

# THE NORTH STONINGTON QUARTERLY

## SPRING 2016

---

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Another Spring, another annual budget! The Selectmen are completing their recommendation for the General Government and Capital budgets for presentation to the Board of Finance. Trying to match projected revenues with always increasing cost pressures continues to be a challenge. As various town needs and services are reviewed and discussed this season, voters and residents are encouraged to weigh in on what is important to them. A major budget issue still to be considered this year is the School Modernization Effort. More information is contained elsewhere in this issue of the Quarterly. Again, residents and taxpayers are encouraged to become as informed as possible on this important issue.

The effective governance of the Town is supported by citizens and their participation in the various budget development activities and implementation of approved plans. If you would like to be involved in helping to develop those budgets or to help carry out the Town's mission, consider participating on a town board or commission. To find out more information, contact the Town Clerk or First Selectman's office at Town Hall.

As school takes the traditional Spring Break, the Board reminds motorists to watch out for youngsters outside, during normal school hours, and to drive defensively.

SELECTMEN

860-535-2877 EXT 10

SELECTMEN@NORTHSTONINGTONCT.GOV

---

### **WHEELER LIBRARY**

Many thanks to the many North Stonington residents who have donated to the library's Annual Appeal. Your generous gifts benefit the entire community by funding a significant portion of the library's operating budget. We thank you for helping us keep the doors open, our shelves full, and our library a vital and vibrant place.

Today's libraries serve as so much more than book lenders. While you can still check out the latest, greatest novel, you can also enjoy high speed internet, audio books, and DVDs, not to mention our free programs that include crafting classes, music, lectures, author talks -- and so much more! Did you know, Wheeler Library is a private, non-profit institution that relies on donations from our community to meet our yearly budget? For more information on our programs, services, and information on giving to the library, go to [www.wheelerlibrary.org](http://www.wheelerlibrary.org).

Spring events include programs on natural skin care, Huckleberry Finn, and North Stonington cemeteries. Don't miss the Country Store Sale and Rug Bazaar on May 21st and the Town-wide Tag Sale on June 4th. Register now to hold your tag sale at home or on the library lawn.

AMY KENNEDY 860-535-0383



## ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Revaluation Update: The revaluation of all parcels located in the Town of North Stonington has been completed for the October 1, 2015 Grand List. The mill rate should be set in late spring. The Assessor's Office will not know what the taxes are on any parcel or motor vehicle until the mill rate is set. The next revaluation, including a complete inspection of all parcels, will be conducted in five years – 2020.

### Do You Qualify for the Elderly Homeowners Program?

Elderly homeowners who were 65 years old on January 1, 2016, and who had income under \$42,900 for a married couple or \$35,200 for a single person, can apply for the Elderly Homeowners Program (a State of Connecticut program). Disabled homeowners can also apply if they are on the Disability Program. The same income limits apply.

**The benefit range is from \$150 to \$1,250 off your town property taxes.**

The benefit depends on your income.

The paperwork required to file includes your federal income tax return that you filed with the Internal Revenue Service, plus your Social Security 1099 form. If you do not need to file with the IRS, then copies of your 1099's for interest, dividends and all other income, including Social Security, is required. This is based on 2015 earnings. Applications are accepted until May 15, 2016.

Veterans can receive an increase in benefits if they qualify for the Elderly Homeowners Program. The deadline for filing is October 1, 2016.

Renters can apply for the renters program between April 1, 2016 and October 1, 2016. Paperwork includes the same income as the Elderly Program, plus rent receipts, electric bills and heating bills for the year 2015.

DARRYL L. DEL GROSSO (860-535-2877 ext.23 or 24)

---

## NORTH STONINGTON GOLDEN AGERS

The North Stonington Golden Agers will award a \$1,000 scholarship to a North Stonington resident or a descendent of a North Stonington Golden Age organization member.

Applicants should be seeking to further a post-secondary school education in a health related field. The selection will be based on financial need and health care interests, and proceeds shall be presented directly to the recipient in January, 2017.

This scholarship differs in several ways from other scholarships. Age is not a factor. Someone returning to school is eligible to apply, as are those currently enrolled in a health related program.

Applications are available at the Wheeler Library and, for High School seniors, at the Guidance Office. Questions can be directed to Corinne at 860-599-1396.

