SELECTMEN’S CORNER

Having been in office just eight short weeks, I am receiving a great deal of support and encouragement from many Canterbury residents. The cold winter weather, along with our period of “Polar Vortex” weather, has added numerous challenges to learning the new job. I am excited about taking on the challenges of being the Town’s First Selectman, but I am more excited about being in a position to be able to work with each and every one of Canterbury’s citizens. I have an “open door” policy and am here every day for each of you. I want to hear from each of you. I want to hear your issues and your concerns, but more importantly, I want to hear what we can all do together to keep Canterbury moving forward through an open and meaningful dialogue.

As I gain more experience with this new chapter in my life, I will share additional information with you in these quarterly newsletters, but for today, I would just like to say thank you to each of you for giving me the opportunity to serve our community in this capacity and the privilege to be able work with each of you.

Roy A. Piper

Department of Public Works

Mailbox Reminder

The Town of Canterbury does not repair or replace mailboxes and/or posts that fall from the force of snow as the plow truck is traveling down the road. Mailboxes and supporting posts must be of good quality to withstand New England winters and installed to withstand the rigors of snow removal, including the force of snow pushed from the street onto the roadside.

Mailboxes should not extend out over the traveled portion of the road or, if the road is curbed, should not extend out past the curbing. Mailboxes should not impede, in any way, vehicular traffic and/or sightlines.

Mailbox Damage: The Town repairs, or replaces, only mailboxes and/or posts that are actually struck by a plow. A paint mark and/or truck tire tracks supply sufficient evidence of a mailbox strike. The mailbox damage will be inspected by the Highway Foreman and, if approved, the mailbox will be repaired or replaced by the Town.

Canterbury Agricultural Commission

Before you know it the days will warm up enough to start tapping maple trees. You don’t need to drive to Vermont to experience the sweet scent of sap being boiled from about 40 gallons to create one tasty gallon of maple syrup. Stop in at Maple Leaf Farm, 521 South Canterbury Road, 860-546-1110; call ahead to check on hours the store and sugar house are open. Enjoy real maple syrup on your pancakes or indulge a little and sweeten your morning coffee.

It’s also time to start looking at seed catalogues and planning the garden. You can also visit Hart’s Greenhouse when they open again for the season to get that hint of spring. They’ll have seeds to get started and vegetable plants to transplant into the garden when the weather warms up enough.

Agriculture Day at the Capital is March 19th – the event is open to the public to meet agriculture producers who exhibit some of the things they grow and do from around our state. Many agriculture organizations also take part in the day.

Our committee meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm; please join us. We also welcome your ideas on how we can promote agriculture in Canterbury.

Dawn S. Pindell, Chairman

Canterbury Assessor’s Office

Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Credit Program

If you turned 65 in 2013, or you are totally disabled, you could be eligible for our Homeowner’s tax credit program if your income is within certain guidelines set by the State of Connecticut. The maximum income allowed for a married couple is $41,600 and for those who are single the maximum income is $34,100. Proof of income is required. The filing period is from February 1st through May 15th. Please call the Assessor’s Office for more information about this program.

Additional Veteran’s & Local Option Veterans Exemption

These programs are designed to provide property tax exemptions for veterans whose income falls within certain limits. To receive these exemptions, an application must be filed between February 1st and October 1st for the 2014 Grand List. Proof of income is required. Check with the Assessor’s Office for the income limits.

Please note that all of these programs require a biennial filing. If you last filed in 2012, another application needs to be completed in 2014 in order to continue receiving the benefit.

Board of Assessment Appeals Information:

If you wish to appeal your assessment you must fill out a petition to the Board of Assessment Appeals by February 20, 2014. Petitions are available in the Assessor’s Office as well as on the Assessor’s Office website at http://www.canterburyct.org. Call the Assessor’s Office (546-6035) if you have any questions about these exemptions or if you would like to make an appointment to file an application for these programs.

