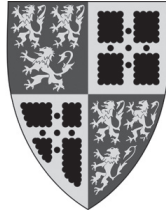


# *Annual Report Town of Old Saybrook, Connecticut*

MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
Second Congressional District  
Twentieth Senatorial District  
Thirty-Third Senatorial District  
Twenty-Third Assembly District



The seal of Old Saybrook was adopted from the College Arms of Saybrook College of Yale University. The seal is heraldically described as follows:

“Quarterly I and IV azure,  
three lions rampant, or: II and  
III sable, engrailed cross  
within a border engrailed,  
both or, five roundels  
sable on the cross.”

The significance of the seal and its relation to the Town of Old Saybrook is as follows:

*Quarters I and IV are for Fiennes, the family of the Lord Saye and Sele; II and III are for Greville, the family of Lord Brooke. These ancient coats recall two of the seventeenth-century English Proprietors of land at the mouth of the Connecticut River.*

*Old Saybrook was the site of the Collegiate School of Connecticut, which was relocated to New Haven in 1716 and became Yale University.*

Year Ending June 30th,

# 2012



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**OLD SAYBROOK**

*“Where the Connecticut River meets Long Island Sound”*

Old Saybrook dates back to 1635 when a company of English Puritans headed by Viscount Saye and Sele and Lord Brooke, and led by one John Winthrop, Jr., erected a fort to guard the river entrance...which in turn was guarded by a sandy shoal bar that called for precise piloting to enter. The residents blessed this shoal for it was a natural barrier against over-industrialization and helped to preserve the integrity of the environment with all of its natural beauty. When a deep channel was dredged and breakwaters erected, ships no longer had to off-load at Saybrook Point. Thus, the channel up river was opened for expansion of trade, commercial fishing and shipbuilding, traditional occupations that have carried on over the years.

# SECTION I

## TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK — PROFILE

### LOCATION:

Middlesex County

West Side of the Mouth of the Connecticut River

45 miles from Hartford

101 miles from New York

105 miles from Boston

Latitude 41° 17' N. Longitude 72° 25' W.

Town Area – 15.3 square miles

Total Town Roads – 72 miles

### TOWN INCORPORATION:

July 8, 1854

### FORM OF GOVERNMENT:

Town Meeting/Board of Selectmen/Board of Finance

Net Grand List of October 1, 2010 – \$ 2,481,777,870

Tax Rate: 14.06 Mills

Assessment Ratio: 70%

Grand Levy: October 1, 2010, \$34,770,941

Two Voting Districts

### POPULATION:

State Department of Health Estimate: 10,265

School Enrollment: 1,575

### PROPERTY:

Dwellings: 5,715

Condominiums (residential, commercial & docks): 670

Motor Vehicles: 12,236

### REPRESENTATIVES:

State Representative

Marilyn Giuliano [R], 23<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District

State Senators

Andrea Stillman [D], 20<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District Voting District 1

Eileen Daily [D], 33<sup>rd</sup> Senatorial District Voting District 2

Congressman

Joe Courtney [D], 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District

United States Senators

Richard Blumenthal [D]

Joseph Lieberman [I]

**OLD SAYBROOK EMPLOYEES AND  
MEMBERS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

(letter) denotes party affiliation and [number] denotes term expiration year

**ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT**

Accounting Supervisor	Sharon Migliaccio
Bookkeeper	Lucia Parashin
Part-time Bookkeeper	Janet Vinciguerra

**ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Director	Michele Van Epps
Administrative Assistant	Pamela J. Antolino
Assistant Director, Children’s Librarian	Phyllis DaCorte
Cataloger	H. Ann Adams
Custodian	Kathleen Peterson
Custodian	Richard Peterson
Head of Circulation	Virginia Clarke
Library Assistant	Lynn Bohlke
Library Clerk	Frances Anderson
Library Clerk	Barbara Peterson
Library Clerk	Joan Chasse
Page	Joseph Breindel
Library Substitute/Sunday Aide	Rogina Bedell O’Brien
Library Substitute/Sunday Aide	Caitlin Gallagher
Library Substitute/Sunday Aide	Ellen O’Herlihy
Library Substitute/Sunday Aide	Fiona Saunders
Reference Librarian	Wendy Connal-Nicolaou
Technical Services	Dibirma Burnham

**ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

Chairman	Nathan Wise	(D) [17]
	Gratia Lewis	(R) [15]
	Janet Hodge-Burke	(R) [17]
	Nancy Chupak	(D) [17]
	Mildred Cook	(R) [15]
	Paula J. Gibble	(R) [13]
	Craig Cooke	(D) [15]
	Betty Butler	(R) [13]
	Kathleen Kohne Smith	(D) [13]
Board Recorder	Robbie Marshall	

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Chairman	Theodore (Guy) Pendleton	(D) [12]
	Anthony Brodeur	(D) [12]
	Kingman Snow	(R) [13]
	Susan Hitchcock Missel	(D) [14]
	Barbara D’Agostino	(U) [12]
Alternate	Anita Tilseth-Yust	(D) [14]
	I. Ben Akin	(D) [13]

**ASSESSMENT APPEALS BOARD**

Chairman	Ruth FitzGerald	(R) [13]
	Sharon Tiezzi	(R) [13]
	Cornelius B. McCrudden	(D) [13]

**ASSESSOR**

Assessor	Norman B. Wood, CCMA II	
Assistant Assessor	Rick Pine	
P/T Clerk	Beverly Lavassar	
Personal Property Appraiser	Luke Parker	

**AUDITORS**

JH Cohn, LLP

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Building Official	Donald Lucas, P.E., R.S.	
Administrative Secretary	Kathleen Marshall	

**CABLE TV ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Board of Selectmen Representatives	Kingman Snow	(R) [13]
Board of Education Representative	Michael Terry	

**CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGION VISITORS COUNCIL**

Board of Selectmen Representative	Victor Dellaripa Jr	(U) [12]
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**CONNECTICUT RIVER ESTUARY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY**

Board of Selectmen Representative	Karen Marcolini	(R) [13]
Planning Representative	Cathryn Flanagan	(D) [13]

**CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION**

Madeleine Fish	(R) [12]
Belinda Ahern	(U) [12]

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Chairman	Robert Fish	(R) [12]
Vice Chairman	Jerry Brophy	(U) [12]
	Walter K. Smith	(U) [12]
	Kim Gallagher	(U) [13]
	Patrick Ingellis	(R) [13]
	Richard J. Esty	(D) [13]
	Bruce Sherwin, Jr.	(D) [13]

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Executive Director	Wilma Asch	
Chairman	Todd M. Roberts	(D) [14]
Vice Chairman	Charles Polka	(U) [14]
Secretary	James Keating	(D) [15]
	David Cole	(R) [13]
	John DeCristoforo	(D) [13]
	Laura Ashe	(R) [15]
	Elizabeth Swenson	(D) [17]
Alternate	Maura Richards	(U) [13]
	Bruce Greenfield	(R) [12]

**EDUCATION, BOARD OF**

Chairman	Mario T. Gaboury	(R) [15]
Vice Chairman	Joanne Sullivan	(R) [13]
	Karen E. Brodeur	(D) [13]
	Eileen Baker	(D) [13]
	Donna Dunn	(R) [13]
	Kelley Kennedy	(R) [15]
	Holly King	(R) [13]
	George Chang	(D) [15]
	Vito Savino	(R) [15]

**ELDERLY BENEFIT COMMITTEE**

Carol Conklin	(D)
Joanne Faraci	(D)
Ruth Fitzgerald	(R)
Cornelius McCrudden	(D)
Sharon Tiezzi	(R)

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Director	Michael A. Spera
Deputy Director	Michael A. Gardner

**ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT**

Roland W. Laine	(R) [12]
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**ETHICS COMMISSION**

Chairman	Edward Cassella	(D) [14]
	Kerry Knobelsdorff	(R) [15]
	Paula Ladd	(D) [14]
	Sylvia Schmitt	(R) [12]
	Richard Reece, M.D.	(R) [12]

**FINANCE BOARD**

Chairman	David LaMay	(R) [13]
	John O'Brien	(D) [15]
	Thomas Stevenson	(R) [15]
	Brad Thorpe	(R) [13]
	Grant Westerson	(R) [13]
	Barry O'Neill	(D) [13]
	Derrik Kennedy	(R) [15]

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief	J.T. Dunn
Deputy Chief	Jay Rankin
First Assistant Chief	Chris Cestaro

**FIRE MARSHAL OFFICE**

Fire Marshal & Open Burning Official	Donn Dobson
Deputy Fire Marshal	Richard Morris
	Christopher Taylor
	Vernon Skau
Fire Inspector	David Heiney, Jr.



**HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

Chairman	Raymond Collins, Jr.	(R) [13]
	Les Bowman	(R) [15]
	David Cole	(R) [13]
	George Wall	(D) [15]
	Richard Goduti	(U) [15]
Clerk	Geraldine Lewis	
Dock Master	Scott Mitchell	

**HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Chairman	Randi Bradbury	(U) [15]
	Jeff Meotti	(R) [13]
	Mary Kennedy	(D) [12]
	Diane Aldi DePaola	(D) [16]
	Mark Carruthers	(R) [14]
Alternate	Donald Brigham	(R) [15]
	Eugene Creighton	(R) [16]
	Richard Peters	(R) [12]

**HOUSING (RENTAL) CODE BOARD OF APPEALS**

Robert Wendler	(R) [17]
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**INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**

Chairman	Paul H. Smith	(D) [13]
	William Pollock	(R) [13]
	Brendon McKeown	(R) [13]
Alternate Member	Charles Wehrly	(R) [13]
	Janice Holland	(D) [13]
	Judith Preston	(U) [13]
Representatives:		
Planning	Janis Esty	
Zoning	Charles E. Sohl	
Conservation Commission	Kimberly Gallagher	

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE**

Joyce L. Cappiello	John F. Claffey, Jr.	Craig M. Cooke
Dana R. Cosgrove	Susan M. DeBlasiis	Earl Endrich, Sr.
Allan Fogg	Mary E. Kennedy	Kathleen Foley Marshall
Barbara J. Maynard	Barry S. O’Nell	Joseph Onofrio II
Arthur K. Pope	Betsy Ranelli	Emilio J. Scamporino
Marion Sigal	William Lee Sparaco	Elizabeth D. Steffen
John J. Torrenti, Jr.	Shirley G. VonDassel	Jean B. Winkler

**LAND ACQUISITION COMMITTEE**

Chairman	Robert Fish	Town Treasurer
	Jerry Brophy	Conservation Commission
	Robert Burke	Parks & Rec
	Elizabeth Swenson	Economic Development
	Robert Missel	Planning Commission
	Scott Giegerich	Board of Selectmen
	Charles Wehrly III	WPCA

**LAND USE DEPARTMENT**

Planner	Christine Nelson
Enforcement Officer	Christina Costa
Environmental Planner	Sandy Prisloe
Administrative Secretary	Sarah Lyons

**MUNICIPAL CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Dana Cosgrove	[16]
David Tiezzi	[15]
Robert Duncan	[15]
Evaughn L. Fontes	[13]
Marston Ladd	[17]
Nancy Sullivan	[15]

**MUNICIPAL HISTORIAN**

Elaine Staplins

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Chairman	Steven A. Murphy	(R) [15]
Vice Chairman	Robert C. Burke	(D) [13]
	Susan Cummins	(R) [15]
	Thomas Boland	(R) [15]
	Susan E. Esty	(D) [15]
	James Henderson	(R) [13]

**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Director	Vicki Duffy
Assistant Director	Ray Allen
Office Manager	Judy Sherman
Facility/Program Assistant	Jonathan Paradis
P/T Secretary	Deborah Stevenson
Building Maintainer	Jim Price

**PENSION & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BOARD**

Chairman	Suzanne S. Taylor	(R) [17]
	Stephen Sheehan	(D) [15]
	Raymond Muratori	(R) [14]
	Eileen Torrenti	(R) [13]
	Carol Voigt	(R) [16]
	Gary Lehrman	(D) [16]

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Chairman	Janis Esty	(D) [13]
Vice Chairman	Robert Missel	(R) [15]
Secretary	Cathryn Flanagan	(D) [15]
	Robert D. Missel	(R) [11]
	Donald Ranaudo	(R) [13]
	David Shearer	(R) [15]
Alternates	Michael Urban	(U) [15]
	Kenneth Soudan	(D) [15]
	Kathleen Sugland	(D) [15]
Representatives:		
Land Acquisition	David Shearer	
Inland Wetlands	Janis Esty	
CRERPA	Cathryn Flanagan	

**POLICE COMMISSION**

Chairman	Christina Burnham	(R) [13]
Vice Chairman	Richard Metsack	(D) [13]
	Ernest Sparaco	(R) [15]
	Jean B. Winkler	(R) [13]
	Adam Stuart	(D) [13]
	J. Robert Finch	(R) [15]
	David Dunlap	(R) [15]

**POLICE SERVICES**

Chief of Police	Michael Spera
Lieutenant	Kevin Roche

Master Sergeant	Robbert van der Horst
	Jay Rankin

Sergeants	Donald Hull
	Michael Gardner
	Charles Mercer
	Jeffrey DePerry
	Christopher DeMarco
	William Bergantino

**PATROLMEN**

Philip Ciccone	Michael Small	Oscar Delima
Stephen Hackett	Joseph Mackin	Brianna Santello
Shannon Miller	Larry Smith	Thanousinh Souriyamath
Brian Ziolkovski	Michael Mulvihill (per diem)	

K-9	Zeus
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Animal Control	Kendo
	Jennifer Hart (per diem)
	Kate Cryder (per diem)
	Patrick Hanley (per diem)

Professional Development	Marshall Segar (P/T)
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**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION**

Detective Sergeant	Eugean Heiney
Detectives	David Perrotti

**YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION**

Detective	Samuel Barnes
School Resource Officers	Ryan Walsh
	James Kiako

Police Explorers	Matt Morin
	Alexandra Steward
	Josh Stankiewicz
	Nick Dubord
	Steven Anuszkiewicz

**EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION**

EMS Director	Phil Coco (PT)
Marine Patrol	Grant Westerson (per diem)
	Carl Ponzillo (per diem)

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Public Safety Dispatchers	Robert Dahlstrom Richard Goduti Tina Spinelli Brian DeBlasiis Michael Paradis James Shake William McGregor (PT per diem)
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RECORDS DIVISION

Records Specialists	Michelle Berner (PT) Marylou Sunday (PT) Trent Gerbers (PT) Sonal Sharma (PT per diem)
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COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

Thomas Newton (per diem)  
James Schneider (per diem)  
Patrick Hanley (per diem)  
Kenneth Reid (per diem)

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Patrick Hanley (PT)  
Peter Lempicki (PT)

PROBATE COURT

Judge Of Probate	Terrance Lomme
Clerk	Sharon Tiezzi

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD

Chairman	Diane Aldi DePaola	(D) [12]
	Mary Kennedy	(D) [12]
	David Frankel	(U) [13]
	Joseph Termine	(U) [14]
	Sharon Craft	(D) [13]
	Elizabeth Owen	(D) [14]
	Janet Hodge-Burke	(R) [12]
Alternate	Janet Temple	(R) [14]

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT & TRANSFER STATION

Director	Lawrence Bonin	
Maintenance Crew	Peter Labriola	William Claffey
	Adam Laverty	Michael Pace Jr.
	Frank Constantine	Colin Linscott
	John Porter	Erin McNamara

Transfer Station

Richard Champlin  
Joe Chojnowski (Part Time)  
LJ Bonin (Part Time)  
Pat Reagan (Part Time)  
Anthony Hunter (Part Time)  
Jonathan McCall (Part Time)

**REGIONAL BUILDING CODE OF APPEALS**

Representatives	Ken Gible	[14]
	Robert Wendler	[15]

**REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

Representative	Marston Ladd	(D) [13]
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**REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

Carol Conklin	(D) [12]
Jean Winkler	(R) [12]

**SELECTMEN**

First Selectman	Carl P. Fortuna Jr.	(R) [13]
Selectman	Scott Giegerich	(R) [13]
Selectman	Steven Gernhardt	(D) [13]
Executive Assistant	Roland W. Laine	
Administrative Secretary	Georgiann Neri	
Administrative Clerk	Elaine Seaforth	

**SHELLFISH COMMISSION**

Chairman	Lawrence Bonin	(R) [14]
Secretary	Earl Endrich, Sr.	(R) [14]
Treasurer	Howard E. Clark	(D) [14]
	James Mitchell	(R) [13]
	Paul Labriola	(R) [13]

**TAX COLLECTOR**

Tax Collector	Barry E. Maynard	(R) [13]
Assistant Tax Collector	Wendy Morison	

**TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk	Sarah V. Becker	(R) [14]
Assistant Town Clerk	Christina Antolino	
Assistant Town Clerk	Cindy Kane	

**TOWN COUNSEL**

Michael Cronin, Jr.	
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**TOWN HALL**

Building Maintainer	Paul Baldi
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**TREASURER**

Robert Fish	(R) [13]
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**TREE COMMITTEE**

Barbara J. Maynard	(R) [14]
Deborah Ferrer	(R) [13]

**TREE WARDEN**

Theodore "Guy" Pendleton	[13]
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**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

Chairman	Charles A. Wehrly III	(R) [12]
Vice Chairman	Ian Featherstone	(R) [13]
	Elsa Payne	(D) [13]
	Nelson Engborg	(R) [14]
	George Gwizd	(R) [14]
	John Claffey Jr	(D) [12]
	Doris Zumbroski	(U) [13]
Alternates:	Ed Gyllenhammer	(D) [12]
Board Clerk	Robbie Marshall	

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL STAFF**

Site Manager	Michael Evangelisti
Inspectors	Scott Brainard
	Ray Lebert
	Cameron Evangelisti
Financial Manager	Gratia Lewis
Coordinator	Robbie Marshall
Clerk	Melissa Lewis

**YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMISSION**

Chairman	Samuel B. Barnes, O.S.P.D.
	Representative
Vice Chairman	Jennifer Welsh, At-Large Member
Secretary	Ray Allen, Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Representative
	Katie Prozesky, Student Representative
	J.T. Giegerich, Student Representative
	Kathryn Hanratty, School System
	Representative
	Catherine Kane, School System
	Representative
	Diane Aldi DePaola, Public Health
	Nursing Board Representative
	Dorothy Shearer, At-Large Member
	Peggy Viggiano, At-Large Member

**YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES STAFF**

Director	Heather McNeil, LMFT, LADC
Administrative Assistant	Linda McCall
Clinical Consultant	Kathleen Laundy, Psy.D.
Counselors	Salvatore Bruzzese, M.S., L.P.C., C.A.G.S.
	Sal Perruccio, Masters School Psychologist
Counselor/Early Childhood Specialist	Melinda Tyler, M.F.T.
Counselor/R.E.A.C.H. Coordinator	Chelsea Graham, M.S.W.
Counselor/Wilderness Coordinator	Brenda Partyka, M.S.W.
Program Coordinators	Wendy Mill
	Julie Moskowitz
	Brittany O'Neil

Social Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent for Elderly  
Susan Consoli

### **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Chairman	Rexford H. McCall	(R) [13]
	Robert McIntyre	(R) [13]
	Dorothy Alexander	(R) [13]
	Philip Broadhurst	(R) [15]
	Adam Stillman	(D) [15]
Alternates:	Carl Garbe	(D) [13]
	Christopher Sayles Billiau	(U) [13]
Clerk	Kim Barrows	

### **ZONING COMMISSION**

Chairman	Robert Friedmann	(R) [13]
Vice Chairman	Madeleine B. Fish	(R) [15]
	John Talbott	(D) [15]
	Geraldine M. Lewis	(R) [13]
	Charles E. Sohl	(R) [15]
Alternates:	Thomas Farnham Jr.	(R) [13]
	Elizabeth Steffen	(D) [13]
	Robert Richards	(R) [13]

## **ORGANIZATIONS 2012**

**AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION** (860) 388-0161

Dr. David Sliva

P.O. Box 437

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW)**

Mary Mazur

(860) 526-5757

103 Ferry Road

Hadlyme, CT. 06439

Dot Beaulieu, Co-President

(860) 388-4021

6 Willowbrook Farm Road

Old Saybrook, CT.06475

**AMERICAN LEGION**

(860) 388-2665

**FAULK-MARCOLINI-NEWMAN POST 113**

113 Essex Road

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**AMERICAN LEGION LADIES AUXILLARY**

Mercy Mosher

(860) 664-9876

P.O. BOX 132

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**

(860) 399-6400

**POTAPAUG CHAPTER**

Barbara Barron

P.O. Box 591

Old Lyme, CT 06371

**BOY SCOUTS and CUB SCOUTS**

John Puttre

(860) 388-6116

16 Cinnamon Ridge

Old Saybrook, CT.06475

Bill Hart, Scoutmaster

(860) 388-2924

3 West View Circle

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**OLD SAYBROOK CHAMBER of COMMERCE**

Judy Sullivan

(860) 388-3266

P.O. Box 625

Old Saybrook, CT06475

**COLONIAL FIFES & DRUMS**

(860) 399-6571

William Reid

242 Schoolhouse Road

Old Saybrook, CT 06475



**DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE**

C. Marston Ladd, Chairman  
P.O. Box 281  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**(860) 388-1624****B.P.O.E. 1784**

Peter A Lirot, Exalted Ruler  
142 Seaside Avenue  
Westbrook, CT 06498

**(860) 399-9191****ESTUARY COUNCIL of SENIOR CLUBS, INC.**

Paula Ferrara, Executive Director  
220 Main Street  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**(860) 388-1611****EXCHANGE CLUB OF OLD SAYBROOK/WESTBROOK**

Andy Scott, Contact Person  
P.O. Box 400  
Old Saybrook, CT06475

**(860) 388-2345****FATHER HUSSION COUNCIL of COLUMBIETTES****(860) 388-2549**

Joan Carlson  
15 Second Ave.  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**FRIENDS of ACTON LIBRARY**

Jan Crozier, Co-President  
245 Elm Street  
Old Saybrook, CT.06475

**(860) 388-5155**

Betty O'Brien, Co-President  
11 Coulter St. # 9  
Old Saybrook, Ct.06475

**(860) 339-5063****GIRL SCOUTS****(860) 395-0423**

Eileen Dallas  
25 Howard Street  
Old Saybrook, Ct.06475

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY HEALTHY YOUTH****(860) 395-3190**

Gretchen Bushnell, Chairman  
322 Main Street  
Old Saybrook, CT06475

**JR. WOMEN'S CLUB — LYME-OLD LYME****(860) 434-0178**

Nancy Mesham  
PO Box 611  
Old Lyme, CT06371

**KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS**

Daniel M. Aubey, Grand Knight  
375 Main Street  
Old Saybrook, Ct. 06475

**MAIN STREET BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

John Beatty

**(860) 510-0133**

P.O. Box 172

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**SILOAM LODGE #32 Ancient Free & Accepted Masons (860) 388-9134  
MASONIC TEMPLE**

50 Old Boston Post Road

PO Box 721

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**NORTH COVE YACHT CLUB**

Les Boman

**(860) 388-1655**

P.O. Box 298

Old Saybrook, Ct. 06475

**NUTMEG BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS (860) 525-5437 EX.124**

Brian Kelley

30 Laurel St. Suite 3

Hartford, CT06106

**OLD SAYBROOK EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (860) 395-3157**

Ellen Taylor

Old Saybrook High School

1111 Boston Post Road

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**OLD SAYBROOK GARDEN CLUB**

Mary Roche, President

**(860) 395-0091**

P.O. Box 113

Old Saybrook, CT06475

**OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY (860) 388-2118**

Randi Bradbury, President

192 N. CoveRoad

Old Saybrook, CT06475

**OLD SAYBROOK LAND TRUST (860) 395-4298**

Sarah Keaney, President

PO Box 109

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**OLD SAYBROOK LITTLE LEAGUE (860) 388-5878**

Wayne Wysocki

PO Box 418

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**OLD SAYBROOK LIONS CLUB (860) 388-9613**

Beth Goodnow

3 Cedar Lane

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**OLD SAYBROOK MUSIC BOOSTERS****(860) 388-5128**

Kristen Graham  
 26 Ridge Drive N.  
 Old Saybrook, CT.06475

**OLD SAYBROOK PTO****Goodwin School****(860) 391-3678**

Trevor Nichols  
 15 Rock Ridge Drive  
 Old Saybrook, CT. 06475

**Middle School****(860) 395-1838**

Julie D'Ambrosi  
 18 Meadowwood Lane  
 Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**High School****(860) 662-1228**

Allie Fogg  
 14 Fordham Trail  
 Old Saybrook, CT06475

**OLD SAYBROOK RACQUET CLUB****(860) 227-6036**

Anne DaRos  
 299 Springbrook Road  
 Old Saybrook, CT06475

**OLD SAYBROOK SOCCER CLUB****(860) 388-6365**

Tom King, President  
 155 Old Boston Post Road  
 Old Saybrook, CT06475

**PLANNED PARENTHOOD of CT****(860) 388-4459****MIDDLESEX COUNTY**

Beth Burrage, Center Coordinator  
 263 Main StreetS-203  
 Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE****(860) 388-5250**

John Torrenti, Chairman  
 P.O. Box 204  
 Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB****(860) 388-9944**

Gerri Lewis  
 519 Main Street  
 Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**ROTARY CLUB of OLD SAYBROOK****(860) 388-9944**

Gerri Lewis,  
 P.O. Box 1125  
 Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**SAYBROOK COLONY FOUNDERS ASSOCIATION**

Elaine F. Staplins

**(860) 388-2234**

PO Box 1635

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**SAYBROOK POWER SQUADRON**

Brad Ficken

**(860) 434-3660**

17 Browns Lane

Old Lyme, CT 06371

**SCORE CHAPTER 579**

Nazz Paciotti

**(860) 691-1960 H**

P.O.Box 283

**(860) 388-9508 W**

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

**SOLDIERS, SAILORS & MARINES FUND****(203) 687-8569**

Bob Bailey

**SOUND STEPPERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB****(860) 399-2282**

Steve Mazeau, President

1335 Old Clinton Road

Westbrook, CT 06498

**VALLEY SHORE ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE****(860) 399-7561**

Harriet R. Strain, President

**(860) 663-1286**

647 HorseHill Road, RTE 145

Clinton,CT 06413

**VALLEY SHORE YMCA**

201 Spencer Plains

**(860) 399-9622**

Paul Mohabir, CEO

P O Box 6094

Westbrook, CT 06498

**VETERANS of FOREIGN WARS LADIES AUXILIARY**

Terry Beckwith

**(860) 399-7664**

285 Horsehill Road

Westbrook, CT 06498

## SECTION II

### ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### *Mission Statement:*

*"...is to serve the community as an information resource center providing education, cultural, and civic programs and materials through diverse media."*

The Acton Public Library was well utilized this year, and if there were a theme to the year, it would be collaboration. The library worked with many other agencies, departments, and organizations to provide a wide variety of services to Old Saybrook residents.

