

ROXBURY TODAY

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3

ROXBURY PRIDE - CAPTURE IT

FALL 2008

Town Updates From the Board of Selectmen

Barbara Henry, First Selectman

Russ Dirienzo, Robert Lowe, Selectmen

bhenry@roxburyct.com

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."

- Anne Bradstreet

ELECTION DAY

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4th. The polls will be open at Town Hall from 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. All other offices in Town Hall will be closed.

Some dates to remember:

October 30 - Deadline to register to vote in person

November 3 - Final day for Town Clerk's to issue absentee ballots

It's your responsibility and your duty to vote if you are eligible.

Two Questions on the November Ballot:

- 1 - Shall there be a Constitutional Convention to amend or revise the Constitution of the State?
- 2 - Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit any person who will have attained the age of eighteen years on or before the day of a regular election to vote in the primary for such regular election?

JUDDS BRIDGE

The Board of Selectmen awarded the construction contract for this bridge repair project to Schultz Corporation from Terryville, CT. They have been given a "Notice to Proceed" effective November 1st. Please note that the bridge will be out from anytime after November 1st through December 30th. We ask your patience and cooperation during this much needed bridge repair. Emergency Services are aware of this situation and mutual aid has been set up with the adjoining towns.

COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY

- Coming Soon !!!

Watch for a postcard notice from the Planning Commission that will be sent to every household regarding a "Community Opinion Survey" and how to access it online. This is for the Plan of Conservation and Development which will define the direction the Town will take over the next 10 years. Your opinion is valued and counts! Watch for the postcard.

ROXBURY RESPONDS

The Board of Selectmen voted to send the remaining \$872 in the Roxbury Responds fund, that was set up to help with Katrina relief, to the "Bush Clinton Coastal Recovery Fund." This fund has been set up by the former Presidents to help with hurricane recovery efforts in Galveston, Texas, after hurricane Ike wreaked havoc to the coastal area.

AUTUMN BRINGS CHANGES TO SENIOR CENTER

Effective September 8, 2008 there were 2 personnel changes at the Senior Center. In an effort to concentrate on the needs of the Elderly and Social Services in the community **Alice Griffin** relinquished her hat as Senior Center Director. She is keeping the two other hats she wore as Municipal Agent for Elderly Persons and Social Services. Her new office is upstairs in the Health Room which can be accessed through the back door for more privacy. She can be reached at 210-0201. Alice will continue to work with the Council on Aging.

Linda Wahlers, former assistant to Alice, is now the Senior Center Coordinator. She will be responsible for the actual building, its budget and all the Senior Center programs that take place there as well as the newsletter. She will work with the newly formed Senior Center Board of Directors as well as the Friends of the Roxbury Community Senior Center. Linda can be reached at 210-0056.

SENIOR CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In June the Town adopted an ordinance establishing a Senior Center Board of Directors. The five (5) member board has been appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Their duties include preparing an annual budget for presentation to the

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Board of Selectmen; oversight of the Center financial operations as well as its programs and policies of operation. They will direct the work of the Center Coordinator. The Directors are: Toni Ann Mellace-Murray, Pam Southworth, Stephen Foreman, David DeWitt and Thomas Boron. Thank you all for agreeing to serve.

HOME FUEL ASSISTANCE

Call Alice Griffin, Roxbury's Municipal Agent for Elderly Persons and Social Services can be reached at **210-0201 (note new #)** if you need help with heating fuel assistance this winter All inquiries and information is confidential.

THANK YOU:

Jack Mundy and his volunteers for working the Roxbury/Bridgewater Hazardous Waste Collection Day in August.

Recreation Commission for organizing the Town Clean-Up Day, all the summer events as well as the terrific Tractor Parade. Special thanks to Mark Murray, Bill Petruno, Chris Steers and their volunteers who really went all out for a special day in the community.

Volunteer Recognition Committee for the wonderful picnic at the Hurlburt Park pavilion as an expression of appreciation for all the Town's fantastic volunteers. Those especially honored this year were Kimberlee Baron, Kimberley Pokrywka, Joan Gardella and Jeannine Green as well as Bonnie Davies, Zachary Gross, Chris Josefson and David Van Moffaert. Jan Steers, Marilyn Kayner and Dr. David Lincicome were also feted for their help and volunteering at the Senior Center. Municipal Service Awards were also given to residents with over 25 cumulative year of volunteering on Boards, Commissions and Committees.