Jennifer Sullivan

Canterbury, Connecticut
Canterbury Recreation Commission

Bob Deluca of CLA Engineers has arranged contracts for each of the three project components of the Manship Park STEAP Grant project. Awards are as follows: the Playground Relocation/Volleyball Court - ProBuilt Construction; Baseball Field project - Diversity Construction Group; Soccer Field project - Diversity Construction Group. The total of the three bids falls within the STEAP grant award. An additional bid request to prepare an area for a future tennis or basketball court is now open. Bob Deluca has scheduled a pre-construction meeting with the contractors, and we expect that work will begin when the weather allows.

We encourage individuals interested in the Manship Park project or other recreational activities to attend our meetings and provide input. We meet on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Town library conference room.

The current Rec. program schedule is:

- Women’s volleyball Mon. 7:30-9:30pm
- Adult volleyball Wed. 7:30-9:30pm
- Young men’s basketball Fri. 7:30-9:30pm

Prentiss Balcom

Canterbury Athletic Association

The Canterbury Athletic Association would like to welcome it's new board members! We are always looking for volunteers to help out in any capacity and truly appreciate anyone's willingness to step up! Currently we are seeking a new Soccer President. If anyone is interested they can contact any board member for information. Please visit our website www.canterburyathleticassociation.com for all news and updated information!

Spring Soccer Registration is currently open. The deadline to register is 3/14/2014. Please consider volunteering to coach or maintain the fields! We are all looking forward to a great Spring Soccer Season!

Local Crafters Wanted

At the Friends kiosk in the Prudence Crandall Museum, they sell Friends logo aprons and baseball caps, tea cups and saucers with a variety of tasty teas, bookmarks and buttons, and hens-in-nests. The Museum also has a variety of hand-made items for sale, most crafted locally. There are candles, dolls, keepsake boxes, pot holders (wonderful as mouse pads), pottery mugs, and plates made especially for Friends of Prudence Crandall Museum, and amazingly beautiful scarves.

If you are a crafter and would like to donate some of your hand-made items to the Friends, the kiosk committee would be delighted to review them to see if your crafts fit with the Museum’s themes and goals.

Please respond to the Prudence Crandall Museum with a brief description of the items, a suggested retail price, number of items available now, and, of course, your name and contact information. We will get back to you one way or the other. And remember, Friends of Prudence members get a discount on shopping at the Museum gift shop and at the Friends kiosk.

If you prefer to shop rather than to craft, make sure your Friends membership is up-to-date to take advantage of the discount. Come visit the museum when the season opens in May to see what lovely new items we might have to offer.

Or, if you prefer, please give our Museum Curator, Kaz Kozlowski, a call at 860-546-7800 ext 8, to make an appointment to discuss your craft or to become a Friend of the Prudence Crandall Museum.
I hope you are all enjoying our cold winter this year. We ask that you stay safe by having those chimneys inspected, especially for those of you with wood stoves. The last thing you want is a chimney fire! And, if you have an outdoor wood boiler, you are not exempt from the danger. A town resident recently had his outdoor wood boiler catch fire and burn the wooden canopy over the unit and the fire nearly spread to his home. There has been too many instances where a home was badly damaged or destroyed by fire caused by a wood stove in Canterbury – please be careful!

We have also had several requests lately to “make legal” basements, attics and other spaces that were finished without permits. These become problems for the owner at the time of sale. The buyer’s bank does an appraisal, which reviews all permits for the property. If any improvements were completed without permits, it creates a last minute headache that the seller has to then resolve before the closing. Though we always work to get these issues resolved in a timely manner, you must understand the following:

The building official needs to review the plans and then the project in various steps as it is completed. Once the project is done, foundations are backfilled and sheetrock installed, it is impossible for him to do the needed inspections. In many cases, his approval (if given at all) is conditioned on the absence of these inspections, which can cause major problems at the time of sale. The only way to correct this, is to remove the finished walls so the inspections can be made. Obviously, this is both time consuming and expensive.

Secondly, if zoning or health department permits were not issued and are needed, these can cause more problems. You may be forced to go to ZBA to try and waive a requirement that you did not meet or even to remove the structure. The Health Department may also require expensive septic work to be done at the last moment.

In addition to these problems, if a fire were to start or other calamity occur, and your insurance company found out you did home improvements without permits, it may cause a problem with your claim. It is just not worth it – get your permits before you start the project to protect yourself!

