SELECTMEN’S CORNER

The proposed Town Budget for 2017-2018 is beginning to come together. Our goal is to maintain the current level of town services and personnel as best as we can, but due to the uncertainty of the State Budget, cuts are having to be made across the board, in education, town government and capital improvements.

As everyone knows, the State of Connecticut continues to have its own financial issues. We are monitoring the State’s budget developments very closely because small towns, such as ours, are more severely affected by any cuts and/or changes in State aid, especially for our education budget and aid to our town roads.

We will try our best to keep everyone informed of upcoming town events, as well as regional activities, through the town website and postings at the Town Hall. I hope that each of you have the opportunity to take full advantage of the many events planned for this Fall throughout our Town and the surrounding communities of the “Quiet Corner”.

Roy Piper
First Selectman

EMERGENCY 9-1-1
House Number Signs

Have you picked up your free 9-1-1 house number sign for your home?
While I have written several articles for the town newsletter about the free House Number Signs, I drive around town and still see too many houses without the reflective sign out in front of their homes. These house-number signs, and reflective numbers, are available to Canterbury residents and can be picked up at the Canterbury Town Hall and, the best part, they are available at no cost.
If you have not already picked up your house-number sign and reflective numbers, I encourage you to stop by the Selectmen’s Office and pick up your sign and reflective numbers for your specific residence.

The few minutes that it will take you to pick up your sign, and properly mount it at your home, will possibly save precious minutes of response time in the event of an emergency at your residence.

Canterbury Assessor’s Office

Personal Property declaration forms were mailed on September 28th for the 2017 Grand List. If you did not receive a personal property declaration but you have property that needs to be declared, please call the Assessor’s Office or go to the website at http://www.canterburyct.org. All personal property forms are available to download. Remember to return these forms no later than Wednesday November 1, 2017 to avoid a 25% penalty.

PA490 applications for farm, forest, or open space designations are available in the Assessor’s Office and on the website. The deadline to file an application is Tuesday, October 31, 2017. The deadline for Certified Forester’s Report was October 1. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact the Assessor’s Office.

The Assessor’s Office hours are Mondays, & Tuesdays from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 6:30 pm. The office number is 860-546-6035. Email is assessor@canterburyct.org

Lynn Byberg

ON-LINE BILL PAYING

It has been a year since we implemented the improved on-line bill paying service and it seems to be working well! You can access the link to on-line bill paying directly from the home page of the Town’s web-site: www.canterburyct.org. This system has several improved features including: the ability for you to print a report of yearly taxes paid for IRS tax returns (look for the green icon to the far right of the billing page), and pay by phone (844-395-2236 – you must know your bill number to do so) or text (sign up via the web-site link).

Happy Fall!
Natalie Ellston
(p.s. please note that I changed my last name – it’s still me!)

Canterbury Assessor’s Office

Town Clerk & Tax Collector

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

November 7, 2017. Town Offices to be elected are: First Selectman, Selectman, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Tax Collector, Board of Finance, Board of Finance Alternate, Board of Education, Board of Assessment Appeals, Planning & Zoning Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission Alternate, Zoning Board of Appeals, Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate, Constables and Library Directors. If you will be away during voting hours (6 am to 8 pm), you can vote via absentee ballot – which are now available in the Clerk’s office.

BUDGETS, REFERENDA & TAX BILLS

Due to the State’s Budget Crisis, the Board of Finance has not put forth a budget for approval by the citizens. Once a budget has been approved by the Board, there will be a public hearing and a referendum to vote on the budget. As of this point, our town is facing drastic cuts (approximately $2 million) by the State in ECS (Education Cost Sharing) funding. This is a situation that directly impacts the budget process, as our town depends on this State revenue. Once a budget has been approved, we will send out motor vehicle, personal property and updated real estate bills.

ON-LINE BILL PAYING

It has been a year since we implemented the improved on-line bill paying service and it seems to be working well! You can access the link to on-line bill paying directly from the home page of the Town’s web-site: www.canterburyct.org. This system has several improved features including: the ability for you to print a report of yearly taxes paid for IRS tax returns (look for the green icon to the far right of the billing page), and pay by phone (844-395-2236 – you must know your bill number to do so) or text (sign up via the web-site link).