NEED A NOTARY?

First Selectman Barbara Henry, Administrative Assistant Judi Moker, Tax Collector Kimberly Pokrywka and Linda Stanely, First National Bank of Litchfield are all notaries

12th ANNUAL TOWN HALL GIVING TREE

On December 1st Roxbury will display its 12th Giving Tree in Town Hall for the Holiday Season. The tree ornaments will have a description of a gift to be purchased for a local child and for seniors and families in need we are requesting gift cards for food or gasoline.

Residents are invited to take an ornament, purchase the gift listed on the front, then return the wrapped gift with the ornament attached. Gifts are due back under the tree by Monday, December 22nd. This community has

always been extremely generous with this endeavor and we appreciate all those who participate during this giving season.

NOT TO BE MISSED!

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING/ HOLIDAY SING/FESTIVAL OF TREES

The Town's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Holiday Sing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 6th. Watch the Recreation Newsletter for more information. Following the tree lighting, the Friends of the Senior Center will hold the 3rd Festival of Trees at the Senior Center. Not to be missed!

ROADS

The Public Works department is gearing up, getting trucks ready, ordering sand and a de-icing product, Magic Salt, we will use on all paved roads again this winter. Magic Salt is a non-corrosive and environmentally-friendly product. It prohibits the snow from turning to hard packed ice on the roads. If necessary, in severe storms we may use some sand on very steep roads like Wellers Bridge Road. We will still use sand on the dirt roads but as during this past spring season, we will have minimal sand to sweep up off the paved roads.

WINTER SAND

Winter sand is available for residents to fill 5-gallon buckets for your own personal use. It will be stored in a new red sand shed built by Eagle Scout Chris Josefson. It will be behind the Town Hall and will be well marked. There is a new gate closing off the PW Department so please do not attempt to go in the PW area for sand. **No filling of pick-up trucks is permitted nor is the sand available for commercial use.**

Also, please keep your vehicles parked off the roadway during winter storms. Your cooperation is vital to help keep winter costs down and enable the town crew to do their job as effectively as possible. Thank you.

W.A.R.N. SYSTEM - PLEASE SEND INFO IN

If you have not yet submitted your phone information to the First Selectman's office, please do so. You can call the office (860-354-9938) to request that you be put on the list or sign up online at www.roxburycct.com, the Town's website. The number of residents registered to receive this emergency telephone notification stands at less than 750. That's

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less than half the town. If an emergency were to occur and a notification were to go out, most of you would not receive it. So please, let us help you, and get us the information.

CL&P POWER OUTAGE HOTLINE

Report any disruption in service, whether storm-related or not, by calling 1-800-286-2000.

RESIDENT HELP FUND –

SPECIAL THANKS to **Shepaug Valley Bible Church** for donating the proceeds from their July tag sale to the Town's resident relief fund in the amount of \$1,086. Also to the **Shepaug Council of the Knights of Columbus** from St. Patrick and Our Lady of Perpetual Help parishes for donating \$500 to the same fund to help with fuel assistance this winter. To both organizations, your generosity and thoughtfulness are most appreciated. Thank you for giving locally. If anyone would like to make a donation to help with fuel assistance, a check can be made out to the Town of Roxbury and be so designated.

Not to be confused, donations are also accepted to "Roxbury Relief" a fund set up by the local churches. It can be mailed to Judy Martinez, Treasurer.

SMALL STEPS-BIG IMPACT GREEN TIPS!

Unplug Things that Glow

Anything that has an LED (light emitting diode) that glows even after you turn it off continues to draw power (that you pay for). Your TV, cell phone charger, and printer are likely culprits. Unplug the offenders from wall sockets and plug them into power strips instead. When you leave a room, flip the strip switch to cut the flow of electricity.

Good for You: Unplug appliances and electronics that glow and you could save \$200 a year.
Go Green - Save Green!