**Invasive Plants Series**

This edition looks at the “Tree of Heaven” or, Ailanthus altissima. This tree is very prevalent in and around Hartford and is spreading this way. This is another transplant from Asia, brought over for its beauty. In China, it is used as the host plant for the silk moth and has many reported medicinal properties. But, it has another property, it stinks – literally. When you break off a branch or even walk by it, it produces a burnt peanut butter smell that is rather offensive. The Chinese name, chouchun (臭椿), literally translated means “stinky tree”! It is also a very opportunistic species, able to grow very aggressively in any disturbed soils. Within a few years, it can outcompete all the other plants in the area.

It physically appears similar to a Sumac or Walnut, but the leaflets are smooth. It grows very rapidly (6-8 feet in a season, easy!) and has a smooth bark that get an interesting upside down u shaped scar when a branch is broken off. The Females bear a large bushes of seeds, which can travel miles in the wind. Again, if you are trying to identify the tree, the easiest way is to break off a branch and smell. If it is the tree of heaven, aka Stinky Tree, you will know it immediately!

The tree spreads by both its easily blown seeds, up to 325,000 of them per tree, per year, and by its roots. The tree also produces an allelopathic chemical which inhibits the growth of other plants, helping it to thrive. If you just cut one of these trees down, the roots send up a whole bunch of suckers to replace it! Elimination methods include using a herbicide sprayed on the leaves, or for larger trees, spraying full strength herbicide into slits cut with a hatchet in the trunk in several places. For a good video on the tree, and how to control it, go to the Town’s You-Tube page, www.youtube.com/canterbury06331 . My advice is, if you see this on your property, don’t let it mature! Get rid of it early to avoid it from overrunning your property.

Below, Tree of Heaven with seed head. Wikipedia

Steve Sadlowski

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**Canterbury Senior Trips**

Thanks to all our travelers in 2013. We had some wonderful traveling experiences! I’m looking forward to this year’s selection and your response to them! You know all are welcome and if you’d like further information you can call me, look on our town library bulletin board, or google Canterbury Senior Travel and scroll down to my newsletter where you can find brochures.

We have day trips to shows - Ronan Tynan, Newport Playhouse, Elvis, and The Texas Tenors. There are also two and three day trips – Atlantic City, “Moses” in Lancaster, Ogunquit, and the Philadelphia Flower Show with the Pompeii Exhibit. Multiple day trips include the California Coast, Rocking Horse Resort, and Louisville’s Festival of Riverboats with a tour of that area.

So take a few moments to look more closely at the offerings, perhaps you’ll see something that excites YOU! You can contact me (Joanne) at (860) 546-9830.

Hope to hear from you!
CERT TEAM CHANGES
REGULAR MEETING TIME

As of its February meeting, the Canterbury CERT Team has changed its meeting time to the first Thursday of the month.

The February meeting, therefore, will occur on Thursday, February 6, at 7 PM at Helen Baldwin School (across from the cafeteria). As always we welcome all who are interested in emergency response efforts and in serving Canterbury should the need arise. As stated in our Mission Statement, it is

The purpose of the Canterbury CERT is to assist the Town of Canterbury by providing assistance, as needed, for emergency disaster response to Canterbury and surrounding communities, and to educate and promote disaster/emergency awareness and preparedness to all citizens.

We work to:
- Promote and educate residents on individual/family preparedness
- Operate a public shelter for town residents should the need arise
- Assist and support town emergency personnel during town emergencies and as otherwise needed
- Assist other regional CERT organizations as necessary
- Continue education and training of our members through both formal and informal course work and exercises

Should you have questions or want further information, feel free to call or email -

Carol Kent
Clerk2knt@aol.com
860-546-6924

The Prudence Crandall Museum Celebrates 30 Years!
1984 – 2014

The Prudence Crandall Museum Opens for the season on Thursday, May 1, 2014

The Museum is looking forward to an exciting and program filled year, as 2014 commemorates the 30th Anniversary of the Museum opening to the public!

