

# Washington Times

"Your Town Newsletter"

May 2003

Volume 11 Number 1

## From the FIRST SELECTMAN

By Elaine Luckey, First Selectman, Washington

As I am writing this it is almost the middle of April, in the middle of a snow storm, and in the middle of a war!

Our Town is busy working on managing and preparing for the potential ramifications of these and other events.

I think it has been snowing since Christmas, and freezing cold. In the brief interval of above freezing weather, the frost started melting out from under the roads, causing upheavals, pavement cracking and deep, deep mud. Our highway crew has been out there in all weather, plowing, sanding, salting, filling in muddy seas and potholes. They have been working overtime, early in the morning, late at night and on holidays. We have almost ninety miles of road, roughly twenty miles of which are dirt. I think they have done a great job keeping the roads open, passable and safe.

The fire and ambulance services are out at all times of the day and night, taking

people to the hospital, directing traffic, responding to accidents and to fire alarms. I often hear them over the radio, reporting back from one emergency, only to be called out onto another. Then they get up in the morning and go to their real jobs. Our Town is very fortunate, indeed, to have these dedicated volunteers.

We have an excellent Police Department. Steve Sordi is our new Resident Trooper and is doing an outstanding job for our Town. The Selectmen support Steve's recommendation that we hire one of our part time constables as a full-time officer so that we may have seven day a week coverage. This will also avoid the extensive and expensive training required for any replacements.

Many people are concerned, I know, about the repercussions to our Town, of the terrorist attacks in New York and other parts of the world, and of the War in Iraq. We are fortunate to have Rocky Tomlinson as our Emergency Management Coordinator. The

Selectmen proposed to sign a contract with him to allow him to spend more time to do this important job. He is chairman of the Local Emergency Planning Council. He will coordinate responses to emergencies between local agencies such as the fire and police departments, emergency medical teams, schools, highway department and the selectmen. In addition he will coordinate with the various regional organizations such as the Northwest Council of Governments, the Regional Hazardous Waste Team and the New Milford Health District. He also coordinates with the State Office of Emergency Management, the Connecticut State Health Department and the State Department of Public Safety. (For more information and contact, see page 16).

These people deserve our help. For your safety and to facilitate their job, be sure that your street address is clearly visible.

They also all deserve our very deep gratitude. I believe that we are in very good hands!! We wish you all to be safe!

[www.washingtonct.org](http://www.washingtonct.org)

Visit our Town Website  
for all the latest...

- Town Calendar
- Public Notices
- Meeting Minutes of many of the Town Boards and Commissions
- Permits and Licensing
- Information
- Forms
- Emergency Management Information
- Links to other Connecticut sites...

PROPOSED 2002-2003 EXPENSES:	2002-2003	2003-2004	+/- (-)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT . . . . .	1,063,964	1,137,745	6.9%
PUBLIC SAFETY . . . . .	362,870	394,075	8.6%
HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE . . . . .	690,150	753,549	9.2%
SANITATION . . . . .	425,180	411,898	-3.1%
CONSERVATION OF HEALTH . . . . .	78,418	77,044	-1.8%
RECREATION . . . . .	112,412	117,331	4.4%
OTHER EXPENDITURES . . . . .	241,256	228,676	-5.2%
SOCIAL SERVICES . . . . .	3,245	3,457	6.5%
DEBT SERVICE . . . . .	84,398	82,101	-2.7%
TOTAL TOWN GENERAL FUND EXPENSE . . . . .	3,061,893	3,205,876	4.7%
TOWN CAPITAL EXPENSE . . . . .	445,990	965,025	116.4%
TOTAL TOWN GENERAL & CAPITAL EXPENSE . . . . .	3,507,883	4,170,901	18.9%
TOWN'S NET SHARE OF EDUCATION EXPENSE . . . . .	7,010,207	7,206,300	2.8%
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET . . . . .	10,518,090	11,377,201	8.2%

*\*Note: DRAFT budget as presented to Board of Finance on 4-21-2003*

**SHEPAUG GREENWAY IS OPEN**

Shepaug Greenway Maps are again available courtesy of Sotheby's International Realty. Copies are located in Town Hall, at the Gunn Library, the Hickory Stick Bookshop and Sotheby's International Realty.

**• NEW TIME •**

**TOWN MEETING NOTICE**

The Town Meeting Scheduled for May 22, 2003 at Bryan Memorial Town Hall will start at 7:30 p.m. *This is a change from the usual 8:00 p.m. start time.*

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

By Susan Payne, Chairman

The Conservation Commission meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in the Land Use Room. We welcome visitors and volunteers.

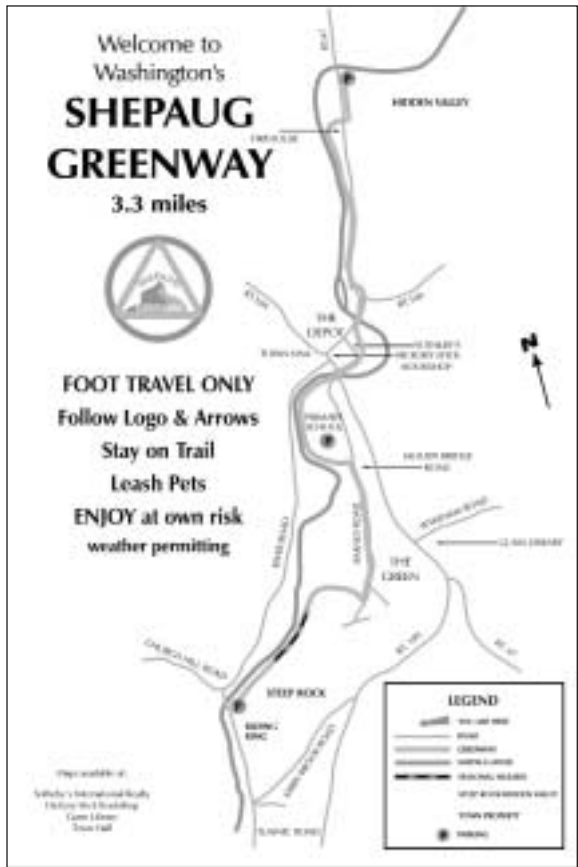
Various subcommittees are working on:

- Scenic Road Ordinance
- Data Management for Land Use
- Welcome to Washington/How to Do Land Use Brochure
- Shepaug Greenway Map with points of historic, cultural and ecological interest
- Management and Monitoring of Town land and conservation easements
- Flora & Fauna – study of invasive plants in town underway

The Greenway Committee continues with the upkeep of the Shepaug Greenway and researching other possible greenway links in town. We invite you to visit the School Street entrance to the Greenway to enjoy the new plantings, the primary school's bird blind, walk along the river and connect with the Parks and Recreation Commission's wonderful loop walk. Volunteers are needed to monitor the trail.

### Spring Fever – Planting

The Conservation Commission urges you to plant native plants and work to replace and eradicate invasive species.



# MAKING A LIVING OFF THE LAND IN LITCHFIELD COUNTY

A Lecture Series featuring Local Farmers and Sponsored by Washington Grange

The Washington Grange Annual Public Lecture Series – Making A Living Off the Land in Litchfield County – got under way in April with Quincy Horan speaking on raising organic vegetables. Quincy, who farms on land originally cultivated by his great-grandfather, represents the new wave of organic farmers, selling his produce to high-end restaurants and at his Waldingfield farm stand in Washington.

