

ROXBURY TODAY

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 2

ROXBURY PRIDE - CAPTURE IT

SPRING 2010

Town Updates From the Board of Selectmen

*Barbara Henry, First Selectman
Russ Dirienzo, Robert Lowe, Selectmen*
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"Just like we can't survive without roads and bridges, the country doesn't function well without an updated Census to distribute funds to areas that most need them and to support community decisions about their own future."

- Robert M. Groves, Director of the United States Census Bureau

CENSUS 2010 - "TAKE 10"

Do you have 10 minutes? It takes 10 minutes to complete and return your census form. Everyone in the United States must be counted – this includes every man, woman and child. It is vital every household completes and returns the form as soon as it arrives.

At the time of printing the newsletter, Roxbury's response rate was at 74%. Great Job BUT we can do better!

Census workers have to visit households that do not return forms to take the count in person. Not only does mailing back a form ensure an accurate count, it also lowers the cost of the 2010 Census by reducing the number of census workers who must go door-to-door to collect census data.

Our community's future relies on the 2010 Census. Do what's right, take 10 minutes to complete and mail back your census form.

Here's what you should know about the 2010 Census:

It's easy. One of the shortest census forms in history, the 2010 Census form asks 10 questions and takes about 10 minutes to complete.

It's important. Census data are used to reapportion seats in Congress and ensure proper district representation in state and local governments. Information from the census helps determine locations for child-care and senior centers, new roads, hospitals, schools and community centers.

It's safe. By law, the U.S. Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. All Census Bureau employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data. The penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both.

For more information about the 2010 Census and the "Take 10" initiative, visit 2010census.gov.

New Flag on the Town Green – To Honor Col. Gilbert U. Newby

Many thanks to resident Cynthia Newby who has purchased
continued on page 2

A "Budget in Brief" will be sent to every household before the Annual Budget and Town Meeting on May 18th at 7:30 p.m. in Town Hall.
In the meantime, please see the proposed budget at www.roxburyct.com.

MEETING NOTICES

April 20, 7:00 p.m. Town Budget Hearing Town Hall	May 3, 7:00 p.m. Region 12 Annual District Meeting Shepaug Middle/High School
May 4, 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Vote on Region 12 Budget and Bonding Referendum Town Hall	May 18, 7:30 p.m. Annual Town Meeting and Budget Vote Town Hall

Town Updates (continued)

a new American Flag (which was sorely needed after the winter and spring winds) that will be flown on the flagpole on the Town Green, beginning May 1st, in memory of her father, Col. Gilbert U. Newby. Col. Newby served 28 years in the U.S. Army before retiring as a full Colonel. He was also a paratrooper with the 18th Airborne Corp. Thank you again, Cynthia, your father would be very happy with your choice in memorializing him.

National Volunteer Week –

April 18-24, 2010

A huge THANK YOU to all of Roxbury's volunteers who make a difference everyday in our community.

Need Work Done? SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS, LOOK LOCALLY, FIRST

With the economy where it is today, it's important to look locally, first, when you need a job done. You'd be surprised at the number of terrific resources right in your home town. Many of Roxbury's "commercial" ventures exist tucked away in entrepreneur's homes and they count on local support, competing with not only the larger established "name brand" companies but with out-of-town competition as well.

They include landscapers, gardeners, electricians, attorneys, carpenters, painters, graphic artists, web designers, computer and technology consultants as well as counselors. You can find everything from excavating companies to public relations firms right here in your neighborhood and they are just a phone call away. These businesses are owned and operated by our friends and neighbors.

By supporting them we are helping to support our fellow residents, their families, our community and even our own tax base. So if you're going to spend the money to get a job done, why not support those in your own community? Check out the *Roxbury Business Directory* – a terrific resource provided by Litchfield Solutions, a home-based enterprise, itself.

FUTURE VOTE ON ALLOWING ALCOHOL SALES IN TOWN

The Town recently approved the sale of alcohol for non-profits for their fundraising events. At the April Board of Selectmen's meeting, the Board voted to take the question of whether or not to allow the sale of alcohol beyond that approval.

A couple of things brought this about - recurring interest to

expand this approval beyond non-profits, i.e., restaurants and the sale of wine. Currently, the Roxbury Market holds a package store beer permit. They are the only entity allowed to sell beer in Town, and only beer. The non-profits are allowed to apply for a state alcohol sales permit up to three times per year for their fundraising events. This vote, if approved, would expand both of those.

The sale of Roxbury Station is another possible reason. This historic spot in the community has garnered interest from potential buyers in the past for varied uses. Allowing alcohol sales may or may not help with the sale of this property. In an effort to be pro-active, the Board wanted to be sure to have this question go to referendum BEFORE any one potential purchaser might ask us to.

There is no knowledge by the BOS if there is a potential buyer presently interested if the sale of alcohol were to be approved. It is important that this question be put to rest one way or another before there is a specific person(s) who would benefit from it being passed.

Therefore, once the wording of the question has been decided, we will inform you of the date of the referendum.