As part of the celebration on Sunday, May 18, (2pm) the Museum will unveil a new exhibit: “The Prudence Crandall Museum Celebrates 30 Years! 1984 to 2014.” The exhibit gives an overview of not only how the Crandall house became a State Museum, but also highlights significant events such as the museum being designated a National Historic Landmark. Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum, Inc will host a reception following the ribbon cutting and the public is invited.

This season the Museum also unveils a new hands-on exhibit focusing on Julia Williams, one of the African-American students who attended the Academy. The exhibit includes a period costume made by Lisa Joseph, a reproduction trunk fabricated by students from Ella Grasso Technical School in Groton, and reproduction items representative of what a 19th century student might have brought with them to Crandall’s boarding school. (These items have been purchased with funds raised by the Friends of the Museum.) Stop in this season to discover more about the academy’s students!

Also on display is the award winning exhibit: “Friends and Neighbors – Canterbury’s 18th and 19th Century African-American Residents.”

Regular Museum hours are: Wednesday through Sunday, 10am to 4pm, last ticket sold at 3:30pm. Admission: $6 adults / $4 sr citizens and youth / ages 5 and under free. Reminder – Members of the Friends of the Museum get free admission and a discount in the museum shop. For membership in Friends go to friendsofprudencecrandallmuseum.org.

To find out more about Museum programs and events call: 860-546-7800 or go to www.cultureandtourism.org. Follow the Museum and Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum on Facebook!

St. Augustine’s Church

St. Augustine Church on Route 14 in Canterbury will be having Lenten Fish Frys on all Fridays during Lent (March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 and 11) from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM. Eat-in and take-out available. Menu will include fish & chips, clam chowder, clam fritters, baked fish dinner, Fisherman's platter - and grilled cheese sandwiches for those who don't like fish. Take-out orders can be placed by calling 860-546-6225 on the day/afternoon of the Fish Fry.

Editor’s Note

The next issue will be published in May 2014. Anyone wishing to submit articles for consideration may do so by email to canterburynewsletter@yahoo.com or by dropping them off at the Selectmen’s Office before April 15th. The editor reserves the right in all instances to edit for length and content. Submissions are welcome from all Canterbury organizations and institutions as well any suggestions to better the publication.
Canterbury Historical Society

In the history of the Canterbury Historical Society, it seems like 2013 was another pretty good year. We presented several interesting programs at our monthly meetings on topics as varied as the Civil War in Connecticut; the Golden Age of Radio; an introduction to genealogy; and a talk about waffle and wafer irons. We hosted a huge indoor tag sale in the spring, and our annual Old Home Day in September. In addition, in 2013, we hosted a Walktober stroll around Canterbury’s Historic District, and a big Bluegrass show in November featuring the Spinney Brothers. Hope you were able to join us for at least one of our programs in 2013, but if not, make plans to check out one of our events or meetings in 2014, won’t you?

At the January CHS meeting, elections were held for 2014 officers. The results: Linda Orlomoski, President; Bob Noiseux, Vice President; Bill Kivic, Treasurer; Lynne Pitman, Recording Secretary; Elizabeth Bartoshevich, Corresponding Secretary; Trustee, Gene Brustolon.

Newly appointed Program Chair Ellen Wilson is working on putting together a slate of programs for our monthly CHS meetings in 2014. At this point, only one program has been settled for certain -- on Friday, April 11th, our program presenter will be someone who is considered to be the foremost expert on New England’s historic lighthouses, Jeremy D’Entremont, and his topic will be “New England Lighthouses And the People Who Kept Them.” The Canterbury Historical Society meets on the second Friday of each month (excepting the months of July and August, when we do not meet). Our meeting location is the Town Hall Community Room – the meeting starts at 7PM, followed by the program around 7:30PM. Other meeting topics for the majority of the year have not yet been set, but do be sure to look for information on them posted in the Town Hall, at the library, and in other locations throughout town. We also try to make sure information about our events and happenings can be found in the Norwich Bulletin and Reminder newspapers. Of course, another great source of information about our organization and our upcoming meetings is our website. Another source for information about CHS is Facebook – visit us there often, even if you don’t have a Facebook account. If you do, though, we’d be happy if you’d “like” our page: www.facebook.com/CanterburyHistoricalSociety.CT.

