

OUR TOWN

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

Information & News for March 2012

Our Town Volunteers

Are you looking for a way to get more involved in the community? The Sprague Our Town is looking for volunteers to help assemble the newsletter every month! If you are interested please call or e-mail Jane at 860-608-9478 or ourtown@ctsprague.org.

Coupons Needed!

We are looking to expand our Food Pantry to include paper products and personal hygiene items. We are asking you to drop off coupons for items such as these so we may stretch our dollars and provide necessities for those in need.

Food Pantry items may be given to Colette Hoffman in the Land Use Office.

Looking for Walking Partners

Hello! I look forward to meeting anyone interested in walking on Thursday, March 1st in front of the Town Hall for our first day of walking. For the month of March I'm looking to walk Monday, Wednesday & Thursday. See you at 4pm!

-Cathy at c.osten@ctsprague.org or at the
Town Hall: (860) 822-3000 x202

Happy St. Patrick's
Day!



**** Pictures for the Town of Sprague Website ****

The development of the new Town of Sprague web site is well underway and, as there are so many talented photographers in our midst, we'd like to ask for your assistance with the beautification of the site's banner! Specifically we're looking for seasonal pictures of the Shetucket River, historical buildings, turkeys, deer, rabbits, homes, and beautiful locations throughout the Town. We invite those of you who are interested in having your photograph(s) showcased on the website banner, and in the yet-to-be-developed Photo Gallery section, to please submit your pictures to: dembinskidenise@sbcglobal.net.

Ride the Shetucket

The Town of Sprague in conjunction with First Light Power Resources will resume the wildly popular Ride the Shetucket events for 2012! Once a month during the warm weather season a scheduled water release from Scotland Dam will take place, allowing a water level high enough to paddle or tube from below Scotland Dam to River Park in Baltic. The Town of Sprague will provide a free shuttle between River Park and Scotland Dam.

Water release is scheduled for 10:00 am on days of the event. Participants can put in any time between 10:00 and 12:00. You can ride the river as many times as water level allows. The ride is 4 miles long and takes approximately 2 hours.

Dates for 2012: April 28th, May 26th, June 30th, July 28th, August 25th, September 29th, & October 13th.

Since Ride the Shetucket is a weather sensitive event, check the Town of Sprague website (www.ctsprague.org) on the Thursday prior to the event for any cancellation postings. Paddlers need to have PFD's and a distress whistle.

See you there!!

Versailles United Methodist Church Breakfast

Join us for breakfast!

March 3rd from 6:30-10am

\$6 per person



*Pancakes ~ Eggs ~ Sausage ~ Home Fries
Coffee, Tea & Juice*

1st Saturday of every month!

Sisters of Charity Can & Bottle Drive

SATURDAY, MARCH 3RD

Please drop off items on the porch in the back driveway area of the Motherhouse between 9:00 am and noon.

For more information please call
860- 822-8241.



Town Employment

Please be aware that the Town of Sprague is the fortunate beneficiary of two grant funded employment programs:

- 1) EASTCONN which is a youth employment training program. It is income based and generally available during the summer months. Applications are available at the Town Hall in the First Selectman's office. These applications will be forwarded to EASTCONN when funding becomes available.
- 2) TVCCA is an employment program which is income and age based, available all year round. Recommendations for application may be made through the Senior Director's office.

From the Desk of the First Selectman

I hope you have enjoyed this winter's weather as much as I have... never in my life have I paid as much attention to weather as I do now (I am hopeful of an early spring).

As stated in last month's Our Town, I have provided in this month's issue capital improvement plans in 2 more areas: water and wastewater management, and town building renovation.

The water and wastewater management plan was developed in conjunction with the Sprague Water and Sewer Authority, their engineering firm, and the water and wastewater superintendent. As previously reported, last year the Town provided water to 433 households and sewer service to 562 households. In addition, service is provided to all three schools in town, the fire department, senior housing, three of the churches in town, the post offices and all town buildings. To put this in perspective, there are 1,188 households in town as noted in the latest census data. This plan documents potential costs and potential funding sources.

The second plan identifies town buildings in need of improvements or upgrading. This plan was developed in conjunction with the library director, the road foreman, the facilities manager and the town engineer. It also provides possible costs and potential funding sources.

I am also providing a salary listing of all Town and Board of Education employees. I have asked the Board of Selectmen, Board of Education and Board of Finance to propose either no wage increases, or the equivalent in furlough days equating to a zero wage increase in salaries for all employees. This is in an effort to keep taxes down and allow for capital projects to be funded.

Thus far the Town Hall employees are slated for no wage increase, the Public Works employees are slated to have 8 furlough days each (this agreement requires that all other Town or BOE employees have such an equivalent), the Library employees are slated for no wage increase, and the teachers have agreed to no wage increase. However, the BOE has decided to recommend a 1.5% increase to the non certified BOE employees.

The Town of Sprague has been generous during the last four budget cycles and issued wage increases of 3% or more for all workers (except the First Selectman position) whose salaries are funded by taxpayers.

I will be providing a comparison of benefits regarding time off, pension or the equivalent, and insurance costs in future editions of the Our Town. I hope you find this information valuable during upcoming budget discussions.

While budget issues clearly dominate at this time of year, other town work is being done. This winter's lack of snow reduced the need to plow and sand roads, which in turn will allow for clean-up of the Hanover Reservoir dam embankment, and the banks along the Baltic Reservoir. In addition, roadside brush is being cutback, hazardous trees are being removed and sight lines are being improved. Please let me know if you see an area that needs attention that has yet to receive it. As always, thanks for your support.

-Cathy Osten, First Selectman



Town Building Renovations

Capital Project Description		Estimated Cost of Project		
Town Hall:	Lobby floor tiles	\$795.00	cip	12/13 fy
	Upgrade the Town Hall bathrooms (2) to ADA Compliance	\$33,000.00	cip-1	Approved last yr/grant app
	Re-point outside brick walls with mortar. Town Hall, Town Garage and Senior Center	\$35,000.00	cip-2	12/13 fy
	Electrical load balancing. Due to the amount of sub panels throughout the Town Hall we found that some breakers have more power load than others. This problem is more noticeable during the summer heat.	\$1,000.00	rr	
	Replace front glass door with a more energy efficient door and glass & senior door	\$2,220.00	cip-2	
	Shelves in vault	\$4,900.00	cip	12/13 fy
	Paint vault, storage ceiling & cement seat, crawl space	\$1,000.00	rr	
	Paint mop closet area, front garage area	\$1,500.00	rr	
	Boilers x three	\$39,724.88	cip & grant	
	TOTAL:	\$119,139.88		
Senior Center:	Refrigerator/freezer	\$3,589.00	Donations	
	Dishwasher	\$4,000.00	Donations	
	Floor tiles	\$4,800.00	cip	12/13 fy
	Grease trap	\$5,000.00	Donations	
	TOTAL:	\$17,389.00		
Town Garage:	Replacement Garage Doors	\$21,173.14	cip	
	Camera System	\$7,265.00	cip	
	CO2 ventilation	\$98,600.00	cip-1	
	Fire alaram system upgrade	\$5,985.00	cip-2	
	Wash bay	\$44,000.00	cip-3	
	Oil interceptor upgrade	\$15,400.00	cip-3	
	Paint garage upstairs and down	\$4,000.00	rr	
	Electrical	\$15,400.00	cip	
	Shadow board	\$10,000.00	rr	
	Total:	\$221,823.14		\$100,000 approved last yr
Overhead	\$35,680.00		\$100,000 fy 12/13	
Prevailing wage	\$17,840.00			
Contingency	\$23,192.00			