CONGRATULATIONS to Roxbury artist Sterett-Gittings Kelsey for being commissioned to sculpt a 12-inch angel statue for the Navy's USS Sterett, a guided-missile destroyer. A letter she wrote to U.S. troops after the World Trade Center attack is installed with the statue on the ship. The angel is a replica of the angel statue she created and sent to a memorial garden that had been established in Lockerbie after the 1988 plane crash.

**** TRANSFER STATION UPDATES ****

November - New 2009 Stickers Available for Purchase

During the month of November the new stickers for access to the Transfer Station will be available for purchase in the Tax Collector's Office and at the Transfer Station. The cost is \$25 for your first vehicle, \$10 for each additional vehicle and must be on your windshield effective January 1, 2009. If you do not have a NEW sticker displayed for 2009, you will not be able to access the Transfer Station, so get them early. A Transfer Station sticker will also allow you access to the parks/pond. We also hope to have an updated recycling brochure available by year end.

*****NOTE: Your taxes must be up-to-date in order to get a sticker(s)*****

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IF YOU ARE A VOLUNTEER ON A TOWN GOVERNMENT BOARD OR COMMISSION, OR ARE A MEMBER OF OUR EMERGENCY SERVICES (FD OR AMBULANCE) the Board of Selectmen would like to show a token of our appreciation for the time you contribute by giving you the 1st sticker free. You must still show your registration information to receive it and your taxes must be up to date. The BOS felt that this was one thing we could do that most of our volunteers could take advantage of. You are still responsible for purchasing additional stickers, the 2nd at \$25 and any additional at \$10/ea. Thank you again.
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Park Stickers

If you would like to access the parks and do not need to purchase a Transfer Station sticker, the same Park Sticker will still be available at no charge in the Selectmen's Office upon proof of car registration and residency. It must also be applied to your windshield and does not expire. So if you have a current Park Sticker you do not need to get another one.

RECYCLING WORKSHOP

The Town Hall, Senior Center, Public Works and Library employees were invited to attend a USDA-funded project: Recycling awareness at the workplace workshop, "Recycling Makes Sen\$e." The Town Hall has stepped up its recycling efforts and has provided employees with marked bins to accomplish this. We now recycle all paper, including computer paper, junk mail, newspapers and catalogs.

Our cleaning person and trash hauler are on notice to comply with honoring our efforts and not commingling "wet" garbage with our recycled items. Next is the Senior Center and Library. Thank you Town Hall employees for complying with this request.

TAX COLLECTOR

*Kimberly Pokrywka, Tax Collector
Cindy Fink, Tax Clerk*

Collection Enforcement of Motor Vehicle Taxes

Per state statute, delinquent motor vehicle taxes are reported to the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The DMV will withhold registration on all vehicles in your name until ALL taxes, interest and fees are paid in full. For an immediate clearance, payment must be made with cash, money order or bank check.

In addition to the above, motor vehicle accounts will be turned over to a collection agency for collection.

NEW

Beginning October 2008, we will post all motor vehicle delinquencies on our web-site as an alternative to sending a statement each month. To view your bill, log on to www.roxburyct.com/taxcollector.html

NEW HOURS:

Tuesday and Thursday 9 - 12 and 1 - 4

Wednesday 9 - 4

Friday 9 - 12

Roxbury Scholarship Foundation

Julie Whitney, Vice President

The 2009 Annual Appeal for the Roxbury Scholarship Foundation will begin in October. With the escalating cost of college education, the Foundation serves a very important need in our community. The Foundation has awarded approximately \$1,300,000 over the past thirty-seven years.

The Scholarship Foundation Board would like to thank our out-going president, Carole Mackay and our Treasurer, Adele Miller for their dedication and their wonderful spirit.

The following residents of Roxbury comprise the current Board: Sarah Lauriat, President; Julie Whitney, Vice-President; Brooke Wheeler, Treasurer; Judith Friedman, Secretary; Tom Cole; Carolyn Goodrich; Margot Judge, Stan Mongin, and Hugh Rawson.

Assessor's Office

Patty Braislin, Assessor

All persons liable to pay PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES in the Town of Roxbury are required to return to the Assessor's office, on or before November 1, 2008, a list of taxable personal property belonging to them on the first day of October 2008. Assets include, but are not limited to: manufacturing and industrial machinery and equipment; office fixtures, furniture, equipment and supplies; farm machinery and tools; horses and ponies; mechanic's tools; electronic data processing equipment; cables and conduits; unregistered motor vehicles and leased equipment.

