It's that time again! 2015 is right around the corner and with it, Revaluation. I would like to welcome Tyler Technologies and their staff to the Town of Canterbury. Our two data collectors are Stephanie Sumner & David Boast:

Stephanie Sumner  
Silver Monte Carlo SS  
CT LIC 554-WZT  

Data collection began in March and has gotten off to a great start. Under the regional revaluation program that Canterbury joined with NECCOG, only 50% of our properties will be inspected. This time around we have chosen to do almost the entire southern half, starting from Route 14 and down. Letters will be sent to those areas where properties will be inspected. I urge anyone with questions or concerns to please stop in and talk with me or give the Office a call.

Additional Veteran’s & Local Option Veterans Exemption

These programs are designed to provide property tax exemptions for veterans whose income is 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 Office for the income limits.

The Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Credit Program deadline is May 15th.

If you turned 65 in 2013, or you are totally disabled, you could be eligible for our Homeowner’s tax credit program. The maximum income allowed for a married couple is $41,600 and for a single person the maximum income is $34,100. Proof of income is required. The filing period is from February 1st through May 15th. Please call for more information.

Please note that all of these programs require a biennial filing.

If you last filed in 2011, another application needs to be completed in 2013 in order to continue receiving the benefit. If you are unsure of when you last filed, please call the Assessor’s Office to verify.

Attention Renters:

The Renter’s Program began April 1, 2014. If you are 65 (or older), and/or totally disabled, & rent in Canterbury, you could be eligible for the State of Connecticut’s Rental Rebate program if you meet the State’s income and expense guidelines. Application must be made no later than Wednesday October 1, 2014.

Call the Assessor’s Office (546-6035) if you have any questions about these exemptions or want to make an appointment to file an application for these programs. Please remember office hours are Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

As always, there are portions of the budget that we do not have very much control over, such as health-care related costs, increases in the cost of fuel and propane for heating, and cuts in State aid for various programs. But, efforts are ongoing to attempt to hold down all costs, as best as possible, to try to keep the budget as level as we possibly can.

We will keep everyone apprised of the many community and education events that are already planned, or are being planned, through the newsletter, website postings, and flyers posted in the Town Hall and Public Library.

A 4th of July Parade Committee was appointed in January and plans have already begun. Everyone loves a good parade and we are looking forward to our 4th of July Parade and the events that follow at the Town Hall.

And finally, the complete renovation and reconstruction of Manship Park are underway. The work includes (1) Reconstruction of the Baseball Field, (2) Relocation of the Playground, (3) Construction of new Volleyball Courts, (4) Regrading and leveling of the Soccer Field, and (5) Site Preparation for a new Tennis Court (to be built in the future). Unfortunately, this project will require for the entire Park to be closed for the year, to allow for completion of all work and for the re-establishment of the grasses on the fields. The Walking Track will also be redone during the construction and will remain closed also. This will all be worth the inconvenience when we can all enjoy our newly renovated facility this time next year. One note, the boat launch area will remain open during the reconstruction project, but we ask that everyone stay out of the park and construction area until the park is officially reopened next year. This is for everyone’s safety.

Roy A. Piper
**DOCUMENT SHREDDER**

On Saturday, May 3rd, The Savings Institute will be sponsoring a document shredder for residents of Canterbury. The large-capacity shredder will be at the Town Hall parking lot from 11 AM - 2 PM. Bring your old documents. This is a much safer method of getting rid of your un-needed/outdated personal documents than disposing of them in the trash.

Please – no books or newspapers.

