



OUR TOWN

SERVING THE VILLAGES OF BALTIC, HANOVER, AND VERSAILLES
IN THE BEAUTIFUL SHETUCKET RIVER VALLEY

AUGUST 2010

INFORMATION & NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS SAYLES SCHOOL GRADUATES OF 2010

John Allen Baldino
 Trevor James Bolstridge
 Daniel John Briggs
 Heather Lynn Cicio
 Kayla Marie Davis
 Benjamin Andrew Ducharme
 Christien Thomas Ducharme
 Gregory John Dziekan
 Noah Xavier Eaton
 Lawrence Joseph Ejchorszt, Jr.
 Rachel Lee Fish
 Benjamin Arnold Giroux
 Kyle Robert Gosselin
 Preston Edward Theodore Hayes
 Casey Marie Henk
 Kimberly Ann Henk
 Corey James Holman

Timothy Gilbert Jorsz
 Xavier Raine LePage
 Jocelyn Delia Mendoza
 James David Miner
 Briana Nicole Montgomery
 Timothy Ronald Paz
 Jacob Timothy Provost
 Nicole Renae Pugh
 Emily Paige Rondeau
 Marc James Schroth, Jr.
 Valerie Anne Schultz
 Mason Alexander Thibodeau
 Sara Catherine Tiffany
 Anne Miriam Woronecki
 Shannon Leigh Young
 Kevin Alexander Zelle



Job Opening

Part-time Crossing Guard
 at St. Joseph School
 Baltic, CT 06330

10hrs. a week @ \$9.32/hr



Applications available at
 Selectman's Office

Closing date: 8/16/10

Ladies Auxiliary

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 14, 2010** at 7 pm at the fire house. Please remember that anyone interested in joining the Auxiliary is welcome. We are always looking for new members and new ideas for fundraising. You need not be a Sprague resident or have a spouse or family member in the Fire Dept. to join the Auxiliary.

Sincerely,
Jeannette Deschamps, Secretary

RIVER PARK SUMMER CONCERTS



6 P.M. – 9 P.M.

Music by:

"The Elm Street Project Band"

August 7th and 28th,
 September 18, 2010

Sponsored by the
 Town of Sprague

Sprague Democratic Town Committee Report

The Sprague DTC is working to support candidates in the upcoming primary on Tuesday, August 10th. With great candidates like Dan Malloy for Governor and Nancy Wyman for Lt Governor, Denise Merrill for Secretary of the State, Kevin Lembo for Comptroller, and Kathy Guinan for Norwich Probate Judge, the DTC hopes that every registered Democrat will take a few minutes to go to the polls on August 10th. This primary will determine five of the Democratic candidates who will run in the November election. Even if you are not registered as a Democrat today, you can still register to vote in an historic election. If you are unsure of your party affiliation or wish to change from Unaffiliated to Democratic, contact the Registrar of Voters on Tuesday mornings at Town Hall or the Sprague Town Clerk Monday through Thursday. The last day for in person registration is Monday, August 9th at noon. Voting on Tuesday, August 10th is from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Baltic Fire House. Remember, voters registered with the Democratic Party are eligible to vote in the Democratic primary. If you have questions about the primary election or wish to learn more about the Sprague DTC, contact Susan Zimmerman at susanpzimmerman@sbcglobal.net or 860-334-1102.

Susan Zimmerman

Chair, Sprague DTC

Blood Pressure Screening and Adult Health Screening August 24th, 2010

VNA East will hold a Blood Pressure Screening on August 24th at the Sprague Town Hall from 11:45-12:45 and an Adult Health screening from 12-12:30. Blood pressure screening is free.

Other services have a nominal charge. Call 860- 456-7288 for appointments/costs.

New Contact Information for Animal Control

Please be advised that beginning at midnight, June 30, 2010, the Towns of Lebanon, Franklin, Bozrah and Sprague will be forming a Regional Animal Control Service. There will be two animal control officers covering this District as follows:

Weekdays	Bill Paul	8AM – 5PM
Nights	Michele Kellough	5PM – 8AM
Weekends	Michele Kellough	24 hrs.

