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From Your First Selectman, Timothy C. Griswold

We had a good voter turnout of 53 percent on Election Day, November 6, and there was little change in the municipal slate of candidates. The Board of Selectmen and the Tax Collector remain the same. After fifty-one years as our Town Treasurer, Bea McLean did not stand for reelection and was replaced by John Bysko. On the Board of Education, Alice Burbank, Chris Carter, and Susan Fogliano were elected as Old Lyme's new representatives. Thanks to the candidates for their willingness to serve and to the voters for turning out to vote. Progress on the town hall expansion continues at a good pace under the watchful eye of Building Committee Chair John Forbis. The north and south additions have been closed in and most of the windows have been installed. The pitched roof over the rear of the old town hall has been constructed and the installation of the HVAC ductwork is underway. The interior walls of the second floor have been built so one can see the new design taking shape.

The town was awarded a \$200,000 Historic Restoration Grant from the Department of Culture & Tourism. We will be installing ten 1Kw photovoltaic panels on the town hall roof that will provide a portion of the building's electricity. For every 100 households that sign up for "smart power," we will receive a free 1Kw panel worth \$10,000 -- please consider signing up!

As a reminder, ten employees remain in the town hall (Selectman's Office, Finance, Tax Collector, Assessor, and Town

Clerk) and thirteen employees have been relocated elsewhere. The Registrars and Probate are located at 100 Halls Road; and Land Use, Building, Health, Fire Marshal, and Parks & Rec. are located in the Marketplace (A&P Shopping Center).

The construction of the two baseball/softball fields at the Town Woods Park is nearly complete. Machnik Brothers Inc. has completed the earthwork and the grass seed is growing in well. The backstop and other fencing will be done in the spring, at which point we will have a proper opening ceremony. Building Chair Bob Dunn is very pleased with the project and believes it will come in under budget.

Following the defeat of the \$54 million high school building project last May, there has been a lot of work taking place to come up with a less expansive proposal or proposals that will pass at referendum. The Board of Education decided against expanding the Building Committee to include members of the opposition with specific technical expertise, so those people decided to form the Citizens Building Committee (CBC). The CBC worked over the last four months to develop two proposals, which were presented to the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee in October. The Ad Hoc Committee was formed by the BOE last summer, consisting of interested community members, with the purpose of presenting a proposal or proposals to the BOE that would pass at referendum.

The Ad Hoc and CBC committees have worked separately,

Continued on page 4

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but in parallel, on this important task. Members of the CBC attended Ad Hoc meetings and members of the Building Committee, the Ad Hoc Committee, and the public attended the CBC meetings. In October, the architect/construction manager presented two proposals to the Ad Hoc Committee. One provided for the renovation of the academic and the gym/auditorium buildings at a cost of \$40 million. The second called for the demolition of the academic building and constructing a new one along with renovating the gym/auditorium building at a cost of \$44 million. The CBC plans for similar results were estimated at \$24 million and \$29 million respectively. Most agree the Ad Hoc and the CBC proposals are fairly well aligned on the academic space requirements of the high school. Where they differ is in the overall space utilization, particularly with the nonacademic space.

Following the October presentations by the architect/construction manager and the CBC to the Ad Hoc Committee, there have been some productive small working group meetings attended by the architect/construction manager, school administration, and members of the CBC with the purpose of reconciling their different points of view. On November 8, the architect/construction manager presented three proposals to the Ad Hoc Committee, ranging in cost between \$37.6 million to \$42.5 million. Two of the proposals call for renovating the academic wing and the third calls for a new building. There will be additional discussion about these plans with the hope that both groups will come to a final agreement so that the community will approve one plan next spring.

The Ethics Formation Committee made some changes to its

proposed Code of Ethics ordinance and conducted a public information meeting on October 1. We expect the ordinance will be presented to the Annual Town meeting on January 28, 2008. Thanks to Jack Collins, Committee Chair, and the other members for working so hard on this issue.

The Landfill Closure project is moving ahead slowly, so we have devoted some additional engineering resources to accelerate the pace. The first phase is to complete the construction of the transfer station. This involves building a large storage building, installing a truck scale and a scale house (both of which have been done), performing certain earthwork, and changing the road pattern. We have developed a bid specification for the work that is required, and we expect to receive bids within thirty days. The bid document specifies the work should be completed, except for paving, within a specified number of days. Once the transfer station is up and running, we can focus our attention on closing and capping the landfill. This will likely take up to two years.

It came to our attention that there was an unauthorized dumping of material in our landfill from another town. We are reviewing why this occurred, but Selectwoman Reemsnyder and I met with the property owner and his environmental engineer along with our environmental engineer. In short, we agreed to test the material to determine if it is considered special waste or hazardous waste. If it is deemed to be special waste, it might be allowed to remain in the landfill, pending DEP approval and the payment of market-rate disposal fees. If it is deemed to be hazardous waste, the landowner will be re-

Continued on next page

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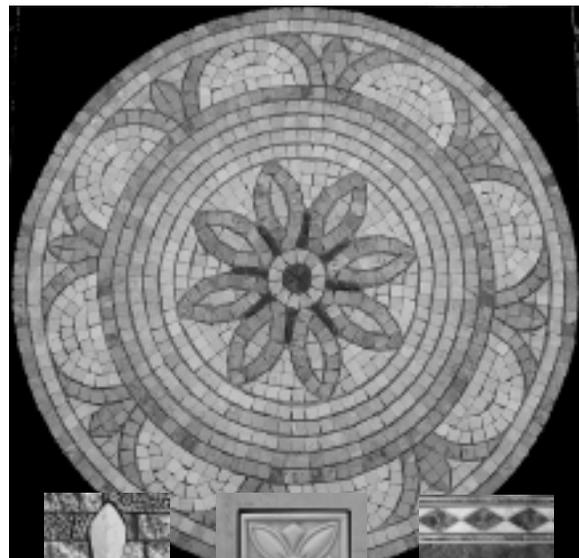


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quired to remove the material. This issue should be resolved within thirty days.

At a Special Town Meeting held on October 22, we received permission to proceed with finishing the paving of Hartford Avenue. Originally, the project was to be completed last year; however, cold weather pushed it into 2007. Another factor that delayed the paving was the extension of the Connecticut Water main to the end of Hartford Avenue and the lateral connections to fifteen properties. In the end, the funds budgeted to complete the paving, curbing and apron work were insufficient. Town meeting approved using up to \$77,000, \$21,800 of which was carried over from last fiscal year and \$55,200 of which will come from the Sound View Parking Lot account. We expect this work will be completed in November.

Following the extensive public discussion about the Tantommaheag Landing land-swap proposal, we formed a Town Landing Committee to review all town landings and develop a plan for each. The committee visited each landing and will make recommendations for any improvements to be made, including uniform signage. After some analysis, it appears there will be only minor modifications recommended and any related work can be performed by next spring. These landings are unique public assets and should be enjoyed by all.

The Church Corner Committee is nearly finished revising its plan to improve the south end of Lyme Street and portions of McCurdy and Ferry roads. The committee will conduct a neighborhood meeting and then a public information meeting before the plan is considered complete. We must then deter-

mine when we will be eligible for state/federal funding so we may schedule the project. We cannot predict a start date at this time.

In order to move forward with the relocation of the Bus Barn to a portion of the landfill property, the Board of Selectmen has agreed to fund some preliminary engineering work to determine if the proposed parking area is free of contaminants and if it is suitable (solid enough) to park buses. If so, it was agreed that Regional District 18 would be responsible for all future work concerning the design of the facility. The town and the district will have to agree on which entity would construct the facility and the terms of an agreement between the town and the district. We are constrained by having this all worked out and built before the current bus contract expires in June of 2010, but the town has been pushing this for the last two years and we are optimistic.

Last, the Information Technology Committee, chaired by Selectwoman Reemsnyder, voted to acquire a laserfiche system, using budgeted funds. The system will enable town departments to scan documents they want to preserve into a database. These documents may then be retrieved via computer by town employees and the public on a "read only" basis; only authorized staff can alter or delete a document. All access is monitored for security reasons and users may find documents by typing in search words. The system will reduce the need for the paper documents it replaces when we are confident with the computer backup and reliability of use.

The Board of Selectmen hopes you all have an enjoyable holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

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ON THE COVER

Photo by Donna Fiorentino



To submit photos for cover consideration
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or townevents@comcast.net.