The lecture series features local farmers who will talk about the trials and joys of farming in 21st Century Connecticut and provide insight into their particular specialties. The agenda includes dairy goat and dairy cow farmers, as well as orchard owners, haymakers, organic vegetable farmers and a sheep breeder. Slide presentations will accompany many of the talks.

The series is free and open to the public. All interested parties are urged to attend. Audience interaction with speakers is encouraged and refreshments are served. All lectures are held at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington American Legion Hall in the Depot. Questions or comments should be directed to the Washington Grange Communication Director, Matt Cain, at 860 868-3456.

## About the Washington Grange

Since its founding in 1875, the Washington Grange has provided fellowship and activities for area residents interested in agricultural pursuits. As the local economy continues to shift from an agrarian base to more diversified services, the Grange has retained its core commitment to preserving and improving the rural character of Litchfield County. The Grange meets twice a month, often following a quaint meeting format established in the 19th century, including special passwords, oaths and rituals. Many members were raised locally on farms and the Grange provides an excellent opportunity for new members to share information about animal husbandry, woodlot management and gardening.

In addition, the Grange makes common cause with many area groups that share similar goals via funding and labor-sharing efforts. The Grange itself sponsors the Tree of Warmth at the Washington Town Hall, which provides winter clothing to area residents, as well as the popular Citizen of the Year award, honoring locals that best exemplify Grange values. Regular summer picnics and holiday parties for members and their families reinforce the commitment to traditional lifestyles. Grange finances come from fund-raising activities and membership dues.

Despite its name, the Washington Grange draws members from many of the surrounding towns. Meetings are held the

first and third Mondays at 7:30 PM at the American Legion Hall in downtown Washington. For more information, call Master Ernie Finch at 860 354-4659 or email us at WashingtonGrange@yahoo.com. Membership is \$15/year, which includes a subscription to the Connecticut State Grange newspaper and the Washington Grange newsletter.

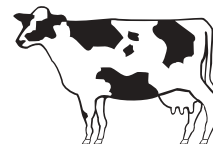
More information on the state and national Grange organizations can be found at ctstategrange.org and nationalgrange.org. Members are entitled to send children to the idyllic Grange summer camp in nearby Winchester, CT and to use the first-rate services of the National Grange credit union.

## Washington Grange: The Link to the Land

### WASHINGTON GRANGE SPEAKER SCHEDULE:

16 JUNE 2003

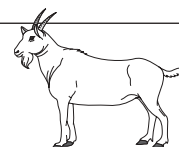
Tim Potter, *Dairy Cow Farmer*



Tim raises Holsteins for milk and breeding stock at Potter's Field in Washington. Potter's Field is one of the few remaining dairy farms in Litchfield County.

18 AUGUST 2003

Liz Tapester, *Dairy Goat Farmer*



Liz raises Nubian and Oberhasli goats for milking and breeding stock, and runs a full dairy operation, including cheese making, at Mountainbrook Farm in Southbury.

20 October 2003

Steve Solley, *Hay Farmer*



Steve grows hay, alfalfa, timothy, straw and mulch hay at Hollicroft Farm in Washington, which has been in the Solley family for generations.

15 December 2003

Sally Futh, *Peach/Apple Farmer*



Sally grows peaches, cherries, plums and apples at Starberry Farm in Washington, as well as making a line of jams, jellies, pies and bread.

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# TAX COLLECTOR

By Tanya J. Wescott, CCMC

## *Something new with your July Tax Bill*

As we only bill once a year, we are trying something new this year. Along with any tax bill, payable in two installments, you will receive a reminder sticker that can be put on the December section of your calendar to remind you to pay the bill in January.

## *First payment due in July*

As in the past, the Tax Office will be open on Saturday, July 26th, from 8 a.m. until Noon for your convenience. The last day to pay your July installment of taxes without interest is Friday, August 1, 2003.

Tax notices will be published in VOICES as required by state statute at least five days before each installment is due, one week after taxes have become due, and at least five days before such tax becomes delinquent. The same notice will also be posted outside Bryan Memorial Town Hall.

Tax bills will be mailed the 25th through the 27th day of June 2003. Remember you have until August 1, 2003 to pay the July installment without interest. If you are mailing your payment please be sure that it is postmarked no later than August 1, 2003 to avoid interest.

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# PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission has received the first draft of the revised and updated *Plan of Conservation and Development for the Town of Washington*. The draft, prepared under the Commission's direction by its consultants, Planimetrics, Inc. of Avon, Ct., is a synthesis of ideas, comments, and suggestions voiced by Commission members in a series of Special Meetings held with the consultants over a period of 16 months, as well as input derived from open meetings with other land use commissions, Town officials, and the public at large.

The draft is available to the public at the Land Use and Town Clerk's offices in Bryan Memorial Town Hall as well as at the Gunn Memorial Library. Comments from all segments of the community will be welcomed at an open meeting in the near future or may be submitted in writing to Janet Hill in the Land Use Office.

## **NOTE TO: Washington Property Owners**

You do not have to be a Registered Voter in order to vote on Town Issues. If you own property valued at \$1,000 or more; are 18 years of age or older; and, a US citizen, you are eligible to vote on Town (budgetary) issues that impact on local property taxes. If property is owned jointly, both owners are eligible to vote; however, if only one person's name appears as property owner, only that person is eligible to vote.

Applications for absentee ballots are available, by mail or in person, from the Washington Town Clerk, 860 868-2786.

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# TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

By Barbara S. Johnson

The Assessor's office is gearing up for the revaluation which will be effective on the October 1, 2003 Grand List. As part of the preparation, data mailers will or have been sent to all property owners. Your cooperation in notifying us of any discrepancies will aid us in setting fair values.

*Not all properties will be reviewed at this time.* Current State Statutes require that every property be viewed at least once in the twelve-year revaluation cycle. Sales verification letters have been sent to new owners for the past two years and some will require follow up to insure the accuracy of current records and possible changes which may have affected the property value.

Sales will be analyzed for changes in value for certain areas and properties adjoining land trust areas will be particularly considered. At this point, there has been no noticeable change in the Washington market but the next six months may affect the final values.

Property owners who were over sixty-five years of age by December 31, 2002, are residents, and meet certain income levels, may be eligible for some tax relief. The deadline to apply is May 15th for credit on the upcoming July bill. This credit is also available for persons who are receiving disability from the Social Security Administration. The above requirements apply. Renters who meet these qualifications may apply for a refund from the State through this office from May 15th to October 1st. For further information please call 860-868-0398. Office hours are 9:00-noon, 1:00-4:45p.m., Monday through Friday.



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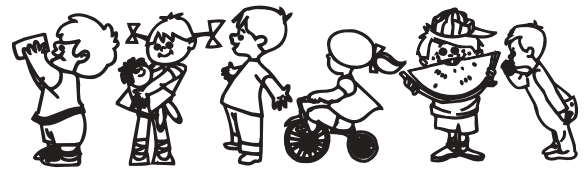
# HAVE YOU HEARD OF CAMP JONATHAN?