The telephone contact for both of these employees is through the Edwards Answering Service at 1 (800) 236-1987. Please refer only emergencies to this telephone number. Routine calls should be to the Regional Animal Pound at (860) 642-6379.

Sisters of Charity Can & Bottle Drive



August 21st

*Contact the Holy
Family Motherhouse
for more information
at 860-822-8241*

Message from our First Selectman

Despite the heat, our workers have been busy around town. We have finished the overhang removal of tree branches project on Salt Rock Road and we will be chip-sealing this road within the next couple of weeks. We are nearly complete with the sweeping program throughout the town. Roadside mowing is ongoing as well, so please be aware and careful when you encounter Mike on the mower. FEMA funding has come through for the areas damaged in the March storm on Inland Road, Riverside Drive, and Hanover-Versailles Road. Work should be starting by the end of August.

You will notice several local teens cleaning brush, spreading mulch, and assisting our town crew with maintaining our outside arenas. These teens participate in the summer work program supported by Federal Stimulus dollars, Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board, EASTCONN, and the Summer Youth Employment Program.

For those of you who like to walk around our reservoir, the large dam is almost complete. We will be re-filling the reservoir over the next few months. We hope to soon receive funding for work on the other dam. I will let you know as I receive more information.

The Grand Opening of the Sprague Town Community Center will be on August 1st. Please refer to the page in this newsletter for the series of kickoff events. I hope to see you there! Other family activities happening over the summer are our wildly popular Summer Concert Series. Our last concert was well attended we certainly missed seeing you! I encourage you and your families to join us on August 7th at 6 p.m. in the River Park. Bring your blanket, your hula-hoop, and a few snacks. In addition, the Recreation Committee is sponsoring, "Ride The Shetucket River" on August 14th. Bring the family and enjoy our River, while cooling off.

We hope to be starting the Grist Mill renovations within the next 4-6 weeks. It will be so exciting to see our town's new Historical Society Museum which will be located on the third floor. Everyone will be able to access the third floor using our new elevator or refurbished stairs.

We are kicking off our first Business-2-Business meeting on August 17th, sponsored by Mattern Construction located in the old Stockhouse building on Bushnell Hollow Road. This event will be for local businesses both stand alone and in-home occupations. For more information, please contact me.

We have many beautiful attractions in Sprague: our River Park, with its grills and picnic tables call for families to gather and enjoy the natural setting; the recreation fields offer place for a rousing game of softball, soccer, basketball, or skateboarding; the Sprague Land Preserve invites us all to hike, fish, horseback ride, and partake in hunting (in-season.) Of course, there are the playgrounds in both Hanover and Baltic -- safe environments for our children to enjoy the outdoors and Moms and Dads to relax in.

Take advantage of all that our town offers to you and have a fun and safe summer!

Cathy Osten
First Selectman

SAYLES SCHOOL CLASS OF 2010 – AWARDS



- 1. Democratic Town Committee
Mary M. Stefon Award**
To a student who demonstrates civic and academic responsibility through community service in the school, town, or larger community and an interest in social studies and current events.

Jacob Provost
- 2. Sayles P.T.O. Award**
Science
Art (in memory of Frido Urbinati)

**Kevin Zeller
Jocelyn Mendoza**
- 3. Republican Town Committee Award**
Spelling

Rachel Fish
- 4. Sprague Teachers' League Awards**
Italian
Mathematics

Language Arts

Art – June Clyde Preston & Medville H. Colbath Memorial

**Lawrence Ejchorszt
Noah Eaton

Rachel Fish

Timothy Jorsz**
- 5. Sprague Public Library Award**
Interest in Reading

Timothy Jorsz
- 6. Sprague Historical Society Award**
Outstanding in History

John Baldino
- 7. Sprague Board of Education Award**
Most improved in any one area

Kyle Gosselin
- 8. Sayles School - Sarah Jeannette Raymond Memorial Award**
To a student who has shown the most concern and consideration for others.

Emily Rondeau
- 9. Sprague Garden Club Award**
To two students who have shown the most improvement throughout the year and/or have an interest in science and/or agriculture.

**Timothy Paz
Jacob Provost**
- 10. Sayles School – Helen Champeau Memorial Award**
To a student who has shown excellence in the area of music

Casey Henk
- 11. Sayles School – Peter David Stabach Memorial Award**
To a deserving student interested in pursuing a vocational-technical career.