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**Canterbury Senior Trips**

We’ve had some very successful trips thus far this year and have many more to come! Trips for 2015 are already in the works for people who like to plan ahead. There is our January cruise (it seems to be an annual event), Costa Rica and information about a Danube River Cruise. Trips you might consider for this year include:

* an overnight in Ogunquit, Maine— with a play and a cruise with a lobster buffet
* a multi-day trip to an all-inclusive resort in New York
* a tour of the Louisville, Kentucky area during the Riverboat Festival
* several day trips are offered

Our newsletter can be found on our town Library Bulletin Board along with brochures of the trips. Help yourself to a Newsletter! Copies can be had by asking for one to copied or by contacting me-Joanne (860)546-9830. There is also a web site: www.canterburyseniorset.wordpress.com/home/ I’d like to sincerely thank each person who has travelled with us for making the trips possible, it is so convenient to leave from Canterbury!

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**Editor’s Note**

The next issue will be published in August 2014. 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 August 15th. The editor reserves the right in all instances to edit for length and content. Submissions are welcome from all Canterbury organizations/institutions.

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**Canterbury Recreation Commission**

Manship Park is now closed and the construction phase of the STEAP project has begun. Hastedt Brothers has begun clearing a site for a future tennis or basketball court. Work will begin soon on playground relocation/volleyball court renovation, baseball field renovation, and soccer field improvements. We will make updates to the timeline below as deadlines are met. The construction started later than expected due to weather, but CLA Engineers expects that work will be completed early in June. Some areas of

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**Economic Development Commission**

Look around, it doesn’t take long to realize that we live in Canterbury. Nice Country. Our annual Paddle, Pedal, Picnic is fast approaching. It’s the perfect opportunity for all of us to get outdoors and enjoy our beautiful town. The event will begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 8th. You and your families can paddle down the Quinebaug River from Manship Park to Butts Bridge or you can embark on a 20-mile bike ride around our scenic back roads visiting farms and businesses along the way. Because there is construction at Manship Park, all parking for participants and the picnic afterward will take place at the Canterbury Town Hall. The bike ride will leave from the town hall, and all paddlers (and their canoes/kayaks) will be transported to the boat launch at Manship Park from the town hall. Let us know if you want to attend via email at members@canterburybiz.com. The first participants to register will be guaranteed a free graphic T-shirt! Be sure to join us!

The EDC was also reached out to by Kelly Lambert, a resident here in town. She had a great idea, asking us, “Why doesn’t Canterbury have a 5K race?” Well, I am happy to announce Canterbury will host its very own 5K race this fall. We anticipate the event will attract people from around Eastern Connecticut, which means more visitors and attention for our businesses. We’ll post updates online as we get closer to the date.

Recently, we’ve started a Business Spotlight marketing initiative. Our first featured business was Wright’s Mill Farm, a business that brings over 14,000 visitors to town annually for conferences, weddings and other special events. The idea behind the Business Spotlight articles is to raise the profile of Canterbury businesses through print and social media. If you would like to see your favorite business please reach out to us. We accept requests on a first come, first serve basis.

For more on what we’re working on, please visit our website (www.canterburybiz.com) and our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/canterburynicecountry). We’d love to hear your ideas via email, Facebook or in-person at our monthly meetings.

Shane Donahue, Vice Chair
Canterbury Town Clerk &
Tax Collector’s Office

Dog Licensing: Reminder notices for dog licenses will be sent in mid-May. Once you receive your notice, you may come in to purchase your dog’s license. Rabies vaccination expiration dates will be printed on the postcard. If the rabies vaccination expired since your last visit, please bring the updated rabies certificate with you when you renew the license.

**All dog license transactions sent through the mail MUST have a self-addressed stamped envelope enclosed.**

Hunting/Fishing Guides: The 2014 Hunting and Fishing Guides are available in our office. If you are over 65 years old, you are eligible to receive a free fishing license (and hunting, if you have previously qualified for a hunting license). Over 65 licenses must be renewed every year.

Budget/Tax Bills: The Annual Town Budget Meeting will be held on May 16. The budgets (General Government, Education and Capital Improvement) will be voted on at a referendum (date to be determined). If you will be out of town on the day of the referendum, absentee ballots will be available on May 19. We cannot mail applications for absentee ballots for referenda.