By Mary Peitler, NMVNA

Camp Jonathan, sponsored by the New Milford Visiting Nurse Hospice Program, is one of the many bereavement programs offered by New Milford VNA. The camp was begun in the early 1990's by Mary Lee Carroll, M.S.W., of Watertown, Connecticut. Mary Lee had been counseling a young terminally ill boy named Jonathan and his family. After his death, she realized that there were literally no resources for siblings of children who had died and no vehicles for them to express their grief in a positive and appropriate manner. With this impetus, she began Camp Jonathan in memory of her patient and to help children who had lost a significant person in their lives. Camp Jonathan was first held in western Connecticut in 1995 at Saint John's Episcopal Church in Washington and since then has been conducted at Saint John's on the Green in New Milford. Hospice volunteers from the Town of Washington have been an integral part of the camp since its inception, and New Milford VNA is fortunate to have the continued support of Washington residents.

*A special place for children with very special needs...*

Camp Jonathan is a unique experiential day camp for children ages 6 through 12 who have suffered the death of a significant loved one. It allows children to explore creatively in a safe environment their feelings about death, dying and bereavement. Camp Jonathan is designed to offer a safe outlet for grief and is open both to Hospice families and all bereaved children in the greater New Milford area. Up to twenty-four children may participate in the camp which is staffed by specially trained pediatric grief counselors and volunteers. Children participate in art, music, dance, and animal therapy, just to name a few. In their small groups they design and decorate "safe places" which provide special "meeting places" for groups and foster pride in creativity. The week goes by very quickly and culminates in a Memory Supper to which families and friends are invited. A special candlelight memory vigil is held and then a pot luck supper featuring favorite foods of the loved



ones is enjoyed by all. Many campers come back for two or even three years and some even go on to become junior counselors due to their life and camp experiences.

Camp Jonathan is offered free of charge thanks to the generous support of many people and community organizations, including Housatonic-Shepaug United Way. Camp Jonathan is part of a network of bereavement programs held for children and adolescents throughout the year through New Milford VNA Hospice Program.

Do you know of any children who would benefit from attending this one-week day camp? This year's camp will take place August 11 through 15 at Saint John's Episcopal Church on the Green in New Milford. Pre-registration and screening of children is necessary. For further information, please call Mary Peitler at the Hospice office at 860-354-2216.

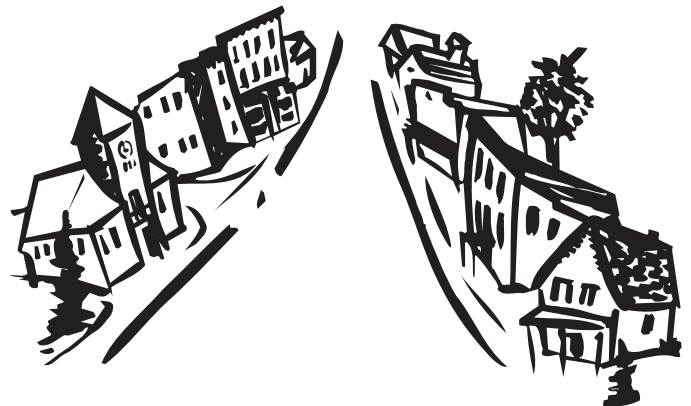
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# VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

*A little "something extra" you should know about.*

The Village Improvement Society continues to provide funding that so many times is needed for that "something extra" that makes the Town of Washington that "something extra" place.

Do you enjoy seeing the American flags flying as you pass through the Depot, Marbledale and New Preston? What about those lights on the trees during the holiday season? Perhaps that extra piece of playground equipment at the Washington Primary School is your child (or grandchild's) favorite. The girls softball scoreboard, the antique map of Washington in the town hall, the walking path, the portable microphone available for use by town organizations, the defibrillators used by our volunteer EMT's and town police in saving lives. And, how about a few of those fireworks!!! They've all been provided by



the Village Improvement Society! Future plans include landscape renovation and additional lighting at Bryan Memorial Town Hall.

Please join us for the annual picnic at the Washington Firehouse on Bee Brook Road on June 13th at 6 p.m. Bring YOUR ideas and be ready to have a great time.

## ADULT LIBRARY

The library will present a poetry series led by Nancy Anne Miller on the Martian Poets. Who were the Martian Poets? They were an influence in British poetry in the 1980s. Their work engages in trope, wit, image, metaphor, simile and hails back to the Metaphysical Poets. Come learn more! Thursdays: June 5, June 24, June 19, & June 26 at 7 pm.

### 2003 ADULT LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES

Kenneth Greif will lead a lecture series on William Shakespeare's History Plays: Roman & English, on the following Tuesday evenings at 7 pm.

- Julius Caesar - May 20th
- Anthony and Cleopatra - June 24th
- Henry IV, Part I - July 29th
- Henry V - August 26th

Are your bookshelves overcrowded? Please consider donating books to the library for the annual book sale in October. Call the library if you need help with delivery. Marketable items only please!

Did you know that the library has an extensive collection of videos and DVDs? Try visiting the library in search of an evening's entertainment. You will be amazed at the size and quality of our collection. An added bonus -- there is no charge to borrow! Some DVDs just in: The Ring, White Oleander, 8 Mile, Sweet Home Alabama, Spider-Man, X-Men, Lord of the Rings: the Fellowship of the Ring, Panic Room, Sum of All Fears, The Tuxedo, One Hour Photo, About a Boy, Ice Age, Minority Report, and We Were Soldiers. Videos: Oceans Eleven, Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood, Blood Work, City by the Sea, Insomnia, Banger Sisters, Austin Powers Gold Member, The Sweetest Thing, and Black Hawk Down. Most DVDs and videos circulate for two days. We also have an extensive music CD collection and an ever-expanding collection of books on tape and CD -- all for your listening pleasure with a circulation period of three weeks.

Saturday, May 10:

**LIBRARY LUMINARIES** – Gracious hosts welcome local luminaries and fundraiser attendees into their homes for intimate dinners, following a cocktail party at the Library. Space is limited and filled on a first-come basis. Call 868-7586 for more information.

## GUNN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

**Picture Perfect: The Art of John Folinsbee** will be the new exhibition at the Gunn Historical Museum, opening May 1st and running through October 12, 2003. John Folinsbee was a student at The Gunnery and became a nationally known American artist. He married a local girl, Ruth Baldwin, and eventually moved on to New Hope, Pennsylvania. The museum will be borrowing several of Folinsbee's works from local and long distance family and friends, and many of these works have not been seen recently by the visiting public.

This exhibition is one of a series of exhibitions celebrating artists active in Litchfield County before 1940. The lead exhibition, Picture Perfect: Images

*continued on page 7*

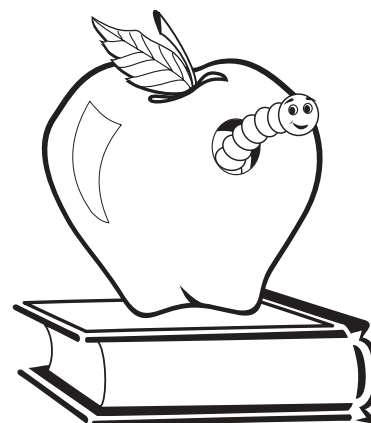
## JUNIOR LIBRARY

The Junior Library will conduct a "Mother's Day Craft Workshop" on Saturday, May 3rd at 1:00 pm. Make the perfect gift for your special Mom. This workshop is free and open to all ages.

The ongoing Kindergarten/First Grade after school storytime sessions continue on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:15 pm with the final session to be held on May 13th. Due to popular demand, the library will also conduct a "book reading/talking" session for 3rd and 4th grade students on each Thursday afternoon in the month of May from 3:30 to 4:15 pm. This program, tentatively titled "Illustrated Fiction for 3rd and 4th Grade" will introduce students to higher level picture books and authors they tend to miss once they become independent readers. Snack and drink will be provided for both programs. Students coming from the Washington Primary School must have written permission

to take the bus from the school to the library.