Golden Agers meet at 12:30 pm on the first Wednesday of every month, at the Senior Center, which is located behind Holly Green. All over 55 are welcome. Dues are \$10.00 a year.

CORINNE BACCHIOCCHI

860-599-1396

## **NORTH STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

While the springtime is a hectic time with so many events going on, it's also the best time of the year! Along with the usual budget presentations and town meetings prior to the budget referendums, it gives everyone - students, parents, teachers, administrators and residents - the ability to see the fruits of our labor. In addition to spring sports, we have a number of events taking place. Just to note some of our events, we will kick off the season with the National Honor Society Induction in late March.

The Elementary School will feature the Invention Convention which will be held in April. This annual event is the showcase of creativity of our elementary students. The Art Show will showcase our talented students in May. In addition, the end-of-the-year music concerts will also be held. Finally, we will all enjoy the academic success of our students culminating with our grade promotions and graduations, including the 5th grade promotion ceremony and the DARE ceremony.

Wheeler Middle/High School will also have a number of award ceremonies and promotions this spring. It will all culminate with the Wheeler graduation, tentatively scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> on the Wheeler Library lawn. As you drive by the schools this spring, please check the electronic sign for dates and times of all events. Better still, if you pass by the athletic fields, stop in and enjoy the warm weather and catch a Lions' game.

PETER NERO, SUPERINTENDENT

---

## **NORTH STONINGTON LIONS CLUB**

Our motto is 'We Serve' and spring is the time for service for the North Stonington Lions Club. On April 13<sup>th</sup>, we will conduct vision screenings for many common childhood eye abnormalities for the Pre-K and Kindergarten at the North Stonington Elementary School. On May 15<sup>th</sup>, we are providing food for the Extreme Croquet Challenge for Horses Healing Humans and, on May 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be at the Canines 'n Crafts Fair at the North Stonington Agricultural Fairgrounds.

The annual North Stonington Memorial Day Parade will be on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> year that the North Stonington Lions Club has sponsored and organized the parade and memorial service. The parade steps off at 10:00am, marches through the downtown streets and ends at the Wheeler Middle School, where we hold a short memorial ceremony honoring the men and women who have served and died for our country in the U.S. Armed Forces. We are honored to have Rear Admiral David M. Goebel, USN (Ret) as this year's Grand Marshall.



Laura Tillinghast

Our annual Town Solicitation is underway. Your financial gifts help us to continue to serve and support the many organizations in our community and across the globe.

TOM ADAMS      northstoningtonlions@yahoo.com

## **NORTH STONINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.**

During the months of December (2015), January and February of 2016, your volunteers at the North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company responded to a total of 56 emergency 911 calls. Of these calls 3 were brush fires, 12 were false alarms, 4 were for hazardous materials, 3 were for mutual aid provided to neighboring communities, 13 were motor vehicle accidents (some with serious injuries), 3 were motor vehicle fires, 13 were for high power lines down or service calls, 3 were for structure fires, 1 was for medical assistance, and 1 was a search and rescue operation.



Responding to these emergency calls required 776 man-hours from your North Stonington volunteers; an average of 15 volunteers responded to these calls at all hours (24/7). There were 26 emergency calls during the daytime, and 30 during the after-hours time frame.

Members of the North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company also spent a total of 46 hours of drills and training, in order to maintain their proficiency in life-saving skills. These drills included 3 hazardous material handling drills, 1 ice rescue drill, 1 “Mayday” fire fighter rescue drill, 1 truck inventory drill, and 1 air breathing apparatus drill. The volunteers expended an additional 46 hours of their personal time engaged in training initiatives.

CHARLES STEINHART V, CHIEF

GARY BARON, PRESIDENT

---

## **AVALONIA**

Our newest preserve, Babcock Ridge, is located at 113 Babcock Road, across from the Donald R. Henne Preserve, and with a trail connecting to the Erisman Woodlands off of Reuteman Road. The Babcock trails are a great hike, moderate with short steep sections. The official dedication is Saturday, May 14, at 10:00am. Check our Facebook page for vernal pool nature walks.