If the budgets pass, then the Board of Finance sets a mill rate, and tax bills can be processed (it takes about three weeks to have the bills printed and envelopes stuffed and sealed), with June 30 as the target mailing date. Taxes are billed with a 30-day grace period. Interest accrues at a rate of 1½% from the due date. Please read your bill carefully, as all the pertinent information regarding due dates is clearly written on every bill. If the budgets do not pass, then revisions will have to be made, another Budget Meeting will take place, and then another referendum. If the budget fails again, then the process is repeated. Your taxes this year are based on the October 1, 2013 Grand List.

Tax Liens: Liens will be placed on all unpaid 2012 Grand List Real Estate accounts on June 2.

Happy Spring!!
Natalie Cordes

Canterbury Historical Society

The Canterbury Historical Society cordially invites you to join us at an upcoming meeting or event. On Friday, May 9th, our regular business meeting will be followed by a presentation by blogger Stephen Wood, who will discuss his blog, Connecticut Music Quest, and his passion for all things Connecticut. The June 13th program will feature author James Littlefield, who will portray slave catcher Coswell Tims from his novel, The Slave Catcher’s Woman. To learn more about them, check out our website. All of our business meetings are held in the Community Room and begin at 7PM, followed by program presentations about 7:30PM. Refreshments follow, and meetings are free and open to the public.

Speaking of Old Home Day, planning for the 2014 has begun, please serve Saturday, September 13th, on the Canterbury Green on Route 169. If you are interested in participating as an exhibitor or performer, please call Ellen at 860-546-9346 or Amy at 860-546-9062, or send email to canterburyhistorical@gmail.com

We plan to be part of Connecticut’s annual Open House Day on Saturday, June 14th. Join us at the Green District Schoolhouse from 10AM to 2PM. In addition, plans are in place for the school to be accessible during other open house days throughout the summer. Please see out website for schedule.

Please consider joining us for a meeting or event whenever you can. Historic photos, house surveys, and other information can be found anytime at our very comprehensive website: www.canterburyhistorical.org. We also encourage you to visit — and “like” — our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CanterburyHistoricalSociety.CT

2014 Car Cruise
St Augustine Church

144 WESTMINSTER RD ROUTE 14
CANTERBURY, CT

Saturday, May 10, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Annual Plant Sale. We will have whatever you’re looking for - annuals, perennials and vegetables - all ready for planting in your own garden.

Tuesday, August 26, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM (rain date August 28) - Annual Car Cruise. There will be music, food and fun for all ages, including a moon bounce for the kids. Entry is free. It will be an amazing good time for all.

Canterbury Cemetery Association

The Canterbury Cemetery Association is an independent corporation which was formed in 1922. The CCA is responsible for the management and upkeep of six cemeteries across Canterbury. They are; Baldwin Cemetery (Rt 169S), Carey Cemetery (Rt 169S), Cleaveland Cemetery (Rt 169N), Dawson Cemetery (North Society Rd), Dean Cemetery (Cemetery Rd), and Smith Cemetery (Cemetery Rd).

The CCA is currently managed by a board of 8 members. They are David Veit (president and sexton), Dean Davis (vice president), Bill Kivic (treasurer), Steve Orlomoski (secretary), and four members-at-large; Tom Gray, Jeff Smith, Scott Tucker, and Karlyn Waskiewicz. The CCA also has a vacant board position for a person who would represent the Baldwin Cemetery. If you are interested in serving in that capacity, please contact the Steve Orlomoski at 860-546-6669.