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Lymes' Youth Service Bureau

Serving the youth and families in Lyme and Old Lyme since 1978. Providing parent education, after-school programming, counseling, and youth development.

As you shop for your holiday gifts, please remember families in need. LYSB provides assistance to local families during the holidays and year round. Consider picking up an extra gift card while shopping at the grocery store or the mall to donate to LYSB.

Family Gingerbread House Workshop

Wednesday, December 5, 6:30 p.m. • \$25 per family

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Sunday 8am - 4pm



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house to take home. LYSB will set up & clean up! Bring your camera and have some fun. Call LYSB to register: 434-7208.

Community Action for Substance Free Youth (CASFY)

Meets at 7:00 p.m. at LYSB

December 12, January 9, February 13

CASFY is a collaboration of community members and organizations dedicated to promoting a drug-free community. This is achieved through advocacy, support, and education. We could use your ideas. Join us!

February Vacation Fieldtrips

LYSB will host fieldtrips during school vacation week for elementary and/or middle school students. Last year we went to laser tag, a Defenders game, movies, and the zoo. Fun things are being planned for this year so check our website for details.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

Babies First meets Mondays 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. for parents of 2007/2008 babies.

Join us for a few weeks or a few months, whatever your schedule allows. Meet other new parents and babies. Support and information will be shared about first-time parenting skills such as sleeping, nutrition & nursing, developmental stages of the first year, child care, and much more.

Playgroups are arranged by age and time and meet throughout the week. Come to meet other parents and children in our community. During each playgroup we have crafts, stories, and circle time. Call LYSB 434-7208 to register.

Music Together® with Anna, Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m.

Call to register for our next 10-week session. 45 minute classes with parent and child. See www.lysb.org for registration form.

Baby Signs Workshop®, January 3, 1:00 p.m.

Designed for expecting parents, new parents, grandparents or caregivers that would like to communicate with your hearing baby before he/she can talk. This one-time workshop gets you started with the Baby Signs® program and includes how to begin signing with your baby, ways to begin signing at home, easy ways to use signs in daily routines, what to expect as your baby transitions from signs to speech, & a personalized signing plan.

Tuition for this one time workshop of \$55.00 includes a Parent Guide, Welcome to Baby Signs® DVD, My Baby Signs® Sampler DVD, A Sign Vocabulary Flip Chart, and Bookmarks.

Sign, Say and Play Playgroup®

Jan. 8t – Feb 12, 1-2 p.m.

Six-week play classes for parents with hearing children ages 6 months to 3 years. Each week we will introduce you to new signing activities, songs and play, featuring the following themes: mealtime, bedtime, bath time, getting dressed, pets,

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and at the park.

Tuition for this six-part playgroup is \$140.00. Fee includes the materials including the Sign, Say & Play™ Starter Kit--books, DVD, CDs, and Quick Reference Guide featuring 67 illustrated signs.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Holiday Gift Workshop

Mondays, December 10 and 17 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Grades 3-5

Come to the LYSB for two Mondays to create holiday gifts for your family. We will make a special gift each week. Registration is \$30. Space is limited so please call Missy @ 434-7208 to register.

3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade After-School Program

Every Wednesday Starting September 5 from 3:00-5:00

Come and hang out at the LYSB after school. Participate in a variety of activities such as arts and crafts, games, pool, movies, ps2 and much more. Center School students will be picked up at 3 o'clock and walked over, and Lyme students can take a bus directly to the LYSB. The cost of this program is \$100 for the year and includes snacks. Space is limited, so please call 434-7208 to register.

Kids Care Club • For grades 3-5.

Meets the 1st Monday of each month 3:00-5:00.

Kids Care Clubs are groups of young people who work to-

gether to help others in their communities and around the world. Through hands-on projects members of Kids Care Clubs have helped the elderly, hungry, homeless, disabled, sick, and victims of disasters. Come to a meeting and see how you can help out in the community. This program is free, but registration is required. Please call LYSB at 434-7208

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Middle School After-School Program (MSAS)

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:10-4:00 p.m.

Come and hang out at the LYSB activity center after school and participate in a variety of arts and crafts, sports, games, and much more! Students can walk to LYSB after school and passes for the late bus will be provided. This drop-in program is open to any LOLMS student and is free of charge, however, donations are welcome. Permission slips are required for all attendees and are available on our website www.lysb.org

Sitter Safety Course

An intense sitter safety-training course that is appropriate for babysitters, big brothers and sisters, and children staying home alone for the first time. This course touches on a variety of safety skills such as basic first aid, fire safety, and 911 skills. Registration fee is \$40 and includes supplies, snacks, and guest speakers. Space is limited so please call LYSB at 434-7208 to register. Date TBA.

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Jr. YAC (Youth Advisory Council)

The first Monday of every month, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Jr. YAC is a middle school community service/substance abuse prevention group that participates in a variety of fun and exciting projects throughout the course of the year. Jr. YAC is open to any LOLMS student. Please join us to see how you can make a difference in our community.

YAC (Youth Advisory Council)

Mondays 7:00-8:00 p.m.

YAC is a high school community service group that participates in a variety of fun projects throughout the year. We also discuss issues important to teens in our community. All high school students are welcome to join. Join us any Monday night!!

Madhatters Theatre Company announces auditions for:

NARNIA – The Musical

Auditions are by appointment only and will be held at LYSB on: Friday December 14th 2:00-8:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 15th 1:00-6:00 p.m. Call Madhatters to reserve your spot at 395-1861 The production is open to students in 4th grade through age 21. The casting fee to participate in the production is \$275 to be made in two payments in January and March. Performance dates: May 12 through May 18, 2008. For more information visit the Madhatters website: www.madhatterstheatre.com or call 395-1861.

**Town of Old Lyme
Tax Collector's Notice**

Notice is hereby given the Taxpayers of the Town of Old Lyme that the second installment of a tax of 18.2 mills on the dollar on the grand list of October 1, 2006 is due January 1, 2008. Also due on that date are the supplemental Motor Vehicle tax bills.

Payments must be made on or before February 1, 2008 to avoid penalty. Any payment made after that date will be charged interest at the rate of 1-1/2% per month going back to the due date. (February interest is 3%.)

Payments may be made at the Old Lyme Town Hall, 52 Lyme St., mailed to the Old Lyme Tax Office, P.O. Box 482, Old Lyme, CT 06371, or paid online (www.oldlyme-ct.gov). All you need is your tax bill and your bank account information. Visit www.oldlyme-ct.gov and click "Online Services."

–Judith Tooker, Tax Collector

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Trash and Recycling Schedules

Curbside trash removal is performed by Shoreline Sanitation (434-0052). There is no trash pick-up on the following holidays: New Year's Day (Jan. 1), Memorial Day (last Monday in May), July 4th, Labor Day (first Monday in Sept.), Thanksgiving Day (fourth Thursday in Nov.), and Christmas Day (Dec. 25). Trash that would normally be collected on Thanksgiving will be picked up the next day, along with the regular Friday pickup. For Monday holidays, garbage pickup will move up a day, except on Thursday and Friday, which will remain on schedule. This does not affect the curbside recycling program.

Additional automated trash containers should be ordered through Michele Hayes-Finn (434-1605, ext. 212) in the Se-

lectman's Office at the Memorial Town Hall on Lyme Street. Containers cost \$60.

Recycling Holidays are: Martin Luther King Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Columbus Day, and Veteran's Day. For Monday holidays, pick-up will be the following day. All other days remain on schedule. There is no recycling pickup on the Thursday and Friday of Thanksgiving week. Curbside pick-up is provided for clean, co-mingled bottles, cans and #1 & 2 plastics. A blue Town of Old Lyme Recycling bin with cover was distributed to each household earlier this year. The containers are clearly marked to be used for household papers only. Please continue to use your own receptacles or a plain paper grocery bag for bottles, cans, & plastics. Corrugated cardboard boxes need to be flattened for recycling. Recycling information is available on the town's website (www.oldlyme-ct.gov), in the Selectman's Office at the Memorial Town Hall on Lyme Street, or at the Landfill/Transfer Station. Please phone Michele Hayes-Finn (434-1605, ext. 212) with additional questions.

Transfer Station/Landfill Winter Hours (first week of October through the end of April) are Tuesday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m., Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday. Watch for more information on Transfer Station policies and rates.