One of the most noticeable additions to library service this year was the availability of downloadable e-books and audio books. By joining the library consortium Library Connection as an associate member, the Acton Public Library was able to buy into the Overdrive program. Overdrive provides a vast catalog of downloadable audio books and e-books, in various formats. Individuals who have a current library card from the Acton Public Library can access these titles through our website and borrow the items they choose. This has been hugely popular, and we have struggled to keep up with the demands of the many Kindle, Nook, and other e-reader device owners.

The Acton Public Library collection currently consists of 65,989 items. Circulation for the past year is 154,205 items. In addition, 1,839 items were borrowed from other libraries through interlibrary loan, and we lent 1,260 items to other libraries. The reference area continues to serve the community by providing resources for a vast variety of inquiries. The addition of several online databases has enhanced the reference collection. Most of the online resources are accessible remotely, so patrons can use them from home 24/7. Once again, a generous grant from the Old Saybrook Ambulance Association, Inc. provided funding for several medical reference books and databases. There were 5,828 reference questions answered in the library.

The Acton Public Library provides computers for public use, and 19,686 people used the computers this past year. In addition, people can use wireless internet connections throughout the building.

Acton Public Library offers space for meetings and for educational, recreational, civic, cultural, and entertaining programming. Meeting rooms are for use by the Old Saybrook community on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to community groups, the meeting rooms are also used by town committees. The Grady-Thomas Room has a seating capacity of 75 maximum for the full room and 35 each if the space is divided and The Friends Conference Room, a small conference room, has a capacity of 12–15.

#### *Adult Services*

The Wednesday Book Discussion Group met to discuss a varied list of books on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. The titles chosen and discussed by the group were *The Yellow House*, by Patricia Falvey; *Rag and Bone (Billy Boyle WWII Mysteries)*, by Jim Benn; *A Blue and Gray*

*Christmas*, by Joan Medlicott; *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, by Jamie Ford; *A Slave No More*, by David W. Blight; *Sarah's Key*, by Tatiana de Rosnay; *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, by Khaled Hosseini; *Drawing Conclusions*, by Donna Leon; and *The Reading Promise*, by Alice Ozma. New members are welcome to join this discussion group, which has been meeting for 20 years.

The library also hosts the Off the Shelf Book Group, which originally met at Emerson & Cook bookstore. They meet on the third Tuesday evening of the month.

Acton serves other book discussion groups in the community by obtaining additional copies of titles for the members, and this year, the library instituted a Book Discussion Collection, which includes twelve copies each of popular discussion titles.

Old Saybrook Historical Society's Chapman Lecture series was co-sponsored by the library. This year's speakers included Richard De Luca, author of *Post Roads & Iron Horses*; Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni, Connecticut State Archaeologist, who spoke on "Connecticut Underground"; Walter Woodward, Connecticut State Historian, who spoke on "Witchcraft in Connecticut." This series is always very well received.

Other programs included Author Richard Horan reading from his book, *Seeds*; John Guy LaPlante discussing his Peace Corps service in the Ukraine; an after-hours jazz concert by the Loren Evarts Ensemble; Mary Buell Volk and Carin Roaldset sharing their book *Here After*; a reading of Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, presented by Sally Jenks; Mystery authors Susan Santangelo, (*Moving Can Be Murder*) and Leslie Wheeler (*Murder at Spouter's Point*); and Mike Urban presented a mouth-watering slide show from his book, *Lobster Shacks*.

An innovative program, entitled OldSaybrookWorks, to assist job-hunters was created in collaboration with CTWorks and Old Saybrook's Social Services department. This multifaceted program featured networking sessions, speakers on specific topics, and one-on-one sessions. The program will continue next year as ShorelineWorks, to include residents of nearby towns.

The 35<sup>th</sup> annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast was held on April 11. Our many volunteers, who perform hours of work, were honored. This was the first year that we held this event in the spring, and we were able to include some of our "snow bird" volunteers as a result. Two very special presentations were made as the Library Board awarded Library Director Emeritus status to Janet Crozier, and Board Chairman Emeritus Status to Walter Hirsch, in recognition of their dedication and service to the Acton Public Library. The framed certificates were presented to them by First Selectman Carl Fortuna.

We celebrate National Library week with counting contests for adults and children. The winners are announced on Poetry Night, when our annual poetry contest is celebrated with a reading and reception. At this reception, winners of the annual poetry contest share their poems.

The Adult Summer Reading Club had the theme "Novel Destinations." Readers were rewarded with drawings for such prizes as: bookstore gift certificates, goodie baskets, and gift certificates for pizza. These prizes were funded by the Friends of the Acton Public Library.

### ***Young Adult Services and Programs***

Young adults are library patrons between the ages of twelve and eighteen. Acton serves young adults with a dedicated space for young adult resources that includes books, audio books, magazines, paperbacks, and other age-appropriate materials, including databases for health and social issues.

“You Are Here,” the Young Adult Summer Reading Club, also featured weekly drawings for such prizes as gift certificates for pizza, movie theater passes, gift baskets, and bookstore gift certificates, all of which are funded by the Friends of the Acton Public Library.

The young adult librarian worked with the high school media specialist to provide additional copies of the summer reading list titles. Books were purchased, to supplement our collection, and the Acton Public Library borrowed fifty books from the high school library so that more copies would be available to students over the summer.

During the school year, there was a very popular program series, Teen Flour Power. In these monthly sessions, our young bakers made cookies, cupcakes, whoopee pies, scones, apple pies, and other delicious goodies. The Friends of the Acton Public Library sponsored this series.

Our library partnered with the Old Saybrook High School Library to participate in World Book Night, on April 23. As part of this celebration of reading, free copies of *The Lovely Bones*, by Alice Sebold, and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian*, by Sherman Alexie, were distributed.

The YA space provides summer reading list materials, age-appropriate magazines, audio books, paperbacks, and summer reading club program selections. A total of 4,825 items were borrowed from the Young Adult collection this past year.

### ***Children's Services and Programs***

Acton Children's Library was as busy as ever, with 40,334 items borrowed. A variety of programs attracted children and parents alike.

A middle-school-aged Book Discussion group meets weekly during the summer to read and discuss the books nominated for the statewide Nutmeg Children's Book Award.

The theme of the annual summer reading program was “One World, Many Stories”; 298 children registered for the program this year, and, in total, they read more than 3,400 books. A party held at the end of the program celebrated the reading accomplishments of the participants. Throughout the summer, readers earned small prizes and also participated in drawings for weekly prizes. These prizes were funded through a donation from the Friends of the Acton Public Library, along with the refreshments and entertainment for the party.

Various craft and activity programs were held during the school year. The Old Saybrook Fire Department visits to talk to the children during Fire Safety Month. Throughout the school year, the staff helps students find materials for school assignments and, in the summer, provides copies of the summer reading list titles.

### ***Story Times***

“Story Time for Wee Ones,” an early literacy lap-sit program for the very little ones that includes a time for grownups to come together and socialize, meets each Wednesday throughout the year.

A drop-in story time for two- to five-year-olds meets Friday mornings, and includes stories, finger rhymes and songs.

Evening Story Time is a summer story hour, where children are encouraged to attend in their pajamas and slippers and to bring their blankets and stuffed animals.

Kindergarten classes from Goodwin School as well as classes from the Sherwood School visit on a regular basis for stories and book selection.

Phyllis DaCorte, Children’s Librarian, does outreach programs at local nursery schools and day-care facilities.

A special Halloween Story Time and Party with a disc jockey are sponsored by the Friends of the Acton Public Library. The Friends also sponsor a special December Holiday Story Time and Party.

In the fall (twelve weeks) and the spring (six weeks), Phyllis DaCorte participated in the Youth & Family Services After-School program and held origami classes.

### ***The Acton Public Library Board Recognizes Its Partner ....***

The Acton Public Library Board of Directors deeply appreciates the work of the Friends of the Acton Public Library, a partner in service and a support group that assists in providing enhanced library programming for all of the Acton’s patrons.

**Nathan Wise, Chairman,** *Acton Public Library Board*  
**Michele Van Epps,** *Director*

## **FRIENDS OF THE ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The mission of the Friends of the Acton Public Library is “to foster closer relations between the Acton Public Library and the citizens of Old Saybrook and its environs; to promote knowledge of the functions, resources, services, and needs of the Library; and to aid in the development of a program for extension and improvement of the Library services and resources.”

The Friends, the Acton Library, a support group of over 400 members, founded in 1970, provides assistance with programming and other needs. The primary fundraising activities are the membership drive held in February and March, Mini Book Sale held in March, and the major event — a Book & Bake Sale held for three days in July. These fund the library’s book author talks because meeting their authors makes the books more meaningful; investment seminars to help our patrons in these difficult economic times; book discussion groups for children, teens, and adults so that patrons can compare viewpoints of the author; and children’s summer programs. In addition, it provides program prizes, poetry and counting contest awards, web page maintenance, copier for use by the public, and purchase of materials needed to present programs in the Grady-Thomas Program Room.



The board thanks the Essex Savings Bank for their Community Investment Program grant awarded and the Old Saybrook community for their continuous generous support.

<i>Co-presidents</i>	Janet Crozier & Betty O'Brien
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	Margot Robbins
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	Catherine Thomas
<i>Treasurer</i>	Nancy Baldoni
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Mary Aery

Friends of the APL: Judith Anderson, Sylvia Blamberg, Joseph Breindel, Marjorie Butler, Sharon Caulfield, Kay Chayrigues, Susan Coppejans, Shirley DeGange, Barbara Downie, Patricia Flanagan, Nina Garrett, Nancy Greenfield, Geraldine Hallgren, Ruth Helt, Joyce Hills, JoAnne Kelly, Barbara Lindner, Maureen McWay, Rita Rosano, Valerie Smith, and Kathleen Smith, APL Board Liaison

## **AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION**

After ten years of planning, we are happy to announce that our goal to add an addition to the present ambulance building (The Barn) is nearly complete. Our mission to provide a building that could house two ambulance crews during emergency situations is now a reality. This will allow our crews to respond to any situation in a more timely matter.

The Old Saybrook Ambulance Association had another busy year, responding to 1,400 calls for assistance including automobile accidents, medical emergencies, structure fires, and mutual aid to neighboring towns.

Advanced life support is provided to our citizens with the assistance of the Middlesex Paramedic Program and the Lifestar Helicopter Program of Hartford Hospital. This, with the continued use of the automatic defibrillators, has greatly contributed to the early treatment of heart attack patients.

In an effort to improve our service we are continuing a Junior Member Program that allows high school students to participate in certain activities and learn the operation of our association. Several students are currently active in this program.

Our Ambulance Association represents the true spirit of volunteerism in Old Saybrook, and we are indebted to our working members for their unselfish sacrifice of their time and efforts. We express our thanks to them for their dedication in providing an outstanding program to the community.

We would also like to thank the Police and Fire Departments for their cooperation and assistance during the year.

Our business office is open daily from 8.30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The office is managed by Rosemarie Sortito. Our telephone number is (860) 388-0161. Emergency calls for assistance should be routed via 911.

The Old Saybrook Ambulance Association is always looking for volunteers from the community who would like to get involved in our organization. If you are interested, please contact us through our business office.

**Dr. David Sliva, President**

**AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD**

<i>President</i>	Dr. David Sliva
<i>Vice President</i>	Charles Norz
<i>Secretary</i>	Shirley Colquhoun
<i>Treasurer</i>	Lisa Strickland

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

William Rochette	Frank Beth	Joseph Castro
Bill Lasky	Martin Drobiarz	

**WORKING MEMBERS**

William Rochette, AM1	Lisa Gogan	Katie Rochette
Donna Rochette, AM2	Robert Harris	Thomas Rochette
Ginny Denvir, AM3	Gregory Heins	Stephanie Toolan
David Skau	Doane Jepson	George Washburn
Aubree Calamarco	Christopher Loader	Janet Wysocki
Marykate Czepiel	Thomas Hernssen, Jr	Jaclyn Krawrez
Anthony Durbin	Frank Glowski	Steven Lesko
Julie Zito	Andy Greene	

**AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY**

The Connecticut General Statutes expressly empower the agency to regulate land uses within designated aquifer protection areas to protect public drinking water.

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the agency registered existing facilities within the aquifer protection area in order to grandfather current activities at each site. The majority of properties within this area are residential and exempt from registration or permitting so long as each remains residential in use. In the future, nonresidential activities, not previously registered, will require permits to ensure their compliance with APA regulations.

Sandy Prisloe, Environmental Planner, who conducts our enforcement activities, is available Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

The Commission meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Town Hall, first floor conference room. Kathy Noyes of the Land Use Department supports us as our administrative clerk.

**Paul H. Smith, *Chairman***

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

The Architectural Review Board is the steward of small-town character for Old Saybrook’s commercial and multifamily development. The Town Charter charges the board to “evaluate applications for site, building or sign development, redevelopment or construction from an architectural and aes-

thetic perspective with the goal of preserving the quality of our heritage and environment.” Over the years, the board has “raised the bar” by discussing issues that are often not considered by an owner and, therefore, are out of the scope of his or her designers, such that they often “fall through the cracks.” By taking a proactive policy in realistically considering each developer’s offerings and potential, we have found most all to be receptive to and appreciative of our requests and suggestions for adaptive fine-tuning. Our goal is to pass on to the Zoning Commission a positive recommendation reflecting mutually agreed-upon modifications for permitting.

The board reviews each development for building scale, style, and compatibility with its neighborhood; façade renovations are an important concern of the board because the Zoning Commission often permits renovations as-of-right. The board evaluates appropriateness of landscape design with respect to location and type. When reviewing signs, the board makes recommendations with regard to compatibility with adjacent signs; of particular concern is review of the lighting of signs to avoid excessive illumination, glare in the public right of way, and protection of the environment. These *town-wide design standards* guide the Architectural Review Board in their decision making and are available at the Town Hall as well as on the Town website to all applicants for land-use permits,.

Chris Costa, Zoning Enforcement Officer, is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

The Architectural Review Board meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, second floor conference room. Kathy Noyes of the Land Use Department supports us as our Recording Clerk.

**Theodore “Guy” Pendleton, *Chairman***

## **ASSESSOR**

Last year in December, Melanie Roberts retired in order to spend more time with her family. Mr. Rick Pine was hired to be the next Assistant Assessor; he has been in the position since January 2012 and doing well.

During the month of July the Fire Chief supplied the Assessor’s Office with the list of firemen that have qualified for the “Firemen’s Exemption.”

During July 2011 the residential field work for the 2013 revaluation was started. Luke Parker started with the seasonal properties, contacting as many owners as possible. Mr. Parker is checking exterior measurements and verifying the data on our existing records.

To date, Mr. Parker has made first visits on approximately 3,500 properties. Beginning in August 2012 we have also hired Jason Evans to assist Luke Parker in finishing the residential data collection. Jason will be working in the Cornfield Point area and eventually will be collecting and verifying data on properties in the north end of town above the turnpike. We expect this area to be finished by the end of November 2012.

Also in August 2012 Luke Parker and Patricia Stevenson begin the work of collecting and verifying personal property data. This will require a walk through of each business.

By state statute we must still send out Business Personal Property Declarations to all 1,100+ businesses in Old Saybrook. By state statute personal property declarations must be returned to the Assessor's Office by November 1 in order to avoid the 25-percent penalty for "None Filing." During November and December 2011 and many times into January of the next year we review and finalize these declarations as they are returned to the Assessor's Office.

In early December, we received the 2010 Supplemental Motor Vehicle List from DMV; this list contained 4,300 vehicles. When we receive this list from DMV there are approximately one-third unpriced. These unpriced vehicles take three to four days to price. This list is composed of vehicles that have been sold or traded since the prior assessment date of October 1, 2010. All of these vehicles will have been automatically prorated based on the date of transaction. The bill for these vehicles was due in January 2012.

During mid December 2011 we received the regular Motor Vehicle List, which contained 10,200 vehicles. As usual approximately one-third are also unpriced and these vehicles require seven to ten days to price.

We asked for and received a thirty-day extension to complete the duties of the October 1, 2011 Grand List.

The Board of Assessment Appeals held their hearings at the Old Saybrook Town Hall. These hearings were completed during several meetings in April 2012.

The application period for the State of Connecticut program for the Elderly and Disabled Homeowner began February 1, 2011 and ended May 15, 2011.

We have approximately 150 applicants for this grand list period. The Town of Old Saybrook also has a local option program that is approved by the Board of Selectmen. This year the Board of Selectmen approved the amount of \$75,000.00 to be distributed among those applicants that qualify.

The state's renters program began May 15, 2011 and runs through September 15, 2011.

*The assessor and assessor's staff wish to thank all of the Old Saybrook taxpayers for their patience and support.*

**Norman B. Wood CCMA II, Assessor**

**Rick Pine, Assistant Assessor**

## **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Permit activity for the fiscal year 2011-2012 jumped an amazing 27 percent over the previous year (1034 vs. 810 permits) while the estimated value of the work increased 12 percent (\$16.3M vs. \$14.5M). This disparity is most likely attributable to the somewhat lower cost of labor (more competitive market) as well as a recognition of more maintenance type work (reroofing, electrical upgrades, siding, etc.) being undertaken rather than new construction or

major additions. Additionally, repairs associated with Tropical Storm Irene bolstered the number of permits issued.

With regard to commercial work, the new West Marine complex on Boston Post Road was the only large project in town during this time frame.

Twelve new home permits were issued, exactly duplicating the number from the previous year. It should be noted that three of these permits were for fire-damaged homes and only one was related to Tropical Storm Irene. Due to the reported complexities with insurance settlements, at least five more homes will be demolished in the upcoming (2012-2013) fiscal year.

The town is continuing to experience the demolition/rebuild phenomenon of residential structures. Eight of the new home permits issued this year were for the construction of a new dwelling on an existing lot where a previous residence had been demolished.

Project Hope completed the sixteen affordable rental units on Ferry Road and the first occupancies had occurred at the end of this fiscal cycle. These well-appointed units are a breath of fresh air to families of limited means.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Kathy Marshall, Administrative Assistant, for another year of commendable service to the public. Also thanks to Mr. Tom Listorti and Mr. Jeff True, who were deputized immediately after Irene and pressed into service to assist in damage evaluations in the town.

It is the desire of this department that the health and safety of the town continue to be maintained for all of us to enjoy. This is our goal.

**Don Lucas**, *Building Official*

## **CONNECTICUT RIVER ESTUARY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY Forty-Fifth and Final Year**

As of the end of the 2011/2012 fiscal year, the Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency (CRERPA) completed its 45<sup>th</sup> and final year of planning for the nine-town Estuary region. Beginning with the 2012/2013 fiscal year, CRERPA has merged with the Midstate Regional Planning Agency to the north to form the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments. The new organization, commonly referred to as the "RiverCOG," represents the seventeen towns of the lower Connecticut River from Cromwell and Middletown south and will replace both RPAs, which will cease to exist once audits are conducted and the books are closed. This Annual Report will therefore address CRERPA in the past tense.

For the forty-five years of its operation, the CRERPA board consisted of two representatives from each member town, one representing the Board of Selectmen and the other representing the Planning Commission. The CRERPA Board met on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Agency office in the Saybrook Junction Marketplace. The outgoing chairman is Bruce Edgerton of Deep River.

CRERPA staff consisted of full- and part-time employees. Independent consultants were occasionally contracted on an as-needed basis. CRERPA was supported financially from a variety of federal, state, and local sources. A significant portion of the CRERPA budget included the annual contribution of its member towns, with other major support coming from the Connecticut Department of Transportation, the State Office of Policy and Management, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. The new RiverCOG will be funded in the same manner.

### ***Regional Organizations***

Throughout its forty-five-year history, CRERPA assisted its member towns in working together voluntarily to solve common problems affecting the Estuary Region. During the final year, CRERPA provided staff support and meeting space for several area organizations including the following:

**The Connecticut River Estuary Metropolitan Planning Organization:** The CREMPO Board, which will continue to exist for the foreseeable future, consists of the following: the nine chief elected officials and their alternates, a CRERPA board representative and alternate, and a representative from the Estuary Transit District. CREMPO provides executive oversight for transportation, state and federal transportation funding within the region, planning, and regional projects. During 2011-2012, CRERPA and CREMPO made significant progress on transportation preparedness for emergency response during disasters, including a special project for a geo-spatial transportation database for the thirty towns in DEMHS Region 2; planning for integrated transportation for pedestrians, bicyclists, public bus and rail passengers as well as automobile users; work on rail systems; and freight planning.

Although designated as an urban area, the region is characterized by small town centers separated by rural scenic areas and roadways. The need for alternative transportation, more efficient use of the automobile, and inter-modal planning remains an important goal of the region even with limited funding opportunities. The most promising work is with the small public transit system, including expansion of the Estuary Transit District with connections to Middletown's public bus service and streamlined service to New London's rail station. The planning for rail parking and expansion, transit-oriented development regulations, and expansion of Shoreline East service is another high priority.

**The Lower Connecticut Valley Selectmen's Association (LCVSA),** which met prior to the existence of CRERPA, brought the chief elected officials of the region together monthly to discuss common interests, including transportation, elderly services, solid waste disposal, and recycling. The LCVSA oversaw the operation of a regional household hazardous waste collection facility in Essex and is involved in emergency planning efforts. First Selectman Dick Smith of Deep River was the LCVSA Chairman during its final year.

Janice Ehle/Meyer served as the CRERPA Recycling, Environmental Education, and HHW Coordinator. Janice will continue to organize and manage the Household Hazardous Waste and electronics collections at the regional

facility in Essex, which was operated by CRERPA on behalf of the nine towns, for the new RiverCOG.

**The Connecticut River Gateway Commission**, which met monthly at the CRERPA office, was established in 1973 by state statute to protect the scenic and environmental qualities of the Lower Connecticut River through a compact among the eight towns that border the river estuary. The commission participates in the acquisition of land and easements for conservation purposes. Gateway member towns have agreed to adopt common zoning standards for development in the state-designated Gateway Area. The Gateway Commission has agreed that RiverCOG will provide staffing services moving forward into the future.

**The Lower Connecticut River Coast Guard Auxiliary**, which met monthly at the CRERPA offices, will continue to meet at the new RiverCOG offices as well.

### ***Regional Support Services***

**Local Technical Assistance:** A major component of CRERPA's work program throughout the years included technical assistance to individual member towns including review and comment on intermunicipal referrals for zoning applications, zone changes, subdivisions, or as required by statute. CRERPA staff was available to answer questions or conduct research on land use and planning for local officials as requested. Those services will be provided for most of the new seventeen-town region by staff of the RiverCOG.

**GIS and Environmental Planning:** CRERPA, with support from Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area, established and had served as the coordinator for the Lower Connecticut River and Coastal Region Land Trust Exchange (LTE), an informal organization whose members include: Chester Land Trust, Clinton Land Conservation Trust, Deep River Land Trust, Essex Land Trust, Lyme Land Conservation Trust, Old Lyme Land Conservation Trust, Old Saybrook Land Trust, Westbrook Land Conservation Trust, Haddam Land Trust, East Haddam Land Trust, Middlesex County Land Trust, Connecticut River Land Trust, and Salem Land Trust. CRERPA and the LTE have embraced and participate in the Wildlands and Woodlands initiative to further the burgeoning New- England-wide landscape scale preservation, conservation, and development vision. The RiverCOG will continue to perform the service of coordination for that effort and support CRERPA's GIS and Environmental Planning programs moving forward.

CRERPA developed a Viewshed Education Model for the land-use commissions of the Estuary Region and Connecticut River Gateway member towns. The study began in the spring with a survey of the commissions to assess their attitudes and perceptions towards viewshed protection on a local and regional scale but was also designed to encourage them to think about what viewsheds within their towns and the region they feel are important and why. The study will conclude with a report back to the commissions that will include the results of the survey, examples of existing Connecticut viewsheds regulations, and a representative regional geographic information system (GIS) viewshed model.



**The Estuary Transit District (ETD):** The ETD was established in 1981, with the help of CRERPA, to provide public transportation in the region. In July 2003, CRERPA successfully transferred administration of the program to an independent office for the Estuary Transit District. CRERPA provides transportation planning services for the district.

**Harbor Management:** Studies funded by the CT DEP and NOAA enabled CRERPA to be involved with several of the Harbor Management Commissions that exist on the lower river valley. CRERPA has also been involved in the guidance of a multitown effort to develop standards for private residential docks in the lower river and has recently worked with the Town of Westbrook to assist them in developing its first harbor management plan. Staff of the RiverCOG will continue to assist local harbor management commissions as needed.

**Kayak and Canoe Trails:** Through recent years, CRERPA has provided educational materials for canoers and kayakers through their Connecticut River Estuary Canoe and Kayak Trail program. This very popular service includes the trail map series of maps for waters of Old Lyme, Essex, Deep River and Old Saybrook. Free laminated trail guides can be found in most local libraries, town halls, the DEP Marine Headquarters, at the new RiverCOG office in Centerbrook, and online at the CRERPA website ([www.crerpa.org](http://www.crerpa.org)). The CRERPA website will soon be replaced with a new site designed especially for the RiverCOG.