Dean Cemetery is the only one of the CCA’s cemeteries where grave plots are available for purchase. If you have any inquiries regarding grave purchases at the Dean Cemetery, please contact the CCA sexton, David Veit at 860-546-9831.
Friends of Prudence Crandall Museum

Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum, Inc. is gearing up for another fun-filled, jam-packed museum season! We'll be kicking off an exciting schedule of events with our annual meeting. Join us on May 3rd at 10:00 a.m. for a bit of business after which we will hear from Donald E. Williams, Author of Prudence Crandall's Legacy: The Fight for Equality in the 1830s, Dred Scott and Brown v. Board of Education. He will bring us further insight into the Prudence Crandall story and its impact on the national stage. Join us afterward at the John Carter House for refreshments.

We are ever grateful to our tireless junior members and their commitment to our cause and we'd love to see our group grow this year. Children and Teens, ages 10-18, interested in becoming junior members should attend and informational meeting on May 4th from 1-3 pm. You will have the opportunity to meet our new Junior Member Coordinator and learn about opportunities to help out with Friends events. We will once again be offering you an opportunity to hear from great minds with a brand new Prudence Crandall Museum Lecture Series: No Small Courage, sponsored in part by a grant from the Connecticut Humanities Council. Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 1 when Lois Brown of Wesleyan University will present "Prudence Crandall, Susan Paul, and the wide-eyed Work of Antebellum Education". Then be sure to join us on Sunday, June 22 when we will be joined by Jennifer Rycenga of San Jose University. She will bring us her presentation "Prudence Crandall and Women's History". Both lectures will begin at 1:10 p.m. at the Congregational Church across the street from the museum. Stroll over to the Carter House after each lecture for a reception where you will be offered refreshments and an opportunity to meet and chat with our presenters. Tickets are $6.

Don't miss out on Music at Twilight on Saturday, July 19 at 6 p.m. Admission is free and the Friends will be offering light refreshments for sale.

And we're not done there so be sure to stay tuned for more events to come! For more information please visit our website www.friendsofprudencecrandallmuseum.org.

PRUDENCE CRANDALL MUSEUM

The Prudence Crandall Museum Celebrates 30 Years!

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.

Blue Star Museums Program - The Museum will once again participate in the national Blue Star Museums Program by offering Free Admission to all Active-duty military personnel (with proper I.D.) and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend. The program is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Dept. of Defense. More than 2000 museums nation-wide are participating as Blue Star Museums...for a full listing go to: www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

On Saturday, June 14 the Museum will be participating in the state's annual Connecticut Open House Day by offering Free Admission to all Connecticut residents from 10am to 4pm. And from 11am to 3pm visitors can participate in a "How Does Your Garden Grow?" activity...by planting sunflower seeds in a ceramic pot to take home to their own gardens. Supplies provided.

Saturday, July 19 from 6 to 8pm the Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum will host this year's Music At Twilight concert on the museum lawn. Bring a lawn chair, blanket, picnic and enjoy the music of Judy Handler and Mark Levesque, as they present a concert of music for guitar and mandolin from around the world. The Museum will be open at no charge throughout the concert. (Rain site — Canterbury Community Center.) For more info on the musicians, go to: www.judystandmark.com.

The Summer season will come to a close with the 28th Prudence Crandall Day on Saturday, August 30. Free Admission is offered, and all are invited to help us celebrate Prudence Crandall’s birthday! The day will include crafts demonstrations and sales, food, period children’s games, and music. At 11:30am and 2pm, there will be performances in the museum barn: "Ray of Hope: Music and Stories of 19th century African Americans and Abolitionists" with Alikia Hope and Ramon Morant. Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum will have box lunches and other food items available for sale beginning at 11am. Birthday cake will be served at 3pm!

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 www.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!
CANTERBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

It is with great pleasure that I write this column for the town newsletter. I started my work as Superintendent of Schools in Canterbury on August 21, 2013. I was born and raised in New Hampshire and Canterbury reminds me of "home". The community has welcomed me with open arms and I am thoroughly enjoying every moment of life here. Don’t get me wrong, there are always challenges; I just choose to see every challenge as one step closer to where I am headed. So it is good to have a plan. And speaking of plans, the Board of Education participated in a 4 hour facilitated retreat last Fall, in the Community Room. The purpose of the retreat was to discuss our mission, vision, and goals for the future. Now we need your help. Our next joint adventure is to embark on a 3-5 year Strategic Planning Process regarding the future of Canterbury Public Schools.