On Saturday, April 12th, CHS is sponsoring an Indoor Tag Sale at the Town Hall Community Room. The event will run from 8:30AM to 2:30PM. If you have items you’d like to sell, consider renting a table or two for $10 each. If you’d prefer to donate your items to Canterbury Historical Society for us to sell and replenish our coffers, you’re welcome to do that, too. For more information on table rental, or if you have items you’d like to donate to CHS, call Eleanor at (860)546-9062.

Plans are still being settled for a couple more events we have planned for 2014. In November, we may be hosting Bluegrass/classic country brother duet, the Spinney Brothers, but the date has not been set. Final details on this potential show, as well as our other CHS events will be posted on our website and Facebook as soon as they are available.

We look forward to seeing you at a CHS meeting or event in 2014. Our meetings are free and open to the public; membership information can be found at www.canterburyhistorical.org.

Happy New Year!

Canterbury Elementary School PTO

Hello, fellow Canterburians ~ Do you know what the PTO is? Do you know what we do? The officers and members of the PTO (Parent-Teachers-Organization) work to improve and maintain a supportive relationship between parents, school and students. We provide a variety of social opportunities for the students and families and are able to supply those “little extras” for CES. In fact, over $15,000 of our net earnings yearly is put back into our school through the sponsoring of field trips and assemblies. We pay for new library books, support the Governor’s reading program, purchase necessary equipment for the teachers and staff as requested. We provide bounce houses, Ice Cream and other field day items each year, and much more. We further plan family fun evenings, Bingo & Movie Night and our Ice Cream Sundae Bar! We provide YEARLY book give-a-ways and always have fun with our corn maze adventures and TRUNK-OR-TREAT night and bus trips to New York!!

Our upcoming events for the remainder of the year include a Family Movie Night, our infamous Basket Bash is on Saturday, March 8th from 9:00 to 3:00, we are having our Yankee Candle Fundraiser, a HUGE spring Flower sale just in time for Mother’s Day and garden planting and of course our most-loved Student Field Day. Come support any or all of these events!

The CES PTO is very excited about what lies ahead and hope that you as parents and guardians of our children will join us on this journey. For any further information you may contact any of our officers or visit us on Facebook!

President: MaryEllen Green
kmgreen1@charter.net

Co-Vice President: Christine Bright
twobeautifulboy@yahoo.com

Co-Vice President: Laurie Marquis
l_marquis@live.com

Treasurer: Lisa LaPointe
lisaschocolates@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Donna Green
djkgreen@charter.net

General Email: CESPTO@charter.net

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CanterburyElementaryPTO
CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

3rd Annual Take Your Child to the Library Day
Saturday, February 1st, 9:00 -- 2:00
Stop in and help decorate Snoopy’s Play House.

Watch for our Summer School/Library Reading Program: The Year of the Turtle coming in June.

http://www.librarywishlist.com/wl/Wish_list_home.cfm?x=89769521

Dreams really can come true with your support.
Make a Donation * Volunteer
Sponsored by the FRIENDS of the CPL

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS
(Sign-up is required)

Nature Programs will continue on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10:30 am-11:30am. For ages 4 and up.
February 15th —Woo Goes There? Owls
March 15th —Sounds of Spring. Frogs
April 19th —What plants do caterpillars like to eat?
May 17th —Who carries their home? Turtles
June 21st —How do they travel and where do they go? Seeds

Each program includes reading from a book, reading a poem, talking about the featured topic and a craft and take home activity.

Bouncing Baby Tales with Melissa Lennon
Children, ages birth to 18 months old.
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:30am—10:00am

Music & Movement
Children, ages 18 months to 3 years old.
8-week program. Thursday at 9:15 with Melissa Lennon and Saturdays at 10:15 with Michele Brown.