**Emergency Management Planning:** CRERPA assisted in facilitation and the RiverCOG will continue to work with the Valley Shore Emergency Management Association (VSEMA) to facilitate their emergency planning goals with GIS, financial services, and grant-writing support. Jean Davies represents the interests of the CRERPA region on the DEMHS Region 2 Emergency Planning Team for emergency planning, sheltering, and evacuation.

**DEMHS:** During the fiscal year, CRERPA continued its responsibility of being the Fiduciary Agent for the Region 2 Regional Emergency Planning Team (REPT). Region 2 consists of the Chief Elected Officials of the thirty participating towns that span from Milford to Old Saybrook and New Haven to Meriden. The region takes in the South Central and parts of four other Regional Planning Organizations. The responsibilities include facilitating the development and expenditure of the annual budget; working with the Emergency Support Function (ESF) committees to prepare and amend the Regional Emergency Support Plan (RESP); observing the regional emergency exercise; inventorying of shared equipment; preparation of financial and written status reports; and other ancillary tasks that arise. RiverCOG will continue to provide such facilitation.

**Community Garden:** CRERPA offered to the estuary region a chance to purchase a seasonal plot and garden. The community garden is behind the Pratt House in Essex. The 10 x 10 plots are in full sun and fully fenced. The soil is prepared with manure and turned ready to plant. Classes are offered throughout the year on garden issues.

CRERPA staff assisted member towns with local open space plans, which serve as building blocks for a regional greenway plan. The greenway plan will be part of the background work for the Regional Plan of Conservation



and Development Board Members, which, as of June 30, 2012, consisted of the following representatives:

CHESTER	Sally Murray
CLINTON	Alan Kravitz.
DEEP RIVER	Bruce Edgerton, <i>Chairman</i>
ESSEX	Robert Laundy, Alan Kerr
KILLINGWORTH	Stephanie Warren
LYME	Rich Prowell
OLD LYME	Jane Marsh, <i>Vice Chairman</i>
OLD SAYBROOK	Karen Jo Marcolini, Cathryn Flanagan
WESTBROOK	William Neale, <i>Secretary</i>

CRERPA STAFF: Linda Krause, Executive Director; J. H. Torrance Downes, Senior Planner; L. Jean Davies, AICP, Principal Planner; Margot Burns, Environmental Planner; Jay Northrup, Senior Regional Planner; Janice Ehle-Meyer, Recycling Coordinator; Dorothy Papp, Financial Administrator; Pat Anthony, Office Manager.

## CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION

### *HISTORY*

In 1973, the Connecticut Legislature recognized the Lower Connecticut River Valley as one of the state's most important natural, recreational, and scenic areas and authorized establishment of the Connecticut River Gateway Commission. In July 1974, the commission became operational, with eight eligible towns, two regional planning agencies, and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection participating.

The Gateway Conservation Zone is about thirty miles long and includes those portions of its eight member towns (Chester, Deep River, East Haddam, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Old Lyme, and Old Saybrook, including the Borough of Fenwick) within view of the river. Since 1973, this area has been recognized as a unique area. The Nature Conservancy has designated the lower Connecticut River as one of its "Last Great Places"; the river's tidelands were recognized as an "internationally significant" habitat for waterfowl under the terms of the international Ramsar Convention; the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior has recognized the Lower Connecticut River Valley as "one of the most important ecological landscapes" in the United States; and in 1999, the river was designated as one of fourteen American Heritage Rivers by the President of the United States. The State Greenways Council designated the Gateway Conservation Zone as an official State Greenway in 2007. In May of 2012, U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar established the entire Connecticut River as the nation's first "National Blueway," further adding to the Connecticut River's full "trophy case." The National Blueway program is a part of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative.

### *SCENIC PRESERVATION RESPONSIBILITIES*

While other organizations have primarily concerned themselves with natural ecological systems in the river valley, this commission has concentrat-

ed its attention on the protection of key lands along the river that contribute to the valley's scenic qualities. Since its inception, the commission has worked with others to protect well over 1,000 acres of land through over \$1 million in gifts or purchase of scenic easements, development rights, and fee simple titles. These are located in all eight towns, ranging from the estuarine marshes of Old Lyme to the heights of Mount Tom in East Haddam. In recent years, the commission assisted the Old Saybrook Land Trust with a portion of the funding for purchase of property along the Old Saybrook waterfront, acquisition of the Roger Tory Peterson property in Old Lyme and has committed to funding toward the purchase of a riverfront parcel in the Town of Chester. In East Haddam, the Gateway Commission donated a large parcel of Gateway-owned conservation land to the East Haddam Land Trust. The Commission also owns a thirty-seven-acre parcel that is surrounded by the Machimoodus State Park that they will likely donate to the State of Connecticut at some point in the future. Most of the properties donated to the Gateway Commission are transferred to the State of Connecticut for stewardship.

### ***LAND USE OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES***

Another significant role assigned to the Gateway Commission by the 1973 legislation is establishment of common zoning standards for height, setback, lot coverage, and the like, which member towns have agreed to adopt and enforce within the Gateway Conservation Zone. At its monthly meetings, the commission reviews and acts on zone changes, regulations changes, and variance applications affecting land within the Conservation Zone referred to it by local boards and commissions. No zone change or change in regulations affecting land within the Conservation Zone can become effective without the commission's approval, a statutory responsibility that gives the Commission a great deal of authority and say over land use along the river in the lower river valley. It's a responsibility that the commission takes very seriously.

The Gateway Commission officially amended its zoning standards on February 26, 2004. Revisions include a new requirement for a vegetative buffer area along the riverfront, clarification of limitations on the height of structures, and greater emphasis on blending new structures with existing topography and landscaping. In order to accomplish these goals, local Planning & Zoning Commissions are now responsible for conducting Special Permit reviews for structures in excess of 4,000 square feet in total area in order to understand and mitigate adverse impacts of such large development on the "*natural and traditional riverway scene*." As a courtesy, the Gateway Commission, through staff, continues to offer to review these applications on behalf of the local commissions at their own cost. These standards respond to continuing concerns over highly visible, large, new homes along the riverbank and in the upland hills facing the river, as well as extensive tree-cutting for new development or new views for existing development. There may be two to three Special Exception applications reviewed per year in each municipality. There were approximately twenty-five variances applications reviewed during the 2011 – 2012 fiscal year.

As of June 30, 2012, Gateway member towns of Chester, Deep River, East Haddam, Haddam, Lyme, Old Lyme, and Old Saybrook have incorporated the

2004 standards into their zoning regulations as required by state statute. The Town of Essex is currently in discussions that may lead to the adoption of the 2004 standards into their Zoning Regulations. The commission hopes that 2012 is the year that Essex joins the other seven member towns in adopting the protective standards.

### ***OTHER ACTIVITIES***

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the Gateway Commission closely followed the proposed conveyance of seventeen acres of river-view property to a private developer in Haddam in trade for acreage adjacent to the Cockaponsett State Park, also in Haddam. Although a Special Act was passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor in 2011, the conveyance proposal ended — for now — when state-sanctioned appraisals were completed and the private developer decided to terminate their involvement in the trade based upon the discrepancy in the appraised values of the two properties. Some worry that with the Special Act still “on the books,” there is always a possibility that the conveyance could go forward at another time. Among many other reasons, the conveyance was considered ill-advised due to the resulting reluctance land benefactors now have when it comes to donating their land to the State of Connecticut for preservation purposes. The Gateway Commission, opposed to the conveyance and the legislation, will continue to monitor that situation.

During the fiscal year, the commission updated its Mission Booklet and printed 6,000 copies to distribute to the public. In addition to local town halls and libraries, copies were sent to area real estate agencies to inform agents about the Gateway protective mission. The commission and its staff are always ready to consult and assist the public and its member towns when it comes to protection of the viewscape of the lower Connecticut River. The Mission Booklet can be viewed on the Gateway Commission’s website at [www.ctrivergateway.org](http://www.ctrivergateway.org)

CRERPA (which will become a part of the seventeen-town Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Government during the 2012-2013 fiscal year) Environmental Planner Margot Burns has continued the collaboration of land trusts within the lower Connecticut River — the Lower Connecticut River and Coastal Region Land Trust Exchange (LTE) — with an eye toward a greater alliance and coordination amongst the trusts. Conservation effectiveness is the goal being pursued through regional collaboration without losing individual autonomy. The Gateway Commission’s sister land trust — the Connecticut River Land Trust — participates in the alliance work. Find out about the Exchange at [www.lcrlandtrustexchange.org](http://www.lcrlandtrustexchange.org)

As a part of the overall effort to better serve the public, Gateway Commission staff J.H. Torrance Downes continues to update design as well as information on the commission’s website. The site includes photographs from the lower river valley, the Gateway’s development standards, state statutes governing their authority, minutes, agendas, Annual Reports, and other pertinent information. The “News” section of the website is used to continually update the river community on topics related to the preservation mission of the Gateway Commission.

On June 7, 2012, the Gateway Commission held its annual river tour of the Gateway Conservation Zone. Although some rain fell, it was nothing like the severe thunderstorms that raced through the lower valley during the Gateway Commission's 2011 boat trip, which ended up staying tied to the dock. During the river trip, the commission updates attending local, state, and federal dignitaries on events that occurred throughout the year that impacted or may impact the Gateway Conservation Zone. The Gateway Commission will conduct the river trip again in June of 2013.

### **FINANCES**

Until 1991, the state supported the work of the commission with a modest annual appropriation for administrative purposes. These funds were removed from the state budget in 1992. The commission has had no state financial support since that time and has had to rely on income from its land- acquisition fund to meet its administrative costs of approximately \$48,000 per year. The absence of legal fees and Mission Booklet printing costs that occurred during fiscal year 2010–2011 resulted in less administrative costs for the commission during the 2011–2012 fiscal year. Even with the economic uncertainty that continued to exist during the past fiscal year, the commission's investment portfolio — which is closely monitored — continued to make gains, thereby again putting Gateway in a good financial position for the upcoming 2012–2013 fiscal year.

### **DELEGATES**

Members as of June 30, 2012 include Margaret Wilson (Treasurer) and Martha Wallace of Chester, Nancy Fischbach (Vice Chairman) and Amy Petrone of Deep River, Harvey Thomas and Emmett Lyman of East Haddam, Wally Schieferdecker of Essex, Susan R. Bement and Derek Turner of Haddam, J. Melvin Woody (Chairman) and Lisa Niccolai of Lyme, Peter Cable and Suzanne Thompson of Old Lyme, Madeline Fish (Secretary) and Belinda Ahern of Old Saybrook, Raul de Brigard and Stasia DeMichele of the Midstate Regional Planning Agency, and David Blatt of the Connecticut DEP (Commissioner's Representative). Fenwick Borough has been designated an ad hoc member and is represented by Borough Warden Ethel Davis. The Commission continues to seek representatives from the Town of Essex and for RiverCOG.

### **FUTURE DIRECTION**

The Gateway continues to explore a number of initiatives and collaborations that they feel further their mission to protect the "*natural and traditional riverway scene*" of the lower Connecticut River. Those initiatives include continued participation in the Lower Connecticut River and Coastal Region Land Trust Exchange (LTE), continuing efforts to expand their education and outreach through active community involvement and the enhancement of stewardship efforts in the lower river valley by finalizing the transfer of several properties owned by the Commission to the State of Connecticut or to local conservation organizations. The Commission is also a partner in an ongoing effort to preserve the Haddam Neck site of the decommissioned Connecticut Yankee atomic power plant. As always, the Gateway Commission continues

to financially support land preservation efforts where the conservation of such properties furthers their mission.

### **CONTACT**

For more information, contact RiverCOG/CRERPA Senior Planner and Gateway staff J. H. Torrance Downes at (860)581-8554 or at [jhtdownes@gmail.com](mailto:jhtdownes@gmail.com). Contact information can also be found on the web at [www.ctrivergateway.org](http://www.ctrivergateway.org).

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

The Conservation Commission's purpose is established by the CT General Statutes as "...the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural resources..." According to this legislation, the Conservation Commission must keep an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including open marshlands, swamps, and other wetlands, for the purpose of making the proper use of such areas; conduct research into the possible utilization of land areas of the municipality; and approve state grant-in-aid applications for programs to preserve or restrict the use of open space land to conservation or recreation purposes. In addition, the Conservation Commission may make recommendations on proposed land use changes to other municipal agencies (often by request of those agencies); recommend plans and programs for the development and use of all open areas; advertise, prepare, and distribute booklets, maps, charts, plans, and pamphlets for its purposes; inventory natural resources and formulate watershed management plans; acquire land and easements in the name of the municipality (in Old Saybrook, through the Land Acquisition Committee and with the approval of the townspeople); and manage municipally owned open space property when the agency normally responsible for such duties (Parks & Recreation, by our charter) delegates that power.

Old Saybrook's Plan of Conservation & Development incorporates the Conservation Commission's 2004 Plan of Conservation & Open Space. The plan's purposes and uses are many, including protecting the town's natural resources, providing information to Land Use regulatory commissions as they process land-use applications, and aiding the town's Land Acquisition Committee in identifying properties of value to preserve for future generations. This document defines the ongoing work of the Conservation Commission. For the past decade, priorities have been placed on developing greenways and trail systems for passive recreation, a Stewardship Plan for town land, developing a Natural Heritage Tour showcasing the town's natural resources, completing an Oyster River fishway system, and attaining our 21 percent Open Space goal.

At the present time, open space totals approximately 20 percent of the town's land area. With the Open Space Subdivision regulations passed by the Zoning Commission that require all large developments to set aside at least 30-50 percent of their land area in open space, it would appear that it is only a matter of time before approximately 25 percent of the land area of the town is set aside as open space.

Looking forward, it is time to update the Plan of Conservation & Open Space. With the present concerns for sustainability, climate change, and energy independence in this country, the new plan should address what we can do locally to help with these national and world efforts. At the very least, the plan should include a strong energy conservation program and a program of public education to encourage a stronger culture for environmental issues and a better understanding of what actions are most important for the town's sustainability. Of course the new plan should include continuing efforts for acquisition and stewardship of land for open space and the preservation of our natural resources and wildlife habitat.

In order to address this need for public outreach, the Conservation Commission has launched a new website, [SustainableSaybrook.org](http://SustainableSaybrook.org). This website will be the vehicle used to solicit Old Saybrook citizens' input into all the priorities for the future of the town. It will address not only environmental issues but also issues of economics and social equity, as these are equally essential to the sustainability of our town.

The website will develop strategies and goals in each of these twelve areas: Access & Mobility, the Economy, the Environment, Education, Energy, Food, Identity & Culture, Health, Waste Management, Housing & Shelter, Social Equity, and Water. The goals will be established collaboratively with the town's citizens, community-based organizations, local government agencies, and business groups. Community partners are being sought and all are welcome.

For each of the twelve major areas, there is a brief "big picture" section describing the national and world issue. Then the issue is translated into its local impact, and local goals for addressing the issue are proposed for comment. Following that opening page in each area, articles concerning the local issue are included.

Please visit [www.SustainableSaybrook.org](http://www.SustainableSaybrook.org) for a look at this work in progress, and begin commenting on the goals for Old Saybrook.

**Robert W. Fish**, *Chairman*

## **CYPRESS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Cypress Cemetery at Saybrook Point is one of the oldest, continuously operating cemeteries in Connecticut and the nation. The "old burial ground" with burials dating to the early to middle 1600s was established by Engineer Lion Gardiner when he laid out the Town at Saybrook Point for the "men of quality" who were to arrive from England. The oldest "marked" burial site dates from 1685, although other burials no doubt occurred prior to that. It is thought that some of the very earliest graves might actually lie beneath the paved portion of College Street along the front of the cemetery property, including that of original Saybrook Point landowner Matthew Griswold, after whom Griswold Point in Old Lyme is named. Early graves were likely identified with wooden markers, which have since disintegrated or disappeared.

Historically, the cemetery contains the remains of at least two Native Americans, located in unmarked graves; African slaves owned by early residents; and one of America's first almanac makers. Most of Old Saybrook's Congregational Church early ministers rest in Cypress, four of whose pastorates cover a period of 170 years. In addition to thirteen Revolutionary War Veterans buried in the cemetery, also located in Cypress is a popular tourist attraction, the final resting place of Lady Alice Fenwick, wife of Saybrook Colony's first governor. Lady Fenwick's grave was moved in 1870 to this location from her original "Tomb Hill" burial site located closer to the Connecticut River in the vicinity of the Pashebashauke Pavilion so as to make way for the Valley Railroad's riverfront facilities, since abandoned.

The Annual Meeting of the Cypress Cemetery Association was held on Saturday, October 22, 2011. During the meeting, the board continued discussions of the 400-plot expansion in the southeast corner of the cemetery property and the work done throughout the year to update records in preparation for computerization. Tree cutting, both proposed and completed, was reviewed for the benefit of the directors. The contract for the annual grounds maintenance was discussed. Association financial matters including summary of investments, were discussed by Treasurer Nancy Gilbert. Director Connelly advised the directors regarding anticipated investment strategies for the upcoming fiscal year. The discussion included recommendations presented to the directors regarding the most strategic balance of cash to equities/mutual funds for the upcoming fiscal year. A brief update of the repercussions of Tropical Storm Irene was presented as well. Although Saybrook Point and the Dock & Dine Restaurant in particular suffered damage during the storm, the relative protected location of the cemetery property on South Cove resulted in only downed tree limbs but no erosion or other property damage.

Discussion of the Memorial Wall Columbarium then occurred with the directors authorizing President Cahill to investigate costs and logistics for the facing of the raw concrete wall with an attractive and durable stone veneer. The completion of a walkway adjacent to the columbarium's low wall was discussed as were other general completion items. Office issues discussed included the acquisition of a safe and dehumidifier and the framing of important maps and photographs.

A discussion was conducted regarding the research being conducted by the Pequot Museum to find vestiges of early Indian wars in the Colony. Particular attention has been paid to Saybrook Point due to its location as the original English settlement at the mouth of the river, where many skirmishes occurred between colonists and Pequot Indians. In order to protect the property and the privacy of the families who have loved ones interred in the cemetery, the association welcomed the investigators to visit the cemetery like anyone else but limited expectations regarding excavations and file review. As of June 30, 2012, no further inquiries have been made by the researchers.

Cahill summarized much of the ongoing administrative work carried out by him and association member Susan Sangster so as to keep members updated on what has transpired during intervening months between meetings.



As of June 30, 2012, the Cypress Cemetery Board of Directors includes James W. Cahill, President; Nancy Gilbert, Treasurer; Robert Duncan, Assistant Treasurer; Elaine Staplins, Secretary; James Mitchell; J.H. Torrance Downes; Paul Connelly; and Susan Sangster.

Inquiries can be sent to the Cypress Cemetery Association at P.O. Box 40, Old Saybrook, CT 06475. The Cypress Cemetery website can be found at [www.cypresscemeteryosct.org](http://www.cypresscemeteryosct.org)

**James W. Cahill, *President***

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Business development activity in Old Saybrook has increased in 2012. A 25,000-square-foot West Marine retail store has opened on the corner of Spencer Plain Road and the Boston Post Road. The Colvest Group plan, which calls for development of two other businesses on the site, is underway; they are seeking tenants. Across Spencer Plain Road, plans for a Kohls and a small supermarket are progressing. Two currently vacant properties on the Post Road should reopen soon as a relocated Food Works and a relocated Honora Pearls business featuring a small retail operation. The loss of North Cove Outfitters on Main Street was a shock to the community; the site remains available. While we are pleased to see some activity, progress remains slow.

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) and the Chamber of Commerce have been working together in a number of areas. The EDC was a sponsor of the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce's Business Expo at the Saybrook Point Inn. We also sponsored the Annual Craft Fair. The chamber has been an active supporter of our project to replace the "welcome" signs at our North, East, and West gateways because signs at our gateways welcoming people to Old Saybrook have been lost or have fallen into disrepair. Replacement signs are planned for Route 154 near the town dog pound, near I-95 Exit 68S, and near the intersection of Spencer Plain Road and Boston Post Road. Commissioner DeCristoforo has reported that funding has been secured and final approvals are pending; we hope to complete the project before the ground freezes.

Communicating with potential businesses that might be interested in Old Saybrook is a primary responsibility of the Economic Development Commission. The EDC is developing Rack Cards that would be available at local commercial realtors, at the I-95 rest stop on our border, and at Town Hall and the chamber office. We are also considering a new web version of the video we produced some years ago.

Middlesex Community College's Allied Health classes for nursing students continue to be hosted by EDC in the Town Hall. At some point we hope to see a larger Middlesex Community College presence in Old Saybrook.

The primary mission of the Economic Development Commission is to retain and attract business to Old Saybrook. Business is vital to the community as it provides jobs and tax revenues as well as economic activity that ripples throughout the community. The Old Saybrook Board of Selectmen



appoints seven EDC Commissioners to serve five-year terms and two Alternate Commissioners to serve two-year terms. Current commissioners are Lauren Ashe, Dave Cole, John DeCristoforo, Secretary Jim Keating, Charles Polka, Chairman Todd Roberts, and Vice Chairman Elizabeth Swenson. Two former Commissioners, Bruce Greenfield and Maura Z. Richards, are Alternate Commissioners. Wilma Asch is Executive Director of the EDC.

**Jim Keating**, *Secretary*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

(In compliance with Section 10-224 Connecticut Statutes)

	Term Expires	Years of Service	Served Since
Dr. Mario Gaboury (R), <i>Chairman</i>	2015	13	Nov. 1999
Joanne Sullivan (R), <i>Vice Chairman</i>	2013	3	Nov. 2009
Karen Brodeur (D), <i>Secretary</i>	2013	19	Appointed Oct. 1993 Elected Nov. 1993
Eileen D. Baker (D)	2013	23	Nov. 1989
Dr. George Chang (D)	2015	5	Nov. 2007
Donna Dunn (R)	2013	4	Appointed Sept. 2008 Elected Nov. 2009
Kelley Kennedy (R)	2015	2	Appointed Sept. 2010 Elected Nov. 2011
Holly King (R)	2013	3	Nov. 2009
Vito Savino (R)	2015	0	Nov. 2011

Dear Old Saybrook Residents,

Throughout the school year the Board of Education reviews comprehensive information detailing student testing data, enrollment trends, building and maintenance assessments, secondary graduation results, and post-secondary student placements, along with special project reports and future goals. For this year’s Annual Town Report, the 2011-2016 Strategic Plan, as well as a list of 2011-2012 State and National Achievements are included.

**OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2016**

*OUR MISSION*

*The mission of the Old Saybrook Public Schools is to educate and prepare students to achieve their highest aspirations, care for others and the environment, and contribute to a global society by working in partnership with families and the community, and by engaging each learner in a rigorous, personalized, and meaningful educational program.*

## **OUR BELIEFS**

We believe:

- Everyone is unique and has equal worth.
- Everyone has the capacity to learn; individuals learn in different ways and at different rates.
- Continuous learning is essential and beneficial in a changing world.
- Individuals are responsible for their choices and actions.
- Society benefits when people contribute positively to the well-being of others.
- Respect, honesty, integrity, and humility are the foundation of effective relationships.
- Hard work and perseverance are necessary for continuous improvement.
- A safe, nurturing environment maximizes an individual's ability to learn.
- The responsible allocation and use of resources is necessary to ensure long-term sustainability.
- Knowledge and recognition of diversity prepares people to contribute in an interdependent, global community.
- Families are the primary influence in the development of individuals.
- The education of all our children is a shared responsibility of the entire community.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

- Each student will design and pursue the goals contained within a personalized success plan tailored to challenging academic, career, and personal aspirations.
- All of our students will reach goal on every state assessment and the percentage of students who reach the advanced level will increase annually.
- All students will demonstrate increasing proficiency in critical thinking, problem solving, applications of technology, collaboration, and communication, among other skill sets.
- All students will understand and consistently demonstrate character traits and behaviors necessary to become caring and contributing members of society.

## **PARAMETERS**

- We will always maintain safe, secure, and supportive environments conducive to learning.
- No new program or service will be accepted unless it is consistent with the strategic plan, benefits clearly justify costs, and provisions are made for professional development and program evaluation.
- No program or service will be retained unless it continues to make an optimal contribution to the mission and its benefits continue to justify the costs.
- School-based decisions must always be consistent with the strategic plan of the district.

- We will not tolerate behavior that demeans the dignity or worth of any individual or group.
- We will not tolerate ineffective performance by any staff member.
- The Board of Education shall never exceed the funds set forth and appropriated by the town government.

### **STRATEGIES**

1. We will develop and implement a systemic and transparent procedure to assess the effectiveness of programs in order to make informed decisions about their validity and to appropriately allocate resources.
2. We will improve internal and external communication and expand collaboration among staff, families, and the greater community.
3. We will develop and implement comprehensive services with families and community to address increasing social and emotional needs that may interfere with students' ability to learn.
4. We will ensure that all staff effectively use assessment data and differentiate instruction to assist students to maximize or exceed goal on standardized testing.
5. We will research, develop, and implement a comprehensive character education program that reflects the values of our community.
6. We will create a system that will assist students to design, pursue, and accomplish a personalized success plan.
7. We will embed critical thinking, problem solving, applications of technology, collaboration, and communication throughout the educational process to fully engage our students in meaningful learning.