Any business or individual required to return a list may obtain the proper form from the Roxbury Assessor's office, if they do not receive a form in the mail. Failure to receive a form by mail does not excuse a property owner from filing.

Exemption for Blindness: To receive a \$3000 assessment exemption, certification of blindness must be obtained from the State of Connecticut, Department of Human Resources, Board of Education and Services for the Blind. This certificate should be filed with the Assessor's office by October 1, 2008.

Exemption for Totally Disabled Taxpayers: To receive a \$1000 assessment exemption, proof of permanent total disability from the Social Security Administration should be presented to the Assessor, along with a signed application Form D-1 (available in the Assessor's office) by October 1, 2008.

Veterans: To be eligible for this exemption, a Veteran should file an Honorable Discharge (form DD-214) with the Town Clerk before October 1, 2008. Disabled Veterans should submit their annual statement from the Veterans Administration showing percent of disability before October 1, 2008.

Farm, Forest, Open Space: Owners wishing to classify land as Farm, Forest or Open Space should contact the Assessor's office for details and applications. The filing period is September 1, 2008 through October 31, 2008 for Farm and Open Space. Forest application filing deadline is October 1, 2008.

If further information is needed regarding any exemptions, please contact the Assessor's office at 354-2634.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL
A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON!**

Health District

Donna Culbert, Health Director

The Wisdom of Preparing for Something that is Likely to Occur (“the Known”)

Numerous studies and reports have stated that Americans are “woefully unprepared” to respond to an emergency, be it natural or man-made. There are many layers of issues and human nature that contribute to that “unpreparedness”.

- There’s the false sense of security that “it’ll never happen to me/us”
- There’s the knee jerk reaction that “we’ll be able to respond and obtain the supplies we need in time”
- And probably the thickest layer is folks remaining really busy and saying “I’ll/we’ll get around to making those preparations next week/next month” and believing it but not doing it.

So, I’d like to add a sense of urgency to the best of intentions.

Let’s start with hurricanes and winter storms. Hurricane season runs from June through November. And we know how unpredictable winter storms can be. Although we are fortunate that we don’t experience many tornadoes or earthquakes in our area, we are a prime location for hurricanes, tropical storm-type activity, severe thunderstorms, and of course winter storms. These events produce heavy winds, heavy rain, hail, and/or snow, flooding, downed trees and electrical wires that are hazardous, power outages and impassible roads. We have suffered the wrath of these storms in the distant and recent past. As such, it is in everyone’s best interest to prepare for an event that is likely to occur.

Set Priorities. Our emergency responders do it – Fire fighters, Police, (EMS) Ambulance personnel. Their business is savings lives, property, minimizing loss and making things as safe as possible before, during and after an emergency. It is our business, as good citizens, to do the maximum amount possible to provide for our own needs and minimize the burden to emergency responders.

Take action – take steps. The steps can be small ones that add up to bigger changes. The American Red Cross recommends Get a Kit, Make A Plan, Be Informed.

- **Get a Kit** – Build a disaster supplies kit that includes enough supplies for each family member for three days. Remember to check your kit every six months.
- **Make a Plan** – Make a family communications plan that includes an evacuation plan and coordinates with your school, work and community plans. Practice this plan with your entire family.
- **Be Informed** – Know what may happen and how you can help. Learn what disasters or emergencies may occur where you live, work and play and how

they can affect you, your family and community. Identify how authorities will notify you and how you will get important information. Learn what you can do to prepare by contacting the local chapter of American Red Cross to ask about first aid, CPR and disaster training. Share what you have learned.

During an actual emergency (storm, hurricane, flood, blizzard, power outage), it is important to first assess the degree of the emergency. I, and others, will emphasize how important it is to be self-sufficient and not add to the burden of emergency responders, when appropriate. However, do not ever hesitate to call 911 if people’s lives or personal property are in immediate danger and require a response from a fire fighter, police or EMT/ambulance.