Ladder to Literacy with Melissa Lennon
Children, ages 3 1/2 to 5 years old.
Program runs September—May. Tuesdays & Wednesdays starting September 10th and 11th, 10:15-11:15

ADULT AND TEEN PROGRAMS
(Sign-up is required)

Teen Valentine Workshop
Thursday, Feb 13th 6:00-7:30 pm

Teen Tech Week
Thursday, March 13th 6:00-7:30 pm

Duct Tape Wallets
Thursday, April 17th 6:00-7:30 pm

Shredding Truck coming in Spring 2014—Town Hall Parking Lot

Card Stamping with Arlene Sweet
Thursdays 6:00pm-8:00pm
April 3rd and April 10th

FAMILY PROGRAMS
First Friday Family Movie
Library is open 5:00-8:00. The movie starts promptly at 6:00.
February 7th — Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2
March 7th —Free Birds
April 4th —Frozen
May 2nd —TBA

DEEP Family Fishing Class. Thursday, April 24th, 6:00 pm (ages 8+). Sign up is required.

DEEP Family Fishing April 26th, 10:00 am—12:00 At the Canterbury Town Hall pond. This is the follow-up activity using the knowledge gained at the previous class. Required: must attend the previous class to sign up.

LET'S TALK ABOUT BOOKS
3rd Tuesday of each month 7:05 pm

February 18th —Canterbury—The Joys of Love by Madeleine L’Engle
March 18th —Scotland—TBA
April 15th —Canterbury—TBA
May 20th —Scotland—TBA
June 17th —Canterbury—TBA
July 15th —Scotland—TBA
August 16th —Canterbury—TBA
Sept. 16th —Scotland—TBA
October 21st —Canterbury—TBA
Nov. 18th —Scotland—TBA
Dec. 16th —Canterbury—Book Selection Party

LIBRARY DATABASES
See our Website for easy access

Universal Class
Take a FREE online course from the comfort of your home. Live instructors moderate each course, grade assignments and interact with students.

FREE Downloadable Audio Books are available @ your library on our website. Downloadable eBooks coming Soon!
A CANTERBURY STORY by Sheila Mason Gale

Hannah B. Baldwin Part II

Hannah Baldwin continues writing her October 5, 1888 letter to her friend Nettie. So far, Hannah and her mother, traveling by carriage (pulled by the horse Fan), have left Canterbury and traveled over Westminster Hill and headed toward Hampton on their long journey to Massachusetts.

October 5, 1888

Dear Nettie,

...We had intended to spend the night at Hampton, but as it was not yet late in the afternoon we concluded to push on to Chaplin six miles beyond over the hills. At the foot of nearly every hill in the valley there was a little brook with a rough little bridge. It grew very cold toward evening and we were glad when we reached the quiet country place, thought I rather dreaded finding a place to stay at night. We had thought about the finding of lodgings before we left home, however, and had asked certain of our friends to advise us on the matter. One advised us to go to the Congregational minister in each place and he would be able to tell us, and also would be a reliable person. Another suggested asking the village doctor for the same reasons. So, we asked the name of the Chaplin minister and where he lived and I thought to myself, “Mother will be the best one to go to the door and inquire—she is much better and more substantial looking than I. And people will be better pleased to give her the information”. But, just as we were driving up to the gate, she said rather decidedly, “Hannah, you may get out and attend to the business”.

So, out I got and went to the door and rang and rang. At last a bright little girl came into the yard and went into the house and summoned her grandmother and I inquired, with all the blandness I could summon, for Mr. Williams. He had gone away, but the old lady was quite ready to give me all the needed information. Indeed, she seemed to heartily enjoy the novelty of the thing and was very kind and sent me to the next house. They were willing to take us there, but the man was a paralytic and did not feel able to take care of our horse, Fan. Mrs. Williams, the minister’s wife, was equal to the emergency and said she thought Reverend, Mr. Griggs, would help about it so they sent for him and before the whole thing was done they had three ministers helping care for Fan, besides the old gentleman at the house we stayed.

After we had talked with our hostess awhile, we found my brother, Henry, had been entertained there about ten days before when he went to Chaplin to lecture. And also, that our hostess nephew, the editor of the Connecticut Home, had spent the night at our house within less than a fortnight, when he lectured on Prohibition at our schoolhouse. So, we felt quite acquainted, especially as Grandpa Baldwin had been called in consultation to see our host’s father in his last illness—consumption—he didn’t cure him, however. hen we found that Reverend Mr. Williams son-in-law was the son of a minister we know and some of our Lisbon people were living in Chaplin and we called on them in the evening. So, we felt quite at home in that town. And when I called at the Williams house the next morning to thank them for their kindness and beg them to direct us about the Tolland Road, I had a most delightful time. Reverend Mr. Phipps, the son-in-law, showed me his water color drawings and Reverend Mr. Williams drew a fine picture of the different roads to Tolland and altogether we left Chaplin feeling it was a delightfully hospitable place.