This year's Summer Reading program theme is "Take Flight with Reading" in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers first flight. Sign-ups will begin on Monday, June 16th (pending the last day of school due to snow days). Children of all ages are welcome to participate in this program that includes special reading incentives, fun prizes, weekly family oriented programs and more. The first Tuesday evening program will "take off" on June 24th. Further information will be forthcoming.



of Northwest Connecticut, will open at the Mattatuck Museum on June 1st. The Mattatuck Museum is publishing a catalog of this exhibition showcasing the ten-year research work of Robert Austin, of Washington, Connecticut. His exhaustive research uncovered the activities of more than 250 artists working in the area before World War II, a level of activity not previously recognized. The companion exhibitions, open throughout the summer season, tell the story of individual area artists associated with a specific community or area within Litchfield County. These will be offered at the Bethlehem Historical Society, the Cornwall Historical Society and Cornwall Free Library, Flanders Nature Center, the Kent Historical Society, the Litchfield Historical Society, the New Milford Historical Society and the Gunn Historical Museum.

For more information on this entire exciting project please visit the project website [www.LitchfieldHillsArtTrail.org](http://www.LitchfieldHillsArtTrail.org)

The public is invited to an Open House Reception at the Gunn Historical Museum on Saturday, June 14, 2003 from 4 – 6 p.m.

The Gunn Historical Museum will be offering several programs throughout the summer focusing on its Folinsbee exhibition. Check your local newspaper for specific dates and times or call the museum at (860) 868 – 7756.

**EMAIL ADDRESSES:**  
[Gunnlib@biblio.org](mailto:Gunnlib@biblio.org)  
[Gunnjr@biblio.org](mailto:Gunnjr@biblio.org)  
[Gunnmus@biblio.org](mailto:Gunnmus@biblio.org)  
**WEBSITE:**  
[www.biblio.org/gunn](http://www.biblio.org/gunn)

**LIBRARY HOURS:**  
Monday 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Tuesday 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Friday 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Closed Wednesdays & Sundays

**MUSEUM HOURS:**  
Thursday thru Sunday  
12:00 noon - 4 p.m.  
Or by appointment  
Closed Monday thru Wednesday

**PHONE NUMBERS**  
Circulation Desk (860) 868-7586  
Junior Library (860) 868-2310  
Fax (860) 868-7247  
Museum (860) 868-7756

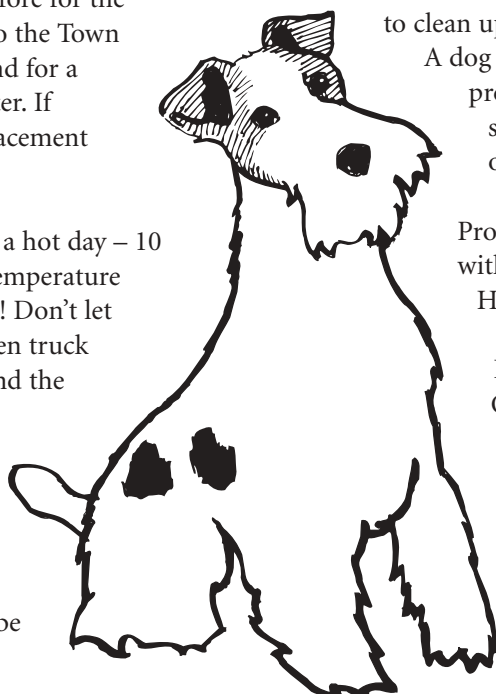
## ANIMAL CARE *by Victoria Cherniske, Judge*

### *A Few Reminders for Spring and Summer*

June is the month in which to license your dog (even if you bought a license just the month before for the previous year). You must present to the Town Clerk's office a rabies certificate, and for a reduced rate, proof of spay or neuter. If your dog should lose its tag, a replacement is available for fifty cents.

Never leave your dog in the car on a hot day – 10 minutes is all it takes to raise the temperature from 78 degrees to over 90 degrees! Don't let your dog ride in the back of an open truck unless it is secured. A quick stop and the dog can be thrown out. Be aware of automatic window buttons – dogs stand on them while riding and can open the window all the way and fall out.

Gardens are going in – dogs must be kept out! Respect your neighbors.



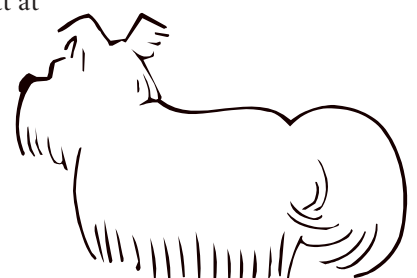
State law says all dogs must not roam from their own property. State law also says if they do, the fine is \$77.00!

When walking your dog on public property, remember to clean up afterwards. Please respect your fellow walkers.

A dog tied or left in an enclosure needs to have proper shelter from the elements, i.e. hot summer sun, downpours, etc. Be sure to provide plenty of fresh, cold drinking water as well.

Protect your pet from disease – keep up-to-date with all vaccinations. A HEALTHY PET IS A HAPPY PET!

For animal cares and concerns please call Cindy Brissett at 868-2870.



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# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*On the Green, 6 Kirby Rd. 868-0569*

Regular Sunday worship hour- 10:30 AM. Church School and nursery care at the same hour. Sunday Summer hours are the Early Service at 8:30 AM (July and August) with the Regular Service at 10:00 AM Sunday with nursery care. Sunday School does not meet during July and August.

Vacation Bible School, for children age 5 through age 10, June 25, 26, 27, 28, and on Sunday, June 29 a presentation for the Congregation. Registration begins in May.

Sunday, September 14 is Reconvanting Sunday and Church School Registration

The GREEN FAIR will be July 12th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 AM. Be sure to attend this annual event held on the Washington Green. Special silent auction items have been collected for this event.

## WASHINGTON COUNSELING SERVICE

The Washington Counseling Service, a mission of the First Congregational Church, is in its 33rd year of providing affordable, professional counseling to Washington residents. This year, we have expanded the opportunities offered to those seeking our assistance by associating with Greenwoods Counseling Services. Established in 1992, Greenwoods is a non-profit, non-sectarian counseling and referral

service, which provides therapy regardless of a person's ability to pay. Initial visits with the Greenwoods Director, David Dobbins, 860 567-4437 or Washington Counseling Service's therapist, Dr. Rachel Sampson, 860 567-3488 as well counseling visits with Dr. Sampson can be scheduled in the church Parish House.

## JUDEA NURSERY SCHOOL

The Judea Nursery School is a traditional non-sectarian nursery school serving Washington, Connecticut and the surrounding towns for over thirty years. We provide a foundation for children to learn personal, social, and cognitive skills in a trusting and flexible environment. We have been graciously hosted by the First Congregational Church since our founding. Judea Nursery School is licensed by the State of Connecticut.

We are an old fashioned nursery school providing a loving atmosphere where young children can make lasting friendships and a love of learning and exploration. We believe that every child should have a wonderful preschool experience and are committed to keeping tuition truly affordable - that is our mission.

Judea Nursery School offers a 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM program for 3 and 4 year olds. For further information please call 860 868-1177.