June 4th is CT Trails Day and Avalonia is hosting a 2 mile nature walk. Meet at the Babcock Ridge parking area at 10:00 AM for a guided family walk through the Henne preserve along the Shunock River. You should see nesting great blue herons and ospreys. We invite you to visit our website at [www.avalonialandconservancy.org](http://www.avalonialandconservancy.org).



## TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Happy Spring from the Town Clerk's Office! Opening Day of Trout Season is Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Licenses and Permits to hunt, trap and fish are available online, in most town clerks' offices, at some sporting goods stores, and CT DEEP offices. To buy licenses online, or for a listing of places that sell licenses, go to: [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting). Fishing and trapping licenses are still issued for free to residents 65 and older who meet hunter education requirements, but these licenses must now be renewed annually. Dog License renewals will be sent out the last week of May, for June 1<sup>st</sup> registration. Please make sure rabies vaccines are current and please contact the office if you no longer have the dog!

The Presidential Primary will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>, between the hours of 6:00 am to 8:00 pm, in the New Town Hall Conference Room, located at 40 Main Street. A copy of the ballot will be available in the Town Clerk's office. Follow the link <http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/cwp/view.asp?a=3172&q=512796> to check if you are a registered voter in Town or to check your party affiliation. If you are not registered and would like to be, you can register online at <http://voterregistration.ct.gov>, in person at the Town Clerk's Office, or with the Registrars of Voters on Mondays and Thursdays 9-12 pm.

NORMA J HOLLIDAY, TOWN CLERK

---

## HEWITT FARM

This season, fishing at Hewitt Pond is expected to be "the best." Thanks to completion of the dam last fall, the pond's level is back to normal and water is once again flowing freely through the spillways. New trails have been opened on both sides of the pond for easier access to the water and the dam's new fishing platform provides an unobstructed, water-level view of the pond for easy casting. Best of all, however, the DEEP has once again stocked the pond with hundreds of Brown Trout - all sizes. It should be an exciting season!

Rather hike than fish? You can have fun too. "Self Guided Walk" maps with a written narration can be found in the Trail Map box located at the Route 2 end of the dam. Three walks are described: *The Bicentennial Trail*, *Loop and Wyassup Trails*, and *River and Mystic Road Trails*. Each takes less than an hour and all are particularly fun for children to "lead."



Visit with us during CT Trails Day Weekend! On Sunday, June 5. (1:00 - 2:00 pm) join us for a leisurely walk along the Shunock River, around Hewitt Pond and over the newly reconstructed dam to visit the town's Community Garden. If water levels permit, we'll cross at the fish weir and ramble down Fishermen's Trail before returning home.

Parking is available inside our Route 2 entrance or at the parking area near the end of Hewitt Road when you enter from Ryder Road. If you need information or would be interested in volunteering at the farm, please contact us.

NITA KINCAID, CO-CHAIR      860-535-1416      DICK COOPER, CO-CHAIR      860-535-0528

## WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL

We are busy at Wheeler, preparing to finish out our 2015-2016 school year. Our spring sports are underway and we are thrilled to announce our students are playing their home contests on our own athletic fields!

Our Farm and Garden Club has planted for their Spring Sale and is looking forward to a healthy harvest of plants to sell. Our other extracurricular clubs are also thriving, including our Math and Debate Clubs, who have been competing and finding huge success against local schools.

In the classroom, our Middle School science students are experiencing the wonder of life as they hatch and raise chickens, which will eventually be outside in the chicken coop that our High School Materials and Processing students are building.

Our students are busy building their schedules for the 2016-2017 school year. Our Program of Studies is filled with rich opportunities for our students to take a variety of courses. We are also excited to announce that students are being accepted at many top notch universities such as UPENN, UCONN, Quinnipiac University, New England Tech, etc. Currently, students are busy preparing for upcoming AP exams, as well as CMT/CAPT Science tests, and Smarter Balance testing which will begin in May.

KRISTEN ST. GERMAIN, PRINCIPAL #weareWheeler



---

## THE NORTH STONINGTON CITIZENS LAND ALLIANCE

★**WET:** Become a citizen scientist, get out there and learn how to take water quality samples from NS lakes, ponds, or brooks for URI's Watershed Watch program in which we have taken part for over 20 years. After a 3-hour initial training at the Kingston, RI lab on April 2<sup>nd</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>, the tri-season water testing dates are in May, July, October. We pay, it does not cost you any money; all equipment and testing supplies are supplied. It can be a great NS experience and special as part of your college or business references. Let us hear from you.