Phone Michele Hayes-Finn in the Selectman's Office at the Town Hall (434-1605, ext. 212) to report a streetlight outage or a trash or recycling problem. When reporting a streetlight, please make note of the pole number.

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LYMES' SENIOR CENTER

The Lymes' Senior Center has plenty of activities to offer: bridge, computers, Tai Chi, exercise class, watercolor paint class, creative writer's workshop, and more. Please feel free to call for more info. A delicious nutritious lunch is served Monday through Friday at 12 noon for a small donation (\$2.50). Meals on Wheels are available for any senior who is homebound. Please call 388-1611 to make a reservation.

SPECIAL DATES

Dec 16 – Old Lyme Town Band Christmas Concert 2 p.m.

Dec 21 – Christmas Lunch & Party 12 Noon

Parks and Recreation Department

Thanks go out to all of the Volunteer Coaches who gave of their time and efforts for the benefit of others and helped out with Fall Soccer and Flag Football. Volunteer efforts are essential to the success of these programs and are greatly appreciated.

For all Parks and Recreation information, please visit the Town of Old Lyme website at www.oldlyme-ct.gov and then link to Parks and Recreation. Programs are listed by season. All contact information, program dates and details, program sign-up information, cancellations, etc. are listed here and all updates are posted as soon as possible. On-line registration and payment methods are forthcoming.

The Parks and Recreation Office is temporarily located at 74 Halls Road in the Old Lyme Marketplace (A&P Shopping Center). For all questions, comments, concerns, or program improvements, I can be reached by phone 434-4469, by e-mail at parkrec@oldlyme-ct.gov -- or better yet... just stop in.

– Don Bugbee, Director

ELECTION RESULTS

Municipal Elections took place on November 6. With 3215 ballots counted, votes were cast as follows:

- First Selectman:** Timothy Griswold, 1608; Bonnie Reemsnyder, 1343 (elected to Board of Selectmen)
- Selectman:** Skip Sibley, 1609; Adam Burrows, 1290
- Town Treasurer:** John Bysko, 1494; Robert Doyen, 1341
- Tax Collector:** Judith Tooker, 1671; Karen Conniff, 1229
- Board of Finance:** Mark Diebolt, 1852; Christopher Kerr, 1974
- Board of Finance alternates:** Judith Read, 1590; Janet Sturges, 1700; Ruth Roach, 1499; Luisa Grogan, 1315
- Board of Assessment Appeals:** Roderick White, 1309; Jane Cable, 1468
- Planning Commission, 2007:** Robert McCarthy, 1871
- Planning Commission, 2008:** Constance Kastelowitz, 1894
- Zoning Commission, 2007:** Patrick Looney, 1395; Ted Kiritsis, 1357
- Zoning Commission, 2008:** John Johnson, 1786
- Zoning Board of Appeals, 2007:** Judy McQuade, 1529; Edgar Butcher, 1163
- Zoning Board of Appeals, 2008:** Susanne Stutts, 1813
- Zoning Board of Appeals, alternates:** Frances Sadowski, 1570; June Speirs, 1775; Joseph St. Germain, 1773
- Regional Board of Education:** Alice Burbank, 1484; Christopher Carter, 1478; Susan Fogliano, 1448; Mary Stone, 1407; Thomas Kahrl, 1377; Maggie Ward, 1325

Presidential Primaries are scheduled to take place on February 5. If you are not yet registered to vote, you may register Monday through Friday in the Town Clerk's office (Town Hall, 52 Lyme Street) from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.; or at the Registrar's Office, temporarily located at 100 Halls Road. Phone the Registrars with questions: 434-4474.

AFFORDABLE ADVERTISING FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS!

As a benefit to members, the Chamber will reserve a full page ad in the Spring *Old Lyme Events* (the Town of Old Lyme's newsletter) for 8 business cards. The cost per card is \$55. This is a first come/first served opportunity. If you're interested, respond to Cathy Frank no later than February 4, 2008. Business cards and checks will be due by February 11, 2008. (cfrank1118@aol.com 434-1605, ext 210)

If there is enough interest, we'll coordinate pages in future issues of *Old Lyme Events*.



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OLD LYME EVENTS • HOLIDAY 2007

Financial Education for Teachers and Administrators

If you think you have heard all the new tax benefits, well, think again. Section 125 Flexible Spending Accounts where school districts can save FICA on their employees. HRAs too. Everyone is always interested in saving on taxes! If you have major dental bills coming up or are paying for child care or care of an elderly parent, contact your union to see when they will offer this to you. Also, coming up in 2008, you will lose flexibility of your 403(b) options for transfers that you have today. Today you can transfer your 403(b) to any other 403(b) without a tax consequence and many school systems have a list of many companies to choose from, as well. Make sure you talk about this with your financial advisor before it's too late!

Look at the whole picture... reevaluate your income needs. It's very important to compare plan N with all of your plan D options other options. As most of you may already know, you will only be getting about 40% of what the Social Security says you are getting on the statements they send you, as you are then subject to the government pension offset.

Buying back service time will add dollars to your pension for as long as you collect.

This will be one of your best investments ever. You can buy a total of 10 years, 1 year for every 2 years in CT. You can buy back any CT time like maternity leave and other types of service time that you can purchase toward your pension are military leave, out-

side state and substitute time to name a few more. You can even purchase this time with pre-tax accounts!

Get your pension calculations, projections, estimates on costs to purchase service time and verification of that service time done in advance on your own or with a financial advisor that specializes with educators. Don't wait until the last minute. Always file your retirement paperwork earlier than later, especially if you are buying back service. Don't ever file your paperwork after the end of June deadline as you will miss a pension check or two. It's advised to send it in as early as April!!!

Teachers and Administrators, make sure that you get the education you need for YOUR own financial futures. There are many new tax laws, investment options and retirement choices to make. There are also legislative issues that you may want to keep informed about. You only make these decisions once!

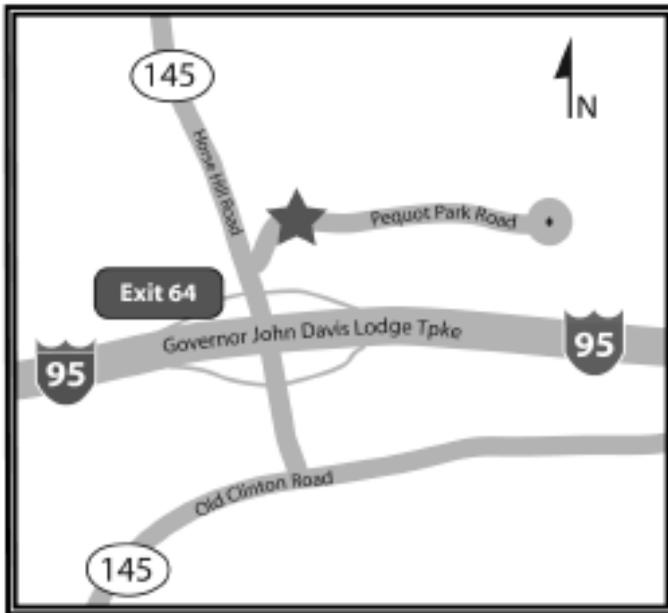
Tracy A. MacKinstry, CFS is a financial advisor in Clinton at 9 Old Post Road 860-669-9900 or toll free 877-562-PLAN. Tracy is the owner of MacKinstry Financial and Educator's Retirement Consulting, specializing in retirement planning. She has workshops on various topics and also provides individual planning. Securities Offered through Linsco/Private Ledger, Member SIPC, NASD These ideas are meant as starting points for discussion with your financial advisor, who can help you plot a strategy for meeting competing financial challenges.

<p>JOAN REED WILSON, ESQ., LLC ESTATE PLANNING PROBATE ADMINISTRATION REAL ESTATE CLOSINGS</p>  <p>Joan Reed Wilson, Attorney at Law (860) 669-1222 www.joanreedwilsonlaw.com</p>	<p>MACKINSTRY FINANCIAL & INVESTMENTS, LLC EDUCATORS RETIREMENT CONSULTING RETIREMENT PLANNING LIFE & LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE</p>  <p>Tracy A. MacKinstry, CFS (860) 669-9900 www.mackinstry.com <small>Securities offered through Linsco/Private Ledger, Member NASD/SIPC</small></p>	<p>LAW OFFICES OF LYNN M. PINDER, LLC DIVORCE MEDIATION BUSINESS FORMATIONS REAL ESTATE CLOSINGS/LAND USE</p>  <p>Lynn M. Pinder, Attorney at Law (860) 664-9399 www.pinderlaw.com</p>
<p>9 OLD POST ROAD, CLINTON The Personal Touch Your Most Important Decisions Deserve Under One Roof</p>		

Convenient Blood Tests Now Available in Westbrook!