FIELD OF FLAGS DEDICATION -

APRIL 25 - NOON

Thank you to the Roxbury Congregational Church for sponsoring the Field of Flags display which will be set up on the front lawn of the church April 23rd - May 19. A dedication ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, April 25th at Noon.

This display is to honor the American men and women who gave their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan.

DO YOU KNOW A RESIDENT WHO IS PRESENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY?

The Selectmen's Office would like to collect the names of Roxbury's men and women who are serving in the military today. Some of the names we have to date are: Matthew Roush, Stephen Rice, Cody Rossiter, Ewan DeWitt, David Murray, Josh Koerner, Michael Dzamko, Megan Henry, Ryan Hays, David Murray, William Elwell. If you know of someone we can add to our list, please call the Selectmen's Office at 860-354-9938. Thank you for your help.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Monday, May 31st
at 10:00 a.m.

continued on page 3

ROXBURY PRIDE - CAPTURE IT!

**Show Community Pride by
Putting Trash in its Place**

**Help with the Town-Wide Clean Up on
April 24th from 9-11 a.m.**

Electronics Recycling Event that Day 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

The Town Hall is a collection point for old cell phones. The old cell phones you donate will be used to buy calling cards for our troops. Check out the organization at www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com. Receipts available.

Thank you to the Conservation Commission and the Energy Task Force for the wonderful Freedom Lawn and 20% by 2010 Expo held in the Town Hall on April 10th. If you missed it, call a member and find out what happened.

20% by 2010 Clean Energy Campaign

You can help with the town-wide initiative to purchase 20% clean energy by 2010 - a campaign which encourages CT cities and towns and their residents to buy electricity from clean renewable sources. As a reward for participation, each town that qualifies receives a free solar electric system that will provide a portion of the town's electricity needs from the sun.

3 Steps to Qualify:

- 1) Join the campaign - the Town of Roxbury has already joined.
- 2) The Town must agree to assess energy usage in schools and other municipal buildings and agree to reduce that energy usage by 10% - the Energy Task Force has already begun this process and the Town will be using the ARRA Stimulus Energy Grant to upgrade various items in the Town Hall this spring.
- 3) Sign up town residents for clean energy - we need 10% of Roxbury households to sign up for clean energy. That's roughly 95 households - we already have 40.

YOU can sign up too by going to www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com and reading the information on how the program works. Sign up takes minutes to do. Once you sign up you will be automatically counted towards the 10% of households that we need. You will still receive just one bill from CL&P. Join us and help us reach our goal!

United Way 2-1-1

2-1-1 connects people everyday to information and resources

related to physical and mental health care and substance abuse. In 2009, 2-1-1 handled over 90,000 requests for information and services in these areas.

Governor Rell CT Celebrating Young Artists in Honor of 375th Anniversary

***Statewide Art Contest Open to Ages 9-11 Years Old;
Deadline for Submissions is May 15***

Governor M. Jodi Rell today announced the launch of a statewide young artist contest as part of the yearlong celebration of Connecticut's 375th Anniversary. Youngsters, ages 9-11, will be asked to submit artwork that best depicts a Connecticut landmark, location or other subjects that are classic Connecticut.

"It has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words. That means this art contest will speak volumes about what we love best about Connecticut," Governor Rell said. "This is a wonderful opportunity for all the budding Rembrandts and da Vincis in Connecticut to add their special flair to this special year."

Fifteen finalists will have their artwork displayed on the state's 375th Web site - www.ct375.com - and in the state Capitol throughout the month of June. The finalists will be invited to meet the governor and the five artists receiving the most votes will each receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond. Voting will be done online by the public through the www.ct375.com Web site. The top-vote getter will be announced on June 10. All artwork received will go into a permanent collection of items celebrating the 375th Anniversary.

Artwork can be drawn, colored or painted and must be submitted on an 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of paper. Deadline for submissions is May 15. No sculptures, videos or photographs will be considered. For rules and application forms, contact: artcontest@ct375.com

BE STORM READY

Early forecasts for the 2010 hurricane season predict above-average storm activity beginning in June

By taking 3 basic preparedness actions you can get "Red Cross Ready" for disasters and other emergencies 1) Get a kit, 2) Make a plan and 3) Be informed. Tell your family about the Safe and Well web site accessible at all times via www.redcross.org.

Know what to do if a hurricane WATCH is issued:

- Listen to weather updates from your battery-powered

continued on page 4

Town Updates (continued)

or hand-cranked radio.

- Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture, hanging plants, bicycles, toys and garden tools, anchor objects that cannot be brought inside.
- Close all windows and doors. Cover windows with storm shutters or pre-cut plywood.
- If time permits, and you live in an identified surge zone, elevate furniture or move it to a higher floor to protect it from flooding.
- Fill your vehicle's gas tank.
- Check your disaster supplies kit to make sure items have not expired.