### **2011-2012 STATE AND NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) Risk Management Achievement Award Recipient
- Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Board of Distinction Award –Level II
- CABE Award of Excellence: Educational Communication
- CABE Master Board of Education Member
- Old Saybrook Public Schools Food Services Program recognized by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture as an official “Farm To School” participant
- Old Saybrook High School Selection by U.S. News and World Report as one of the Nation's Best: Earning 11th out of 195 Connecticut High Schools, and 365th out of nearly 22,000 high schools in the nation
- Old Saybrook Middle School selected as a Spotlight School by the New England League of Middle Schools
- Destination Imagination State Competition — First Place Teams: Grades 4, 5, and 6
- Connecticut Math Counts — Old Saybrook Middle School Team: Third Place
- CHET Dream Big Art Competition Winners – Goodwin School Students
- Connecticut Organization of Language Teachers (COLT) Awards

- Internet National Consumer Protection Week Poster Contest: First Place
- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Earth Day Energy Green Circle Award
- Connecticut State Writers Competition Awards
- Coach of the Year – Class S – Wrestling
- All-State First Place – Wrestling
- All-State First Team – Girls Basketball
- All-State 4 x 800 Meter and 4 x 400 Meter – Girls Track and Field
- All-State Pole Vault and Sprint Medley Relay – Boys Track and Field
- All-State Second Team – Girls Lacrosse
- All-State First Team – Girls Soccer
- All-State First and Second Teams – Field Hockey

**Joseph Onofrio II, Superintendent of Schools**

**ENROLLMENT FIGURES**

**Official Reporting Date  
September 30, 2011**

***KATHLEEN E. GOODWIN SCHOOL***

Early Childhood Program.....	56
Kindergarten.....	87
Grade 1.....	85
Grade 2.....	102
Grade 3.....	103
<i>TOTAL .....</i>	<i>433</i>

***OLD SAYBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL***

Grade 4 .....	128
Grade 5.....	106
Grade 6 .....	123
Grade 7 .....	100
Grade 8 .....	132
<i>TOTAL .....</i>	<i>589</i>

***OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL***

Grade 9 .....	131
Grade 10 .....	137
Grade 11 .....	137
Grade 12 .....	148
<i>TOTAL .....</i>	<i>553</i>

*TOTAL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT..... 1,575*

## 2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR

MONTH	NUMBER OF STUDENT DAYS	DAYS WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION AND/OR EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS
AUGUST	1	New Student Orientation all schools: August 26, 2011 New Staff Orientation: August 25-26, 2011 Professional Development for Staff: August 29-30, 2011 First Day of School for Students: August 31, 2011
SEPTEMBER	21	Labor Day: September 5, 2011
OCTOBER	19	Columbus Day: October 10, 2011 Professional Development for Staff: October 11, 2011
NOVEMBER	17	Professional Development for Staff: November 7 & 8, 2011 Election Day: November 8, 2011 Veterans' Day: November 11, 2011 – School in Session KEG Parent Conferences (Early Dismissal) – Nov. 16, 2011 Thanksgiving Recess – Schools Closed: November 23, 2011 Schools Reopen: November 28, 2011
DECEMBER	17	Holiday Recess – Schools Closed: December 26, 2011 Schools Reopen: January 2, 2012
JANUARY	20	Martin Luther King Day: January 16, 2012
FEBRUARY	19	Winter Recess – Schools Closed: February 20, 2012 Schools Reopen: February 22, 2012
MARCH	22	
APRIL	15	Spring Recess – Schools Closed: April 6, 2012 Schools Reopen: April 16, 2012
MAY	21	Memorial Day: May 28, 2012 Professional Development Day: May 29, 2012
JUNE	8	Last Day of School: June 12, 2012 (Early Dismissal)
<b>TOTAL STUDENT SCHOOL DAYS: 180</b>		

Graduation for Old Saybrook High School students was on the 180<sup>th</sup> school day – June 15, 2012. (There were three (3) inclement-weather day during the 2011-2012 school year.)

## High School Graduating Class – June 2012

Dalton Thomas Ahern	Taylor Ann Goodhue	Brogen Elizabeth Olsen
Carlie Ann Albies	Casey Thomas Gowrie	Anthony Hayes Onorato
Timothy M. Albro	Amelia Graham	Margaret A. Ottersen
Maximillian W. Alden	Ryan Green	Matthew Brewster Owen-Smith
Damiano Antonio Ali	Jazmin Maria Gulliksen	Amanda Lorraine Pacelli
Spencer E. Arbige	Jenna Lynn Hansel	Joseph Potter
John R. Ayers	Shelby Hart	Kathryn Prozesky
Gabriel A. Bacewicz	John Hartson	Elton W. Purvis
Nathaniel William Backus	Alexis Noelle Henry	Arden Grace Rand
Bridget Julia Balosie	Hayley Higgins	Kelly Ann Ratchford
Justin A. Beal	William T. Honer	Samuel W. Redway
Samuel D. Benson	Sean Patrick Hughes	Joseph C. Regan
Karolis Berciunas	Christopher C. Hurlburt	Samantha Marie Regan
James Blackwell	Alex E. Husted	Emma Elizabeth Rehberg
Stephen D. Carlson	Victoria Elizabeth Ibbitson	Conor Reid
Gabrielle Carvajal-Poisson	Ashley Marie Jackson	Brittany D. Rosser
Julia Sofia Casberg	Isabela Mattar Jacobsen	Alina Russo
Rachel Chan	Alexis Victoria Johnson	Danielle Anna Ruszala
Kayla Elizabeth Chasse	Seth Johnson	Shaun Michael Sabia
Nicholas Clinton	Shannon Leigha Jones	Valerie Sacco
Spencer Marie Burns Cook	Brian James Kanizaj	Kayla Rose Salvietti
Jennifer Rose Cronin	James Kanizaj	Nicholas Santamaria
Mary Kathleen Czepiel	Matthew Kanizaj	Lorenzo Scarpelli
Ryan S. Daniels	Tenzin Kensang	Kyle R. Schlosser
Andrew Michael De Antonis	Jeremy Styre King	Joshua B. Schneider
Devin Delaney	Audra C. Kohm	Morgan Schondelmeier
Robert DelGiudice	Morgan Walsh Lyons	Collin Schuster
Kenneth Richard Dower, Jr.	Nikki F. Lyss	Meaghan Senack
Bailey C. Dowler	Lauren MacDonald	Asia Smith
Casey Dunne	Joseph Malone	Jade Spitale
Justine Maire Eastwood	Erica Maloy	Michael William Suits
Sara Elliott	Eric Manuel	Michael James Sweeney
Sarah Emigh	Kathryn Gloria Marshall	Nagwang Tamang
Brooke Ethier	Molly Rae Martin	Max Anthony Tarbell
Clay Farrell	Victoria Kate Maxson	Alexzandra Marie Thomas
Maria Filindarakis	Kayla Marie McAvoy	Krista Thorsen
Taylor Flynn	Daniel McDonald	Joseph Fabian Wales Tiden
Michaela Forte	Nora McNeil	Alexis Kaitlin Trabucchi
Michael Foster	Elisabeth M. McNivens	Ashley Vigorita
Victoria Franca	Taylor Lynn McQueen	Stefen M. Von Dassel
James Alexander Gadon	Danielle Marie Mehrtens	Chelsea Waida
Jennifer Gamble	Alison Messina	Tenzin Wangchuk
Tanguy Gauvrit	Alison McKenzie Miller	Nicholas K. White
Alfred D. Giangrande	Briana Moonan	Hailey Wilcox
Alyssa Giegerich	Kacey Elizabeth Mulligan	Erin Woods
Bethany Goodhue	Bethany Annbella Murdy	
	Julia Nucci	

# **OLD SAYBOOK BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE**

**50 Sheffield Street  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475**

## **2011-2012 STAFF**

	<b>2011-2012 Base Salary</b>		<b>Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2012</b>
Onofrio, J.	\$165,917	Superintendent of Schools	7 years
Sutman, H.	\$138,704	Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment	8 years
Pendleton, J.	\$118,620	Director of Operations, Facilities, Finance	9 years
Alvaro, C.	\$131,889	Co-Director of Student Support Services	5 years
Bai, K.	\$121,356	Co-Director of Student Support Services	15 years
Brigante, M.	\$19,519	Technology Associate (10 months)	4 years
Ingram, S.	\$79,876	Talent Development K - 12 (50%)	16 years
Listorti, P.	\$71,498	Business Assistant	16 years
Malinovsky	\$18,808	Technology Associate (10 months)	2 years
Morgan, M.	\$50,195	Payroll/Human Resource Assistant	12 years
Porter, R.	\$42,543	Management Information Co-Coordinator (60%)	27 years
Randall, K.	\$71,778	Superintendent's Executive Assistant	29 years
Sternhardt, M.	\$46,667	Accounts Payable Bookkeeper	13 years
Terry, M.	\$83,130	Management Information Co-Coordinator	7 years
Using, C.	\$50,970	School to Career Coordinator (186 days)	6 years
Warchol, L.	\$49,527	Administrative Assistant	24 years
Walencewicz, N.	\$46,261	Student Support Services Admin. Assistant	1 year

## **KATHLEEN E. GOODWIN SCHOOL**

**80 Old Boston Post Road**

## **2011-2012 STAFF**

	<b>2011-2012 Base Salary</b>		<b>Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2012</b>
Brown, S.	\$135,467	Principal	12 years
Bergeron, K.	\$12,481	Library Assistant (5 hrs/day, 180 days)	1 year
Meuselbach, L.	\$42,010	Secretary	19 years
Young, L.	\$42,010	Secretary	20 years

### **CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF:**

Goldstein, M.	\$59,720	Kindergarten	13 years
Goodhue, C.	\$64,257	Kindergarten	13 years
Kaliszewski, B.	\$61,989	Kindergarten	13 years
Meade, J.	\$79,876	Kindergarten	22 years
Marble- King, C.	\$64,257	Kindergarten Special Education (80%)	11 years
Rosenthal, M.	\$79,876	Kindergarten	27 years
Ayers, J.	\$66,546	Special Education Grade 1 (50%)	16 years
Canavan, E.	\$52,915	Grade 1	8 years

Collella, K.	\$61,989	Grade 1 Special Education	6 years
Dodds, J.	\$57,451	Grade 1	12 years
Gage, H.	\$55,183	Grade 1	9 years
Lawrie, J.	\$59,720	Grade 1	13 years
McElhone, S.	\$69,090	Grade 1	12 years
Roberts, J.	\$64,257	Grade 1 Special Education	10 years
Barnes, A.	\$48,378	Grade 2	3 years
Brodeur, J.	\$50,647	Grade 2 (50%)	2 years
Domnarski, K.	\$46,281	Grade 3	2 years
Hayes, H.	\$66,546	Grade 2	15 years
Holecz, J.	\$55,183	Grade 2 Special Education	10 years
Polito, L.	\$86,130	Grade 2	27 years
Souza, C.	\$55,183	Grade 2 (50%)	9 years
Taylor, E.	\$86,130	Grade 2	30 years
Trudeau, K.	\$43,466	Grade 2/Title I Math (60%)	5 years
Anderson, S.	\$57,451	Grade 3 (50%)	12 years
Annino, M.	\$55,183	Grade 3	9 years
Brown, C.	\$52,915	Grade 3	8 years
Espinosa, M.	\$57,451	Grade 3 (50%)	11 years
Hine, A.	\$64,013	Grade 3 (50%)	10 years
Fudge, S.	\$43,466	Grade 3 Special Education	2 years
Lemieux, K.	\$57,451	Grade 3	9 years
Murtori, L.	\$57,451	Grade 3 (50%)	4 years
Reed, D.	\$66,546	Grade 3	11 years
Ayer, J.	\$43,466	Special Education	5 years
Cerniglia, J	\$58,946	Title 1	2 years
Cole, J.	\$73,945	General Music (50%)	14 years
Colquhoun, P.	\$61,989	World Languages	12 years
Costanzo, A.	\$86,130	Psychologist	26 years
Coughlin, K.	\$79,876	Title 1	24 years
Collier, M.	\$86,130	Pre-school Special Education	24 years
Eley, J.	\$68,831	Pre-school Special Education	14 years
Eley, K.	\$50,647	Pre-school Special Education	5 years
Ranaudo, D	\$44,730	Pre-school/Kindergarten	5 years
Geer, L.	\$68,831	Music	20 years
Honer, C.	\$56,413	Special Education	8 years
Coogan, J.	\$56,413	Speech and Language Pathologist	5 years
Kelley, C.	\$69,080	Physical Education/Health	14 years
McGannon, S.	\$52,915	Library Media Specialist	6 years
Namin, P.	\$59,720	World Languages	8 years
Preston, B.	\$50,647	Speech and Language Pathologist	2 years
Ramm, E.	\$64,257	Visual Arts	10 years
Tedesco, D.	\$55,183	Guidance Counselor	1 year
White, M.	\$59,720	Enrichment Technology (50%)	6 years



# **OLD SAYBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**60 Sheffield Street**

## **2011-2012 STAFF**

	<b>2011-2012 Base Salary</b>		<b>Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2012</b>
Rafferty, M.	\$138,704	Principal	23 years
Ryan, M.	\$120,767	Associate Principal	5 years
Davis, B.	\$21,486	Clerical/Library Assistant (5 hrs/day, 180 days)	4 years
Doherty, T.	\$42,010	Secretary	28 years
Smith, P.	\$42,010	Secretary	6 years

## **CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF:**

Carroll, M.	\$64,257	Grade 4	19 years
Conti, H	\$55,183	Grade 4	3 years
Evans, K.	\$69,080	Grade 4	17 years
Hunnewell, L.	\$59,720	Grade 4	9 years
Riley, M.	\$69,080	Grade 4	14 years
Westcott, L.	\$48,378	Grade 4	4 years
Yale, E.	\$66,546	Grade 4	11 years
Brown, L.	\$64,257	Grade 5, Math/Science	17 years
Fillion, M.	\$66,831	Grade 5, Language Arts	18 years
Gallerani, C.	\$57,451	Grade 5, Math/Science	11 years
Marshall, P.	\$55,183	Grade 5, Language Arts	8 years
Watts-St.			
Germain, D.	\$59,720	Grade 5, Math/Science	10 years
Eaton, L.	\$69,080	Grade 6, Special Education	17 years
Hanratty, K.	\$55,183	Grade 6, Language Arts	5 years
Driscoll, D.	\$43,842	Grade 6, Science	2 years
Rufleth, E.	\$43,842	Grade 6, Social Studies	1 year
Sumby, E.	\$69,080	Grade 6, Math/Science	14 years
Walton, M.	\$61,480	Grade 6, Language Arts	11 years
Capezzone, P.	\$74,123	Grade 7, Special Education	20 years
Dow, K.	\$50,647	Grade 7, Mathematics	5 years
Harten, M.	\$58,946	Grade 7, Language Arts	3 years
Smith, P.	\$43,842	Grade 7, Language Arts	1 year
Taylor, A.	\$48,378	Grade 7, Language Arts	3 years
Looney, M.	\$66,546	Grade 7, Science	14 years
Wood, T.	\$61,989	Grade 7, Social Studies	16 years
Abbott, A.	\$43,842	Grade 8, Language Arts	1 year
Brockway, S.	\$79,876	Grade 8, Mathematics	18 years
Hakim, J.	\$59,720	Grade 8, World Language	13 years
Hanover, J.	\$55,183	Grade 8, Special Education	8 years
Labriola, R.	\$64,257	Grade 8, Social Studies	18 years
Plotkin, D.	\$50,647	Grade 8, Science	1 year
Snyder, J.	\$61,989	Grade 8, Language Arts	16 years
Byrne, D.	\$86,130	Physical Education	37 years
Castro, L.	\$53,881	Guidance Counselor (70%)	1 year
Conti, T.	\$61,989	Music	9 years
DeAngelo, K.	\$43,466	Special Education	2 years
Deutsch, D.	\$86,130	Computer Literacy and Mathematics	43 years

Diaz, S.	\$74,123	Psychologist	2 years
Donohue, M.	\$69,080	Guidance	12 years
Giegerich, J.	\$66,546	SRBI Language Arts Resource	12 years
Hurdis, H.	\$55,183	Special Education	3 years
Jenkins, K.	\$64,257	Grades 4 & 6, World Language (100%)	8 years
Jutkiewicz, P.	\$64,257	Music	12 years
Kane, C.	\$69,080	SRBI Language Arts Resource	17 years
Kielich, S.	\$55,183	Visual Arts	8 years
MacDonald, K.	\$47,255	SRBI Numeracy	7 years
Malaro, K.	\$39,679	Special Education	2 years
Mauri, J.	\$64,013	Physical Education	12 years
McLaughlin, E.	\$86,130	Grades 4, 5 & 6 World Language	32 years
Mokoid, A.	\$86,130	Visual Arts	28 years
O'Connor, J.	\$79,876	Speech and Language Pathologist	11 years
Pegnataro, D.	\$74,123	Library Media Specialist	24 years
Saunders, B.	\$55,183	Health and Physical Education	9 years
Slater, M.	\$79,876	Music	24 years
Taylor, J.	\$58,946	Guidance	9 years
Wallace, M.	\$43,842	World Languages	1 year
Zajac, C.	\$55,183	Special Education	9 years

## OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

**1111 Boston Post Road**

### 2011-2012 STAFF

	<b>2011-2012 Base Salary</b>		<b>Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2012</b>
Barton, O.	\$145,696	Principal	3 years
Winch, T.	\$125,425	Associate Principal	20 years
Bonin, K.	\$13,327	Library Assistant (5 hrs/day, 180 days)	12 years
Dwyer, D.	\$49,527	Administrative Assistant	26 years
Flammang, M.	\$42,010	Secretary	6 years
Spencer, S.	\$42,010	Secretary	10 years

### CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF:

Bushnel, G.	\$64,257	Language Arts	15 years
Fucci, S.	\$50,647	Language Arts	5 years
Murphy, S.	\$86,130	Language Arts (45%)	26 years
Pesce, J.	\$48,814	Language Arts and ELL	3 years
Proctor, J.	\$74,123	Language Arts	20 years
Vautrain, E.	\$61,989	Language Arts	3 years
Dimberg, B.	\$86,130	Mathematics	8 years
Faenza, C.	\$86,130	Mathematics	18 years
Hall, A.	\$79,876	Mathematics	23 years
O'Sullivan, K.	\$64,257	Mathematics (40%)	2 years
Sousa, K.	\$68,831	Mathematics	16 years
Valetta, G.	\$52,915	Mathematics	8 years
Behan, C.	\$79,876	Science	14 years

Carlone, K.	\$59,720	Science	5 years
Fleming, K.	\$46,110	Science	1 year
Howe, M.	\$79,876	Science	25 years
Peterson, M.	\$86,130	Science	28 years
Scherber, A.	\$61,989	Science	8 years
Sutliff-Brady, K.	\$57,451	Science	1 year
Arsenault, T.	\$64,257	Social Studies	16 years
Glover, J.	\$58,946	Social Studies	10 years
McDermott, M.	\$48,378	Social Studies	4 years
Roarick, M.	\$64,257	Social Studies	17 years
St. Germain, G.	\$79,707	Social Studies	16 years
Butler, M.	\$79,876	World Languages	40 years
Lavery, A.	\$42,204	World Languages	4 years
Samela, M.	\$86,130	World Languages	8 years
Zumbaum, M.	\$40,941	World Languages	3 years
Ayers, J.	\$66,546	Consumer and Family Science (50%)	16 years
Bairos, C.	\$64,013	Library Media Specialist	13 years
Bell, K.	\$59,720	Computer Literacy/Mathematics	13 years
Donahue, B.	\$56,413	Physical Education	4 years
Westner, L.	\$55,183	Physical Education	11 years
Chapman, L.	\$61,989	Technology Education	6 years
Clarke, S.	\$79,876	Music	17 years
LaBrec, L.	\$50,647	Consumer and Family Science (60%)	3 years
Frese, F.	\$49,781	Technology Education	10 years
Healy, M.	\$79,876	Guidance	15 years
Holthausen, G.	\$53,881	Psychologist	5 years
Linn, T.	\$57,451	Business Education (100%)	11 years
Maccio, D.	\$79,876	Visual Arts	30 years
DiSilvestro, S.	\$50,647	Special Education Transition	2 years
Mortali, A.	\$79,876	Visual Arts	28 years
Payne, T.	\$52,915	Special Education	8 years
Rice, M.	\$68,831	Health and Consumer Education	18 years
Shyloski, G.	\$43,842	Special Education	6 years
Taylor, J.	\$55,183	Music	10 years
Weber, C.	\$53,881	Guidance	5 years
Woods, S.	\$79,876	Special Education	15 years

**Please note:** For the purpose of this report, where applicable, the years of service have been rounded off. The base salaries of the certified teaching staff vary according to educational degrees, as well as years of service, as stated in the Professional Agreement between the Old Saybrook Board of Education and the Old Saybrook Education Association for the period of September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2014. Unless noted otherwise, noncertified administrative and school support staff members are employed for twelve months a year at 40 hours per week.

## OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE AND CUSTODIAL STAFF

**2011-2012  
Base Salary**  
(40 hrs. wk./12 months)

**Number of Years Employed in  
Old Saybrook Public Schools  
as of June 2012**

Kathleen Goodwin School

Stone, C.	\$52,346	Head Custodian	18 years
Shepard, A.	\$47,836	Custodian	10 years
Stopa, T.	\$47,377	Custodian	4 years

Old Saybrook Middle School

Faulkingham, M.	\$60,348	Head Custodian	18 years
Girardi, A.	\$47,836	Custodian	8 years
Levesque, L.	\$48,588	Custodian	15 years
Longley, W.	\$47,377	Custodian	5 years

Old Saybrook High School

Mitchell, D.	\$53,348	Head Custodian	16 years
Brigante, D.	\$46,917	Custodian	3 year
Diaz, J.	\$47,836	Custodian	15 years
Franklin, M.	\$47,836	Custodian	7 years

Grounds Maintenance – All Schools

Peterson, B.	\$50,342	Custodian	12 years
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District Maintenance – All Schools

Faulkingham, A.	\$63,245	Maintenance	8 years
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**Please note:** For the purpose of this report, where applicable, the years of service have been rounded off.

## OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOOD SERVICES STAFF

**2011-2012  
Base Salary**

**Number of Years Employed in  
Old Saybrook Public Schools  
as of June 2012**

Nuzzo, M.	\$76,500	Food Service Director (12 month)	3 years
Brigante, M.	\$11,310	Food Service Bookkeeper	1 year

(hourly/180 days)

St. Johns School

VonAhnen, J.	\$14,760	Manager	1 year
Perkins, C.	\$10,994	Food Service Helper	9 years

Kathleen Goodwin School

Kanizaj, B.	\$14,900	Manager	9 years
Bradley, N.	\$7,879	Food Service Helper	4 years

Old Saybrook Middle School

Naklick, D.	\$22,852	Manager	3 years
Paquin, S.	\$13,108	Assistant Manger	6 years
Lundeberg, L.	\$8,609	Food Service Helper	3 years
Mazzie, M.	\$6,091	Food Service Helper	14 years

Old Saybrook High School

Palermo, M.	\$23,039	Manager	1 year
Ai, J.	\$18,112	Assistant Manager	9 years
Brown, A.	\$12,044	Food Service Helper	3 years
Salemi, J.	\$11,755	Food Service Helper	4 years
Stenz, T.	\$9,573	Food Service Helper	1 year

**Please note:** For the purpose of this report, where applicable, the years of service have been rounded off.

**OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
MEDICAL SERVICES**

Dr. Nicholas Condulis, School Medical Advisor

<b>2011-2012 Base Salary</b> (35 hrs. wk./186 days)	<b>Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2012</b>
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Nursing Staff

VanDerHorst, K.	\$43,819	OS Middle School/Nurse Coordinator (50%)	7 years
D'Amato, S.	\$36,572	Old Saybrook High School	1 year
MacLeod, N.	\$35,317	St. John School (60%)	11 years
Morse, S.	\$36,220	Kathleen Goodwin School	1 year
Potts, K.	\$19,895	Old Saybrook Middle School (50%)	1 year

**Please note:** For the purpose of this report, where applicable, the years of service have been rounded off.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

The Old Saybrook Office of Emergency Management continues to be one of the most proactive municipal Emergency Management programs in the State of Connecticut. Our emergency planning team is compromised of public safety professionals who possess a diverse knowledge base of emergency planning and crisis management experience. This office is responsible for Homeland Security and emergency/crisis planning for the Town of Old Saybrook. Its staff continues to seek out opportunities to make Old Saybrook a disaster-resistant community. These efforts benefit the residents, visitors, and business owners of our special community.

Each year the department continues to review and update the town's existing emergency plans in concert with local, regional, state, and federal guidelines. With the support of the Board of Selectman and the Board of Finance, the office continues to procure equipment necessary to assist during a town-wide crisis and/or disaster as well as the opening of a municipal shelter.

This was exemplified during the response and recovery operations of Storm Irene. The town's Emergency Operations plan along with the Emergency Operations Center was truly put to the test during this crisis. Pre-landfall operations included the staging of vital equipment to clear debris and

provide showers, a door-to-door evacuation campaign, the establishment of a municipal shelter, and meeting with community leaders. The town's Public Safety Leadership team held regular meetings to strategize, collaborate, and coordinate efforts. Public Safety staffing plans were created and implemented while emergency equipment and other assets were inspected and, if necessary, readied. The town was extremely prepared for the storm.

As the storm converged on Old Saybrook, over one hundred residents sought shelter at the municipal shelter established at the Old Saybrook Senior High School. Following the storm, a damage assessment team was assembled and detailed to evaluate the state of the town. Immediate action took place to make safe hazardous conditions, clear main roadways, assist citizens in need, search damaged homes, and transport the newly displaced to our shelter. The shelter, while still providing overnight lodging for more than one hundred people, was also deemed the community's recovery center. The center offered showers, water, food, wi-fi access, television news, and bathroom facilities. In total, the recovery center provided for more than seven hundred showers, over five thousand pounds of ice, pallets and pallets of water and meals ready to eat to those with no power and no water. This sheltering and recovery center operation lasted for six days, marking the longest sustained operation of this magnitude in the last decade.

A debris management center was established, and coordination with the public utility companies occurred around the clock. The heavy rains and winds caused significant damage to homes, businesses, and municipal infrastructure. As required, the department applied for federal aid to assist homeowners, businesses, and the Town of Old Saybrook recover from this storm. This included the establishment of a local FEMA Disaster Recovery Center, where homeowners could apply for low-interest loans, and/or receive counseling from FEMA officials to determine if they qualified for federal aid. As the year came to a close, department leaders had spent much time with FEMA officials documenting damage, response expenses, and recovery costs. The director applied for FEMA reimbursement for all costs associated with Storm Irene response and recovery operations. As of the close of the fiscal year, FEMA had not yet made a determination on the town's funding application.

