

TOWN COUNCIL WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

April 14, 2016

MRO Volume 24, No. 15

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Monday, April 18th, Committee of Chairpersons, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall Annex, CR2
- Tuesday, April 19th, the Town Council meeting has been cancelled.
- Thursday, April 21st, Permanent School Building Committee, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Annex, CR2

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

On April 29th, in honor of Arbor Day and in recognition of the Town of Groton receiving its 21st annual award as a Tree City, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Board of Education will be planting a tree at Northeast Academy. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m., including the planting of a pink dogwood tree in front of the school. (Attachment 1)

Groton has been recognized as a Tree City for its continued commitment to the care and maintenance of the community's street trees. Street trees provide a number of benefits to the community including providing a boost in property values across the community and helping to reduce the costs for energy, stormwater management, and erosion control.

ENERGY EFFICIENT LED STREETLIGHTS

The Town of Groton signed a contract with Tanko Streetlighting, Inc., to conduct an audit of the 1,550 Town-owned street lights and municipal parking lot lights. By updating to LED technology, the Town is expecting to reduce the operation and maintenance cost of these lights by approximately 65% or about \$60,000 annually.

This audit is the first stage in a two part process that will better define installation costs and potential energy savings by converting these lights to LED technology. Once the audit is completed, the results will be submitted to the Town Council for

approval to proceed with the second stage of the project. The second stage will include the installation and conversion of the street lights. Maintenance costs of the new fixtures and LED lights, which are expected to last over 20 years, will also be presented to the Council as part of the plan.

The audit will include assessing the condition of all of the light poles, support arms, wiring, and locations. The audit, as well as a photometric analysis, will provide input to a replacement plan from which costs and savings can be better identified. Additionally, information in the Town's Geographic Information System (GIS) will be updated with location and data on each fixture.

The contract calls for completion of this audit by the end of July.

NARCOTICS DISTRACTION AND EXPOSURE TRAINING



On March 30th, officers from around New England came to the Fitch Middle school for Narcotics Distraction and Exposure Training. There was participation from 50 K9 handler teams from five states, 19 trainer volunteers and 40 + departments, who were all very eager to share best practices and proven techniques in searching and locating illegal narcotics. This seminar provided the participants with the opportunity to make partnerships and show leadership through coaching, resulting in a strengthening of our K9 network throughout the area.



The training consisted of approximately 50 drug hide locations, ranging from 7 grams to 30 pounds. The drug hides were DEA provided and consisted of heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine/MDMA, and marijuana. Each individual search provided a unique distraction that K9 teams had to overcome. Some scenarios had the narcotic odor masked by other odors, while other searches had physical items, like 200 tennis balls, surrounding the drug location. Minor issues or areas that required improvement were corrected by onsite trainers. K9 teams demonstrated sound, quality handling skills.

The proudest moment of the day, was when the K9 teams rallied together to provide a shout out to Madeline Guarraia, a local nine year old girl battling cancer, creating a “Roar On” video to start the day. Madeline was asked to be the special guest for the day, but was not feeling well and was unable to make it. Officers wanted to let her know that she was in their thoughts and prayers. Sadly, since this training, Madeline has lost her battle with cancer and now remains fondly in our memories.

GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY VOLUNTEER WINS AWARD

Groton Public Library volunteer Terry Ziegler is the winner of the 2016 Edith B. Nettleton Award for outstanding volunteer service. The award is presented annually by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) to recognize an individual

who has demonstrated an outstanding record of volunteer service to his or her library. Ms. Ziegler will receive the award on April 22 at the 125th annual Connecticut Library Association Conference in Hartford.

Terry has served the Library for the last 14 years and is particularly dedicated to the homebound outreach service. Her volunteer activity could be summed up by saying she delivers library materials to our homebound patrons but that would not tell the entire story of her service.

Terry takes treats for the dogs at her stops, sends cards to her patrons, who are in the hospital and spends time visiting and listening as she makes her rounds. She also created a Book Plate Memorial Program for homebound patrons who pass away. As she lost some of her regulars, she felt it was important to make sure they were remembered. Terry now purchases a book in their memory when they pass away. She is always careful to choose a book that reflects the reading taste of the person being honored.