After immediate life and safety issues are addressed, there are several things to consider: **If it is safe, stay at home.** A safe building is better than venturing out in variable weather conditions, on questionable roads and around downed electrical wires. Your home should have supplies to sustain you and your family for an extended period of time if necessary. Checklists to help you assemble your supplies are available on www.redcross.org and www.pandemicflu.gov and www.ready.gov

Roxbury’s Notification System. The Town of Roxbury has an emergency warning system, called WARN, which will call your telephone and give you a pre-recorded message about the emergency and any direction or information that is available. It is important to register your most current information on the WARN system, which is accessible via the town website www.roxburymt.com, or if you do not have access to the internet, you can pick up a form at the Town Hall or the Senior Center. It is also important to have at least one phone that plugs directly into the telephone jack without the need for electricity. Often, the telephone service still works when the power goes out. Having a telephone that does not require electricity will allow you to receive the WARN messages. At the height of an emergency, if you are safe, please be patient while waiting for information. First responders and local government will be addressing highest priorities first, and will be equally interested in helping with recovery as soon as possible.

Roxbury’s Shelters. The Town has designated specific buildings to serve as shelters during an emergency. The first one to open (unless the emergency makes it inaccessible) is the Senior Center on South Street. The decision to open a shelter is made by the Emergency Management Director

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Health Department,

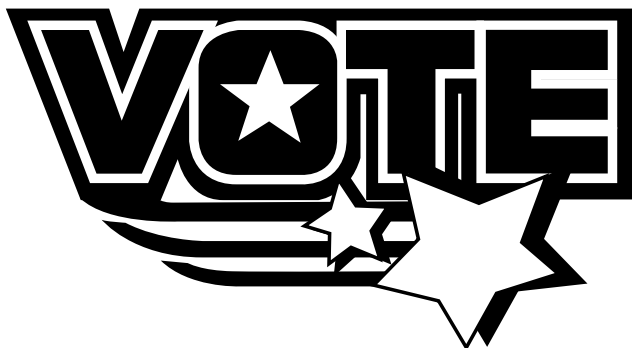
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and the First Selectman, and is made when it is deemed that the community is experiencing conditions where they may need shelter; the Senior Center will be made available for residents to stay overnight, or to obtain water or other support. It can be a short term stay or overnight depending on the emergency. An alternate shelter site is the Town Hall on North Street. If these are to be used, you will be notified.

Get Started. I addressed hurricanes and winter storms because we can all relate to a hurricane or a winter storm. There's a fairly good chance you've experienced one. It is very likely that you will experience one again. However, there are many other types of emergencies that are likely as well, like blizzards, floods, Pandemic Flu, and terrorism. Much of the preparation is the same. It is time to get started; and if you have started, keep going, review and update your plans and supplies.

There is wisdom in preparing for something that is likely to occur – you are empowered, you have more control over your well-being, over your “outcome”. You know your self and your family the best and can help them the most. Prepare for the “known”.

NOTE: Coming Soon to your mailbox – the First Selectman's office and Newtown Health District will be sending out the Individual and Family Handbook, *Treating Seasonal or Pandemic Flu at Home*. This will provide additional helpful information specific to Flu. Contact information will accompany this book to allow you to direct any questions you may have.



**TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 4,
2008**

Roxbury Historic District Commission

The Roxbury Historic District Commission has given its 2008 Preservation Award to 96 South Street for its sensitive renovation. The project has taken several years, since it was owner renovated. The diligence and attention to detail that went into this renovation exemplifies the dedication of a true lover of old houses. The HDC thanks everyone who submitted a nomination.

The HDC's barn book continues. Many of the old time farmers (and some new ones too!) have been interviewed. We've collected many old photographs, but we are still on the look out for additional old photographs of farms in Roxbury. If you have any in a desk or trunk, please lend them to us. We're scanning them onto a disc and we will be very careful with these treasures.

Also, does anyone know of the whereabouts of the Roxbury wallpaper that used to hang in our Post Office? We'd love to use it as endpapers for our book.

If you have photos, or information on the wallpaper, contact Georgette Miller, P.O. Box 152, Roxbury, CT 06783.