## NEW BEGINNINGS OF NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT

Our Interfaith Single Life Ministry, now in its fifth year, continues to grow as the word spreads of our program. We offer a Bereavement Support Group that meets weekly. We also offer a Divorce Support Program that is run in 10 week cycles. We have added another program recently that we call Single Life. This program is for those members that have moved past the first stages of grieving the loss of a life partner either because of death or divorce, and are now in need of the support of others as they start life anew.

On our "Social Side" we continue to hold weekly Pot Luck Suppers as well as group picnics and trips to the Warner Theater and the Thomaston Opera House. Our goal is to create a place where it is safe to be single. Our membership now totals around 250 members and they come to us from a total of 42 different towns. Not all members are active at any one time as the needs of each change. Most of our support groups have 10-12 members in each group and our social activities average between 20 and 30 members. Our total number of participations since our New Beginnings ministry was created in 1999 has now passed 6,800. For further information, please contact the Church Office at 860 868-0569.

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# THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Ladies Auxiliary was organized in 1979, with the purpose to provide assistance and support to the firemen in their duties whenever and wherever needed. This continues to be our goal today. The officers this year are as follows: Rosa Woodruff - President, Betsy Brinton - Vice President, Sally Wright - Secretary, Claire Wilber - Treasurer.

The Auxiliary holds several events throughout the year to help raise money for the needs of the department. In the fall we sponsor a Craft Fair at the Depot Firehouse. Most of the crafters are from the local area, and we welcome new crafters every year. Last year's crafts included dried flower arrangers, wood & metal workers, handmade Christmas Ornaments and homemade

jams and jellies to name a few. The Auxiliary also has a raffle table at the craft fair thanks to our local merchants and private citizens who generously donate prizes, gift certificates, and handmade items every year. Last year the raffle table contained nearly three-dozen donations. In addition to the raffle table, the Auxiliary has begun to sell pewter ornaments depicting local buildings. The ornaments are drawn by Cindy Brissett and created by Woodbury Pewter. We have been

*continued on page 9*

## The Ladies Auxiliary of the Washington Volunteer Fire Department *continued*

selling the ornaments for the past four years. We began in 1999 with "The Old Depot Firehouse", 2000 was the "Bryan Memorial Hall" and 2001 was the "Harry O. Erickson Pavilion Hall". In 2002, we began the first ornament in the church series with "The Stone Church" in New Preston. "The First Congregational Church of Washington" is the ornament this year. We intend to release a new church each year until all of the town churches have been depicted. Each ornament comes in a protective plastic bag and contains and informational card about the building depicted. We are currently taking orders for this years ornament and still have past years available. The

ornaments will also be available for sale/order at most of the other events we participate in.

The Auxiliary also sponsors a scholarship to a resident of the Washington community that will be graduating from S.V.H.S. this year. Other activities the Auxiliary participates in include the Memorial Day Parade and Holiday in the Depot at which we provide cookies and soda. Some of the Auxiliary members are also taking part in an Emergency Preparedness Course sponsored by the American Red Cross. This course will teach us how to prepare an emergency shelter in the event that we would need to open one. We will also

have a booth at the W.V.F.D. Carnival this year.

Although are current membership is small, we welcome anyone to join. We have a meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 at the Depot Firehouse. There are many ways to help that require only a small amount of your time. To find out more about joining the Auxiliary call Betsy Brinton at 860-868-7961. To place orders for an ornament please call Sally Wright at 860-868-2698. If you would like to reserve a space for a craft table at the Craft Fair this year please call Rosa Woodruff at 860-868-0111.



Looking for a way to meet new people, develop new skills or challenge old ideas?

Then, join the Washington Art Association. For over fifty years, this organization has been providing stimulating classes in all mediums, exhibiting art ranging from traditional to cutting edge, and hosting special showings of art and crafts at the Holiday Gift Sale in November and December and the Clothesline Sale in July. We also operate The Upstairs Gallery Shop, offering some of the most exciting crafts to be found in this area. And, as a way to give back to the community, we manage a program of art in some local elementary and high schools. Membership, costing only \$30 for an individual and \$45 for a family, will put you on our mailing



list, providing a quarterly bulletin listing all course offerings and monthly invitations to art openings in the Gallery. As a member, you are also entitled to discounts on tuition fees and in a number of art stores in the area. Right now over 800 of your neighbors from more than 60 Connecticut towns are enjoying the benefits of Association membership.

The next semester of Adult classes begin on April 21. You can choose among classes dedicated to the specific mediums of colored pencil, pastel, oil and watercolor, or use any medium in classes concentrating on landscape or the nude. There are also a variety of offerings in sculpture, photography and ceramics. In addition, the Association offers a few art classes for young people here at the studio. All classes are taught by professional artists with impressive backgrounds in their fields. There will be two additional, special workshops this spring, one on oil portrait painting and one on still life painting.

For more information, we urge you to drop in at our premises across from the Post Office in Washington Depot or to call us at 860-868-2878.

### UPCOMING GALLERY EVENTS

**The Members Show 2003**  
*Opens Saturday April 5;*

**Painting on Paper**  
*Opening May 3 2003,*  
features five talented painters:

*Catherine Drabkin  
Phyllis Floyd  
Victor Pesce  
Rosemarie Beck  
Barbara Grossman*

**The Architect's Eye**  
*Opening May 31, 2003*  
Paintings, sculptures and drawings  
by three prominent local artists:

*Alec Purves  
Tim Prentice  
Jack Dunbar*

**Recent Work**  
*Opening June 28, 2003*  
Prints and drawings of Nancy Lasar  
and sculpture by Nick Edmonds

Each of these shows begins with a reception from 3-5 PM on the opening day date indicated. Come and meet people interested in art and anxious to share their views with you.

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# WASHINGTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

By Diane M. Schrier, President

A welcome sight after a long arduous winter is the robins searching for worms and daffodils breaking ground. Another sign of spring is the activity of businesses around town as they make space for their new spring merchandise enticing us with the pastel colors of spring.

The Washington Business Association welcomes our new members Fancy That! Gift Shop, Personal Best, Nine Main Bakery and Deli, New Preston Kitchen Goods, Charlotte's Crossing Antiques, O'Hazo Appraisals, G.W. Tavern, Institute for American Indian Studies, Shanti Yoga and Massage, Wilkas Financial Group and Sotheby's Real Estate.

WBA members expressed their appreciation to the Town of Washington road crew for the many long hours spent this past winter plowing and sanding by having lunch delivered to the garage on Friday, March 21st – thanks again guys!

Our mission continues to be to unify and support local commerce to better serve our community. With that in mind, at our March meeting, we voted to continue our \$500.00 scholarship to a graduating Shepaug senior who has contributed to enhancing the school community. We have also voted to make a \$500.00 donation to the Washington Volunteer Fire Department and a \$250.00 donation to the Washington

Ambulance Association. We are all fortunate to live in a community where dedicated volunteers provide such excellent service.

WBA members have also expressed plans to be involved with the annual Earth Day Clean Up. Many of our roads in Washington, Washington Depot, Marbledale and New Preston need roadside litter picked up. We live in one of the most scenic areas in Connecticut and litter is diminishing our beauty. Take a family member and a friend for a walk and pick it up.

Thanks for listening!

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## THE DEVEREUX GLENHOLME SCHOOL

**Volunteering continues to bring reaping benefits-** As Devereux Glenholme celebrates its 35th anniversary in Washington, the school is greatly strengthened by its community service participation. Devereux Glenholme School's Community Service program first began in response to the national America's Promise effort. By making this commitment to become a Community of Promise, the school strives to improve the lives of the nation's at-risk youth by providing them with fundamental resources to build and strengthen the character and competence of our youth. Throughout the state of Connecticut, communities have come together to support this effort and successfully generate more resources for young people today.