Strategic Planning Process: This will be facilitated by staff at EASTCONN and involves participation from a steering committee representing all the stakeholders in Canterbury. Information and data are gathered and the Steering Committee meets over the course of 18 hours to discuss and devise a 3-5 year strategic plan for the future of education in Canterbury. Your input is greatly appreciated. We will be holding a Staff Focus group on April 30 from 3:30 - 4:30 in the BMS library and a Community Focus group on Wednesday April 30 from 6:00 - 7:30. This is open to all. Please join us in BMS Library to discuss your input for the future of Canterbury Public Schools.

Budget: The bottom line for the education budget is mere 0.92% increase. Kudos to the administrative team for their joint work on this fiscally responsible budget. On April 8, 2014 the Superintendent presented a revised 2014-2015 budget to the Board of Education. After a lengthy discussion and input from the audience, the BOE approved a 2014-2015 Revised budget of $11,390,828.

How did keep it to a 0.92% increase over last year? We changed our budgeting thinking. We decreased our Education budget by budgeting net the special education excess cost; this means that we subtracted some of the Special education tuition costs out of our budget in anticipation that the town will return the special education excess cost reimbursement received from the state, to the school in the Spring. The Superintendent has been working closely with the Board of Finance to explain that the Special Education Excess Cost reimbursement funds that the town receives every year in the Spring should be return to the school. And the chairperson of the Board of Finance agrees with this. My only wish is that you go to the polls, and when you do, I want you to be armed with all the information you need to make an informed decision about your very important voice in town. Please be an informed voter.

Smarter Balanced Field Test: This test took the place of the “legacy test” the Connecticut Mastery Test or CMT. We just completed our implementation. It was a field test of the test itself to see how the test would run. This test is totally given on the computer so both the students and staff were challenged during the test. I am proud of everyone for working so hard. Anyone who wants to see a practice test, can log onto the following website: http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/

CES: What is going on at Canterbury Elementary School? Lots! In August, full day Kindergarten started up again and the kids are thriving. We love our new roof and the facility committee is looking into adding some clip-on solar panels to assist in our electric bill. We are sad to see Cathy Ferguson resigning and leaving at the end of this school year. She has been our principal at CES 14 years. The BOE recently appointed Sarah Cary as the new Principal at CES. Sarah is from Griswold and she will start on July 1, 2014. We look forward to smooth transition. We are so grateful to Cathy Ferguson her long time commitment to our school and our children.

Baldwin Middle School: We have lots happening at BMS....First and foremost, due to our high Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) scores, we have been designated as an Excelling School with the additional label of being a School of Distinction. Only 123 schools out of 820 schools, have been designated as excelling and only 73 of those are designated as school of distinction. Principal Tedeschi and I will be attending an honorary breakfast with the Governor and the Commissioner of Education on May 13, 2014. This truly is a great testament to the families who produce such hard working students and to a staff who are dedicated to push each and every child to their full potential. To view reports of all schools and district, please refer to the website: http://www.sde.ct.gov This is a testimony to the hard work and dedication of the teachers and administrators in the district in preparing our students for the test. We are very proud of our accomplishments.

Special Education: As our Special Education populations continue to increase, so do our costs. Did you know Special Education laws were first passed in the 1970’s and English as a Second Language Instruction was added to education in 1980? And in 1990, the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) was revised and greatly expanded the scope of special education? Canterbury provides a wide range of supports for our students with special needs, including both academic and behavioral interventions on all levels. In addition, for some of our more challenging situations, we contract with the New England Center for Children (NECC). Even with all these supports, there are still some students who require more restrictive settings and we contract with regional programs and other area private special education school to provide the appropriate education for all our students with special needs. Our child Find obligations were fulfilled this year with the annual Spring Preschool Screening on April 10 and April 11. It was a great success with over 30 families coming in for screening.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Town Meeting on May 16, 2014. Enjoy.

