury. Join at any time! **Continued on page 16** 

#### **RECREATION ...** continued from page 15

Location: Black Bear Karate, 829 Stonington Road, Stonington M,W & F, join anytime. 9:30-10:30 am. 50+. Monthly Fees: 1 day/week \$15; 2 days/week \$30; 3 days/week \$45.Non Res add \$15.

# Zumba

Ditch the workout - join the party! Combine all elements of fitness: cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility with a boost of energy and a serious dose of awesome each time you leave class. Fuse hypnotic Latin and international music with easy-to-follow dance moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program that will blow you away and make exercise fun again. Instructor Caroline Wall. Location: Black Bear Karate, 829 Stonington Road, Stonington Mon/Wed - join anytime. 5:30-6:30 pm. 18+. Fees: Punch card \$65 for 10 classes; \$100 for 20 classes – Drop in \$10.

#### Stonington Adult Sports Leagues

The Recreation Division of The Human Services Department is offering the following Adult Sports Leagues this spring and summer. For additional information and registration on these please contact the department at (860) 535-5015 or by email at rward@stonington-ct.gov.

### Adult Co-ed Soccer League

Register as a team starting March 1. Games are held "on the turf" at Palmer



Field, behind Stonington High School on Sunday evenings starting at 5, 6, 7 or 8 pm. The 8 game regular season schedule runs April 10, ending with a tournament and championship games on June 12. Team fees are \$650 if paid on or before April 1st; \$750 if paid before the first scheduled game; \$825 late payment if paid after April 10. Contact Richard Ward at rward@ stonington-ct.gov for additional information and registration forms.

### Men's Softball League

Register as a team starting March 1. Games are held at Spellman Recreational Complex, behind Stonington High School. The 20-25 game schedule could be played Monday through Thursday evenings starting early May and running through playoffs and world series held first week in August (schedule TBD). An organizational and captain's meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 18 at 7:00 pm. "Cross-over" games against teams from the Westerly league will be held in addition to regular season round robin games. Team fees are \$1000 if paid on or before April 1st; \$1150 if paid before the first scheduled game; \$1250 late payment if paid after the first scheduled game. Any team registered for the season will automatically be registered for the first ever Battle of Stonington Tournament, scheduled for mid August. Contact Richard Ward at rward@stonington-ct.gov for additional information and registration forms.

### Co-ed Softball League

Register as a team starting April 1. Held at Spellman Recreational Complex, behind Stonington High School. The one game per week schedule will be held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evenings starting late June through first week of August (schedule TBD). Captains meet on Monday, June 1 at 7:00 pm. Team fees are \$200 if paid on or before June 1st; \$250 if paid before the first scheduled game; \$300 late payment if paid after the first scheduled game. Any teams registered for the season will automatically be registered for the first ever Battle of Stonington Tournament, scheduled for mid August. Contact Richard Ward at rward@stonington-ct.gov for additional information and registration forms.

# Tennis, Co-ed League

Register as a team starting April 1. Matches are played on the courts in Spellman Recreational Complex on Monday and Wednesday evenings starting in June. Schedule consists of 1 or 2 matches per week (TBD) from late June through Mid August. Team fees are \$400 if paid on or before June 1st; \$450 if paid before the first scheduled game; \$500 late payment if paid after the first scheduled match. \*an additional \$50 is charged for Non-Resident teams (less than 80% of the roster). Contact Richard Ward at rward@ stonington-ct.gov for additional information and registration forms.

# Stonington REC Sports Tournaments

The battle of Stonington - coming this summer! In honor of the Battle of Stonington during the War of 1812, Stonington Recreation will be hosting a number of Adult and Youth sports tournaments taking full advantage of the facilities at Spellman Park. Watch for details on tournaments held for both kids and adults in Tennis, Softball, Soccer, Basketball, Softball and Lacrosse. On the morning of August 10, 1814, during a lull in the attack by the British on Stonington, Dean Gallup of Stonington, stood upon the shoulders of Jeremiah Holmes and nailed a large American flag to a pole above the battery. It was a banner of defiance that waved until the British sailed away on the afternoon of August 12, unsuccessful in their attempt to vanquish Stonington\*. Turning ahead 202 years later, that same spirit will be in full display on the courts and fields with our own version of The Battle of Stonington. Please contact Richard Ward if you are interested in the planning stages of this multi-day tournament scheduled to take place the week of August 7-14 (the actual battle took place Aug 9-14, 1814).rward@ stonington-ct.gov.