Public safety professionals, public school district staff, municipal employees, and citizens worked as one united team dedicated to helping others and returning our community "back to normal" as soon as possible. The success of the response and recovery to Storm Irene was not due to planning, resources, or leadership. Success was realized due to teamwork, dedication, and professionalism of the finest police, fire, EMS, Public Works, public health, youth and family, and public school district professionals.

In addition to Storm Irene Operations, personnel from the Office of Emergency Management have responded to many emergencies this past year, assisting members of the Department of Police Services, the Old Saybrook Fire Department, and the Old Saybrook Ambulance Association. At each emergency scene, Old Saybrook Emergency Management Personnel serve as members of the unified command team tasked with mitigating an emergency/crisis. Additionally, emergency management personnel are responsible for coordinating regional, state, federal, and private resources that are vital to the

mitigation and recovery effort of any emergency.

The Deputy Director of Emergency Operations continues to improve the town's Emergency Operations Center that serves as the Command and Control Center for the Office of the First Selectman and the town's Public Safety Leadership Team during a disaster. The EOC was essential during Storm Irene Operations.

Our director has been appointed to the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Coordinating Advisory Board. He also continues to serve, now in his third term, as the President of the Connecticut Emergency Management Association.

The Old Saybrook Office of Emergency Management receives tremendous support from and enjoys positive working relationships with the Board of Selectman, the Old Saybrook Department of Police Services, the Old Saybrook Fire Department, the Old Saybrook Ambulance Association, the Old Saybrook Board of Education, Public Works, and the Regional Public Health Authority. We thank the members of these associations and departments for their dedication and willingness to serve the citizens and visitors of the Town of Old Saybrook.

**Michael A. Spera, *Director***

## **ESTUARY COUNCIL OF SENIORS, INC.**

The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. (ECSI) is a nonprofit regional senior center located at 220 Main Street in Old Saybrook, with café sites in Clinton, Westbrook, Chester, and Old Lyme. Since 1974, the ECSI's mission has been to promote seniors' quality of life, community involvement, and independent living. Last year the ECSI provided over 80,000 nutritious meals including Meals On Wheels, over 1,000 rides to medical outpatient appointments outside the nine-town Estuary Region, 676 free preventative health screenings, and social and exercise programs too numerous to count.

Tropical Storm Irene came through the area in late August 2011, leaving homes without power for days and even weeks. ECSI was only closed one day and was delivering Meals On Wheels to all of our clients within three days. ECSI welcomed many area residents without power for the comfort of air conditioning, a hot meal, free WiFi, and a place to charge their cell phones.

During the 2011/2012 fiscal year, ECSI provided 412 Old Saybrook seniors with 7,646 congregate meals and 8,012 Meals On Wheels (homebound meals), and 34 Old Saybrook seniors were provided 396 rides to medical appointments outside the nine-town Estuary Region through the Stan Greimann EMOTS program. In total 1,473 Old Saybrook seniors received 24,045 services through ECSI.

ECSI is funded in part by contributions from the nine towns in the Estuary Region, Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds made available under the Older Americans Act, other grants, individual donations, and fund-raising efforts. Like many other nonprofit organizations, ECSI's funding is being cut due to the state budget cuts to Senior Resources. I would like to

thank the Town of Old Saybrook for your continued support of our programs.

For information on our lunch program, Meals On Wheels, EMOTS, exercise programs, and social programs please call (860) 388-1611 weekdays from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Paula C. Ferrara**, *Executive Director*

## **ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT**

The Estuary Transit District (ETD) was formed in 1981 by the nine towns of the Connecticut River Estuary region — Clinton, Chester, Deep River, Essex, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. ETD's mission is to provide local, coordinated public transportation for all residents of the area. To meet this goal, ETD operates public transit via the 9 Town Transit (9TT) service.

9TT's four deviated fixed routes serve the main corridors of the region and provide connections to public transit providers serving the surrounding regions. The routes include the Old Saybrook to Madison Shoreline Shuttle, the Old Saybrook to Chester Riverside Shuttle, the Old Saybrook to Middletown Mid-Shore Express, and the new Old Saybrook to New London Southeast Shuttle. These routes offer free connections to the New Haven, New London/Norwich, Middletown, and Hartford area bus services.

In addition to the deviated fixed routes, 9TT provides door-to-door service throughout all nine towns of the Estuary region through its Dial-A-Ride service. As with all of 9TT's services, the Dial-A-Ride service is open to all persons with no age or disability restrictions. During the year, ETD expanded Dial-A-Ride services to include the town of Haddam.

During the year, ETD expanded the service hours of its Southeast Shuttle and Mid-Shore Express services to improve availability for work- and school-related trips. These expansions combined with the marketing efforts have led to an increase in ridership of 29 percent over the previous fiscal year to 94,163 trips, and 80 percent of trips are persons below 60 years of age! The continued growth has led to a need to purchase larger buses to accommodate the growing passenger loads.

After completing nearly \$900,000 in capital purchases over the past two years, ETD was awarded an additional \$675,000 to purchase seven replacement buses. In addition, ETD received funding to make three of the replacement buses hybrid electric, continuing the commitment to clean fuel technology.

The Estuary Transit District is governed by the ETD Board of Directors made up of one representative from each town, each having a weighted vote based on the population of the town they represent. The directors serve in a voluntary capacity to adopt policy, set budgets, and conduct long-term planning for the district. In 2008, the board hired First Transit, Inc., a professional transit management company, to provide an Executive Director to manage the day-to-day business of ETD. Regular board meetings are held on the third Friday every other month at 9:00 a.m. at the Estuary Transit District. All meetings are open to the public.



ETD continued to grow its unrestricted fund balance during the 2011-2012 fiscal year through aggressive financial management by staff and the board. This has enhanced ETD's cash flow position, reducing the need for borrowing.

### **Board of Directors**

Noel Bishop	Westbrook
Richard Cabral, <i>Chairman</i>	Killingworth
Ralph Eno	Lyme
John Forbis, <i>Treasurer</i>	Old Lyme
Roland Laine	Old Saybrook
Jack Spangler	Essex
Richard Smith	Deep River
Leslie Strauss, <i>Vice Chairman</i>	Chester
Virginia Zawoy, <i>Secretary</i>	Clinton

### **Administrative Staff**

Joseph Comerford	<i>Executive Director</i>
Paul Tyrrell	<i>Operations Manager</i>
Halyna Famiglietti	<i>Finance Manager</i>
Sue Traskos	<i>Lead Dispatcher</i>

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The Old Saybrook Fire Department is composed of a completely volunteer force of eighty-five members. We responded to 547 incidents for the fiscal year of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

Members of the Old Saybrook Fire Department are listed below.

### **Line Officers**

John T. Dunn, *Chief of Department*  
 Jay C. Rankin, *Deputy Chief*  
 Christopher Cestaro, *Assistant Chief of Apparatus*  
 Joseph Johnson, *Assistant Chief of Training*  
 Andrew Greene, *Captain of Training*  
 William Heiney, *Captain of Apparatus*  
 James Dion, *Training Lieutenant*  
 Jerry Gil, *Training Lieutenant*  
 John Gamble, *Engine Lieutenant*  
 Calin Calabrese, *Engine Lieutenant*  
 Ronald Selines, *Rescue Lieutenant*  
 Past Chief Wayne Wysocki, *Ladder Officer*  
 Past Chief Clark Maxson, *Marine Officer*

### **Past Chiefs still serving**

Ronald Baldi, *Past Chief 1973-1983*  
 Wayne Wysocki, *Past Chief 1983-1985*

David Heiney, Sr., *Past Chief 1999-2002*

Jeff True, *Past Chief 2003-2007*

Clark Maxson, *Past Chief 2007-2010*

### **Administrative Officers**

Ronald Baldi, *President*

Anthony Cronin, *Secretary*

Edmund Yeager, *Treasurer*

### **Firefighters**

Carlos Abreu

Ben Bagnati

Eric Duncan

David Faulkner

Mark Finnegan

Michael Franklin

Adam Gamble

Jackie Gearity

Pat Hanley

Robert Harris

David Heiney, Jr.

Erik Heiney

Eric Jorgensen

David LaMay

Tom Lemire

Steven Lesko

Tom Listorti

Chris Loader

Don Lucas

Rebecca Lucas

Timothy Lucas

Eric Messner

Geoff Nosal

Brenda Partyka

Richard Peterson

Todd Pompea

James Rankin

Katie Rochette

Tom Rochette

William Rochette

Anthony Ruitto

Bob Schuster

Kevin Shay

Tim Sheehan

Curtis Sirico

Kevin Slisz

David Skau

Michael Spera

Bill True

Robbert van der Horst

Scott Ward

Bruce Watford

Howard Williams

Tom Zemienieski

### **Probationary Firefighters**

Matt Colwell

Adam Gamble

Mason Hall

Thomas Heinssen, Jr.

Thomas Heinssen, Sr.

Kyle Schlosser

### **Junior Firefighters**

Davis Boyd

Jennifer Gamble

Brianna Hanley

Robert Hanley

Liam Duncan, *Secretary/Treasurer*

Charles Maxson, *Lieutenant*

Emma Rehberg

Lauren Rhodes

Kelsey Root

Daniel Skau, *Captain*

### **Support Members**

Skip Johnson

Jack Laterra

Richard Mulvihill

Rev. Craig Whitcher, *Fire Dept Chaplain*

Bob Peterson

Max Sabrin

Bill Schneider

A breakdown of responses for the fiscal year are shown below.

Misc. Fires	12
Building Fires	9
Cooking Fires	37
Furnace Fires	2
Car Fires	8
Boat Fire	2
Brush Fires	9
Outside Rubbish Fires	12
Gas/Vapor Explosion	1
Rescue	6
Medical Assists	24
Motor Vehicle Accidents with Injuries	66
Motor Vehicle vs Pedestrian Accidents	11
Motor Vehicle Accident with Extrication	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents without Injuries	39
Rescue Person in the Water/Ice	2
Elevator Rescue	2
Watercraft Boat Rescue	9
Hazardous Condition	9
Gas or Liquid Spill	26
Carbon Monoxide Incident	8
Electrical or Wiring Problems in a building	17
Power Line Down/Arcing	10
Building weakened or Collapsed	8
Water Emergency in a Building	6
Smoke in a residence or Building	3
Assist Police Dept	1
Public Service	8
Animal Rescue	3
Unauthorized Burning	2
Mutual Aid to area towns	20
Good Intent Call & False Alarm	84
Odor of Smoke	19
Malfunctioning Fire Alarm	50
Smoke Detector Sounding	30
CO Detector Sounding	10
Earthquake Assessment	8
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>574</b>
Estimated damage from fire	\$447,000

Statistics of incidents unfortunately don't paint the true picture of the property and people assisted throughout the year by the town's firefighters. Each day our members assist citizens and visitors to Old Saybrook and many of the incidents are uneventful. Some make their way into the paper or the news. Here are some that were newsworthy during the period.

July 20, 2011 Ingham Hill Road for two boats in storage on fire.

July 2, 2011 Residential Structure Fire 228 Ferry Road

August 18, 2011 Responded to an overturned boat off of Cornfield Point. The crew of the Fire Dept Zodiac Boat, Past Chief Jeff True, Firefighter William Heiney, and Probationary Firefighter Thomas Heinssen rescued Mr. Lewis Perry of Old Saybrook from the water within 12 minutes of the 911 call for help.

August 27, 2011 With the pending arrival of Hurricane Irene, firefighters teamed up with members of the Police Dept and Office of Emergency Management to go door to door notifying residents of the recommendation to evacuate south of Route 1 and Main Street.

August 27-28, 2011 From 7a.m. Saturday through 7 p.m. on Sunday Old Saybrook Firefighters served 1,183 man/women hours and had an average of 34 firefighters on per hour. The OSFD Kitchen fed Public Safety and Highway Dept personnel during the 36 hours, serving approximately 550 meals.

During the overnight hours firefighters slept on cots at the station and responded to several calls for assistance throughout the storm.

September 22, 2011 in the Town of Essex. Responded to Shoreline Clinic for smoke in the building and assisted with the evacuation of patients.

October 16, 2011 Boat accident against the east breakwater with four people on board.

October 20-21, 2011 in the Town of East Haddam. Crews responded with Polaris Ranger 6x6 for a forest fire

October 22, 2011 in the Town of Lyme on Hamburg Rd for a structure fire as Rapid Intervention Team

November 6, 2011 in the Town of Lyme on Seldens Island for two patients trapped under a fallen tree.

November 26, 2011 Residential kitchen fire on Ferry Road

December 10, 2011 Beach Road West in Chalker Beach for two homes on fire. A third home received minor damage. Credit goes to the Essex and Old Lyme Fire Departments for deploying over 3,700 feet of supply line from Route 1 to the fire scene.

December 25, 2011 Town of Old Lyme, Short Hills Dr for a structure fire

February 22, 2012 On Interstate 95 for a three-vehicle accident involving two tractor trailer trucks, one requiring extrication of the operator.

March 17, 2012 Honorary Firefighter Retired LT Commander Anthony Mammola passed away.

Commander Mammola was a well-respected citizen of Old Saybrook responsible for Chairing the Memorial Day Parade Committee for forty years.

March 19, 2012 Town of Essex for forest fire

March 26-27, 2012 Town of East Haddam Devils Hopyard for a forest fire

April 12, 2012 Town of Deep River for a fire at a Recycling Facility as Rapid Intervention Team

April 19, 2012 Town of Deep River for a structure fire as Rapid Intervention Team

**John T. Dunn, Chief of Department**

## **FIRE MARSHAL**

The Office of the Fire Marshal continued to conduct the existing commercial inspections, which include all apartments, hotels, motels, mercantile establishments, and restaurants for the past year. New building construction/renovation plan reviews and inspections picked up significantly from the previous year. Construction or restoration was also bolstered by the Hurricane Irene damage. Burning permits rose slightly by 20 percent. This office continued to oversee all sprinkler, fire alarm, and fire extinguishment systems as well as energy conservation within the town. Our fire prevention program continued to be very strong with our partnership with the Old Saybrook Fire Department (OSFD) and the Firefighter Phil Program. This office and the OSFD spoke to over 850 students as well as seniors and other groups over the past year regarding fire prevention.

It is fair to report that we had a safe year in terms of fire this year. There were a number large-loss fires from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012; this also includes other fires of smaller magnitude that did not result in injury, death, or the loss of home or business. This office tries to provide information regarding fire prevention through the Town of Old Saybrook Website as well as the media, but if there are subjects or items that you feel need attention, please contact our office. I would like to thank all of the town agencies, especially the Old Saybrook Fire and Police Departments for the cooperative effort in making this office run smoothly. I would also like to thank the East Lyme Fire Marshal's Office for their assistance with fire investigations and the Connecticut Department of Public Safety Office of the State Fire Marshal for all of their help and assistance throughout the year.

With the ever-growing costs of fuel, this office would like to strongly urge you to have your fuel systems serviced and checked by a licensed professional either prior to or during the heating season. It is imperative to have your chimneys cleaned and alternative heating sources checked over prior to using them for the heating season if you are looking to enhance or change your heating system. Please contact this office (860) 395-3133 or the Building Official Don Lucas (860) 395-3130 prior to doing so.

**MAKE SURE ALL SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS HAVE FRESH BATTERIES BEFORE WINTER.**

**REMEMBER TO CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS!**

Last but not least: If you are a town resident and are in need of a smoke detector or carbon monoxide detector please do not hesitate to contact this office and we'll be happy in assisting you in obtain a smoke detector for your home.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS OFFICE PLEASE VISIT US ON THE WEB @ [www.oldsaybrookct.org](http://www.oldsaybrookct.org) CLICK ON FIRE MARSHAL**

**Donn V. Dobson, *Fire Marshal***

## HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Since its formation as the successor to the previous Waterfront Commission, the Old Saybrook Harbor Management Commission (HMC) has worked to address issues affecting management of all of Old Saybrook's harbors and waterfronts. The HMC's responsibilities include the town's harbor management jurisdictions on the Connecticut River, North Cove, South Cove, near-shore Long Island Sound, and other navigable waters seaward of the mean high-water line identified in the Harbor Management Plan approved by the state and adopted by the town in 2003.

HMC duties and responsibilities include all matters relating to the development, improvement, expansion, and management of public and private waterfront areas. It reviews and acts on plans for the construction, erection, improvement, alteration, expansion, extension, acquisition, operation, management, regulation, and supervision of wharves, piers, bulkheads, breakwaters, jetties, docks, slips, basins, docking facilities, beach areas, harbor development, and other waterfront installations.

The commission works closely with the state's Harbor Master in the course of carrying out its responsibilities, including activities for overseeing the allocation and use of mooring locations in North Cove and the use and condition of town waterfront facilities, including the town dock, ramp, and landing at North Cove and the Ferry Dock facility. The HMC has adopted policies and procedures for the use of the North Cove mooring area, the town dock at Sheffield Street, and the Ferry Road Dock facility. The commission maintains and publishes wait lists for the facilities it manages. The HMC does not have an office in the town hall but provides assistance via telephone or email contact with either commission clerk Gerri Lewis or dock master Scott Mitchell.

In 2009 the commission, working jointly with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, completed a federally funded \$4.3 million maintenance dredging of the North Cove Harbor of Refuge area. Among its other ongoing work, the HMC is currently working with the state D.E.E.P. to implement a \$250,000 STEAP grant to upgrade and improve the Ferry Dock facility.

The commission consists of elected members Raymond Collins, Chairman; Les Bowman, Secretary; George Wall; Richard Goduti; and David Cole. Scott Mitchell serves as both dock master for the town and state harbor master appointed by the governor. Gerri Lewis provides administrative support for the commission. The HMC generally meets on the second Monday of each month with specific dates and times being posted on the town website.

The Old Saybrook Harbor Management Commission is dedicated to its charge to achieve a safe and balanced use of the harbor area and protection of environmental quality in the its areas of jurisdiction.

**Raymond Collins, *Chairman***

## HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Historic District Commission consists of five regular members and three alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen to review for “appropriateness” the erection, alteration, demolition, or removal of the exterior architectural features of any principal or accessory building, structure, or other work within a historic district. The Old Saybrook Historic District Commission conducts its review of such proposals for properties within the North Cove Historic District.

The Historic District Regulations acknowledge that there are certain activities that are exempt from the requirement for a Certificate of Appropriateness, including the color of paint, improvements that are not visible from a public place or the waters, and repairs necessary for health or safety. The commission is notified of approval of any Request for Exemption (from the certificate process) after an inspection by the Building Inspector or the Zoning Enforcement Officer, who perform an administrative confirmation of the exemption. Anything not immediately clear is merely referred to the commission for the usual certificate process. A form to provide basic information in making such a request can be found on the town’s website.

As usual, we welcome residents of the district to attend meetings. The commission purposefully holds a public hearing on each application for Certificate of Appropriateness in anticipation of receiving information about the historical nature of these beautiful houses and the neighborhood. The commission meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall. You can keep abreast of what is on an agenda for any meeting through a variety of means, including legal notice in the *Hartford Courant* of new applications, posting at the Town Clerk’s office, and the town website, or request for delivery via regular mail by submitting a year’s-worth of self-addressed, stamped envelopes to the Town Clerk. You may subscribe to automatic delivery of agendas via electronic mail through the town website “subscription” service. It is our desire to rekindle an interest in the historic nature of the North Cove neighborhood, especially among its residents.

Chris Costa, Zoning Enforcement Officer, who conducts our enforcement activities, is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

The commission meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, first floor conference room. Susan Graham of the Land Use Department supports us as our recording clerk.

**Randi J. Bradbury**, *Chairman*

## OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Dedicated to Preserving, Protecting, and Promoting the History of Old Saybrook. The Old Saybrook Historical Society is a not-for-profit organization that operates through the efforts of dedicated volunteers. Located at 350 Main Street, Old Saybrook, the Society maintains the historic 1767 Gen. William Hart House, the Frank Stevenson Archives, and the heritage gardens. For further information, call 860-395-1635.*

### **WORKING TO BETTER SERVE YOU**

We are working to provide more efficient and effective services to our members and the community by participating in an intensive, two-year program to identify our strengths and areas needing improvement and begin taking steps for positive change. Involvement in this program was initiated by Old Saybrook Historical Society (OSHS) President Linda Kinsella.

This program, known as StEPs, an acronym for “Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations,” is sponsored by The Connecticut League of History Organizations and the Connecticut Humanities Council. We are one of twenty-five CT organizations chosen to take part in StEPs. The program provides training, mentoring, and grant funding for smaller Connecticut museums, historical societies, and other cultural organizations.

This year we partnered with five historical societies to produce the “Get Lost in Heritage” tourist brochure sponsored by a grant from the CT Humanities Council. It encourages visitors in lower Connecticut River Valley towns to seek out our historic sites. “Get Lost” bracelets and a chance to win an overnight stay donated by Saybrook Point Inn are offered at each museum visited.

### **ACTION IN THE ARCHIVES**

Our archives hold an impressive and growing collection of historic resources, genealogical publications, and other materials where students and members of the community can do research and gain knowledge of the town’s rich heritage.

To make the materials more easily accessible, we have been reorganizing the archives under the direction of Archivist Greg Thompson and Librarian Ellen O’Herlihy. Publications have been rearranged to be more “user friendly,” and documents are being scanned to make them available online and on disks.

We are building a new website that will be more interactive and will take credit cards, which will allow for the sale of books and CDs as well as event tickets. We continue to do research on request and will soon begin a training program for this purpose.

During the past year we have assisted many visitors from around the United States and often serve as unofficial hosts in welcoming and assisting visitors to our community.

We have benefited from high school volunteers and college student interns working in the gardens and archives. We welcome and need enthusiastic volunteers to build this important historical asset.

### **HART HOUSE GARDENS**

An energetic group of garden volunteers under the direction of Sherry



Eldridge have weeded, watered, and pruned the beautiful Hart House Gardens this year. They welcome volunteers any time of year and share some healthy exercise, fun, and friendship as well as solve plant problems and take an occasional coffee break.

High-school student Rico Patarini, a candidate for Eagle Scout, submitted plans to repair and paint the Childress Garden shed and successfully completed this task during summer.

Inspired by the beauty of the campus, musical performances, lawn croquet, exercises, and other social programs have been held there. Additional suggestions are always welcomed and can be discussed with Garden Planning Director Hadass Rubin.

### ***HART HOUSE HOSTS VISITORS***

Our centerpiece attraction is the General William Hart House. Guided tours of this 1767 Georgian-style home — a favorite with tourists — provide visitors with a glimpse of the past. Under the careful eyes of Donna DiBella and Marie McFarland, this house has been meticulously furnished with period artifacts.

A summer exhibit in the gallery contains priceless Hart Family heirlooms, some borrowed from family members. We also wish to thank Diana and Steve Gernhardt for loaning Hart family memorabilia.

The Historical Society voted to eliminate the admission fee and members of the community who have not been through this historic treasure are especially encouraged to visit.

### ***WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE***

Under the direction of Marie McFarlin, the student guide program for the Hart House has received much praise. Students from eighth to twelfth grade may apply for this training program by submitting an essay application in the spring. The society is pleased to recognize the students who serve in this program. During the school year we provide tours for student groups and work with the Kathleen E. Goodwin Elementary School to strengthen their local history curriculum. We also have cooperative arrangements with the Old Saybrook Middle School, and this summer several students mounted a photography exhibit in our gallery. Next year we look forward to working with students from St. John School.

### ***WAYS AND MEANS***

Our major fund raising-effort is led by Donna DiBella and members of the Ways and Means Committee. This year's highly successful "Hosting for History" event was held at the John Whittlesey House, a National Historic Landmark, and made available through the generosity of member-hosts Carol and Stephen Huber.

### ***OTHER ACTIVITIES***

Each year the society sponsors the Chapman Lecture Series. These free public presentations, held in cooperation with the Acton Public Library, include informal talks on topics of historic interest by noted authors, educators, and other authorities. This past year talks were given by James Clark, author of *Connecticut Fife and Drum Tradition*, Richard DeLuca, author of *Post Roads*

and *Iron Horses*, Nicholas F. Bellantoni, author of *Old Saybrook Beneath Your Feet: An Archaeological Town History*, and Walter Woodward, author of *John Winthrop, Jr., Saybrook, and the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Connecticut's Independence*.

A popular antiques appraisal was held and over several scores of family heirlooms and sentimental “treasures” were appraised. Local businesswoman and Historical Society board member Karen Emack-Dolson arranged for several local and area appraisers to generously contribute their expertise.

The Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center has received a grant from the U.S. National Park Service to conduct an archeological inquiry concerning the location of the second Saybrook Fort. The Historical Society is pleased to collaborate on this project. A series of public information sessions have already been held and many North-Cove-area homeowners have agreed to be a part of this venture.

**Linda Kinsella, President**

## **INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION**

The town established the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission in 1973 to regulate activities occurring within inland wetlands or watercourses and to review any activity occurring in the adjacent upland that could negatively impact these natural resources. The commission does not regulate activities within or adjacent to tidal wetlands, the Connecticut River, or Long Island Sound.

The commission is composed of seven regular members and three alternate members. The town's Board of Selectmen appoints three regular members and three alternate members to two-year terms on the commission. The remaining four commissioners consist of a representative appointed from each of four other town commissions — the Planning Commission, the Zoning Commission, the Conservation Commission, and the Economic Development Commission. The commission members serve the town by active participation on this commission as well as by staying up-to-date in their DEP certifications by attending state- and regionally sponsored workshops, seminars, and presentations that focus on the technical, regulatory, and administrative aspects of the commission's work.

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the commission processed twenty applications, acted on four reported violations and one permit transfer, and conducted informal discussions with property owners.

Sandy Prisloe, Environmental Planner, who conducts our enforcement activities, is available Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

The commission meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, first floor conference room. Kathy Noyes of the Land Use Department supports us as our administrative clerk.