### **Our Student Volunteers**

The Glenholme School is a specialized boarding school that provides a therapeutic program and an exceptional learning environment to address varying levels of academic, social and emotional development in boys and girls ages 5-18. The Glenholme School enables students

to garner the self-confidence that is needed to stand out as youth leaders. Volunteering provides these children with numerous opportunities to build confidence and learn many skills that will lead them to healthy and productive lives.

Over the years, the students have planned and participated in thousands of service activities; for instance, weekly visits to Candlewood Valley nursing home, holiday collections and donations, and our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The most memorable social event of the past year was the Senior Prom. Voices crooned to songs of the forties, fifties and the nineties. From break dancing to the jitterbug, the students and seniors shared their favorite dance moves. The afternoon was captured as the senior citizens watched with tears of joy, the newly crowned prom king and queen dancing in the circle to "Moonlight Serenade." These smiles displayed by the senior citizens are enough to leave a lasting impression as to the effect volunteers can have.



### **Active Citizenship**

The school's character education program encourages all citizens to take an active role in helping to shape their community. The benefits of performing community service are unlimited. While volunteering, citizens are given the opportunity to forge new relationships with their neighbors and strengthen existing bonds with their families. The Glenholme School commends those who use their leisure time to participate in service activities. If you are interested in the many volunteering opportunities in your local community or would like to know more information about The Glenholme School and its Community Service Program, visit our Web site at [www.theglenholmeschool.org](http://www.theglenholmeschool.org) or call (860) 868-7377.

## The School Nature Program (SNAP)

Washington Primary School has completed several projects which may be of interest to the community. The intent of the program is to better utilize the school's natural resources in order to provide for more hands-on science, math, and other nature related activities with the classroom curriculum. A small outdoor classroom has been constructed along the Greenway Trail. It is used for class instruction and nature activities, but also provides a perfect place for members of the Washington community to sit and enjoy the serene setting. A birdblind with an identification guide has also been built on the north end of the playground. This allows for birdwatching at the surrounding feeders with minimal disruption. A meadow area has been set aside for observation of insect and plant life and a natural array has been constructed for the investigation of how seasonal changes affect plant and animal life. The community is encouraged to utilize and enjoy these new resources.

***The revitalization of the butterfly garden will be a focus this spring. Anyone interested in helping or donating perennials to the garden, may call WPS at 868-7331.***

## Accelerated Reading Challenge

What do apples, pumpkins, turkeys, snowmen, mittens, hearts, huskies, frogs and flowers have in common? Why, they are all the symbols used for the reading incentive program at Washington Primary School for the 2002-03 school year.

In September, the school was divided into two teams – red and blue, one from each grade, and the students and staffs were challenged to “read, read, read!” The books were chosen from the Accelerated Reader books housed in the school library. Each time a student read a book from this selection, s/he took a computer quiz to see how well s/he remembered what was read. If a passing grade was achieved, the team



received one symbol of the month. At the end of each month, the total number of books read was tallied and posted in the hallway.

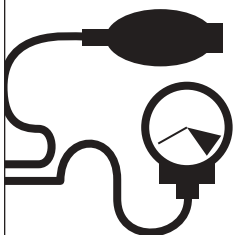
Staff members were also assigned to a team. For each book they read, (although they were not limited to Accelerated Reading books) an appropriate symbol was added to the display.

It has been great fun sharing books and competing for symbols. In March, each team dressed in team colors to foster team spirit. The entire school was filled with red and blue. Lots of good-natured teasing went on throughout the school year from students and staff alike.

Are you wondering how many books were read? Well, as of mid April, a total of 1726 books have been read – and, we still have 2-1/2 months of school left!

## PROTECT YOUR GOOD HEALTH WITH REGULAR BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

VNA Northwest offers a regular schedule of free, walk-in clinics to help fight high blood pressure and its related ailments.



The following is a partial list of upcoming clinics:

- Litchfield – VNA Northwest Office, 24 Village Green Drive – 3 PM. on 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22 and 5/29.
- New Preston – New Mil Bank – 1 – 2PM on 5/6.
- Washington – Senior Center, Veterans Hall, 6 Bryan Hall Plaza – 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM on 5/15.

For a complete listing of locations please contact Nancy Deming, (860) 567-6000.

# SHEPAUG HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

## EARLY SPRING BRINGS WAVE OF COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

One of the rites of spring involves students hearing about their college acceptances. We are still early in the acceptance process. However, Shepaug students have heard from a variety of colleges ranging from the most competitive to competitive. So far, students have received notices of acceptance from the following colleges and universities:

### ***Most Competitive\****

Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
Brandeis University  
Brown University  
College of the Holy Cross  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Harvard University  
Mass. Inst. of Technology  
NYU - Tisch  
Swarthmore College  
Tufts University  
University of Pennsylvania  
U.S. Naval Academy  
Wake Forest University  
Wesleyan University  
Yale University

### ***Highly Competitive***

Bentley College  
Emerson College  
Fairfield University  
Ithaca College  
Mt. Holyoke College  
Pitzer College  
Providence College  
Rollins College  
Syracuse University  
University of Michigan  
University of NC - Chapel Hill  
University of Pittsburgh  
Villanova University  
Wheaton College  
Worcester Polytechnic

### ***Very Competitive\****

Drew University  
Drexel University  
Elon University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Goucher College  
Manhattan College  
Marist College  
Marymount Manhattan College  
Millsaps College  
Simmons College  
Skidmore College  
SUNY - New Paltz  
Texas A & M  
UConn  
UMass  
Fordham University

### ***Competitive***

(sample acceptances)  
Arizona State  
Southern CT State University  
The Citadel  
Springfield College  
Eckerd College  
University of Colorado  
Fairleigh Dickinson  
University of Hartford  
Iona College  
University of New Hampshire  
Keene State College  
University of Vermont  
Mt. St. Mary College  
Western CT State University  
Penn State  
Westfield State College

*\*Categories are determined by  
Baron's Profile of American Colleges*



In June, we will have a full listing at which time we will post the names of colleges that our students will attend.

## PREPARING NON-COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS FOR THE WORLD OF WORK

Each year, a number of Shepaug High School students make responsible decisions to go into the world of work after high school. The following are ways in which students prepare at Shepaug High School for work immediately after high school:

### **Vocational Technology Curriculum**

Students are able to take as many as eight credits in Automotive, Wood, or Graphic Technology. Over the last four years, enrollment in Automotive/Transportation Technology has climbed to 83, while in Wood Technology there are 35 students and in Graphic Arts 43 students.

**Arts Curriculum** – Some students look to pursue work in the arts. While at Shepaug High School, these students may enroll in 6 to 8 credits in the visual arts including such courses as pottery, sculpture, ceramics, photography, crafts, design, drawing, painting and advanced art courses. Enrollment in the visual arts exceeds 260.

**Computer Tech Teams** With growing numbers of jobs in the field of computer technology, forty-four students receive daily on-the-job training as tech team members. They directly assist the building computer technician in diagnosing and fixing hardware and software problems, as well as assisting teachers and students involved in computer related projects. They acquire skills that make them employable right out of high school.

