# OUR TOWN

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

## Information & News for June 2012

*The Ideal Skate Shop Presents:*
BATTLE AT BALTIC
Round 3

**Sunday, June 3rd** Registration Starts at 10am
Divisions for Intermediate, Advanced & Best Trick
$12 to enter the contest and $8 to enter best trick.
Best Hawaiian shirt prize. Raffle. Be there.

PLUS… The town Park and Rec is excited to announce their first ever SCOOT CONTEST along with the second annual Mat Stevenson BMX CONTEST to follow.
Music by DJ Ramon Caesar… check the FACEBOOK EVENT PAGE for details.

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE PARK FOR A BRAND NEW SECTION

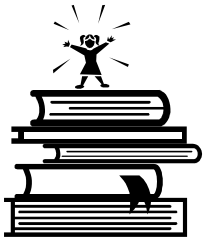
POW WOW at RIVER PARK
***SUNDAY, June 3rd, 2012***

*Run by the Norwich Mohegans*

There is an entrance fee of a small amount under $3

Outside Movie at Blanchette Fields
**SATURDAY, JUNE 2ND, 2012**

ACTIVITIES STARTING AT 7PM,
MOVIE STARTING AT DUSK. COME JOIN US!
*Provided by the Recreation Committee*



## *Dream Big… Read!!*

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT THE SPRAGUE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

***WHO:*** **AGES BIRTH TO 8TH GRADE**
***WHAT:*** **READ AND REPORT ON AT LEAST EIGHT GRADE-LEVEL BOOKS**
***WHEN:*** **BOOKS COUNT FROM THE LAST DAY OF SAYLES SCHOOL UNTIL THE READING DEADLINE OF AUGUST 4, 2012 AT 2:00 PM**

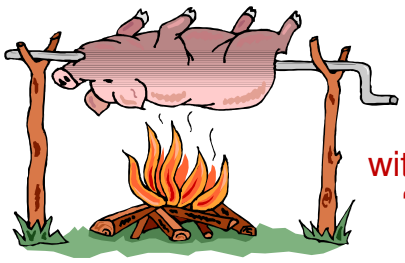
***REGISTRATION DATE:*** **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2012 FROM 9AM- 7PM WITH A KICK OFF MAGIC SHOW AT 11:00 AM WITH ZACH IVANS AND THE MAGIC OF LIBRARIES**

***WHY:*** **TO HAVE FUN, TO IMPROVE READING SKILLS, AND TO WIN PRIZES INCLUDING AN ICE CREAM PARTY ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8 AT 7:00 PM**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MRS. REYER AT 860-822-1643 OR THE SPRAGUE PUBLIC LIBRARY AT 860-822-3012**

## *Don't forget to Ride the Shetucket!!*

*The water release for the month of June is scheduled for 10am on Saturday, June 30th, 2012! The Town of Sprague will provide a free shuttle between River Park and Scotland Dam. For more information or any cancellation postings check the Town's website at www.ctsprague.org.*



## PIG ROAST!

Please join us for a Pig Roast with all the fixings for a fundraiser for the Sprague Senior Center in conjunction with the summer concert series at River Park in Baltic, featuring "Open Mic Night" with Ralph Watson, "Hey Mr. D.J." *Please bring lawn chairs.*

Saturday, July 28th, 2012 at 4:30pm *Rain or Shine*
Price: $15.00 per person
Contact Buddy Meadows at 860-822-3000 ext. 203 for advanced tickets. Deadline for ticket sales is July 23rd.

## RIVER PARK MUSIC NIGHTS

***Sponsored by the Mohegan Sun***

**Come join us for a relaxing night by the beautiful Shetucket River for family fun on Saturday nights from 6:00pm - 8:30pm. HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!**

***June 23rd: Elm Street Band***
***June 30th: Gypsy Time Surf & Friends***
***July 7th: Out of the Blue***
***July 14th: John Paolilo***
***July 21st: Silver Hammer***
***July 28th: "Open Mike Night" by Ralph Watson***
***August 4th: Silver Hammer***
***August 11th: Elm Street Band***
***August 18th: Gypsy Time Surf & Friends***
***August 25th: Silver Hammer***
***September 1st: Glenn Hansen Band***

### Our Town Volunteers

Are you looking for a way to get more involved in the community or have community service hours that you need to complete? The Sprague Our Town is assembled on the last Saturday of every month starting at 10am in the Court Room of the Town Hall and we are *always* looking for extra help! We have snacks and welcome anyone who wants to come lend a hand, even it is just for an hour!