**Paul H. Smith, Chairman**

## LAND USE DEPARTMENT

The Land Use Department conducts planning of the town's land by being proactive to municipal needs (long-range planning) via implementation of municipal improvements, programs, and standards recommended in the town's plans, including the Plan of Conservation & Development, as well as being "reactive" to market forces (current planning) via regulation of property owner's site-specific initiatives. To do so, the department administers the business of permitting, enforcement, inspection, and public record-keeping for the town's land-use agencies, including Aquifer Protection Agency, Architectural Review Board, Conservation Commission, Planning Commission, Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission, Historic District Commission, Zoning Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals. Local elections brought in new members to each agency this year to which the Land Use Department made available one-on-one orientation to each of twenty-one new "citizen planners."

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the department expanded its assistance to the Conservation Commission's ad hoc Outreach Committee and the Planning Commission's ad hoc Natural Hazard Mitigation Committee. These additional committees increased our annual schedule to 180 public meetings.

In addition to the regular workload of processing permits for these boards and commissions, we were busy this year with special town-initiated projects, including launching a new town web page that includes information to educate the public about the proposed FEMA Flood Map revisions. We are preparing to launch a new on-line mapping program in July of 2012 that will provide the public with access to "GIS-like" mapping and capabilities, as well as the assessor's field card information.

Congratulations to Joanne Rynecki, Land Use Clerk, who completed her degree in Urban Studies this year. As her required internship, Joanne took the lead on preparing the *Visual Preference Survey* for the Department to guide discussion with the boards and commissions regarding how the zoning regulations' *town-wide design standards* might better depict effective structures, information, and graphics for signs.

Chris Costa, Enforcement Officer, maintains regular office hours from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; Sandy Prisloe, Environmental Planner, maintains office hours from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Both the Enforcement Officer and Environmental Planner reserve afternoon and evening hours for consultations, inspections, or public meetings. Christine Nelson, Director and Town Planner, is available Monday through Thursday by appointment. Sarah Lyons, Administrative Assistant, supports the day-to-day functions of the department, and Joanne Rynecki, Land Use Clerk, coordinates the workflow between staff and the clerks of the various boards and commissions. Joanne also works on projects with us as needed.

The Land Use Department is open to assist the public from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Friday. Our clerks, Kathy Noyes, Susan Graham, Kim Barrows, and Stella Beaudoin can be found at the regularly scheduled public meetings of these agencies each month.

**Christine Nelson, AICP, Director**

## PARKS AND RECREATION

The Parks and Recreation Department and the Recreation Center are busy providing activities and times for residents to enjoy the many facilities that are available. The center's walking/jogging track, gym, and games room are open six days a week — seven days in the winter, while parks and most outside areas are available all year long. Park areas are open dawn to dusk.

The Parks and Recreation Department is governed by an elected board of seven commissioners and administered by a full-time director and staff. The commission is responsible for overseeing the operation, development, scheduling, and maintenance of town-owned parks, beaches, and recreation facilities. Also, the department provides a wide variety of year-round activities for residents from pre-school to senior citizens. Included are seasonal sports (individual and team leagues), sports camps, arts and crafts classes, adult bridge, summer day camps, playground camps, bus trips, concerts, parent/child activities, dances, multiple adult and youth gym activities, after-school activities, teen center, skating, coach's clinics, exercise programs, and multiple holiday/special events.

To better inform the community about activities and programs, the Department's website is **[oldsaybrookrec.com](http://oldsaybrookrec.com)**. Everyone is encouraged to enjoy the diverse recreational opportunities at the following facilities:

- **Recreation Center**, located behind the Town Hall. The full-size gym, walk/jog track, games room, preschool area, teen center, and department offices are located here. Printed schedules are available seasonally at the office.
- **Teen Center** This program occurs Monday-Thursday after school until 5:30 p.m. for 6th-8th graders and Friday after school until 4:00 p.m. for 5th graders. Friday nights from 7:00-9:30 p.m. are special for the 6th-8th grade crowd. They enjoy events such as DJ nights, Dodgeball Tournaments, Halloween Party, Wii contests, Football League, Talent Show, Movie Nights, Black & White Party, and so much more. The 9th-12th graders enjoy our facility Monday-Thursday from 5-7 p.m. and on Saturday nights from 7:30-10:30 p.m. The high school crowd enjoys activities such as floor hockey, flag football, basketball, pool tables, big screen TV, and badminton. Membership forms and information are available at the Parks and Recreation office.
- **Kavanagh Park**, located on Trask Road, has four tennis courts, basketball court, playscape, picnic tables, restroom, a youth baseball/softball field, and Splashpad. The Splashpad consists of six water elements on a concrete pad. This fun/safe facility is designed for preschool through third graders. Donations from the Helen Eukers Fund and the Old Saybrook Rotary Club funded this area, which is open during the summer months for residents and their guests.
- **Clark Community Park** on Schoolhouse Road has a lot to offer in its approximately 180 acres. Trails are maintained within the park and connect with the trail system at Great Cedars Conservation Area. This park area has two ball fields, basketball court, horse shoe pits, picnic

area, restroom, and shelter next to Crystal Lake. Trail maps are available at the park and at the Parks and Recreation office for the miles of marked trails that take the hiker deeper into the beautiful woods. An annual Fishing Derby is held here each spring along with the Easter Rock Hunt.

- **Exchange Club Park** is located on the corner of Bokum Rd and Route 154. This area has received upgrades and provides a pleasant area to relax and picnic. Winter skating with lights is available, weather permitting.
- **Great Cedars Conservation Area (West)** is 300-plus acres located off Ingham Hill Road in partnership with the Conservation Commission, which provides stewardship of this property. Trail maps are available and show the connection with Clark Community Park trails. Great Cedars East provides trails on 115 acre and is located on Millrock Rd and Merritt Lane.
- **Memorial Park** is located on the Town Green on Main Street. The gazebo is located here and hosts the department's summer Wednesday Night Free Concert Series along with many other community events, such as the Memorial Day ceremony, craft fair, and torch light carol sing. Watch for the winter skating rink to go up as soon as weather permits.
- **McMurray Field**, behind the firehouse, is a popular youth ball field (LL and PR) used throughout the year and is named for Police Office Raymond McMurray. The field also hosts the annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Parks and Recreation and the Old Saybrook Lion's Club for preschool through third-grade children.
- **Fort Saybrook Monument Park**, located at Saybrook Point, offers a wealth of historical information on storyboards. There are boardwalks and views of the Connecticut River for public enjoyment. Restrooms are available. Gardiner's Landing, located at Saybrook Point, offers Connecticut River viewing and passive recreation. This and the Monument Park have received longtime support from the Fort Saybrook Monument Park Association.
- **Saybrook Point Park/Pavilion**, located at the end of College Street, provides activities for the entire family. The pavilion continues to provide a wonderful meeting space while also being available for rent by Old Saybrook residents. The miniature golf course, under town ownership for twenty-three years, continues to provide affordable fun for the entire family. This valuable financial resource for the town brings in over one hundred thousand dollars in revenue seasonally (Memorial Day through Labor Day). The golf course receives upgrades and repairs before and during each season. Refreshment items are available. Picnic tables, benches, restrooms, and a fishing area continue to make this park a popular riverfront destination.
- **Town Beach** on Plum Bank Road provides swimming and beach activities on Long Island Sound. Restrooms, concession, and lifeguards are provided Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, weather permitting. Resident recreation passes are required for parking and are avail-

able at the Parks and Recreation office beginning the first week in May.

- **Harvey's Beach** welcomes the public and provides access to Old Saybrook's waterfront. Located on Great Hammock Road and Long Island Sound, it provides a shower, changing rooms, restrooms, part-time refreshments, and lifeguards. Resident parking passes are accepted or a daily admission fee is required. This beach is open Memorial Day through Labor Day, weather permitting.
- **Founder's Memorial Park** is located at the end of Coulter Street. Portions of the park are on land donated to the town by Robert and Elisha Clarke, members of the tenth-generation descendants of John Clarke, an original Saybrook Colony settler. This park provides wonderful viewing of North Cove and the Connecticut River. Founder's Memorial Park was opened in the fall of 2008. Many thanks to all the volunteers who continue to assist in keeping this area beautiful. Benches and information boards help visitors enjoy this gem.
- **Maple Avenue Playfield** is a park area off of Maple Avenue. This one-plus acre field is used for drop-in play, tee ball, and junior soccer activity.
- **Ferry Crossing Ballfield** is under construction and will hopefully be ready for play in September 2013

Most parks are available for public use outside of normal operational hours. Groups wishing to use an area need to fill out and get a facility request approved at the Parks and Recreation office. Reminder: Dogs must be on leashes and walked on the perimeter of park areas. Please pick up after your pet; fines do apply

The Parks and Recreation Department is an agency that relies on the co-operation, generosity, and skill of many volunteers, civic organizations, other town agencies, and school facilities. Anyone interested in becoming involved in a program or activity (coach, supervisor, or instructor) is encouraged to contact the office at 860-395-3152.

Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation continues to thank the selectmen and other town agencies plus the many private sponsors of recreational activities that make the many special events, concerts, youth parties, and activities possible.

**Steven Murphy, *Chairman***

## **PENSION AND BENEFITS BOARD**

Numerous changes occurred during the past year. Most notable were changes in the makeup of the Pension Board. Due to the retirement of our first selectman, Michael Pace, he has been replaced by newly elected first selectman Carl Fortuna. The town charter specifies that the first selectman is not ex officio but a regular voting member of the board. Also retiring due to a move to Florida was Dennis Guay, who has been replaced by Attorney Ray Muratori.

Another significant change occurred in the 457 municipal employees' sav-

ings plan. After considerable research and review of several proposals, the board secured a new provider for the 457 supplemental pension plan, replacing ING insurance with ICMA. It is expected that improved servicing of the voluntary tax-free savings program will be one of the major results of the change along with good financial results. This review involved numerous extra meetings of the board. Special thanks go to Gary Lehrman, who oversaw many of the details of the process. The deadline to have the changeover effective by the end of the fiscal year was met, while allowing those retirees who so desired to stay with ING.

A major change in health insurance also occurred through an initiative of the Board of Selectmen with a conversion from CIGNA to ConnectiCare. One aspect of the changeover is an offering of a high deductible healthcare program that also provides a consumer health savings account partially funded by the town that lowers the premium costs for both the town and the employee.

A change in the meeting dates for 2012 was implemented going from the third Wednesday of the month to the fourth Thursday, except in November.

Not changed is the board's focus on managing the investment portfolio. While the market value of our pension funds soared by the end of June in 2011 and continued for a while during the calendar year, the second half of the year became quite rocky. The valuation that reviewed the year ending June 30, 2011 and was delivered in early 2012 is more favorable than the market results known for the end of our fiscal year in June 30, 2012. So the market return reported for June 30, 2011 had increased by 22 percent to a total of \$16,718,997.00. By the end of June 2012 that figure declined to \$16,037,882.00, down over 2 percent. Nonetheless, the most recent valuation finds the funds available to the town for our future obligations to be at a more-than acceptable level of 94.6 percent funding. Next year's valuation will see that percent somewhat lower, but most likely at an acceptable level.

On the other hand, the health care funds were more conservatively invested in bonds and increased by 4.77 percent to a total of \$873,512.00. This is, of course, only a tenth of our total obligation to provide retiree health care for all town employees including teachers. These funds, known as OPEB (other post-employment benefits) are required to be valued every two years by GASB and so the actuarial report for 2010 showed a slight increase but is still requiring an annual contribution of \$361,000.00 in addition to the annual health insurance cost.

A valuation for the fire department was completed by November of 2011 and found the plan to be on track to be fully funded according to the twenty-year schedule at 61.6 percent, with assets of \$535,191.00 available. The fire-fighters' plan is entirely paid for by the town and its investment earnings. The recommended contributions for the next two years were set at \$68,716.00 for this fiscal year and at \$74,213.00 for 2013-14.

The Pension Valuation Report notes that as of June 30, 2011 there were twelve additional active members, which is probably due to increased participation by nonprofessional board of education members. A decrease in average salary declined by \$603.00 to \$51,686.00.

Complete copies of the three actuarial valuations are on file at the town accounting office and are available for review by the general public. Annual



Benefit Statements are provided for all current participants in the spring. Summary plan booklets are also available from the Accounting Department.

Retirements this year included the awarding of two disabilities: one to the Police Department and one to the Fire Department. Our most notable retirement was awarded to Michael Pace, First Selectman. Also a retirement was awarded to Richard Peterson.

Much appreciation is given to the current board members for their many hours of volunteer service spent on deliberating and reviewing policies and investment results. Several have continued to update their pension and investment knowledge by attending the fall and spring seminars of the Connecticut Public Pension Council. The chair also attended a three-day conference on Public Pension Policy in New England, where she moderated a panel of state treasurers.

Names of the board members appear elsewhere in the Annual Town Report. Special recognition also goes to Sharon Migliaccio for her efficient administrative, accounting, and secretarial assistance; to our financial consultant, Tom Forma, and his staff from Merrill Lynch; and to our Milliman actuaries, Althea Schwartz and Steve Lemanski.

Meetings of the board are now held on the fourth Thursday of the month except in November, when it is Thursday, the 29<sup>th</sup>. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference room and are open to the public. The actual schedule is on file in the town clerk's office. There are no regular meetings in July, August, and December. All the minutes of our meetings are also on file with the town clerk and usually available within three business days.

**Suzanne S. Taylor**, *Chairperson*

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Planning Commission is responsible for keeping current the town's Plan of Conservation & Development, which is a statement of the town's goals and policies for land use, municipal improvements, programs, and standards, portions of which the commission updated as recently as 2006. Proposals for major developments and town improvements are presented to the commission and are evaluated by the board for consistency with various plans of the town.

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the commission acted upon one referral from the Town of Essex, twelve referrals from the Zoning Commission for special exceptions applications, and one referral for approval for proposed amendments to the zoning regulations. The commission acted upon two proposals to modify a previously approved subdivision — one subdivision of land and lot line change and one proposal to re-subdivide land. Additionally, the commission updated its Subdivision Regulations and Regulations for Public Improvements to address statutory changes in bonding for public improvements.

In addition to its regular duties, the commission's ad hoc Natural Hazard Mitigation Committee worked with Jay Northrup from the Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency to update the town's Natural Hazard



Mitigation Plan (2006). Janis Esty, Robert Missel, and Catherine Flanagan served as members of the committee, as did John Talbott of the Zoning Commission, Jerry Brophy of the Conservation Commission, Steve Gernhardt of the Board of Selectmen, and Tom Stevenson of the Board of Finance. The committee will begin sharing its study of natural hazards in the next fiscal year.

The commission works closely with other boards and commissions. Presently, the chairman represents the commission on the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission; David Shearer serves on the Board of Selectmen's Land Acquisition Committee; and Catherine Flanagan is the commission's representative to the Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency. The commission would like to thank all three for their service and dedication.

Christine Nelson, Town Planner, is available Monday through Thursday by appointment in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

The commission meets on the first and Wednesdays of each month with the exception of July and August, when there is only one meeting, at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, first floor conference room. Kathy Noyes of the Land Use Department supports us as our recording clerk.

**Janis L. Esty, *Chairman***

## **DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES**

The Old Saybrook Department of Police Services provides diverse traditional and nontraditional law enforcement services to our ever-changing community, **twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week**. For the better part of each day, our department is the only municipal government agency open to serve the citizens and visitors of our community.

Old Saybrook citizens and those who choose to visit our community expect and demand prompt, professional law enforcement services. Business owners and residents alike depend on the police department to create a safe and sound atmosphere. This atmosphere, preserved by the Department of Police Services, enhances the local economy by making our community attractive to new businesses, patrons, and tourists. Parents demand that their children live in a safe community where they are befriended by the police. This includes the delivery of proactive services to students and faculty within our public and parochial schools. Our senior population requires nontraditional programs that provide them with crime prevention tips, identity protection, and prompt response to a medical crisis with superior equipment and well-trained personnel. We as an agency are proud to meet the challenges presented by the community each day.

**The quality of life we enjoy and have become accustomed to in Old Saybrook begins with the safety and security of our community.**

This past year the department has seen a slight reduction in the number of calls for service; however, there has been a notable increase in time-consuming investigations. Investigations concerning sexual assaults, burglaries, untimely

deaths, identity thefts, serious motor vehicle accidents, and narcotic violations require a significant amount of personnel resources and time to properly investigate. Complex investigations that require more time to investigate reduce the department's proactive patrol mission. With a limited number of police officers and more detailed investigations being required, time spent being reactive to crime and proactive services to prevent crime is no longer in balance. Often we are forced to reduce services to crime victims to respond to new calls for service. Additional resources may soon be needed, as Old Saybrook's service population continues to expand with new commercial and retail development. Despite these challenges, department members have done an exceptional job at solving crimes, making arrests, and recovering property over the past year.

The men and women of the Department of Police Services are proud of our role as the community's Primary Medical First Responder. When a medical emergency occurs in town, our Old Saybrook Police Officers are first to arrive with life-saving knowledge, skills, and equipment. After last year's \$30,000+ police union overtime concession, members have elevated their emergency medical services certification level. Now police officers who are Emergency Medical Technicians are able to provide advanced care and administer life-saving medication, all within minutes of a call for help. This service provided by a police department is unparalleled in our area.

The Old Saybrook Department of Police Services is responsible for the operation and administration of the town's Emergency Communications Center. The center is staffed with trained, certified personnel who meet state mandates maintaining various state and national emergency communication certifications. The Emergency Communications Center is responsible for all emergency and non-emergency telephone, radio, and facsimile communications for Old Saybrook's law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical services, and emergency management agencies. In addition to these duties, the center is the only after-hours point of contact for municipal departments, including those that assist our agency in emergencies such as the Building Department and Regional Public Health Department, the Office of the Fire Marshal, the Office of the First Selectman, and the Department of Public Works. Emergency dispatchers serve as the vital link between those who need help and those that can provide help. The services that are provided by the Emergency Communication Division are unparalleled in the area and are essential to the success of Old Saybrook's First Responder community.

This past year, the department set a goal to enhance the delivery of Emergency Medical Dispatching services. This mandated service provides a zero minute response time to those who contact the emergency communications center experiencing a medical crisis. Certified Dispatchers follow physician-approved standard protocols that dictate specific questions to be asked and emergency directions to be provided to the caller. This practice ensures that only the proper resources are sent to those in need and that in some cases emergency medical care can be provided prior to the arrival of the police. To enhance this service, each and every 911 call for a medical emergency was reviewed, analyzed, and scored in accordance with national standards. This process, called quality assurance and quality control, is paramount to the

proper delivery of services. The Medical Director from Middlesex Hospital participates in oversight of this program. In April of this past year, the department received national recognition for their service by being deemed an Accredited Center of Excellence by the National Academy of Dispatch. The Old Saybrook Emergency Communication Center is the first Primary 911 Center in the State of Connecticut to achieve this prestigious status by the National Academy.

The redesign of the department's fleet last year also earned national recognition. *Law and Order Magazine* bestowed the award of "Best SUV" in the country to the department for the innovative striping design that enhances omnipresence and promotes traffic safety messages. The award also recognized that the costs to repaint the existing patrol vehicles came from the Traffic Safety Fund, which is composed solely of monies returned from persons who plead guilty on infractions. Therefore no tax dollars were used in this process.

Department members spent much time this past year volunteering to assist those in need. The first ever "Give the Cops the Bird" campaign yielded much success. Department members collected 750 turkeys and over 2,000 pounds of food that provided Old Saybrook families in need with all the fixings for both Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. Remaining turkeys were donated to similar charities around the state. The department thanks Youth and Family Services, Stop and Shop, the Shoreline Soup Kitchen, and Dairy Queen of Old Saybrook for their support with this important community service project. The department also dedicated this year's Summer Stroll Activities to our youth by hosting activities such as face painting, pony rides, K-9 Demonstrations, equipment tours, cotton candy, and most importantly positive interactions with our police officers. While the event was only for an evening, our department's dedication to the community's youth is constant in our everyday activities. We are appreciative of the generosity of the citizens who make these events and others like the Holiday Toy Drive so successful.

Storm Irene provided unique challenges to the Department during the pre-storm, active storm, and recovery phases of the emergency. This included policing stores and gas stations as residents and visitors attempted to acquire supplies before the storm and participating in a door-to-door evacuation campaign. It also included all personnel working during the active storm responding to true emergencies and then around-the-clock intensive operations providing shelter, water, ice, and showers to displaced families. Increased patrols in severely damaged areas and areas without power were established and maintained around the clock. Each day, police officers worked closely with professionals from CL&P to establish make-safe and restoration priorities. All department personnel, despite their own personal needs as a result of the severe storm, performed exceptionally and prioritized the department's mission and the needs of community members. The department did not return to normal operations until all residents had power restored.

The department began to embrace the social media community towards the end of the year. The department's Facebook and Twitter pages now broadcast emergency messages concerning traffic alerts, missing persons, and other messages that need to be communicated quickly. These methods, along with the use of the state-sponsored mass calling system, will be used to communi-

cate with our residents when an emergency arises. We encourage all to “friend us” on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and go to CTAlert.gov to sign up to receive emergency notifications on your cell phone or by email.

While the department continues to meet the daily challenges that service requests create, department administrators and the elected Police Commissioners must also focus on the future of the department. One such future issue concerns employee longevity and replacement. Over the years the department has enjoyed employee longevity. This is a true testament of our staff’s dedication to the Old Saybrook Community as well as the police administration’s efforts to foster a positive working environment. However, seven (7) of the twenty-five (25) current law enforcement employees will be eligible to retire in the next two years, with six (6) eligible to retire in the coming fiscal year. *(Eight of the twenty-five officers have less than three years of service...)* Soon the town must begin to plan for the replacement of senior staff. Developing personnel assets that are required now and in the future is not only professionally responsible but necessary to meet the traditional law-enforcement needs of our community.

The police facility continues to be an issue that needs to be addressed. The department’s temporary location at 6 Custom Drive met the immediate needs of the town and department when it was forced to relocate the police operation following the destruction of the Main Street facility in 2010. The department and town will always be thankful for the police officers who designed and constructed the interior of the building, saving the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. However, the need for a proper facility designed specifically for law enforcement, in accordance with current regulations and standards, is needed. This past October the second Police Building Committee paid for a professional study of the former police station. The study revealed that the building should not be renovated and should be demolished. The committee endorsed this recommendation in October and forwarded it to First Selectman Michael Pace. With only one year left on the Custom Drive facility lease, the department is hopeful that the Board of Selectman will soon take action.

As always, the Department of Police Services wishes to thank our fellow public safety agencies, municipal government departments, the public school district, and regional and state partners. Without their assistance and collaborative efforts, it would be difficult to deliver superior services.

**Michael A. Spera, Chief of Police**

## **PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD**

During the 2010/2011 fiscal year the Public Health Nursing Board (PHNB) approved the renewal of the Visiting Nurses Association of Southeastern Connecticut (VNASC) contract, providing nursing services to the residents of the Town of Old Saybrook. Mary Lenzini, B.S.N., M.A., CHCE is the agency’s president. The PHNB budget for 2012/2013 submitted to and approved by the selectmen is \$42,653, of which \$29,558 is earmarked for the VNASC nursing contract, \$11,895 for primary and secondary public health services by other

providers, and **\$1,200** for administrative expenses.

The VNASC has been very successful in providing nursing care to our residents at minimal cost to the town. Alternative funding sources were utilized whenever feasible, with town funds allocated only as a last resort. During 2011/2012, the total cost to the town of VNASC nursing services was **\$27,909**, which was **\$703** below the contractual agreement of \$28,612. The VNASC provided another **\$70,413** of nursing services, covered by alternate funding sources. This is an increase in the care of acute and chronically ill Old Saybrook residents of 26 percent. Of the **\$12,841** budgeted for nursing services offered by all providers, **\$12,259** was spent.

<b>PHNB Funding Activity</b>	<b>Actual Spending 2011/2012</b>	<b>Below / (Over) The Budget</b>
VNASC Contractual Nursing Services	\$27,909	\$703
Administrative Expenses	\$1,105	\$95
Un-contracted PH/ Nursing Services	\$ 12,259	\$582
Total Spending FY 09-10	\$41,273	\$1,380
VNASC services funded from other Sources	\$70,413	NA

VNASC health care services for the residents of Old Saybrook during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 paid by town funds included:

**337.5** Nursing service hours for flu clinics, blood pressure screening, health counseling.

**38** Flu immunization vaccines were administered.

VNASC was also able to secure alternate funding to provide the following services during fiscal year ending June 30, 2012:

**805** Visits for nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and/or speech therapy, home health aide and/or homemaker services.

The VNASC provided cholesterol screening, diabetic screening, and blood pressure checks at the Estuary Center as well as blood pressure screenings and health education programs at the Saybrooke Village. In addition, the town nurse, Tina Belmont, attended the Soup Kitchen Food Pantry each week to offer health counseling. She also provided blood pressure screenings at the Acton Library. The VNASC participated in the Estuary Health Day and worked closely with the Connecticut River Health District to provide flu clinics for residents of all ages. The Town Nurse continued a monthly diabetes support group at the Estuary and began a nurse-managed clinic at the Estuary Senior Center. This clinic is open to anyone who needs health guidance/education. She also attends Early Childhood Education Council meetings to identify at-risk families who may need town services. This year the Town Nurse continued participation in the planning and implementation of the Dental Initiative.

As indicated previously, the cost to the town for these services was **\$27,909**. The relative disbursement of town funds for these various activities is summarized in the following exhibit:

Activity	2011/2012 Spending
Free Care Visits	\$0
Health/Wellness Visits	\$1,033
Clinics	\$25,880
Clinic Supplies, Brochures	\$996
<b>Total Spending</b>	<b>\$27,909</b>

In FY 2011/12 the PHNB continued to offer a nutrition education series at the Old Saybrook Food Pantry. Kathy Cobb, MS, RD provided several hands-on nutrition education programs to Soup Pantry participants. The programs have been well received by those attending; the costs of these classes were **\$625**.