ROXBURY LAND TRUST
Since 1970

Julie Steers, Executive Director

New President and Treasurer: In July Steven Schinke was elected president, succeeding Barbara Ungeheuer, and Matthew Root was elected treasurer, succeeding Peter Rosow.

New Picnic Tables have been installed at the Battle Swamp Preserve on Judd's Bridge Road and the Gavel Family Farm Preserve on Upper County Road and are easily accessible from the parking areas.

Fall Events

October 12, Sunday from 2 PM - 4PM: Open House at the Widmark Schoolhouse, Tophet Road

October 18, Saturday at 10 AM: Bulb planting at the Gavel Family Farm Preserve, co-sponsored by the Roxbury-Bridgewater Garden Club

November 2, Sunday at 3 PM: “Roxbury's Ethan Allen”, *The Town Wants to Know Lecture* by Dave Beglan, RLT Historian, at the Minor Memorial Library, program co-sponsor.

Winter's Coming: Are Your Prepared?

Jeannine Green, Council on Aging

With winter fast approaching, the Council on Aging and First Selectman Barbara Henry want to remind you that help is available to get you through the severe weather that is predicted. But, help is a two-way street. For services to be of value, we need you to provide information. This article is a reminder about established, well-known programs and a few lesser-known ones.

In winter, you may need meals delivered to your doorstep or rides to doctors' appointments or errands. If power outages make your home cold and uncomfortable, the Senior Center's generator keeps all systems running all the time, creating a warm place to stay. Call the Municipal Agent, Alice Griffin at 210-0201 or 355-9020 for more information about these services.

Do you know about these programs?

W.A.R.N. – It was introduced in 2005, but less than 15% of Roxbury residents have participated in the valuable "instant-messaging" service. W.A.R.N. allows the Board of Selectmen, emergency services and health department to send a voice mail to hundreds of homes simultaneously or only to those affected. For example, if a road is closed or a bridge is out, only those living on the road would be notified. In the case of a flu epidemic, the health department may want to notify everyone in town.



We urge you to include your name, telephone number, (including unlisted numbers), cell phone, pager, email addresses, etc. in the Wide Area Rapid Notification (W.A.R.N.) database.

It's easy. You can provide information with a paper and pencil or with a computer. Call or stop by the First Selectman's office for a form or go to the Roxbury website at www.roxburyct.com. Don't have a computer? Call or stop by the Senior Center and give your information to Alice Griffin (210-0201) or Linda Wahlers (210-0056).

If you have not signed up, we urge you to do so. If you have registered, we thank you and ask that you please update your information. Out-of-date information is of no value.

Fuel assistance – The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (C.E.A.P.) benefits homeowners and renters. It assists only renters who pay separately for heat. Applications are being accepted now and fuel delivery will begin on November 3, 2008. Contact Alice Griffin,

Municipal Agent (210-0201) at the Senior Center to see if you are eligible; she has applications. Fuel costs have skyrocketed and state funds are limited, so don't wait. Apply now. *Remember, you must apply every year.*

Wood – Power outages and the high cost of fuel mean people may need to burn more wood than usual this winter. Elderly or disabled who use wood stoves for heat should let the First Selectman (354-9938) or Municipal Agent (210-0201) know now that you have a wood stove.

Also, if you have wood to donate to those in need contact the First Selectman or Municipal Agent.

ICE Your Cell phone – ICE means "in case of emergency." Enter phone numbers of family or friends to be notified in case of emergency under the name ICE on your cell phone. Emergency personnel can then quickly contact your loved ones. Don't have a cell phone? Be sure family, friends and neighbors have your telephone number and enter it in W.A.R.N. Better yet, have someone check on you daily to be sure you're O. K.

File of Life – It's small, it's red and it's chock full of information that could help save your life or the life of a loved one. If you had to call an ambulance, the *File of Life* contains all the information the ambulance crew needs. Pick up a *File of Life* for each member of you family at the Senior Center or Town Hall and fill in the necessary information.

Remember the Scout motto "Be Prepared." You can be prepared by packing an emergency kit for your home and car. Your family will have its own special needs, but at the least you will want emergency contact numbers handy, flashlights, batteries, bottled water, canned goods, blankets, first aid kit, supplies for children and an ample supply of medications for everyone in the family. Ice scrapers, sand, flashlight and blankets are useful to have in the car. Sand is available for residents, not commercial trucks. Stop at the sandbox behind the Town Hall. Keep coal or propane on hand to cook outdoors in the event of a power outage.