If interested please call or e-mail Jane at 860-608-9478 or ourtown@ctsprague.org.

### *The Town is seeking persons to fill vacancies on Town Boards and Commissions:*

***Interested residents should complete the questionnaire that is available at the Town of Sprague website [www.ctsprague.org on the volunteer page] and send it by email to c.osten@ctsprague.org or regular mail to the Sprague First Selectman at Sprague Town Hall, One Main Street ,PO Box 677, Baltic , Connecticut 06330 . You may also obtain a questionnaire at the Sprague Town Hall First Selectman's Office. If you have any questions please call the First Selectman's Office at 860-822-3000 x 202.***

***This would cover both elected and appointed positions. Additional information regarding elected positions can be obtained from the respective chairs of both the Republican and Democratic Town Committees' Chairs. The RTC Chair is Mike Smith (asmith7258@aol.com). The DTC Chair is Catherine Osten (860-822-9367 or catherineosten@sbcglobal.net).***

# S.P.A.R.C.

SPRAGUE PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE

# SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

**Monday, JULY 9th- Thursday, AUGUST 2nd**
**from 9am- 2pm at St. Michaels Center**

COST: $80 PER CHILD *(TOWN RESIDENTS- FAMILY CAP $160)*
$100 PER CHILD *(NON-RESIDENTS- FAMILY CAP $200)*

Sports with Mr. Fitz and Mr. Witcraft; Games & Crafts with Ms. Calderon

AGES 5-14. BRING WATER BOTTLES & LUNCH. ALL CHILDREN MUST WEAR SNEAKERS. PUT SUNSCREEN ON YOUR CHILD BEFORE THEY COME AS WE WILL BE OUTDOORS.

All medical forms and registrations and payment must by turned in by June 28th, 2012 care of Treasurer Sprague Town Hall, 1 Main Street, Baltic, CT 06330. If your child needs an inhaler or takes medicine they must bring it with them and be able to take it on their own. Registration and medical forms are available online and at Town Hall. (*Grants available for those in need)
Contact Park Chair Craig Staggs or Secretary Erin Spitale.

- - - -

***From the Desk of the First Selectman…***

Thanks to all of you for supporting the May Town events, each was a success in its own right! June is just as busy we hope to see you at the POW-WOW, the outside movie and don't forget the river run.

We are excited to introduce the new Town website, comments are appreciated and encouraged. This is a more interactive site that allows for dissemination of material in a more timely fashion, as well as sign-up for updates on senior, children and governmental events by visiting ctsprague.org.

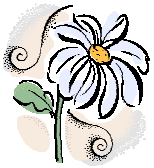
We are continuing with roadside mowing and sweeping. Please watch out for our road crew as they work around Town!

There will be more information presented throughout the summer on upcoming projects, budget details, etc. By the by LaCroix Bridge is finally completed- this will allow for another access to Pautipaug Hill Road and provide for additional fire protection once the dry hydrant is installed.

The community garden is in next to the Shetucket Village. Primarily it will be used by the residents in senior housing. This was sponsored by the Sprague Agriculture Commission, and if it is successful more gardening beds will be put in next year.

As always thanks for your support,

*Cathy Osten, First Selectman*



**TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**
**ADJOURNED TOWN MEETING REFERENDUM**

To be held TUESDAY, June 5th at the Baltic Firehouse, Rt. 138, Bushnell Hollow Road, Baltic, CT. Paper Ballots will be used. Polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The question on the ballot is as follows:

**"Shall the 2012-2013 budget, totaling $8,544,576 with $2,550,839 for total General Government and $5,993,737 for the Board of Education, be approved?"**

A vote of "YES" being a vote for approval, and a vote of "NO" being a vote for disapproval.

Citizens qualified to vote, in accordance with Sec. 7-6 are: Any person who is an elector of the Town of Sprague, and any citizen of the age of eighteen years or more, who is liable to the Town for taxes on an assessment of not less than $1,000 on the last completed grand list.

Copies of the perfected budget are available in the office of the Town Clerk during normal business hours and at www.ctsprague.org

Absentee Ballots are available.

Any questions, please call me at 860-822-3000, Ext. 220.