In FY 2011-12 the PHNB received a request from Old Saybrook Social Services for a grant to assist Old Saybrook residents with their medical/health needs. These residents have complicated medical and health issues, very limited financial resources, and no health insurance. It was apparent to the PHNB that without some outside financial support, these residents’ health issues would most likely deteriorate, putting them at risk of hospitalization or worse. The PHNB funded a **\$6,500** grant to help these Old Saybrook residents.

Also, in FY 2011-2012 the PHNB received another request from Old Saybrook Social Services for a grant to fund the purchase of personal health and hygiene supplies for the un/under-insured residents of Old Saybrook. The board allocated **\$2,500** for this program.

Over the past few years, the PHNB, working in collaboration with other local health professionals (CT River Area Health District; Y&FS; Social Services; VNASC; Food Pantry; Kathy Cobb, Nutrition Educator; and Community Health Center (CHC) have been working to alleviate the identified gap in dental services/care to residents of Old Saybrook. The aforementioned group continues to meet regularly to address these issues and to date progress has been made. The CHC has offered ongoing dental clinics at the Food Pantry and local churches; four local dentists have offered to give pro-bono care to needy Old Saybrook residents; and the Old Saybrook Dental Fund has been established. The PHNB allocated **\$2,000** to the Dental Fund. The PHNB also received two public donations to the Dental Fund, \$1,000 from the Lions Club and \$400 from the Women’s Club.

Our second mission is to enable the development and expansion of nursing resources by providing financial assistance for continuing education and scholarship programs at no additional cost to the town. Our objective is to provide private funding for these programs without impacting the overall financial integrity of our existing endowment. We currently manage three private endowments — the “Flanagan Fund,” “Nightingale Fund,” and “Morris Fund.” The following table summarizes the current financial condition of these funds:

ENDOWMENT	FUNDS AVAILABLE
Flanagan Fund	\$102,610
Nightingale Fund	\$50,483
Morris Fund	\$16,221
<b>Total Endowment</b>	<b>\$169,314</b>

To supplement the Nightingale Scholarship Fund, the PHNB sponsored its annual appeal in March 2012 to the residents and businesses of the Old Saybrook area. The appeal was very successful, raising **\$9,085**. These funds combined with the interest generated from our endowments allowed us to offer four 2012/13 scholarships totaling **\$11,000**. The scholarships were awarded to Alyssa Giegerich, Joseph Tiden, and Tenzin Wangchuk, graduates of Old Saybrook High School, and Alexia Zagouras, a graduate of Hopkins School. The recipients will enter a nursing program or other related health programs this fall. The PHNB also paid **\$8,000** in scholarship funds to the 2011/2012 Scholarship recipients Sarah Bell, Tom Heinssen, Mary Kate Hoey, and Allison Nagy, who just completed their first academic year in their respective nursing/medical programs.

The PHNB offered another nursing scholarship in FY 2011-2012 through the Flanagan Fund. The criteria for this scholarship are that the recipient is an adult Old Saybrook resident who successfully completed one year in a LPN, RN, BSN, MSN, or APRN nursing program and shows proof of his or her intent to remain in the respective nursing program. This Flanagan scholarship for \$5,000 was awarded to Erica Varley, who is completing her BSN at Simmons College.

PHNB members are Sharon Craft, Diane Aldi DePaola, David Frankel, Janet Hodge Burke, Mary Kennedy, Elizabeth Owen, Janet Temple, and Joseph Termine. PHNB meetings are regularly scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month of the year with the exception of the months of July and August. Meetings are held in the Old Saybrook Town Hall.

**Diane Aldi DePaola**, *Chairman*

## PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of seventy-two miles of roadways. Maintenance includes snow plowing, sidewalk repair, pruning and taking down of trees, sweeping of sand (from winter), cleaning over 750 catch basins located throughout the town, and cutting of grass at town-owned buildings, town islands, and along roadsides. The maintenance of town parks and beaches is under the direction of the Public Works Department through the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Public Works Department is staffed with the Director of Public Works, a crew of six full-time employees, two twelve-week part time employees for summertime, and two full-time park maintainers.

The Public Works Department worked on drainage in the Otter Cove section of town. Basins were added on Otter Cove Drive, Laurel Way, Azalea



Way, and Hill Road. In other areas of Otter Cove, sections on the sides of the road were cut down to obtain sheet flow. The Public Works Department was hoping to chip seal the roads in the fall but Tropical Storm Irene gave us other plans. All the roads in the Otter Cove District were chip sealed in April.

Tropical Storm Irene came in on August 28, 2011 and put the Public Works Department into full swing. By Wednesday evening the Public Works Department had every town road open for access, which allowed the power, cable, and phone companies to work on their repairs. Thanks to the Old Saybrook Public Works crews for their dedication; the crews worked long days, went home to no power, and came in and gave their all until the job was completed. A sincere “thank-you” to Kurt Wittek, owner of the “Donnelly’s” property, who generously allowed the town to pile close to 20,000 yards of brush on his property. The Town’s tub grinder ran for many weeks after. Also, much thanks to our sub contractors B+L Construction, Robert J Dibble Inc., Downie Excavating & Septic, Rhodes Construction, Siniscalco Construction, RRD& Son Trucking, Finkelday Inc. and New England Timber.

Pennywise Lane drainage, milling, and paving was completed in November.

The Public Works Department did all the site work and concrete work for the addition at the Ambulance Barn through a unanimous vote of the Board of Selectmen.

Again, Public Works offered residential leaf pickup. Residents are asked to bag their leaves into the biodegradable paper bags and place them at curbside.

**Larry Bonin**, *Public Works Director*

## REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Between July 2011 and June 2012, the Registrars office administered multiple voting sessions including the Town Budget Referendum in May, the Municipal Election in November, and the Republican Presidential Preference Primary in April 2012. In addition, 2011-2012 saw redistricting of voter population — new population boundaries determined by the state and implemented by the Registrars office. Redistricting is the result of the ten-year census. Over 1,500 postcards were sent to affected residents, with many hours of mapping and recoding voters to their new voting location.

Throughout this active year, we attend quarterly district meetings and annual conferences to stay up to date with the Secretary of State’s office and changes to election law. Under the new administration of Denise Merrill and her Deputy James Spallone, new technology for voting will be their priority, as well as revisions to old voting laws. The goal is always to have better accuracy and availability of voter information for citizens and candidates, without compromising security and privacy for the voter.

Annually, the Registrars office, processes a canvass to update address changes, holds a voter registration session at Old Saybrook High School with students turning 18, and visits local nursing homes with absentee ballots. If you are permanently disabled, you may arrange to have an election official bring you a voter registration card to fill out or make changes at any time.



Currently, at the time of preparation for this Annual Report , the number of Registered Active Voters in the town is 7,309, of which 2,371 are registered Republicans, 2,052 are registered Democrats, 2,840 are registered Unaffiliated, and 46 are "Other." District 1, with recent redistricting, houses approximately 40 percent of the active voters voting at the middle school, the majority now voting in District 2, at the high school. We continue to use these schools as places to vote for each district's elections and primaries and solely use the high school for town referendums. The Registrars office would like to remind citizens that if you are registered as an unaffiliated voter, you are not eligible to vote in primaries; however, party changes can be made well in advance of primaries by contacting our office. The office at any time, can assist you with processing name changes, address changes, party changes, and where you vote. For further details, our office can be contacted at (860)395-3134.

As always, we shall continue to maintain impartiality and high standards associated with this office and to serve the citizens diligently and with good humor.

**Jean B. Winkler**, *Republican Registrar*

**Carol A. Conklin**, *Democratic Registrar*

## **RIVERSIDE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

The Old Saybrook Riverside Cemetery, located on Sheffield Street, incorporated on October 26, 1926, was established to provide burial space for the residents of Old Saybrook. A Board of Directors consisting of six members along with the president, superintendent, and secretary/treasurer, oversees the operation and establishes the regulations of the cemetery.

The association's fiscal year is from October 1 through September 30. An annual meeting is held during the month of October following the close of the previous fiscal year. Individuals who have purchased burial rights in the cemetery are considered members of the association and have the opportunity to attend the annual meeting.

At the annual meeting a review of the work done during the year is presented by the president. The superintendent reviews the number of graves sold, maintenance improvements, and repair work that has been done. The treasurer reviews the finances, providing detailed information regarding the income, expenses, and investment of funds.

Improvement of the preparation of the northwest section completed last year was continued during this year by replacing the fence along the west side from Sheffield Street to the northwest corner. This area is adjacent to the property of the Old Saybrook Senior Housing, Inc.

The cemetery is in reality a memorial of loved ones, and the Old Saybrook Riverside Cemetery Association continues to recognize the importance of maintaining gravesites in pristine condition, limiting the areas available for spring and winter decorum.

The officers and the board of directors make every attempt to accommodate the needs of the public when a burial space is purchased in Riverside

Cemetery. Each individual purchasing a grave is provided information with copies of the Rules and Regulations, the By-Laws, and a Certificate of Burial Reservation to the gravesite. The rules and regulations of the cemetery, established by the Board of Directors, assure the maintenance and appearance of the cemetery is always in excellent condition and remains attractive.

The association's Board of Directors conducts services as required. Requests are received for genealogy purposes, locations of gravesites, and lists of relatives interred.

The officers are John J. Torrenti, President; Patrick E. Burke, Superintendent; and Gloria C. Fogg, Secretary-Treasurer. Directors are Philip Appell, Norma Dyson, Barbara Maynard, William Peace, Thomas Stevenson, and Margaret Viggiano.

**John J. Torrenti**, *President*

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

The Board of Selectmen, consisting of Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., First Selectman, and Scott Giegerich and Steven Gernhardt, Selectmen; have been working hard since being elected on the initiatives listed below. There continues to be positive economic development in town, demonstrating that Old Saybrook, with its low mil rate, is an economically desirable town. During our first year in office, we have created, rejuvenated and/or accomplished the following initiatives:

1. A responsible budget document that appropriately funded our obligations and passed overwhelmingly in May by a 4 to 1 margin.
2. Continue to work on many areas of economic development by reaching out to business owners and developers.
3. Explored the return of the police station back to downtown Old Saybrook, which is where we believe it should be. With that, we hope to re-develop a parcel of land to increase parking and at the same time create significant economic opportunity for the south end of Main Street.
4. Put the long awaited Ferry Road town dock repair out to bid. This dock will be structurally re-enforced with monies the town received from a state grant.
5. Commenced a State-funded Route 1 corridor study in conjunction with Westbrook and Clinton, looking at ways to make Route 1 more pedestrian and bicycle friendly.
6. Combined portions of Town Hall purchasing with the Board of Education. Too many of our departments were purchasing supplies independently and over paying. We are now joining forces to drive better economies of scale and better pricing, thus resulting in greater savings.
7. Implementing a purchase order system which should go into effect Town-wide by either January 1, 2013 or July 1, 2013 allowing better control of spending and providing a "24/7" snapshot of where we stand with our budget within the fiscal year.

- 8. Addressed underfunding of the town’s pension by slowly increasing the amount placed in this fund. While we are still well-funded, we need to do better. In addition, we are also exploring options for moving away from the traditional defined benefit pension model.
- 9. We have eliminated the town’s most expensive insurance plan, resulting in an immediate costs savings for the fiscal year 2012-2013.
- 10. We have undertaken a human resources audit reviewing town hall policies and instituting best practices throughout Government.
- 11. Brought information technology (IT) in-house, reducing costs and creating IT efficiency.
- 12. Undertaken an energy audit to see where we can reduce costs. In addition, thermostats in town hall are set higher in the summer to reduce costs, while still maintaining a comfortable temperature.
- 13. Hired the town’s first Finance Director (Lisa Carver) who will examine and assist all departments with budget development and expense control.
- 14. Old Saybrook joined the Connecticut Town Clerk’s Portal for online access to Town records. The public now has 24/7 access to land records at no cost to the Town Clerk’s office.

The cost savings and efficiencies noted above are done with an eye towards benefitting the way Old Saybrook delivers services and keeping the mil rate low. So much of our town benefits from volunteerism, from beautifying Main Street to helping out those less fortunate. We always need volunteers in government, as well as on boards and commissions. So when you see an opportunity to make a difference, please lend your efforts. Government provides many services but needs a large and vibrant group of volunteers.

We continue to focus on initiatives that will increase community pride, spirit and participation. We will continue to address the Town’s issues in a business-like fashion.

Thank you to all of you who make this town so great.

**Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.,** *First Selectman*  
**Scott Giegerich,** *Selectman*  
**Steven Gernhardt,** *Selectman*

**TAX COLLECTOR**

Grand List Year October 1, 2010 – Mill Rate 14.06  
Collection: July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012

<u>Current Year</u>	Tax Levy	Uncollected Balance as of June 30, 2012
Real Estate	\$32,596,751.27	\$147,752.60
Personal Property	788,224.94	23,396.07
Motor Vehicle	1,241,306.77	28,022.98
Motor Vehicle Supplemental	144,658.04	8,464.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$34,770,941.02</b>	<b>\$207,636.64</b>

Back Tax Collection: Budgeted by the Board of Finance \$75,000.00  
Collected \$160,566.70.  
Interest & Lien Fees: Budgeted by the Board of Finance \$100,000.00  
Collected \$138,597.92.  
(Figures stated above subject to review and adjustment by town auditors.)

For Year End June 30, 2012 Current Year revenue collected exceeds the 99% collection rate established within the budget-making process. Back Tax Collection also exceeds the \$75,000.00 goal established within the budget-making process. Grand List Year 2010 created a total of 21,830 individual tax accounts for fiscal year 2011 / 2012.

In compliance with and to meet the requirement of Connecticut State Statute, Chapter 204, Sec. 12-167 Reports of tax collectors – the Final Posted Rate Book for Grand List October 1, 2010, fiscal year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 is on file with the Town Clerk’s Office, Town Hall, 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT for inspection by any interested party.

Our commitment to professional development continues and when possible we take advantage of educational seminars and opportunities offered by the Middlesex County Tax Collectors Association and the Connecticut Tax Collectors Association. We are constantly “networking” and seeking solutions for improved office operations and daily function within the Tax Office – ultimately getting monies collected to the Treasurer for investment as soon as possible.

Thank you to Wendy H. Morison, Assistant Tax Collector and to Judy Linscott (seasonal, as-needed help) in keeping the Tax Office on track and running smoothly. It is teamwork that gets the job done.

**Barry E. Maynard, CCMC, Tax Collector**

**TOWN CLERK and REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS**

Land Records recorded	2,894
Survey & Subdivision Maps recorded	45
Marriage Certificates recorded	170
Birth Certificates recorded	60
Death Certificates recorded	170
Dogs/Kennels registered	885/7
Town Clerk Fees deposited to General Fund	\$133,151
Conveyance Taxes deposited to General Fund	\$225,598
Monies disbursed by Town Clerk:	
Sports Licenses	\$4,768
Marriage Surcharge	\$2,641
Preservation Fees to State of Connecticut	\$5,776
PA09-229	\$103,968

I have been working with Cott Systems, our indexing vendor, and now you will be able to access via the internet, through the Connecticut Town

Clerks Portal, town Land Records (e.g., deeds, liens, etc.). This portal has been implemented at no cost to the Town Clerk's office, although to view the documents there is a subscriber fee. There is no charge to view the index. Just go to <https://connecticut-townclerks-records.com> and you will find up-to-the-minute information.

We welcome the opportunity to serve you. The Town Clerk's office is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or phone 860-395-3135. On off hours you can go to [www.oldsaybrookct.org](http://www.oldsaybrookct.org) and find information/forms if you click on Town Departments Town Clerk. Please do not hesitate to contact my staff, Tina or Cindy, or me if you need assistance of any kind.

**Sarah V. Becker, CCMC, Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics**

## TRANSFER STATION

The Transfer Station is located at 499 Middlesex Turnpike. Old Saybrook residential generated trash is accepted at this facility and must be separated for disposal. There are bins for newspaper, cardboard, junk mail, books, office paper, pizza boxes, cereal boxes, magazines, telephone books, metal and glass food containers, plastic containers, and bottles. We continue to ask the residents for help in our recycling efforts to help reduce our tonnage. The savings for the taxpayer will be measurable and the benefit to the environment will be priceless.

The town does not provide municipal trash pick-up. Residents interested in trash pick-up need to hire a private trash hauler.

The hours of operation are 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Monday, CLOSED Tuesday, CLOSED Wednesday, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Thursday, 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Friday, and 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Saturday. The Transfer Station is closed on Sunday.

Bins were constructed for separating concrete, brick, asphalt, and dirt. By separating these items delivery is now made to a local recycler and as a result eliminates a disposal fee. Also, we now collect electronics at the Transfer Station.

Residents who hire building contractors or landscape-type contractors who will be using the Transfer Station to drop off building demolition or brush and yard waste will need to obtain a ***Transfer Station Permit***. The permit must be filled out prior to using the Transfer Station. The permit requests homeowner and contractor information to include type of work, description of waste, start/finish date, and signature. The homeowner will be contacted for contractor verification. Information provided on the permit must be accurate and any falsification will impose an immediate penalty as notification of first offense served. The permit is free and available on our website, [www.oldsaybrookct.org](http://www.oldsaybrookct.org).

Fees for the brush/bulky waste material will be imposed as authorized under the provisions of Section 22a-220 of the General Statutes of Connecticut – Old Saybrook Transfer Stations Fees. A copy of the fee schedule is available in the Selectmen's Office and the Transfer Station.

The Transfer Station carted approximately:

2,556	Tons of Household Garbage (CRRRA Transfer Station, Essex)
163	Tons of Newspaper (CRRRA Transfer Station, Essex)
145	Tons of Bottles and Cans (CRRRA Transfer Station, Essex)
310	Tons of Junk mail, cereal and pizza boxes, magazines, office paper, and phone books (CRRRA Transfer Station, Essex)
1,375	Tons of Bulky Waste (Calamari, Essex)
139	Tons of Scrap Metal (to Calamari Recycling in Essex)
47	Tons of Scrap Metal (to Sattler's Recycling in Essex)
698	Gallons of Waste Oil
3.84	Tons of Batteries (Sattler's)
1,300	Each of Tires

Again, recycling is one of the easiest and most cost-effective methods to save energy and reduce landfill waste while improving our environment.

**Larry Bonin**, *Director of Public Works*

## TREASURER

Our financial goals are to meet the service and infrastructure needs of the citizens of the Town of Old Saybrook while increasing town equity, limiting long-term debt, avoiding mill rate spikes associated with project bonding, and reducing mill rates in general.

Even though economic conditions continue to be poor in the state and nation, the Town of Old Saybrook remains in excellent financial health, continuing to meet its financial goals and holding the mill rate to a low level. For the 11/12 year, General Fund revenues approximately matched budgeted expenditures (see details in the final section of this Town Report).

The net worth of the Town of Old Saybrook has increased continuously for the last ten years, with the last audited value at over \$77.8 million. Total bonded debt stands at just over \$19 million, compared to an allowable debt by state standards of over \$240 million for a town of our size. The Town established a new mill rate for the 12/13 fiscal year of 14.62, still one of the lowest in the State of Connecticut.

Moody's Investors Services recently recalibrated its municipal ratings and announced that the rating for the Town of Old Saybrook was raised to Aa2 from Aa3. That is now only two steps away from the highest Aaa rating. In today's marketplace, that rating is more important than ever for maintaining a low cost of debt. Going forward, it will be crucial to continue our conservative policies and build our fund balances in order to maintain or improve that rating.

**Robert W. Fish**, *Town Treasurer*

## WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

In 2011-2012 the Wastewater Management District (WWMD) Program gathered momentum as the contracts for Phase I continue to be prepared to be released concurrently to adhere to schedule. Even as the actual construction lagged a bit due to wet weather and nearly another dozen emergency upgrades were addressed, a new approach to the bid package was developed. This installer design approach [as opposed to engineer design] was approved by the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) in order to reduce the “soft costs” and will be employed in future contracts.

As the Phase II site investigation process will begin upon the completion of the Saybrook Acres construction in the fall of 2012, the WPCA has been gearing up with staff and equipment.

The WPCA purchased a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) device, which has proved indispensable for safety purposes in locating hidden objects like old gas tanks. The GPR also reduces the costs for change orders in the field when septic components or other objects are located up front, during the site investigation phase, as opposed to during construction.

It was also necessary for the WPCA to procure a utility truck. The vehicle not only serves to move the mini-excavator around the WWMD and other areas in town to dig test holes for soil testing, but it allows the crew to transport all the instruments necessary for site investigations. This truck and other WPCA equipment are valuable assets to the town.

All of this field activity — site investigations, construction oversight, and test hole digging — requires an experienced, responsive field crew to which the WPCA has added Ray Lebert. In order to round out their knowledge and keep up in the wastewater field, the WPCA staff continued their training, receiving Phase I and Phase II Subsurface Sewage Disposal certificates, completing sanitarian coursework, and attending Advanced Treatment System classes and vendor and regional wastewater seminars.

Over the past year, there have been over a dozen septic system failures in the WWMD designated as “emergencies” by the CT River Area Health District. When this occurs, the WPCA adds the emergency upgrade to one of the open contracts and that system is replaced as soon as possible. Along with obvious failures, where septage breaks out on the surface or backs into the house, the contractors and field crew have discovered broken pipes that have been disconnected from tanks and leaching components, allowing the septage to flow untreated into the ground. This supports the initial research data that these aging systems are no longer functioning and require repair. It is fortunate that the funding is available and Old Saybrook has the opportunity to take advantage of the grants and loans to upgrade the systems, remediate the pollution, and help the homeowners in the process.

Although there were emergency upgrades and systems installed for the first contract, there were no invoices issued in the last fiscal year. The Benefit Assessment program, which entails determining and applying the construction costs, “soft costs” (engineering, legal, regulator, administration), and grants and loans, was in the development process. In 2011-2012, the WPCA purchased software to manage the WWMD accounts and format and send the



semi-annual invoices in 2013.

Finally, the WPCA has been researching the installation of Advanced Treatment (AT) systems as demonstration units at the town beaches. Although Old Saybrook did not receive the Delegation of Authority from the CT DEEP in 2011-2012 to permit these nitrogen-removing systems for water proximity properties, the WPCA continues to prepare for the selection of AT systems.

As Chuck Wehrly stepped down from his second round of chairing the WPCA in the beginning of 2012, we extend our appreciation to him for his strong leadership and dedication.

As always, the WPCA staff encourages residents to stop into our office in Town Hall, call 395-2876, or attend our bi-monthly meetings on the second and fourth Mondays in Town Hall. Or for further information please refer to our website at [www.oswpca.org](http://www.oswpca.org).

**Elsa Payne, *Chairman***

## **YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMISSION**

Like our community, Youth and Family Services has grown and changed over time. When reviewing our statistics for this year, it is easy to see that the need for counseling services and social services support has grown, and in some areas, more than doubled. How and where YFS offers services is inherently flexible to accommodate the competing demands experienced by our student body and adult population. Responding to feedback from several “Community Needs” surveys, groups/services have been developed and offered for support around parenting, relationship building, anger management/conflict resolution, and substance abuse prevention and education. In response to the increased need for supportive services, YFS has diligently developed counseling practices for a broad range of therapeutic services and continues to work to increase access to services. Working collaboratively with the Old Saybrook Public Schools enables earlier detection and intervention for behavioral health issues with students, and YFS is able to offer support to the entire family system, whether through parenting resources or by offering scholarship opportunities for student/youth to become involved in our “Positive Youth Development” programming.

An area of continuing development is the Intern Training Program. YFS currently has six Master’s-level interns across disciplines of Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Social Work, and Marriage and Family Therapy. The interns offer additional support for our Positive Youth Development Coordinators, thereby allowing us to offer extended programs that are able to accommodate more students. YFS has agreed to provide training and supervision for students this past year from CCSU, UCONN, St. Josephs, SCSU, Liberty University, and Fordham University. Their involvement allows YFS to provide more comprehensive coverage for in-school collaboration and allows the agency to offer more varied services to individuals and families. The intern program adds a benefit to YFS at no cost to the taxpayer.

Volunteerism and community involvement continues to increase steadily



as we invite and encourage people from varying sectors of the community to become involved in our programs, perhaps as an instructor for OSMS After-School Clubs, a student who wants to mentor younger students, or business partners who help sponsor and “man the tables” at some of our many community functions, such as the Hidden Treasures Community Variety Show and Family Day. We would like to thank all who have contributed to our efforts over the past year.

The focus of our youth programming has been the intentional building of “Assets” — qualities and characteristics that have been determined through research to support positive growth and development of youth. It has been evidenced that youth with a higher percentage of developed “Assets” are also less likely to be involved in high-risk behaviors. Some of these “Assets” are “Community Values Youth,” “Positive Peer Influences,” “Social Competence,” and “Adult Role Models.” The language and philosophy of the Healthy Community Healthy Youth initiative, centered on the 40 Asset Developmental Model, is woven through everything YFS is involved in. We continue to seek opportunities within the community to develop meaningful roles for our youth, interning in businesses or serving on town boards and commissions. To learn more about the 40 Asset Model, visit [www.searchinstitute.org](http://www.searchinstitute.org)

Youth and Family Services has been a part of the Old Saybrook community fabric for thirty-six years. Looking back over annual reports from years ago, it is easy to see the tremendous change and growth of not only the agency but of the many relationships in the community that continue to be an integral part of how YFS is able to do the work that is so vital to the residents of our town. Counseling services for individuals and families/couples and the need for increased Social Services interventions are reflective of the societal pressures being felt not only in our community but across the nation. In response to the increased need for supportive services, YFS has diligently developed counseling practices for a broad range of therapeutic services and continues to work to increase access to all services. Working collaboratively with other town departments, organizations, and schools, Youth and Family Services has strengthened many of the community partnerships that have long been the foundation for programs and initiatives designed to promote relationship building and positive role-modeling for youth.