Know What to do if a hurricane

WARNING is issued

- Listen to the advice of local officials, and leave if they tell you to do so.
- If in a manufactured home, check tie-downs and evacuate as told by local authorities
- Secure your home by unplugging appliances and turning off electricity and the main water valve
- If you are not advised to evacuate, stay inside, away from windows, skylights and glass doors
- Do NOT use open flames, such as candles and kerosene lamps, as a source of light
- If power is lost, turn off appliances to reduce damage from a power surge when electricity is restored

For more information regarding how individuals and families can prepare for disasters or to purchase emergency preparedness and first aid kits, visit www.ctredcross.org or contact American Red Cross at 1-877-243-5727.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR ROXBURY HOLIDAY TRADITION - LUMINARIA LEADER RETIRING

Every year, teams of Roxbury volunteers venture out on Christmas Eve to set out some 2,000 luminaria around the town center and historic district. People come from miles around to view the flickering lights that stretch seemingly for miles from our Monument Green. Resident Tovah Martin organized the event for many years and several years ago, Jeannine Green stepped in to keep the tradition alive.

Now it's time for Jeannine to "retire" and let another resident take over - preparations begin in October. If you are interested in leading this event, please contact Barbara Henry at 860-354-9938 or Jeannine Green at 860-350-9557. You will be richly rewarded by your neighbors and community.

HELP RETURN THE R. M. BERNHARDT MEAT MARKET TO THE "GOOD OL' DAYS"

In the recent Roxbury Historical Society Newsletter, Elinor reminisced about visiting and catching up on news while she waited for Rulley Bernhardt to prepare her meat order. She wrote about fond memories that many still have of the meat market. The Roxbury Historical Society wants to furnish the tiny building on South Street with furnishings from those good ol' days that Elinor wrote about - butcher block tables, cones of string, roll of butcher paper, sturdy white chairs, and white aprons. If you have equipment you would be willing to donate, please contact Marie Swanson at 860-354-9494.

Needed: Blood Donors

Brooke Wheeler, Roxbury Blood Drive Committee

Blood must be available **before** it is needed, and you never know when you, a family member or friend may be the person who needs a pint, or several pints, of life-saving blood. There is no substitute. If you are 17 or older and weigh 110 pounds or more, please consider giving blood. Every two seconds someone in the United States needs blood, and the growth rate in donations is not keeping pace with the 6% annual increase in the amount of blood being transfused. The need is real and the need is now.

In order to get a better turnout for both towns, we are coordinating our blood drives with Washington. The next two drives are in Roxbury:

Friday, May 21 **Roxbury Town Hall, 1:00-5:45**
Friday, July 16 **Roxbury Town Hall, 1:00-5:45**

Please mark your calendar now. We really need YOU.

Under the new Red Cross guidelines, all those with appointments and arriving on time will be taken before walk-ins.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or log on to www.givelife.org or www.redcrossblood.org.

In addition to feeling good about donating, all donors will immediately be rewarded with our regionally famous home-made refreshments!

*Give
Blood.*



The gift of life.

TOWN CALENDAR

APRIL

1	7:00	Energy Task Force
2		Good Friday Tall Hall Closed
5	7:30	Board of Ed. SV HS/MS
5	7:30	Board of Selectmen
7	7:00	Recreation Commission
8	7:30	Planning Commission
10		Freedom Lawn Expo 1:00 - 3:00
12	7:30	Zoning Commission
13	7:00	Board of Finance
14	7:00	Conservation Commission
15	7:30	Zoning Board of Appeals
20	7:00	Annual Budget Hearing
21	7:30	Historic District Commission
24	9:00 - 2:00	Town Wide Clean-up & E Recycling Day – Transfer Station
27	7:30	Inland Wetlands Commission

MAY

3	7:30	Board of Selectmen
3	7:30	Board of Ed SV HS/MS
4	6:00 am to 8:00 pm	School Referendum
6	7:00	Energy Task Force
8		Recreation Commission Tag Sale & Town wide Tag Sale
10	7:30	Zoning Commission
12	7:00	Conservation Commission
13	7:30	Planning Commission
18	7:30	Annual Town Meeting - Board of Finance immediately following
20	7:30	Zoning Board of Appeals
21		Blood Drive - Town Hall
22		Fishing Derby at Pond 7:00 to 11:00
25	7:30	Inland Wetlands Commission

JUNE

3	7:00	Energy Task Force
5		Freedom Lawn Expo II 1:00-3:00
7	7:30	Board of Selectmen
7	7:30	Board of Ed SV HS/MS
9	7:00	Conservation Commission
10	7:30	Planning Commission
14	7:30	Zoning Commission
15	7:00	Board of Finance
16	7:30	Historic District Commission
17	7:30	Zoning Board of Appeals
29	7:30	Inland Wetlands Commission

JULY

1	7:00	Energy Task Force
6	7:30	Board of Selectmen
8	7:30	Planning Commission
10		Picken & Fiddlin - Hurlburt Park
11		(Rain Date)
12	7:30	Zoning Commission
14	7:00	Conversation
15	7:30	Zoning Board of Appeals
16		Blood Drive - Town Hall
20	7:00	Board of Finance
21	7:30	Historic District Commission
27	7:30	Inland Wetlands Commission

Plastics Recycling Expands in Roxbury on May 1st

By Alexandra Gross

Off the coast of California exists a trash island the size of Texas. The Great Garbage Patch consists of more than 3.5 million tons of non-biodegradable waste in the form of wrappers, toys, clothing and an overwhelming amount of plastic that disturbs wildlife and natural ocean cycles.