Mason Thibodeau
- 12. Sprague Future Nurse Award**
To a student who has exhibited compassion toward his/her peers, showing an aptitude and interest in science; and has the desire to become a member of the nursing profession.

Sara Tiffany

SAYLES SCHOOL CLASS OF 2010 – AWARDS



13. **Tyrus Henry Gaudreau Memorial Award**
Creative Writing
Anne Woronecki
14. **Sayles School – Eric Joseph Lukowski Memorial Award**
To a student who has shown an admirable demonstration of good sportsmanship.
Gregory Dziekan
15. **Sayles School – JoAnn Matthews Memorial Award**
To a student who has demonstrated excellence in computer applications and the use of technology tools.
John Baldino
16. **Sayles School – Deborah Allen Madsen Memorial Award**
To a student who exhibited the greatest perseverance.
Kevin Zeller
17. **Sayles School – Medville H. Colbath Memorial Award**
Art
Sara Tiffany
18. **Sayles School – Mark Crumb Memorial Award**
To two students who demonstrate underlying enthusiasm and passion for music.
Jocelyn Mendoza
Briana Montgomery
19. **Sayles School – Jr. High Teachers' Civics Award in Memory of Mr. Crumb**
To a student who demonstrates a strong interest in and knowledge of civic issues and events.
Daniel Briggs
20. **Secretary of State August P. LaFrance Memorial Award**
To two students who have exhibited an exceptional work ethic and strong commitment to his/her education and future.
Rachel Fish
John Baldino
21. **Superintendent's Student Recognition Award**
To two students who have exhibit exceptional qualities pertinent to the development of successful young men and women.
Anne Woronecki
Kevin Zeller

Sayles School Honor Roll – 2010

Final marking period

Grade 8 - High Honors - John Baldino, Rachel Fish,

Timothy Jorsz, Anne Woronecki

Grade 8 - Honors - Daniel Briggs, Noah Eaton, Lawrence

Ejchorszt Jr., Jacob Provost, Sara Tiffany, Kevin Zeller

Grade 7 - High Honors - Dylan Crider, Pamela Russo,

Selena Williamson

Grade 7 - Honors - Ryder Choti, Kellse Ericson, Kyleigh

Manfredi, Sarah Warzecha





"Book" a Trip to Space Camp Summer Reading Program 2010

Our children are reading up a storm this summer at the library! So far we have almost 70 participants from birth through high school participating in our program. If you or someone you know has been reading throughout the summer but just hasn't gotten to the library to register, now's the time to stop by.

For children from birth to entering 8th grade, the goal is to read and report on 8 or more books over the summer. If that goal is reached, the child will be invited to our annual Ice Cream Sunday Party. The deadline to turn in reports will be August 14. The Sundaes Party will be held Wednesday, August 18 at 6:30 behind the library.

The grand prize for the child who reads the most books will be an astronaut flight suit donated by Space Camp! For high schoolers, a raffle ticket is awarded for each 100 pages read. All of the raffle tickets for the summer will be entered into a drawing for many fabulous prizes. The more you read, the more chances you have to win!

We would like to thank the following sponsors: the Ejchorszt family and Dairy Queen West Main Street Norwich, the Sprague Garden Club, O'Neil Cinemas, Ben and Jerry's, The Connecticut Sun, The Connecticut Tigers, Border's Books, Barnes and Noble, Quassy Amusement Park, the Brooklyn Fair, and Space Camp Huntsville, Alabama. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Rebecca Reyer at 822-1643 or the Library at 822-3012.

Branching Out..... Notes from the Tree Warden

Sadly, vandalism to the tall maple tree planted in the Baltic playground (behind Town Hall) will probably result in that tree dying. In addition to five or six of the lower limbs getting snapped off within the first month after planting, the recent damage was done by peeling 3 feet of bark off half the diameter of the tree. Removing the bark subjects the wood to the air, dries the wood out and allows bugs and diseases direct access to the wood. I trimmed the ripped portion of the bark back to a point where the bark is solid. We will have to wait and see if the tree is mature enough to 'fight' off this severe injury.