Happy Fall!
Natalie Ellston
(p.s. please note that I changed my last name – it’s still me!)
St. Augustine Church

LADIES GUILD ANNUAL HARVEST BAZAAR
Saturday, November 4, 2017
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Please visit us for local and homemade crafts. Think Christmas presents! We will continue to offer baked goods, the chance booth, lunch from the kitchen, as well as the return of popular vendors. This year we are trying something new with our great baskets and Lottery Tree - you will receive a ticket at the door to win one of them. You can also purchase additional tickets to add to your chances of winning. We look forward to seeing you there again!

Canterbury Cares

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

Upcoming dates for distribution are:
   November 20th 10 am - noon
   December 18th 10 am - noon

We are so grateful to everyone who has donated funds, food and time to Canterbury Cares. We are so blessed to have the support of our town’s wonderful churches, schools, local organizations and individuals. If you would like to volunteer to help with Canterbury Cares Distribution (the third Monday of the month), please contact us at (860)546-9007.

Thank you so much!

Textiles Reuse and Recycling

“Don’t Judge, Just Donate”

Besides clothing, such as shirts, pants, dresses and shorts – textiles include bedding materials, backpacks, curtains, towels, stuffed animals, gloves, belts, ties, purses, handbags, shoes, slippers, undergarments and even holey socks!

The Town of Canterbury is now accepting textiles that you may consider unwearable, like holey socks and ripped t-shirts, and recycle them to make other products such as wiping rags, car seat and pillow stuffing, and household insulation. The key to this program is to get the message to our residents – “Don’t Judge – Just Donate”.

At the Transfer Station, we have receptacles to accept usable clothing items for the Red Cross and for Kid Education. These are both great programs for clothing items that can be re-used. We now have a container that is used to accept all of the other textile items for recycling, thus keeping these items out of the bulky waste stream.

A complete listing of textiles items that are accepted in the Textile Recycling Program can be found in this newsletter as well as on the Canterbury website under the Transfer Station Tab.

Remember for textile recycling – “Don’t Judge – Just Recycle”

Friends of the Canterbury Library

Book Sale & Bake Sale
Saturday - October 21st, 2017
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Sale Opens at 8:30 AM for Members
Community Room, 1 Municipal Drive, Canterbury, CT, just off Route 14
Memberships available at the door, at the Canterbury Library or at: http://canterburylibrary.org/

Town of Canterbury Constables

On October 3, 2017, the Board of Selectmen voted to adopt a set of written policies for the Canterbury Policies. These policies were written to provide specific guidance and governance for our Constables in order to protect our residents and the Constables during the performance of their official duties. Examples of the new policies are:

There is hereby established, pursuant to the authority conferred by Section 7-148 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), a group serving the Town of Canterbury to be designated as the “Town of Canterbury Constables”. The duties and responsibilities for Town of Canterbury Constables are outlined below.

The goals of the office of the Constables of the Town of Canterbury is to maintain efficient, professional, sensitive, compassion in a respectful manner while performing the responsibilities and duties as Constable. Work closely with Canterbury Fire Department in case of need for additional manpower. The Canterbury Constables shall support the local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in the event of a natural or manmade disaster which may affect the Town of Canterbury. The Canterbury Constables will provide traffic control when requested for events in the community through the Town of Canterbury’s First Selectman’s Office. Canterbury Constables shall support all commissions when requested by memo through the Office of the First Selectman.

Much work has gone into the development of these policies over the past years, especially by Constable Raymond C. Shinkiewicz, who has also been instrumental in the adoption of the policies.

A complete list of all policies can be found on the Town website, under Town Departments, Constables Tab.

Editor’s Note

The next issue will be published in January 2018. Anyone wishing to submit articles for consideration may do so by email to Canterbury newsletter@yahoo.com or by dropping them off at the Selectmen’s Office before January 15th. The editor reserves the right in all instances to edit for length and content. Submissions are welcome from all Canterbury organizations and institutions.
Canterbury Agricultural Commission

Jessica Vincent and Missy Gil are doing a great job organizing the weekly Canterbury Farmers Markets. They are held each Tuesday from 4 to 7 pm at the Town Hall parking lot. For information go to: https://www.facebook.com/Canterburytownmarket/ A nice blend of farmers are there each week, with special guests and great music too!

We welcome Lori Fenner our newest member of the Agriculture Commission. She joins our group on the fourth Thursday of each month for meetings at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to bring ideas to help support and promote local agriculture.