Town Building Renovations

	Engineering		\$27,830.40		
		TOTAL:	\$326,365.54		
Grist Mill:	Alarm System		\$950.00	cip	
	Windows- 11 second floor		\$15,000.00	rr	\$20,000 approved last year
	Paint the building and soffits- yellow/white		\$25,000.00	rr	\$40,000 fy 12/13
	Sills, columns, underpinnings, windows, electrical outlets		\$200,000.00	Grant	
	Gutters		\$100,000.00	Grant	
		TOTAL:	\$340,950.00		
Library Section:	Shelves		\$2,190.00	Donations	
	Display cases for lobby		\$3,000.00	Donations	
		TOTAL:	\$5,190.00		
Historical Society:	Display Cases		\$7,100.00	Donations	
	Glass Doors and Table Top		\$1,300.00	Donations	
	Mannequins		\$450.00	Donations	
	Fireproof Safe		\$1,500.00	Donations	
		TOTAL:	\$10,350.00		
Transfer Station:	Camera System		\$5,270.00	cip	
	Solar System		\$14,000.00	Grants	
		TOTAL:	\$19,270.00		
Salt Shed Area:	Cold Storage w/ electric- 5 bay		\$320,000.00	cip	
	Camera System		\$5,565.00	cip	
	Electric Gate		\$25,000.00	cip	
	Fence		\$30,000.00	cip	
		TOTAL:	\$380,565.00		
		TOTAL:	\$1,208,869.42		

Town Building Renovations

Fire Department:	Capital Project Description	Estimated Cost of Project
	Painting hall, kitchen, bathrooms, bay doors, outside	\$25,000.00
	Diesel Pump	\$2,000.00
	Diesel Fuel Tank	\$10,000.00
	Mezzanine	\$20,000.00
	Fix entrance foyer	
	Alcoves for the 2 entrance doors and replace doors	
	New electronic locking system for the entrance doors	\$1,600.00
	New phone system	\$5,350.00
	Surveillance camera system	\$5,270.00
	Seal parking lot and paint lines	\$2,500.00
	Dishwasher	\$4,000.00
	Look into a new hood exhaust system for the kitchen to be in compliance to include a grease trap	\$6,000.00
	Retaining wall	\$100,000.00
	Air conditioning offices	\$19,000.00
	TOTAL	\$200,720.00
		Grant
	Solar panels	\$20,000.00
	New Fire Station	\$3,500,000.00



Sprague Salary Listing

Position	Name	Salary 11/12	Stipends	Hourly Rate	Month's Employed
Superintendent	Leake, Donna	\$68,969.00	\$2,400.00		12 months- 104 days - 2 days per week
Assistant Superintendent	Benson-Clarke, Judy	\$117,340.28	\$2,000.00		203 days per year compensated @ \$573.03/day after that
Principal	Wierzbinski, Jean	\$110,341.84	\$3,000.00		12 months - 260 days
		\$296,651.12	\$7,400.00		
Special Ed /Admin Assistant	Baker-Reck, Carolyn	\$39,520.00		\$19.00	12 months - 260 days
Finance Admin/Executive Assistant	Cloutier, Donna	\$47,070.00	\$1,000.00	\$22.63	12 months - 260 days
Admin Assistant	Fuller, Lisa	\$34,652.80		\$16.66	12 months - 260 days
Information Technology Assistant	LaRowe, Diane	\$55,037.00		\$26.46	12 months - 260 days
Principal Admin Assistant	Synnett, Judy	\$35,609.60		\$17.12	12 months - 260 days
		\$211,889.40	\$1,000.00		
Teacher	Balletto, Taylor	\$40,056.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Barber, Kim	\$64,633.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Caviggia, Emily	\$49,678.00	\$706.00		186 days per year
Teacher	Christie, Kelly	\$47,131.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Fireman, Christina	\$75,680.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Fitzgerald, James	\$43,703.00	\$6,433.00		186 days per year
Teacher	Hynes, Michele	\$52,364.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Jones, David	\$52,364.00	\$5,256.00		186 days per year
Teacher	Kessler, Lisa	\$66,110.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Korczak, Jennifer	\$42,942.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Kowalski, Kathy	\$75,680.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Labbe, Debra	\$61,322.00	\$706.00		186 days per year
Teacher	Lamperelli, Dee	\$41,471.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Lavallee, Amie	\$49,678.00			186 days per year
Teacher	LeClair, Irene	\$55,234.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Luty, Cindy	\$78,402.00	\$1,985.00		186 days per year
Teacher	Maddux, Beth	\$64,633.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Markey-Cirillo, Kathy	\$58,177.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Martin, Brian	\$40,056.00	\$2,267.00		186 days per year
Teacher	McLean, Penny	\$61,322.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Nieminen, Christine	\$49,678.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Normandin, Helen	\$78,402.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Norris, Lisa	\$40,056.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Nygren, Linnea	\$40,056.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Randall, Sheila	\$75,680.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Reyer, Rebecca	\$55,234.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Scarpelli, Claudio	\$59,172.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Sharpe, Michele	\$52,364.00	\$2,903.00		186 days per year
Teacher	Sullivan, Mary Ellen	\$61,048.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Snoke, Julie	\$64,633.00			186 days per year
Teacher	Turban, Carol	\$75,680.00			186 days per year
		\$1,772,639.00	\$20,256.00		
Library Technician	Kolar, Christine	\$19,092.36	\$952.00	\$16.66	186 days per year
Lunch Monitor	Sabrowski, Karen	\$3,820.00		\$10.00	part time
Maintenance Director	Trudelle, Bill	\$56,269.00		\$24.18	12 months
Custodian	Kornacki, Vinnie	\$36,400.00		\$17.50	12 months
Custodian	Brown, Roberta	\$14,461.20		\$12.36	part time
Instructional Assistant	Blair, Bobbi	\$20,456.10		\$15.30	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	French, Stephanie	\$17,528.07		\$13.11	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	Giroux, Lisa	\$30,132.16		\$19.72	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	Greenhalgh, Sandra	\$25,359.55		\$19.67	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	Hawks, Debra	\$21,673.73		\$15.13	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	Hersey, Doreen	\$24,828.57		\$17.93	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	Kornacki, Patricia	\$16,412.15		\$12.73	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	Morse, Lynette	\$17,417.77		\$13.51	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	Mullen, Beverly	\$15,471.00		\$12.00	186 days per year
Instructional Assistant	Witcraft, Nathan	\$15,471.00	\$1,077.00	\$12.00	186 days per year
Nurse Supervisor		\$43,624.00	\$2,610.00	\$31.16	
Nurse		\$43,106.00		\$30.79	
		\$421,522.66	\$4,639.00		
		certified	non certified	total salaries	total stipends
		\$2,069,290.12	\$633,412.06	\$2,702,702.18	\$33,295.00
		\$17,136.26	\$22,054.70	\$39,190.96	\$2,639.00