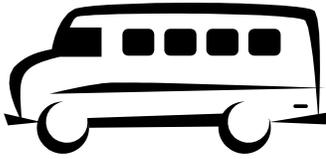
The other 'new' maple planted in the playground has also had several limbs snapped off. The maple trees planted at the ball fields several years ago have also been repeatedly damaged. Originally, I planted seven trees – three had to be replaced the following spring and one replaced the year after. So, six remain out of eleven trees getting planted. All of these trees died because of vandalism. Please – if you see anyone damaging the trees in Town – call and report the activity to the State Trooper, the First Selectman, or me.

The Town and I plant new trees to eventually provide shade, replace the oldest trees before they die and to replace trees that have to be removed for various reasons. I always plant at least one tree for each one that gets removed. Even though I *usually* buy all our trees at a great discount during the nurseries fall sales, my budget only allows for 5 or 6 trees a year. Sometimes it feels like swimming against the tide, but I'll keep planting.

Thanks to everyone who has been using sticks and wires to post signs rather than attaching them to trees.

Dave Gustafson
Sprague Tree Warden

SENIOR VAN SCHEDULE



Lisbon Super Wal-Mart and Kohl's
Bi-weekly, Monday, 1 to 3 p.m.
Norwich Big Y/Wal-Mart by request.
Norwich Stop 'n Shop Plaza
Thursday, 1 to 3 p.m.
Norwich Shop Rite
Tuesday, 1 to 2:30 p.m.
Willimantic Super Wal-Mart and
Food Co-op by request.

Medical appointments require a 48-hour notice.
Please contact the Senior Center for availability
before making your next appointment. (860)
822 3000, ext 203.

BUS SCHEDULE

Shetucket Village: 8:45 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11:45 a.m.
Playground Brookside and High Street: 8:52 a.m.,
9:52 a.m., 11:52 a.m.

TJ's Parking Lot, Route 97 and Main Street:
9 a.m., 10 a.m., and Noon
Arrival in Occum Corner of Hooper Street and
Route 97, by Red McKeon Park: 9:10 a.m.,
10:10 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

Return

Stop as needed for return trip
Express Return: 3:15 p.m. to Senior Center

Service runs Monday through Thursday except holidays.
(860) 822-3000, ext. 203. The Sprague to Occum Bus is a
courtesy of the Town of Sprague and the Sprague Senior
Center. For SEAT information, visit www.seatbus.com.

For more information, call Buddy Meadows,
Sprague Senior Center Coordinator at 860-822-3000 x210

Ride The Shetucket River
Scotland Dam to Baltic
4 miles – 2 hours

August 14th 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Tube, Kayak, Canoe
Free shuttle
Planned Water Release
River participants must wear PFD's



DJ Shawn, Food/Beverages available for sale at River Park,
11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
For more information, contact Noreen Foley, Parks & Rec
Director www.ctsprague.org

Salvation Army Upper New London County Unit

I ask you to look and see if there is some way you
can give to the Salvation Army Upper New
London County Unit.

This money will help your neighbors here in
Sprague. Please send your check (whatever you
can spare) to Salvation Army Upper New London
County Unit, PO Box 304, Versailles, CT 06383

For those of you in need of food, please contact
Colette Hoffman at the Town Hall or myself.

May the Lord Bless you as you share with others,

Jennison Allen,
Sprague Service Unit Member

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. Submissions may be e-mailed to OurTownNews@gmail.com, or mailed to Town Hall, P.O. Box 677, Baltic, CT 06330. Information: (860) 822-3000. The writer's name, address and a contact phone number must be included with each submission. The focus of Our Town is community events, articles, commission notes and other items of town-wide interest. These items will take priority over personal opinions. Annual budget considerations may affect page appropriations. Ads may be *pre-purchased* at rates of: Business Card \$21; Double Business Card \$40; Half Page, \$70; Full Page, \$100. Sprague ~ Our Town is a free monthly publication of the Town of Sprague, serving the communities of Baltic, Hanover and Versailles. Primarily funded by the Town, support is also provided by paid advertisements. Opinions expressed in Sprague ~ Our Town are not necessarily those of town officials or the community at large, but solely reflect those of the writer. Submissions may be edited for clarity and format as necessary. Libelous or obscene materials are not permitted.