**Vocational Technology** Students may elect to attend one of four vocational technical schools which serve our region: Oliver Wolcott Technical School, Henry Abbott Technical School, Bristol Technical School, or Nonnewaug Vocational Agricultural Technical School. The tuition for these students

*continued on page 13*

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## **SHEPAUG WINS CLASS ‘S’ MICHAELS ACHIEVEMENT CUP FOR A 3-PEAT**

For the third consecutive year, and for the seventh time overall, Shepaug Valley High School has won the Class ‘S’ Michael’s Achievement Cup, an award given annually to recognize excellence in overall high school athletic programs. Shepaug is among 58 Class ‘S’ schools in the state. The Michaels Achievement Cup, a prestigious award among CIAC schools, is based upon the following factors: Overall Win/Loss Record, Chemical Free Policies and Procedures, Scholarship, and Sportsmanship.

Shepaug’s seven first place Class ‘S’ finishes include 1988, 1990, 1991, 1993, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

## **ICE HOCKEY TEAM AND SWIMMERS EXCEL IN STATE COMPETITIONS**

**Ice Hockey Team to State Game** – Our Ice Hockey team, which also draws players from Litchfield and Wamogo, advanced through the state tournament to the championship game by defeating Branford 5-4, North Branford 5-2 and Rocky Hill 6-1. In the state championship game, the team met powerhouse Glastonbury and lost 6-3, although the game was tied, 2 to 2 entering the third period. Scoring leaders and captains Scott Hunt, Steve Price and Owen Potter led Shepaug. Other Shepaug

skaters include: Kyle Azevedo, Matt Conway, John Galinski, Dylan Heimbrock, Matt Lee, Kevin Richardson, Trevor Barrows, Vinnie Cossuto, David Hargadon, Kris Kaczowski, Jeff Moore, Kevin Uniacke Colby Chapin.

**Splash Classics** – At the end of the season, our girl swimmers competed in the fifteen team Splash Classic. In this statewide girls’ meet, against such schools as Simsbury, our swimmers won first place. The 400-yard medley relay team consisting of Kate Anderson, Kristie Anderson, Liza Connolly and Caitlin Gillen broke the existing school record by 6.5 seconds.

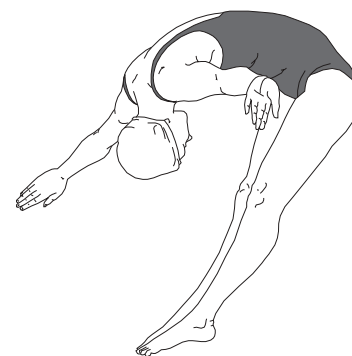
**Class ‘S’ Swim Finals** – Eleven of our Shepaug swimmers qualified and swam in the Class ‘S’ state meet and collectively placed fifth overall. Top individual performances included Kevin Koslosky (1st place in both the 200 and 500-yard freestyle events), Josh Kimball (5th in the 100-yard butterfly, 4th place and school record in the 100-yard backstroke) and Tim Morse (7th in the 200-yard individual medley and 8th in the 100-yard freestyle). Kate Anderson, one of two girls that qualified for finals swam her personal best in the 500-yard freestyle. The boys 400-yard freestyle relay team of Tim Morse, Ian Kimball, Josh Kimball and Kevin Koslosky broke the 14-year old school record.

**High School State Opens** – The above relay team also advanced to the high

school State Open meet. Individually advancing to the State Open were Josh and Kevin. Kevin came in 2nd place in the 500-yard freestyle and 5th in the 200-yard freestyle. The entire team, which also won its 19th Berkshire League Championship included: Whitney Ale, Dave Athas, Reid Allen, Kate Anderson\*, Kristie Anderson\*, Emily Baron, Tom Belanger\*, Tracie Cannavaro, Chris Carlson\*, Andrew Chin, Liza Connolly\*, Willie Connolly, Rachael Cooke, Colin Daulong\*, Eammon DiGaetano, Jim Edwards, Drew Firmender, Alex Franjola, Caitlin Gillen\*, Aubri Gillespie, Matt Hall\*, Tim Hall\*, Ashley Haverly, Emma Homberg, Courtney Hora, Tyler Horrigan, Lauren Hunt, Ian Kimball\*+, Josh Kimball\*+, Kevin Koslosky\*+, Katie McGarr, Tim Morse\*+, Emily Mulhern, Drew Mulvey\*, Wesley Murray, Brett Olivieri\*, Evan Scribner, Max Steinmetz\*, Graham Torpey, Claire Wescott.

\* *Qualified for Class S*

+ *Qualified for State Open*



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## *Preparing Non-College Students* continued

is part of Shepaug’s budget. While in these schools, students have an opportunity to develop advanced skills in a wide range of vocational areas, e.g., carpentry, electrical, automotive, food services, agriculture and animal husbandry.

**Senior Project** – Many students use Senior Projects to either explore a potential career or to advance their skills in a particular field. In the last two years, seniors have pursued the following job related projects: jewelry making, rebuilding cars/trucks/sand rails or dirt bikes, catering, glass blowing, landscaping and health fairs.

**Work Study** – Some students develop job related skills through our work study program where they are supervised by a job coordinator in the retail, food or construction businesses. Others are enrolled in specific medical or business apprenticeships.

Finally, some students, given the above opportunities, will revise their post high school plans to include quality technical courses offered at our local community technical colleges.

# WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL, INC.

## WEC AND TOWN JOINTLY STUDY CELL TOWERS

Historically one of WEC's strategic objectives has been to use the Council's resources to work collaboratively with Town Committees and Commissions on environmental projects of mutual interest. Hazardous waste disposal, mapping associated with the natural resource inventory, and water testing are all examples. Cell towers are a recent addition to the list.

Last August WEC and the Conservation Commission of Washington initiated a joint project to gain a better understanding of wireless telephony with the specific focus on cell towers. Phil Markert, WEC board member and Conservation Committee member, chaired the sub-committee of the conservation commission that undertook the project. Early on it became clear that an objective consultant was necessary to accelerate the pace of the sub-committee's education. WEC funded the hiring of a radio communi-

cation expert, who not only provided general information on cellular communications but also produced coverage maps for the Route 202 corridor in and close to Washington. This helped identify an alternative location for the proposed site in New Preston. Our hope is that the work of WEC and the Cell Sub-Committee will enhance the Town's ability to respond intelligently to the pending applications and in the best interest of the town.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Did you know WEC offers scholarships for college and summer programs based on environmental studies? Middle school through college age students from the Region 12 towns are eligible. Let us help you help the environment. Call Denise Arturi at 868-2880 for possible availability.

## EARTH DAY

The snow is finally melting revealing a buildup of roadside debris, which means it's time for WEC's annual road-

side clean up. Set aside Sunday May 4 to pick up the town roads and enter our Garbage Contest. Cash prizes of \$25.00 will be given for the largest, most reusable, most toxic, most unusual, oldest and most absurd trash. \$100.00 will be given to the organization that collects the most debris. A dumpster will be located in front of Town Hall. Contest entries can be entered there between 1:00 & 3:00. For more information contact Denise Arturi at 868-2880 or visit the Town Hall lobby the week before.

## HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

As you do your spring cleaning this year set aside your hazardous waste products (oil paint, cleaners, etc) and electronics for collection later this fall. Watch for the flyer with dates & information.



## INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Washington's Inland Wetland Commission members, under the chairmanship of Dorothy Hill and immediate past chairman Marguerite Purnell, have been very busy over the past year. With all regular and alternate board positions filled, many with new members, there has been much focus on training programs and workshops.