USDA has a New Farmers website that has tools to help new and established farmers at: https://newfarmers.usda.gov/. Farmers can also connect with free mentors available through SCORE to work with them on business plans, marketing, succession planning and other farm needs. This site has more information about resources for farmers including connecting to SCORE: https://newfarmers.usda.gov/education-and-assistance

Enjoy the fall colors!

Dawn Pindell
Chairman

Canterbury Lion’s Club

The Canterbury Lions Club has been active since 1972, raising funds that can be used to help address the critical needs of our community and residents. As part of Lions International, Lions have a particular focus on the helping the sight and hearing impaired. We collect eye glasses and hearing aids year round, and have installed a collection box at the transfer station to make it more convenient for people to donate. We have worked collaboratively with several community organizations with our Food Trailer and look forward to working with more of them. All proceeds from our various fund raising activities, such as our Chicken BBQ dinners in June and October, go directly to benefit Canterbury and its residents.

We have partnered with Connecticut Lions Eye Research Program, KidSight, to conduct no cost vision screenings for all Canterbury children at our Elementary school in November 2017 and the Middle school in April 2018. Last year CT Lions clubs with the help of 23 WelchAllyn Spot cameras screened 54, 000 children statewide, identifying 11% of those screened to need further follow up. The WelchAllyn Spot is a hand held scanner resembling a cam recorder with blinking lights to keep the child's attention for the brief time needed for the scan. The scanner is held 3 feet from the child, is non-invasive, and takes less than 10 seconds. Very similar to taking a photograph.

Parents are given an immediate printout via wireless printer. Results are displayed as either: all measurements in range; complete eye exam recommended. Spot cameras screens for these common vision issues: Amblyopia (lazy eye), Strabismus (eye misalignment), Myopia (near-sightedness), Hyperopia (far-sightedness), Astigmatism (blurred vision), Anisometropia (unequal refractive power), Anisocoria (unequal pupil size).

The Canterbury Lions Club meetings are held at the Riverview Restaurant (Rte. 14 Moosup) at 7:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month. Membership is by invitation, and new members are always welcome! For more information contact Membership Chair Lion Sarah Wallace at canterbury lions club@gmail.com or sarah_wallace@banksi.com

Canterbury Recreational
Woman’s Volleyball 
League

The 9th season of the Canterbury Recreational Women’s Volleyball League has come to a close. Female participants hit the sand courts at Manship Park, every Monday evening at 6:00 and 7:00pm. Teams faced off against their opponents weekly, competing in a 3 game head to head competition. The qualifying top four teams, then earned the opportunity to advance on to the Playoffs.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the league for the 2017 season. Your commitment to keeping the volley going, is the reason our league will hit the decade milestone of existence, when we kick things off in 2018.

Team openings exist for the 2018 Season. If you are interested in entering your team for the upcoming season, I encourage you to contact me at the number listed below. Please note that team slots will be filled on a first come basis. Individual players are also welcome.

Wendy Dayger, Director
Canterbury Recreational Women’s Volleyball League – (860) 546-9132
The Prudence Crandall Museum

The Prudence Crandall Museum is gearing up for another busy fall season! Though the regular season is drawing to a close (Note: as of Nov. 1st the Museum switches to a Monday through Friday by-appointment-only schedule) we’ve got a few more seasonal programs coming up.

Tuesday, October 31st, Museum staff and volunteers will be participating in the town’s “Trunk or Treat” Halloween event at the Town Hall, 6 to 8pm. In addition to candy we’ll also be handing out Free Admission Tickets to all the youngsters. Tickets can be used for 1 free Youth Museum admission, valid for the 2017/2018 seasons. See you all at “Trunk or Treat”!

Please join us on Saturday, November 4th at Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum’s “Harvest Turkey Dinner” fundraiser. Join friends and family at a traditional turkey dinner. Time: 4 to 7pm at the Canterbury Community Center. Tickets: $12 / $6 ages 12 and under. For tickets, please call: 860-546-7800. All proceeds benefit the Museum.

Holiday shopping anyone? Look for the Museum’s table at the Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School’s “3rd Annual Winter Festival” Arts & Crafts Show on Saturday December 9, 9am to 2pm. Shop for cozy neck-warmers and infinity scarfs, festive ribbon necklaces, traditional rag dolls and an assortment of other great gift items. Ages 17 and under receive a FREE Prudence Crandall Museum Youth Admission Ticket, valid for the 2017/2018 seasons.