For the convenience of our shoreline patients, Middlesex Hospital has opened an outpatient laboratory drawing station in Westbrook, located in a new medical office in Pequot Park, right off of exit 64 off I-95.

In addition to the convenient location, you'll benefit from our experienced phlebotomists who also serve patients at Middlesex Hospital's Shoreline Medical Center in Essex!



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Middlesex Hospital Laboratory - Westbrook

Lakebrook Medical Center
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Westbrook, Connecticut



Chamber of Commerce Update

Our monthly meetings resumed at Cherrystone's in September: social hour at 6:15 p.m. with a dinner program beginning at 7. Members, guests, and visitors are always welcome. In September, we welcomed Daniel Mandli, Vice President of Operations for Noble Environmental Power in Essex, who answered questions about the future of "Wind Power."

Our October speaker was Lyme resident and author James R. Benn. He read excerpts from his newly published book, *The First Wave: A Billy Boyle World War II Mystery*, hailed in the *New York Times Book Review* as "spirited wartime storytelling." Peter C. Lent of the state Department of Economic and Community Development joined us at our November meeting.

The Chamber sponsored Candidate Debates in October. Our thanks to the participating candidates for the Regional District 18 Board of Education and Old Lyme's Board of Selectmen, our timekeepers (Pam Stevens and Laurie Walker), and our debate moderators (Suzanne Thompson of the *Lyme Times*, Olwen Logan of Lymeline.com, and Attorney Greg Carnese).

Our annual Carol Sing & Tree Lighting on December 7 at the Old Lyme Marketplace is the kick-off for our Toys for Tots campaign. Donations for Toys for Tots can also be dropped off at any of the following Chamber of Commerce locations: All Pro Auto, Cherrystone's, Christy Laurence Real Estate, Essex Savings Bank, High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Subway of Old Lyme, and Reynolds' Garage and Marine, Inc. This year's campaign ends on December 15.

Watch for announcements about Taste of the Lymes. Funds raised at our annual wine-tasting event enable us to award scholarships to deserving students from Lyme and Old Lyme.

We encourage our current members to volunteer their assistance with an event or committee. And, if you are not a member yet, please consider joining us. Applications are available online at www.lolcc.com, or you can phone 888-302-9246.

– Charles Delinks
Lyme Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce President



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HOURS: 7:30 am-3:30 pm (Monday-Friday)



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Assessor's Office

Applications for the Board of Assessment Appeals process will be available in this office the end of January. Applications must be filled out and returned to the Assessors office in its entirety on or before February 20. The board meets three times in March 2008 and the dates will be known the end of January.

The Assessors Office reminds residents of Elderly & Totally Disabled and Additional Veterans tax relief availability. Elderly & Totally Disabled Tax Relief for Homeowners is available from February 15 through May 15. An additional Veterans Exemption is also available for those who qualify for the above. To qualify, recipients must have reached the age of 65 or older by the end of the previous year or be totally disabled. Eligibility is also based on combined/single income limitations & length of home ownership. Applicants may not be receiving federal, state, county or municipal financial subsidy or aid.

For more information please call Mickie Fraser, Administrative Assessment Technician @ 434-1605 Ext. 219.

The Old Lyme Conservation Trust

The Hoffman Preserve

The Hoffman preserve (twenty-four acres at 89 Sill Lane) is reached by driving west from Laysville Center on the



Boston Post Road just past the Texaco Station to Sill Lane. When you cross over the bridge on Sill Lane, there is parking on both sides of the road. The Hoffman property is on the left (west/south) side of the road. Enter to the west by the bridge, bear to your right and keep the stone wall on your left. Avoid

the field because it is not part of the Old Lyme Conservation Trust property.

The trail begins at a well-defined parking area on Sill Lane. It proceeds westward along a wood road a hundred yards, where a sign directs the hiker to the left and up a hill that overlooks the stream. The raked trail then proceeds along the stream for two or three hundred yards, where it turns to the right up a slope. Follow the trail markers northward for two hundred yards, where it joins the wood road that you started on. It is a well-marked loop trail taking about forty-five minutes to walk. Wildlife there includes beaver, swans, ducks, deer, and songbirds.

In August 2007, eight acres bordering the existing Hoffman preserve were donated by Lyme Art Academy founder Elizabeth DeGerenday. This donation will create a total preserve that is 33 percent larger than the current preserve. The Old Lyme Conservation Trust wishes to thank Ms. DeGerenday for thinking of present and future generations in Old Lyme.



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Events Magazine Music Editor

As a six-year-old boy entering the first grade, I was bestowed the parental “opportunity” to take music lessons. Unlike many stories I’ve read from famous musicians, my family was not particularly musical. My Dad had played piano and trumpet growing up, but it never kicked in to be a part of his life beyond retaining a joy for listening. It was actually my great aunt (my grandmother’s sister) who had just purchased our family a piano on which my older brother was given first dibbs to take lessons since he was nine. After some sort of blubbering episode, I was, however, given a choice to begin lessons as well on another instrument.

I can’t quite recall just how I chose guitar, but I do recall my very first lesson. My mother took me down to Jimmy Azzolina’s Music Box in downtown Meriden to buy a guitar and take my first lesson. This was an early brush with fame as Jimmy’s son Jay, to this day, is a working jazz/fusion guitarist enjoying a solo career after breaking in as lead guitarist for Spyro Gyra in the early 90’s.

Heading down into the basement where the practice rooms were, I took my Stella Acoustic Guitar, sat down and waited for my Instructor to arrive. After only a few moments, which seemed like a lifetime for a six-year-old sitting in a 5-by-7 room,

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this super casual guy came in with long curly blond hair parted in the middle, holding what I now know to be a Blonde Gibson 335 Electric guitar. He sat down, gave me a casual but sincere, “Hey dude”, then proceeded to show me how to make an E minor chord using only 2 fingers and I was off to playing America’s “Horse with No Name.” How cool was that?

Many hours and years of practice, most beginning with some form of complaint, and five teachers later, at forty, I consider myself a proficient entertainer, who can not imagine any quality of life without MY MUSIC.

Music touches each of us in a different way, yet one thing we can all agree upon is that music is a part of everyone’s life every day, even if unnoticed. You don’t have to be a musician or a fanatic who knows every artist for every song, or know the B side of a 1963 record to appreciate that music is something that can only be avoided by ear plugs or hearing disorder.

Not a day passes without incidentally being exposed to music whether in TV or Radio ads, the ring of a cell phone or just hitchin’ a ride in the elevator.

Bottom line is, music can be so enriching to one’s life and can be enjoyed from cradle to grave. It is never too late to begin making music and never too early to start. In our world of grossly overpaid sports figures, back-to-back soccer and basketball schedules, let’s remember as my Great Aunt was wise enough to know, if not for ourselves, let’s remember to expose our young to music as an acceptable, rewarding and productive alternative to anything. They might even choose to put down the game boy and pick up a flute after a while.

– Wayne D’Amico, *Events Magazine* Music Editor

Wayne D’Amico, based in Essex CT, has been a working musician and musical entertainer for over 25 years and hosts ClassicaCafe.com, a website for Guitar and professional musical gear enthusiasts.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Officer Martha Rumskas reminds residents that state law requires all dogs to be licensed. She is obligated to assess a fine for unlicensed dogs, and the fine can be significant. Obtain licenses for your dog at the Town Clerk’s office. Visit the Animal Control page of the town’s website (www.oldlyme-ct.gov) to check out their “wish list,” adoptions and news.

OLD LYME EVENTS • HOLIDAY 2007

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High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc.

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2007/2008 General Volunteer Orientation & Training Schedule

To Become a High Hopes Volunteer:

- The recommended minimum age for volunteers is 14.
- Please complete your Volunteer Registration & Release Form (available on our website at www.highhopestr.org). Volunteers under the age of 18 years must have paperwork signed by a parent or guardian to participate in training and volunteering. Return your completed Volunteer Registration & Release Form to High Hopes.