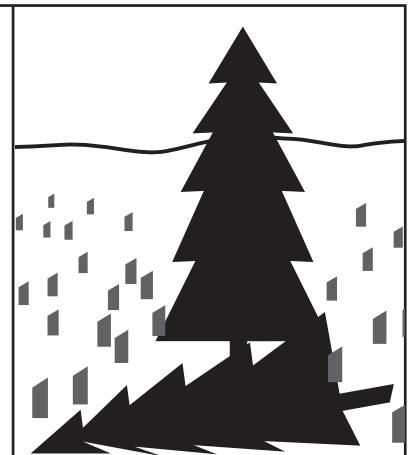
According to Mrs Hill, twice-monthly meetings, site visits and day-long training programs take a lot of commitment on the part of the members. "It's great to see an entire board with such a high level of participation, interest and enthusiasm. And, it makes my job easier!" she added.

The Commission meets on second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in the Land Use Room. Members are: Dorothy Hill, Chairman; Robert Weber, Vice Chairman; Marguerite Purnell; Helen Gray; and Charles LaMuniere.

Alternates are: Candace Korzenko, Mark Picton and Anthony Bedini. Enforcement Officer – Michael Ajello; Secretary – Katherine Moquin.

### AND, A LITTLE REMINDER...

Before you "Spring" into action – cutting, digging, filling or constructing- in or near a wetland or water-course, check to see if you need a permit. Call the Land Use Office at 868-0423.





## THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, which has been located at the corner of New Milford Turnpike (Route 202) and Wheaton Road in Marble Dale since 1822, is a small, lively congregation who gather for worship each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. The rector of St. Andrew's, the Rev. Amy M. Egan, is in the office on Monday through Wednesday each week from 9-3, and is available at other times for counseling, including preparation for baptism and marriage, by appointment.

The people of St. Andrew's are committed to providing a welcoming space for visitors and for those who simply want a place to come in and pray. They have an active program of outreach to those in need in the community and farther afield, and their hospitality is evident on occasions such as special suppers, and Sunday 8:30 a.m. breakfasts during

summer months. The community is especially welcome to the Community Carol Sing on the Sunday before Christmas and to fundraisers such as the July 12 tag sale and the November holiday bazaar.

Christian education is provided for grades K-7, who meet for Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. except first Sundays, when children join their parents in worship. Young people of 8th grade or older may participate in Confirmation Class, serve as acolytes, and join the Youth Group activities every other Sunday afternoon. Adults are invited to learn via a springtime Inquirers' Class and a fall book study.

Questions about St. Andrew's are welcome. Call the parish office (868-2275) or one of the Wardens – Elaine Barksdale (354-0247) or Ken Conn (868-2891).

## BOY SCOUT TROOP #487

Troop #487 in Washington is as busy as ever! Recently the Boy Scouts held a Taco Dinner at the American Legion Hall. The turnout was great, and the scouts have decided to donate the money raised to Vinny Forese and his family as he continues to recover from his accident last fall.

Also in March, the scouts traveled to Boston to walk the Freedom Trail, and see other historical sites before camping out nearby for the night. It was an exciting trip for all.

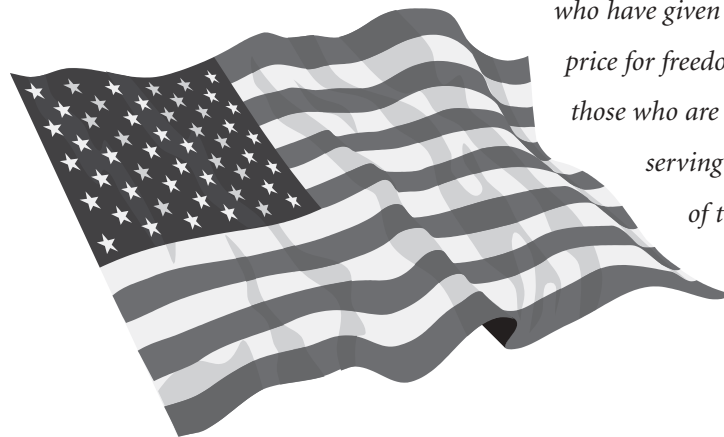
The scouts will be conducting a Court of Honor during the month of April. This ceremony is an opportunity for the scouts to be recognized for their accomplishments since the fall by being awarded merit badges that they have earned as well as rank advancements.

The scouts are looking forward to summer camp in August where they will continue to work on their skills for advancement and earn merit badges in a variety of areas including orienteering, rifle shooting, lifesaving, first aid, environmental science, leatherworking, canoeing and more.

**Any boys in town interested in joining the troop are invited to attend a weekly meeting held at the Judea Parish Hall on the Green on Tuesday evenings beginning at 7:00p.m.**

### *Do You have an old American Flag?*

*In May Troop #487 scouts will again be collecting torn, worn, tattered and old American Flags. The collection box will be located in the lobby of the Town Hall and all donations will be greatly appreciated. In June or July the scouts will gather with members of the American Legion for a Flag Retirement Ceremony. The public will be invited to attend this moving event. Look for the scouts marching in the Memorial Day Parade to show their support for those*



*who have given the ultimate price for freedom and for those who are currently serving in all branches of the military.*

# EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

By Robert Tomlinson

All the emergency services and your local elected officials continue to monitor, and work together with their state and Federal counterparts to monitor the current situation and make the appropriate local plans.

New initiatives include the Town's LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Council) which has signed on with Homeland Security and is a Citizen's Corps Council. Please see the web site links below for further information concerning Federal, State Homeland Security and Citizen Corps Council. There are "links" for information about concerns and questions about smallpox and the vaccination program, the "SARS" threat from the CDC, State Public Health and Federal Health Services.

A reminder – please help the emergency services help you – clearly mark/show your street address.

Dial 911 in a true emergency – if 911 fails, or for other non-emergency calls, or for information, use the Town's emergency telephone number: 860-868-9942.

Emergency web site links:

[www.ct.gov/hls/site/default.asp](http://www.ct.gov/hls/site/default.asp)

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

[www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)

[www.dph.state.ct.us](http://www.dph.state.ct.us)

[www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox)

[www.hhs.gov/smallpox](http://www.hhs.gov/smallpox)

## Save the Date!

Saturday, June 7, 2003

7:00 p.m. Bryan Memorial Town Hall

The Washington Rotary Club Proudly Presents:

The Godfather's Meshuggener Wedding  
(A Jewish/Italian Wedding With 14 live actors)

Open Bar, Sit Down Dinner, Lots of Laughs

Cost: \$75 per person

Proceeds support local charities

## Bend & Stretch Clinics Help Seniors Maintain Health and Flexibility

Many Litchfield County Seniors are taking positive steps toward better health by participating in the free Bend & Stretch Clinics being sponsored by the VNA Northwest. Clinics throughout the region emphasize muscle strengthening, balance exercises, proper movement and stretching techniques. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. For program availability and more information call VNA Northwest at 860 567-6000.

Visit the VNA Northwest online for a full listing of services, information, employment opportunities and a calendar of wellness programs: [www.vnanw.org](http://www.vnanw.org)

**TOWN MEETING STARTS EARLIER THIS YEAR — SEE PAGE 2**

## Washington Times

Board of Selectmen  
Washington Depot, CT 06794

*"Your Town Newsletter"*

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