And remember that from November through the end of April the Museum will be on a tour-by-appointment schedule. Please call to set up a time!

For more info: 860-546-7800 or go to www.cultureandtourism.org.

Follow us on Facebook.

Canterbury Historical Society

Greetings from the Canterbury Historical Society. We hope you had a chance to stop by our Old Home Day fall celebration on Canterbury green on October 14, and we invite you to join us for our remaining 2017 programs and events. Admission is free and open to the public.

On November 10, Bev York will present a program on “Early American Death and Burial Customs.” Learn with us about the burial practices of 18th and 19th century New England, through funeral customs and illustrations that dig into the causes of death, preparation of the parlor, wakes, mourning gifts, burial, and burying grounds. Discover the concerns with grave robbing, body snatching, and being buried alive or taphophobia. Explore the artistry and symbolism of early New England gravestones—colonial America’s first form of sculpture.

Bev York is well known in our area for presenting programs on local, Connecticut, and American history. Her lecture style includes interactive and visual approaches using artifacts and primary source materials to enhance the educational and entertaining experience.

Details: November 10, 2017, in the Community Room of the Canterbury Town Hall. There will be a brief business session at 7:00 PM, not our customary 7:00 o’clock for our other regular monthly meetings.

On November 8, won’t you come to our “Annual Holiday Potluck Supper”? Historical society members, friends, and the public are all cordially invited. The price of admission is just a potluck contribution of any type of food to share. We happily eat whatever shows up rather than planning a balanced meal. After all, it’s only once a year, and the season is stressful enough already. Somehow it just always seems to work out.

December is our only regular monthly meeting when we don’t have a history-themed program. Instead, after a short business session, we just visit together and eat our shared meal. Hope to see you there.

Details: December 8, 2017, in the Community Room of the Canterbury Town Hall. Please note the start time will be 6:00 PM, not our customary 7:00 o’clock for our other regular monthly meetings.

Not on our mailing list? We’re happy to send email announcements of meetings and events to nonmembers. If you’d like to be added to our list, please send a note, including your full name and the email address where you want to receive notices, to info@canterburyhistorical.org. Or better yet, become a member—the membership form is at http://canterburyhistorical.org/MembershipForm%20rev_June_10_2012.pdf.

Stay up to date on what we’re up to. Our website is http://canterburyhistorical.org, just Google Canterbury Historical Society and we’re at the top of the search results.

Canterbury Seniors

Canterbury Seniors will meet at 11:00AM at the Town Hall Community Center on November 9 for routine business and to celebrate their Thanksgiving potluck luncheon. The year ends with a meeting on December 14 at 11:00AM, followed by our ever-popular potluck lunch. A new membership year begins January 2018. Our meetings are held the second Thursday of every month except for August. Annual dues remain $8.00 per person. Anyone age 50 and above is encouraged to join the group. New members are always welcome throughout the year. Meet new friends, get details about upcoming trips, participate in miscellaneous social, entertainment and craft activities. For more information and referrals, call Debbie Kinne at 860-546-6136. Visit the Town website to download and print a membership form on the Canterbury Seniors' page.
http://www.canterburyct.org/community.php?id=22

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

It has been a busy fiscal year. My office inquires for 2016-2017 fiscal year were a total of 467. A copy of my report submitted to Department of Aging is available for review in my office or on the Canterburyct.org web page under Municipal Agent. Also available on the web pages are my monthly luncheon reports.

As the 2016-2017 fiscal year has ended our Senior Activity account had a surplus in which my office ordered and received more exercise equipment such as weights and stretching bands. Also a 6’ by 4’ Message board was purchased to replace the older and smaller board located in the community room. This newer and larger message board will have space specifically for seniors and should provide amble room for other postings without being over crowded.

With fall and winter weather coming a reminder to check on your elderly family, friends and neighbors. Falls are most common in these months. Please make sure your pathways are cleared and properly maintained

Energy Assistance: My office has started accepting applications on September 5, 2017. Please call my office to set up appointment:

Please note: Due to no state budget at the time of this submission the current awarded amounts have not been set for the 2017-2018 Energy Season

Medicare Saving Programs enrollments are always open; if you need assistance paying your Medicare Part B Premiums please contact my office to apply.

Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Credit Program

If you turned 65 in 2016, or you are totally disabled, you could be eligible for our Homeowner’s tax credit program if your income is within certain guidelines set by the State of Connecticut. The filing period is from February 1st through May 15th. Please call the Assessor’s Office for more information about this program.

Farmers Markets Coupons: Due to the state having no budget as of this newsletter’s submission the 2017 program has been suspended. We hope to have the program reinstated for next summer. If interested in receiving booklet please call my office and leave me your name and phone number to be added to the list for the 2018 program.

Canterbury Farmers Market

We had an outstanding Farm Market season, running from May to October, and are already planning ahead for next year.

Thank you to all the farmers and vendors, and all our volunteers. Special thanks to Market Master Jessica Vincent and Melissa Gil who both worked hard to make our market a success. Also I want to thank all the people who supported our market and our mission to buy fresh, buy local.

See you next Spring.

Municipal Agent

Flu Clinic- October 12, 2017, 10:30-12:30 in side conference room off community room. Open to public. Most insurances cover the cost. Look for information on web page and flyers.

Senior Activity Calendars: I have complied a senior activity and program calendar for each month which is available on message board in community hall and web page. Please feel free to take one. Any submissions for events for calendar should be submitted to my office no later than the Tuesday before Senior Meeting/Luncheons. This will allow me to have the current month and following month’s calendar completed for the Senior Meeting/Luncheons.

Medicaid Open Enrollment

Programs for Fall and Winter 2017

Art Classes for over 50 years of age
Mary Bingham Abbey
Beginning September 5, 2017 for 8 weeks
Fridays 9:30-10:30  Community Room
$20.00 per 8 week session

Tai Chi Class with Instructor Paula McNally
CURRENTLY SUSPENDED UNTIL A BUDGET IS PASSED
Fridays 9:30-10:30  Community Room
$20.00 per week session

Senior Exercise Class with Instructor Christine Bernier
Tuesday 9:30-10:30 and Thursdays 9:30-10:30 except the 2nd Thursday of the month
Community Room  $2.00 per session
All equipment provided

Please stop by my office if you would like to have your Blood Pressure Checked.

My office is always looking for new ideas for programs to serve our seniors. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any suggestions.

Ella M. Hebert
Municipal Agent
CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Dreams really can come true with your support.
Buy a Book - Make a Donation - Volunteer Your Time
Sponsored by the FRIENDS of the CPL

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS
(Sign-up required)

Bouncing Baby Tales with Melissa Lennon
Children, ages birth to 18 months old.
8-Week program, beginning Sept. 26 & 27. Space still available.
Next session begins Jan 9 & 10, 2018
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:30-10:00

Music & Movement with Melissa Lennon
Children, ages 18 months to 3 years old.
8-Week program, starting Sept. 28th
Thursdays, two sessions at 9:30 and 10:30 am Both sessions are currently full. Next session begins Jan. 11, 2018. Sign-up available.

Ladder to Literacy with Melissa Lennon
Children, ages 3½ to 5 years old.
Program runs Sept-May, Space still available.
Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 am

FAMILY PROGRAMS – All ages!

» Oct. 28th, Saturday, 12:00-1:00 Rock Painting (Ages 11+)

» Nov. 4th, Saturday, 12:00-1:00 Rock Painting (Ages 7-10)

» Nov. 16th Thursday, 6:30-7:30 Decoupage Night (11+)

Stories with Kathleen Wednesdays
Nov 1st, 8th, 15th, 1:30-2:15 (Ages 3-5) Stories, crafts, and activities that relate to nature.

ADULT AND TEEN PROGRAMS
(Sign-up required)

Talk About Books
3rd Tuesday of each month 7:05 pm
Call either Canterbury P.L. 860-546-9022 or Scotland P.L. 860-423-1492 to reserve a copy of the book

November 21st @ Scotland – Selected Poems by Donald Hall

December 19th @ Canterbury – Holiday party and discussion of A Child’s Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas

January 16th @ Scotland – The Glass Universe by Dava Sobel

ADULT ACTIVITY PROGRAMS
(Sign-up required)

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

» Nov. 15th – Cake Decorating

Medicare Information Session:
Tuesday, October 24, 10:00-12:00 pm. Sign-up encouraged.

Beginners’ Journaling:
Thursday, Nov 2, 6:00-8:00 pm

LIBRARY PASSES

» Connecticut State Parks Pass (No Child Left Inside Initiative): Covers parking at all four state beaches, as well as several inland parks. Free admission for 2 adults & 4 children at Dinosaur State Park, Fort Trumbull, and Gillette Castle.