*-Claire Glaude, Town Clerk*

## ** Sprague Water & Sewer Authority Notice **

The Sprague Water & Sewer Authority will be flushing hydrants during the week of June 11th through the 15th. Water pressure may be reduced slightly and a little discoloration of water may occur during this procedure. The Authority regrets any problems this may cause but the hydrants must be flushed periodically to maintain quality water and to insure hydrants are operable in case of an emergency. If you have any questions, please call 860-822-3005.

Thank you!

*Todd Hastings, Superintendent*

Servicing the Town of Sprague for 147 Years, Neighbors Help Neighbors

Baltic Fire Engine Company #1

# Propane Safety

*-U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 1,170 home structure fires involving LP-gas in 2003-2007.*

*-The leading equipment involved in LP-gas home structure fires was a grill, hibachi, or barbecue.*

*-These fires resulted in 34 civilian deaths, 135 civilian injuries and $48 million in direct property damage.*

*-Spark, ember or flame from operating equipment was the leading heat source for LP-gas home structure fires.*

**Safety Tips**

**Handle any propane-powered equipment cautiously and always follow the manufacturer's instructions.**

**Cylinder tanks for equipment such as stoves and ovens must be located outside of the home.**

**Never store or use propane gas cylinders larger than one pound inside the home.**

**Never operate a propane-powered gas grill inside the home.**

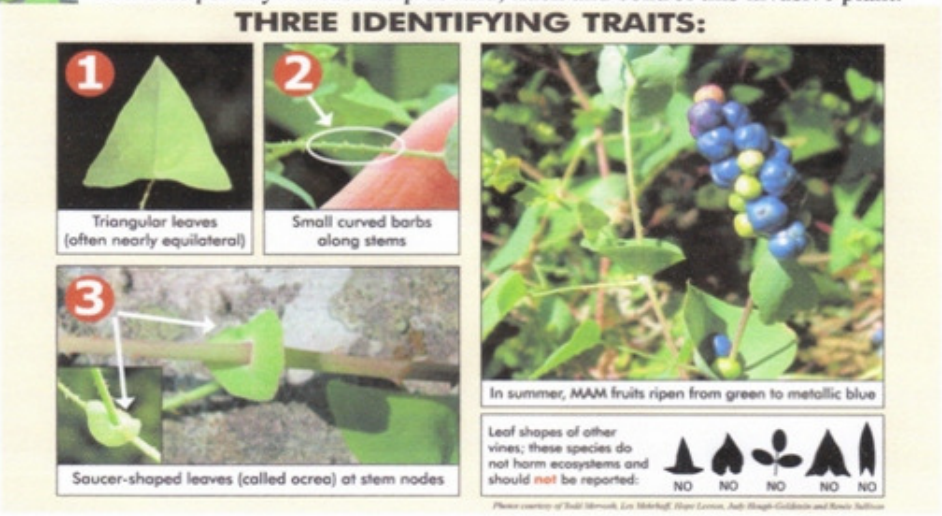
*Have propane gas equipment inspected periodically by a professional for leaks or malfunctioning parts.
**Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions when lighting a pilot.
***If you smell a strong odor of gas, leave the area immediately and call the fire dept. from outside the home.

***Protecting the Citizens of the Town of Sprague through education.***

---

## WANTED: Mile-a-minute Vine (MAM)

Mile-a-minute Vine is a highly invasive annual weed spreading north and east across Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island. It outcompetes and overgrows native species, causing ecological and economic harm. It climbs and scrambles over trees and posts, shading out other plants. A single vine can grow up to 6 inches per day. Please help us find, track and control this invasive plant.




**If you observe a plant with all 3 traits, note its location and report your findings:**
**Contact the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) at:**
**860-486-6448 (Donna Ellis, University of Connecticut)**
**Or visit www.hort.uconn.edu/mam (Click "Report MAM")**

**$50 OFF**

*Any Seal Coating Job*

- Licensed and Insured
- Free Estimates
- Locally Owned
- Owner Operators

**$100 OFF**

*Any Driveway Installation*

# HASTEDT BROS. LLC

## ASPHALT PAVING

**860.848.0545**

**Baltic CT**

ANDY'S CELL: 860.234.3541 JOE'S CELL: 860.234.3543

Email: estimates@hastedtbrothers.com Web: www.hastedtbrothers.com

DRIVEWAYS * PARKING LOTS * GRADING * CRUSHED STONE * OIL AND STONE DRIVEWAYS * ALL TYPES OF DRAINAGE WORK * APRONS * CURBING * LINE STRIPING * SEAL COATING * CRACK FILLING

## ***SCRRRA Household Hazardous Waste Information and Schedule 2012***

All Regional Hazardous Waste Collections are held on Saturdays from 9am-1pm. In 2012 there will be nine HHW Collections from April to November. Any household from any participating community can go to ANY of the 9 HHW collection events. For more information or to view the participating communities visit *www.SCRRRA.org*.