Sprague Salary Listing

Position	Name	Salary 11/12	Stipends	Hourly Rate	Month's Employed
		\$2,086,426.38	\$655,466.76	\$2,741,893.14	\$35,934.00
		total stipend + salary	\$2,777,827.14	46% of the BOE budget	
open positions					
Teacher (left 12/2011)		\$17,136.26			
Instructional Assistant (left 12/2011)		\$7,979.79			
Library Assistant (left 2/2012)		\$10,254.91		\$13.78	
Lunch Monitor (varies)		\$3,820.00		\$10.00	
stipend (yearbook & girls basketball)			\$2,639.00		
First Selectman	Osten, Catherine	\$39,443.82	\$2,250.00		full time
Second Selectman	Dembinski, Denise		\$1,200.00		stipend
Third Selectman	Allen, Dennison		\$1,200.00		stipend
Executive Assistant	Silvestri, Barbara	\$38,928.84		\$21.18	full time
Grants Manager	O'Donovan, Jackie	\$37,080.16			full time
Facilities Manager	Silvertri, Peter	\$45,238.70			full time
Assessor	Coates, Robert	\$35,641.62			part time
Tax Collector	Chartier, Mary	\$25,076.48			full time 12 months in conjunction w/pool secretary
Treasurer	Feinglass, Megan		\$2,400.00		stipend
Book Keeper	Seigny, Melissa	\$22,880.00		\$22.00	part time
Town Clerk	Glaude, Claire	\$46,843.42	\$1,250.00		full time
Pool Secretary	Chartier, Mary	\$20,431.84		\$16.72	full time in conjunction w/ tax collector
Pool Secretary	Hoffman, Colette	\$26,572.00		\$14.60	full time
Public Works Foreman	Benson, Mark	\$50,315.20	\$400.00	\$24.19	full time
Public Works Driver	Girard, Thomas	\$43,139.20	\$400.00	\$20.74	full time
Public Works Driver	Allen, George	\$43,139.20	\$400.00	\$20.74	full time
Public Works Driver	Meadows, Michael	\$43,139.20	\$400.00	\$20.74	full time
Public Works Part Time	Stahl, Tim	\$8,680.00		\$17.36	part time
Public Works Part Time	Arpin, Mark	\$7,960.00		\$15.92	part time
Custodian - Town Hall	Deschamps, Larry	\$8,776.30			salaried
Custodian - Fire Department	Deschamps, Larry	\$1,200.00			salaried
Zoning Enforcement	Smith, Joseph	\$6,502.86			part time
Building Official	Smith, Joseph	\$17,526.00			part time
Blight Officer	Smith, Joseph	\$3,200.00			part time
Emergency Management Director	Tardif, Robert		\$2,200.00		stipend
LEPC	Tardif, Robert		\$500.00		stipend
Tree Warden	Gustafson, David		\$1,600.00		stipend
Crossing Guard	Patrick, Douglas	\$3,455.80		\$9.60	part time
Fire Marshall	Hamel, Rick	\$7,890.84			salaried
Burning Official	Hamel, Rick	\$606.91			salaried
Transfer Station Superintendent	Bell, Walter	\$17,147.00	\$100.00	\$13.19	part time
Transfer Station Aide	Stahl, Tim	\$5,328.96		\$12.81	part time
Senior Director	Meadows, Edward	\$29,569.28		\$17.77	part time
Municipal Agent	Meadows, Edward	\$1,386.06		\$17.77	part time
Van Driver	Allard, Al	\$19,858.80		\$12.73	part time
Van Driver	Trudelle, Maureen	\$10,591.36		\$12.73	part time
Senior Server	Lance, Denise	\$4,457.48			part time
Custodian - Grist Mill	DeHont, Richard	\$5,859.68			salaried
Custodian - Rec Fields	(not filled)	\$5,768.00		\$10.30	part time
Library Director	Kolar, Chris	\$20,800.00		\$20.00	part time
Library Assistant 1	Elliot, Kristin	\$12,136.80		\$11.67	part time
Library Assistant 2	Sweet, Jamie	\$11,034.40		\$10.61	part time
Library Page	Sabrowski, Karen	\$6,435.00		\$8.25	part time
Historical Museum Page	(not filled)	\$6,435.00		\$8.25	part time
Recreation (Summer & other sports)	(different each year)	\$7,319.00			part time
Elections	Boushee, Kathleen	\$3,037.50		\$12.15	part time
Elections	LaTour, Kathleen	\$3,037.50		\$12.15	part time
Planning & Zoning Secretary	Boyes, Lynn	\$1,500.00		\$15.91	part time
	totals	\$755,370.21	\$14,300.00		
		total stipend + salary	\$769,670.21	38% of the operating budget	



Transfer Station Price Updates

We are pleased to inform you that the Transfer Station prices have been updated. We strongly encourage you all to recycle as this helps us keep our costs down! Questions regarding the new prices can be directed to our Transfer Superintendent, Walter Bell at 860-822-3014.

****Permit (town resident, 2 year permit) – Free (additional/replacement \$5.00)**

Transfer Station Prices:

Blue Bags (sleeve of 5 bags, large 32 gallon)	\$ 6.25	
Blue Bags (sleeve of 5 bags, small 13 gallon)	\$ 3.00	
Box Spring(s) & Mattress(s)	\$ 5.00	each
Chair (stuffed and/or reclining)	\$ 5.00	
Sofa (love seat and/or three seat)	\$ 10.00	
Sofa (four + seat)	\$ 15.00	
Sofa (convertible) mattress & metal must be removed	\$ 15.00	
Sofa (sectional)	\$ 5.00	each section
Toilet	\$ 5.00	
Sink (non-metallic)	\$ 5.00	
Bulky Waste (resident)	\$ 10.00	per cubic yard
Commercial & Construction Material - See Bulky Waste		



Transfer Station Items Free of Charge:

- | | | |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------|
| -Air Conditioners | -Freezers | |
| -Anti-freeze | -Heat Pumps | -Propane Gas Tanks (BBQ) |
| -Automotive Oil | -Kitty Litter | -Refrigerators |
| -Batteries | -Leaves | -Smoke Detectors |
| -Brush | -Mercury Vapor Lights | -Tires (all) |
| -Cooking Oil | -Mercury Thermostats (must be unbroken) | -Water Coolers |
| -Dehumidifiers | -Mercury Thermometers (must be unbroken) | -Wine Coolers |
| -Electronics (all) | -Paint- Latex (covers off and paint dried) | |

Transfer Station Items Not Allowed:

- Oil Base Products (Paints, Paint Thinner, Varnish, Shellac and Stains) (haz waste)
- Drain Cleaners (haz waste)
- Oil Storage Drums (if clean put with scrap metal- if not, haz waste)
- Battery Acid (haz waste)
- Camping Stove Fuel (if small propane tank drop off at the transfer station- liquid fuel will be haz waste)
- Gasoline and Kerosene (haz waste)
- Dead Animals (can be either composted or buried)
- Asbestos Products (haz waste must be identified as to amount and where it came from)
- Ammunition/Gun Powder (give to Resident Trooper)
- Auto or Marine Flares (haz waste)
- Rocks or Concrete Slabs (check with local sand and gravel operations)
- Fungicides, Herbicides and Insecticides (haz waste)
- Mice/Rat Poisons (haz waste)

**Questions or concerns on Haz Waste can be answered by contacting SCRRA Recycling at 860-464-2509.

All recyclables are still free and for your convenience. The Town utilizes the single stream method (meaning no need to separate recyclables). Please help to keep our costs down by recycling.