- Individuals must be available a minimum of one hour per week, the same day and time each week, to volunteer. New volunteers receive their assignment and schedule following their attendance in a volunteer orientation and training session. Volunteer assignments and schedules are based on interest, experience, and availability. The first semester of volunteering is considered a trial period.
- All volunteer opportunities, including work in the Equine Program, Office, or Facility also require attending a general volunteer orientation and training session.
- Volunteering in the Equine Program, Lesson Program, and/or Facility involves moderate physical activity. Please be sure you are comfortable with the physical aspects of the role you select.
- Because of the nature of the services we provide, High Hopes reserves the right to make the final determination as to the appropriateness of volunteers for our organization.

To discuss your interest and schedule the training session that works best for you, please contact Jeanna Pellino, Volunteer Coordinator, at 860-434-1974, Ext. 16 or email jpellino@highhopestr.org

The following Volunteer Orientation & Training dates and times are subject to change. Please call us to confirm.

- Tues., December 11th (4:30-8:00 p.m.)
- Thurs., January 10th (4:30-8:00 p.m.)
- Wed., February 6th (4:30-8:00 p.m.)
- Sat., February 16th (9-12:30 p.m.)
- Mon., March 3rd, (10-1:00 p.m.)
- Thurs., March 13th (4:30-8:00 p.m.)
- Wed., April 9th (4:30-8:00 p.m.)

Open Houses

High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization offering therapeutic horseback riding and other equine-assisted activities to people with a wide range of psychological, emotional and physical disabilities. We have been operating since 1974 serving the cities and towns within and surrounding Southeastern Connecticut.

Through our year-round equine-related therapy programs, High Hopes serves over 900 people and offers life-changing experiences to individuals of all ages who face extraordinary challenges each day. From parent to volunteers to participants to horses to staff and to caregivers, we work together to help make each others' lives a little better, a little more hopeful.

If you would like to see our programs in action, meet the staff (both two- and four-legged) and see how you can make a difference, please join us at one or more of the following Open Houses. Please call us in advance at 860-434-1974 to let us know you are coming.

- Tues., January 22nd (9:30 -11:00 a.m.)
- Wed., February 27th (5:30 -7:00 p.m.)
- Sat., March 15th (9:00 -11:30 a.m.)
- Wed., March 26th (9:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.)

Continued on next page

OLD LYME EVENTS • HOLIDAY 2007

Events Magazine Food Editor

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Brasserie Pip offers hor d'oeuvres, a raw bar, salads, entrees that vary by season, desserts by pastry chef Sarah Smith, as well as a martini selection by mixologist Chris Sperling, and an extensive, award-winning wine list. Over six-hundred selections from around the world are available, ranging from pleasing house wines by the glass to hard-to-find and limited vintages.

In addition to the seasonal menu changes, Executive Chef Francois de Melogue makes menu adjustments every few weeks to more fully incorporate the freshest seasonally available local ingredients.

During a recent mid-week visit to the brasserie, my dining partner and I enjoyed the unhurried pace that allowed us to fully appreciate each of our selections. The staff was attentive and professional without being intrusive.

The brasserie's warm, gold walls and chic French décor provide a rich yet casual atmosphere.

We began our meal with a shared Assortment de Fromages. The cheeses were nicely varied, with a mild goat cheese, a buttery brie, a Spanish sheep's milk cheese, a rich blue cheese, and a stinky cow's milk cheese. Slices of crusty and chewy yet light baguette accompanied the cheese, along with a delicious quince paste to clear the palate.

For our main courses, we enjoyed the Demi-Canard Roti A L'Orange and the the Dover Sole Grenobloise. The crisp skin and tender, rich meat of the roast duck paired perfectly with a tart orange sauce. Accompanied by Sarlat potatoes, this is a perfect dish for a crisp, fall evening. The lightly sautéed sole was served with tourneep potatoes, flavorful green beans, and a delicate lemon sauce – a dish as pleasing to the eye as to the palate. We chose to end the evening with a shared pecan-infused Crème Caramel, served with pecan-brown sugar rounds. The delicate, cool crème contrasted beautifully with the sweet, nutty rounds.

Diners looking for more unusual offerings than the standard fall fare will not be disappointed at Pips. For his mid-fall menu, de Melogue has included Steak Tartare – hand-chopped raw Hereford beef tenderloins with capers, cornichon, and cognac; Grenouilles A La Poulette – fried frog legs on wilted greens with a wild mushroom and herb sauce; and Pot Au Feu Du Braconnier – tender young rabbit with autumn vegetables and chestnut pasta.

If you plan to visit Pip's, make sure to reserve a table. This popular establishment has an inside seating capacity of thirty-two and fills up fast. Bar seating is available and bar patrons may order off the menu. Reservations are not accepted for these five seats.

Continued from previous page

- Fri., April 11th (5:30 -7:00 p.m.)

Special Events and Offerings

If you would like to receive information about:

- Our Equine Learning Program (formerly known as the High Hopes Summer Camp);
- An invitation to our benefit event, Symphony in the Meadows, on June 14, 2008, featuring the New Haven Symphony Orchestra at a private estate in Essex; or
- Receive *The High Hopes Rider*, our quarterly newsletter please email us at hinfo@highhopestr.org and request to be added to our mailing list.

Jane Cable LLC

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Attorney at Law

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OLD LYME EVENTS • HOLIDAY 2007

Spirit Mind Body

Drink more water. Walk more. Eat more fruits and vegetables. Avoid fast food. Get on an exercise program. No desserts. Any of those sound familiar?

This holiday season and New Year if you want to become more active and incorporate some healthier choices into your lifestyle, start small, and mix it up. We all have habits that are tough to break, and by trying to make all those healthful changes at once, we can set ourselves up for frustration and failure. Better to make one or two modest changes, and then

build on success. Try any of these small changes, or identify your own:

- Add just one fruit or vegetable and one glass of water to your diet each day.
- Add a short after-dinner walk to your routine once or twice a week.
- Use smaller plates and bowls to avoid large portions.
- Get off the bus or train a few blocks before your destination and walk.

- Ask the restaurant to remove the bread basket after you've enjoyed one treat.
- Take the stairs (instead of the elevator or escalator).
- Eliminate "extra-," "super-," and "mounded high with" from your vocabulary.
- Don't watch the kids play, play with them!
- If there's a food you love, don't deprive yourself. Keep the portion small and savor every bite.

Don't forget to visit the Valley-Shore YMCA. The Valley-Shore YMCA's staff is committed to helping you commit to a healthier lifestyle. They can help you develop an exercise plan that incorporates small changes that add up to big benefits for your health and well-being.

The Valley-Shore YMCA is located at 201 Spencer Plains Road in Westbrook and the Y AquaDome is located at the Madison Swim and Racquet Club in Madison. For more information about taking the first step toward a healthier lifestyle, call (860)399-9622 or (203)318-1811.

- Valley-Shore YMCA

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This holiday season, please remember the men and women in our armed forces at home and abroad who, every day, make sacrifices to ensure our freedoms and the freedoms of others.



State Rep Marilyn Giuliano

Transportation Improvements For the Shoreline

For the Connecticut shoreline, transportation improvements in rail service, the expansion of the I-95 auto corridor, and new technologies to inform drivers of delays are being implemented.

Connecticut is maintaining its commitment to expand rail services and to make these services modern, reliable, and convenient. A rail capital improvement program has begun that includes ordering 300 new M-8 rail cars to replace the M-2 rail cars of the New Haven line, refurbishing rail cars purchased from Virginia for service on the Shoreline East, and renovating and expanding rail stations and commuter parking along the I-95 corridor.

For commuters taking the Shore Line East (SLE) train, Governor M. Jodi Rell has announced improved service to and from New Haven and for reverse commuters to Old Saybrook. For the first time, three trains bound from Old Saybrook to New Haven and one early morning east bound train to Old Saybrook will stop at the new Guilford station. In addition, a new midday train will be added at 1:00 p.m. from New Haven to Old Saybrook to allow SLE riders who

traveled in the morning to return earlier in the afternoon. Improved service east of New Haven is an important component in reducing traffic congestion and improving mobility in Southeastern Connecticut.