***Upcoming Collection Dates & Locations:***

-***June 2, 2012***- Colchester: Johnston Middle School, Norwich Ave (860-537-7288)
-***June 16, 2012***- Norwich: Norwich Public Works Garage, 50 Clinton Ave. (860-823-3798)
-***July 21, 2012***- Groton: Groton Transfer Station, Flanders Rd. (860-448-4083)

-***Household HHW:*** Oil Paint & Stains, Paint Thinner, Drain Cleaners, Varnish, Photographic Chemicals, Nail Polish Remover, Oven Cleaners, Toilet Bowl Cleaners, Rechargeable Batteries
-***Shed & Garage HHW:*** Kerosene, Old Gasoline, Radiator Chemicals, Auto Body Chemicals, Fuel Additives, Car Battery Acid, Camping Stove Fuel, Fluorescent Bulbs
-***Lawn & Garden HHW:*** Insecticides, Pool Chemicals, Herbicides, Rat Poison, Moth Balls, Fungicides & more
-***NOT ACCEPTED:*** *Latex Paint, Tires, Ammunition/Gun Powder, Auto or Marine Flares, Radioactive Materials*

## *Friends of the Shetucket River Valley*

*Dedicated to the protection of lands within Eastern Connecticut's Shetucket River Valley watershed.*

We are a non-profit volunteer organization of Connecticut residents, businesses and civic groups working with municipalities and organizations within the Shetuckert River watershed, including Windham, Franklin, Scotland, Canterbury, Sprague, Lisbon, and Norwich. **Please join us!**

The mission of Friends of the Shetucket River Valley (FoSRV) is "to identify and protect open space in the Shetucket River Valley for the future enjoyment of the public and the preservation of key habitat for flora and fauna." We assist municipal conservation and planning commissions, land conservations and trusts, and similar organizations within the Shetucket River watershed in their efforts to acquire title or easement to properties vital to the protection of the land and water along the Shetucket.

Because municipalities and land preservation organizations may not be able to act swiftly enough to acquire properties, FoSRV was created to assist them through fundraising, public awareness, and educational campaigns.

FoSRV is currently assisting efforts to acquire title to 230 acres of meadow, farmland, and forest habitats known as the Watson Farm. It abuts the Sprague Land Preserve, which is bordered by the Shetucket River. The Watson Farm will be a large and important piece of an expanding preserved area in Connecticut's rural Last Green Valley. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has committed 60 percent of the purchase price of the property and has granted a one year extension for the remainder of the funds, some $150,000. Working with Sprague's Conservation Commission and other groups, FoSRV is seeking this funding through contributions, FoSRV memberships, and other fundraising activities. FoSRV *urgently* needs your assistance with this effort. Please consider becoming a member and contributing toward our goal. *No donation is too small.*

**Contact FoSRV-** Website: www.shetucket.org Email: info@shetucket.org Phone: (860) 334-9416
Address: Friends of the Shetucket River Valley, 1 Main St., P.O. Box 677, Baltic, CT 06330

---

*FoSRV welcomes new members!* YES! I want to be a member of the Friends of the Shetucket River Valley.
Individual $25 Family $45 Mountain Laurel $100 Hemlock: $250 White Pine: $500
Blue Spruce $1,000 Mike DuBois (our resident beaver) $10,000

Name(s): _____
Address: _____ Date:_____
Town, State & Zip _____ Check:_____
Phone Number:_____ Email: _____ Amt:_____
Preferred method of contact: _____
Enclosed is my membership dues check for $_____.
I am enclosing $_____ as a contribution in addition to my membership dues.
I want to help with: ___Secretarial Work ___Research ___ Soliciting New Members ___Other (specify)

**VNA East**
**34 LEDGEBROOK DRIVE, MANSFIELD CENTER, CT 06250**
**PH: 860-456-7288 FAX: 860-456-4267**

**June Health Screenings**

Blood Pressure Screenings:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tues | June | 19 | Lebanon Senior Center | 12:30 – 1:30 pm |
| Wed | June | 20 | Scotland Town Hall | 12:30 – 1:00 pm |
| Tues | June | 26 | Franklin Senior Center | 10:30 – 11:30 am |
| Tues | June | 26 | Sprague Town Hall | 11:45 – 12:45 pm |

**Are You Interested in Joining a Sprague Business Network?**

Attention Sprague Business Professionals: Would you like to network with other Sprague businesses- get the word out about your business and what you offer? Become a part of Sprague Business Network!! Contact Erin Spitale at ERIN@spitaleinsurance.com to learn more!!