\*Taken from an article By Susan J. Jerome for Connecticut Explored

#### Art in the Park

Take a hike, kick a ball, swing on the swings, enjoy the outdoors, and bring home a one-of-a-kind piece of art. The Art Truck<sup>™</sup> will be pulling into Spellman Park for some great fun! Join us for one or all three dates. In addition to the particular art projects, some organized games and activities will be held throughout the time, but you can also spend time with family members hiking the trails and enjoying the great outdoors.

#### March 26: Party with a Robot<sup>©</sup>

Calling all engineers, designers and artists to create fantastic, far-out robots! Guests use flexible and shiny materials to build three-dimensional sculptures with space-age purposes and personalities.

#### April 16: Party like Picasso!©

Little Picassos and Georgia O'Keeffes make color, shape and line come alive as they dip brushes into palettes of neon, glitter and primary-color paints to create display-ready masterpieces to take home.

#### May 14: What a Masquerade!©

Revelers delight in creating characters inspired by superheroes, animals, and more while using markers, gems, papers, faux fur, and ribbons to transform simple mask forms into fun fashion and fantasy wearable works of art!

For both boys and girls (max of 20 each age group)

•		
3 Age Groups:	3-5 yrs; 6-8 yrs; 9-12 yrs	
Date:	Saturdays, Mar 26, Apr 16 or May 14	
Time:	8:00-10 am	
Location:	Spellman Recreation Complex –	
	Playground and Pavilion area	
Fee:	\$12/date or \$30 for all 3	

#### **Powder Puff Flag Football Tournament**

Based upon one of the more popular units in PE classes at Stonington High School. Players join as a team for this twoday single elimination tournament on June 4 & 5 (schedule TBD). Suggested roster size is 10 players but teams may have up to 15. Trophies will be given for overall championship along with other categories. A captain's meeting (team rep is required to attend) is scheduled for Monday, May 23 at 7 pm where rules and tournament format will be finalized. Contact Richard Ward at rward@stonington-ct.gov for additional information and team registration forms.

Age:	High School 9-12 grades	
Date:	Saturday June 4 & 5	
Time:	Individual game schedule TBD	
Location:	Palmer Field and/or Multipurpose field	
Fee:	\$5 per person - Stonington High School	
	Students only	

#### Basketball Shooting Clinic

Instructed by Tim Sartor. For the serious player who truly wants to learn to shoot. Don't miss this opportunity to get a jump on your offseason development. Despite it being the objective of the game, the art of shooting has declined at all levels of the game. Bad habits, picked up at a young age, need to be replaced with good - and will be the focus of this clinic. Coach Sartor was a 1000 point scorer at both Stonington High and UCONN-Avery Point and received all-state honors along with a D-II scholarship. Players will learn the core principles that every great shot features, and pick up techniques on how to correct minor flaws and simple drills to develop a perfect, effortless and quick shot. The mind set of what it takes to become a great shooter is a learned skill – NOBODY is a natural born shooter. It takes good coaching, hard work and practice – and it all starts here!

Age:	For boys grades 6-11
	(groups formed based upon skill and age) MAX 18
Date:	Saturday, April 30
Time:	9:00-11:30 am
Location:	Stonington High School Gymnasium
Fee:	\$50/player Resident; \$60 Non-Resident



Winthrop is a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) themed magnet school located in New London, CT. Join us at one of our tour and information sessions.

Saturday, February 6 at 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 9 at 6 p.m.

Saturday, March 5 at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 8 at 6 p.m.

Information: call 860-447-6033 or visit www.winthropelementary.org 74 Grove St., New London, CT 06320

# Please join us as we kick off Autism Awareness Month!

**ENJOY A NIGHT OUT WITH FRIENDS!** \$5.00 Donation (at the door) Door Prizes ~ Raffles ~ Giveaways ~ Entertainment Proceeds to benefit autism support activities.

#### Tuesday, April 5th / 5:00-10:00 pm Twisted Vine Westerly, RI

Local businesses are invited to "Light It Up Blue" withlights, decorations and special promotions! Light It Up Blue is a unique global initiative that kicks-off Autism Awareness



Month and helps raise awareness about autism. World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD), celebrated on April 2 annually, was adopted by the United Nations in 2007 to shine a bright light on autism as a growing global health crisis. For more information: http://liub/autismspeaks.org. Sponsored by the Autism Parent Support Group. Call (860) 535-5015 for more information.