Why worry about garbage swills that are thousands of miles away from Roxbury? Our town boasts acres of unspoiled land, beautiful scenery and a largely civic-minded community. While you may not be conscious of the Great Garbage Patch, you are preventing more trash from getting into the waste stream, land and waterways by the simple act of recycling.

As of October 2009, Roxbury's Energy Task Force launched an exciting new recycling venture called "Gimme 5," an initiative started by New England-based company Preserve. Since the inception of the program, Roxbury residents removed more than 30 pounds of #5 plastics (hummus, yogurt, medicine and take-out containers) from ending up in the landfill. These plastics were then "upcycled" into toothbrushes, razor handles, cutlery, plates, cups and, eventually, plastic wood for parks and community projects by Preserve.

Our #5 program has caused quite the ripple effect: Our municipal waste and recycling hauler, the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority (CRRRA) announced that as of May 1, 2010, the Town of Roxbury, in addition to 63 other towns, will be accept and recycle all seven plastic types. (To determine if your plastic containers are acceptable, look for a number - #1-7 - inside a recycle-symbol.) Residents can deposit these plastics at the main toter at the Transfer Station, along with glass, aluminum and milk-type cartons as the drop-off system exists currently.

The start of this expanded plastic-recycling program will not only phase-out the "Gimme 5" collection but it will also prevent even more plastics from entering the waste stream. Although this new program is certainly a step in the right direction, it's also important that we not forget the other two Rs: reduce and reuse. Currently, certain types of plastics lose their production value the more they are manufactured, use more energy during reprocessing and are remade into products that cannot be recycled a second time. The best thing we, as residents of a beautiful town and as members of the greater global community, can do is to be conscious of those plastics that do make it into our household and recycle them responsibly, or avoid packaging when possible.

In the coming weeks, an updated recycling guide will be available on the Town Web site and in print copy to reflect these changes. If you have questions, concerns or comments in the meantime, please contact me at alexandra.g.gross@gmail.com.

Minor Memorial Library

Valerie Annis, Director

As our warmer weather approaches please visit your local library to explore the many resources available and the exciting programs planned for our Roxbury friends and neighbors.

We are planning a "Commemorative Walkway" on the South Street lawn of the Library – Stay tuned for upcoming information about this fundraiser and our big kick-off event.

Book Discussions:

Book discussions are scheduled monthly on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Please call the library or check our website at www.biblio.org/roxbury for upcoming events.

The "**Lunch Bunch**" book discussion group meets at the Senior Center on the 3rd week of the month at 12:30 at the Senior Center. Please call the library at 860/350-2181 or the Senior Center at 860/210-0056 for additional information.

Art Exhibits:

The ceramic art of Ann Mallory and the Japanese calligraphy of Aya Itagaki will be on exhibit beginning with an opening reception on March 27, 2010 from 2 - 4 p.m. This exhibit will close on May 3, 2010

An exhibit of watercolors by Carrie Beckman will open on May 8th with a reception from 2 - 4 p.m. This exhibit will

be available for viewing during regular library hours through June 14th.

"Images of the Roxbury Land Trust Preserves" opens on June the 19th. This exhibit will be available for viewing through Monday, July 26th.

Concerts:

Local songstress, Judith Kelly will give a recital on Sunday, May 23rd at 3:00 p.m. Please call the library at 860-350-2181 or check the library's website at www.biblio.org/roxbury for additional information.

Check the website for additional, "to be announced" music programs.

McCann Concert:

Our 17th Annual McCann concert, scheduled for Sunday, July 18th at 3:00 p.m. will feature the music of singer, songwriter, Frannie Faith, keyboard vocalist Chris Coogan, and guitarist Jeff Southworth.

Children's Programs:

Spring and summer programs resume in April. Please call the library at 860-350-2181 or check the website at www.biblio.org/roxbury for additional information.

"Make a Splash at your Library" our summer reading program, begins in June.

Roxbury Scholarship Foundation

Scholarship applications are now available for 2010 for Roxbury residents. Applications are available at the following locations: The Shepaug High School Guidance Office, Roxbury Town Hall, Minor Memorial Library, Roxbury Market, and the First National Bank of Litchfield, Roxbury Office. Also, the application can be downloaded from the Town of Roxbury's website.

On Saturday, March 27th at 4PM at Town Hall, there will be an *information session* for both parents and students about the Scholarship Application process. If you have any questions, it would be an excellent opportunity to have them answered.

The Scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need, academic achievement in relation to the student's goals, and character. You must be a resident of the Town of Roxbury to apply. **The completed application and all other required materials must arrive to the Roxbury Scholarship**

Foundation on or before May 1st. No applicant will be considered after this deadline.

The Roxbury Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce a new scholarship which is being provided by the Roxbury Land Trust. This scholarship will be awarded to an applicant with particular interest in environmental studies. We are very grateful to the Land Trust for their generosity.

The Foundation Board wants to give special thanks to Jeanette Puglio for all of her hard work in organizing all of the applications and paperwork. It was greatly appreciated by the Board and all committee members.

If you have not yet made a donation to this year's Scholarship Fund, we urge you to do so. The Foundation has awarded nearly \$1,300,000 in scholarships to students from Roxbury since 1971.

Recreation Commission

Andy Engle, Chairman

There's a lot going on at the Roxbury Recreation Commission. The first order of business is to thank Sheila Gross for her good work running the Rec's summer program for the last 15 years. After being a kind and friendly face to nearly a generation of Roxbury kids, Sheila is stepping down. Thank you, Sheila.

A Town-Wide Tag Sale sponsored by the Rec will take place on May 8, rain date May 15. For a \$5 fee, we'll include your address and a brief description of your wares in our hand-out map. Or for \$15, you can rent a prime space in the field across from the Fire House. This is going to be huge! More info at roxburyct.com/recreation.html.

This year's Fishing Derby is at the River Road Pond, on May 22, from 7-11 in the morning. You bring the kids and the fishing poles and we'll supply the coffee, donuts, worms, bobbers and prizes. Free to Roxbury residents under 16.

Our Summer Day Camp will replace the K-5 summer program. This year, it will run from 9-1 at a reduced price of \$99 per kid per week. For a separate fee, we'll offer a variety of sports camps in the afternoons from 1-4. The sports camps are available to kids whether they attend the morning session or not. Camp starts on July 5, and early bird sign-ups end May 31. After then, there's a \$25 late fee.

Amazing Mets Bus Trip. Details aren't final, but sometime in the late summer we'll run a coach bus trip to Citi Field for a Mets game. Cling to that hope which springs eternal in the human breast, and believe this season is bound to be another '69 or '86! Watch for more info in the Rec Newsletter, and sign up as soon as you can.

The Annual Tractor Parade and Picnic. Mark October 3rd on your calendar for the Rec's premier event - Gussy up that old tractor, or leave it as is for the Rusty Tractor competition. Bring your appetite for our low-price, full-plate, picnic. And if you've never seen the cow chip raffle, well, all I can say is I feel sorry for you. To make this year's event even better, we're adding juried craft vendors. If you've got crafts to vend or skills to demonstrate, we want to hear from you.

Ongoing events. We're planning a wide variety of other events this year. Check the Rec newsletter, or our website at roxburyct.com/recreation.html for more detail and specific sign-up information. Our ongoing programs include Zumba aerobic dance, volleyball, basketball, karate, and new in June, yoga with Roxbury's Mary Schinke. If you have ideas for other events you'd like the Rec to sponsor, we want to hear about them, too.

Andy Engle
Chairman, Roxbury Recreation Commission
aeinct@aol.com



ROXBURY LAND TRUST

Since 1970

Julie Steers, Executive Director

Free, Fresh and Healthy

The Roxbury Land Trust invites you to hike our preserves with your family and friends. You are probably five minutes from one of our preserves. Preserves maps are available at our office in the Senior Center at 7 South Street (open weekday mornings), Town Hall, the Library and Maple Bank Farm, or visit: www.roxburylandtrust.org

Save The Date

40th Anniversary 1970-2010

We invite you to join in the following activities:

- May 22 **Annual Fishing Derby at River Road**
Saturday **Preserve.** Co-sponsored by the Laurel Bank
7AM - Fishing Club and the Roxbury Recreation
11 AM Commission.
- Memorial **Hike the Lilly and van Deusen Preserves.**
Day Enter Lilly on Good Hill Rd (RT 317) 2 miles
Week-end east of Roxbury green. Enter van Deusen on
Bacon Road just off RT 317 across from the
Lilly Preserve.

June Celebrations of RLT's 40th Anniversary

- June 6 **Fields, Farms and Friends – Reflections on**
Sunday **Our First Forty Year.** At Roxbury Town Hall
4 PM Multi-media program, entertainment and
refreshments.
- June 19 **Opening reception for *Images of the Roxbury***
2 PM - **Land Trust** at the Minor Memorial Library.
4 PM 30% of the proceeds of the sales will benefit
Saturday RLT. Art Exhibition continues through July 28.
- June 26 **Race for Open Space** at River Road Preserve.
Saturday Register \$5 per person; children under ten free.
8:30 AM Fee to benefit the Preserve. Open to all ages for
walking or running. Co-sponsor – The
Roxbury Road Race Series.
- Fourth of **Hike the Battle Swamp Brook Preserve.** From
July he Roxbury green, take RT 67 north and turn
Week-end right onto RT 199. Take first left onto Judd's
Bridge Rd for 1.2 miles. Entrance on right
between two stone pillars.
- Sept. 19 **Sunset Celebration at Gavel Family Farm**
Sunday 5 - **Preserve.** Bring your own picnic. Dessert to be
7 PM provided by RLT. Unusual instrumental music
by Chris Merwin and Paul Mueller, members of
Mecca Bodega. Rain location: Hurlburt Park,

News From Our Health District

Donna Culbert, Health Director

Happy Spring!!