-Catherine Osten, First Selectman

Spaghetti Dinner to Benefit

Brianna Dziekan



Brianna was born with a congenital heart defect that has required multiple surgeries. Her first surgery was when she was just two-weeks-old and most recently she spent her eleventh birthday in a hospital bed in Boston recovering from her third open-heart surgery. She visits a cardiologist every three months to evaluate her aortic valve that needs to be replaced. In 2009 she shattered her right heel bone and underwent two bone grafts in 2010. This injury still requires physical therapy and limits her mobility to the use of crutches and a wheelchair. Brianna also suffers from Migraines and is unable to take medication due to her cardiac problems. Brianna needs another surgery, but her family needs to pay off their current medical debt in order to prepare for it. All contributions will be greatly appreciated. Thank You.

Friday, March 9th, 2012

6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

Moose Family Center

115 Fitchville Road, Bozrah

Ticket Donation: \$10.00

There will also be a Raffle.

For tickets, directions or more information contact:

John Rondeau at 860-608-9986 or Maryann Lussier at 860-642-7441

Brianna's mom uses the following website to keep family and friends updated:

<http://www.carepages.com/carepages/BriannaDziekan2000>



Help Wanted

Baltic Fire Department is looking for your help!

We are now accepting applications for Volunteer Firefighters or Emergency Medical Technicians

Become a volunteer firefighter or EMT!!!

We need your help! If it weren't for volunteers, three-fourths of the United States, including Baltic, would be without adequate fire and emergency medical protection. Few jobs offer the challenges and rewards that volunteer fire, rescue and emergency services offer. This business is not for everyone. You need courage, dedication and a willingness to learn new skills; and to be able to conquer new and diverse challenges.

- As a volunteer you will be trained to react with confidence to all sorts of emergency situations.
- The rewards in emergency services are incredible if you consider respect and appreciation reward enough
- Saving a neighbor's home or farm from being destroyed by fire. Rescuing a child from possible injury or death. These are the rewards that we, as volunteers, experience every day.

If you have the desire to make a difference in peoples' lives, and believe that you have what it takes to meet the challenges, join the team that protects the lives and homes in the town of Sprague and surrounding communities.

Who are the volunteers?

They are people just like you, men and women of all ages, from all walks of life. They give back to their community by dedicating themselves, their time, their talent, care and concern.

Volunteer firefighting is a very rewarding and valuable way to serve your community.

Pick up an application at the station (22 Bushnell Hollow Rd) or call (860) 822-6580 with any questions.

The Baltic Fire Department has served the town for 144 years; *Neighbors Helping Neighbors.*

The website for the "Baltic Fire Engine Company #1," also known as the "Baltic Fire Department," is now almost completely updated as far as the photos that had been taken over the past two years. I have only a couple more photo groups to re-post and then they will all be up to date and posted so that everyone can go to our website to see some of our activities, view the photos, make copies, etc. If anyone

has any questions please just direct them to me at my e-mail:

regpatchell@comcast.net. Thank you very much.



-Reg Patchell
"Patch"



Baltic Fire Department

Fish Fry

MARCH 16th, 2012

Baltic Fire House

22 Bushnell Hollow Rd. Baltic, Ct. 06330

***Fish, Fries, Coleslaw
Iced Tea, Coffee***

Time: 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Adults \$10.00

Seniors \$7.00

Kids (under 5 yrs) \$5.00



Takeout Orders Available

860-822-6580



Safety Tips from Yankee Gas: The Northeast Utilities System

MORE NATURAL GAS SAFETY TIPS: Natural gas is colorless and odorless, so we add the “rotten egg smell” to gas, making it easier to detect a leak. **If you think you smell natural gas indoors leave the building right away! Call the Yankee Gas emergency number: 1-800-992-3427 and stay outside until the gas company arrives.**

- Do NOT use the public address system or pull the fire alarm to evacuate the building
- Don't use a telephone or cell phone
- Don't touch any light switches to turn them on or off
- Put out any open flames, such as a candle
- Don't use elevators, take the stairs
- Don't take time to open or close any windows
- Go outside right away

CO SAFETY: Any heating system, fueled by oil, natural gas, propane, coal or wood, can produce carbon monoxide (CO) if it's not working properly. CO is odorless, colorless and tasteless, but very toxic. Symptoms of CO poisoning are easily mistaken for the flu: headaches, dizziness, nausea, unclear thinking, shortness of breath, weakness, vision problems and loss of muscle control. High concentrations of CO can lead to unconsciousness, brain damage or death. You should suspect the presence of CO if symptoms tend to disappear when you leave the building. **If you suspect the presence of CO in your building, open windows and doors right away!**

- Call a licensed heating contractor or your fuel supplier immediately for an emergency inspection.
- If CO is detected, seek medical attention immediately.

To prevent CO poisoning:

- Have the heating system inspected annually, preferably before heating season begins.
- Have the service company check the chimney or vent pipes for blockage.
- Clear snow and ice from around

It is the time of year again --- Take Me Out To The Ballgame!

The SFC- Sprague, Scotland, Franklin, Canterbury Little League has begun accepting registrations for the Spring Baseball/Softball program! Online registration is available at SFCLL.COM or at the Scotland Elementary School on Saturdays nights now through March 10th during Winter Clinic from 6:30-8:30pm; and Sayles School on Thursday nights now through March 15th during the Pitching/Catching Clinic from 6-8:00pm.

Players new to the league must bring a copy of their birth certificate and two forms of proof of address. Any player turning 4 before April 30th is eligible to play T-ball. Anyone wishing to manage or coach a team should attend a registration event for more information or to complete the necessary paperwork.

Registration fees for the 2012 season: Ages 4-5 \$60; Ages 6-12 \$70; Age 13+ \$75; Family Max \$150; All Stars \$50; Extended Season \$30; Fall Ball \$35.

Mandatory Registration Fund Raiser - you have the opportunity to purchase tickets for the CT Tigers OR do the "buy out" based on the following:

Family of 1-2 Children = \$32 (4 Tickets) OR \$25 Buy Out
 Family of 3+ Children = \$48 (6 Tickets) OR \$35 Buy Out
 Additional tickets can also be purchased for \$8 each.

Tryouts will be held at the Scotland Elementary School - 68 Brook Road, Scotland, CT

All players (returning or new) must attend one of the following try-outs for the 9-10 & 11-12 divisions. Players planning to play up must attend the tryouts for their proper age group, along with their "playing up" age.

Division:	Date:	Time:	Location:
7-8	3/17/11	6pm-7pm	Scotland
9-10	3/17/11	7pm-8pm	Scotland
11-12	3/17/11	8pm-9pm	Scotland
7-8	3/24/11	6pm-7pm	Scotland
9-10	3/24/11	7pm-8pm	Scotland
11-12	3/24/11	8pm-9pm	Scotland



Softball & Jr Leagues –Tryouts will only occur if needed – phone calls will be made to Parents/Players.

Don't forget our free clinics!