# **Stonington Transfer Station**

#### 151 Greenhaven Road, Pawcatuck, CT

#### 860-535-5088

Operating hours are: Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 9 am to 3 pm Sat. 8 am to 3 pm, Sun. 8 am- 1 pm.



CLOSED WEDNESDAYS & HOLIDAYS Fees are charged for the following: Brush: Residential: \$0.00/Ton, Commercial: \$60.00/Ton. Bulky Waste/Construction & Demolition Debris: \$100.00/Ton (Discarded carpet must be in pieces no larger than 4' x 4') Large Bulky Items (Couch, Recliner): \$10.00/EA Large Appliances: \$10.00/EA Recyclable Items: No charge

#### Single Stream Recyclables

Flattened Corrugated Cardboard Car Batteries Leaves (Residential only) Scrap Metal Uncontaminated Automobile Waste Oil and Antifreeze Tires Books Clothing, Clean Rags, Toys, etc. (Salvation Army Bin) Fluorescent Light Bulbs Electronics Mattresses Oil based and Latex paints and stains

Oil based and Latex paints and stains must be in a labeled container aerosol paints not accepted

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

IS NOT ACCEPTED AT THE TRANS-FER STATION. FOR INFORMATION ON DISPOSAL PLEASE CALL: 860-535-5099

For information please contact: The Recycling/ Solid Waste Office in The Stonington Town Hall, 152 Elm St, Stonington, CT Phone: 860-535-5099 Open M-F 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. **Regional Household Hazardous Waste and Document Shredding Event Schedule for 2016** 

<b>DATE</b> Saturday, April 9	LOCATION Stonington
Saturday, May 7	East Lyme
Saturday, June 4	Colchester
Saturday, June 18	Norwich
Saturday, July 16	Groton
Saturday, August 13	Montville
Saturday, August 27	Griswold
Saturday, September 10	No. Stonington
Saturday, October 1	Ledyard

# Assessor's Office

MOTOR VEHICLES

Residents have discovered that their vehicles are not registered with the DMV, when they thought they were registered properly. Some reasons are that an emissions test was not conducted; or the test was done late; change of insurance; or that further documentation was required and not received. Many of these issues have occurred to our residents and taken a considerable amount of time to correct. In some cases the police will issue tickets and remove the plates from your vehicle. You may be subject to cash fees to tow the vehicle; loss of the use of the vehicle; and a required appearance in New London court. Some of these issues occurred as a glitch in the new DMV computer program. Please be aware that not all these issues can be addressed by a personal visit to a DMV location. If you have purchased a new vehicle check the vehicle information on the bill of sale to ensure that vehicle identification number, year, make and model has been entered correctly on your registration certificate. The Town of Stonington's town

code number is 137. This number should also match the number on your registration so that Stonington will receive your vehicle for assessment and tax purposes. You may check the status of your registration at the Department of Motor Vehicles website, http://www.ct.gov/dmv/cwp/view. asp?a=803&q=569496.

#### DMV'S ONLINE SERVICES LICENSE SERVICES:

Check Driver's License Status Commercial Driver Self-Certification Pay Infraction Ticket (links to Judicial Branch website)

#### **VEHICLE SERVICES:**

Cancel Registration and License Plates Check Property Tax, Insurance, Emissions and Other Compliance Issues Lookup Registration Status Order Special License Plates Renew Registration Replace Damaged License Plates Reprint Registration Certificate Lookup Wait Time at a DMV Office Marsha L. Standish, Director of Assessment



"I house sit for your precious pets at your home while you're away!"

#### Give your pets a vacation too!

117 Water St. #2, Stonington CT 860.389.0321 catgirlsar@aol.com mysticdoggydaycare.com







Jewelry Repair & Stone Replacements Done on Premises



Natural Burmese Ruby (2.68 ct)

#### Art Gallery and Custom Jewelry Design

Ceylon Sapphire 14k Engagement Ring



119 Water Street Stonington Borough, CT 06378 860.545.3523 www.blackorchidjewelrs.com exoticgems@aol.com



The mobile pantry provides fresh fruits and vegetables, proteins, and other healthy foods for FREE distribution to individuals and families in need.

# All are welcome!

The mobile pantry will be coming to a location near you:

# **Stonington Human** Services\*

# **First Monday of each** month / 5:00-6:00 pm

Please bring a photo ID and your own bags!

\*During the winter months, the pantry will stop at Stonington High School.

Call Stonington Human

Services at 860-535-5015 for more information.