Her efforts to bring the Library to our shut-ins and to help them continue to enjoy our services are commendable. She is well-deserving of the title of CLA Volunteer of the Year.

OTHER ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 2 is notification from the Public Works Department to the residents of East Shore Avenue of the upcoming road resurfacing project. The project is scheduled to begin April 25th and is expected to be completed within three weeks.
2. Attachment 3 is an invitation from the UCONN Avery Point EcoHusky Club for the 2016 Earth Day celebration on April 20th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the green at UCONN's Avery Point Campus.
3. Attachment 4 is an invitation from the Town of Manchester to attend Family History Day on April 30th at 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. Attendees will learn how to obtain information from U.S. records including which records to access, how to find them and how to access internet information to obtain family genealogy.

4. Attachment 5 is an invitation from the Departments of the Army and the Air Force for the 67th Annual Connecticut Armed Forces Day Luncheon on May 20th at 11:00 a.m. at the Aqua Turf Club, 556 Mulberry Street, Southington. The cost of the event is \$30.00 per person. RSVP by April 30th with the enclosed response form and a check made payable to "CT Armed Forces Day Luncheon".
5. Attachment 6 is a flyer from Field of Greens Farmer's Market for the Groton City Farmer's Market being held on Tuesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., July through October, at Washington Park. For more information please call 860-625-4896.
6. Attachment 7 is an e-mail from the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities showing grant estimates for Groton as part of the Governor's Revised FY17 State Budget Impact.

MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORTS

1. Library (February):

- The State Library confirmed all project documents are in order and approval to proceed with the bidding process was given for the Library Building Renovation Project.
- Library staff is working with Parks and Recreation staff to plan sub-related activities during the week of July 4th.
- The Library hosted a meeting of the directors of libraries in eastern Connecticut to discuss areas of common concern.
- Library staff assisted a researcher for the Oxford English Dictionary with verifying a quote in the 1992 first edition of the book "An Unwilling Bride", by Jo Beverley.
- One Book, One Region programs were presented on Tuesday evenings in March to highlight themes in "Just Mercy".

Attachments
MRO/lh



TOWN OF GROTON Parks and Forestry

Mark Berry
Director

158 Groton Long Point Rd
Groton, CT 06340

April 6, 2016

Mark R. Oefinger
Town of Groton Manager

Dear Mr. Oefinger,

The Town of Groton Parks and Recreation Department and the Northeast Academy School cordially invite you to attend the annual Arbor Day celebration and tree planting ceremony. This year the Town of Groton will celebrate Arbor Day and plant a "Cherokee Brave" (pink dogwood tree). The celebration will be held at the Northeast Academy School Friday, April 29, 2015 at 10:00AM.

The Town will be receiving a flag at the ceremony for our designation as a Tree City USA. A designation the Town is proud to have received annually for the past twenty one years.

Please call Sandy Smith at 446-5950 if you are able to attend and would like to participate in the ceremony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Berry".

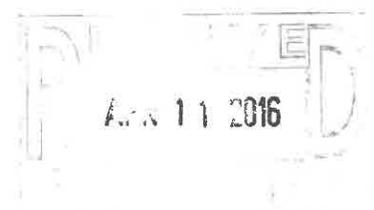
Mark Berry
Parks and Recreation Director

parksrec@groton-ct.gov

grotonrec.com



APR 11 2016





TOWN OF GROTON

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

GARY J. SCHNEIDER
DIRECTOR
PWORKS@GROTON-CT.GOV

134 GROTON LONG POINT ROAD, GROTON, CONNECTICUT 06340
TELEPHONE (860) 448-4083 FAX (860) 448-4094
WWW.GROTON-CT.GOV

April 6, 2016

RE: Resurfacing of East Shore Avenue.

Dear Resident:

The Town of Groton Public Works Department will soon resurface East Shore Avenue from the intersection of Beach Road south to the intersection of Clubhouse Point. The project is scheduled to begin on April 25th and is expected to be completed within 3 weeks.

So that you will know what to expect, I would like to describe the work process.

PHASE 1: In order to provide a good paving surface, a contractor hired by the Town will reclaim (grind up) the existing asphalt into gravel base and then grade the roadway. This first stage will leave any catch basins and other utilities exposed, which will be painted orange for visibility. The road surface will be compacted dirt, rough but travelable. Prior to this phase, you may notice crews replacing structures and cutting driveway aprons (the area where your driveway meets the road).