Winter Baseball/Softball Clinic: Now through March 10th, Saturday nights at the Scotland Elementary School. Ages 4-7: 6-7:30pm; Ages 8-12: 7:30-9:30pm. Please bring a glove; no cleats.

Winter Pitching/Catching Clinic: Now through March 15th, Thursday nights at Sayles Elementary School, Ages 8-12, 6-8:30pm. Please bring a glove; no cleats; catchers need to wear proper gear.

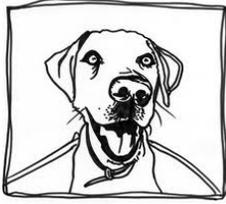
Please consider sponsoring a team. Our league depends on the generous donations from our sponsors! For more information, contact Eric Graham, President. egraham55@hotmail.com or (860-917-5052)

Sprague-Franklin-Canterbury-Scotland Little League 2012 Player Registration Form

League Ages – your child’s age by: T-Ball & Baseball as of April 30th; Softball as of Jan 1st

Player Name: _____ T-Ball Baseball Softball
 Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____ Grade: _____
 Address: _____ Town _____
 Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Relationship to Player: _____
 Address: _____ Town _____
 (If different than above)
 Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone (Optional): _____
 Email: _____

Documentation required if you are new to the League: Birth Certificate & 2 Forms of Address Proof



Dogs Versus Rodenticides

By Denise Ethier Dembinski



It's that time of year when mice, looking for a warm place to spend the winter, take up residence in our attics, walls, basements, and out buildings. Mice are highly adaptable and need only a ¼ inch opening along a building's perimeter to gain entrance. Once inside they chew on wires, tear insulation off pipes, as well as ensure other structural damage. As no one wants to share their home with rodents we reach for rodenticides as they are effective, inexpensive, and widely available.

Most of us know that rodenticides, aka poisons, must be placed out of the reach of children and pets to avoid accidental encounters, but mice don't climb into a bait trap, fill up on poison, and die in the trap. They are more likely to have a snack and carry part of it away with them to the nest. The nest could be located in a kitchen cupboard or in the yard in a stack of firewood. In either case, they're dropping bits of their meal along the way.

Many of the common rodenticides are neon green in color which means dogs and children can easily spot them and find them appealing. They must smell good, too, as children and dogs too often consume the poison. Once ingested the poison inhibits the blood's ability to clot by interfering with the production of vitamin K-1, resulting in rapid internal bleeding and eminent death. The main ingredient, bodifacoum, has the same effect that Coumadin has in heart patients – it thins the blood – it's an anticoagulant.

Dogs that have been poisoned will become weak and unstable. They can have nose bleeds and demonstrate other types of blood loss. Bruises and hematomas can be seen under the skin and they can have difficulty breathing due to blood in the lungs. If caught early a dog can be induced to vomit and then given a large dose of activated charcoal to absorb residual poison. Vitamin K-1 is also part of the treatment. In more severe cases the dog will require blood transfusions as well. Either way, K-1 will be part of a long-term treatment as the newer poisons are not only effective, but can last in an animal's system and inhibit K-1 production for as long as six weeks.

Poison manufacturers claim that their products are "pet safe" as long as handled properly, but in fact, there are no "pet safe" poisons. If you have pets or children you may want to defer to the old fashioned bait and snap trap. It may take a little longer to rid your home of vermin, but you'll ensure the safety of your four-legged and two-legged family.

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS!

So many of us are running non-stop, and as a result, time gets away from us, deadlines are missed, and our dogs become unlicensed. A number of dog owners in Sprague missed the opportunity to license their dogs in June of 2011. Outstanding dog owners will be contacted by mail. If during the past year your dog has been spayed/neutered or a rabies vaccination was given by the vet, please provide proof upon obtaining the license. If licensing for the first time, proof of rabies vaccinations and castration certificate must be presented before license is issued. All can be done by mail but a self-addressed stamped envelope must be enclosed. Mail to: Town Clerk, PO Box 162, Baltic, CT 06330. If any questions, call 860-822-3000 ext. 220. If you already licensed your dog(s) in June 2011, you will receive a reminder in May for the upcoming dog license year (July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013). *Office hours: Mon. – Thurs. 8:00 to 4:30, Wed. until 5:30*

\$8.00 for spayed or neutered dogs

\$19.00 for male or female dogs

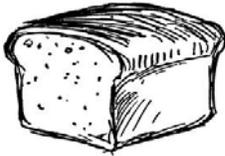
\$1.00 Late Penalty (per month)

Sayles School students in need of a World War II Veteran!



Sean and Kylie are doing a fifth grade project on World War II and need someone from the war to interview. If anyone would like to volunteer contact Mrs. Reyer at 860-822-8264 ext. 129 or rreyer@saylesschool.org.

Recipe of the Month:



Soda Bread

2 c. milk	1 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. vinegar	1 tsp. baking powder
4 c. flour	3 T. melted butter, divided
½ c. sugar	1 c. raisins
½ tsp. salt	2 tsp. sugar

Mix the flour, sugar, salt, baking soda and baking powder together. Add raisins and 2T of the butter. Mix together milk and vinegar and add to the flour mixture. Pour into a greased 9" pan (such as a pie pan). Bake at 375° for 10 minutes, brush with remaining butter, then bake at 350° for another 40-45 minutes.

As submitted by Pat Osten, the mother of our First Selectman, for the Sprague Public Library Cookbook

Sprague Water & Sewer Customers

We are excited to let you know that as of March 1, 2012, Chelsea Groton Bank- **Sprague Branch Only** will now be accepting payments for your water and/or sewer bill. The following stipulations apply to payments made at the bank.

- 1. You have to have your bill.**
- 2. Payment must be either cash or check.**
- 3. Payment must be paid in full, no partial payments will be accepted.**



If you should have any questions regarding this information please call 860-822-3000, ext. 225.

Sprague Democratic Town Committee Update

At the February meeting, the DTC met and discussed the upcoming year's schedule. We were thrilled to have new members join us...welcome! We are actively looking for anyone younger than 18 interested in joining our fledgling young Democrats' council – rides can be provided.

We are preparing to select delegates from our Town Committee to go to conventions to support candidates for positions for state or federal offices that we will be endorsing. We plan on coordinating with area towns to conduct forums and/or debates. In next month's edition I will report on the Quiet Corner Democrats forum held on February 23rd in Mansfield which will be part of our process.

We were all relieved that our State Senator Edith Prague is doing so well we have sent her our best wishes.

The Sprague Democratic Town Committee continues to urge new residents to register to vote. The committee will be glad to help anyone who would like to register. Registration can be done by mail or at the Town Hall. Registered voters interested in serving on a Town board or joining the DTC should contact me or DTC secretary Claire Glaude at 860-822-9111.

For additional information on the Sprague Democratic Town Committee go to our website at SpragueDemocrats.org.

-Catherine Osten

Chair, Sprague DTC

Planning and Zoning Commission Update

The Sprague Planning and Zoning Commission is currently in a pre-application discussion with the town's agricultural commission, concerning the possibility of making an application to change the town's Planning and Zoning regulations concerning farming, and any regulations that pertain to that use. Before any changes are made to the regulations there must be a public hearing which must be noticed prior to the hearing.

The Planning and Zoning commission meets on the first Wednesday of each month and its agenda is available prior to its meetings on both the town's website and through the Land Use office in the town hall.