# **Essex Printing**

#### printing & marketing solutions

#### printing services

Digital & Offset **Bill Stuffers Booklets** Brochures **Business Cards Catalogs** Calendars Envelopes Flvers Folders Forms

Invitations Labels Letterhead Notepads Playbills Postcards Programs **Rack Cards** and much more ...



#### direct mail

**Direct Mail Campaigns Every Door Direct Mail** Fundraising Campaigns **Envelope Printing** Label Printing

**Envelope Stuffing Mailing Lists** Personalized **Direct Mail** Variable Data

# and much more ...

#### graphic design

Logo Design Advertisements **Annual Reports Business Cards Corporate Branding** Postcards

Direct Mail **Brochures &** Flyers Posters & **Banners Programs** & Catalogs and much more ....



#### large format printing

Banners **Digital Posters** Presentation Boards

Window Signs and much more ...



#### binding & finishing

Spiral, Coil and Wire Binding Perfect Binding Perforating

Scoring Stapling Collating



and much more ...

#### promotional products

Apparel Awards **Bags & Totes** Cups & Mugs Flashlights Hand Sanitizer **Flash Drives** Pens & Pencils Sticky Notes **Stress Relievers** Technology and much more ....

18 Industrial Park Road, Centerbrook CT 06409 860-767-9087 www.essexprinting.com

TVC signs up hundreds of new subscribers each month!

# TVC THAMES VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS WWW.TVCconnect.com THE SWITCH IS ON!

- Faster Internet Save Money
- Better Cable TV
  NO CONTRACT
- Reliable Phone
  LOCAL Customer Service

# Sign Up Today! 860.446.4009

# f

Stonington Forum Loves TVC! WHEN ASKED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN TVC & COMCAST 9 OUR OF 10 PREFER TVC

"I LOVE LOVE LOVE TVC! I save over the \$40 a month for the same service as Comcast." - KH "Thames Valley!!!" - PN

"Switched back to TVC a few months ago. Very happy." -BD

"Very Happy with TVC" - CS

"Love TVC - no problems with them" -ED

"Counting the days until we can get TVC again! I've had nothing but trouble from Comcast." -EE

"TVC is cheaper" - LR

"TVC took a while to get it right, but they it right now and as others have noted *they save you a heck of a lot of money*." - FS

"Not even close! *I would never go back to Comcast!*" - JL

"Switched from Comcast as soon as TVC came out & never regretted it!" - JG

"TVC...if you need to talk to someone, you get someone right away! You talk to the lady at the front desk, the same one as if you went in to the office! *Can't beat small biz!*" - AL



Stonington Events Stonington Town Hall 152 Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378 PRSRT STD U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 155 Deep River, CT

# **POSTAL CUSTOMER**



# Hunter Moore & Stearns 117 Water Street, Stonington CT 850-535-8300 www.HMSCT.com

Lakefront North Stonington



39 M Ledgen Wood Road MIs E10086979 \$435,000. Year-round home with open floor plan on lake. Views from every room and private secluded lot. Home totally redone two years ago. 2 bath, 2 bed, 2 fireplaces, deck and stone patio to catch sunsets. Outside dining room. Nothing to do but move in. Saddia Rahaman 860-961-1103.



**Al Harvey Road** 

Beautifully restored home on scenic country road, close to Stonington Village. Stone walls, gardens, patios. Kitchen wiglass walled eating area, open to keeping room, FP extra sitting room and formal dining room, FP and small study. Radiant heat. First floor Master bedroom suite, FP French doors out to heated pool, hot tub. Second floor 3BR and 2FB. Lower Level, bonus room and FB, stone walls and floors, w/wood burning stove. \$945,000 Sarah Janssens 860-961-9999 **Downtown Mystic** 



Commercial 24 West Main Street, Mystic. \$665,000 "A rare opportunity to buy a commercial property in the absolute heart of downtown Mystic. 2,300 sf of pristine retail space with many other approved uses possible. A recent \$250,000 renovation included updating all systems. Truly a must see." Calvin Utter 860-235-9694.

#### Mystic Rental Allen Spool Mill



Allen Spool Mill, restored three years ago. Top two floors apartments. This apartment is two bedrooms, two bath, and 1400 SF big water views. \$2400 per month, Geo Thermal Heat Very modest heating/AC costs. Call Michael Blair, 860 535 8300 X 1



Saddia Rahaman, Realtor 860-535-8300 x6



Sarah Janssens, Realtor 860-535-8300 x3



Calvin Utter, Realtor 860-535-8300 x4



Michael Blair, Broker 860-535-8300 x1