» Mystic Aquarium: Discounted admission for up to 2 adults & 2 children.

» Mystic Seaport: Half-priced admission for up to 2 adults (15+) & 3 youths (4-14); Children under 4 free.

» Roger Williams Park Zoo: Reduced admission for up to 4 adults, seniors, and/or children.

» State Museums (Prudence Crandall, Sloane-Stanley, or Henry Whitfield Museums): Free Admission for 2 adults & 2 youths (6-17 years).

» Wadsworth Atheneum: Free admission for 2 adults & 2 children.

CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Hours: Monday-Wednesday 9am - 7pm;
Thursday 9am - 8pm; Saturday 9am - 2pm
Website: www.canterburylibrary.org
Phone: 860/546-9022 Fax: 860-546-1142

LIBRARY SERVICES

Databases – Nations of the World and ResearchIT CT
See our Website for easy access!

Zinio – FREE Downloadable Magazines
Full-color digital magazines for anytime, anywhere reading on desktops, mobile devices, and apps. Our library’s collection of popular digital magazines includes both new and backlist titles with no holds, no checkout periods, and no limits.

OneClickdigital – FREE Downloadable Audio and EBooks are now available @ the Canterbury Public Library on our website. Stop in for instructions and more info!
CANTERBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

We at Canterbury Public Schools are so excited to start another school year with such enthusiasm from the staff, students and families. Students continue to blossom and we continue to provide a quality education for all students.

From the Director of Pupil Services, Jodi Davis:
The use of Assistive Technology is essential to gaining access to the legal requirement of a Free and Appropriate Public Education for students with disabilities. In Canterbury, many students are making use of the tools that we are providing in order to participate in instruction and activities, with ease of access, alongside their non-disabled peers. A few of those tools are highlighted here.

TouchChat - TouchChat is a communication tool for individuals who have difficulty using their natural voice. It is created for people with Autism, Down Syndrome, ALS, apraxia, stroke or other conditions that affect a person’s ability to use natural speech.

Lexia - Students at both Canterbury Elementary School and Baldwin Middle School have begun using a District provided, online literacy tool that supports teachers in differentiated literacy instruction for students of all abilities. As Lexia is a web-based program, it can also be accessed at home.

From Canterbury Elementary School Principal, Sarah Cary:
Hello from Canterbury Elementary School! We have had a great start to the school year with happy students and staff. We kicked off the year with an ice cream social hosted by the PTO. We gathered in early September on a Friday and played under the stars until 8 P.M.

September is a time when we establish our routines for the year. We welcomed 4 new teachers: Ms. Aforismo (Grade 3), Mrs. Boots (Grade 1), Ms. Borden (Grade K), and Mrs. Harrington (Art) and a new school psychologist, Ms. Rae.

Our first assembly of the year was held September 9th and included the introduction of First Selectman Mr. Piper and the volunteers. Thank you for all that you do to keep us safe!

From Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School Principal, Ryan Earley:
The opening of the school year was a great success. The Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School welcomed 169 students through the doors on August 28th and recently added an additional 4 students to make our total 173. In addition to the new fifth grade students and transfers, the school community also welcomed Mrs. Kaitlyn Shafer (Grade 7/8 Science) and Ms. Mariah Rae (district school psychologist) as new faculty members.

The motto for the year is to “be positive at BMS”.

The school has both girls and boys soccer seasons underway with the schedule available on the school website. During the month of September, the students have been participating in a school wide fundraiser through the Great American Opportunities company by selling magazines. BMS held its first Fall Pep Rally that focused on recognizing student talent, athletic participation, student artwork, and it culminated with a students vs. teachers kickball game. The afternoon was a great success. Students have also coordinated collection drives for the hurricane victims in Florida and Texas as well as coordinating a future performance of the Little Mermaid to be performed at the Spring Pep Rally and spearheaded a campaign to support their friend who is a 6 year old cancer patient at Yale. Students are collecting coloring books, etc. and positive notes to help the children in the cancer ward. Upcoming events are the Fall Fest, which will have the annual mile run, a follow up students vs. teachers kickball game, and much more fall fun.