★**DRY:** On Saturday, June 4 (1-3:30 pm) as part of CT Trails Day across the entire state, show up at the West Entrance to our 75 acre Fowler Grindstone Preserve (.2 miles up Fowler Road on the right). Park to the left of the driveway. The trail begins at the back of the driveway and follows Pendleton Hill Brook to Boulder Farm. There are foot paths, trails, forests and fields, 2 ancient glacial erratics, stone formations, logging roads and brooks. Rain cancels; sorry, no dogs. Leader is Tim Crandall with William Hixson. If after the hike you really like this preserve, why not help take care of it, learn about its plant life, wild animal life, bird habitats, its NS history.

LAND ALLIANCE 860-599-5517 landallianceinc@gmail.com



## **NORTH STONINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

North Stonington Elementary School continues to provide enrichment opportunities for our students. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the fifth annual Family Science Night was held with the theme, Flying Away. Hundreds of students and their families had fun with science and with the many hands-on experiments with flight! The entire school community is so grateful to Jen Raggon for organizing and planning the event.

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, we had Broadway at North Stonington Elementary School. The student members of the drama club danced and sang their way through an amazing production of Lion King Kids. We are so proud of our talented students and thank the producer and director, Mrs. Gonzalez, who is also the school secretary!

On April 6<sup>th</sup> kindergarten registration will take place from 1:30–3:00 and again from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Please call the school for more information if you have a child who will turn 5 years old on or before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

With the start of a new season, all of our students will present a spring concert and the community is welcome to attend. Our K–2 students will present “Spring is Here” and “Wing It” on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:45pm, and grades 3–5 students will be presenting concerts with many styles of music, including country, reggae and the blues on May 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:45pm.public

Please plan to attend the North Stonington Elementary School Art Show on May 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30pm in the school’s multi-purpose room. Every student will have at least 4 pieces of original art displayed for viewing.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and school.

VERONICA WILKISON, PRINCIPAL



## ANIMAL CONTROL

Happy Spring Everyone! Just a quick reminder, with nice weather coming, the wildlife will be warming up and stretching their legs after the cold winter. Please, before you let your pets out, give a quick look around and make sure there will be no confrontations that could possibly cause harm to your 'furbabies'! And, on that note, insure that your pet is current on its rabies vaccine as the chances of them coming in contact with the wildlife are greater this time of year.

As we are all wanting to get out and go for walks with our dogs, we would like to remind everyone to please keep them under control at all times. Even if your dog is friendly with others, not all dogs are, and things can escalate quickly when two dogs come nose to nose. We have so many nice areas to take our pets in our town; let's be respectful to one another so that we can continue to enjoy them.

We are planning a rabies clinic in the next couple of months and will keep you posted when we come up with a firm date.

Thank you again for following us on Facebook and sharing when we post lost and found animals! It is amazing how quickly word gets out and how effective we are in reuniting families with their pets. Don't forget, June is license month and licenses are another key aid in reuniting pets and owners.

As always, we look forward to continue serving our community with their animal control needs. You can always contact us at 860-287-2197 or email [aco@northstoningtonct.gov](mailto:aco@northstoningtonct.gov). I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer!

KRYSTIN MAINE & KARCHER DESHEFY

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

---

## NORTH STONINGTON COMMUNITY GRANGE #138



The Grange organization meets on the second and fourth Fridays at 8:00 pm with certain exceptions. Each meeting has business (the events we participate in and community needs) followed by a program. We often have guest speakers, in varying interests, as well as committee programs.

Our winter schedule is slower, with a lot of fun to ease the "winter blues". Our January meeting had our Agriculture and Conservation Committee present a program game on facts about farming and conservation. February's meeting was general games. We're back to two meetings a month, and March was back to business with the first meeting about the Grange itself, and our second meeting the State Contest entry "What's Cookin'", focusing on food, additives, and GMOs. If you weren't here, you missed a lot of fun!