The pastor, Mr. Williams, has been there over thirty years. They say when he fell in love with his wife she was uneducated. He sent her through a seminary, at his own expense, and then they were married. She is such a charming, sensible helpful woman, no wonder he thought she was worth all that trouble. She must have been a strong help-mate to him in every way all his life.

From Chaplin we went to Tolland, sixteen miles over the hills. Mr. Williams told us we would feel it was twenty five miles before we got there. And I did. Such hills! A mile high and covered with forests of underbrush. One of the Wellsley gentlemen asked me where I lived and when I told him Canterbury in Eastern Connecticut, he laughed and twisted his mouth around and said “Oh, yes, down among the woods and bushes. I’ve been there gunning.” I felt a little provoked, but did not tell him what I thought. When I rode over the hills between Chaplin and Tolland, however, I forgave him the remark. There were such dreadful hills and such forests and underbrush, such little dwelling houses and so far apart, such a poor looking country. I inquired the way nine times after leaving Chaplin and this with the map of the roads given us by Mr. Williams that kept us from going astray. We passed through no villages of any special interest unless you could call the Gurleyville Agricultural School (in Mansfield, CT) a village by itself. We had a most magnificent view from the hill beyond there. It was dreadfully cold that day and we were chilled. We stopped halfway up the hill beyond Mount Hope Village and ate our lunch in the woods. Fan was very good and let me take off her bridle and put it on again with no trouble. She ate almost every oat we gave her and then brushed the newspaper away with her nose to see if any had spilled over the ground, but she had been so very careful that she did not find any.

We were tired and cold and hungry when we reached Tolland village. We called at the Congregational pastor and his wife advised us to go to a hotel “The County House.” There was the County Jail attached—really, Nettie, we did not stay in that part! But our rooms in the hotel were large and pleasant, the board good and the service excellent. Our horse looked much better when we started out that morning than she did when she was cared for by the three ministers.

Tolland being the county seat has a bank and court house and the county house and jail and is the finest town we had yet seen on our journey, with a wide street with green grass between the carriage drives, neatly kept lawns and no fences before the houses. They have summer boarders there and all such towns show it in the fresh paint and general neatness. We left Tolland Thursday morning in fine spirits for Longmeadow. We were determined to visit the Shaker settlement on the way.

To be continued.
FINNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

FAHS members Don Buffington, Burton Jernstrom, and Stan Karro interviewed several consultants for the Finnish American Historic Site Survey Grant provided by the state of Connecticut Preservation Commission. They have selected Rachel Carley, an architectural historian from Litchfield to conduct this 6 month study of Connecticut sites with Finnish American immigrant importance. We welcome any individuals with important CT historic site stories and information. Contact Stan Karro at FAHS or his email swkbrklyn@aol.com

The FAHS completed a busy three week schedule of events in mid October. Our initial event was our Annual Tori/Open Market on Saturday September 28th chaired by Rita Kelley and Matti Huhta. Thanks to a great kitchen support group of the Gault family, Pauline Andstrom, June Leiss, Marcia Huhta, Linnea Courtemanche, and Ethel Records.Rita’s sister Helen Kaurala arranged for the raffle along with Irene Profetto.

The following Saturday FAHS hosted the Quiet Corner Fiddlers for the 3rd year along with serving pulled pork and pork ribs for the evening meal. We thank the grill team of Rob Miller, Tim and Paul King, Tom Cahill, and Jason Vincent. During the grilling, Tim, Paul, and Tom cleaned the FAHS grounds and driveway of leaves which we all appreciate.

The Quiet Corner Fiddlers led by Saul Ahola provided another great evening of music. They were joined by Hannu Makipuro for the singing of Emma and several other songs.