Yes, it is that time of year - the ticks are out and active. We want you to be a Tick Fighter and . . . BLAST Tick-Borne Diseases this Year! Tick season is here and the Newtown Health District is promoting the BLAST Tick-Borne Diseases program. BLAST stands for the five most important things YOU and your family can do to stay safe from tick-borne diseases.

B stands for bathing soon after spending time outdoors. A recent study showed that people who bathed or showered within 2 hours of coming indoors did not contract Lyme disease as frequently as those who did not bathe or shower soon.

L reminds everyone to look their bodies over for ticks daily and remove them properly. Speedy removal helps avoid disease transmission. Remove ticks carefully by their mouth parts with a tweezer and save them in a plastic bag for identification. Contact your local health department for tick-testing policies and notify your physician if you have any concerns. "L" also reminds use to look for expanding rashes and report them to your physician in a timely manner. The painless erythema migrans (EM) rash sometimes seen with Lyme disease can often go unnoticed and will eventually disappear while the infection remains. Other early symptoms include fatigue, headache, fever, achy muscles and joints.

A encourages you to become educated about repellants and apply them appropriately. Studies have shown that applying 30-40% DEET-based repellant to skin is effective at repelling blacklegged (deer) ticks. Application of 0.5% permethrin-based insecticide to clothing is highly effective at repelling and even killing ticks. Clothing treated with permethrin can be washed several times and still retains its

repellant properties. The use of repellants, while proven effective is a personal decision. For more information on tick repellants, visit the National Pesticide Information Center's website. (npic.orst.edu)

S stands for spraying the yard to reduce tick abundance. Homeowners should consider the benefits of applying pesticide to the perimeter of their yards. Studies have shown that even one application of pesticide at the right time of year and in the best location can reduce blacklegged tick populations by 85 - 90%. Complete information on tick management is available at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station website. (www.ct.gov/case)

T reminds everyone to treat your pets. Local veterinarians offer a variety of methods for protecting animals from tick-borne diseases. Dogs and cats increase one's chances of exposure to Tick-Borne Disease. Pets can carry ticks in to the home on their fur. Pet owners should be cautious about sleeping with their pets.

For additional information on the BLAST Tick-Borne Disease prevention program, contact the Newtown Health District.

Your Health Department: Health District office hours in the Roxbury Town Hall are Tuesday and Thursday from 8 am-12 noon. The Roxbury office tel. number is 355-2985. Property files for Roxbury are in the Roxbury Town Hall.

The main Health District office is at 3 Primrose Street in Newtown, and is open 7:00 am-4:30 pm.

The Newtown office tel. number is (203) 270-4291 or e-mail newtowndhd@earthlink.net

Please feel free to call us any time if you have questions or concerns.

Auxiliary Tag Sale and Appraisal Day!

Save your old treasures and donate them to the
RVFD Auxiliary Tag Sale coming
May 8th from 9-1pm at the firehouse.

Or if you think you have a real treasure,
bring it to our "roadshow" and have it appraised!

To arrange a donation pick up,
call Marie at 354-9494

Relay For Life of Shepaug Valley

Cancer has affected everyone's life in some way. It touches every family, every age level, every income bracket, every profession, and every gender.

Your neighbors in Bridgewater, Roxbury, and Washington will be holding their Seventh Annual Relay For Life of Shepaug Valley event on Saturday, May 22nd and 23rd. What is Relay for Life? An event sponsored by the American Cancer Society. Teams of 10 to 12 people solicit sponsors, set up tents and spend the night in the middle of the River Walk Park path, and take turns walking around the path for 15 hours. All funds raised by Relay For Life directly benefit the American Cancer Society's research, education, advocacy, and patient support programs and services. In addition, it is an opportunity to come together as friends and neighbors in a united effort for a common cause and have fun in the process.

Are you a survivor or do you know a survivor? One of the main purposes of Relay is to honor our community survivors. At 4:00 p.m. on May 22nd we will be hosting a Survivor Reception. Survivors and their caregivers are cordially invited to be our guests. Please RSVP to Missy Cole at: cuznadeau@aol.com so we can count you in!

At 5:00 p.m. please join us in celebrating the opening ceremony and lap of Relay For Life where cancer survivors (a survivor is anyone at any stage or term of their diagnosis) walk together as one team force. You will probably see someone you know among the neighbors, parents and children. You will see the hope and the courage, the strength and the tears, and you will be happy that you became involved. Cheering for the survivors means so much to them.