**You are welcome to join us at any time, especially when we have a guest speaker.** Our upcoming schedule has the April 8<sup>th</sup> program by Walter Neuberger from First Physical Therapy, who will speak about fall prevention and exercises to help you when you work outdoors; April 22<sup>nd</sup> we'll honor our long-term members and Gary Kincaid will speak about the Eastern CT Draft Horse Association; Chris Cleland, from American

Senior Benefits, will talk on Medicare and Social Security on May 13<sup>th</sup>; and our Memorial program is on May 27<sup>th</sup>; June 10<sup>th</sup> is our election of officers for the new year, with June 24<sup>th</sup> being our annual pot-luck picnic and games. All meetings are at 8:00 pm except the picnic, which begins at 6:30.

SUE PIANKA, PROGRAM DIRECTOR

860-599-4528



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Well here we are at the Spring Quarterly already; the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the New Year, but the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the school year. I should be taking this space to rave about all of the students' accomplishments. Some of the most recent are the Elementary School's drama club presentation of the Lion King; Sam White's amazing "Mr. Wheeler" Night to raise money for Camp Sunshine; our High School Science Bowl and Debate teams' fantastic results in last month's competitions; and Mike Dellaporta joining the 1,000 point club in varsity basketball, to name a few. But instead of elaborating on those and other wonderful events, I find myself once again defending our North Stonington School System.

The next referendum to vote for a school modernization project is coming up soon. It seems to have more momentum this time. The Board of Education and the Ad Hoc School Building Committee have worked on investigating and answering questions on issues and options presented to them. There was the Wheeler Library deed restrictions, the Pequot Museum offer of possible school space, and, most recently, the Stonington Board of Education voting to accept our High School students (we didn't ask them to and found out about it in the newspaper). I would be more than happy to discuss any and all of these items if you would like to contact me. Thank you for your support of our wonderful teachers and students.

BOB CARLSON, CHAIRMAN      carlsonb@northstonington.k12.ct.us

---

## NORTH STONINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society was extremely pleased with the first two parlor concerts on the newly restored 1857 A. H. Gale piano. You have one more chance this spring! The April 10<sup>th</sup> performance by Aymeric Dupré la Tour, during which he will play both piano and harpsichord, along with Marina Fragoulis on violin, was quickly sold out. But we have been able to add a second performance later on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm. Phone 860-599-3608 for reservations.

Our Dye House committee will have the building open with displays during the Town-wide Tag Sale on June 4. And look for our programs co-sponsored with the Wheeler Library.

Remember that the A. Morgan Stewart Memorial Library, at the Stephen Main Homestead, is a tremendous genealogical resource. Located in the center of the village, it is open on Tuesdays, 2-4 pm, or by arrangement.

For information, membership, or publications go to [www.nostonhistoricalsociety.homestead.com](http://www.nostonhistoricalsociety.homestead.com).

PARLOR CONCERT SERIES  
Chamber Music for a New Spring  
A Pastoral Walk Through  
Three Centuries of Violin Sonatas  
APRIL 10, 2016 · 4:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M.  
MARINA FRAGOULIS  
BAROQUE & MODERN VIOLIN  
AYMERIC DUPRÉ LA TOUR  
HARPSICHORD & PIANO  
NORTH STONINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
MAIN HOUSE  
1 WYASSUP ROAD  
LIMITED SEATING! RESERVATIONS REQUIRED  
CALL: (860)599-3608  
(860)245-5322  
\$ 20 PER PERSON

## **NORTH STONINGTON AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

There is still time to apply for money to fix your house from a \$400,000 grant awarded to the Town of North Stonington from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) fund. The goal of the program is to keep people safe in their homes by providing loans **at 0% interest** for home improvements when other means may not be available. Does your roof leak? Is your furnace not going to make another winter? Are your steps crumbling? This program might help you to fix those problems. These funds can also provide for American with Disabilities (ADA) modifications as well, such as entrance ramps and bathroom modifications. Loans are not due and payable until change of title to the home.

To be eligible, property owners must have the following:

- ✓ An annual income that does not exceed \$44,750 for a 1-person household; up to \$63,900 for a 4 person household (income limits vary by household size)
- ✓ Current real estate taxes up to date
- ✓ 10% equity in your home

Applications may be obtained at the Town Planning Office, or by calling 860-535-2877 ex.26 or contacting the CDGB consultants, Lisa Low & Associates at 203-888-5624.

The North Stonington Affordable Housing Committee meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. We currently have an opening for anyone interested in serving on the committee.