-Sandor Bittman

Chairman

Sprague Garden Club

The club will meet on March 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sprague Senior Center. Our guest lecturer will be Margaret Jones, Executive Director of the Dennison Pequotsepsos Nature Center in Mystic. The topic for the evening will be **Gardening for Birds and Wildlife**. We invite all interested in this subject to join us for a fun and informative evening.

It's March!!! Where did the winter go?? We have about 3 weeks before Spring's official start. The snowdrops are blooming in our yard. It won't be long before the crocus and daffodils begin to show their colors and spring fever hits us all.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy Spring,

*-Jan Settje,
Secretary*



The Salvation Army

Upper New London County Service Unit

I want to thank all those who have sent donation checks to the Upper New London County Service Unit at P.O. Box 304, Versailles, CT 06383. Ninety percent of the donations will be kept here.

Mother Nature has been good to us so far this winter- it hasn't been too cold! But keep your oil tank full because I think the price may go up. I hope we will not have another bad storm. Try to keep a 72- hour kit equipped with enough food, water, warm clothes and blankets for 72 hours in a place where you can find it. Hopefully you will never need to use it, but if you are prepared you will not fear.

If you need food, call the Town Hall and speak to Colette. Thanks to Scouting For Food there is food available to help you.

May the Lord bless you this winter,

-Dennison Allen

Town of Sprague Representative

The Sprague Public Library

I would like to introduce myself to you as the new director of the Sprague Public Library, and to thank all of you for making me feel so welcome.

Since our library reopened in September after all of the renovations, the staff and I have been amazed by the number of both new and regular patrons who have been frequenting the library, and who continue to enjoy our new look and friendly atmosphere. Our patron and circulation statistics are way up! Please keep coming in; we enjoy helping you with all of your library needs.

We will continue to update our collection to have the material you need whether it is a book, CD, audio book, or DVD. If we don't have what you need we will order it from iCONN or one of our 52 sister libraries that we are connected to through our operating system *Bibliomation*. If you need to use an internet access computer, we have 5 brand new computers in the adult room and 2 new computers in the children's room. Would you like to bring your lap top, notebook, iPad, or iPhone? We have Wi-Fi. Do you need copies or need to fax something? We're your source!

Very soon we will be offering e-books! Do you have a new Kindle, Nook, Ipad, or other electronic reader? Are you already tired of purchasing e-books? Soon you will be able to borrow e-books just like print copies right here at our library. We will even be holding classes to show you how to download them.

All of this is so exciting that I say **libraries are back in style and we have a great one!!** Did you know that we have been named Library of the Year for the State of Connecticut by Congressman Joe Courtney? We are now competing for National Library of the year! We'll keep you posted!

To keep you up to date with what is happening with libraries across the nation I have included the article below, which was published in the February 2012 edition of LDA Publishers.

Keeping you informed about our library,
Christine Kolar,
Library Director

A little library growing each year is an honorable part of a man's history.
-Henry Ward Beecher

Libraries Succeed by Constantly Evolving

By Susan H. Hildreth; Library Director, IMLS

People depend on libraries now more than ever. Not only do visits and circulation continue to rise, the role of public libraries in providing Internet resources to the public continues to increase as well. Public libraries have also increased their program offerings to meet greater demand and provide more targeted services.

In the business world, such demand for an industry's services would mean big profits for that sector. But despite the demonstrated ability of libraries to adjust to meet the growing needs of the public, many libraries across the country face severe budget cuts.

There is no doubt that the future of libraries depends on their ability to change and evolve to meet the changing ways that people access and use information. As director of the Institute of Museums and Library Services, the federal voice for library and museum service in the U.S. – I see three big goals for libraries: provide engaging learning experiences, become community anchors, and provide access to content even as the devices for accessing that content change rapidly.

These are some of the findings of the Institute of Museum and Library Services' report on the FY2009 Public Library Survey (click link below), a census of American public libraries
<https://harvester.census.gov/imls/pubs/pls/pub>

The Institute's analysis of the data showed that per capita visits to libraries rose by 24 percent. In 2009, libraries were visited a record breaking 1.59 billion times. Libraries have defied the conventional wisdom that Google, Wikipedia, and the like would make them obsolete. That's because they've recognized and responded to the evolving ways in which people use libraries. Those who prematurely announced the demise of libraries at the hands of the Internet failed to anticipate the symbiotic relationship that would develop between the two institutions. As revealed by Interconnections: The IMLS National Study on the Use of Libraries, Museums, and the internet: <http://interconnectionsreport.org/> Internet users are much more likely to visit public libraries than non-internet users.

Read More at:

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/susan-h-hildreth/the-future-of-libraries>



il

*** Microsoft Excel Workshop for Beginners ***

Are you interested in learning how to use Microsoft Excel? Come learn how during our 8 week long Excel Workshop. Classes will be held from 5:30-7pm every Tuesday and Thursday, starting on March 20th and ending on April 12th. The cost for the 8-week program is \$10 per person.

Space is limited, please call the library to reserve a spot.

(Class dates: *March 20th, 22nd, 27th, and 29th. April 3^d, 5th, 10th, and 12th.*)



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~SPRAGUE COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS~

22 West Main Street, Baltic, CT 06330

“Serving the People of Sprague”

Greetings from SCC! Here's hoping that you have marked your calendar for the March 10th Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner at SCC at 6:00 p.m. Tickets MUST be purchased prior to March 8th. Tickets are \$ 10.00 for Adults and \$ 5.00 for Children 5 and under. We are selling tickets prior to the Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, as this will help us in our meal planning and our seating arrangements. The dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Our chefs will be Buddy Meadows and Linwood Lamb. The menu will consist of Corned Beef and Cabbage, Red Potatoes, Carrots, Rye Bread, Coffee, Tea, and Ice Cream for dessert. We will look forward to seeing you on March 10th! Tickets will be available at SCC and the Sprague Senior Center, or you can call 860-822-6595 to order your tickets and make reservations.

Recently we have conducted fund-raisers to help with the operating expenses at SCC. We sold Pecans and Streak-less cleaning Cloths. Due to popular demand we are continuing to sell the Streak-less Cloths for \$ 3.00 per cloth. These Streak-less cloths are amazing! The cloths combine the cleaning power of micro-fiber and the drying power of a shammy. It is best used on glass but can be used on other hard surfaces such as stainless steel, granite, marble, corian, and chalkboards. People have used these cloths to clean windows, eyeglasses, brass, mirrors, computer monitors, T.V. screens, chrome, vinyl, windshields, leather, and they remove mildew too! There are no chemicals, just wet the cloth with water, wring it out, and wipe the surface to be cleaned. In addition, the Streak-less cloths absolutely, positively never streak! You can purchase these miracle cloths at SCC, just call 860-822-6595 for further information or you can come to SCC on Fridays from 3:00-4:00 p.m. to purchase these cloths. Great Spring cleaning cloths!

Our weekly “Food Friday” food distribution continues to be weekly from 3:00-4:00 p.m. If you want to register for this program, please call 860-822-6595 by Thursday of the week. We are also making available free clothing and small toiletries, and coupons during the “Food Friday” distribution time. Stop by and see if there is any way we can help you and your family.