PHASE 2: After the pavement "reclamation" is complete, Town crews will subsequently return to apply two layers of asphalt to the street surface.

PHASE 3: After completion of resurfacing, our crews will return to install curbing, where needed and to resurface driveway and parking lot aprons.

PHASE 4: Crews will backfill the area behind the new curbing with loam. Then they will hydro-seed the area with grass seed, fertilizer and mulch. Traffic markings such as stop bars and lane markers will be installed by a contractor

We ask that you do not park on East Shore Avenue from 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. You **will always** have access to your driveway. However, when the equipment is directly in front of your driveway, access may be restricted for a **few minutes**. Please drive with caution during the course of this work.

If you have any questions please call our Administrative Office at 860-448-4083. When the crews are on site, please speak in person with the Paving Foremen, Dave Phillips and Jim Derusha, one will be on site. Thank you in advance for your cooperation during this resurfacing project.

Very truly yours,

Gary J. Schneider
Director of Public Works

CC: Mark Oefinger, Town Manager
Steve Panikoff, Director of Public Works, Groton Long Point

GJS/bg

UConn

The Avery Point EcoHusky Club invites you to celebrate

Earth Day

April 20, 2016

Join the 2016 Earth Day celebration on Wednesday, April 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the green at UConn's Avery Point Campus. (Events are 'rain or shine' and will be held in the Student Center in the event of inclement weather.)

Sponsored by the Avery Point EcoHusky Club, the activities are geared to guests of all ages who are concerned about the future of Planet Earth.

Invited guests and activities include:

Food by *Mort's*
Music by *Off the Record*
Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation (CIRCA)
Connecticut Sea Grant
CT DEEP Environmental Justice Department
CT DEEP Site Assessment & Support Unit
CT DEEP Recycling Program – Games
Delegates from the Town of Groton
Department of Marine Sciences -- Sea Animals Touch Tanks
Groton Open Space Association
Groton Utilities
League of Women Voters
LUSH Natural Cosmetics
Mayor of the City of Groton
Councilor of the Town of Groton
New England Science & Sailing
Sierra Club
Student Clubs & Activities

The Earth Day celebration is free and open to the public. Free refreshments while supplies last!

For more information contact: Christine Green at (860) 405-9063 or christine.green@uconn.edu
Or Syma Ebbin at (860) 405-9278 syma.ebbin@uconn.edu

For maps and directions to the campus, look [here](#).

About Earth Day

Earth Day is the largest, most recognizable face of the environmental movement according to Kathleen Rogers, president of [Earth Day Network](#).

She says, "Millions of people in dozens of different countries will become lifelong environmentalists this and every Earth Day. Hundreds of thousands will be children – our planet's future. They will join the more than 1 billion people who already use Earth Day to focus on the urgent need to stabilize and reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, fight climate change.

"As we begin the four year count down to Earth Day's 50th anniversary in 2020, Earth Day Network is pledging to plant 7.8 billion trees worldwide – one for every person on Earth! That's incredibly ambitious, but we believe this down-payment must be made in order to combat climate change and keep our most vulnerable eco-systems from facing extinction."



FREE

Family History Day

Saturday, April 30 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Walk-ins welcome – Residents/Non-Residents alike

**Learn how to get information from U.S. records;
which records to access, how to find them,
how to access Internet information.**

Obtain information & brochures from exhibitors:

- Manchester Family History Center
- Manchester Historical Society
- Manchester Public Library
- Connecticut Gravestone Network
- Manchester vault open for **quick reference** information
- Drop in or call to sign up with a Professional Genealogist for a free half hour consultation with these experts who will guide you through your family tree and provide information for research and resources - 860-647-3037 –
- Connecticut Society of Genealogists
- French-Canadian Genealogical Society of CT
- CT State Library History & Genealogy Unit and State Archives

**Gain knowledge of *how to* start researching
or how to *enhance* your search.**

****Cameras or other electronics/photographic devices NOT ALLOWED****

Drawing to be held at end of event for one year free membership to CT. Society of Genealogists OR one hour free research with a professional genealogist. (winner need not be present)

Manchester Town Hall – 41 Center Street – Park and enter in back



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS, CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD NATIONAL GUARD
William A. O'Neill Armory
360 BROAD STREET
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105-3795

April 8th, 2016

Town Manager Mark Oefinger
Town Hall
45 Fort Hill Rd
Groton, CT 06340

On behalf of The Adjutant General and the Connecticut Armed Forces Day Committee I would like to invite you to attend the **67th Annual Connecticut Armed Forces Day Luncheon**.