Our third weekend of activities was held on Columbus Day weekend with FACES (Fine Arts and Crafts Exhibit and Sale). Beverly Johnson chaired this event in its third year and it proved to be the best yet. FACES attracted 28 unique exhibitors and demonstrations. This event was one of the most actively publicized FAHS events in the region in many years and it paid dividends with an attendance that deserved the quality of its artisans. This event paid tribute to earlier members who inspired the original show many years ago. They were Jane-Marie Abernathy, daughter Karla Tate, and John Bennett, Jr. Karla and John encouraged the renewal of the current art show in its third year. FAHS members and friends were deeply saddened several days before the show to learn of the passing of Karla Tate after nearing a year of a courageous fight with cancer.

Olivia Jordan of Sterling, an 8th grade student and Granddaughter of Robert and Maura Robertson, is performing in the Boston Ballet production of Mikko Nissinen’s “The Nutcracker”. Olivia has been dancing since she was 4 years old and wants to become a professional ballerina at the Boston Ballet. Robert and Maura have been long supporters of the Finnish Hall.

We celebrated Pikkujoulu, membership meeting and potluck on Saturday December 7th. Thanks to Katrina Bousquet for decorations (with help from Jean Karro and Tomas Gutierrez) and organizing an ever expanding raffle table. Proceeds from the raffle were donated to My Brother's Keeper Food Pantry @ the Hope Lutheran Church in Storrs CT and to the Windham County 4H Foundation for their renovation project. Thanks also to Matti and Marcia Huhta and Sean Tate on the keyboard and who led us in caroling. Ingalls Tree Farm donated the Christmas tree. And last but not least thanks to the pulla bakers led by Mary Ellen and Bob Harmon.

FAHS held their annual membership meeting in early January with several new trustees elected including Saul Ahola and Annalisa (Engblom) Brassard. Rita Kelley was elected as new Corresponding Secretary. We thank everyone who has served on the Board previously for their support and those continuing in their current roles.

In mid January FAHS hosted a potluck and afternoon film called “The Cuckoo” of a Lapland women and two soldiers...one Finnish and one Russian who are trying to survive as the war comes to an end in the Fall of 1944. Due to language barriers, no one understands each other which made for an interesting encounter and story.

Coming events at the Finnish Hall include our Laskianen Paiva (sledding day) on Saturday February 15th from 10:00 Am until 2:00 PM with an antique sled display and sleigh along with an annual favorite variety of pea soups and always popular pulla/coffe bread for sale. On Friday the 21st FAHS will host a Finnish dinner for a new member’s roundtable discussion on future events; please contact Stan Karro at swkbrklyn@aol.com or 860 480-3648 if you have an interest in joining this event at the Hall. On Sunday April 6th we will host our annual Pancake Breakfast for the community starting at 8:00 AM. Please mark your calendars. The annual Chicken Barbeque is scheduled for Saturday May 17th.

For the past two years, the EDC has been actively trying out venues, seasons, and approaches to promote the Canterbury business community.

The Fall Festival offered a marketplace and promotional event in October, which appeared to either conflict with other, established community events, or perhaps followed too soon after the treasured and popular Canterbury Old Home Days.

Our first Paddle, Pedal and Picnic on June 30 was quite well received, giving our community a chance to meet the Commission members, each other, and at the same time enjoy the beauty of our town on the road or on the water. The Lions Club provided the “picnic,” which was fine by us! I recommend the French fries! Yum! This year’s event will most likely be set up a little differently, as the recreation field is expected to be under construction at that time. That will give us a chance to find a good place to offer our local businesses an opportunity to set up booths for advertising and sales – an expansion we would like to incorporate into the event.

The Annual Holiday Business Social in December was an even bigger hit this year than last year, offering a casual environment in which to meet other local business owners, hear what news the EDC has to offer our community, and offer suggestions to the Commission on how local business would prefer to be supported.

For now, the EDC will focus on the Paddle, Pedal and Picnic the last weekend of June, and the Annual Holiday Business Social in December.

As always, public participation is welcome and invited at our EDC meetings. Our mission is to grow the economic base through business expansion, both new and existing. Let us know how you would like to see Canterbury business grow!

Respectfully,

Jet Tucker, Chair