Dr. Lois C. Knapton,
Superintendent of Schools
CANTERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer School/Library Reading Program: The Year of the Turtle kick-off Saturday, May 10th at 10:00 a.m. with the Turtle Rescue League. See live turtles and learn about the oldest living creatures on earth.

Summer Craft Days: Mondays starting June 23rd from 10:30-11:30 a.m. No sign-up required.

Summer Stories with Melissa Lennon-TBA

http://www.librarywishlist.com/wl/ WishList_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.

May 17th—Who carries their home? Turtles
June 21st—How do they travel and where do they go? Seeds
July 19th—Grasshoppers & crickets. Insects.
August 16th—Who stays, who goes? Birds

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 9:30 with Melissa Lennon and Saturdays at 10:30 with Michele Brown.

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

ADULT AND TEEN PROGRAMS
(Sign-up is required)

Canterbury Friends/Library Tea Party
Saturday, June 7th 2:00-4:00 p.m. Tickets: $15.00 each which will include refreshments, tea cup and saucer. Benefits the Friends of the Library.

Shredding Truck
Saturday, May 3 11:00-2:00. Town Hall parking lot. Sponsored by the Savings Institute Bank. Bring you outdated forms.

Card Stamping with Arlene Sweet
Thursdays 6:00pm-8:00pm. Space limited. Sign-up required. July 10th and July 17th

FAMILY PROGRAMS
First Friday Family Movie
Library is open 5:00-8:00. The movie starts promptly at 6:00.

May 2nd—The Pirate Princess
June 6th—The Lego Movie
No First Friday in July and August.

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

May 20th—Scotland—August: Osage County by Tracy Lettes
June 17th—Canterbury—Once There Was A War by John Steinbeck
July 15th—Scotland—House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
August 19th—Canterbury—TBA
Sept. 16th—Scotland—The Swerve by Stephen Greenblatt
October 21st—Canterbury—The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt
Nov. 18th—Scotland—Transatlantic by Colum McCann
Dec. 16th—Canterbury—Book Selection Party

SENIOR PROGRAMS
Bird Walk with Andy Rzeznikiewicz from the Pomfret Audubon Society. Space is limited. Sign-up required.

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

Friday, May 30th at 9:00 am Starting at the Knollbrook Senior Housing Complex.

Fall Risk Assessment Monday, April 28th, 10:30-12:00. Discover your risk of falling. Program includes individual risk assessments. Crystal Garoshen a pharmacist from Rite-Aid, will discuss medication which can cause falls.

LIBRARY DATABASES
See our Website for easy access.

FREE Downloadable Audio & EBooks are available @ your library on our website.

LIBRARY PASSES
State Museums: Free Admission for 2 adults & 2 youth (6-17 years).
Wadsworth Atheneum: Free admission for 2 adults and 2 children.
Mystic Aquarium: Discounted admission for up to 2 adults & 2 children.
Roger Williams Park Zoo: Reduced admission for up to 4 adults, seniors and/ or children.
Mystic Seaport: Half-priced admission for 2 adults and 3 children.
Florence Griswold Museum: Free admission for 2 adults and 2 children (under 12)
**Friends of the Canterbury Library**

The Friends of the Canterbury Library (FOCL) has a number of special events in the coming weeks that are sure to be of interest to people across the town and Windham County. They are:

**Wine Tasting/Fund-Raising Event:** May 10th (Saturday) from 5:00pm to 8:00pm at the Plainfield Town Hall – This will be the 2nd year in which the Friends have been invited to sell tickets and provide workers for this event that is being hosted by North East Wine & Spirits and catered by Renee’s Working Girl Catering Service. A portion of each ticket sold through the FOCL goes directly to our organization, as does a contribution for each worker we provide. Tickets are $35 in advance and are available at the Library (call 860-546-9022). Tickets will also be available at the door for $40. Additionally, if you can volunteer some time to help, please contact Denise at 860-546-2062 to sign up.