Our weekly Yoga Classes at SCC are offered on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and walk-ins are welcome. The Cub Scouts have their weekly meetings on Monday and Thursday nights, and AA Meetings are held on Sunday nights. As always, our facilities at the Sprague Community Center are available for many different types of activities. If you are planning an organizational or family event, give us a call at 860-822-6595.

Blessings to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Brenda J. Keefe

SCC Outreach Coordinator



American Legion Post 85

2/7/12 Minutes

Commander Dave Salemma opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. at the Sprague Rod and Gun Club. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and the salute to the Colors. The Chaplain said a prayer for all veterans. Adjutant Tom Coletti took the roll call and noted that all the officers were present. A membership head count was taken and noted to the Commander that there were 13 of the 45 members in attendance and an official quorum was present to carry on Post business. The Financial Officer read the meeting minutes for 1/3/12. They were accepted as read with one minor correction. The Commander also noted that there were no member applications that were in process since the last Post meeting held in January. The Commander acknowledged and welcomed the District 5 Commander and Vice Commander at the Post meeting. One veteran not associated with the Post attended. The membership welcomed him. The Adjutant stated that all Post meetings are available to all veterans to attend.

The floor was opened up to old business. A brief discussion was held concerning the status of membership. Financial Officer Cathy Osten reported that three (3) members were in the rears for three (3) years and that two (2) members were in the rears for one (1) year. The Adjutant spoke up and stated that letters for dismissal will be sent to the three members informing them that they had until February 29th to inform the Adjutant their intent to remain with the Post or be dismissed from the Post roll. The adjutant also stated that letters would be sent to the three members in the rears for one (1) year reminding them that the dues for 2012 were payable between July 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011. The Adjutant reminded those members present that the 2013 dues payment will be sent out this July 1, 2012. Dues are paid to the American Legion 6 months in advance. The District Commander spoke to reinforce what the Adjutant had said.

Financial Officer Cathy Osten reported that there was \$764.13 in the Post checking account. She also reported several check statuses for dues paid to State and for Post expenses. The Post checking account signature authorization has been updated. Three officers are authorized for check signing. The Financial Officer, Commander and/or Adjutant will appear on all checks. Any combination of the three officers is acceptable.

The Commander asked if there were any hardship cases reported to anyone of the Post members present for any Veterans in need of financial assistance. None were reported. The Commander asked if there were any sick members. It was noted that Legionnaire Will Chabotte had been ill again. The membership wished him a speedy recovery.

The Commander asked if there were any old business matters to discuss. The Adjutant stated that due to illness in the past month there was no meeting held to discuss future plans for the statue the Post would like to

erect at the War Memorial prior to the 2013 Memorial Day festivities. The Adjutant will call a meeting before next month's Post meeting and report the progress.

The District Vice Commander stated that one way to raise funds for the Memorial Statue would be to sell bricks for a Walk-way of Honor. The walk-way would have bricks etched with the names of family and friend of those individuals buying the bricks. Specifics to follow in more detail as costs are known. The District Vice Commander stated that Bricksrus.com would be the place to review the options available. A phone contact was also provided: Tim Yuhas at 860.884.0694. The Adjutant and the Junior Vice Commander Tim Brodeur will investigate.

The Financial Office reported that the same ladies that made the Town of Sprague Quilt for the Town's 150th Anniversary have volunteered to begin making a quilt for the Legion as a fund raiser for the 2013 Memorial Statue. Pictures will be provided to the membership as the quilt is being made. The entire membership sends sincere thanks in appreciation of their efforts. The list of ladies involved in the quilt making will be noted in the March meeting minutes. Legionnaire Don Bastien volunteered to submit the raffle application with the State. The Financial Officer provided a name of contact for Don.

The Commander asked if there was any new business to discuss. Sr. Vice Commander Will Zinavage asked that the Post consider sending a local boy to Boy's State sponsored by the American Legion. The Sr. Vice Commander stated that he would approach both the Republican and Democratic Town Committees as well as other fund sources to raise money to assist the Post in sending, at least one boy, to Boy's State. The District Commander stated that he would assist in providing detailed information and contacts for this event. The Sr. Vice Commander will report at the next meeting as to his progress. Funds will be needed prior to June 1st. The cost to send a boy is approximately \$250.00. Discussion as to a Girl's State will be provided at the next meeting also.

Don Bastien reported that the Sprague Memorial Day Committee chaired by representatives from the Baltic Fire Department and Town Administration in past years has changed. He explained that the Fire Department main representative could no longer lead the duties involved in the planning of the event. The Fire Department asked the Legion take the lead again for this event. Don Bastien volunteered to chair the Memorial Day event for 2012 and assume the duties. Don will be working with Colette Hoffman from the Town's Administration and a contact to be named at a later date from the Fire Department. The Financial Officer stated that as the 1st Selectman she

would contact the Fire Chief for a name to serve on the committee. The Post thanked Don for his efforts. With no further new business to be discussed, the floor was turned over to First Selectman and Legion Financial Officer Cathy Osten.

Cathy presented approximately a dozen documents for the membership to review concerning the status of the Town for planned events from subjects ranging from road repairs, town buildings, equipment, to water and sewer, possible areas where grants could be applied for. Budgets and other matters to update the membership was also presented. The Selectman has presented this information yearly as a courtesy to the Post membership since her joining the Legion. She also stated that she would and has presented this information to other organizations to keep them up to date on the immediate and long range plans for the Town of Sprague. The information and some questioning took place that was informative to all.

With no further business to attend to, the Commander asked if the District Commander and Vice Commander would like to address the membership. The District Commander announced that this would be his last year in the position. The post members thanked him for his service. He went on to state that the National Vice Commander would be visiting the area on March 10th. An email flyer would be sent out to the officer's via email. He also informed the membership that the National

Commander would be visiting Connecticut on May 19th. A flyer will be emailed out in the future to inform the membership as to the planned schedule the National Commander will have if they decide to attend one of the events. He also stated that there would be a Valentine's Day breakfast at Lebanon Post 180 on Sunday, February 12th and an out going testimonial dinner will be held in his honor on June 9th. Presently Post 85 is reported as having 89% paid up membership which contributed to the District 5 being in 1st place for membership dues payment. The membership again thanked the District Commander for his service to the District. The District Vice Commander stated he will be taking over and also reiterated the brick Walkway of Honor as a great fund raiser.

With no further business to discuss the Commander announced that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 6th, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sprague Rod and Gun Club. All veterans are encouraged to attend. He closed the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The Commander led the Post membership in the Pledge of Allegiance and a salute to the Colors. The Chaplain said a closing prayer. The raffle was drawn after the meeting and Financial Cathy Osten won the prize. She will provide the next item to be raffled at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Coletti, Adjutant- Vice Commander

Deadline for Our Town submissions is the 15th of each month. Submissions may be e-mailed to OurTown@ctsprague.org. The focus of Our Town is community events, articles, commission notes and other items of town-wide interest. 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 & 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 formatted as necessary. Libelous or obscene materials are not permitted.



Fundraiser for the Sprague Senior Center!!

COME JOIN US FOR OUR SECOND FUNDRAISER- A ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENT!!