Governor Rell has just announced special weekend holiday rail service on Saturdays and Sundays beginning Saturday, November 17, 2007 through Sunday, December 30, 2007. This new holiday weekend service will include three morning trains to New Haven, which will connect with service to New York City. In the late afternoon and evening, Shore Lline East will offer train service out of New York City to New Haven and Old Saybrook. These six trains will have station stops in Old Saybrook, Westbrook, Clinton, Madison, Guilford, Branford, and New Haven's Union Station. Parking is free at all Shore Lline East stations, and children under twelve accompanied by an adult will ride free.

Shore Line East recently conducted a rider satisfaction survey, and received high marks from rail commuters. According to survey results, over 97 percent of those surveyed would recommend Shore Line East to a friend, and 93 percent agree that SLE is a good value for its cost. Shore Line East currently provides almost 2,000 passenger trips each day, totaling approximately 450,000 passenger trips each year.

Continued on next page

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Continued from page 23

To consult the new timetable for the Shore Line East, go to www.ShoreLineEast.com or call 800 ALL-RIDE.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) expects to expand commuter rail service to New York's Penn Station to relieve I-95 corridor congestion and improve mobility along our shoreline. A recent DOT study concludes that more than one million automobile trips per year could be eliminated along I-95 if daily Connecticut to Penn Station rail service were offered.

Expanding rail between Connecticut and New York is a top priority, but there are challenges to this goal. Electric rail equipment on the New Haven line is not currently capable of operating into Penn Station due to differing over-

head catenary power systems.

However, new M-8 electric rail cars designed to operate into Penn Station are on order for the New Haven line. The DOT report entitled "Implementation of Connecticut Rail Services into Penn Station New York" is available on the department's web site at www.ct.gov/dot.

Traffic congestion can be taken as a sign of a strong economy in our region as more people enjoy living and traveling in our area, and more goods are being shipped across our highways, improving our economic competitiveness. Local residents, though, are rightly concerned about congestion, delays, and traffic accidents on area highways.

For the long term, the state Transportation Strategy Board has identified I-95 east to the Rhode Island border as a priority for expansion. Adding another I-95 lane through the southeast Connecticut corridor would cost an estimated \$1.75 billion. The full statewide Transportation Strategy Board report is available at: http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/tsb/reports_tsb/tsb2007report.pdf

Though the state cannot simply build its way out of traffic congestion, Connecticut now has a detailed plan in place to help southeastern Connecticut in several ways:

- Relieve chokepoints
- Improve operation of existing roads, buses, and rails
- Create some additional long-term road capacity.

For drivers headed to New Haven and points west, a major bottleneck in East Haven is about to be removed, as a third travel lane on I-95 is extended to the Quinnipiac River Bridge.

To better use existing roads, technology is in the works to better inform drivers of traffic problems. With immediate traffic information, motorists can reroute or reschedule their trip in order to avoid wasting time in a long traffic backup.

A nationwide 511 system may soon be coming to Connecticut, along with more roadway signs, to warn of delays, construction, accidents, and other information. Motorists can call 511 for the latest travel information.

The latest road conditions are currently available at the state Department of Transportation website: <http://www.ct.gov/dot/site/default.asp>.

Developing a regional approach to providing mass transit, improving our transportation infrastructure, and making smart use of traffic information technologies are initiatives underway in our state – and that's good news for the shoreline.

– State Representative Marilyn Giuliano

State Rep. Marilyn Giuliano serves the 23rd Assembly District of Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Westbrook in the state House of Representatives.



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Events Magazine Video & Games Editor



Gamephoria V2

We know that understanding the begging ramblings of your young ones can be difficult around the holiday season. You may not always know if what they are asking for is appropriate, or good. The way video games have exploded recently leads to a lot of misconceptions and confusion. But don't worry; we have tried to capture the essence of the season in gaming. Below are four of the biggest games this year shoved into a nutshell. Enjoy!

~ M for Mature ~

Assassin's Creed • XBOX 360; PS3



Assassin's Creed is one of those rare titles that offers so much and delivers on all fronts. You play Altair, an assassin in the Third-Crusade-era Holy Land, and you are tasked with spilling the blood (this is a very, VERY mature game) of nine corrupt men. Despite this relatively simple synopsis, there are layers upon

layers of depth to this game. The tasks are divided up into three beautifully recreated cities: Jerusalem, Acre, and Damascus. You have the ability to scale any building, leap from roof to roof, or blend in and disappear among the throngs of people who populate the cities and the vast countryside between. This game is epic in the truest sense of the word. A must buy.

Mass Effect • XBOX 360



You are Commander Shepard and you have been charged with saving the galaxy from the genocidal alien who wants to eradicate all human life from the galaxy (which humanity has populated quite successfully, I might add). Exactly how you accomplish this task, however, is entirely up to you. You are given a great deal of creative freedom as to how your character looks, what gender you choose to be, how you came to be this amazing Space-Ranger-type person. You can choose how to hold conversations, how your squad acts during combat, and how you act during certain "social" situations (again, this is very much an "M"-rated game). Do you woo the attractive space-

Continued on page 27

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Old Lyme Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library

2 Library Lane • 860-434-1684
Contact: Ronna Keith, Youth Services Librarian

Children's Events for Winter 2007/2008

A Christmas Carol – performed by
The Hampstead Players
Sunday, December 9 at 1:00 p.m.

Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* is a story that is both timeless and universal. It is the delightful tale of the miser, Ebenezer Scrooge, and his clerk, Bob Cratchit. Through visits from the spirits of the season, Scrooge learns the true meaning

of Christmas. In this charming tale, we hope to educate the students about the class system of Victorian England and encourage them to help others that are less fortunate than they are.

WINTER STORIES

Mondays (Jan. 8 – Feb. 11) – ages 2 to 3 - 10:30 a.m.
Enjoy stories, fingerplays, music, and a simple craft.

Thursdays (Jan. 11 – Feb. 14). Babytime - 10:15 a.m. - new-born to 2. Enjoy stories, rhymes, music and movements, with your child. Fridays (Jan. 12 and ongoing) - Lunch Bunch – ages 3 and up - 10:30 a.m.

For you and your child 36 months and up, this energetic group will allow you to enjoy both the Storytime at the Phoebe Griffin Noyes - Old Lyme Library & lunch time at the Lymes' Youth Service Bureau. Your group adventure will start at OLPGN Library at 10:30. After story time (11:15) you and your child can stroll, ride, or snowshoe over to LYSB for playgroup-style fun. Once a month LYSB will provide and set up the ingredients for children to make their own lunch (with an adult help). If your child enjoys books, making foods such as Pussy Cat Pizza, Snowflake Tortillas, or Bagel Faces and playtime, then this is the group for you!

The PGN Library's storytime is open to the public, not just those participating in the LYSB's program.

Story times are open to the public. Registration is required. Please contact the library at 434-1684.

My Teacher Is an Alien, by Bruce Coville **Book Discussion – sponsored by** **Connecticut Humanities Council**

Wednesday, March 12 at 6:00 p.m. Deane Beverly, Retired Teacher – Discussion Leader. Children age 9 and above are welcomed to this free program. Multiple copies of the book will be available at the library. Registration is required. Please call (434-1684) or visit the library for more information and to register.

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Call (860) 434-4640 for more information.

Continued from page 25

alien lady with your Space-Ranger charisma, or do you intimidate her with your uberpowerful pump-action laser gun (no innuendo implied). Which of the three dozen worlds do you explore first, and how do you traverse the terrain? The choices are endless. You are Commander Shepard.

~E for Everyone~

Super Mario Galaxy • Nintendo Wii



After roughly a decade, Nintendo has finally blessed us with an actual, honest-to-goodness sequel to Mario 64. Mario is again given the unenviable task of going toe to toe with his arch nemesis, Bowser-the King

Koopa to end all King Koopas, to rescue the loveable Princess Peach, who has been kidnapped... again. The difference this time is that each level is its own little planet with its own little inhabitants who don't take kindly to Mario's presence. It's really a sublime feeling as you travel through each one of these self-contained ecosystems and experience different physics on each whilst examining the different flora and fauna...and jumping on them...and collecting coins.

Mario and Sonic Olympics • Nintendo Wii



We have a problem with this game. It's not the game itself, which is a very fine affair. It is filled with all the sports you'd expect from a game based on the Olympics, which have been cartoonified to play on the Wii, which one can do with much aplomb. It's the concept itself that baffles us. Now we are all for the numerous loveable characters we've met over the dynasty of Mario and Sonic the Hedgehog competing for the Gold. We especially like the idea of having our "Mii" (player-created avatar) as a playable character. But how anyone thinks that Mario, a busy and yet lowly plumber, is going to beat a supersonic hedgehog in a foot race is beyond us. But it is worth playing to find out! Besides, who doesn't love a little Mario action?