**Author Book Talk and Signing/Annual FOCL Meeting:** May 14th (Wednesday) @ 7:00pm in the Library – We are very proud to present Woodstock’s Patrick McKenna Lynch Smith as he discusses his book, *Leaving the Life: A True Story of Love, Loss, and Gratitude*. Smith’s book is a brutally honest account of true love, coping with loss and the struggle for survival. This beautifully-written love story is tragic but filled with courage, compassion and hope. Virtually everyone has a friend or loved one who has been touched by cancer and Smith’s book (five copies of which are available for checkout from our Library) is an extremely well-written telling of one such battle. Smith’s talk/book signing will immediately follow a brief Annual Meeting of the Friends. Refreshments will also be available. This event is free to the public.

**An Afternoon Tea:** June 7th (Saturday) from 2:00pm to 4:00pm in the Library – At this event, a variety of tea and other refreshments will be served and each person will receive a special book-themed teacup and saucer included in their ticket price. Registration is required as space is limited.

**Book & Bake Sale:** June 21st (Saturday) from 9:00am to 2:00pm in the Town Community Room – A great opportunity to get great deals on thousands of quality used books. Baked goods are also available. All proceeds go to the improvement of the collection and programs of the Canterbury Public Library.

**Finnish American Heritage Society**

Our initial request for artists to the FACES at FAHS art show on Saturday October 11th, Columbus Day weekend, has been circulated. Anyone interested in exhibiting is asked to register at FACESatFAHS@gmail.com or to leave contact information at 860/546-6671. This year our Co-Chairs of the event are Bev Johnson of Woodstock and Patti Folsom of Greeneville, RI. We look forward to another successful show which will be our 4th year for this activity.

Please save the date for our Annual Chicken Barbeque which will be held on Saturday May 17th from 4:00-6:00 PM. Take out service will also be available.

Recent activities at the Hall included our Laskiainen Paiva (Sledding Day) and Pancake Breakfast. Our sledding day had an adequate supply of the key ingredient...snow. This event was accompanied with several recipes of pea soup and pulla bread for sale. Our breakfast was another successful event. It was unfortunate that our date and time conflicted with the same type event at the VFW. We hope their breakfast was also well attended. Our attendees were treated to the accordion music of Mike Kotowski.

In February the FAHS Board hosted a Finnish dinner and roundtable discussion with friends of FAHS and potential new members. This roundtable focused on ideas and programs that would promote membership and continue to introduce new programs to attract a greater audience. In addition to local residents with Finnish heritage, a member of The Last Green Valley Board of Directors, Jason Vincent and the Director of the Connecticut Preservation Commission/Culture & Tourism, Dan Forrest participated with valuable contributions/ideas. We thank everyone for their valuable insights and suggestions.

**Canterbury Fourth of July Parade**

Canterbury’s Annual Independence Day Parade will be held on Friday, July 4th, 2014. The parade will begin at the Baldwin Middle School at 10am and end at the Town Hall. Refreshments will be available following the parade. Participation is open to any Organization, Business, or Family. Please contact Selectman Bob Veach, 860-917-8688 if you would like to be on the parade committee or for more information.