SATURDAY, MARCH 17th, 2012 AT NOONTIME IN THE SPRAGUE SENIOR CENTER

COST FOR THIS EVENT WILL BE \$10.00 PER PERSON WHICH INCLUDES A CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER WITH ENTERTAINMENT BY Hey "Mr. DJ" Entertainment a.k.a. Ralph Watson. PLEASE CONTACT BUDDY MEADOWS, SPRAGUE SENIOR CENTER COORDINATOR/MUNICIPAL AGENT AT 860-822-3000, EXT. 203 FOR SIGN UP. PAYMENT IS DUE UPON SIGN UP.

FUNDS ARE BEING RAISED FOR A NEW REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER FOR THE SPRAGUE SENIOR CENTER

VNA East

34 LEDGEBROOK DRIVE, MANSFIELD CENTER, CT 06250

PH: 860-456-7288 FAX: 860-456-4267

March 2012 Health Screenings

VNA East will hold the following clinics:

Blood Pressure Screenings:

Wed Mar 21	Scotland Town Hall	12:30- 1:00 pm
Tues Mar 27	Franklin Senior Center	10:30- 11:30 am
Tues Mar 27	Sprague Town Hall	11:45- 12:45 pm



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.

Bus Schedule

Shetucket Village: 8:45 am, 9:45 am, 11:45 am

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

TJ's Parking Lot, Route 97 and Main Street: 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and Noon

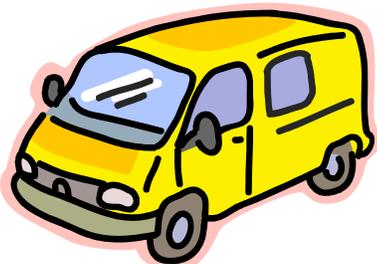
Arrival in Occum Corner of Hooper Street and Route 97, by Red McKeon Park: 9:10 a.m., 10:10 a.m., and 12:10 p.m.

Return

Stop as needed for return trip.

Express Return: 3:15 p.m. to Senior Center

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



*Service runs Monday through Thursday except holidays. 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, ext. 203.



TVCCA's Senior Nutrition Program is supported by Senior Resources-Area Agency on Aging with Title III funds made available under the Older Americans Act. This menu meets 1/3 RDA and conforms to U.S. Dietary Guidelines. Certified by Lindsay D'Amato, MPH, RD.

TVCCA SENIOR COMMUNITY CAFÉ MARCH 2012

MONDAY

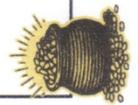
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

<p>All Meal Reservations should be made 72 hours in advance. Except 3/21 meal need by 3/14.</p> <p>5 Tuscan Beef, Pasta & Bean Stew Broccoli & Cauliflower Baby Carrots Pineapple Cup</p>	<p>1% milk and whole grain bread are served with each meal. Menu is subject to change with out notice.</p> <p>6 Crispy Baked Chicken Mashed Sweet Potatoes Green Beans & Diced Red Peppers Cupcake & Cranberry Juice Happy Birthday</p>	<p> Reservations for St. Patrick's Day Meal Must be made by 3/14. See Site Server for details</p> <p>7 Breaded Pork Loin Seasoned Rice Mixed Vegetables Applesauce Cup</p>	<p>1 Chicken Marsala Rice Pilaf Peas & Carrots Pears & Mandarin Oranges</p> <p>8 Beef Stroganoff Buttered Egg Noodles Pea & Carrots Fresh Orange</p>	<p>2 Eggplant Rolette Penne Pasta w/ Marinara Green Bean Medley Pineapple Cup</p> <p>9 Fish Sticks Macaroni & Cheese Zucchini & Tomatoes Pears & Mandarin Oranges</p>
<p>12 Chicken Oreganata Scalloped Potatoes Peas & Carrots Grape Juice Oatmeal Cookie</p>	<p>13 Baked Ziti w/Chicken Sausage Broccoli Italian Vegetable Medley Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>14 Beef & Cheese Burrito Spanish Rice Green Beans & Red Peppers Pears & Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>15 Roasted Pork Loin w/ Gravy Mashed Sweet Potatoes Garden Vegetable Medley Peach Cup</p>	<p>16 Mexican Baked Fish Southwestern Brown Rice Zucchini & Yellow Squash Applesauce Cup</p> <p> Ethnic Celebration</p>
<p>19 Maple Mustard Pork Rice Pilaf Broccoli, Cauliflower, Carrots Pineapple Cup</p>	<p>20 Italian Style Meatloaf Penne Pasta w/ Marinara Peas & Carrots Applesauce Cup</p>	<p>21 St. Patrick's Day Celebration Corned Beef & Cabbage Boiled Potatoes Baby Carrots Apple Juice Shamrock Cookies Suggested Donation- \$4.50</p> <p></p>	<p>22 Chicken Florentine Mashed Potatoes Capri Vegetable Medley Pears & Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>23 Stuffed Shells w/ Marinara Sauce Broccoli Baby Carrots Fresh Banana</p>
<p>26 Salisbury Steak w/ gravy Paprika Roasted Potatoes Zucchini & Tomatoes Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>27 Orange Soy Glazed Pork Loin Brown Rice Pilaf Broccoli & Cauliflower Pineapple Cup</p>	<p>28 Honey Mustard Baked Chicken Sweet Potatoes Snap Peas & Baby Carrots Peach Cup</p>	<p>29 Pub Burger w/ Bun Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Applesauce Cup</p>	<p>30 Parmesan & Herb Crusted Cod Rice Pilaf Capri Vegetable Medley Orange Juice Danish</p>



March 21st is "Mayors for Meals" Day. Mayors & Town Officials will be out at sites and delivering Meals on Wheels in support of our programs.

March



2012

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Breakfast 6:30am-10am Versailles Methodist Church Sisters of Charity Can & Bottle Drive, 9am-12pm
4	5 Inland Wetlands 7 pm, Town Hall Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 pm Town Hall	6 American Legion 7 pm, Rod & Gun	7 -BOE, 7 pm Sayles School -Garden Club 6:30 pm Town Hall -Knights of Columbus, 7 pm, Fire House -P&Z Comm. 7 pm Town Hall -Book Club, Library, 3:30pm	8	9	10 Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, SCC, 6pm Yarn Club, Library, 11:30am
11  Daylight Savings Time Begins	12 Conservation Comm. Mtg., 7 pm, Town Hall	13 Commission On Aging, 2:30 pm, Town Hall Library Bd. Mtg. 6:30 pm, Grist Mill	14 Board of Selectmen 5:00 pm, Town Hall	15 Board of Finance 7 pm, Town Hall	16 Fish Fry Baltic Fire House 5pm-8pm	17 St. Patrick's Day Craft, Library, 1pm St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Senior Center, 12pm Happy  St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21 Water & Sewer Auth., 4 pm, Town Hall Fiction Addiction Book Club, Library, 6pm	22 Regional Animal Control Mtg. 10:30 am Lebanon Town Hall	23	24 Yarn Club, Library, 11:30am
25	26	27 Agriculture Comm., 7 pm, Town Hall Housing Auth. 7 pm, Town Hall Historical Society 6:30 pm, Grist Mill	28	29 Recreation Comm. 7 pm, Town Hall A Tribute to Herb Savage, Library, 6-8pm	30	31



Did You Know...

March is Women's History Month
and American Red Cross Month?

March is also home to Mardi Gras,
the Ides of March, and Saint Patrick's Day!

Word of the Month

Brouhaha- *n.* a state of commotion
or excitement: hubbub, uproar