So this holiday season, pull up a chair, get yourself some eggnog and relax... when it comes to knowing what to buy that special little someone who's been pleading for things you've never even heard of, we've got your back. Happy Holidays!

- by Tom & Liz Pester

Tom crafted the door of his snack cabinet with spines of his old law books



Today news and updates are provided on-line by The National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys.

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Temporary Locations of Town Hall Offices

During the initial construction phases of the Town Hall Expansion project, a number of offices have been relocated. Please make note of the following temporary locations and phone numbers:

Building Department: Old Lyme Marketplace 434-4463
 Fire Marshal: Old Lyme Marketplace 434-4464
 Health department: Old Lyme Marketplace 434-4465
 Land Use department (Planning, Zoning, ZBA, Inland Wetlands): Old Lyme Marketplace 434-4467
 Parks & Recreation: Old Lyme Marketplace 434-4469
 Registrars of Voters: 100 Halls Road (corner of Route 156) 434-4474
 Probate Court & Passport processing: 100 Halls Road 434-4475

The following offices will remain in the Town Hall at 52 Lyme Street during construction:

Selectman's Office 434-1605, ext. 212 or 210
 First Selectman 434-1605, ext. 211
 Town Clerk 434-1605, ext. 220 or 221
 Assessor 434-1605, ext. 218 or 219
 Tax Collector 434-1605, ext. 216 or 217
 Finance 434-1605, ext. 215

During the initial construction phases of the Town Hall Expansion project, regularly scheduled monthly meetings of town boards & commissions have been relocated as follows: Christ the King Church, 7:30 p.m. except as noted:

1st Monday	Board of Selectmen
1st Wednesday (7:00 p.m.)	Conservation Commission
1st Thursday	Parks & Recreation Commission
2nd Tuesday	Zoning Board of Appeals
2nd Thursday	Planning Commission
	Harbor Management Comm.
2nd Friday (8:30 a.m.)	Open Space
3rd Monday	Board of Selectmen
3rd Tuesday	Board of Finance
3rd Thursday	WPCA
4th Monday	Zoning (Regulation Rewrite)
4th Tuesday	Inland Wetlands Commission

OLPGN Library

1st Wednesday (8:00 a.m.)	EDC
2nd Thursday (2:00 p.m.)	Technology Committee

Lymes' Senior Center

2nd Monday (1:00 p.m.)	OLVNA
2nd Monday (7:30 p.m.)	Shellfish Commission
3rd Thursday (4:00 p.m.)	Tree Commission

Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts

1st Monday (9:15 a.m.)	Historic District Commission
------------------------	------------------------------



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OLD LYME EVENTS • HOLIDAY 2007

Holiday Gift Selections

During the holidays deciding upon gifts for your loved ones can be difficult. In the past, choosing a liquor related gift was an easy task of picking up a cordial (Chambord, Grand Marnier, etc...) or spirit (scotch whiskey, rum, etc...) at your local package store. Lately, wine has grown in such popularity that it might be the best choice for a gift. However, there are a few things to consider when picking the right wine for that special person. Will they enjoy classic European wines from Italy, Spain, Germany, or France; wines from California and Washington State; or so called "New World Wines" of Argentina, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Austria? Also don't overlook local wines from Connecticut, New York State, and Long Island.

The next question is what style of wine do they enjoy; Full-bodied, light and soft, earthy, fruity, dry, or sweet? Knowing the answers to these questions might also help you generalize which country you might pick the wine from. Of course last but not least you must know whether they prefer a white, red, or even a rosé wine. To make things easier here are a few examples of wines that are generally on the drier side. From Italy: Chianti, Barolo, and Brunello for reds; Pinot Grigio, Gavi, and Vernaccia for whites. From Spain: Rioja and Tempranillo for reds; Albarino and Viura for whites. From France: Bordeaux and Red Burgundy (Pinot Noir) for reds; White Burgundy (Chardonnay) and Graves for whites. From California: Cabernet Sauvignon for a red; Sauvignon Blanc for a white. These wines are all on the drier side of the spectrum.

The selection of a wine with a little more fruit and a little less Tannic (dry) finish can steer you towards big reds from California such as Merlots, Zinfandels, and Syrah, the latter two delivering a slight spice

in the finish. From Argentina the Malbec is a red grape that is producing a silky smooth finish. Australia is of course producing more and more fruit forward jammy style Shiraz. Aside from the full bodied oakey style California and Australian Chardonnays, they are also producing floral Viogniers.

On the sweeter side, Germany produces many styles of white wines, notably the Riesling, from all different areas, which have extensive flavors and sweet finishes. And of course there are always the White Zinfandels from California.

A few good wines under \$11.00 are: Santa Ema Merlot from Chile, Lo Tengo Torrontes from Argentina, Bogle Sauvignon Blanc from California, Da Vinci Chianti from Italy, and Essence Riesling from Germany. Some great wines under \$15.00 are: Babich Pinot Noir from New Zealand, Museum Crianza from Spain, Cavia Malbec from Argentina, and Sebastiani Chardonnay from California. Gifts under \$25.00 are: Chateau Clos de la Chesnaie Pomerol from France, Klinker Brick Zinfandel from California, Yangarra Old Vine Grenache from Australia, Chateau Souverain Cabernet Sauvignon from California, and 7 Heavenly Chards from also from California. For the extraordinary gift there are countless high quality wines over \$50.00 such as: Dievole Dieulele Riserva Chianti Classico from Italy, Le Vieux Donjon Chateaneuf-de-Pape from France, and Sterling SVR Reserve from California. You should make sure to treat yourself to one of these fabulous wines for the holidays.

Don't forget your beer aficionado! From the finest of Belgian beers to countless Micro brews from across the fifty states you will be sure to please the connoisseur on your list.

— Art LiPuma, manager SeaSide Wine & Spirits

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Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association

OLVNA Hosts Adult Audio Screening

The Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association thanks the community for their participation at our two annual fall events; our Flu Clinic and Health Day. The Flu Clinic program dispensed 450 immunizations to townspeople in October. At the Health Day event, dozens took advantage of low-cost blood tests and several free health screenings by area physicians and registered nurses. Also available that day were a number of complimentary health-related premium items and literature. In addition, free chair massage sessions, nutritious refreshments, and a door prize raffle basket were made available to participants.

Muriel Drugan, Executive Director - Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association, (860)434-5241.

Ask the Jeweler: What To Do If ...

The arrival of the Christmas holiday is often accompanied with a heightening of good feelings, appreciation and fondness focusing on family and friends. We share the old stories and remember the good times.

AND THEN IT HAPPENS. Some very well-meaning "close-to-you" decides it's time for you to have mom's, dad's, grandpa's, grandma's, favorite piece of jewelry.

GUYS – YOU WANT: a chronograph, a titanium timepiece that tells in time two time zones simultaneously with an analog and digital display. **You get:** Dad's old student model wind-up, badly-scratched and not currently operable watch. What to do is to have a little talk with your jeweler.

Did you know mechanical (wind-up) movements can often be replaced with battery operated quartz movements? And the scratched parts like the crystals and bands can often be refurbished or replaced. Dial faces can be restored too. We can make your timepiece attractive (fresh and new looking), functional and easy to live with... you need supply only the sentiment.

Your jeweler might also have to pronounce a timepiece as reasonably beyond its useful lifespan. Some think of this concept as an option (we tried...).

In any case, your jeweler can help make a perceived no-so-perfect situation, an opportunity.

LADIES, your situation may be similar, but the range of options is greater!

Some thoughts concerning gems and precious metals next time.

– Questions? Ask the Jeweler!
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OLD LYME EVENTS • HOLIDAY 2007

Old Lyme Historical Society

Old Lyme and Lyme—like many nearby towns—are home to numerous cemeteries. To educate the public about these sites, the Old Lyme Historical Society has launched a series of cemetery tours, providing engaging details about local burial customs and histories. In 2007 Lyme town historian Hiram Maxim led a tour of Lord Cemetery in Lyme, while Old Lyme town historian John Pfeiffer led visits to Duck River Cemetery in Old Lyme and two cemeteries in Lyme where slaves are buried. The series will continue next year.