Our luncheon will be held on Friday, May 20, 2016, at the Aqua Turf Club, 556 Mulberry St. Southington, Connecticut. The social hour begins at 11:00 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon. The cost for this year's event is \$30.00 per person.

Each year, members of Connecticut's military, civic leaders and members of the business community come together at our luncheon to honor the thousands of military members who serve, or have served, our great state and nation. Traditionally this annual event has provided an excellent atmosphere of camaraderie. This year promises to be no exception.

This year's keynote speaker will be Commissioner Sean Connolly of the CT Dept. of Veterans' Affairs. He will discuss contemporary issues, and present awards to honor an exemplary service member from each Reserve Branch of military service in Connecticut.

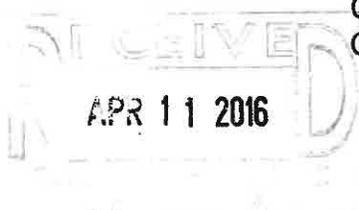
If you will be attending this luncheon, please fill out the enclosed response form and make a check made payable to "CT Armed Forces Day Luncheon". Please send them to the address at the bottom of the response form. It would be greatly appreciated if you can reply prior to April 30, 2016. Suggested attire: Business, Class B or Duty Uniform.

Please direct any questions to either me, or SFC William Blake at 860-493-2750 or william.d.blake14.mil@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