And don't forget family pets. They're counting on you to keep them safe. Keep up-to-date with vaccinations and licenses. Have the vet telephone number handy and store extra food, medications, water and blankets for emergencies.

One of the easiest ways to be prepared is to keep in contact with neighbors, friends and family. Have a plan on how you will communicate with them during a crisis. And during the dark, cold days of winter, it would be comforting to have someone call each day to be sure you are O.K.

Minor Memorial Library News

Valerie G. Annis, Director

Fall is a great time to get back into the habit of reading. Before long the cold winter months will be upon us and what better time to curl up with a good book. Please stop in to take advantage of our new titles, new dvds, new audio books, new magazines and our newest format playaways. Our ever popular inter-library loan service can provide materials from libraries throughout the state. Call, email or log-on to our website at www.biblio.org/roxbury to make a request.

Special Events & Programs:

Book Discussions

Our monthly adult book discussion series begins on Wednesday, September 17th. Book discussions will be scheduled for October 15th, November 19th, and December 17th at 6:30 p.m. Please call the library for additional information.

Art Shows:

The Digital Images of Mark Wilson will open with a reception from 2 - 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 11th. This exhibit will be available for viewing during regular library hours through November 17th.

The paintings of Lorraine Agri and the sculpture of James Travers will open with a reception on Saturday, November 22nd from 2 - 4 p.m. This exhibit will be available for viewing during regular library hours through January 5th.

Town Wants to Know:

In conjunction with the Roxbury Land Trust, local historian Dave Beglan will give a lecture entitled "Ethan Allen and Mine Hill" at the library on November 2nd at 3:00 p.m. Please call the library for additional details.

Children's Programs:

Fall Story Times - 2 - 4 year olds – Join us for 9 weeks of songs, finger plays and crafts. Fridays at 10:30 beginning September 12th. Last story time this session November 7th. Registration is required for this program. Please call the library.

Kindergarten After School Lunch Bunch – Thursdays: October 23rd; and November 13th from 1:15 - 2:15. Bring your lunch or a snack and enjoy stories and crafts with your friends. Registration is required for this program. Please call the library and send a permission slip to Booth School. A library staff member will escort the children from Booth School.

Book Bug Club – After school story time for 1st grade – Monday, October 6th and Monday, November 17th from

3:15-4:15. Registration is required for this program. Please call the library and send a permission slip to Booth School. A library staff member will escort the children from Booth School.

Page Turners – After School for 2nd grade – Monday, October 27th and Monday November 24th from 3:15 - 4:00. Registration is required for this program. Please call the library and send a permission slip to Booth School. A library staff member will escort the children from Booth School.

Special Children's Program:

"Spooktacular - The Magic of Dan Bowen"

Featuring renowned illusionist Dan Bowen:
Saturday, October 18th 10-11 a.m.

Special Family Programs

Additional programs will be planned for the fall.
Please call the library for information at
350-2181

Volunteer Opportunities

Many volunteer opportunities are available in the Children's Department Please call the library at 350-2181 and ask for Suzanne for additional information.

Roxbury Volunteer Recognition Committee

Timothy Field Beard, Chairman

The 2009 medallion will feature the Hodge Memorial Library and Museum and will be available sometime in October. It will be for sale at the Roxbury Town Hall for \$6.00.

Previous ornaments (2000-2008) can be purchased for \$5.00. However, the 2003 medallion, with a design of the Mine Hill Furnace, has been sold out. Proceeds of the sales will defray the cost of the Volunteer Recognition Committee's annual picnic and the awards given to each year's selected honorees.

The committee still needs additional members to fill vacancies. The group meets a few times a year to vote on honorees, plan the annual picnic and choose the design for the year's petwter medallion.

Social Services and the Municipal Agent

Alice Griffin

As nice as the weather is as I write this, winter is just around the corner! We are already taking applications for Energy Assistance, and there will be a Flu Shot Clinic on October 16 from 10 am-noon, and one tentatively set for November 13. Please call 210-0201 to make appointments for either.