Copies of the Society's two monographs about life in Old Lyme are still available at the Turning Page, in the Old Lyme Marketplace: (1) *Poverty Island*, by Neri A. Clark, a memoir of a young man's adventures and hard times during the Great Depression; and (2) *This Ancient and Interesting Town*, a reprint of an 1876 article that gives anecdotes about some of Old Lyme's well-known residents.

At year-end, the society seeks new members and encourages current members to renew. Please log on to our website, www.OLHSI.org, and click "Join Us" on the left column. Checks, payable to the Old Lyme Historical Society, may be mailed to the OLHSI at PO Box 352, Old Lyme, CT 06371. Membership fees (and donations) are fully tax-deductible. We look forward to having you with us!

Meetings & Information

Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting takes place at the Lyme Old Lyme Middle School Auditorium on the 4th Monday in January 2008: January 28.

The Citizen of the Year Proclamation will be presented at the meeting. Nominations for Citizen of the Year should be directed to First Selectman Tim Griswold by the end of the year (selectmansoffice@oldlyme-ct.gov or 52 Lyme Street, Old Lyme 06371 or 434-1605, ext. 211).

Conversations

Conversations, a Public Access program, airs on Comcast Channel 14 on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 7pm. Guests converse with Lymeline.com editor & publisher, Olwen Logan. The December program features 2007 Citizen of the Year George James. For information on Conversations, contact producer Catherine Frank (434-7864).



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OLD LYME EVENTS • HOLIDAY 2007

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ANNUAL HOLIDAY FAIR – Ongoing in our lobby through the holidays! Thank you for volunteers who donated their crafts to be sold at our fair. Hand made Crafts and Attic treasures are still available.

Open to the public – all ages welcome to shop for one of a kind handmade crafts!

DEB'S GREAT BINGO ADVENTURE, Tues., December 18 at 1 p.m. Admission \$1. Ten cents per card. Doors open at 1 pm. NO EARLY ENTRY.

Must sign-up in advance. Light refreshments. Call Deb at 388-1611 for details.

BEACON FINANCIAL GROUP, Thursday, December 6 at 11 a.m. Join us for **lunch and Medicare Bingo!**

The Medicare Annual Election period will be starting and this is the time to learn if you need to make changes. Join us for lunch and bingo and have fun while you learn. You will not have any pressure from our firm for attending.

Must call 388-1611 to sign-up for lunch 24 hours in advance.

PUTTING OUT THE ARTHRITIS FIRE, Thurs., December 20, at 12:30 p.m. Join Todd Roberts of Roberts Physical & Aquatic Therapy, who will speak on managing your arthritis issues.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON, Thursday, December 20. Please remember to make reservations for our Holiday Luncheon no later than 11 am on December 13. Don Joffray will be playing the piano at 11:15 am, please join us for the festivities! Must RESERVE by 11 am, December 13.

ONGOING PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES: Line dancing, ping-pong, sittersize, tap dance classes and more are available! Many of the activities are FREE! Call Deb at 388-1611.

COMPUTER CLASSES... Classes from beginner level up to advanced are taught. Beginners, MS Word and Excel, and more are offered. Must call 388-1611 to register.

VOLUNTEERS at the ESTUARY COUNCIL ARE GREATLY NEEDED!!! Many opportunities are available to share your time and talents while helping seniors. You will have a fun time socializing with interesting and friendly people.

Do you have a few hours a week? WE NEED YOU! Call Judy at 388-1611.

ESTUARY THRIFT SHOP: Do you enjoy finding quality items at a great price? Then our Thrift Shop is the place for you! Hours are from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

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OLD LYME EVENTS • HOLIDAY 2007

SEASON'S GREETINGS



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Cappella Cantorum Announces April Performance

The 100-voice shoreline chorus Cappella Cantorum will perform Mendelssohn's "Elijah" with professional orchestra and soloists on Sunday, April 6, 3 p.m. at John Winthrop Middle School, Route 80, Deep River. Soloists will be Susan Von Reichenbach, soprano; Abigail Nims, mezzo soprano; and Richard Lalli, baritone. Tickets are \$15 to \$18. For more information or tickets, call 434-9135.

PARKS AND RECREATION

For all Parks and Recreation information, visit the Town of Old Lyme Website www.oldlyme-ct.gov and click Parks and Recreation. All program information is listed on the webpage. Watch for on-line registration availability for Youth Basketball.

The Parks and Recreation Office is temporarily located at 74 Halls Road in the Old Lyme Marketplace (A&P Shopping Center). The office number is 434-4469 and the director is Don Bugbee.

Connecticut River Film Forum Announces Screenings

Members of the Connecticut River Film Forum invite the general public to see films at the Old Lyme Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library for a small donation. Screening begins at 7:30 p.m. on the following Thursday evenings:

January 10	The Station Agent
February 14	Weeping Camel
March 13	Babette's Feast
April 10	Whiskey Island

For membership information: 434-7971.

Electronics Recycling a Success!!

The useful life of consumer electronic devices is relatively short, and decreasing with the rapid changes in equipment features and capabilities. This creates a huge waste stream of obsolete electronic equipment, electronic waste (e-waste). Electronic waste is growing 2-3 times faster than any other waste stream. Between 2000 and 2007, as many as 500 million personal computers will become obsolete and enter the municipal solid waste stream – something has to be done!!

This year, the Selectmen from the Connecticut River Estuary Region realized that in order to keep this e-waste out of the landfills they needed to respond and do something. They took action and sponsored two residential electronics collections, one collection was in June and one in August. The two collections brought in a total of 50,000 lbs. of electronic waste, this filled up five semi trucks. It was a huge success and was a great effort by the Estuary residents.

Nine states have passed laws establishing statewide electronic waste recycling programs. Eight of these states use the producer responsibility model and one (California) uses the consumer fee (Advanced Recycling Fee, or ARF) model. The ARF model charges the consumer a recycling fee at retail, which goes into a statewide recycling fund, and the state uses this to reimburse recycling costs. The manufacturers have no responsibility under this approach. Only California has adopted this model.

The responsibility model has the manufacturers paying for collections and recycling of the products and not the tax payers. This gives the manufacturers financial responsibility for their obsolete products, and is also an incentive to make their products with less toxic materials.

This summer, Connecticut passed laws to start a state-wide e-waste recycling program and is using the producer responsibility model. Connecticut is one of the eight states to implement this program. The schedule is for manufacturers selling products in Connecticut to register and pay a fee in 2008. By 2009 municipalities will be participating in the electronics recycling program by providing places to dispose of e-waste.

Between now and 2009, hopefully other towns will step up and take some action to do their own e-waste recycling programs like the Estuary Region. This new legislation is the start of controlling the e-waste problem. There is a lot to work to do and Connecticut has risen to become one of the states to begin this effort.

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1955 Porsche 1500 Continental Coupe

In the Spring of 1964 I returned to the states following a tour of duty with the U.S. Air Force in Europe. I'd saved a few dollars while stationed there, so as soon as I arrived home in Mystic, the search for a used car began.

In my absence, one of my old friends had opened a foreign car repair business, and he suggested I look for a Porsche. This was a fairly novel idea for the time, as there weren't many of the cars around and they weren't understood by the general car buying public. The sports car guys "got it" though, and it didn't take much to convince me this was a good idea. So, in a week or two, with my friend's help and \$800, I purchased the little red 1955 coupe pictured here.

I certainly enjoyed getting-acquainted with the car. It was a true revelation going from a Detroit iron background to the dynamics of this nimble little car. Initially, I noticed with its light weight and low center of gravity that it handled and braked very well. Secondly, the build quality and aerodynamics made it quiet and stable at highway speed and above. In addition, although the air cooled four cylinder engine was of humble Volkswagen origin and made only about sixty six horsepower, it provided more than adequate performance. The key to this per-



formance was the car's light weight which had the added benefit of providing excellent gas mileage of about 35 miles per gallon.

All in all, this little coupe was a wonderful introduction to the world of Porsche automobiles, and it occupies a special place on my personal fun car list. I owned the car for about a year and enjoyed every minute of it. I parted with it when I was captivated by a white 1963 Porsche Cabriolet, but that's a story for another time.

Happy Holidays and keep the shiny side up. See you next time.

- Dana Hill, *Events Magazine Motorsports Editor*

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