MARY ANN RICKER, CO-CHAIR

---

## **NORTH STONINGTON GARDEN CLUB**

It's almost that time of year again! Don't miss the Annual North Stonington Garden Club Plant Sale on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm, rain or shine, at the Elementary School on Route 2. You'll find wonderful home-dug perennials from members' gardens, a variety of shrubs, hanging pots of flowering annuals, herbs, heirloom tomatoes and other vegetables. A table of "specialty" items will feature member-made birdhouses and garden troughs to decorate your garden. As always, the Rummage Table will have all sorts of bargains. Bring your own wagon if you plan to do some serious shopping.

The NSGC Plant Sale is always held on the Saturday of Mothers Day weekend and this year we're setting up a special spot where children can shop for mother or grandmother. The Master Gardener's Table will be nearby, available to answer your gardening questions. After you've finished shopping, you can enjoy sandwiches, cookies and cupcakes made by the Congregational Church.

This event is the club's annual fundraiser and the proceeds support our many community activities. If you need more information about the Plant Sale or are interested in learning more about joining the club, don't hesitate to contact us.



NITA KINCAID, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

860-535-1416

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Our commission has had a significant turnover in commissioners this past quarter, with three new members and soon to be four. Our work is focusing on some new areas of conservation, resurrecting some old unfinished business and completing others.

First, the Stewart Hill Trail has been completed off Wyassup Road, and a connecting trail to the state developed Narragansett (Blue) Trail is being worked on. Secondly, we have completed a working document identifying what type of conservation easements the town should accept and what criteria would deem one to be of lesser value. Third, we are resurrecting the dormant "Notable Tree" campaign, whereby we will continue to collect residents' submissions of what they believe to be the largest tree of each species in town and maintain a record as new "finds" become known. Few submissions were received the past 2 years, leading us to feel the public was not interested. We soldier on.

Our mission includes the protection of water resources within town and, as such, the commission is researching the types of fertilizers that are appropriate around our lakes, rivers and streams. A brochure, news article or flyer will be developed recommending to those residents living on water sources to practice.

Last year, you saw a large defoliation of our trees due to Gypsy Moth infestation. The 1" long tan egg cases are abundant on those trees that were attacked last year. If the dry conditions again occur this year, it will mean an even larger defoliation this year. We are researching organic methods of control as the most prevalent spray used by tree service folks contains PYRETHRIN, which is highly toxic to all aquatic life. It kills them. Right now, go out and scrape off or burn any egg cases you see. If we have a dry spring, use a high pressure hose to soak your trees and create a moist environment, which develops a fungus that kills the worms.

BILL RICKER, CHAIRMAN



**Many thanks to the students at the Wheeler High print shop.  
Your support makes it possible to produce the North Stonington Quarterly.**



Laura Tillinghast

## NORTH STONINGTON AGRICULTURAL FAIR

Spring is here and that means lots of activity happening at the fairgrounds. Work parties will be getting underway on weekends and plans are coming together for another great Fair.

High School Seniors, and anyone else continuing their education, are encouraged to pick up applications for scholarships offered by both the North Stonington Fair and the Association of CT Fairs. They will be available at the High School.

It's not too early to think about entering your crafts, collections, baked goods, flowers, garden harvest, etc. in the Home Goods department. Visit the [CTAgFairs.org](http://CTAgFairs.org) website to see this year's Adult and Jr. Baking Contest recipes. Also, any young ladies interested in entering the Queen, Princess or Jr. Princess Contest may contact Samantha Storey at 860-961-9795; applications will be available soon. NEW for 2016, we honor our Active Military fairgoers on Sunday with a reduced admission price. Continue to check the fair's website ([www.northstoningtonfair.org](http://www.northstoningtonfair.org)) as it will soon be updated.

Starting April 12<sup>th</sup>, our meetings will be moved back to the Grange Hall located on the fairgrounds. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm. We welcome new members to join us, get involved in the planning of the fair and support your local Grange and Fire Company.

If you would like to volunteer any time on the grounds, please contact Mike Riley at 860-334-5480.