During the school’s opening assembly, students were asked to create their own positive thumbs up rendition and those will be posted throughout the building. Additionally, as the 6th grade is participating in a “disasters” unit in Reading, the students wanted to help others and thought that organizing a toiletries drive would be something they could do in our school. The students are planning, preparing, and collecting materials to be distributed to those in need in Texas, and, perhaps, Florida and the Islands. Both the girls and boys soccer teams held tryouts the second week of school and look forward to fruitful seasons.

Governor’s reading challenge over the summer. Small prizes were given and appreciated.

Our students engaged in a new assessment this fall called MAP Growth. It is test taken on the computer that helps us understand our students’ skills better so that we can plan the best instruction possible. They have worked hard on this test.

The 3rd grade traveled to Sturbridge Village last week and saw first hand the history of the village. The 1st grade kicked off their year with a “super hero” event in which all dressed up in capes and masks. They walked outside and chanted “We are super readers today!”

The children were taught what their reading super powers are and every morning they can be seen reading in their classrooms...some still wearing a cape!

Parents have been active in the school this year. They have volunteered to help with copying for teachers and shelving in the library. We have started a new project this fall in which “give and take” books are available to students in the hallway. Each book is marked with a blue sticker which indicates that it can be kept at home. Those carts rolled out to the hallways this week with big colorful numbers painted on them indicating the grade level. Thanks to those who have donated books to begin this project.

Our PK half day program still has openings should you have a child who is 3 or 4 years old, please contact Mrs. John in the main office at (860) 546-6744.

Today the Canterbury Fire Department is here to teach our youngest students about fire safety. We appreciate the assistance of First Selectman Mr. Piper and the volunteers. Thank you for all that you do to keep us safe!

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During the school’s opening assembly, students were asked to create their own positive thumbs up rendition and those will be posted throughout the building. Additionally, as the 6th grade is participating in a “disasters” unit in Reading, the students wanted to help others and thought that organizing a toiletries drive would be something they could do in our school. The students are planning, preparing, and collecting materials to be distributed to those in need in Texas, and, perhaps, Florida and the Islands. Both the girls and boys soccer teams held tryouts the second week of school and look forward to fruitful seasons.

Governor’s reading challenge over the summer. Small prizes were given and appreciated.

Our students engaged in a new assessment this fall called MAP Growth. It is test taken on the computer that helps us understand our students’ skills better so that we can plan the best instruction possible. They have worked hard on this test.

The 3rd grade traveled to Sturbridge Village last week and saw first hand the history of the village. The 1st grade kicked off their year with a “super hero” event in which all dressed up in capes and masks. They walked outside and chanted “We are super readers today!”

The children were taught what their reading super powers are and every morning they can be seen reading in their classrooms...some still wearing a cape!

Parents have been active in the school this year. They have volunteered to help with copying for teachers and shelving in the library. We have started a new project this fall in which “give and take” books are available to students in the hallway. Each book is marked with a blue sticker which indicates that it can be kept at home. Those carts rolled out to the hallways this week with big colorful numbers painted on them indicating the grade level. Thanks to those who have donated books to begin this project.

Our PK half day program still has openings should you have a child who is 3 or 4 years old, please contact Mrs. John in the main office at (860) 546-6744.

Today the Canterbury Fire Department is here to teach our youngest students about fire safety. We appreciate the assistance of First Selectman Mr. Piper and the volunteers. Thank you for all that you do to keep us safe!

From Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School Principal, Ryan Earley:
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Canterbury Senior Trips

The Canterbury Seniors have enjoyed many good trips so far this year, you might consider trying one in the future, (you don't have to be a Senior). We have a few trips still open for 2017. The Newport Playhouse is always enjoyed for its light-hearted comedy and extensive buffet. It's November 15. December 14 is the "Shoji Tabuchi" show at the Garde in New London, with a stop at Foxwoods for lunch and maybe Christmas shopping in their many outlet stores.

2018 begins with a get-away to Atlantic City. We have enjoyed it several times; it's an inexpensive trip with many bonuses - slot play, food, shows, local sights and shopping. This is a 3-day trip at the end of March. In March we also have a St. Patrick' Day show, music, comedy, and Irish dancers, of course there is Corned Beef and Cabbage, others might choose the Baked Cod. A wonderful 3-day trip is planned for the "Jesus" show at the Sight and Sound theatre in Lancaster. Included is a stop in Landis Valley Village and Longwood Gardens. The Edwards Twins can be enjoyed again (we've seen them before) in May, amazing impressionists! If you like Simon & Garfunkel, there's tribute in August with twin lobster Or Prime Rib. Hope to finalize trip to Ogunquit in September and another to see "Mame" at the North Shore Music Theatre. The big trip of the year, in October, will be America's Cowboy Country - seeing Jackson Hole, Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, Crazy Horse, Mt. Rushmore and much more!