## Dog Licensing in the Town of Sprague

June is Dog Licensing month in the Town and all dogs are required, by law, to be licensed after they are six months of age. When licensing your dog for the first time you must provide proof of an up-to-date rabies vaccination as well as either the spay or neuter certificate.

*Licensing fees are as follows:*

Spayed or neutered dogs: $8.00 Non-spayed or non-neutered dogs: $19.00 Guide dogs: FREE

Residents are welcome to either stop by the Town Hall and visit the Town Clerk or mail a renewal. Avoid late fees of $1.00 per month, per dog, and register your dog(s). The duration of the 2012 license is from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

*Mailing a renewal:* If during the past year your dog has been either spayed or neutered or a rabies vaccination was given by a vet, mail copies of these services with a check. The papers will be returned to you along with a new tag. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and mail to: Town Clerk, PO Box 162, Baltic, CT 06330. *A license is the ticket home for a lost dog and licensing provides vaccination and sterilization benefits*

## Spay or Neuter Your Pet (and Here's Why)
**by Denise Dembinski**

When adopting a pet from the pound you not only save a life and gain a valuable family member, but other benefits can be realized as well. Those who adopt from the pound receive a free vaccination/sterilization voucher to use at a participating vet. In order to receive the benefits the pet must have the surgery within 60 days of the adoption date. If your new pet is recovering from illness or is less than 6 months old you can be granted an extension from the participating vet. There are many reasons to spay or neuter your pet and here are a few:

- Control of pet overpopulation and unwanted pets
- Reduce burden on pounds and rescue organizations
- Neutered males are less aggressive and are less likely to escape and get hit by a car or get into a fight while seeking a mate
- Spayed females won't roam and search for mates and fill your home with unwanted litters
- Females are less likely to develop ovarian and/or uterine cancer, especially if spayed before they first come into heat
- Males are less likely to develop testicular cancer or prostate disease.
- Spraying and marking are either reduced or eliminated

Some folks fear their pet will become fat and lazy and that's just not the case. They will become friendlier and probably seek more affection. You'll need to ensure they eat well, but not too much, and get sufficient exercise. By altering your canine friend you will ensure he/she will live a healthier life and live an average of 1-

to-3 years longer than unaltered dogs. The same goes for cats. They'll live happier and healthier lives and likely live another 3- rs. Let's get those dogs and cats spayed or neutered.

**Post 85**
**5/2/12 Minutes**

The meeting opened at 7:27 p.m. 7 members confirmed a quorum. Meeting minutes for 4/3/12 were read and accepted. A discussion on the word limit for organizations submitting articles to Our Town was held. The Post will adhere to the 200 word limit until the Board of Selectmen is presented with a change for the veterans.

Don Bastien stated the Memorial Day Parade was in final planning and updated the ticket sales for the quilt fundraiser. Raffle tickets will be available during the parade. The Rifle guard will be meeting at the Commander's. The membership will be called to solicit participants. The flag committee was formed. Volunteers will meet at 10 a.m. at the Lovett Cemetery on Monday May 21, 2012.

The Financial Officer and Senior-Vice Commander suggested that Boys and Girls State be put on hold until 2013-2014. The Financial Officer reported that $436.91 is in the checking account.

No hardship cases or sick members reported. Officer elections are in June. The October yard sale plans were postponed at this time. The next meeting is Tuesday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. at the Sprague Rod and Gun Club.

Respectfully,
*Tom Coletti, Adjutant*

## Sprague Agricultural Commission

Happy June, Sprague!

As those driving by River Park may have noticed, a very important step in our community garden has been completed. If you and/or friends and family members are interested in cultivating a plot, please let us know as soon as possible through spragueag@sbcglobal.net. Plots will be issued in order of received applications. There are three raised beds for this first stage; it is our hope that there will be interest enough to add additional plots as seasons pass. As always, feel free to contact us at any time with any concerns or questions, we look forward to serving in our best capacity possible. Have a wonderful summer!