**DAV Mobile Service Office**

The DAV Mobile Service Office (MSO) program is bringing free services to your local community to help you with your benefits. The DAV will make multiple stops in your area. At the service stops in your area, a DAV National Service Officer (NSO) — rigorously and professionally schooled in the full range of benefits for military veterans, retirees and their families — will provide you the best counseling and claim filing assistance you can get from any source, anywhere. Like you, this NSO is a veteran. Because the DAV is a nonprofit organization dedicated solely to serving you. When you come to one of the DAV MSO locations bring your claim number, Social Security number, and any other pertinent documentation. For information about the MSO stops and free DAV services, please call Jennifer Kellogg, DAV NSO, at (860) 594-6612. DAV is committed to building better lives for all of our nation’s disabled veterans and their families. We look forward to seeing you and serving you!
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 Tolland and are on their way to a Shaker Village and then continuing on to Massachusetts.

I think the distance between Tolland and Longmeadow (MA) is about sixteen miles, but our directions in regard to the way were not very explicit and the roads were very many and the houses, near the Tolland part of the way at least, were few and far between and in several cases the inhabitants thereof could hardly speak English. So, I fear we went out of our way. I know we did once, but do not regret it as we saw one of the finest views I ever found in New England—across the Connecticut River Valley. It made me think about Moses on Pisgah.

We left the fringed gentians (blue flowering plant) behind us the first day, but the leaves had now begun to take on brighter colors and the drive through the woods over the mountains was charming. This drive was the most varied of any we have had yet as we went over the steep mountains in the morning and followed a level road through the Connecticut Valley in the afternoon.

The day was cold and windy and we concluded to get us a good warm comfortable dinner at the Shaker Village instead of eating a dry lunch by the wayside as we had done before. We did not reach the Shaker community until afternoon. We were savagely hungry. At one place where I stopped to inquire the way, I saw the remains of a roast chicken dinner on the table and oh, how good it did smell and how nice that chicken did look, but I passed it by in anticipation of the fine repast we would have. We had to wait for the Shakers to build a fire in the office before we could warm ourselves. The stove was made of soapstone which it takes some time to heat. We waited a good while for dinner, and our appetites were ravenous after our three days journey in the open air and at length, we were summoned out to the table. We had the coolish remains of the first dinner's vegetables with stewed apples and apple pie and tea—all good and well cooked, but for meat dried beef shaved very thin! Oh, that roast chicken, which we passed by! After dinner, a sweet little Shaker lady showed us around the premises and we bought a lot of Shaker pincushions and emery bags and the like—also a bag of Sheldon pears.

During the latter part of the afternoon, as Fan dragged us slowly through the sand on the long plain between the Shaker village and Longmeadow, we were shut in by the woods on both sides of the road—the trees not tall enough to be stately, not short enough for us to look over—where even the sight of a bird was a relief to the monotony as suggesting the question of whether it might be a quail or a partridge.

I need not describe Longmeadow village to you, but you may be interested to hear about my stay there. I went to Mr. Hardings for advice in regard to lodgings. We had been told that he lived in the house on the right hand side of the church so I rang and rang at that door and nobody answered the door bell. Then I went to the next house and nobody came to the door and then to the next house to the front door and to the side door and there a woman came to open the door and I asked her if anybody lived in Longmeadow! She told me where Mr. Harding lived and I went to his house. He was not at home, but Mrs. Harding gave me the needed directions and we had most comfortable lodgings and board at Mrs. Smith's.

In reading Mrs. (Constance Fenimore) Woolson's Anne, I was much impressed by the way the heroine was helped along all the way from Michigan to New York City by the Catholic priests, and brought safely to her destination. I have thought a good deal about the matter since Mother and I have been on our journey and our Congregational ministers seem to be just as helpful in real life as the Catholic priests were in that fictitious story.

Longmeadow is a very beautiful town, even more so than Tolland, larger and with broader streets and more trees. Here we got letters from home too! We left there at about none o'clock yesterday morning for Old Hadley and came through Springfield, Chicopee and Chicopee Falls—and one or two other towns with Indian names, a distance of twenty six miles.

I had a good deal fun in helping the little Smith boy to harness Fan. I was almost as ignorant as he about how to put it on, but where there's a will, there's a way and at last she was ready and mother and I were on our way.

To be continued.