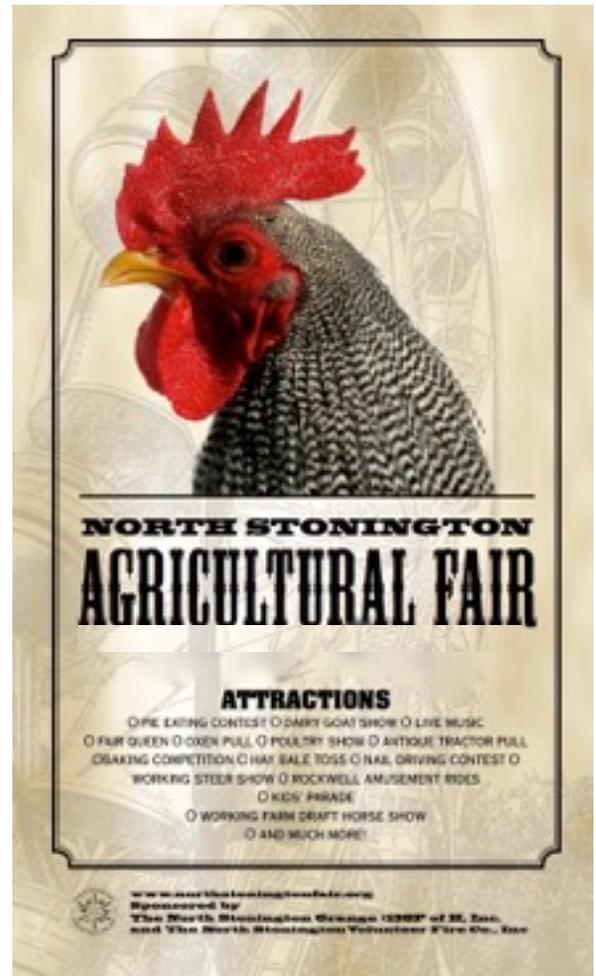
### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**2016 FAIR DATES ARE JULY 7-10<sup>TH</sup>**

JODY WHIPPLE

PINENEEDLEHOMESTEAD@SBCGLOBAL.NET

860-599-8498



## RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS

The Connecticut State Police Resident State Troopers, along with Troopers from Troop-E in Montville, patrol the fifty-five square miles and eighty-plus roads in the town of North Stonington. The statistics for a three month period of December 2015, January and February, 2016 for North Stonington are as follows: Troopers had 1415 calls for service, including 44 motor vehicle accidents, 4DUI arrests and 4 narcotic arrests. Troopers investigated 43 criminal cases, which included Burglaries (7), Larcenies, Assaults, Domestic, Criminal Mischief and Breach of Peace. Troopers also wrote 320 tickets and 74 warnings, on town and state roads, during this period. In addition, Troopers responded to 57 residential and/or commercial alarms.

The Connecticut State Police would like to remind residents to report any suspicious activity in town by calling 860-535-1451 or 860-848-6500. The North Stonington Resident State Trooper's office is located at 40 Main St. on the second floor of the Old Town Hall.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Business is ‘blooming’ here in North Stonington. A new package store, Cork & Barrel is expected to open soon at 270 Providence-New London Turnpike, across from American Auto Stop. Also, local favorite “Press On Sandwich Crafters” received a great review in *The Day*, which successfully captured the essence of what makes the creations of Chef Mike Davies so special.

The EDC is hosting a presentation for local agricultural producers on Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Community Grange from 1:30 to 3:00pm. Funding opportunities for renewable energy systems and other money-saving practices will be presented; the public is welcome.

As part of a 5-year strategic plan, the Southeastern CT Enterprise Region (seCTer), is hosting a discussion about regional economic development. A public event will be held on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00-8:00pm at the Mystic VFW on Route 1. Pre-registration is requested so, if you are interested in attending, please contact Sam Eisenbeiser, at 860-367-6270.

Regular monthly meetings of the EDC will now be held in the Town Offices in Holly Green Plaza, at 5:15pm, on the third Thursday of each month (a slight revision from the historical 6:00 PM start-time).

BRETT MASTROIANNI, CHAIRMAN

SAM EISENBEISER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR



---

## NORTH STONINGTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The NSEF will hold its annual “**Runners and Walkers in Support of Education**” at the North Stonington Fair Grounds on Saturday, May 28, 2016 at 8:30am. Registration forms may be picked up at Wheeler High School or at the Central Office across the street. Forms are also available online at [www.nsedfoundation.org](http://www.nsedfoundation.org). For more information, please email Marc Tardiff, Race Director, at [tardiffm@northstonington.k12.ct.us](mailto:tardiffm@northstonington.k12.ct.us).