At dusk, we will have a luminaria ceremony. Luminarias will line the path in honor of or in memory of someone affected by cancer. A silent lap will follow showing our respect. If you are interested in purchasing a luminaria in honor of or in memory of someone, they can be purchased for \$10.00 each by calling Cheryl Pinkos @ 860-355-5889. Please help light the way of hope!

If you are interested in finding out more, forming a team, or being on a committee, please contact Tricia Reilly at 860-354-3899 or ShepaugRelayOnline@gmail.com.

COME ENJOY
Oldest in the Northwest Hills! **THE 36TH ANNUAL ROXBURY PICKIN' n' FIDDLIN' CONTEST** *Good Music Good Food Good People!*
Sat. JULY 10TH 2010 at 3:30
 Raindate: SUN JULY 11TH at 12:00
 at **Hurlburt Park** **18 Apple La. Roxbury, CT 06783**
 Sponsored by the **ROXBURY VOL. FIRE DEPT.**
 Benefit: **RVFD**
 Prize money courtesy of **Union Savings Bank**
Admission - \$10
 Under 10 yrs - **FREE**
FREE PARKING
 Contestant Registration **START 3:00**
Categories:
 • Old Time Fiddle • Finger Pick Guitar • Youth + Sr. Awards
 • Old Time Banjo • Flat Pick Guitar • * No elec. instruments except bass
 • Mandolin • Bluegrass Banjo
 • Trick & Fancy Fiddle • Bands play between categories - winner playoff
 * Bring a lawn chair & blanket
 * Vendors
 * Playground
 * Crafts
 * Food
 PLEASE
 → **NO DOGS**
 Directions: I-84 exit 15 follow signs on Rte 67
INFO:
 www.pickinfiddlin.com
 www.roxburymt.com
 PH: 860-354-5921
 CHAIRMEN: **KEN MURPHY BILLY STEERS**




Roxbury Historic District Commission

Julie Whitney and James Hurley were the recipients of the 2009 Roxbury Preservation Award for their restoration/rehabilitation/renovation of the Horace Squire barns. Our barns are a reminder of our agricultural past but they are fast disappearing. Sadly, our town has lost many of these structures over the years; their preservation endangered by neglect, disuse and indifference.

The Horace Squire property was a working farm well into the 20th century and has been in agricultural use, in one form or another, until today. The HDC chose to honor the owners who have taken on the formidable task of restoring all the barns. The work has been done with skill and sensitivity to the integrity of the structures. Ms. Whitney and Mr. Hurley are commended for saving these barns for future generations.

The barn survey is completed. The historian, Rachel Carley, investigated and detailed over 300 agricultural structures in town, including springhouses, corncribs and hen houses. The HDC thanks all the residents who, to a person, were unfailingly cooperative and welcoming to Ms.

Carley. She has catalogued and photographed these structures, inside and out, and has written a lively and informative history of farming in Roxbury.

The HDC will publish this material plus interviews with local farmers peppered with vintage and contemporary photographs in a full color 200-page book. The HDC's plan is to have the book available for sale in November at the library's exhibition of paintings and photographs of Roxbury barns.

We are still looking for the Roxbury wallpaper. (Remember, it hung on the Post Office wall opposite the mailboxes?) It's a charming rendition of town center. The HDC would like to reproduce the paper in the barn book. If you have a roll, or a piece, or know where some can be found, please contact Georgette Miller at 355.0375.

And, to celebrate Preservation Month in May, the HDC is soliciting nominations for its 2010 preservation award. Just send us a note describing the project.

Roxbury Probate Court

As many of you are well aware last year's state legislation session made law the consolidation of the Probate System from the current 117 to 50 courts. This consolidation will be completed on January 5, 2011. At that time the probate court in Roxbury will be officially closed and will be consolidated into the Southbury Probate Court. This consolidation also included the towns of Washington, Oxford, Woodbury, Watertown and Bethlehem.

In November of this year our residents along with those other towns will be electing one Judge of Probate to head this newly created regional court. Please keep up to date as to those candidates who will be seeking this position. I feel it will be essential that this newly elected judge agree to commit a great deal of their work week to this court as it will be one of the largest consolidations in the state.

Up until the end of this year any new matters coming into this court will be handled locally until the mandated closing date and then will be transferred over. For those matters currently pending or ongoing, such as trusts,

conservatorship and guardian matters they will be transferred over as of January 5th, 2011 to the Southbury Probate Court, whose name will change on January 5, 2011 to Region #22 Probate District. It will continue to be located at the current location in Southbury. For currently opened children matters they will be also be transferred on January 5th, 2011 to the Waterbury Regional Children's Court in Waterbury, Ct.

If you have any of these matters pending I will be sending out official letters to give you additional information as to any required filings and the necessary information for future contacts.

It has been my honor and pleasure to have served 16 years as your Probate Judge. If you have any questions please feel free to stop by or call my office.