*-Rachel E. Fireman, Chairman*

## Academy of the Holy Family News

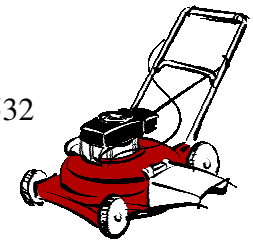
The Academy of the Holy Family would love to have girls from Sprague in our school. We are committed to a good education, both spiritual and academic. Understanding the high cost of living, we are able to offer Sprague residents a reduction in tuition. Please contact us at 860-822-9272 if you are interested.

As the Academy of the Holy Family softball team completes the last week of the season, the post season is about to begin. Last week they qualified for the State Class S Playoffs which began on Tuesday May 29th. Also on Monday May14th the Academy of the Holy Family was notified that they will play in the Constitution State Conference League Tournament. The Academy of the Holy Family tied with Abbott Tech for the eight seed; they had a one game playoff on Friday May 18th on a neutral field in Manchester under the lights at Cheney Tech High School. The winner of this game will advance to play next week in their quest of a league championship. Congratulations to the Academy of the Holy Family softball team!

The Seniors at AHF apply for a variety of scholarships. The Fireside Catholic Publishing Company offers a scholarship opportunity every year and this year we are particularly excited because one of our seniors was chosen as a finalist! Micala Smith placed 37 out of 328 students from around the country who were the sole entries from their Catholic schools. Participating High School Seniors were asked to complete an essay of 750 words explaining "How is your religious education influencing your life?" The Fireside Essay Scholarship, currently in its 22nd year was created to recognize students who have embraced religious education. If you'd like to read Micala's essay, please see our ahfbaltic.org website where it is posted.


**SAINTS LAWN CARE**

*Mowing, Yard Work, Brush Cutting, Spring and Fall Clean Ups*



*Mike St. Germain*
280 High Street, P.O. Box 532
Baltic, CT 06330

Phone: 860-213-1629
Email: michaelgermain@sbcglobal.net

# Sprague Public Library
# June 2012 Newsletter

Dream Big READ!

Come join us as we kick off Summer Reading 2012 on:
**Wednesday, June 20th**
starting at 11am with Zach Ivans and The Magic of Libraries Show! Sign up for summer reading after the show from 12- 2pm!
NEW: Both the Afternoon Delight and Fiction Addiction book clubs will participate in the Adult Summer Reading Program. Stop in and see what's on the list!

Thank You!
A sincere thank you to everyone who attended the Friends of Sprague Public Library's Spring Buffet Luncheon and supported our library! We hope you had a great time and look forward to seeing you at our next fundraiser. *Thanks!*

## Join us for World Wide Knit in Public Day!

At the Sprague Public Library
Saturday, June 16th from 10:00AM – 1:00PM

Bring your knitting or crocheting project with you and join our Yarn Club while we knit in public! Refreshments and great conversation will be served. Come join the fun and be the lucky person to win a door prize! Have you ever gone to a Yarn Swap? Well we haven't either! Bring some yarn to swap and join us for fun at the first ever!

**Ongoing Programs…**

**Yarn Club** will be meeting Saturday, June 9th and Saturday, June 23rd.

**The Afternoon Delight Book Club** will meet at 3:30pm on Wednesday, June 6th to discuss The Beach Street Knitting Society and Yarn Club by Gil McNeil (Summer Reading Pick).

**Fiction Addiction Book Club** will meet at 6pm on Wednesday, June 20th to discuss both The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald and The Summer We Read Gatsby by Danielle Ganek. Non-members are always welcome!

**Story Hour** is every Thursday at 10:30AM. All children are welcome!

**Sprague Public Library**, 76 Main St., Baltic, CT 06330
Phone: (860) 822-3012 Website: http://spraguepublic.library.googlepages.com/home
Staff: Christine Kolar- *Director,* Kristin Elliott, Jamie Sweet, Karen Sabrowski

## ~Sprague Community Center News~

Greetings from SCC! Springtime continues to be a busy time for us. Most people are thinking about spring-cleaning! If you need some of our amazing Streak-Less Cloths, please give us a call at 860-822-6595 or come to SCC on Fridays between 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. and we will make sure you get one. They are $3.00 and contain no chemicals and clean without streaks!

Our "Food Friday" food distribution every Friday is from 2-3 p.m. If anyone wants to register for this program, please call 860-822-6595. We are also beginning our planning for our Summer ARTS Week for children which will be held from July 30-August 3, 2012. The program will run daily from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at Sprague Community Center. We will be distributing ARTS Week flyers at Sayles School and St. Joseph's school shortly with all of the details.