William H. Adams
Colonel, U. S. Army
Chairman, 67th Armed Forces Day Luncheon

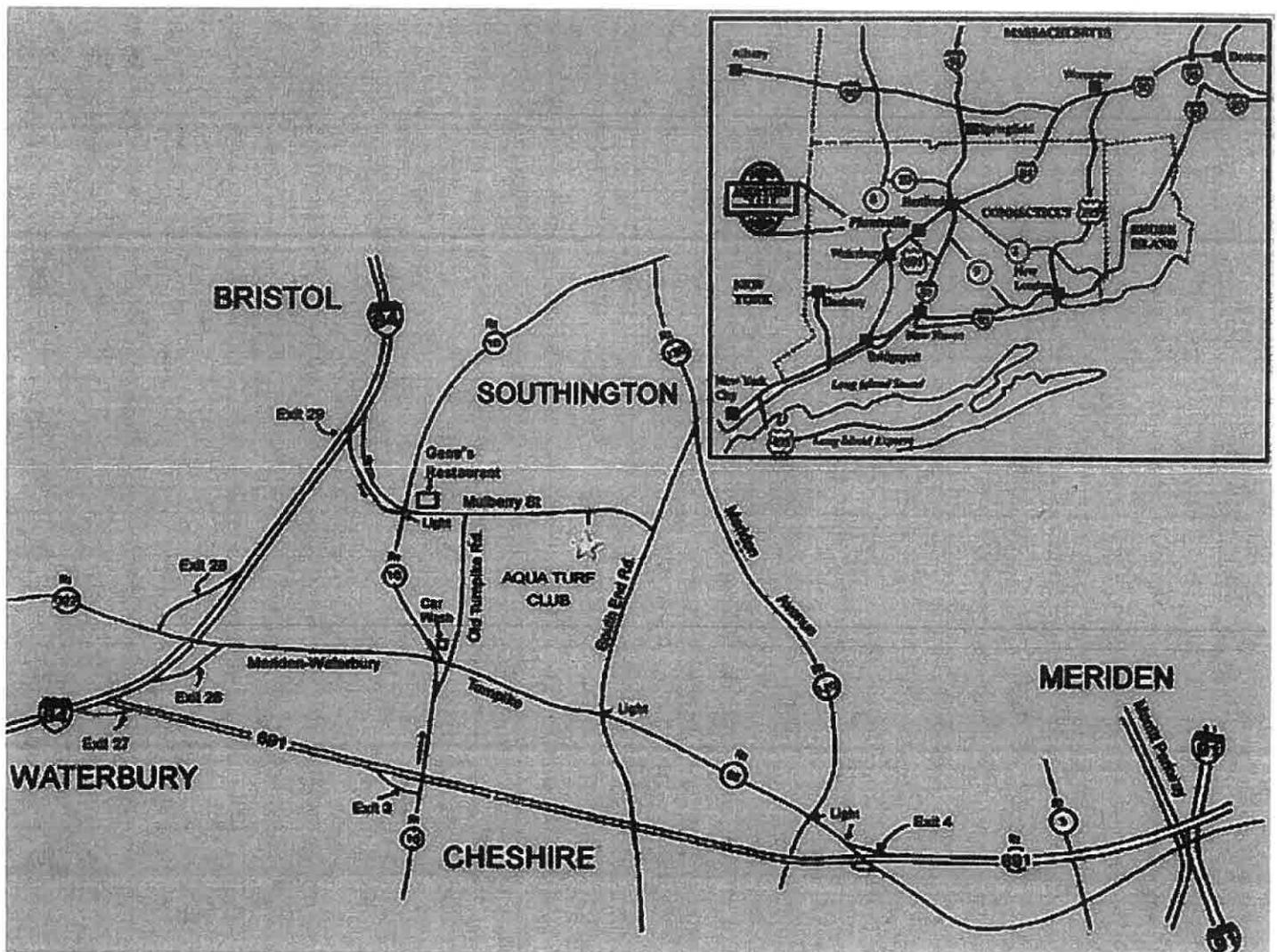
2 Enclosures
Response Form
Directions



I-84 EAST FROM WATERBURY - Take Exit 28, take right onto Route 322. Go straight, under second underpass take left at car wash onto Old Turnpike Road. At first stop sign, take right onto Mulberry Street. Aqua Turf Club is located 1/2 mile on the right.

I-84 WEST FROM HARTFORD - Take Exit 29 (left-hand exit). At the end of the exit will be a light. Go straight onto Mulberry Street. Go approximately one mile down the road - Aqua Turf Club will be on your right.

FROM I-91 OR THE MERRITT PARKWAY - Take Route 691 West toward Waterbury, take exit 4 (Southington), take a right. At the bottom of the hill (McDonald's on the corner), take a right onto South End Road. Follow until you come to Mulberry Street on the left, the Aqua Turf Club is on Mulberry Street approximately 1/4 mile on the left.



67th ARMED FORCES DAY LUNCHEON
AQUA TURF CLUB
556 Mulberry Street
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT

RESPONSE FORM

Please use this form to reserve individual or group attendance for the Connecticut Armed Forces Day Luncheon to be held on Friday May 20, 2016. **Cost per individual is \$30.00**

Please make checks payable to "The CT Armed Forces Day Luncheon"

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____ ORGANIZATION: _____

STREET: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ATTENDING: _____

(Please List Names on Back of form)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

COMMENTS/SPECIAL REQUESTS: _____

**SEATING IS LIMITED SO PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT
NO LATER THAN MAY 14th, 2016 to:**

**SFC William Blake
Armed Forces Luncheon Committee
National Guard Armory
360 Broad Street
Hartford, CT 06105-3795**

Please include the names of the individuals in your party.

1 _____

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Groton City Farmer's Market

Bringing the farm to the city



Field of Greens Farmer's Market
Washington Park (Mitchell/Meridian St.)

Tuesdays 3 to 6pm

July - October 2016

For information call 860-625-4896

www.fog.newlondonfarmersmarket.com

EBT/SNAP and WIC Cards welcome - Credit Cards accepted



Oefinger, Mark

From: GEORGE RAFAEL <GRAFAEL@CCM-CT.ORG>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 10:53 AM
To: Oefinger, Mark
Subject: Governor's Revised FY 17 State Budget



April 13, 2016

Governor's Revised FY 17 State Budget Impact on: Groton (Town)

On April 12, 2016, the Governor proposed a revised state budget for FY 17. Below are grant estimates for **Groton (Town)** for certain key programs. Please note that these estimates are based on preliminary information and subject to change.