GRAND OPENING! SPRAGUE COMMUNITY CENTER!

**22 West Main Street, Baltic
Sunday, August 1st from 2-4 p.m.**

“Serving the People of Sprague”

Recently, the Baltic United Methodist Church closed its doors and blended with the Lee Memorial United Methodist Church in Norwich, thus creating a blended congregation known as the Lee Memorial and Baltic United Methodist Church. The new blended congregation is pleased to announce that the Baltic property will be opened as a Community Center beginning August 1, 2010.

The goal of the Sprague Community Center is to reach out and serve the community members of all ages in Sprague community. The Community Center will be utilized as a location that offers a variety of nondenominational services to all age groups of the community. It is our intent to complement the many services already in place in the surrounding area. In addition, we will provide some new and different activities. Some of the programs and activities already in place for the coming year are:

- *Backus Hospital Health Van
- *Youth/Family Movie Night
- *Seasonal Dinners
- *Blood Drives
- *Rummage Sales
- *Guest Authors
- *Musical Concerts
- *Holiday Events
- *Parenting Course
- *Boating Course



GRAND OPENING SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 1st:

Grand Opening Celebration 2-4 p.m.
Moonwalk, Clowns, Face Painting & Ice Cream!
Free Tickets for 2 Bicycle Prizes will be available at each event all week

Monday, August 2nd:

“Mad Science” Program 6-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 3rd:

Community Safety Awareness 6-8:00 p.m.
Presentation on Community Safety
Police Program on Child Safety Focusing on
Amber Alerts, Child ID Program, & Computer Safety
Fire Engines and Ambulances will be on site for visitation

Wednesday, August 4th:

Backus Hospital Health Van 4-7:00 p.m.
Free Blood Pressure Screening

Thursday, August 5th:

Bicycle Safety Program (Child Helmets Available for \$1.00)
Norm and Chartier: Guest Artist, Author & Illustrator, 6-8 p.m.

Friday, August 6th:

Grinder Night (\$1.00 per person), 6-7 p.m.
(Must make reservations by Thursday, August 5th)
Patriotic Music Concert, 7-8 p.m. (Outside: Bring chair or blanket)
Bicycle Prizes Awarded at the Concert!

ATTENTION ALL SPRAGUE VETERANS!

We want to honor all Sprague Veterans at our August 6th Patriotic Concert at
6:00 p.m. at the Sprague Community Center.
Please join us in this celebration!

Brenda J. Keefe,
Outreach Coordinator
860-822-6595

CALLING ALL REGISTERED DEMOCRATS

YOUR CHANCE TO VOTE FOR THE DEMOCRATS WHO WILL BE
CANDIDATES IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTION

AUGUST 10TH PRIMARY

SPRAGUE DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE ENDORSES THESE CANDIDATES:

GOVERNOR	DAN MALLOY*
LT GOVERNOR	NANCY WYMAN*
SECRETARY OF THE STATE	DENISE MERRILL*
STATE COMPTROLLER	KEVIN LEMBO*
NORWICH PROBATE JUDGE	KATHY GUINAN*

*PARTY-ENDORSED CANDIDATES

YOU WILL DETERMINE THE CANDIDATES FOR
FOUR STATE OFFICES AND ONE LOCAL OFFICE. LET'S MAKE THIS THE BEST
PRIMARY VOTER TURNOUT IN HISTORY!!

MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED AS A DEMOCRAT TO VOTE

PARTY AFFILIATION INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS TUESDAY MORNINGS
TOWN CLERK MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
IN-PERSON DEADLINE TO ENROLL IN THE PARTY OR
CHANGE ENROLLMENT FROM UNAFFILIATED IS
NOON, MONDAY, AUGUST 9TH

REMEMBER TO VOTE TUESDAY, AUGUST 10TH
BALTIC FIRE HOUSE
BUSHNELL HOLLOW ROAD

6 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS AVAILABLE FROM THE SPRAGUE TOWN CLERK

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT SUSAN ZIMMERMAN, CHAIR SPRAGUE DTC

PAID FOR BY SPRAGUE DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE, JEANNETTE DESCHAMPS, TREASURER