The 2016 NSEF Trivia event was a huge success, thanks to Larry St. Claire and Foundation volunteers. For the third year in a row, the *Italian Stallions* came in first place. Team members were Superintendent Peter Nero, Mike Costanza, Sal Costanza, Tommy Liguori, Tom Dinoto, Cres Secchiaroli, Eric Gynther, and Keith Gynther. *Tequilla Mokingbird* came in second and *Lip Readers*, third.

To date, the NSEF has donated well over \$100,000 in support of education. Donations are always welcome. Please make your check payable to NSEF and mail to: NSEF, 297 Norwich-Westerly Road, North Stonington, CT 06359.

BERNARD “BING” BARTICK      860-389-0264      BBesail@aol.com

# SPRING EVENTS

## April

6	WEDNESDAY	1:30-3 pm	NS Community Grange	<b>Economic Development Comm: Funding Opportunities for Local Agricultural Producers</b>	Page 8
8	FRIDAY	8 pm	NS Community Grange	<b>Walter Neuberger: Fall Prevention &amp; Exercising for Outdoor Work</b>	Page 8
10	SUNDAY	6 pm	NS Historical Society Stephen Main Homestead	<b>Concert performed by Aymeric Dupré la Tour &amp; Marina Fragoulis</b>	Page 10
11	MONDAY	5-8 pm	Mystic VFW, Rte. 1	<b>SeCTer: Discussion of Regional Economic Development</b>	Page 14
20	WEDNESDAY	6-7:30 pm	Wheeler Library	<b>Cleopatra Skin Care Program; Register - \$25 fee</b>	Page 1
25	MONDAY	7 pm	Wheeler Library	<b>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</b>	Page 1
26	TUESDAY	6 am-8 pm	New Town Hall	<b>Presidential Primary</b>	Page 5

## May

7	SATURDAY	9 am-1 pm	NS Elementary School	<b>NS Garden Club Annual Plant Sale</b>	Page 11
12	THURSDAY	6-7:30 pm	NS Elementary School	<b>NS Elementary School Art Show</b>	Page 7
21	SATURDAY	9 am-2 pm	Wheeler Library	<b>Country Store Sale &amp; Rug Bazaar</b>	Page 1
22	SUNDAY	10 am-1 pm	Wheeler Library	<b>Rug Bazaar</b>	Page 1
28	SATURDAY	8:30 am	NS Fairgrounds	<b>NSEF Runners &amp; Walkers in Support of Education</b>	Page 14
30	MONDAY	10 am	NS Village	<b>Annual Memorial Day Parade</b>	Page 3

## June

4	SATURDAY	8 am	Wheeler Library	<b>Town-wide Tag Sale</b>	Page 1
4	SATURDAY	10 am	113 Babcock Rd.	<b>CT Trails Day Walk at Henne Preserve</b>	Page 4
4	SATURDAY	1-3:30 pm	Fowler Rd.	<b>CT Trails DayWalk at Fowler Grindstone Preserve</b>	Page 6
5	SUNDAY	1 pm	Hewitt Farm	<b>CT Trails Day Walk at the Farm</b>	Page 5

Town Of North Stonington  
40 Main Street  
North Stonington, CT 06359

PRSORT  
STANDARD  
U.S.POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
NORTH STONINGTON, CT 06359

### *Make sure your voice is heard . . .*

North Stonington voters will be asked to make some important decisions in the near future. Your voice matters and will be heard at the polls when you cast your vote. Voting is the best way for you to support the efforts of our town officials and to have a say in the future of our Town.

If you want to receive information and notices by email from the Town about meetings and referendums, sign up for "News and Announcements" by visiting the town website at [www.northstoningtonct.gov](http://www.northstoningtonct.gov) and clicking on "Subscribe to News".

Watch for the dates when voting will be held on the following questions:

- Presidential Primary: April 26th; polls will be open from 6am-8pm
- School Modernization Project
- 2016/2017 Town and School Budget

*Nita Kincaid & Lisa Mazzella, NSQ Editors*