Due to the price of heating fuels, the town is collecting seasoned wood to be used to assist those who can use it, and will not be able to afford other fuels. If you know of any wood that would be available to the town, please call Barbara Henry at 354-9938.

Gasoline and grocery cards are also gratefully accepted either at town hall or the Municipal Agent's office.

The Municipal Agent's office has been moved upstairs to where the "health room" has been located.

The "SweetHART Bus" provides "Dial-a Ride" service to people over 60, and disabled people of any age. The bus runs on Tuesdays, and is available from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. It can easily transport passengers to Southbury, Danbury, Brookfield and New Milford for Doctor's visits, shopping, or even visiting a friend. Please call the Center office at 860-210-0056 by Thursday of the week before your anticipated travel to **make a reservation**. For more information, please contact Alice Griffin at 7 South Street: 860-210-0201.

The Senior Center also has a regular mini-van, which is used on a limited basis to transport people on errands, to work, and to the doctor. Call the Municipal Agent at 210-0201 if you need a ride.

"Scammers" are hard at work these days, and they have

no shame. They will do whatever it takes to make money by badgering or frightening people they call. Here is another one that has been reported recently in our area. A woman received a phone call from a "Kevin Johnson with American Medical Benefits." This "Kevin" provided the elderly woman with a bogus phone number of (646) 164-6411 and an ID# 101 to make the call sound legit. He told the woman he was calling to provide her with the new insurance card she "had to have in order to keep her Medicare benefits" and **frightened** her by saying if she didn't take the card "she would end up poor because she would have to pay for all of her medical expenses out of her own pocket!" This new card he was calling for "only cost a onetime payment of \$279 and she would be all set for life". The Scam man then proceeded to gather the woman's **routing number, bank account number, check number, and date of birth**. She reported the call to her local Agency on Aging, and the police and bank were notified of the scam.

By reporting suspected incidents of fraud and abuse to your local CHOICES/SMP program, you are helping to educate others, and knowledge is the greatest weapon against scams! Don't be caught off guard, remember to keep your personal information to yourself and only provide it to individuals and agency representatives you know and trust!! And put your phone number on the "do not call list!" if you are solicited with a phone call like the one described above, or any call that makes you uneasy, trust your gut and hang up the phone!



Happy
Thanksgiving

TOWN CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 1 7:00 Recreation Commission
- 4 9:00 to 11:00 Town Wide Clean-up
- 5 12:30 Tractor Parade/Senior Center
- 6 7:00 Board of Education - SVMS/HS
7:30 Board of Selectmen
- 7 7:00 Conservation Commission
- 13 Columbus Day Town Hall closed
- 14 7:30 Zoning Commission
- 15 7:30 Historic District Commission
- 16 8:00 Planning Commission
- 21 7:00 Board of Finance
- 23 7:30 Board of Assessment Appeals
- 28 Inland Wetland Commission

NOVEMBER

- 3 7:00 Board of Education -SVMS/HS
7:30 Board of Selectmen
- 4 **ELECTION DAY - 6:00 AM - 8:00 PM**
TOWN HALL OFFICES CLOSED
- 5 7:00 Recreation Commission
- 7 1:00 to 5:45 Blood Drive
- 10 7:30 Zoning Commission
- 11 Veterans Day Town Hall closed
- 12 7:00 Conservation Commission
- 13 8:00 Planning Commission
- 18 7:00 Board of Finance
- 19 7:30 Historic Commission
- 20 7:30 Zoning Board of Appeals
- 25 7:30 Inland Wetland Commission
- 27 **THANKSGIVING**
TOWN HALL CLOSED
- 28 Town Hall closed

DECEMBER

- 1 7:00 Board of Education - SVMS/HS
7:30 Board of Selectmen
- 3 7:00 Recreation Commission
- 6 6:00 Tree Lighting
- 8 7:30 Zoning Commission
- 10 7:00 Conservation Commission
- 11 8:00 Planning Commission
- 16 7:00 Board of Finance
7:30 Inland Wetlands Commission
- 17 7:30 Historic District Commission
- 18 7:30 Zoning Board of Appeals
- 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**
TOWN HALL CLOSED

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