As always, if anyone would like to use the SCC facilities for a private event, i.e. birthday parties, bridal showers, etc., please give us a call at 860-822-6595. Don't forget Yoga classes are held every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

Blessings to all!

*-Brenda J. Keefe, SCC Outreach Coordinator*

## The Salvation Army
## Upper New London County Service Unit

Some of us were talking the other day about how when we were young the community seemed to be very close; neighbors always worried about the safety of the children and would help us in many ways. 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. Your donations provide community action and ninety percent of them will be kept here.

Many towns have been destroyed in the last few so please 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. Happy Spring!

*-Dennison Allen, Town of Sprague Representative*

## Sprague Democratic Town Committee Update

***At our May meeting, the DTC met and discussed the upcoming month's events. We have finished with the state conventions and are preparing for a lively primary season; there is a plethora of good democratic candidates vying for positions that decide policy which governs our daily lives. Prepare your questions, listen to their answers, and remember the primary which will be in August! We also encourage you to vote at the upcoming budget referendum which will be held on June 5th, 2012. Polls will be open from 6am to 8pm- see you there!***

***The Sprague DTC encourages new residents to register to vote. Registered voters interested in serving on Town boards or joining the DTC should contact me or DTC secretary Claire Glaude at 860-822-9111. For additional information on the Sprague DTC visit our website at SpragueDemocrats.org.***

***-Catherine Osten, DTC Chair***

## Sprague Garden Club

We met in May to make tufa pots and mushrooms at a member's home. Thank you to Maureen P. for organizing and hosting the club. There is no scheduled June club meeting so instead we will visit area gardens. An Installation of Officers will be held at Harkness State Park in July followed by a picnic and tour of the gardens. Our first meeting of 2012-2013 is scheduled for September 5, 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

*-Jan Settje, Secretary*


NOW OFFERING MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS!

AUTO - CYCLE - WATERCRAFT - HOME

Spitale Insurance

Protecting your family, your assests and your peace of mind

860.822.0818

www.spitaleinsurance.com

## Teens Need to Become Educated Voters

Victoria Torres, Gales Ferry

What makes us capable of voting? It's not just turning 18; it's being mentally ready to vote. Turning 18 does not make everyone ready for a decision that changes our whole country.

Most kids our age aren't focused on politics. We are more focused on college decisions, and other teen-related activities. We need a change, we need young adults to vote not because they have the ability to, but because they care about who will run our country.

Many young people went out and voted for Barack Obama in his election four years ago. A lot had to do with the constant advertising on MTV and BET. Did those young people who voted in that election know what they were voting for or was it because that election would make history?

I don't see any candidates in this election on MTV or BET. We need to educate teens my age on the differences between the parties. They need to know who and what they are voting for. We don't want teens going out and marking the first name they see. In this election I wish to see the younger society go out and vote because they know who they are standing by.

*The above is a student editorial by the Academy of the Holy Family's Victoria Torres.*
*It was originally published in The New London Day on March 30th, 2012.*

## Recyclable Art Show Results

On Saturday, April 28th, 2012 the Sprague Conservation Commission sponsored their first ever Recyclable Art Show was held at Sprague's River Park. We had 11 adult entries, 16 school aged entries, plus entries from the Environmental Clubs of Pawcatuck Middle School, BDJ Middle School New London and Sayles. Young adults raised 33 cans toward Sprague's Food Pantry and $202.26 toward Sprague's Open Space.

**Winners:**

Young Adult: *Anne Marie Mulkey, Baltic*
Earth Day Theme: *Dick Waterman, Hanover*
Freestyle Recycles: *Nancy Mikkelson*
Honorary (Replaced by Cardboard only): *Tim & Megan Sanborn and Joe Boland*
Green Earth Award (People's Choice): *Gregory Topalis and Matthew Cloutier, Sayles School*

**Carol Dunn- Little River Studio & Gallery**

*Photographer, Printmaker, Artist, Framer.* Located at 457 Main Street in Hanover

Visit my website to see my artwork, get info about art classes given or current exhibits. Take a class in Zentangle, Solarplate Etching, or learn Photoshop Elements. Need a unique gift? I have gift certificates in any amount so your special someone can choose their own art or the class of their choice. Teaching at Meiklem Kiln Works, Mystic Arts Center & Silver Circle- as well as my own studio- see my web page!