Sincerely
Hon. Jeannette Puglio
860-354-1184

There is much more to be found online, so please visit us at
www.roxburyct.com

Roxbury Ambulance Association

Bernie Meehan - Chief

203 948 2561 – BMeehan282@aol.com

The warm weather is upon us and with that we would like to ask that you keep safety in mind when venturing out for activities. Please wear your helmets when riding bicycles and motorcycles, make sure non swimmers, especially children wear flotation devices around the water, make sure your outdoor barbeque grills are serviced and in good order, use caution with fire pits, and of course wear your seatbelts! These tips and many others serve to make you safer, and as a result make the potential job of EMS responders easier, as safety devices and practices lessen the chance and severity of injuries.

Another important item that helps EMS responders help residents in need of medical assistance is the "File for Life". These are medical record forms that you fill out with all of your important medical and emergency contact information, and place the magnetized file on your refrigerator. This allows the EMS responders to have immediate access to your information, which is especially helpful if you're unable to communicate with them. If you need a "File of Life", please call me or email me at BMeehan282@aol.com.

The Roxbury Ambulance Association continues to be a very successful operation. We currently have 32 volunteer responders who are at least trained to the Emergency Medical Technician - Basic level, with another four members who are in the process of completing EMT-B training. We have been conducting monthly training seminars for our EMT's, as well as area EMT's in differing subject matters; Domestic Violence, Alzheimers, Obstetrics (to name a few).

Roxbury Ambulance operates two state certified Basic Level Ambulances, and one EMS First Responder vehicle that serve as the basis for our operations. Our volunteer responders possess twenty-four Automated External Defibrillators, as well as oxygen and first aid gear which enable us to bring life saving equipment to the patient's side within moments. Along with the mobile AED's (Defibs) there are fixed AEDs at the Town Hall, Booth Free School, the churches, Senior Center, and most recently we purchased one for the Minor Memorial Library. We also hold periodic CPR classes that are open to the public, giving us a number of residents in town who are ready to spring into action should someone require immediate treatment in the event of a heart attack.

With these preparations taken into consideration, the State of Connecticut has recently renewed Roxbury's designation as a "Heart Safe Community". April 2010 marked the three year anniversary and required State Health Department review of our commitment to the community to be ready for cardiac emergencies. Three years ago, Roxbury was the

twelfth and smallest community to that date to be designated "Heart Safe". We have been renewed for the next three year period and will continue to pursue excellence. You may have noticed the signs leading into town designating us as a "Heart Safe Community", my thanks to Barbara Henry and the Roxbury Public Works crew for placing and maintaining those signs.

Roxbury Ambulance Association and its members also do more than 'just' responding to emergencies in Roxbury. Under the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan, Roxbury Ambulance is assigned to "Task Force 83" as a Medical Support Unit. A "Task Force" is a group of emergency resources from various towns who come together and respond to a regional request for assistance. We are also part of the Litchfield County Rehab Group, which is a Regionwide plan to provide EMS and Rehabilitation services at the scene of large scale emergencies. We have a large cargo trailer full of equipment for this purpose and for disaster support efforts. Much of the equipment is provided by grants from various agencies.

All of these efforts and activities highlight the training, readiness, and dedication that our volunteer responders have. While I am clearly biased being the Chief, I can honestly tell you that the Roxbury Ambulance Association is looked upon as a leader in our field, and serves as a template of how a small town volunteer EMS group should operate.

Please feel free to contact me for further information, questions, or comments.

June Is The Month To Register Your Dogs

*Peter Hurlbut,
Town Clerk*

The necessary information is available on the Town Clerks page of the town website. You can register your dog by mail or in person.

The fees remain the same:
Spayed or Neutered Dog - \$8
An Unaltered Dog - \$19
Don't wait till the last day;
a \$1 per month penalty
is effective Thursday July 1, 2010.

Volunteers Needed!

Water Sampling To Monitor the Health of the Shepaug River on Saturday, May 15

The Roxbury Conservation Commission, along with the Housatonic Valley Association, is calling for volunteers to help monitor the continuing health of the Shepaug River. We are assembling several small groups of volunteers to gather water samples and assess the macro-invertebrate (aquatic insect) population at three or four locations on the river. Starting with a training session at 9:00 AM at Roxbury Town Hall, participants will travel to sampling locations in and just to the north of Roxbury. After the collection, everyone will return to Town Hall where the specimens will be processed. This is a unique chance to learn more about the life of our river.

Waders and nets will be supplied. Wear appropriate outdoor clothing. Lunch will be provided. The time commitment is from 9 AM to 3 PM. This is a terrific, hands-on **service opportunity** for high school students, scouts, or any other individuals or groups interested in the protection of our local rivers and watershed.

Volunteer participants will be directly involved in the critical role of monitoring the health of our area rivers. Please contact Hugh Rawson at 860-354-3174 for further details and enrollment.

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**Roxbury Resident
Roxbury, CT 06783**

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- *Census*
- *Town Meetings & Budget*
- *New Recycling Rules*
- *E-Recycling April 24*