The staff of YFS have demonstrated their commitment to providing quality, compassionate care for the residents of Old Saybrook by the level of their involvement, receiving additional training, the development and facilitation of many programs targeted to meet specific needs in the community, and more. We continue to also focus on Positive Youth Development Programming, and the burgeoning Youth Asset Team at both OSMS and OSHS and the REACH team at OSHS are proof that our youth have a desire to be the change they want to see in the world!

### **Program/Service Listing**

#### ***Counseling Services***

- Served 121 cases at the Agency.
- Served numerous students at the schools: 9 at Goodwin (in socialization groups); 19 at the Middle School and High School (in groups and individually).

- Provided 1,331 individual and family counseling sessions.

### ***Positive Youth Development***

Through these programs young people learn new life skills, take leadership roles, and build self-esteem:

- *Youth Summer Stock Theatre Program* — engaged over 70 youth: 33 students (entering 7th – 9th grades) and 15 (entering 5th & 6th grades) performed productions of Grease; 23 students (in 10th – 12th grades) who were graduates of past Summer Stock productions volunteered as Director's Assistant, Choreographer Assistants, Lighting and Sound Crew, Stage Managers, and Creative Crew.
- *Summer Community Services Programs* — provided an opportunity for 33 7th- 12th graders to serve their community while completing service learning in either of two major areas — Hunger Awareness and Environmental Stewardship of our geographic area. Each project worked collaboratively with local organizations such as Shoreline Soup Kitchen.
- *Wilderness Challenge Program* — During the summer of 2011 10 students transitioning from 7th to 8th grade successfully completed our intensive challenge program and participated in follow-up activities throughout the year. Eight additional 7th grade students began pre-Wilderness team-building and leadership training during May and June 2012 in preparation for meeting their Wilderness Challenge.
- *High School REACH Team* (Responsible Educated Adolescents Can Help): a youth-driven initiative — 22 members of the High School REACH Team planned and carried out activities and service projects at the school and in the community this year. Group members also benefitted from leadership training to help them in their mission of promoting substance-free activities for their peers and awareness of prevention efforts in the community. Activities included a Sticker Shock Campaign (working with local businesses to raise awareness of adults about purchasing alcohol for underage youth and about social hosting liability); Spaghetti Dinner; Movie Night; Walk Like MADD fundraising events; Anti-Bullying Day; Middle School Wellness Day; Easter Egg and Rock Hunt; Mini-Golf Tournament; Pot-Luck Substance Free Dinner; Primp for Prom; and regional LEAD Conference.
- *Youth Asset Team* — 38 students served on the Youth Asset Team at the high school, receiving training in asset development and assisting with a multitude of programs including Youth Summer Stock; Community Variety Show; Family Day; serving as mentors for Freshman Retreat; Community Conversations; Winter and Summer Strolls; Chili Fest.
- *Middle School After-School Clubs* — 5 Sessions offering from 8 – 11 Clubs each session were held this year. A total of 461 registrations over the course of the school year were a testament to the success of this opportunity for students in the critical after-school hours.
- *Teen Trips* — 56 teens participated in trips coordinated by Youth

and Family Services in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department. Excursions were to Horseback Riding; Go-Kart Racing; Ocean Beach Park; Brownstone Exploration and Discovery; Providence Place Mall and IMAX Theatre; and Six Flags Amusement Park!

### ***Family Programming***

Opportunities were developed to provide topical information and affordable social events for families.

- *Family Matters Series* provided speakers and panel discussions on topical youth issues of interest to parents, teachers, and other community members.
- *Family Events* included Free Family Bowling, Free Winter Movie and Dinner Night, and Family Trips.
- *Ladies Nights* provided a special learning experience and fun night out for girls entering puberty and their female caregivers. A total of 92 participated in this year's programming facilitated by a guest RN/Educator.
- *Toddler Tunes* provided 61 children and 58 parents a fun, interactive music and movement program with their peers.
- *Movies on the Beach*, a collaboration with the OS Department of Police Services, were expanded to include games and other activities prior to the family-friendly films.

### ***Support Groups and Therapeutic Groups at the Agency***

- *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren* met twice/month.
- *Dialectical Behavior Therapy Groups* met weekly.

### ***Community Collaboration***

Youth and Family Services works closely with the schools, police, agencies, businesses, and organizations to assess community needs, develop strategies, and implement effective programs.

- Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth
- After School Clubs at Middle School and High School
- Early Childhood Council
- Local Drug and Alcohol Prevention Council
- Community Conversations
- Freshman Retreat
- Movies on the Beach
- Community Treasures Variety Show
- Family Day
- Student Wellness Programs at the Middle School and High School

### ***Social Services***

Our Social Services Coordinator continues to assist many Old Saybrook residents in a variety of ways, including emergency food, prescriptions and medical care; help with transportation; energy assistance; budget counseling; help applying for state and/or federal programs; employment workshops and networking; children's clothing and footwear, etc. Illustrated by the numbers

shown below of this year and the previous year, residents can see that the demand for social services has increased considerably.

This year we provided and coordinated the following to meet basic needs and emergency requests:

- Received 3640 requests for assistance, up from 1720 the previous year
- Provided financial aid for 215 Old Saybrook household emergencies, up from 145 the previous year
- Provided emergency food for 471 individuals, up from 235 families last year
- Processed Energy Assistance applications for 161 households, up from 93 households last year
- Provided emergency oil deliveries to 73 households vs. 84 last year
- Coordinated Holiday Giving Program for 272 children, up from 228 the previous year
- Coordinated Warm the Children assistance for 154 children, up from 85 the previous year

### ***Municipal Agent for the Elderly***

Our Municipal Agent for the Elderly is an officially appointed town representative responsible for providing the elderly and their families with information and assistance on programs, services, and benefits. Senior citizens continue to face numerous challenges, especially as changes occur in their physical health, the economy, etc. Issues of particular concern this year included:

- Heat and Utility Expenses
- Unavailability of Senior Housing
- Medical-Related Issues
- Transportation

**Detective Samuel B. Barnes**, *YFS Commission Chair*  
**Heather McNeil LMFT, LADC**, *Director OSYFS*

## **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

The Zoning Board of Appeals is a local judicial board that acts upon requests for variances from the Zoning Regulations or the Flood Plain Management Ordinance, as well as appeals of decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer in upholding those standards. In making its decisions regarding variances, the board considers whether the circumstances of the property are unique such that they result in an exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship in meeting the standards that are otherwise uniform for all other properties in the same zoning district. The board welcomes the comments of neighbors during the public hearing portion of any application and considers all information in judging the appropriateness of any variance.

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the board processed thirty-eight applications for variances of residential district regulations and two appeals of

decisions by the Zoning Enforcement Officer. The board held four special meetings this year to accommodate a 60-percent increase in applications over the previous fiscal year.

Chris Costa, Zoning Enforcement Officer, is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, first floor conference room. Kim Barrows of the Land Use Department supports us as our administrative clerk.

**Rexford H. McCall**, *Chairman*

## **ZONING COMMISSION**

The Connecticut General Statutes expressly empower the Zoning Commission to regulate land uses and enforce its regulations for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. The commission works exclusively with the Architectural Review Board for recommendations as to the aesthetics of any application for development according to the regulations and town-wide design standards. The commission regards the testimony of residents and business owners who participate in its public hearings as an important element for consideration in its decision-making process — please continue to attend and share your relevant local knowledge and experience.

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the commission reviewed four applications for Site Plan approval, fourteen applications for development by Special Exception, and three Petitions to Amend the Zoning Regulations. The commission held six special meetings this year to accommodate proposals to increase size of existing commercial developments. The commission approved two affordable housing developments, adding 105 new dwelling units, of which 30 will be deed-restricted to be sold/rented as “affordable.” Construction of a previously approved development for sixteen affordable dwellings, approved under the new Incentive Housing Zone regulations, reached completion.

The Zoning Enforcement Officer processed 203 applications for administrative approval of Certificates of Zoning Compliance, which is a 10-percent increase from the previous year, many of which were additions, renovations, or repairs attributed to damage from Tropical Storm Irene.

The commission continued its work toward reducing the visual clutter of illegal signs by reaching out to the businesses and merchant associations to educate them about the town’s sign regulations and enforcement. The commission participated in a *Visual Preference Survey* regarding how the Zoning Regulations’ *town-wide design standards* might better depict effective structures, information, and graphics for signs. The commission began workshops to update the existing sign regulations so they are easier to understand and to allow more options for local businesses while preserving town character and safety.

Chris Costa, Zoning Enforcement Officer, who conducts our enforcement activities, is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

The Zoning Commission meets on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first floor conference room. Susan Graham of the Land Use Department supports us as our Recording Clerk.

**Robert C. Friedmann, *Chairman***

## SECTION III

### EMPLOYEE WAGES AND REPRESENTATION

General Government employees are represented by two separate units of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees Union (AFSCME):

- 1) Local 818, Council #4, Supervisory Unit, with a three-year contract through June 30, 2014.
- 2) Local 1303-278, Council #4, Non-Supervisory Unit, with a four-year contract through June 30, 2014.

General Government employees not represented by a union or bargaining unit include the Finance Director, Town Planner, and those who work less than 20 hours per month on a regular basis. Elected officials' salaries are established by the Board of Finance.

There are two exclusive bargaining units for full time employees of the Department of Police Services. Twenty-three certified police officers are represented by the Connecticut Organization for Public Safety (C.O.P.S.) Their current contract expires June 30, 2013. Six certified Public Safety Dispatchers are represented by the United Public Service Employees Union. Their contract is currently in negotiation. The salary and benefit structure for the remaining per diem/part time civilian employees of the Department is established by the Police Chief and approved by the Police Commission through budget approval. The Chief of Police maintains a non-expiring contract with the Town of Old Saybrook Board of Police Commissioners which details salary and benefit information.

The Board of Education is represented by five separate unions or bargaining units:

- 1) Old Saybrook Administrator's Organization, with a contract through June 30, 2013.
- 2) Old Saybrook Education Association, with a contract through August 31, 2014.
- 3) Old Saybrook Educational Secretaries' Union, AFSCME Local 1303-224, Council #4 with a contract through June 20, 2013.
- 4) Old Saybrook Custodial Union, AFSCME Local 1303-020, Council #4, with a contract through June 30, 2012.
- 5) Old Saybrook Paraprofessional Municipal Employees, Independent CILU Local #53 with a contract through June 30, 2012.

The salaries of the Superintendent and Director of Operations, Facilities and Finance are determined by the Board of Education.

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Board of Education and General Government provide medical and life insurance benefits to qualified employees.

The town provides pension benefits to qualified employees and in fiscal year 2011–2012 contributed 6% of an employee's base wage to the Pension Fund. Of their salaries Board of Education employees (excluding teachers) contributed 5%, General Government employees contributed 5% and Police Department employees contributed 5%.

**2011-2012 SALARIES FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEEES****Accounting**

Migliaccio, Sharon	65,008.32	40
Parashin, Lucia	52,751.37	40
Vinciguerra, Janet	19,969.68	12

**Acton Library**

Adams, Anne	26,707.20	20
Anderson, Fran	18,073.39	25
Antolino, Pam	22,779.90	20
Bedell, Rogina	3,529.70	P/T
Bohlke, Lynn	22,911.38	30
Breindel, Joseph	22,254.94	12
Burnham, Dibirma	18,454.32	25
Chasse, Joan	17,950.20	30
Clark, Virginia	33,808.97	34
Connal-Nicolaou, Wendy	25,582.10	20
DaCorte, Phyllis	56,050.67	35
Davis, Barbara	924.34	P/T
Gallagher, Caitlin	9,490.09	P/T
Gigas, Sharon	8,936.00	P/T
Ginius, Maribel	279.25	P/T
O'Herlihy, Ellen	13,794.96	P/T
Oldham, Alanna	2,586.50	P/T
Peterson, Barbara	8,371.93	14
Peterson, Kathleen	14,465.16	15
Saunders, Fiona	12,303.79	P/T
Van Epps, Michele	64,588.41	37.5

**Assessor**

Wood, Norman	77,514.47	40
Roberts, Melanie	26,737.48	35
Pine, Rick	40,685.55	35
LeVasseur, Beverly	14,180.00	P/T
Parker, Luke	23,440.00	P/T

**Building**

Lucas, Donald	78,266.51	40
Marshall, Kathleen	45,134.55	35
Deleeuw, David	1,034.44	P/T

**Economic Development**

Asch, Wilma	24,104.24	20
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**Fire Marshal**

Dobson, Donn	69,883.70	40
Heiney, David	4,720.00	P/T

**Harbor Management**

Mitchell, Scott	9,800.44	P/T
Hockert, Ruth	2,825.08	P/T



**Land Use**

Nelson,Christine	86,435.95	40
Costa, Christine	65,186.40	40
Lyons, Sarah	36,758.59	32
Prisloe, Michael	37,764.09	29
Rynecki, Joanne	10,170.42	P/T

**Parks and Recreation**

Duffy, Vicki	76,000.38	40
Allen, Ray	54,464.62	40
Sherman, Judith	44,808.36	35
Paradis, Jonathan	8,392.68	30
Stevenson, Deborah	15,532.77	P/T

**Police**

Barnes, Samuel	83,427.08	42 + OT
Bergantino, William	80,791.14	42 + OT
Berner, Michelle	20,834.15	P/T
Ciccone, Philip	65,786.93	42 + OT
Coco, Philip	11,890.92	P/T
Cryder, Katherine	8,728.74	P/T
Dahlstrom, Robert	66,739.73	40
DeBlasiis, Brian	39,392.05	40
Delima, Oscar	36,616.95	42 + OT
Dell, Dayton	3,193.36	P/T
DeMarco, Christopher	82,217.21	42 + OT
DePerry, Jeffery	103,615.60	42 + OT
Faust, Andrew	1,762.46	P/T
Gardner, Michael	87,365.87	42 + OT
Gerbers, Trent	19,678.20	P/T
Goduti, Richard	51,072.85	40
Grauer, Robert	3,263.16	P/T
Gunning, Thomas	3,298.07	P/T
Hackett, Stephen	65,130.88	42 + OT
Hardy, Soloman	3,577.27	P/T
Hart, Jennifer	12,420.63	P/T
Heiney III, Eugene	115,884.31	42 + OT
Hull, Donald	81,405.59	42 + OT
Kiako, James	71,887.54	42 + OT
Mackin, Joseph	79,213.41	42 + OT
McGregor, William	12,839.62	P/T
Mehrtens, Michael	4,724.60	P/T
Mercer, Charles	94,757.38	42 + OT
Miller, Shannon	61,260.60	42 + OT
Mulvihill, Michael	4,857.32	P/T
Newton, Thomas	6,008.50	P/T
Paradis, Michael	56,818.37	40
Perrotti, David	81,272.65	42 + OT
Ponzillo, Carl	5,146.95	P/T

Rankin, Jay	100,863.63	42 + OT
Reid, Kenneth	400.13	P/T
Robbins, Bretton	26,016.21	42 + OT
Roche, Kevin	89,981.64	42 + OT
Rochette, Thomas	14,099.30	P/T
Santello, Briana	22,721.76	42 + OT
Schneider, James	10,574.33	P/T
Shake, James	58,469.10	40
Sharma, Sonal	9,746.68	P/T
Small, Michael	63,392.11	42 + OT
Smith, Larry	73,376.74	42 + OT
Souriyamath, Thanousinh	72,450.99	42 + OT
Spera, Michael	134,147.19	40
Spinelli, Tina	58,979.97	40
Sunday, Mary	14,503.20	P/T
Van der horst, Robbert	99,240.64	42 + OT
Walsh, Ryan	81,843.05	42 + OT
Westerson, Grant	1,346.26	P/T
Ziolkovski, Brian	89,291.82	42 + OT

#### **Public Works**

Bonin, Larry	85,453.29	40 + OT
Claffey, William	64,193.50	40 + OT
Constantine, Frank	65,108.13	40 + OT
Farbotka, Nicholas	4,028.50	P/T
Labriola, Peter	67,489.58	40 + OT
Laverty, Adam	53,213.59	40 + OT
Linscott, Colin	44,715.71	40 + OT
McNamara, Erin	45,388.23	40 + OT
Pace, Michael, JR	51,710.28	40 + OT
Pantages, Michael	7,572.25	P/T
Porter, John	65,251.23	40 + OT

#### **Registrar of Voters**

Conklin, Carol	7,675.04	Elected
Winkler, Jean	7,727.04	Elected
Broadhurst, Joan	3,538.50	P/T

#### **Selectmen**

Fortuna, Jr., Carl ( <i>incoming</i> )	44,561.43	Elected
Pace, Michael ( <i>outgoing</i> )	34,840.57	Elected
Gernhardt, Steven ( <i>incoming</i> )	6,618.00	Elected
Giegerich, Scott ( <i>incoming</i> )	6,618.00	Elected
Manning, Carol ( <i>outgoing</i> )	2,757.50	Elected
Peace, William ( <i>outgoing</i> )	2,757.50	Elected
Laine, Roland	61,904.52	40
Neri, Georgianne	51,056.40	35
Seaforth, Elaine	35,946.72	35

**Social Services**

Consoli, Susan	50,336.71	35
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**Tax Collector**

Maynard, Barry	59,010.37	Elected
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Morison, Wendy	47,464.54	35
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Linscott, Judith	2,230.25	P/T
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**Town Clerk**

Becker, Sarah	62,563.10	Elected
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Antolino, Christina	44,148.10	35
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Kane, Cynthia	34,122.15	30
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**Town Hall/Fire House/Acton Library/Police Dept/Youth & Family**

Baldi, Paul	53,703.28	40
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Bonin, Kathy	3,352.50	P/T
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Hanley, Patrick	26,202.30	25
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Lempicki, Peter	7,898.34	P/T
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Peterson, Richard	24,149.54	40
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Price, James	26,943.15	25
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Wysocki, Wayne	63,085.21	40 + OT
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**Transfer Station**

Bonin, Jr., Larry	29,986.42	26
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Champlin, Richard	60,351.71	40 + OT
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Chojnowski, Joe	9,356.43	P/T
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Hunter, Anthony	21,960.96	26
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McCall, Jonathan	9,478.00	P/T
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Regan, Patrick	17,174.67	26
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Tooker, William	3,152.50	P/T
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**Treasurer**

Fish, Robert	51,634.61	Elected
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**Water Pollution Control Authority**

Evangelisti, Eugene	73,088.96	40
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Evangelisti, Cameron	51,026.05	40
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Lewis, Gratia	40,382.46	34
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Marshall, Robbie	45,629.40	34
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**Youth and Family Services**

McNeil, Heather	72,835.22	40
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Bruzzese, Sal	4,624.17	P/T
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Cameron, Megan	7,375.00	P/T
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Ferrantelli, Kathryn	9,381.88	35
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Graham, Chelsea	39,223.12	25
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McCall, Linda	50,103.29	40
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Mill, Wendy	34,553.25	28
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Moskowitz, Julie	19,370.00	20
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O'Neil, Brittney	13,202.25	P/T
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Tyler, Melinda	43,342.75	35
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Ziemann, Joan	3,829.61	P/T
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SECTION IV

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012

General Fund Statements of Revenues and Expenditures, Actual versus Budget, for the Town of Old Saybrook for the year ended June 30, 2012, are presented here for informational purposes only. They do not intend to represent full financial disclosure.

The complete general purpose financial statements and related notes, as required by governmental auditing standards, are being prepared by J.H. Cohn LLP as a part of their annual financial audit of the Town. The complete audit report will be available for public review in the office of the Old Saybrook Town Clerk.

GENERAL FUND REVENUES – BUDGET AND ACTUAL

For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

	Budget	Actual	Variance
<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b>			
Property Taxes, Current Year	34,362,779	34,495,936	133,157
Property Taxes, Previous Years	75,000	175,357	100,357
Interest and Lien Fees	100,000	139,064	39,064
Telecommunication Taxes	55,000	61,418	6,418
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES</b>	<b>34,592,779</b>	<b>34,871,775</b>	<b>278,996</b>
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL</b>			
State Board of Education ECS	652,677	652,677	0
School Bond Reimbursements	0	0	0
Town Aid Road	125,883	125,625	(258)
Grant in Lieu of Taxes	59,251	59,275	24
Elderly Tax Relief	73,000	67,181	(5,819)
Municipal Revenue Sharing	77,661	17,914	(59,747)
Mashantucket Pequot Fund	16,147	15,396	(751)
Manufacturers Equipment Grant	38,321	9,580	(28,741)
Local Capital Improvement Program	65,257	67,807	2,550
Miscellaneous State Grants	14,382	20,328	5,946
<b>TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL</b>	<b>1,122,579</b>	<b>1,035,783</b>	<b>(86,796)</b>

<b>LOCAL INCOME</b>			
Assessor	2,000	1,627	(373)
Board of Selectmen	1,000	1,150	150
Building Department	100,000	151,839	51,839
Investment Income	90,000	81,852	(8,148)
Planning Commission	1,000	50	(950)
Inland Wetlands Commission	2,000	1,575	(425)
Town Clerk	280,000	359,730	79,730
Land Use Department	15,000	13,823	(1,177)
Zoning Board of Appeals	2,000	7,700	5,700
Police Department	3,000	9,807	6,807
Transfer Station	120,000	122,290	2,290
Acton Public Library	4,000	5,479	1,479
Parks and Recreation	230,000	179,322	(50,678)
Youth and Family Services	30,000	0	(30,000)
Miscellaneous Income	10,000	99,506	89,506
<b>TOTAL LOCAL INCOME</b>	<b>890,000</b>	<b>1,035,750</b>	<b>145,750</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE</b>	<b>36,605,358</b>	<b>36,943,308</b>	<b>337,950</b>
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION EXCESS</b>		<b>377,252</b>	

## GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES, BUDGET AND ACTUAL

For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
Selectmen	300,738	283,236	289,655	(6,419)
Accounting	207,768	172,029	172,804	(775)
Tax Collector	157,047	148,637	145,745	2,892
Computer Network	52,485	52,485	52,504	(19)
Treasurer	81,045	62,178	63,854	(1,676)
Town Clerk	218,253	204,376	186,482	17,894
Vital Statistics	1,350	1,350	561	789
Architectural Review	3,046	3,046	2,651	395
Assessor	184,555	164,833	177,264	(12,431)
Tree Warden	10,077	10,077	10,437	(360)
Probate Court	6,450	6,450	6,450	0
KHCAC	26,000	26,000	68,848	(42,848)
Town Hall	409,813	374,857	391,387	(16,530)
Registrars	60,429	60,429	48,512	11,917
Building Department	186,801	143,368	151,699	(8,331)
Land Use Department	280,669	271,035	270,757	278
Zoning Commission	27,763	27,763	24,394	3,369
Zoning Board of Appeals	13,572	13,572	11,349	2,223
Board of Finance	54,116	54,116	51,285	2,831
Assessment Appeals	3,518	3,518	6,037	(2,519)
Planning Commission	16,709	16,709	16,524	185
Pension Benefits Board	20,150	20,150	30,521	(10,371)
Conservation Commission	3,169	3,169	3,272	(103)
Economic Development	27,855	27,855	27,387	468
Ethics Commission	1,050	1,050	48	1,002
Fire Department	332,843	332,843	332,835	8
Fire Marshal	120,515	99,080	104,289	(5,209)
Police Department	3,329,838	2,966,260	2,978,894	(12,634)
Inland Wetlands	13,675	13,675	6,002	7,673
Emergency Management	105,313	105,313	101,341	3,972
Health District	147,972	147,972	147,486	486
Social Services	63,512	63,512	68,972	(5,460)
Public Health Nursing	42,653	42,653	40,638	2,015
Water Pollution Control	144,192	144,192	89,153	55,039
Transfer Station	618,946	613,479	566,672	46,807
Youth & Family Services	223,105	197,271	203,292	(6,021)
Acton Public Library	697,926	668,601	647,379	21,222
Public Works	1,061,892	975,376	888,857	86,519
Marine Patrol	43,325	43,325	47,526	(4,201)
Harbor Management	30,937	30,937	42,296	(11,359)
Park & Rec Department	416,953	398,014	387,661	10,353
P&R, Sayb Pt Golf	59,935	59,935	56,399	3,536

P&R, Sayb Pt Pavilion	10,500	10,500	9,431	1,069
P&R, Fort Saybrook	6,050	6,050	4,339	1,711
P&R, Open Space	13,000	13,000	11,997	1,003
No. Cove Historic Dist.	3,620	3,620	724	2,896
Contingency	30,000	30,000	16,336	13,664
Labor & Personnel	25,000	25,000	19,820	5,180
Engineering	35,000	35,000	43,865	(8,865)
Insurance	686,689	686,689	687,858	(1,169)
Legal	30,000	30,000	87,196	(57,196)
Political Subdivisions	136,864	136,864	137,291	(427)
Rubbish	15,000	15,000	10,612	4,388
Traffic & Street Lights	165,000	165,000	136,462	28,538
Water System	431,450	431,450	518,598	(87,148)
Animal Control Subsidy	10,000	10,000	10,000	0
Capital Outlay Appropriations	309,000	309,000	309,000	0
Capital Expenditures	379,515	379,515	426,538	(47,023)
Catastrophic Illness	10,000	10,000	68,230	(58,230)
Contract Settlement	0	0	15,422	(15,422)
Gasoline/Diesel/Oil Reserve	70,220	70,220	51,014	19,206
Retirement Payout	10,000	10,000	20,651	(10,651)
Health Insurance	356,721	1,109,955	1,357,953	(247,998)
<b>Total General Gov't Operations</b>	<b>12,541,589</b>	<b>12,541,589</b>	<b>12,863,456</b>	<b>(321,867)</b>
<b>Board of Education Operations</b>	<b>21,575,044</b>	<b>21,575,044</b>	<b>21,570,255</b>	<b>4,789</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>	<b>2,488,725</b>	<b>2,488,725</b>	<b>2,488,725</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>36,605,358</b>	<b>36,605,358</b>	<b>36,922,436</b>	<b>(317,078)</b>
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION EXCESS</b>			<b>377,252</b>	