Email: www.caroldunnart.com **Phone: 860-822-8412**


---


***Editor: Jane Kolar***

**Deadline for Our Town submissions** is the **15th of each month**. Submissions will be no more than 200 words and may be e-mailed to OurTown@ctsprague.org. Longer articles may be submitted and used based on room at the Editor's discretion. 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 have no restriction on word limit and must be *pre-purchased* at rates of: **Business Card $21; Double Business Card $40; Half Page $70; Full Page $100- - Purchase 11 months and receive the 12th month free.** 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.

# June 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2<br>Breakfast<br>6:30am-10am<br>Versailles<br>Methodist Church<br><br>Movie Night, 7pm,<br>Blanchette Fields |
| 3<br><br>Skate Shop Presents Battle At Baltic Round 3, 10am<br><br>Pow Wow, River Park | 4<br><br>Inland Wetlands<br>7 pm, Town Hall<br><br>Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 pm<br>Town Hall | 5<br><br>American Legion<br>7 pm, Rod & Gun | 6<br>BOE, 7 pm<br>Sayles School<br><br>Garden Club<br>6:30 pm Town Hall<br><br>Knights of Columbus<br>7 pm, Fire House<br><br>P&Z Comm.<br>7 pm Town Hall | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11<br><br>Conservation Comm. Mtg.,<br>7 pm, Town Hall | 12<br><br>Commission On Aging, 2:30 pm,<br>Town Hall<br><br>Library Bd. Mtg.<br>6:30 pm, Grist Mill | 13<br><br>Board of Selectmen<br>5:00 pm, Town Hall | 14<br><br> <br><br>Flag Day | 15 | 16<br><br>World Wide Knit in Public Day,<br>10am-1pm,<br>Library |
| 17<br><br> | 18 | 19 | 20<br><br>Water & Sewer Auth., 4 pm,<br>Town Hall<br><br>Summer Reading Sign Up, 9am-7pm,<br>Library | 21<br><br>Board of Finance<br>7 pm, Town Hall | 22 | 23<br><br>River Park Music Night, 6-8:30pm |
| 24 | 25 | 26<br>Agriculture Comm., 7 pm,<br>Town Hall<br><br>Housing Auth.<br>7 pm, Town Hall<br><br>Historical Society<br>6:30 pm, Grist Mill | 27 | 28<br>Regional Animal Control Mtg.<br>10:30 am<br>Lebanon Town Hall<br><br>Recreation Comm.<br>7 pm, Town Hall | 29 | 30<br>Sisters of Charity Can & Bottle Drive, 9am-12pm<br><br>Ride the Shetucket, 10am,<br>River Park<br><br>River Park Music Night, 6-8:30pm |

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
**PAID**
EDDM Retail

# Our Town

Your Sprague Newsletter
P.O. Box 677
Baltic, Connecticut 06330

**********ECRWSS ****

Local
Postal Customer

## Recipe of the Month: Broccoli Salad

2 T. vinegar
½ c. sugar
1 c. mayonnaise
½ red onion, diced
1 (8-oz) can water chestnuts, diced
1 c. raisins
3 heads broccoli (stems removed, florets divided)
1 c. sunflower seeds
1 lb. bacon, cooked & crumbled

Mix together vinegar, sugar and mayonnaise. Mix onion, water chestnuts, raisins, broccoli, sunflower seeds and bacon together in a large bowl. Add the sauce and mix together. Stir well and refrigerate before serving.

*As submitted by Sally Exley for the Sprague Public Library Cookbook.*

**Versailles United Methodist Church Breakfast**
*Join us for breakfast!*

June 2nd from 6:30-10am
$6 per person

*Pancakes ~ Eggs ~ Sausage*
*Home Fries ~ Coffee, Tea & Juice*
1st Saturday of every month!

**FREE MULCH AVAILABLE**
**AT THE TRANSFER STATION**

**YOUR BRUSH AND SCCRRA'S TUB GRINDER WORKING TOGETHER ALLOW US TO PROVIDE THIS PRODUCT**

**AVAILABLE DURING REGULAR HOURS.**
**HAPPY GARDENING!**

***Sisters of Charity***
***Can & Bottle Drive***

*SATURDAY, JUNE 30TH*

Please drop off items on the porch in the back driveway area of the Motherhouse between 9am and noon. For more information please call 860-822-8241.

Word of the Month:
F stival- *adj.* of, relating to, or appearing in summer.