Flyers for these trips can be seen on town bulletin boards and in the Library. Newsletters can be found each month on these boards for you to take. If you have any questions you can always call Joanne at (860)546-9830. You also google Canterbury Ct. Senior trips & scroll to Come Explore with us.

Thanks for reading this, perhaps I'll hear from you!

Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum

With another successful season winding down Friends of Prudence Crandall Museum the Fall Harvest Dinner on November 4 from 4-7 at the Canterbury Community Center. We are serving a homemade turkey dinner with all the fixings, and also holding a basket raffle with the following themes: Bird Lover, Movie Night, Gluten Free, Tea Lover, Holiday Gift Wrap, and Hot Cocoa. Tickets for the dinner are 12 dollars and are available at the museum; the tickets for the raffle are available at the event.

We will also have a table at the Holiday Craft Fair at the Doctor Helen Baldwin School on December 9 and hope to see you there as there are many lovely items and you can get some Christmas shopping done while having a good time.

The events sponsored by FOP raise funds to hold programs right here in our community to increase the public's appreciation of this truly valuable landmark right here in our town. We invite you to join us in our efforts, for information please call 860-546-7800 ext. 7. We wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday!

Finnish American Heritage Society

Since the last newsletter, the heritage society has had many activities and changes including our annual successful Tori/Open Market in May, followed by the community chicken barbeque, and in June a celebration of our 30th Anniversary of the establishment of the Finnish American Heritage Society with guest speakers and a potluck.

Last year the FAHS Board was able to develop several objectives to help drive membership and community exposure with a consultant provided by a grant. A key recommendation was helping to identify the Finnish Hall with a more specific sign. The new sign is a result of a matching $2500 grant from THE LAST GREEN VALLEY. In addition we received support from individual Board members and others to help fund this project.

In August The Traveling Sauna and Finland 100 met to celebrate the 25th FinnFunn Weekend Anniversary. So many great programs with so little time could be one description of this memorable and historic event held at the DoubleTree Hilton in Leominster, MA on August 18-20th. One could experience the Traveling Sauna called “Sisu”, listen to the international affairs of Finland, attend history lessons or cooking demonstrations and enjoy the regional and world famous musical programs at night.

A special thanks to the FinnFunn Committee especially C0-Chairs Mauri and Laila Auvinen and Program Chair Roy Helander for the outstanding and successful event. Also to Laura Henrikson and “Sauli” Ahola for there efforts in raffle, business contributions and silent auction support. Many others as well as attendees helped make this a FinnFunn and 100th Finland Anniversary tribute to remember for many years to come.

On Columbus Day weekend, we held our FACES art show at the Finnish Hall with an excellent exhibitor attendee list representing pottery, landscape and wildlife photography, hand woven items, paintings, wood keepsake boxes, jewelry and mosaic birdhouses. Two outstanding musical groups performed along with Canterbury’s own accordion player Mike Kotowski, a charter member of FAHS. The kitchen was busy as always with salmon chowder, chili, and variety of other foods available along with pulla, Finnish coffee bread. We thank Patti Folsom for chairing this successful day which drew visitors from many local areas with nearly one third who had not been to the Finnish Hall previously.

We look forward to a final local 100th Finland Anniversary celebration on November 5th at the Tamarack Lodge in Voluntown with speakers, music, and a buffet.

We wish everyone a safe and joyous coming (already) Holiday Season in November and December and a Happy New Year.
Acceptable Items for Recycling

All of the following can be donated in any condition as long as it’s clean and dry:

Bay State Textiles pays a rebate based on the weight of donations.

Support your local community!!!

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**Stuffed Animals**

In any condition, 95% of all textiles can be recycled or reused

*Reduce - Reuse - Recycle*

**Please Bag All Donations**

***Items NOT Accepted: Mattresses, Couch Cushions, Lawn Furniture Cushions, Foam Products (mattress pads, etc.), Carpet Remnants, and Rugs (larger than 2’ x 4’)**

baystatetextiles.com