Grant:	Current Year FY 16	Gov. Proposed FY 17 (Feb 2016)	Gov. Rev. FY 17 (Apr 2016)	Gov. Apr. FY 17 v. Gov. Feb. FY 17	
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(%)
Adult Education	103,357	109,304	109,304	0	0.0%
ECS Grant	25,622,519	25,622,519	24,650,119	-972,400	- 3.8%
Non-Public School Transportation	50,020	52,511	52,511	0	0.0%
Public School Transportation	236,836	256,614	256,614	0	0.0%
LoCIP	214,072	214,072	214,072	0	0.0%
Pequot-Mohegan Grant	1,412,077	1,339,581	1,339,581	0	0.0%
PILOT: Colleges & Hospitals	36,123	37,929	37,929	0	0.0%
PILOT: State-Owned Property	804,171	839,789	839,789	0	0.0%
Town Aid Road	380,167	380,167	380,167	0	0.0%
Grants for Municipal Projects	1,240,819	1,240,819	1,240,819	0	0.0%
MRSA Select PILOT	0	0	0	0	
MRSA Sales Tax Sharing	0	623,548	102,148	-521,400	-83.6%
MRSA Motor Vehicle	0	0	0	0	
Total	30,100,161	30,716,853	29,223,053	-1,493,800	- 4.9%

If you have any questions, please contact George Rafael at grafael@ccm-ct.org or 203-498-3063.

**Groton Public Library
Monthly Report
March 2016**

Looking Forward, Giving Back
Building Renovation Update

- On March 31, the State Library confirmed that all project documents are in order and approval to proceed with the bidding process was given.

**CT Sub Century
Library Subcommittee**

- The Library is working with Parks and Recreation to plan sub-related activities during the week of July 4 – 9.
- Dining in the Deep was a great success as reported by the 12 lucky winners who had a chance to learn about food preparation, food service and life of the culinary specialist aboard a submarine.

Library Activities

- The Library was contacted by a researcher for the *Oxford English Dictionary* asking for assistance with verifying a quote in the 1992 first edition of a book by Jo Beverley, called *An Unwilling Bride*. A member of the reference staff was able to confirm their entry for "widgeon" by locating the following quote, "Am I supposed to believe you to be naive little widgeon?"

Projects

- Hosted a meeting of the directors of libraries in eastern CT to discuss areas of common concern.
- Presented One Book, One Region programs on Tuesday evenings in March to highlight themes in *Just Mercy*. Programs included a performance of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, a poetry reading with Marilyn Nelson, a book discussion, a presentation about prison arts and a panel discussion. The programs led to important community conversations about justice, human rights and compassion
- Attended Circle of Friends meeting and discussed future directions for the group.
- Participated in a grant review session at CT Humanities.



The Library hosted *Living in Prison: Selections from the CPA Prison Arts Program Permanent Collection* during the month of March. All of the artwork was created by artists in Connecticut prisons

GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY - MONTHLY STATISTICS

	MAR 16	MAR 15
Number of Library Visits		18906
Circulation Statistics		
Total	26012	27156
Adult print	12620	12435
Adult nonprint	5152	5996
Children print	6311	6741
Children nonprint	1209	1457
e Books and magazines	568	385
Downloadable audio	208	140
Downloadable video	3	2
Nonresident usage	7556	8217
Internet Use		
Public computers	5236	5669
Wireless	1452	1772
Public/Wireless Computer Prints	11106	
Web/Social Media Activity		
Library Home Page	19976	21857
Groton History Online	2137	2708
GMTV	686	1893
Facebook Friends	1748	1372
Interlibrary Loans		
Items received	297	406
Items loaned	449	614
New Patron Registration		
Adult	70	138
Children	42	25
Community Services		
Programs/Attendance	81/1791	91/1623
Adult	38/927	55/592
Children	39/824	28/991
Young adult	4/40	8/40
Meeting Room		
Nonprofit	211	144
Profit	0	0
Materials Added to Collection		
Adult print	651	633
Adult nonprint	45	75
Children print	161	216
Children nonprint	14	17
Video Services		
Programs produced	13	15
Programming hours aired	420	441
Town/Library messages posted	81	60